

First Presbyterian News

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First Pres. family

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Colossians 3:15

What a wonderful time of the year. The fall season brings a change in weather, the colors of the changing leaves, a break from the summer's heat, and the Thanksgiving holiday. For many, this is their favorite time of the year. It gives us time to reflect on the changes in our lives and an opportunity to be thankful for our church, for our friends and family, and, most importantly, for our Lord Jesus Christ.

The cycles in our lives have their ups and downs as well as times when things don't really seem to change, just like the changing seasons. It is easier to give thanks when things are up or when we receive a blessing or gift. However, we need to be thankful in times of difficulty or loss. Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." We are thankful that we have a God that knows our every need and He provides, strengthens, and loves us.

The fellowship that we have at 1st Presbyterian Church is a blessing. We are strengthened by the love our congregation shares and the prayers offered to our church members, family, and friends.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 107:1

Colter Wickemeyer

Co-Chair, Worship Committee



Take Note - Daylight Savings Time will come to an end on November 6. We will turn the clocks back 1 hour. - Yay we get another hour of sleep!

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| <p><u>November 6– Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</u> Sermon Title: "Stand Firm, Hold Fast" Scriptures: Psalm 17:1-9; 2 Thes. 2:1-5, 13-17</p> |
| <p><u>November 13 - Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</u> Sermon Title: "Stand Firm, Hold Fast" Scriptures: Psalm 17:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17</p> |
| <p><u>November 20 - Christ the King Sunday</u> Sermon Title: "King, Judge, Savior" Scriptures: Psalm 46; Luke 23:33-43, Colossians 1:11-20</p> |
| <p><u>November 27 - First Sunday of Advent</u> Sermon Title: "Out of Control" Scriptures: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 24:36-44</p> |
| <p><u>December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent</u> Sermon Title: "Transforming Fire" Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12</p> |



Women's Bible Study - We are meeting each Wednesday at 10:30 in the Philathea Room. Our study continues with C.S. Lewis writings where we learn that Satan can and will, if allowed, use any situation to his advantage. It may be a just and noble cause or situation, but if allowed, Satan will turn, twist, distort and distract a person, or persons so the situation could be used by him. We discussed that listening first to God, rather than those of the world, and wearing the full armor of God, is our defense. We will meet through Nov. 16, taking Nov. 23 off for Thanksgiving, then meet again Nov. 30—Dec. 14. Taking a break for Christmas (Dec 21 & Dec. 28). We will restart our study on January 4. Come learn with us as we learn to recognize Satan's tactics so we are better able to remain strong.

The Ginny Troy Card Ministry - We had such a fun time at the first meeting of our Greeting Card Ministry! How rewarding it was to create beautiful mini works of art with prayers for some of our dear fellow church members. And so simple! Plan on joining us next time - Tues, Nov 1, 10:30am. No sign up necessary. Supplies are provided as well.



Prayer List - Sandi Hughes after the passing of her mother, Lucy Pool. Chris Jones' mother's caregiver, Sandra McGregor passed. Conner Fincher, Ben Fincher's grandson, has one of his 3-month-old twins in the hospital with RSV. Keith Gilliam passed, prayers for Dabney (and both families) after losing both Lorene and Keith in a short period of time. Joan Owens - prayers were appreciated and effective, Joan doing much better. Ginny Troy is back at Commonwealth. Continue prayers for her and Connie. Jack Turnbull - heart problems. Leon Plaster as he continues to recovery with rehab. Luanna Daniel, Tricia Burton's daughter. Pat Hay's unborn great-grand child. Dee Raney's family after her passing. Alice Waskey had back surgery, is recovering. Mark Foster - for restoration of voice. Mac Lacy's girlfriend had surgery - received a good report. Jim Luedtke's daughter, Heather, is in need of prayers. Gilmer Meeler - receiving chemotherapy.

Congregational Meetings - Scheduled for October 30 – Immediately following worship to elect the 4 members of the Nominating Committee. Then on November 13 – immediately after service will be the 2nd Congregational meeting to elect new officer for the class of 2025 and to present the 2023 budget.



