



The Newsletter

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Kilgore, Texas

November 2021
Volume 38 No. 11

FROM THE PASTOR

The book of Hebrews challenges us to “run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Hebrews 12:1). I have attempted to run two marathons and have completed just one. As I have reflected on the race that I finished, the lessons I learned from running can also apply to our lives of faith. I would like to share just three of them with you.

The Race Requires Nourishment

Marathon running requires that one’s body be adequately nourished both before and during the race. In the weeks leading up to my marathon I had a regular diet of red meat to build up the iron content in my blood. Iron is the protein that carries oxygen from the lungs to all the other parts of the body. A good flow of oxygen through the body is a must if your running 26 miles! During the race, runners consume extra calories in the form of energy packets and drinks at various intervals so that the body can be strengthened for the entirety of the race. Our souls need to be regularly nourished so that we can maintain our energy and stamina to keep running. We are nourished with the bread and cup of Christ’s body and blood, and we are nourished with the preaching of the word.

It Is Good to Have A Crew

Marathon runners will often have a “crew.” These are people who make sure the runner is prepped for the race and is ok during the race. The crew will organize food, provide first aid when in need, and they will offer encouragement.

Like running a race, spirituality is never supposed to be lived in isolation. We need one another to be our best selves, and to be the best Christians we are called to be. Every Sunday we profess our belief in the “communion of saints” which testifies to the reality that while our relationship with God is personal, it is always cultivated and nourished by the community of believers.

Get Some Rest

Marathons are exhausting! Training for a marathon is exhausting! The body needs rest during training before the race, and rest after the race is finished. Two weeks before my marathon, I had completed a 20-mile run but hardly ran more than three miles per run in the days leading up to the race. The body needs to rest before race day. Likewise, after the race, I did not run at all for more than a week because the muscles ravaged by the race needed to replenish and rebuild.

As in running, so do our souls need to find rest. We keep sabbath because it is a commandment, but also because without it we will wear out. I’m reminded of the phrase, “if you do not take a break, you will break.” People who never take a moment to just be in God’s presence, without trying to do anything, are not spiritually healthy people.

Let us keep running, and by God’s grace, the race will be won!

Grace and Peace,
Will



P W News

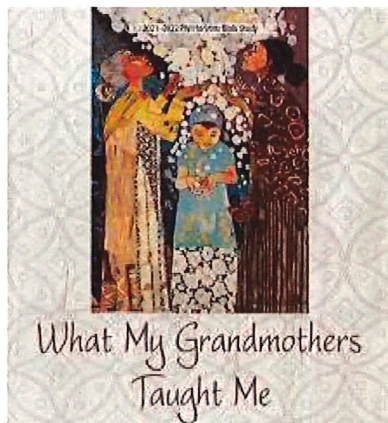


The holidays are rapidly approaching. We will have Thanksgiving dinner and then it will be Christmas!

PWCT will meet on Monday November 1 in Fellowship Hall.

Circles will meet Tuesday November 9 at noon, and Wednesday November 10 at 6:00 pm. Both meet in Fellowship Hall.

Our Bible study this year is proving to be extremely interesting. We are looking at Jesus' grandmothers.



(Who knew!!)

We will be collecting our annual Thank Offering during circle meetings. We will also supply Christmas gifts for the ladies in Evergreen Homes.

Check out the Poinsettia order form in this Newsletter.

After Thanksgiving we will decorate the Chrismon trees. Watch your email for details and come help us decorate our church.

Saturday Bread Schedule:



November 6 : Vision 2020 Ministries

November 13 : KHS Class of '66

November 20 : Tom & Linda Sartor

November 27 : John & Debby Leppert



Communion will be on
Memorial Sunday,
November 7.



Join us as we remember all the
Saints who have gone before us.



