

the Lamplighter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 2017

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Advent Conspiracy Project

The Advent Conspiracy encourages substituting compassion for consumption. In doing so, we embrace four themes:

Worship More-Worshipping Christ can become the greatest and most enjoyed focus of the season.

Give More-God gave his Son as a relational gift; Christians can try to give more meaningful, relational and experiential gifts instead of expensive ones.

Spend Less-Decrease the volume of purchasing and receiving costly Christmas gifts.

Love All-In the Advent, Jesus enters our poverty so we will no longer be poor. With the money saved by giving relationally and resisting consumerism, people can redistribute that money to the "least of these" in their communities and the world.

The Worship Committee invites us to take the Conspiracy Challenge of giving at least one less physical gift and instead, giving the same money toward one of the two organizations chosen for this years Advent Conspiracy Project:

Living Waters for the World & Boys and Girls Club.

The table will be set up in the back of the sanctuary for you to give, and a certificate will be given to you to complete for whom the gift is given.

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday
9:00am-2:30pm
LUNCH: A half hour between
11:30pm-12:30pm

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robyn Abel

Pastor

Candice Mendoza

Pastoral

Administrative Assistant

Carolle Tracy, **Music Director**

Donna Houston, **Organist**

Shirley Crutcher, **Nursery**

ELDER/ELDER HELPER OF THE MONTH

Donna Houston

CJ Hall

FRIEND OF THE MONTH

Debbie Wyatt

RULING ELDERS ON SESSION

Anna Smith

Caren Gibson

Barry Hain

CJ Hall

Donna Houston

Emma Jean Kirby

Prentice Knight

Meredith Halcomb

Becky Stubbs

DEACONS:

Mary Frances Page

Marcella Davis

Woon Yen Prall

Pastor's Pen

Driving back to Franklin after Thanksgiving, the radio stations were blaring Christmas music. Thanksgiving hadn't even dawned before my neighbors had Christmas lights draped across roof tops. Black Friday, came and went-right along with Cyber Monday. Yeah, check those off the list-I didn't fall prey to either one! I know, I sound like Mr. Scrooge or Mr. Grinch.

The Advent Season is a precious time in the Christian faith. It is a time when we look to God and ponder in our hearts what our Creator was wanting and desiring as he chose to take on human form and to dwell among us in the Christ Child. What amazing and wondrous love the Divine has for us to make the sacrifice to walk among us, to point the way, to lead by example and to lay down his life.

Our nation and community are filled with needs both materially and spiritually. Many have family challenges that need attention regularly. In our family of faith, we have many health issues needing our constant prayers and love.

This Advent and Christmas Season, may we rejoice in the loved ones in our lives. Then, may our gratitude compel us to give of ourselves to ones who are not as fortunate.



Advent/Christmas Activity Schedule

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND:

Hanging of the Greens at 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD:

Advent Breakfast 8:30 a.m.

Lighting of Candle of Hope-Barbara Shriver
Annual Congregational Meeting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH:

Lighting of Candle of Peace-Cropper Family
Advent Skit Story-The Prophecy Foretold

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH:

Lighting of Candle of Joy-Brandon Stubbs
Advent Skit Story-Mary and the Angel
Soup Sandwich & Potluck

CHRISTMAS CAROLLING AROUND
TOWN: (Time TBA)

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20TH:

WHITE CHRISTMAS BOX PACKING &
DELIVERY

Would you like to help pack and/or deliver
White Christmas boxes? Packing will begin at
9:00 a.m. in the Cornerstone with delivery to
follow. Anyone interested in helping with
packing or deliveries should contact Caren

Gibson at (270) 586-6260 or (270) 647-2108 or
by email at carengibson55@gmail.com.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24:

Lighting of Candle of Love-Halcomb Family
Advent Skit Story-This is the Nativity Story
PC(USA) Christmas Joy Offering during
worship (Check out

www.presbyterianmission.org/christmasjoy to
find out where your donations go!)

Lessons and Carols @ 10pm

Special Music with Hammered Dulcimer
Craig Duncan will begin @ 9:30pm.

Come & worship God on Christmas Eve! This
service will include special music, along with
musical meditations from the FPC choir,
congregational Christmas hymns, including
Silent Night sung by candlelight. Come one,
come all, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus
Christ!





