



# First Press

*Worship and Wisdom*

First Presbyterian Church

January 16, 2022

## 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,W-Z	Peggy Southard	L-Ma	Linda Upstill
B	Grace Nganga	Mb-Ne	Nancy Rumsey
C-De	Cherie Hoover	Nf-R	Sandy Groene
Df-F	Diana Schoneweis	Sa-So	Kathy Stover
G-Hi	Julie Simon	Sp-V	Annette Camlin
Jh-K	Charles Tuttle		

## With thanks....

Carl and I greatly appreciate the phone calls, notes, blue cards, and prayers, snacks, Christmas and New Years' cards and meals that our church family has provided for us. It all has lifted spirits on "dark days" when no sun was seen. WE pray for good "well" times for church members and their family members and staff and their loved ones near and far away. With Grace and Peace, The Lockes.

## Prayer List

### Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Marjorie "Marge" Hitchcock** died on January 5<sup>th</sup> at LMH. No services are planned at this time.
- **Jean Givens** fell and broke her ankle.
- **Loren Dolezal** is experiencing some health issues and so we pray for good information and healing.
- **Larry Schlosser** is dealing with back pain while he waits for a medical consult. Prayers for patience.

- **Ron Tucker**, reports that the chemo is sending things in the right direction. Prayers are appreciated!
- **Jim Buckley** is waiting to begin heart rehab due to limited numbers allowed at one time. More patience.
- **Phil Rankin** is glad to be back at Madonna for therapy in Lincoln, NE.
- **Brett Groene** is receiving a chemo regimen.
- **Marilyn Summers-Cool**, sister of Deborah Summers-Norwood, is doing a little better and her pain has decreased. Prayers still needed!
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.

## Birthdays in the Congregation

<b>January 19</b>	<b>January 21</b>
Jean Stokes	Guy Dresser
Lisa Ball	<b>January 23</b>
	Thomas Hill

## Calendar

**January 16**  
 9:15 am Sunday School Classes  
 10:30 am Worship  
 11:30 am Youth Group  
 11:45 am Team Verde

**January 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
**Church Office Closed**  
 6:00 pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal  
 6:00 pm Wolf Den Meeting

**January 18**  
 2:00 pm Parkinson's Support Group  
 6:00 pm Deacon Meeting  
 7:00 pm Session Meeting  
 Leah Circle

**January 19**  
 4:00 pm Christian Education Meeting  
 6:00 pm Brownie Troop  
 Webelos Meeting  
 Boy Scout Troop 59  
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**January 20**  
 1:00 pm Small World

## January 21

9:00 am Cub Scout Pinewood Derby

## January 23

9:15 am Sunday School Classes

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Youth Group

## Sunday Helpers

**Ushers:** Myron Shipley, Larry Maxey, and Eva Alley

**Greeters:** Linda Watts and John & Ruth Hughes

**Securing the Offering:** Linda Watts and Mark Shiflett

**Mugger:** Linda Longino

## 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!

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

## Education

This Sunday – Adult Classes begin at 9:15 am

- **Dr. Huyser’s Old Testament Class** is meeting in the Chapel. His past lectures and slides are available the following Wednesday on [YouTube](#).
- **Earth Care Forum** will meet on Zoom only!! The topic this week is *“Medicinal Plant Gardens”* by Kelly Kindscher. **Connect with the group on Zoom.** Use this link: <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/97050285962> The passcode is: 2022
- **Youth Group** will meet today at 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Support

**Reminder** – The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 17, in honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday.

**Christian Educator – Halftime Position** FPC is seeking a Coordinator of Christian Education. Position requires personal faith development, solid interpersonal skills, Office 365 competency, familiarity with database applications, and ability to work a flexible 20-hour week including hours on Sunday morning. Please send cover letter and resumé to [linda@firstpreslawrence.org](mailto:linda@firstpreslawrence.org) by January 28, 2022. Please help us spread the word!

**Nursery Workers needed!** We are looking for some folks to help us in the nursery on Sunday mornings. This is a paid position, and we need three or four people who are interested in making a few dollars and spending some time with some really great children! Must be 18 or older and fully vaccinated for COVID-19. If you are interested or know someone who might want to help, contact the church office at 785-843-4171 or email Heather Soper at [sopers1973@yahoo.com](mailto:sopers1973@yahoo.com) Thank you!