Tithes and Offerings

for Month of September

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 28,669
Actual Monthly Tithes/Offerings	\$ 21,594
Actual Monthly Expense	\$ 38,210
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$ (16,616)

For the Year 2021

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 343,669
Actual YTD Tithes/Offerings	\$ 235,449
Actual YTD Expense	\$ 375,267
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$(139,818)

Thank you for your tithes and offerings!
Without your faithful giving, ministry and missions would not be possible.



Thoughts and prayers

For our Members

- * Burke Green
- * Tom Waldo
- * Kenny Kirkpatrick
- * Family of Margie Hall

Family and friends of FPC

- * Raymond Bazinet
- * Chantal Braly
- * Joe Brown
- * Elizabeth Collins
- * Lynda Crittenden
- * John Fout
- * Kenzie Hyatt
- * Shirley G Latham
- * Heather Martin
- * David McElroy
- * Larry Perkins
- * Nancy Pybas
- * Glenda Reid
- * Shari Solomon
- * John Squier
- * Larry & Linda Willis
- * Sylvia Bolding
- * Patrick Braly
- * E J Chowdhury
- * Van Craddock
- * Linda Curkan
- * Ashley Haden
- * Rose Janke
- * Donna Marshall
- * Rex McCubbin
- * Dayne Neal
- * Bill Pybas
- * Charlotte Reed
- * Ron Sartor
- * Butch Squier
- * Betty Thrower
- * Carley Wimberley

In Service to our Country

- * Jacob Conner
- * Robert Gray
- * Stone Smith
- * Brent Duvall
- * Gavin Jackson

It's Pledge Time





Session Highlights

The Session held its Stated Meeting October 20, at 7:00 pm in the parlor.

The meeting began with devotion time and prayer.

Jimmy Chapman and Kendal Land from Grace Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, were present to show support of our search for an Associate Pastor. They gave an outline of the process and discussed the timeline.

The C E-Missions committee reported that Jo Little will be the Director for VBS in 2022. They are working on a plan to deliver the Saturday Bread Christmas Baskets on December 25.

The Stewardship-Budget Committee presented the proposed 2022 Budget. After discussing the change in the highlighted line items, a motion passed to approve the new budget.

The Property Committee reported that the flat roof above the Parlor has been repaired. The leak caused damage to the ceiling in the parlor. After discussing options, it was approved to spend \$2,400 for repair and painting.

A session meeting was called for Sunday, October 24, to receive new members, Connie and Ross Field.

The Session shared joys and concerns, and prayed together for those on the prayer list, and members of our congregation.

Sarah Camp
Clerk of Session

Monthly Missions



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and Services

**November's Mission
is the**

**PCHAS
Angel Tree.**



**Please look for the Angel Tree in the
Narthex on Sunday, November 7.**

New Member Dinner

The Visitation-Evangelism Committee is hosting the Mid-week Manna Supper Wednesday, November 3.

We will be honoring the new members who have joined our church family in 2020 and 2021.

Plan to join us for
Communion
at 6:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary,
followed by the
meal and
celebration
in Fellowship Hall.





Notes from Gala

You should join the choir. It really is the answer.

If you don't have time, if your life is too hectic and busy, choir will teach you how to breathe deeply and focus your heart and mind like nothing else will. Choir will give you time you didn't know you had. Choir will show you how to keep time. You don't have to wait until next year; the choir director will let you join now.

Even if you don't know how to sing, your choir needs your voice. Your fellow choristers will teach you to sing, and they'll sing with you. They will keep singing with you until you belong and when you feel like you belong, then you will know how to sing. And from that moment on you will always know how to sing and you won't remember what it was like to not sing. You'll be scared at first, but later you won't. You'll start to love to sing, and then you won't be afraid to sing.

In choir you will get to know a community unlike any other. You will make friends with a wonderfully weird mix of people you would not otherwise associate with. They will love you fiercely, even though they think you are weird and they would not otherwise associate with you (because you're so weird). They will laugh with you like you've never laughed before. They will cry with you and comfort you when you are sad. You will never be lonely in choir. You will create a wonderful community. You will build the Kingdom of God if you join the choir.