Session Highlights *(from Stated Session meeting held Nov. 26)*

- * Approved Fish Fry fundraiser for February with proceeds going to purchase new pew bibles.
- * Received the Presbytery Commissioner report
- * Received a report from the Preschool task force. The task force will continue with the next step in their feasibility study, gathering financial requirements for staffing, educational materials and necessities in order to break even. They will report back at the January meeting.
- * Approved requesting for Building and Maintenance to gather information concerning the installation of a lift-type elevator. This is for information only at this time.
- * Pastor Robyn will continue to work to bring a Child Protection Policy to Session.
- * Approved a Faith Budget for 2018 which will be given to congregation at its meeting on Dec. 3. (While there is a deficit of approximately \$4,000 between projected income and expense, session supports this budget).
- * Committee reports were received. There continues to be an issue with the church security system. Pastor Robyn will contact Building & Maintenance.
- * The Congregational Nominating Committee has been unable to find enough people willing to serve as Elder for the Class of 2020.



MATTHEW 1:23

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

News & Notes

IN 2017, CHRISTIAN SERVICE ACCOMPLISHED:

- Organized and oversaw Summer Feeding Program
- Continued providing FPC food bags for needy travelers/families
- Supported Habitat for Humanity pancake breakfast
- Sponsored FS Boys & Girls Club
- Sponsored FS Good Samaritan, Inc.
- Held Bean Soup Fundraiser
- Held annual Yard Sale for missions
- Supported Church World Service Blanket Sunday
- Gathered offering and presented Minute for Mission (Living Waters)
- Distributed White Christmas food boxes to needy families
- Supported the Simpson Co. Backpack program
- Provided lunch for "People Serving People" program
- Certified FPC as an Eco-Care Congregation
- Supported FPC Pastor's Benevolence fund
- Collected and dispersed KIVA loans
- Organized meals and served meals and volunteered for RITI
- Supported Buckhorn
- Supported Heifer Program through "Read to Feed"- \$1,217.00
- Supported victims of hurricanes through Presbyterian Disaster Relief
- Investigated process of working with refugees
- Established groups for refugee help through the International Center of Kentucky

For anyone who assisted with the above mentioned projects, we say a huge thank you!!!

Thank you!

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELP PREPARE, SET UP, COOK, DELIVER, SERVE, CLEAN UP, ETC. FOR THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL BEAN SOUP FUNDRAISER. BECAUSE OF EVERYONE'S HARD WORK, WE WERE ABLE TO RAISE A TOTAL OF \$2,300 TO GO TOWARDS LOCAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE!



DON'T FORGET OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, DEC. 3 AFTER WORSHIP SERVICES!!!



TLC CHRISTMAS TEA

***TUESDAY, DEC. 5 AT 2:30 P.M.
IN THE CORNERSTONE***

Please bring a \$5 gift for exchange, and also bring your favorite cookies or candy to share!!!

Stewardship Corner

November Average Attendance: 64

Nov. 5 72
Nov. 12 70
Nov. 19 51
Nov. 26 62

November Weekly Offering Average: \$2,102.10

Nov. 5 \$2,381.90
Nov. 12 \$2,477.50
Nov. 19 \$1,595.00
Nov. 26 \$1,954.00

Average Weekly Income Needed for Budget:
\$2,403.85

White Christmas

This years White Christmas Offering will be on Sunday, Dec. 3 & 10. You may also bring in toiletry items as well as hats, gloves, etc. to place in the boxes. We will be packing and delivering the boxes on Wed. Dec. 20th beginning at 9 a.m. If you know of a family that could benefit from a box, please let the office know their information!



YOUTH CORNER

THE YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20TH FROM 11-5 IN THE YOUTH ROOM.



The Youth Group meets each Wednesday (during school) from 6-7 p.m. at the Cornerstone. Dinner is provided. Anna Smith is the Youth Group leader.

Youth Skating Party during winter break information, TBA!!!



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franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com



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December 2017 Daily Lectionary

These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press 1993). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.

Friday, December 1

Morning: Pss. 84; 148

Evening: Pss. 25; 40

Isa. 24:14–23

1 Peter 3:13–4:6

Matt. 20:17–28

Saturday, December 2

Morning: Pss. 63; 149

Evening: Pss. 125; 90

Micah 7:11–20

1 Peter 4:7–19

Matt. 20:29–34

[Begin Year 2]

