



First Press

Worship and Wisdom

First Presbyterian Church

November 14, 2021

Our Transitional Pastor

Rev. Barry Williams

Our Mission

We are a community of disciples who celebrate God's inclusive love by ministering to one another and the world.

Church Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm
Monday through Friday

Care

Deacon Family Groups

A-Bo	Alison Hill	Lj-Me	Linda Upstill
Bp-Ch	Carol Smith	Mf-N	Nancy Rumsey
Ci-Dr	Kathryn Roblee	O-Re	Sandy Groene
Ds-F	Deborah Norwood	Rf-Sh	Kathy Stover
G-He	Julie Simon	Si-Sz	Cherie Hoover
Hf-Ke	Vacant	T-Wa	Annette Camlin
Kf-Li	Charles Tuttle	Wb-Z	Peggy Southard

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Sammie Locke** is in rehab at Pioneer Ridge.
- **Barbara Armbrister** is having hip replacement surgery next week.
- **Marilyn Summers-Cool**, sister of Deborah Summers-Norwood, has taken a turn for the worse and needs our prayers. She is in town.
- **Ron Tucker**, former member, is having chemo treatments. He and Caroll live in Utah.
- **Bev North** is at Presbyterian Manor for rehab.
- **Sherry Banker** continues her family caregiving.
- **Linda Almon** continues her recovery following knee surgery.
- **Brett Groene** is beginning a chemo regimen.
- **Wally Hill** continues to make good progress in the NICU at OPRMC.
- **Phil Rankin** continues his recovery and rehab process in Lincoln, NE.

- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.

Birthdays in the Congregation

November 16

Rachel Lindbloom
Eric Fischer

November 20

Jenni Koger

November 21

Nora Wallace

November 17

Mary Kay Stephens

Claire Harding

November 19

William Easter

Callie Livingood

Calendar

November 14

8:45 am	Child Care
9:15 am	Sunday School Classes
10:30 am	Worship
11:30 am	Youth Group
11:45 am	Team Verde Meeting

November 15

1:30 pm	Staff Meeting
5:30 pm	Cub Scout Pack 3059 Meeting
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

November 16

1:00 pm	Small World
2:00 pm	Lawrence Parkinson's Support Group
7:00 pm	Leah Circle – Presbyterian Women

November 17

1:30 pm	Martha Circle – Presbyterian Women
5:00 pm	Brownie Troop
5:00 pm	Personnel Meeting
6:00 pm	Webelos Pack 3059
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

November 18

1:00 pm	Small World
1:00 pm	Welcome Committee Meeting
6:30 pm	Pelathe District Scout Meeting

November 21

8:45 am	Child Care
9:15 am	Sunday School Classes
10:30 am	Worship
11:30 am	Youth Group

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Eva Alley, Myron Shipley, and Larry Maxey

Greeters: John and Ruth Hughes, and Linda Watts

Securing the Offering: bobbie frances mcdonald and Ted Waiss

Mugger: David Fitzcharles

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone, whether you are joining us virtually or in-person, we are happy to have you with us.

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” – Hebrews 13:2

Visitors delight us. Our goal is simple: make all people feel welcomed, not overwhelmed. We were all visitors once and remember how it feels to try a new place of worship. Attend as often as you want. Visitors are welcome at all FPC events, classes, and small groups as well as in worship. We will always be glad to see you!

A reminder for in-person worship: The Session is requiring that all persons, age two and over, wear a mask over their nose and mouth while in the building. As Christians we strive to care for one another, and this is how to best do that. Thank you for your help.

Name Tags

Let us know if you need a new name tag. Check the name tag boxes in the Narthex first! This will help all of us recognize each other in spite of wearing our masks. This is also a way to offer hospitality to our guests. Thank you!

“What is hospitality? It is about putting the other person before yourself, making their comfort and peace more important than our own. Visibility is key.”

Rev. Brian Ellison.

Pronoun stickers at the Welcome Center
if you want one for your name tag!

New policies for COVID safety at church:

- Masks are required at all times
- **Noodles will be removed on November 28!** Meeting rooms may move to half capacity. We will keep some noodles on the north side to maintain distance from the choir.
- No food or drink may be served.

