



The Newsletter

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Kilgore, Texas

November 2023
Volume 40 No. 11

FROM THE PASTOR

Church Family,

Walter Brueggemann, a retired professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, published an article entitled “The Liturgy of Abundance, The Myth of Scarcity.” It’s a great article worthy of your time and attention (google the title, and it will come up). In it, Brueggemann describes the scarcity mindset. He writes, “We who are now the richest nation are today’s main coveters. We never feel that we have enough; we have to have more and more, and this insatiable desire destroys us.” This is the myth, or mindset, of scarcity.

How often do we go through life lamenting that we do not have enough? Some of us regret not having enough degrees, so we imagine that if we return to school and earn another one, it will finally ease our feelings of inferiority. Others of us are afraid that we do not or will not have enough saved for retirement, which becomes the focus of our fear and anxiety. So, we try various strategies to ease the panic of our perceived financial insecurity. Still, others might be worried we do not have enough friends with whom we can share in community, so we find ways to cope with the loneliness.

I don’t want to deny those situations where there is not enough to meet someone’s basic needs. However, my hunch is that the scarcity mindset, more often than not, is a myth and not a reality. Here’s why I say that: every time we think we have enough of something, we soon begin to feel that we do not have enough of something else. Brueggemann is right: we never think that we have enough.

The solution to a scarcity mindset is to ask, by the power of the Holy Spirit, for God to open our eyes to see His goodness and grace in our lives. When that happens, we go from a scarcity mindset to a thanksgiving mood. When we live from a place of thanksgiving instead of scarcity, we begin to recognize all we do have instead of all we do not have. We realize that God is good and good to us. This is why Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays of the year. Sure, the food and family are great, but we, as a nation, need to take the time to see how much we’re blessed. I believe when God opens our minds and hearts to seeing life from the perspective of Thanksgiving instead of scarcity, we realize that the reality is that we have more than enough of the blessing of God showered upon us.

Happy (early) Thanksgiving!

Will





Notes from the Session

The Session held a Called Meeting Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 11:50 a.m. in the Parlor following worship. The meeting began with prayer.

After hearing their faith statements, the Session approved to receive 2 new members, Philip and Kaitlin Waldecker, by reaffirmation of faith.

The Session then received a report from the Associate Pastor Search Committee Moderator, Pat Watson.

She reported on the progress since forming the committee. They have reviewed several PIFs (Pastor Information Forms) that were matched through the online database from PCUSA. After contacting the candidates chosen, they only received one response for an interview, who later withdrew their name for consideration. Pat asked the Session for guidance moving forward.

After discussion, a motion passed to request through the Committee on Ministry from Grace Presbytery to dissolve the Associate Pastor Search Committee.

The Session thanked the committee for their hard work and dedication.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Ryan Griffin
Acting Clerk



Tithes and Offerings for Month of September

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 33,500
Actual Monthly Tithes/Offerings	\$ 30,970
Actual Monthly Expense	\$ 47,095
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$ (16,125)

For the Year 2023

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 402,000
Actual YTD Tithes/Offerings	\$ 284,381
Actual YTD Expense	\$ 411,382
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$ (127,001)

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



Communion will be on
Memorial Sunday
November 5.

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

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 3:30 Grace Notes 6:00 Midweek Manna - Chapel 6:30 New Member Dinner	2 6:00 Handbells	3	4 Sat. Bread First Christian Church
5 Memorial Sun. Communion 9:30 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Choir 8:00 Organ Concert	6 8:00 Organ Concert	7 8:00 Organ Concert	8 10:00 Organ Recital 3:30 Grace Notes 6:00 Night Circle Parlor	9 8:00 Silent Movie	10	11 Sat. Bread Maryanne Harris
12 9:30 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Choir Rehearsal Session mtg 3:00 Officer Train	13	14 12:00 Noon Circle Parlor 5:00 C E- Missions-Parlor	15 3:30 Grace Notes	16 6:00 Handbells	17	18 Sat. Bread 20/20 Vision Ministry
19 9:30 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 12:00 Officer Training	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25 Sat. Bread John & Debby Leppert
26 9:30 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Choir Rehearsal	27	28	29 3:30 Grace Notes	30 6:00 Handbells		



