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First Presbyterian Church, Batesville AR

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Good News

Dear Friends,

Worship during the month of November will be full of extra opportunities to praise God this year. Here are just a few of the things we will be doing this month during morning worship. **November 2** will be a Communion Sunday, but during worship we will also bless mats for homeless people in our community. These mats have been prepared by members of our congregation with the assistance of others, and are shared in a number of ways with those in need. If you have participated in the mat making ministry, I hope you will be present on November 2 to participate in blessing the fruit of your labors.

November 9 will be an especially important day. First of all, it will include a fellowship luncheon after worship. During worship, however, we will take the opportunity to commission the young people who are participating in worship as acolytes. Each of them has gone through a time of training recently and to acknowledge their willingness to be involved we will ask God to bless them in their work. But of great importance as well will be the election of new a new class of elders and a new class of deacons to serve for the congregation during a congregational meeting following worship. **November 16** will be Stewardship Sunday, and if all goes according to plan, you will be asked during worship to bring your pledge cards forward and place them in a basket at the front of the sanctuary. Then, as a part of worship, we will dedicate those pledges to the work of God's church. We hope all of you will make a special effort to be in worship for this meaningful activity. (There is information in this Newsletter concerning our stewardship campaign for 2026 and more information to come in the days ahead.)

November 23 is Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday in the Christian Year.

Following this service we will begin to decorate the sanctuary for the season of Advent. More information is to follow. And finally, **November 30** is the first Sunday in Advent. During worship that day we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and begin to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ.

As you can see, there is a great deal going on during November in the worship life of our congregation. May each of us be blessed in special ways.

See you Sunday,

Jim Freeman,

Pastor

Special Dates for November 2025

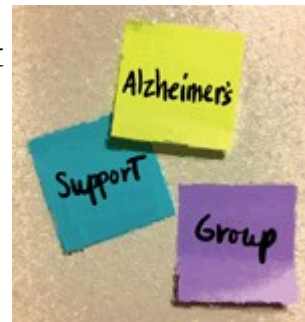
- All Saints' Day, *November 1, 2025*
- Daylight saving time ends, *November 2, 2025*
- Veterans Day, *November 11, 2025*
- Christ the King Sunday, *November 23, 2025*
- Thanksgiving Day, *November 27, 2025*
- First Sunday of Advent, *November 30, 2025*



- 11/12 John Douglas Miller
- 11/13 Chuck Jones
- 11/13 Sarah Jones
- 11/15 Kathy Whittenton
- 11/21 Deborah Stroud
- 11/24 Avery Moore
- 11/26 Danny Yeager
- 11/29 Fonzie Geary, III
- 11/30 Sue Johnston

Lunch & Learn

Please join us for the Alzheimer's Lunch & Learn on November 13th. It is free & open to the public. It will be located in Fellowship Hall beginning at 11:00 am. Lunch will be provided by Alzheimer's Arkansas. Please, RSVP to Paulette at 318-617-6282.



Stewardship Campaign

Stewardship Sunday is November 16th! Pledge cards are being mailed out soon. Please fill out your pledge card and return it to the church. There are multiple ways you can return your pledge card! You can drop by the office during the week or bring it on Sunday, mail it to the church, call Mollie and let her know your 2026 pledge, or drop her an email at firstpresbatesville@gmail.com!

The Stewardship Committee thanks you for your timely response. Remember, the lights and heat can stay on, and we can serve others because of you and your faithfulness!

Members of the Stewardship Committee are Bob Stroud, Celeste Whipple, Jeffrey Friert, Janet Wood, Will Moore, Clark Baker. Thank you for your service!



Would you like to help Slam or FPI Youth? The youth would welcome any donations in the form of dinner, snacks, supplies and money. Please check with Ms. Lorrie if you would like to donate. mcclure2825@yahoo.com or 870-613-6961.



FPI

Youth Group News: A Season of Growth & Community

Our church's Youth Group is launching a **Fall Food Drive** to support local families and fight hunger in our community! This vital effort provides much-needed assistance to neighbors experiencing food insecurity, and it's a fantastic way for our young people to put their faith into action.

A Tradition of Giving

Our youth have been passionate about this project, recognizing the importance of giving back. This year, they are aiming to collect enough non-perishable goods to stock the shelves of the **Pioneer Pantry** for the upcoming holidays.

"It's important to us that everyone in our community has enough to eat, especially as the weather gets colder and the holidays approach," says **Lorrie McClure, Youth Leader**. "We've set a big goal this year, and we know our church family can help us reach it!"

How You Can Help

The Youth Group is asking the entire congregation to participate. We need your donations of **non-perishable food items** over the next **four weeks**. The most needed items include: canned goods (vegetables, fruit, soups, beans), peanut butter and jelly, pasta and rice, cereal and oatmeal, shelf-stable milk, baby food and diapers, basic toiletries (soap, toothpaste, shampoo). Look for the designated collection bins, located in the **Narthex/Entryway** **The final day for donations will be Sunday, November 30th**. Let's support our Youth Group and SLAM in making a huge impact this fall! Every single item makes a difference in the life of a family right here in our town.