Policies will be revisited at the January meeting of Session or sooner if our local situation requires.

Education

This Sunday – Adult Classes begin at 9:15 am

- Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for a series on indigenous people of this region of Kansas as a

follow up to FPC's dedication of our "Acknowledgement of Place" sign in front of our building. The series continues Sunday, November 14 at 9:15 am. We welcome Steve Perdue (Kickapoo/Potawatomi) who will share with us his work with USD497 curriculum staff on creating materials for the accurate study of Native American history and culture. Perdue was cultural advisor for Billy Mills Middle School name change and helped create the current lesson plans developed by Ann Wilson and utilized in BMMS..

- **Dr. Huyser's Old Testament Class** is meeting weekly in the Chapel. His lecture and slides are also available the following Wednesday on [YouTube](#).
- **Youth Group meets** at 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Youth in 6th grade through 12th grade can plan to attend. Friends are always welcome at FPC – sometimes that makes it more fun to attend! Wear your favorite mask and come have a great time.

Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation: An Adult Advent Study

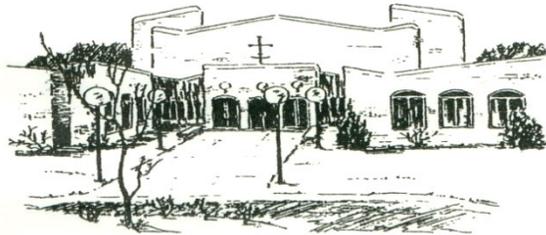
We usually think of Christmas as a time to give gifts. This study will consider the gifts we receive. Christmas is, after all, the birth of Immanuel, God with us. At Christmas we celebrate the greatest of God's gifts. Over the four-week study we will examine texts from Isaiah through the lens of gifts. Embedded in these texts are the gifts that God longs to give us and deeply desires for us to receive into our lives: peace, justice, joy, and salvation. These gifts are nothing short of transformative. If we receive them, they will reform us into what we were intended to be from the beginning: reflections of God's own being. Rod Nitz will provide the leadership for this study written by Dr. Cynthia Campbell, former President of McCormick Seminary, for The Thoughtful Christian. Class will begin on November 28 in Fellowship Hall

Support

Finance

	Budget	Actual
Gifts – October	\$42,458.00	\$34,040.00
Gifts – 2021 – YTD	\$468,483.00	\$430,499.00

Thank you for your continued support of our work and ministry together. Your faithfulness is a gift for all of us!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Barry Williams
Linda Watts, liturgist

November 14, 2021

David Pérez, organist

Prelude

Idylle melancholique
from *24 pieces en style Libre, Op. 31* by LOUIS VIERNE

Introit

This Is the Day Which the Lord Hath Made
ESTHER MARY FULLER

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for PNC

Process Update

Kelly Jones, moderator

Call to Worship

from I Samuel 2:1-2

One: Let our hearts exult in the Lord;

All: our strength is exalted in God.

One: Let our mouths be ever fixed in praise;

All: God has given us the victory.

One: There is no Holy One like the Lord;

All: there is no Rock like our God. Praise the Lord!

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!
LYONS

Glory to God #41

Large print hymnals (black covers) are available on the table at the back of the Sanctuary on the north side.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

from I Samuel 2:3, 6

O God, who is faithful and just, we have failed to help those who have little while we have much.

So often we are blind or boastful and haughty and fail to appreciate the gifts you have given.

Our arrogance has led us away from your righteous way.

Forgive us, Merciful God, and lead us to a humble path, for Jesus' sake.

Personal confession continues in silence

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Children's Moment

Judy Wilson

Scripture Reading

I Samuel 1:4-20 and 2:1-10

Linda Watts, liturgist

Vocal Anthem

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
Traditional African-American Spiritual, JOEL K. BOYD, arr.

Kara Smith, soprano

Scripture Reading

Mark 13:1-8

Sermon

“Perseverance”

Rev. Barry Williams

Choral Anthem

Hymn of Mercy
DAN FORREST

Chancel Choir
Angela Loganbill, director

David Pérez, piano and Joy Laird, flute

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

Call for Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, we offer these gifts back to you.