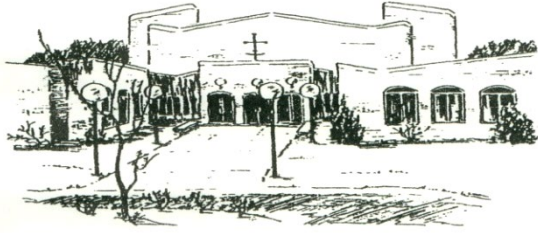
## Mission

**Your gifts to our Special Christmas Giving Program were amazing!** These gifts are over and above the regular giving that our Mission and Witness Committee provides to some of these organizations. This special giving impacts the work and ministry of organizations in our community, our state, our nation, and our world. The “extra” boost is especially helpful at this moment in time. Thank you!

Family Promise	\$1,260.00
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity	\$555.00
Lawrence Community Shelter	\$670.00
Warm Hearts	\$885.00
Heifer Project International	\$860.00
Heartland Community Health	\$125.00
FPC First 5 Years	\$330.00
PDA for Tornado assistance	\$400.00
Christmas Joy Offering	\$928.00

**Totaling a gift of \$6,013.00**





# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## *Dismantling Structural Racism Sunday*

Rev. Barry Williams, Transitional Pastor  
Charles Tuttle, liturgist

January 16, 2022

**Prelude** *Sonata V 1<sup>st</sup> mvt. Andante-Andante con moto* David Pérez, organist  
FELIX MENDELSSOHN

**Introit** *Walk in Jerusalem* Chancel Choir  
ROLLO DILWORTH, arr. Angela Loganbill, director, David Pérez, piano

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Call to Worship

One: Lord, where shall we find the courage to envisage a new beginning?

**All: Out of the depths, Father, Mother, we come to you.**

One: In our confusion we cry to you...and suddenly comes the exciting news:

**All: You, who abide in heavenly realms, you have come to us!**

One: You have not considered the smallness of our planet or the ephemeral nature of our lives.

**All: It is grace – pure, unlimited grace!**

One: Our human predicament you have made yours,

**All: and now you announce a new morning, a new beginning.**

One: And I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

**All: See, I am making all things new!**

#### Opening Prayer

**Opening Hymn** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* **Glory to God** #263  
CORONATION

#### Call to Confession

**Prayer of Confession** (adapted from *The Confession of Belhar*, 1986)

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ.

O God, we bear the imprint of Your face: the colors of our skin are Your design, and what we have of beauty in our race as human beings, You alone define, who stretched a living fabric on our frame and gave to each a language and a name.

Where we are torn and pulled apart by hate because of our race, or skin is not the same; while we are judged unequal by the state and victims made because we own our name, humanity reduced to little worth, dishonored is Your living face on earth.

Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Personal confession continues in silence*

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### Sharing the Peace

One: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

#### Children's Moment

Judy Wilson

#### Scripture Reading

*Matthew 25:31-46*

Charles Tuttle

**Vocal Anthem**

*His Eye Is on the Sparrow*  
JACK SHRADER, arr.

**Scripture Reading**

I Corinthians 12:1-11

**Sermon**

*“For the Common Good”*

Rev. Barry Williams

**Affirmation of Faith**

**Together we confess that God unites us in faith.  
Together we come to know the height, and the breadth, and the depth of the love of Christ.  
Together we are built up to the full stature of Christ.  
Together we know and bear one another’s burdens.  
We admonish one another We comfort one another. We suffer with one another.  
We need one another. We build up one another.  
Together we pray. Together we serve God in this world.  
Together we fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.  
Thanks be to God!**

**Choral Anthem**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*  
LIFT EVERY VOICE

**Glory to God #339**

**Prayer 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**

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

**Hymn**

*We All Are One in Mission*  
ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELEIN

**Glory to God #733**

**Blessing and Charge**

(adapted from *The Confession of 1967*)

One: With an urgency born of our hope in Jesus Christ, let us apply ourselves to present tasks and strive for a better world.

**All: Let us not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God, nor let us despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, let us look beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

One: Now unto God, who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we could ask or think, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generation, forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Postlude**

*Allegro maestoso from Sonata V 2<sup>nd</sup> mvt*  
FELIX MENDELSSOHN

David Pérez, organist

**Elders of the Session**

Class of 2022 – Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, Margie Dyck, John Hughes, and Henry Johns (who is also our new Clerk of the Session)

Class of 2023 – Paul Laird, Heather Soper, Jeff Southard, and Linda Watts

Class of 2024 – Peg Livingood, Jan Roth, Jim Rumsey, and Mark Shiflett

**Board of Deacons**

Class of 2022 – Annette Camlin, Cherie Hoover, Julie Simon, and Kathy Stover

Class of 2023 – Sandra Groene, Robert Mugridge, Nancy Rumsey, Charles Tuttle and Linda Upstill

Class of 2024 – Grace Nganga, Diana Schoneweis, and Peggy Southard

## *Faith ∞ Family ∞ Focus*

### Upcoming Events

Valentine Festival – February 6<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

The Family Ministry Team is hosting a family fun Valentine Festival. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out on this opportunity to gather – safely – together in Fellowship Hall. All ages of our FPC family are invited to join us to make Valentines for our families and friends, as well as some special Valentines for our FPC family members at the Manor. Bring a friend and wear a mask. Come help us spread some much needed love in our world!