Sunday, December 3

1st Sunday of Advent

Morning: Pss. 24; 150

Evening: Pss. 25; 110

Amos 1:1–5, 13–2:8

1 Thess. 5:1–11

Luke 21:5–19

Monday, December 4

Morning: Pss. 122; 145

Evening: Pss. 40; 67

Amos 2:6–16

2 Peter 1:1–11

Matt. 21:1–11

Tuesday, December 5

Morning: Pss. 33; 146

Evening: Pss. 85; 94

Amos 3:1–11

2 Peter 1:12–21

Matt. 21:12–22

Wednesday, December 6

Morning: Pss. 50; 147:1–11

Evening: Pss. 53; 17

Amos 3:12–4:5

2 Peter 3:1–10

Matt. 21:23–32

Thursday, December 7

Morning: Pss. 18:1–20;

147:12–20

Evening: Pss. 126; 62

Amos 4:6–13

2 Peter 3:11–18

Matt. 21:33–46

Friday, December 8

Morning: Pss. 102; 148

Evening: Pss. 130; 16

Amos 5:1–17

Jude 1–16

Matt. 22:1–14

Saturday, December 9

Morning: Pss. 90; 149

Evening: Pss. 80; 72

Amos 5:18–27

Jude 17–25

Matt. 22:15–22

Sunday, December 10

2nd Sunday of Advent

Morning: Pss. 24; 150

Evening: Pss. 25; 110

Amos 6:1–14

2 Thess. 1:5–12

Luke 1:57–68

Monday, December 11

Morning: Pss. 122; 145

Evening: Pss. 40; 67

Amos 7:1–9

Rev. 1:1–8

Matt. 22:23–33

Tuesday, December 12

Morning: Pss. 33; 146

Evening: Pss. 85; 94

Amos 7:10–17

Rev. 1:9–16

Matt. 22:34–46

Wednesday, December 13

Morning: Pss. 50; 147:1–11

Evening: Pss. 53; 17

Amos 8:1–14

Rev. 1:17–2:7

Matt. 23:1–12

Thursday, December 14

Morning: Pss. 18:1–20;

147:12–20

Evening: Pss. 126; 62

Amos 9:1–10

Rev. 2:8–17

Matt. 23:13–26

Friday, December 15

Morning: Pss. 102; 148

Evening: Pss. 130; 16

Hag. 1:1–15

Rev. 2:18–29

Matt. 23:27–39

Saturday, December 16

Morning: Pss. 90; 149

Evening: Pss. 80; 72

Hag. 2:1–9

Rev. 3:1–6

Matt. 24:1–14

Sunday, December 17

3rd Sunday of Advent

Morning: Pss. 24; 150

Evening: Pss. 25; 110

Amos 9:11–15

2 Thess. 2:1–3, 13–17

John 5:30–47

Monday, December 18

Morning: Pss. 122; 145
Evening: Pss. 40; 67
Gen. 3:8–15
Rev. 12:1–10
John 3:16–21

Tuesday, December 19

Morning: Pss. 33; 146
Evening: Pss. 85; 94
Zeph. 3:14–20
Titus 1:1–16
Luke 1:1–25

Wednesday, December 20

Morning: Pss. 50; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 53; 17
1 Sam. 2:1b–10
Titus 2:1–10
Luke 1:26–36

Thursday, December 21

Morning: Pss. 18:1–20;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 126; 62
2 Sam. 7:1–17
Titus 2:11–3:8a
Luke 1:39–48a (48b–56)

Friday, December 22

Morning: Pss. 102; 148
Evening: Pss. 130; 16
2 Sam. 7:18–29
Gal. 3:1–14
Luke 1:57–66

Saturday, December 23

Morning: Pss. 90; 149
Evening: Pss. 80; 72
Jer. 31:10–14
Gal. 3:15–22
Luke 1:67–80 or Matt. 1:1–17

Sunday, December 24

4th Sunday of Advent
Morning: Pss. 24; 150
Evening: Pss. 25; 110
Isa. 60:1–6
Gal. 3:23–4:7
Matt. 1:18–25

Monday, December 25

**Nativity of Jesus Christ /
Christmas Day**
Morning: Pss. 2; 145
Evening: Pss. 98; 96
Micah 4:1–5; 5:2–4
1 John 4:7–16
John 3:31–36

Tuesday, December 26

Morning: Pss. 116; 146
Evening: Pss. 119:1–24; 27
2 Chron. 24:17–22
Acts 6:1–7
Acts 7:59–8:8

Wednesday, December 27

Morning: Pss. 34; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 19; 121
Prov. 8:22–30
1 John 5:1–12
John 13:20–35

Thursday, December 28

Morning: Pss. 2; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 110; 111
Isa. 49:13–23
Isa. 54:1–13
Matt. 18:1–14

