



The Newsletter

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Kilgore, Texas

November 2020

Volume 37 No. 11

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

What a year 2020 has been! I can't recall a seminary class that could have prepared me for the challenges the Coronavirus and physical distancing have brought to our lives. So much feels different. So much is different. and yet some things remain: the abiding love of God, the steadfast love of the Lord, the connections of community and prayer, and worship within our congregation, and our commitment to serve Christ by serving others.

At First Presbyterian Church, we are learning and adapting to new ways to be the church you treasure. We began offering virtual services on Facebook Live when the pandemic started. Even though we have returned to in-person worship, virtual worship has now become a permanent dimension of our online presence. We are in the process of updating our technology so that we can provide quality worship to those who join us online.

Our session has started reaching out to every member of the congregation to make sure they are ok, and to remind them that we are still being the church of Jesus Christ during these unprecedented times. We have resumed times of fellowship (Danville Picnic, Trunk-or-Treat) so that we might continue to embrace the gift of our communal life together.

I want to thank you for your financial commitment to First Presbyterian during this last year. For those who've continued your regular giving: thank you! for those of you who've gone above and beyond your pledge: thank you! Your gifts have helped sustain the faithful mission and ministry of our congregation. Your support is critical to our sustainability. We are now at a time when we consider what God is calling us to give in support of the church for the next year. I hope your circumstances will enable you to continue your usual contributions. If they have changed, please know I understand. Conversely, if you find you are able to make an additional gift beyond your normal amount, that would be wonderful! Please know that your donation, no matter its size, is deeply appreciated and empowers us to carry out our church's ability to make a difference in people's lives and glorify God!

Together, we can support each other through this difficult time. Together, we can answer God's call to mission and ministry. Together, we can be spiritually united even when physically apart.

In Christ,
Will





September 2020

Month of September

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 28,639
Actual Monthly Tithes/Offerings	\$ 20,161
Actual Monthly Expense	\$ 37,998
Overage/(Deficit)	\$ (17,837)

For the Year 2020

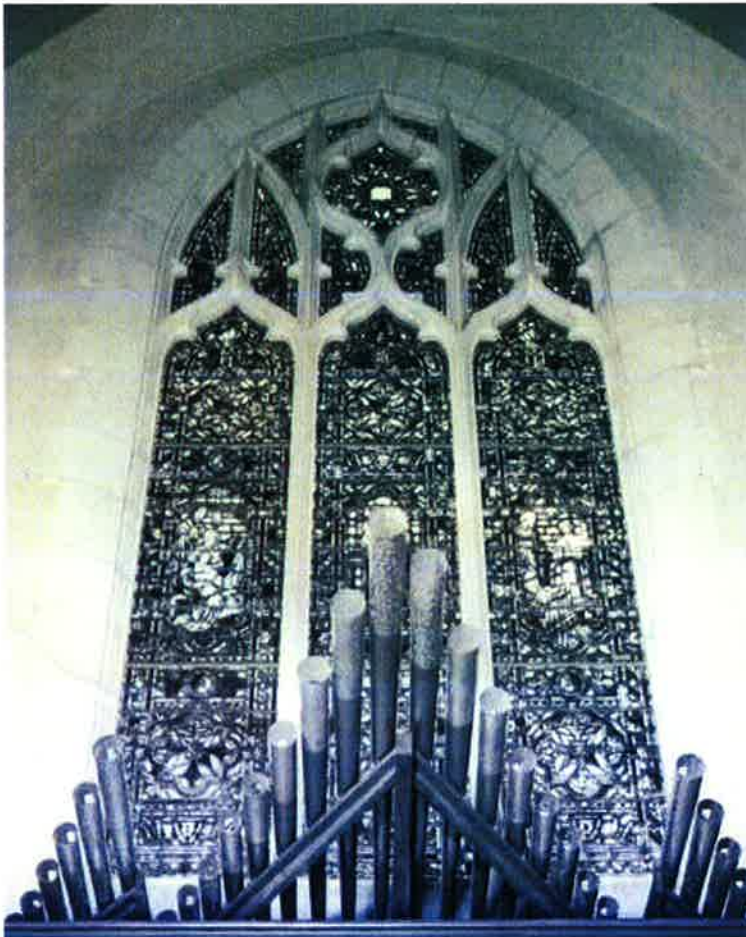
Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 257,751
Actual YTD Tithes/Offerings	\$ 295,620
Actual YTD Expense	\$ 369,028
Overage/(Deficit)	\$ (73,408)

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

Tithes and Offerings

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Had Bible Study together.
- Received thank you notes from the families of Jay McDaniel, and Jeanie Walker.
- Received a report with gratitude to John Leppert for building the sound booth for the new sound system.
- Approved the hiring of a part time AV tech to video and live stream Sunday services.
- The Worship-Fellowship committee will have cookies and bottled water at the covered drive during the Christmas parade.
- Voted to not have the Annual Candlelight Service this year, but to have an expanded Christmas Eve Communion Service in the sanctuary.
- Voted to decline an offer made to buy mineral rights of FPC.
- Prayed for members of our congregation.



East Texas Pipe Organ Festival

The East Texas Pipe Organ Festival will host an online festival this year due to the current Pandemic. We will host several online concerts November 8-12. Tuesday, November 10 at 6:00 p.m., an outdoor silent movie event will take place in downtown Kilgore at the Texan Theater. The movie is "Girl Shy", starring Harold Lloyd with organ accompaniment on the FPC Aeolian Skinner performed by Clark Wilson. A schedule will be published soon. Donations are appreciated and will enable the foundation to continue to offer outstanding performers.