CURRENT ELDERS:

Class of 2025

Geri Coleman
Price Holmes III
Carlene Lewis
Ceil Smith

Class of 2026

Wanette Baker
Lenora Baldwin
Deborah Stroud
Janet Thomas

Class of 2027

Steve Lange
Jeffrey Friert
Clint Thomas
Kathy Altom

CURRENT DEACONS:

Class of 2025

Wesley Beal
Melissa Qualls
Sam Smith
Janet Wood

Class Of 2026

Clint Howard
Larry Whipple
Rachel Baker
Payne Moser

Class of 2027

Laura Geary
Mayfan Thomas
Miriam Moore
Sandy James



Our next Outreach donation will be to Pioneer Pantry. At this time, they are very low on food for families in need. Any shelf-stable food that you could donate would be appreciated. Thanks for making a difference! Pop-top soups, applesauce, fruit cups, canned fruits, tuna kits, cereal, macaroni & cheese, breakfast bars, oatmeal packs, beanie weenies, Hormel easy meals, or pudding cups would be great choices. Thank you for your generosity!

Angel Tree Program and Santa for Seniors

Angel Tree

Each year, families rely on the Angel Tree program to help give their kids a Christmas they otherwise are unable to give them. Children between the ages of 2 and 10 make out a Christmas list, and hope that someone will pick their name and bless them with some new clothes, or toys. Will you be the family that picks out an angel or two to bless?



Angels will be available for pick up in a variety of ways this year. You can stop by the church office, or the Narthex to pick out an angel, or call/email the church and Mollie would be happy to help you choose an angel or two. Gifts will be due back to the church early December. Please watch the bulletin and your email for more information, or contact the church office with any questions you might have.

If helping to deliver the presents to the United Way is something you would be interested in, please watch for more information in December.

Santas for Seniors

We will partner again with White River Area Agency on Aging to provide several seniors a chance to receive gifts that they may otherwise not receive. Seniors will be available the same time as Angels.

Presbyterian Day School

Our Breakfast With Santa fundraiser is coming up on Saturday, December 6! With a ticket, which can be purchased in the church office or from a PDS family, you'll enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast and have admission to our bake sale and silent auction, and your littles can get their photo taken with Santa! Please join us for this sweet holiday event. If you would like to be an event sponsor or provide an item or service for inclusion in our silent auction, please contact Alyson Low at alysonlowpds@gmail.com."



Worship Schedule

November 2nd -

Liturgist- Chuck Jones

Acolyte-Mettler & Rufus Bell

November 9th -Fellowship Lunch/Election of Officers

Liturgist-Chuck Jones

Acolyte_ Avery & Ryan Moore

November 16th -Stewardship Sunday

Liturgist- Chuck Jones

Acolyte- Rufus Bell

November 23rd -Christ the King

Liturgist- Karen Lange

Acolyte-Hadley Weaver

November 30th -1st Sunday in Advent

Liturgist-Karen Lange

Acolyte-Hudson Weaver

Thank your Deacons!

Be sure and thank your Greeter on Sunday mornings because they take such good care of our church. After each service, they lock all the doors, turn off the lights, put the offering in the safe, take up the attendance sheets, among other jobs. It is often a thankless job and goes unnoticed. Melissa Qualls was lead deacon in October. Thank you!



JOIN US
for
LUNCH
November 9th



Pastoral Care

PLEASE REMEMBER these members and friends of First Presbyterian Church in your prayers.

MEMBERS: Shelly Moser, Amy Howard, Bob and Sandy Qualls; Kathy Whittenton; Trish Boylan.
FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Brayden Johnson, friend of Sam Smith; Hattie Parker, unborn daughter of Anna Parks Arnold (friend of Kathy Lanier); Dana Mathis, (*friend of Sarah Jones*); Amber Lacewell (*friend of LeAnn & Price Homes*); Fin Anderson (*granddaughter of James and Camille*); Kathy Magness, (*friend of Amy & Clint Howard*); Andrew Langenbach (nephew of John Ried); The Bentley Family; Libby King (Daniel King); Sam Crawford (*friend of the congregation*); Chip Rayford (*son-in-law of Theodora Hightower*); Bill Olson (*friend Amy Crouch Howard*); Dwight Barnett & family (*brother of Carlene Lewis*); Kelli Sarrett (*niece of Celeste Whipple*); Dr. Mark Williams (*friend of Carlene Lewis*); Daniel Neal (*friend of Zack Mobley*); Charlie Robuck (*grandson of Jo Cudd*); Paul & Susan (Critz) Guthrie (*friend of the congregation*); Marjorie Seasholtz (*friend of Kathy Whittenton*); Don Weatherman (*friend of the congregation*); Todd Phillips (*nephew of Camille Anderson*); Eloise Kikkert (*granddaughter of Don & Lynn Weatherman*); Betty Howard (*friend of Kathy Whittenton*); Nick Slagle (*nephew of Ceil Smith*); Susan Anselm (*sister of Jo Gehm*).

Please Pray for...



| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| November 2 | Presbyterian Church Bull Shoals | First, Arkadelphia |
| November 9 | Campus Ministries | Hospital Chaplains and Counselors |
| November 16 | Church Nursery Workers | First, Rogers |
| November 23 | First, Harrison | Westminster, Hot Springs |
| November 30 | Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village | First, Searcy |



Sermons

Would you like to receive Jim's Sunday sermons in your inbox? He emails his sermons on Monday mornings. If you are interested, send him an email: jimfreeman1960@gmail.com.