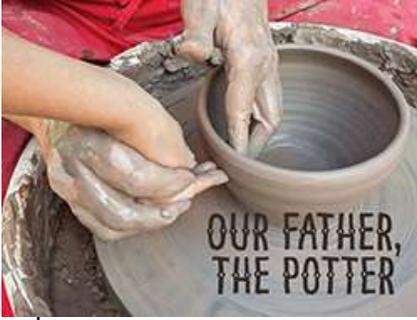
Election Day - November 8. Make sure to go out and vote if you have not done so already. It's important to have your voice heard.

Stewardship - Stewardship season is here. Packets will be mailed out in the next few days. Watch for them. Your church relies upon contributions of many types. Monetary contributions are certainly part of it, but when we joined the church we promised to participate actively and responsibly in the church and its mission. That participation also includes prayers, presence, and service, as well as gifts. Stewardship, therefore, will be as unique to every one of us as we are to God.



Everyone, in his or her heart has to discern and evaluate what he or she can do to be a good steward. Each of us, individually, knows how we can contribute to the church. We all have to make our decisions, based on our own personal situations, as to how much money we will contribute, how much of our time and talents we will share, and how we will be of service.

In preparation for our stewardship commitments for the coming year, we need to look into our hearts, and pray for God's guidance in making our stewardship decisions. ~ Elders



In God's Hand

4

Once again, I find myself relating to the stories of the Old Testament.

In Jeremiah, we learn that the Lord knew him before he (Jeremiah) was born, and he prepared him to be the prophet of that time.

(Jeremiah 1:5) "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I

ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

The Lord knows us, He knows our weaknesses and our strengths. He knows our potential and He has a plan for each of us. Just as Jeremiah was called before birth to be a prophet; we are expected to be an influence for good to others. We are all called to be witnesses to God's blessings and love to all.

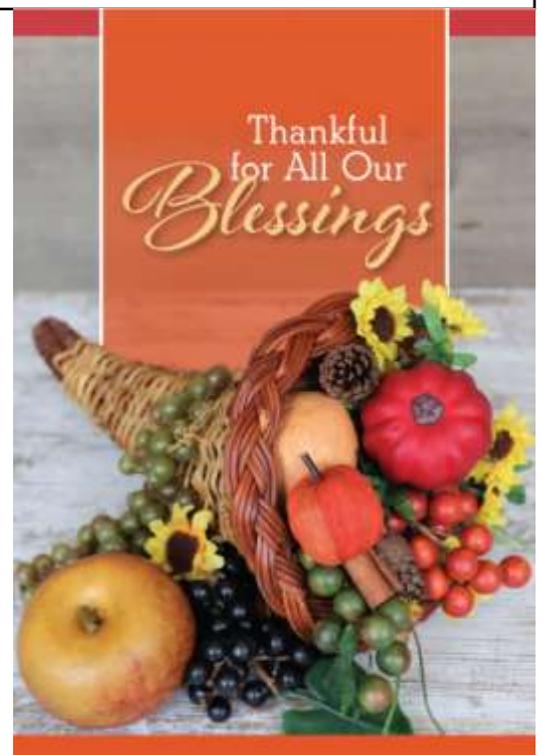
Also, in Jeremiah we read "And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? Saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel." Jeremiah 18:4-6

In Revelation 2:27 we read, "And he shall rule them with the word of God; and they shall be in his hands as the vessels of clay in the hands of a potter; and he shall govern them by faith, with equity and justice ..." Also, in Isaiah 64:8 "But now O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."

What a great analogy. As we grow, we form habits, some good and some not so good. If we will allow the Lord to shape us into the being He knows we can become, and reach the potential He knows we can reach, we must endure hard things. It is not easy or comfortable to be a hardened vessel, and then remolded into a new vessel. Sometimes that requires being "broken into pieces" gradually have water added to soften us, and then after time we can become "pliable" to allow His touch to remodel us.

The beauty is that He knows the best form for us. He knows how to make me into the best me. But I must be flexible, patient, and humble enough to allow the reshaping to take place. Sometimes we feel the challenge is great, but ultimately, as any parent He wants the best for His children, and trials and tribulations can make us stronger and help us to learn to rely on Him and trust Him; If we choose to allow His touch and influence in our lives. If we recognize His help and guidance in our lives, we can be the bright, perfect vessel He has intended us to be.