Music at FPC

In this time of social distancing, our safely distanced and masked bell choir has resumed rehearsals and is preparing music for worship. If you are interested in participating in small bell ensembles, call Gala. Rehearsals for these small ensembles will be arranged to meet the schedules of the ringers.

What's Happening in November at FPC

November 1 - Annual Memorial Service - All Saints' Day
Communion Sunday



November 8 - Family Event - Children through 4th grade.
2:00 p.m. Fellowship and games outside

November 15 - Sr. High Youth
5:00 p.m. Fellowship and Bible Study outside



November 22 - Middle School Youth
5:00 p.m. Fellowship and Bible Study outside

November 23 - Advent family kits will be available this week.
Details to follow



November 29 - First Sunday of Advent

December 1 - Kilgore Christmas Parade
Cookies and bottled water will be at the covered drive. Bring a chair to sit with your family and social distance.



**Monthly
Missions**



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and Services

November's Mission is the **PCHAS Angel Tree**.
Please visit the Christmas tree in the Narthex to sponsor a family.

Happy Birthday FPC



Trunk or Treat



P W News



The holidays are approaching rapidly. Thanksgiving is November 26, and Advent begins on November 29. Christmas will be here before we know it.

There are still **poinsettias available** to decorate the church during Advent and Christmas. Send in the attached order form or contact Pat Watson if you would like to purchase one. Forms are also available in the narthex. It would make a wonderful memorial gift for a loved one.

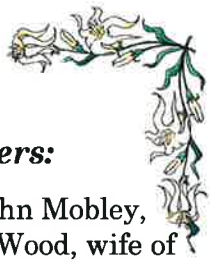
We will have our monthly PWCT meeting on Monday November 2, 2020 in Fellowship Hall; we will be making plans for the holidays.

Remember Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Please go VOTE!

Sarah Camp
Moderator



Thoughts and Prayers for our Members:



We are saddened in the death of John Mobley, brother of Tom Mobley, and Scotti Wood, wife of Dr. Bill Holda.

- * Joel Camp
- * David Nixon
- * Donna & Katherine Shupe
- * Nicholas Little
- * Mac Blackstone

Prayers for friends and family of our congregation:

- * Joe Brown
- * Legene Gay
- * Kenzie Hyatt
- * Tillman Latham
- * Donna Marshall
- * Rex McCubbin
- * Dayne Neal
- * Charlotte Reed
- * Glenda Reid
- * Cecelia & Roland Sanders
- * Sharon Schoenemann
- * Billie Clower Watson
- * Charles Wimberley
- * Linda Curkan
- * Ashley Haden
- * Don Kiser
- * Jimmy Love
- * Pat McCrory
- * David McElroy
- * Bill Pybas
- * Gordon Reed
- * Alan Rhodes
- * Jamie Stephens
- * Danny Strickland
- * Carly Wimberley



Friends & Relatives in Service to Our Country



- Jacob Conner
- Brent Duvall
- Robert Gray
- Gavin Jackson

The Night Circle held it's first "Brown Bag" meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 14 in Fellowship Hall. They enjoyed fellowship and a wonderful lesson on *Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament* while social distancing. The next meeting will be November 11.



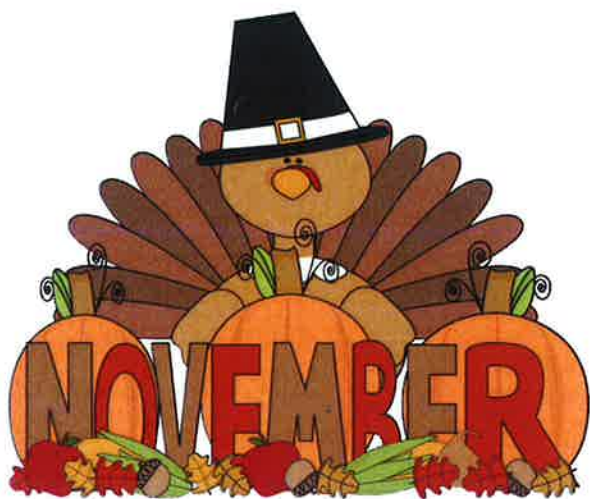
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903-984-1502

Email: firstpreskilgore@gmail.com
Web page: firstpreskilgore.org
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Kilgore

This Sunday, November 1



TO EVERYONE AT THE HOME OF:



- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 3 Sophie Leppert | 20 Collin Clower
Wilson Dickson |
| 5 Rexine Burden
John Leppert | 22 Natalie Johnson
Jo Little |
| 6 Jan Wylie | 23 Kace Murphy |
| 8 Jalissa Baggett Smith | 25 Rylie Mann |
| 9 Shea Tyra | 26 Tom Mobley |
| 10 Paula Jordan | 27 Sue Brown
Joan Sechrist Maxwell
Leigh-Ann Sechrist
Lilly Sechrist |
| 11 Sarah Jackson | 28 Susie Halbert |
| 12 Lelo Perez | |
| 17 Griffin Richard | |
| 19 James Whisenhunt | |



First Presbyterian Church Poinsettia 2020 order form

10" - \$30.00

14" - \$80.00

Please return this order form with your payment to the offering plate or church office before November 15.

10" x _____ = \$ _____

14" x _____ = \$ _____

Make payable to Presbyterian Women

First Presbyterian church
P.O. Box 1216
Kilgore, TX 75663
903-984-1502



In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Anonymous _____

Your Name _____ Phone _____

Names in memory of, or in honor of will be printed in the worship bulletin each Sunday during Advent. Anyone who purchases a poinsettia will understand that they will be used for the purpose of decorating our church. The date they may be picked up for personal use will be forthcoming. There will not be names on the individual plants.

Proceeds will be allocated to support the current and future ministries of our Men of the Church and Presbyterian Women.