Multiply them so that they might help build up your kingdom on earth.

All glory, praise, and honor are due to you, now and forever. Amen.

Offering plates are located in the Narthex at the end of the “sign-in” tables.

Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This
WONDROUS LOVE

Glory to God #215

Blessing and Charge

One: Beloved, be encouraged in the Lord, and do not be led astray.

All: We will stand firm in the witness of the gospel and do good deeds, all for the glory of God.

One: May the Lord continue to bless and keep you, this day and forevermore.

Postlude

Carillon
from 24 pieces en style Libre, Op.31 by LOUIS VIERNE

David Pérez, organist

Stewardship 2022

In November we continue our season of giving. This year we are looking forward to a variety of great things coming to First Presbyterian Church by the grace of God and our own hard work! Our world has not yet emerged from the pandemic, but we are looking toward our future together. We are searching for a new pastor to move forward with us.

Coping with COVID has taught us many new things and we are forever changed. We know that those changes can only be good by believing in the possibilities we have in ministry together. What do you want to do in 2022? Give it a voice! Find someone to work with you. Let us build a bright future together by investing our time, talents, and treasures in each other through FPC.

Pledge cards are available on the tables in the Narthex. If you need one mailed to you please contact the church office at 785-843-4171. As you consider your pledge for 2022, please prayerfully consider a gift to the ministry we are building. You can also make your pledge on our website: www.firstpreslawrence.org. Thank you!



Mitten Tree

Our Mitten Tree will be up November 15th through December 3rd. Every year we put an undecorated Christmas Tree in the Narthex and ask that the congregation and preschool families decorate our tree with mittens, hats, socks, and scarves over a two-week period. We will then donate all items collected to those who don't have the means to keep warm this winter. It is always so fun and touching to watch our tree go from nothing on it to so many warm and colorful items for those in need!

Faith ∞ Family ∞ Focus

Upcoming Events

Today through November 28 – Collection for Just Basics (see article below)
November 28 – Advent Festival – 2:00 – 3:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Details to follow!

Advent Festival

Everyone is invited to our Advent Festival on Sunday, November 28 at 2:00 pm. There will be crafts to make, a service project to complete, friends to see, and new friends to make! We will have a treat bag for everyone to take home to enjoy. Come and share in the beginning of our Advent Season – together!

Sunday School Service Project

FPC Children Collecting Items for Just Basics through November 28
Children from FPC Sunday School classes are undertaking a service project for Just Basics, a program through Just Food that provides basic needs that are often left out of federally funded programs. The children will need the following items, for example: diapers (all sizes), formula, wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc. The children will take items now through November 28. Items will be collected at the north entrance. The children will sort and pack the items for delivery to Just Basics. Thank you for your help.

Sunday School Schedule

Sunday school meets 9:15 – 10:15 am for pre-K/Kindergarten, 1st/2nd, and 3rd/7th grades. Students will begin to study the practice of following Jesus in this unit of *Follow Me*.

Faith Practice of the Week

Prayer Boxes These can be made individually or make one for the family. Each day, ask everyone to write down a prayer and place it in the box. Focus on what we are thankful for and who or what we are concerned about. Help children understand that God is blessed when we care about each other. Because children are concrete thinkers they often think that when we pray, God will answer our prayers and make life happen the way we want. Prayer can instead, be understood as our way of expressing love to God.

In the Community

Lawrence Winter Shelters – As freezing temperatures begin; the city is preparing to provide emergency shelter for community members experiencing homelessness and houselessness. The Lawrence Community Building, 115 W. 11th St., will serve as the city's primary site for shelter, and the East Lawrence Recreation Center, 1245 E. 15th St., will be a secondary overflow site as needed. Each building can house up to approximately 75 people per night, or 150 total. The city anticipates a peak demand of about 200 people per night, so staff is still seeking out additional sites. The centers will be staffed by city staff members who will provide volunteer coordination and site management. They are recruiting volunteers and will provide training. If you are interested, please contact: emergencysHELTER@lawrenceks.org or call 785-832-7958. Thank you!