Thoughts and prayers

Family and friends of FPC

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| * Tom Ansley | * Gary Atchley |
| * Regina Baker | * Raymond Bazinet |
| * Gary Boyd | * Joe Brown |
| * Charlene Campbell | * Elizabeth Collins |
| * Shauntell Copeland | * Linda Curkan |
| * Susie Pelham Davis | * Carly Faulkner |
| * Kenny Ferro | * John Fout |
| * Laura Guzman | * Ashley Haden |
| * Chester Hardy | * Guy Harrison |
| * Lucy Harrison | * Joan Harslett |
| * Mike Holbert | * Kenzie Hyatt |
| * Zoe Kelt | * Cheyenne Kirkpatrick |
| * Rita Knox | * Nikki Lafitte |
| * Shirley G Latham | * Michelle Lemming |
| * Jason Lopez | * Dianne Lyle |
| * Donna Marshall | * Carolyn Martin |
| * Alea Mata | * Mike McCollum |
| * Ward McCollum | * Rex McCubbin |
| * David McElroy | * Carla McKnight |
| * Abbi Melton | * J Mitchell |
| * Dayne Neal | * Doris Newton |
| * Larry Perkins | * Amanda Presley |
| * Jerry Richardson | * Margaret Roberts |
| * Ken Rucker | * Brad Russell |
| * Vivian Sharp | * Chris Spinks |
| * Katie Wylie Stovall | * Henry Thompson |
| * Cindy Venable | * April Watson |
| * Ann White | * Stewart White |
| * Larry Willis | * Linda Willis |
| * Carolyn Wimberley | |

In Service to our Country

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| * Jacob Conner | * Robert Gray |
| * Stone Smith | |



P W News



Your PW Coordinating Team will meet on Monday November 6, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the church parlor. Plans for our November events and poinsettia sales are being made. Watch for notices.

Our circles will be meeting soon. Watch the church bulletin for reminders! The Noon Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 in the parlor for lunch.

The Night Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 6 pm in the parlor for a Brown Bag Supper and lesson.

Please stay well and remember to check on your friends and neighbors during this cooler season. Have a great November!!

Jackie Fout
Moderator

Last Midweek Manna for the Season

Join us Wednesday evening
November 1, for Communion
in the Chapel at 6:00 p.m.



We will have our

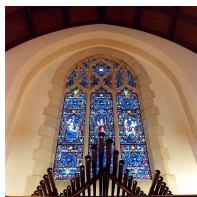
New Member Dinner

at 6:30 p.m.

hosted by the Local Evangelism-
Visitation Committee, along with the
Stewardship-Budget Committee.

**Come help us celebrate
our New Members!**

**First Presbyterian
Church, Kilgore, Texas
Organ Festival
Schedule**



Sunday, November 5 - 8:00 p.m.
Opening Concert
Clara Bartz

Monday, November 6 - 8:00 p.m.
Organ Recital
Christopher Marks

Tuesday, November 7 - 8:00 p.m.
Organ and Violin Recital
Ken Cowan, organ
Lisa Shihoten, violin
Chan Teague, tympani

Wednesday, November 8 - 10:00 a.m.
Organ Recital
Scott Dettra

Thursday, November 9 - 8:00 p.m.
Silent Movie
The Cameraman, Starring Buster Keaton
Clark Wilson, organist



Saturday, November 4
Set your clocks back 1 hour!

**Monthly
Missions**



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and Services

For November we will
be supporting the
PCHAS Angel Tree.



Please look for the
Angel Tree downstairs in
the Education Wing sometime later
this month.

Welcome!



Philip & Kaitlin Waldecker



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.

First Presbyterian Church poinsettia order form 2023

10" - \$30.00

14" - \$80.00

10" x _____ = _____

14" x _____ = _____

Return this order form with your payment to the offering plate or church office
by **November 19.**

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 December 31, 2023. There will not be names on the individual plants.

Danville Picnic - 2023



Trick or Treating for Helping Hands & Fall Festival





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