

# First Press Weekly Update

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## Prayer List

**PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK** – Bill and Marian Adams; Jim Wright and Karen Reed-Wright; Jack and Laura Addleburg; Hunter and Sylvia Wright; Sue Adrian; Will and Tiffani Wray; Owen Allgood; and Virginia Wooten.

**MISSIONARIES** – Eliane Menezes, Guatemala.

## Epiphany Stars

If you did not get an Epiphany Star last week, there are some left. You can find them on top of the piano in the chapel and on top of the harpsichord in the sanctuary. For a child's Epiphany star, ask Russ. If we run out, Alice will make more, so don't hesitate to ask. We will make stars available until mid-February. Thank you for participating in this church-wide devotional practice for 2023. May it be a blessing to all!

## MLK Birthday Recognition

On January 18, 2023, First Presbyterian Church volunteers will gather at Second Harvest Food Bank of NET in honor of Martin Luther King's birthday. Please join us in recognizing Dr. King in this day of service. There will be two options for this date: morning between 10:00 a.m. and noon and afternoon between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. Each session is limited to 15 people, so let Bob Stoots know if you would like to participate. (Call or text 423-782-6280).

## Annual Congregational Meeting - January 29

### Offering Envelopes

If you ordered 2023 offering envelopes, they are ready to be picked up. They are in the foyer. If you did not order envelopes and would still like some, please let Bev know. Thanks.

### Knuckleheads Men's Bible Study

The Knuckleheads meet Tuesdays from 12:15-1:15 p.m. in Room 103-104.

### Birthdays This Week

**January 16:** Martha Owens

**January 17:** Tammie Davis

**January 18:** Emeline Hobbs

**January 20:** Grace Ward

**January 21:** Hudson Dietrich

### Youth Group January Schedule

**January 15** - 4:00-5:30 p.m. - All youth

**January 22** - 4:00-5:30 p.m. - All youth

**January 29** - 4:00-5:30 p.m. - All youth

### Looking Ahead

- **All Church Retreat** at Holston Camp - March 3-5
- **High School Montreat** - Sunday, June 4-10. Signups to open soon.
- **Vacation Bible School** - Monday, June 19-Thursday, June 22, 9 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

### Winter Events

We are excited to announce the return of **Church Night Supper beginning February 22**. Here are some highlights:

- **February 22** - Ash Wednesday Salad Bar and Potato Bar
- **March 1** - Soup Fest
- **March 8** - Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup (*Mike's Bible Study begins*)
- **March 15** - Care Ministry Dinner

We are also planning a special **Super Bowl Sunday Gathering on February 12**. Details are coming soon in the bulletin and newsletter.

## Small Groups

Two new small groups are being launched in January, and it is not too late to join one! The purpose of small groups is to provide a **Connection** to the Church body – the people, the institution, and the body of Christ - that goes beyond your personal needs, which is why we are calling this initiative Connect FPC. This is not intended to replace any of the other gatherings of people at the church, but it is an intentional bonding to others outside your usual group of church friends. It is not strictly a bible study, but rather will contain elements of scripture, devotion, prayer and encouragement for each other. It is a way to grow in your faith and be the Church. If you are interested in participating, please contact either Jim Amstutz or Elizabeth Willkins.

## Flowers Needed for Church in 2023

March 5	May 28
March 12	July 9
April 23	July 16
April 30	October 1
May 21	

## February Concerts

The **Fisk Jubilee Singers** will be in concert in our sanctuary on **Friday, February 17** at 7:30 p.m. They are an internationally acclaimed ensemble, embodying the historic roots of slave songs, bursting forth in the energy of the modern spiritual. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors, and \$10 for students. The **Paramount Chamber Players**, the area's premiere professional chamber ensemble will perform **Thursday, February 23** at 7:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. Our own Mark Owen Davis will join pianist Katherine Benson to reprise the lauded performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Songs of Travel" featuring the poetry of Robert Louis Stevenson. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and free for students. For tickets or more information for either concert contact: (423) 383-7876 or [www.firstpreskingsport.org](http://www.firstpreskingsport.org)

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## **First Presbyterian Church Staff**

423-245-0104

Mike Shelton, *Pastor* (ext. 204)

Russ Pearson, *Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries* (ext. 208)

Mark Owen Davis, *Director of Music Ministries* (ext. 210)

Alice Sanders, *Pianist/Organist*

Annie Hill, *Church Business Administrator and Secretary to the Pastor* (ext. 203)

Vickie Green, *Membership Secretary/Church Receptionist* (ext. 202)

Beverly Johnson, *Financial Administrator* (ext. 206)

Kim Alvis, *Media Specialist* (ext. 209)

Becca Wright, *Parish Nurse*

Lance Ramsey, *Custodian*

Mike Weiss, *Custodian*

Tammy Jackson Hodge, *Director of Presbyterian Children's Center*

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## **First Presbyterian Church**

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