### Sunday School Schedule

Sunday school meets 9:15 – 10:15 am for pre-K/Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grades. This Sunday the focus is on “reverence” and is based on Luke 2:22-38, the story of Simeon and Anna in the temple. We will learn that people of all ages recognize Jesus.

### Faith Practice of the Week

**Blessing of the Tree** – When the time comes to take down the tree, gather for a blessing of all the joyful times your family has experienced during the Christmas season. You can say, “*Bless the joy brought to us by our tree*”. Then each family member can share what they enjoyed most during Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Guide sharing away from mentioning gifts but use an example of a good time together.

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### **Save the Date! New Member Class! February 6 and 13 at 9:15 am**

The Welcome Committee is coordinating a class with several other committees especially for people who are interested in joining us in ministry as a member of First Presbyterian Church. We have not hosted a new member class since October of 2019. This is open to everyone – members too. Come to learn or to be reminded about what it means to be a part of the Presbyterian Church in the world, in our nation, and in our community. We will also share information about how you can become more connected with people in our church as we prepare to welcome a new pastor this year.



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### **In the Community**

**Interfaith Mental Health Outreach** Anxiety is a mental health issue that is quickly rising to the top of the list of concerns as a result of the pandemic. On Tuesday, January 25 at 7:30 pm Patti Cowan, an Adult Outpatient Therapist at Bert Nash will discuss how the pandemic is affecting the public's mental health, the signs and symptoms of anxiety as well as some coping strategies. The presentation will be held at Plymouth Congregational Church for those who are fully vaccinated. It will also be available virtually live, or as a recording later. Please RSVP, for in-person or to receive the link, to Dana Knorr at [knorr.dana@gmail.com](mailto:knorr.dana@gmail.com)

**Just Food** A reminder of some of the items that folks look for when they are shopping for food. They include all non-perishable items, but these might be most helpful. Powdered milk, cooking oil, coffee, tea, flour, yeast, sugar, brown sugar, diapers (especially size 4), feminine hygiene products, salt, pepper, spices, cake mix and frosting, dish detergent, paper towels, can opener. These items can be placed in the barrels at the church – in the narthex or outside the south entrance. “What you do for the least of these, you do for me.”

## First Presbyterian Church is a Matthew 25 Congregation of PCUSA

### What is a Matthew 25 church?

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

### How the vision unites all Presbyterians

By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, you can help our denomination become a more relevant presence in the world. We recognize Christ's urgent call to be a church of action, where God's love, justice and mercy shine forth and are contagious. And we rejoice how our re-energized faith can unite all Presbyterians for a common and holy purpose: our common identity to do mission.

### There are three areas of focus for a Matthew 25 church

1. Building congregational vitality
2. Dismantling structural racism
3. Eradicating systemic poverty

### How do we address these issues at FPC?

Matthew 25 is a subcommittee of the Mission and Witness Committee. There is a cohort of people who meet on a regular basis and engage in the community in a variety of ways to keep our congregation knowledgeable about resources for learning, for giving, for advocating and for combining energy to address the focus areas.

Currently, in addition to the Matthew 25 cohort, we have the EcoTeam who through their association with the PCUSA Hunger Program addresses issues of hunger within systemic poverty. We have our Team Verde who are working to provide an "un-mowed" area on the church grounds where we can learn about the ways that Mother Nature can heal herself if we allow her to have the space to do so. We have a group of people working with Justice Matters in Lawrence to address Elder Care Concerns, Homelessness Concerns, Affordable Housing, and Restorative Justice in Schools.

Matthew 25 has hosted educational opportunities for us to learn about racism and how we can make changes in our own lives to correct wrong thinking and ideas that affect the lives of others. This group is the sponsor of our effort to provide pronouns on our name tags so that we can address others as they wish to be known.

### Here are some of the ways you can be a part of the efforts of Matthew 25 currently:

- Join Team Verde – contact Margie Dyck or Thad Holcombe
- Join Matthew 25 cohort – contact Margie Dyck
- Join the EcoTeam – contact Thad Holcombe
- Attend online workshops to educate yourself:
  - January 18 – 6:30 pm - *Changing the Way We Do Food Will Save the Climate Movement* presented by Andrew Kang Bartlett – Register here: <https://presbyearthcare.org/food-and-climate/>
  - A livestream series on Matthew 25 beginning January 20. More information can be found at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>

### Watch the newsletter for more information each week!