Thanksgiving Volunteers needed for LINK – Lawrence's annual LINK Thanksgiving dinner will take place on November 25 and volunteers are needed to lend a hand. The meal will be served at First Christian Church, 1000 Kentucky St., between 1 and 2:30 pm. Meals will also be delivered that day to people who have signed up through their congregate living sites and to those who have meals regularly delivered. Volunteers are needed:

- Wednesday, November 24 from 3 to 5 pm to receive donations at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 6001 Bob Billings Parkway and also to begin assembling meals for home delivery.
- Thursday, November 25 from 10 am to noon at Corpus Christi to pack meals and assist in loading cars for delivering them.
- Thursday, November 25 from noon to 3:30 pm to set up, serve, and clean up at the LINK meal site at First Christian Church.
- To volunteer you can sign up at linklawrence.org. Questions should be directed to Deb Engstrom 785-727-3790.

Mission

Being a **Matthew 25 Church** means that we are actively involved in three aspects of discipleship:

- Building congregational vitality
- Dismantling structural racism
- Eradicating systemic poverty

DARE Center – The mission of the Drop-In and Rest (DARE) Center, operating as a volunteer program of the Coalition for Homeless Concerns, Inc., is to offer a daily refuge with basic services providing physical and emotional comfort for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. They are currently in need of the following items: sleeping bags, tents, tarps, back packs, gloves, blankets, deodorant, underwear, socks, razors, disinfectant wipes, coffee, nutritious snacks, and first aid items (band aids, antibiotic ointment). You can also make monetary contributions payable to the Coalition for Homeless Concerns, Inc.

Just Food is the local food pantry for Lawrence and Douglas County, and this church has been a big supporter over the years. Along with other FPC members, I volunteer there, and can personally testify to the good work that Just Food does for people and families who just need some extra help to get through the month. With the holidays soon to be upon us, here are some ideas for donations to Just Food that may not have occurred to you: powdered milk (to go with the many donations we get of cereal), cooking oil, coffee/tea, flour/yeast, sugar (brown or white), diapers (especially size 4), feminine hygiene products, salt/pepper, spices, cake mix/frosting, dish detergent, paper towels, and can openers (for all the canned fruits and vegetables). Along with other, non-perishable donations, these items can be placed in the barrels at the church, where they will be collected and taken to Just Food. *“What you do for the least of these, you do for me.”* Thank you. Jeff Southard

Justice Matters votes to take on Elder Care – The Justice Matters Network Members gathered for their annual Community Problems Assembly. Each congregation got together in person at their respective sites and Zoomed into a larger community-wide meeting. After hearing testimonies on the top issues that came out of this year’s listening process, the assembly voted overwhelmingly to tackle Elder Care as our new issue for research and action. If you are interested in being part of the team that will tackle understanding and addressing the systemic roots of local issues with elder care, make sure to mark your calendar for **Justice Matters’ Research-to-Action Kickoff on Saturday, December 4, 10-11:30 am**. Watch for more details!

Justice3 Matters Research Kickoff - Saturday, December 4th, 10am - This marks the new research cycle for each of our four committees: Eldercare, Ending Homelessness, Jail Alternatives, and Restorative Practices. Anyone wanting to be a part of any of these four research teams should plan to attend, if able. We'll meet at the West Campus of First United Methodist Church (867 US-40). Attendees will be asked to wear a mask. If you are someone who does not participate in group meetings due to COVID concerns, we still want your participation! Please reach out to sarah@justicemattersinkansas.org, and we'll follow up with you about how to join.

The Presbyterian Women are leading a drive to assist the Willow Domestic Violence Shelter in Lawrence. Women often leave home quickly and without many of their personal goods. In an effort to help meet the needs Presbyterian Women are asking that you consider bringing one or more of the following items to church with you and they will make sure they are delivered. A collection box or basket with a sign on it will be in the Narthex on Sunday morning or you can bring them to the church office during the week. Deadline for these donations is Sunday, November 28 (the first Sunday of Advent). They will be delivered the next week. Thank you for your assistance to the **women at Willow**. **Items requested include: personal hygiene items for women, shampoo, conditioner, hand/body lotion, ethnic hair products, soap, and monetary gifts.** If you have questions, please contact Carol Kyner at 785-856-1683.