~ *Sherolyn*



NOVEMBER 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|------------|
| 30 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship Congregational Mtg. 12:30 - Diaconate | 31  | November 1 10:30 am Greeting Card | November 2 10:30 am Women's Bible study 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir | November 3 7:00 pm—Al-Anon 8:00 pm - AA | November 4 12:00 PM AA | November 5 |
| 6 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship | 7 | 8 | 9 10:30 am Women's Bible study 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir | 10 7:00 pm—Al-Anon 8:00 pm - AA |  | 19 |
| 13 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Congregational Mtg | 14 | 15 | 16 10:30 am Women's Bible study 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir | 17 7:00 pm—Al-Anon 8:00 pm - AA | 18 12:00 PM AA | 19 |
| 20- 5 Cents a Meal collection 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:30 pm - Session 3:00 pm - Deacons | 21 | 22  | 23 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir |  | 26 | 26 |
| 27 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship | 28 | 29 | 30 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir | December 1 7:00 pm - Al-Anon 8:00 pm - AA | December 2 12:00 PM AA | December 3 |

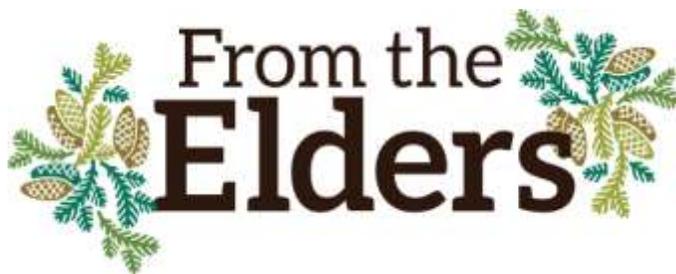


- 3 Norma Henderson
- 7 Susan Wilkinson
- 8 Jim Albert
- 10 Sarah McCollum
- 11 Irene Smith*
- 11 Matthew Bain
- 13 Kim Wickemeyer
- 14 Bob Hughes
- 16 Peggy Burton
- 20 Russell Lee
- 21 Andrew Ferguson
- 23 Debbie Ferguson
- 23 Jean Long
- 26 Pat Hay
- 26 Charles Van Duser*
- 27 Maelyn Freshour
- 28 Mike Marvin
- 30 Kathy Debiec



* In Memory

If we don't have your birthday listed, please call the office and let us know.



From the Elders

Session Notes: **Since our last Newsletter, our Session discussed:**

The Session met on Sunday, October 16, 2022

1. Rev. Coleman opened the meeting with prayer.
2. News of the congregation was shared.
3. The Session approved holding a Community Thanksgiving service Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm.
4. Next Presbytery Meeting – November 17, 2022. Rev. Coleman will be honorably retired.
5. Property –
 - * Elliott Electric has started installation of the sanctuary heat pumps. Work should be completed in the next weeks.
 - * Mike Rand presented an update on the progress of the insurance claim for the fire in the Manse.
 - *The chandelier light bulbs have been changed to “warm light” type from the current “daylight” type.
5. Budget & Finance – Financial reports through September were reviewed.
6. The Session reviewed and approved the 2023 Church budget.
7. The Session set a Called Congregational Meeting be called for Sunday, October 30th for the purpose of electing the four members of the congregation to the Nominating Committee
8. The Session set a Called Congregational Meeting be called for Sunday, November 13th for the purpose of electing officers for the Class of 2025 and to present the 2023 Budget to the congregation.
9. The Stewardship Campaign will also kick off on Sunday, November 13th.
10. The Session voted to rename the Card Ministry to the Ginny Troy Card Ministry.
11. Worship – Next communion dates are Sunday, December 4th and Sunday, December 25th.
12. Local Missions – We will participate in Operation Christmas Child again this year.
13. Rev. Coleman closed the meeting with prayer.



Upcoming :

Greeting Card Ministry - November 1 at 10:30

Women's Bible study - Wednesdays at 10:30

Choir - Each Wednesday at 6 pm.

5 Cents-a-Meal collection - Sunday, November 20

Deacons and Session - Sunday, November 20. Session at 12:30 pm and the Deacons at 3:00 pm.

First Presbyterian Church
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