Friday, December 29

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 132; 97
2 Sam. 23:13–17b
2 John 1–13
John 2:1–11

Saturday, December 30

Morning: Pss. 93; 149
Evening: Ps. 89
1 Kings 17:17–24
3 John 1–15
John 4:46–54

Sunday, December 31

1st Sunday after Christmas
Morning: Pss. 98; 150
Evening: Pss. 45; 96
1 Sam. 1:1–2, 7b–28
Col. 1:9–20
Luke 2:22–40

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devotionals 365 days a year

www.d365.org

LECTOR/USHER SCHEDULE

- **Sunday, December 3**
LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON
USHERS: TERRY JOINER
DANNY JOINER
- **Sunday, December 10**
LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON
USHERS: TERRY JOINER
DANNY JOINER
- **Sunday, December 17**
LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON
USHERS: TERRY JOINER
DANNY JOINER
- **Sunday, December 24**
LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON
USHERS: TERRY JOINER
DANNY JOINER

WEEKLY EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **Handbells:** Wednesdays, 5-6:00 pm
- **Choir:** Wednesdays, 6-7:30 pm
- **AA Meetings:** M, T, R, & F @ 7:30pm; W @ 6pm; M. & Sat. 8am
- Dec. 3** Annual Congregational Mtg.
- Dec. 5** Worship Meets 5:30

DECEMBER 2017

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Advent Brkfst. White Christmas Off. Tim Crocker	4 Wine to Water Mtg 11:30 (Brickyard)	5 TLC Christmas Tea 2:30	6 Kristopher Sutton-Evanoff	7	8 Steve Thomas	9
10 White Christmas Off.	11	12 Red Cross 12-6	13	14 Hailey Williams Thomas Williams jr	15	16 Nancy Thomas
17 Soup & Sandwich Caroling	18	19 Eleanor Caudill	20 White Christmas Box Youth Party	21	22	23
24 Joy Offering Lessons & Carols 9:30	25 	26 Frank Wakefield	27	28	29	30
31 Blake Sutton						



Save the date.

Wine to Water Fundraiser

Thursday, January 18, 2018
6 pm - 8 pm

**SUPPER
DESSERT AUCTION**

**Sponsored by Franklin Presbyterian Church
Living Waters for the World team
At The Cornerstone**

*Help us share the gift of clean water with our
partners in Guatemala*

**Living
Waters for the
World**

Looking Ahead

JANUARY

Elder of the Month: Becky Stubbs
Elder Helper of the Month: CJ Hall
Friend of the Month: Diane Shutt

- ⇒ 1ST: OFFICE CLOSED
- ⇒ 7TH: SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH
TAKE DOWN DECORATIONS
- ⇒ 18TH: WINE TO WATER FUNDRAISER

RITI

It's that time of year again when we reach out to help our brothers and sisters in Franklin, Simpson County, who are experiencing homelessness in the cold winter months here in Franklin, through Room in the Inn, RITI.

If you would like to sign up help, and haven't signed up already, please do so on the sheet in the educational wing. For more information on RITI or trainings, etc., please contact Jane Rahm at jane.rahm@simpson.kyschools.net for more information!



Benevolence Update

Thanks to our interest income from FPC's investments and generous donations from the congregation, the Pastor's Benevolence fund has paid out over \$1,896.89 so far in 2017 to help people with rent, shelter, electricity, water, food, among other things. The balance of the fund is \$586.64.

Thank you for feeding, clothing, and ministering to our sisters and brothers in the community through your donations!

If you would like to donate to the Pastor's Benevolence Fund, please note "Benevolence" in the memo portion of your check.

*Joy TO THE
World
THE LORD IS
Come*

Worship Opportunities

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Teacher: Prentice Knight

Time: Sunday, 9:30am-10:30am

9:30-9:45 — Coffee & Fellowship

9:45-10:30 — Class Time

Location: The Cornerstone (new building near the gazebo)

Bible study & thoughtful discussion of the Scripture with the purpose of fostering spiritual growth & developing a better understanding of how a follower of Christ should live in the modern world.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth Sunday School

Time: 9:45am

TODDLERS

(ages 5 and under) are welcome in the nursery (ground floor of education wing) from 9:30am until worship finishes.

ADULT CHOIR

Wednesday, 6:00pm-7:30pm

Upstairs, education wing

"Serve The Lord With Gladness; Come Before His Presence With Singing!" Psalm 100

(It's Biblical!!)

HANDBELL CHOIR

Wednesday, 5:00pm-6:00pm

Downstairs, education wing



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