Choir will renew your heart and mind like nothing else will; it will transform your heart and mind. Choir will teach you things about yourself you didn't know. In choir, you will be and become a new person.

Singing in the choir will help you to express thoughts and feelings you didn't know how to express; it will help you express things you've never thought or felt. You will see and understand the world differently because of choir. (I would tell you what these things are, except you can only find out about them in choir).

When you sing in choir, you will hear things you've never heard before, things you won't hear anywhere else. Choir will teach you to listen. It will put you in tune with yourself and the world around you like nothing else will.

Choir will renew your faith. In God. In other people. In yourself. It will heal your hurts. It will help you to love and serve God and others even when your heart is broken. When all seems fearful and hopeless and wrong, and some courageous soul starts to sing, you will know to join in. And you will find such joy and harmony.

You should join choir. Seriously.



Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church, Kilgore,

Beautiful red poinsettias will be available for purchase in two sizes. These will be placed throughout the church during the Christmas season- from the First Sunday in Advent through the First Sunday in Epiphany. You may purchase the poinsettias in Honor of, in Memory of or anonymously.

The proceeds will support the ministries of Presbyterian Women and Men of the Church.

Please place your completed order form, with payments in the offering plate during worship, drop it off in the church office, or mail to FPC-Kilgore, **PO Box 1216**, Kilgore, TX 75663.

FPC Presbyterian Women and Men of the Church thank you for your participation. Please feel free to call Pat Watson @ 903-452-2256 with any questions.

First Presbyterian Church Poinsettia 2021 order form



10" - \$30.00

14" - \$80.00



10" x _____ = _____ 14" x _____ = _____

Return this order form with your payment to the offering plate or church office before December 1.

Make payable to Presbyterian Women

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Anonymous _____

Your Name _____ Phone _____

Anyone who purchases a poinsettia will understand that they will be used for the purpose of decorating our church. Those wishing to take the size plant they purchased may do so only after January 2, 2022. There will not be names on the individual plants.

Super Soup



Mark your calendar!

Congregational Lunch
November 14, following worship.
A variety of soups and cornbread to
choose from.



Saturday, November 6
Set your clocks back 1 hour!



Join Us

At Tis The Season

DECEMBER 11 , 12:00 PM
IN FRONT OF THE CRIM THEATHER
FOR A

Christmas Bell Ring

Featuring Local Church Bell Choirs





Danville Picnic



Trunk or Treat



YOUTH MINISTRY

Schedule of Events

November 7: Scavenger Hunt

November 14: Cook for Parents

November 21: No Youth Group

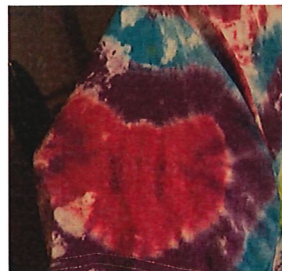
November 28: Angel Tree Shopping



Fright Fest



Tie-Dye Shirts



Call for Helpers!

Provide Dinner – November 7

Provide Dinner – November 28

If you are willing to help with youth activities, contact
Cheyenne Kirkpatrick.

903-399-5810

ckirkpatrick@kisd.org



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903-984-1502

Email: firstpreskilgore@gmail.com

Web page: firstpreskilgore.org

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Kilgore

November



November Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|----|---|
| 3 | Sophie Leppert
Lsha Stanley | 19 | James Whisenhunt |
| 5 | Rexine Burden
John Leppert | 20 | Collin Clower |
| 6 | Jan Wylie | 22 | Natalie Johnson
Jo Little |
| 8 | Jalissa Smith | 23 | Kace Murphy |
| 9 | Shea Tyra | 25 | Rylie Mann |
| 11 | Sarah Jackson | 26 | Tom Mobley |
| 12 | Lelo Perez | 27 | Sue Brown
Joan Maxwell
Leigh-Ann Sechrist
Lilly Sechrist |
| 17 | Griffin Richard | 28 | Susan Halbert |