

# *the* Lamplighter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER 2019

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Franklin, KY 42134  
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## **Christmas Celebration**

It's time to share in the warmth and beauty of the Christmas season with the FPC family on Sunday, December 15th in the Cornerstone.

We will have soup furnished by the Worship Committee. Please bring salads, sandwiches or a dessert to share. There will be entertainment from the Hand Bell Choir and Dulcimers.

We welcome readings, stories, poems, solos, duets and skits. Please sign up to share your talent by Sunday, December 8th.

*For more information, please see  
Carolle Tracy or Donna Houston.*

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## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday  
9:00am-2:30pm

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Mike Chamberlain

**Interim Pastor**

Candice Mendoza

**Office Manager**

Carolle Tracy, **Music Director**

Donna Houston, **Organist**

Shirley Crutcher, **Nursery**

## ELDER/ELDER HELPER OF THE MONTH

Caren Gibson

John Halcomb

## FRIEND OF THE MONTH

Pat Chai

## RULING ELDERS ON SESSION

Mary Jo Dreher

Caren Gibson

Larry Smith

John Halcomb

Jim Sowney

Bob Thompson

Debbie Wyatt

Becky Stubbs

## DEACONS:

Diane Shutt

Woon Yen Prall

## *Pastor's Portion*

"Advent" means "coming" or "arrival". During the next four weeks, we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. We have an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ's return.

As we celebrate the anticipated birth of the babe, we live between memory and hope. We hope for the restoration of the afflicted, the tormented, and the grieving, yet we delight that healing has come in Christ. We dream of the land where lions and lambs live in harmony, yet we acclaim the child born to lead us into the new promised land that is created in the Word of God.

During these days in Advent, we are called to live into "the new thing that God is doing" as depicted in Isaiah 43:19. If God is to do a new thing in us and through us, we need to enter into this season with thanksgiving and a way forward that takes us beyond the secular "Black Friday" into what one church in the Houston, TX area, who created a "new thing" called "Bless Friday" and have over the past decade been offering their members and friends service opportunities rather than shopping excursions on Bless Friday. Since that first year, they have gone into the community to do fix-it projects for low-income and health challenged families feeding people experiencing homelessness, rebuilding hurricane damaged homes, organizing church cleanup days, producing no-sew fleece blankets for wounded service members and visiting nursing home residents.

Why haven't we thought of that ourselves, you may ask? It is simple, straight to the point and such a blessing to "the least of these" of whom Jesus spoke in Matthew 25. Though, it is late in our planning calendar for us to corporately cause this to happen this coming Friday, we can each make a quick turn into being a blessing to a few folks, whose lives will be blessed by our considering how we can individually join in spirit with other "Bless Friday" projects around the country.

While the many rush through Advent following the Black Friday business model and into Christmas, we have the opportunity to take time for God and into Christ that we prepare our hearts to really receive the Christ child. As we share the joy of Christmas with our families and our friends, let us be a blessing to all of God's children.

*Let there be peace in the world that begins with us!*

*Pastor Mike*

The adult Sunday School class has just ended their last class with the curriculum that they have been using. The class will start a new series on December 8, and going through the next six months with a total immersion with Matthew's Gospel. Besides reading the Gospel from the bible, the class will utilize a supplemental resource by Donald Griggs entitled: Matthew's Gospel from Scratch. As well as this Gospel being the story of the people of God, Matthew laid out the stories of how the political and religious authorities sought to derail the message of God through God's Son.



# *Advent/Christmas Activity Schedule*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

Hanging of the Greens at 9 a.m.

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

Advent Breakfast 9:00 a.m.

Lighting of Candle of Hope

White Christmas Offering #1

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

Lighting of Candle of Peace

White Christmas Offering #2

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH:

Lighting of Candle of Joy

Christmas Celebration after worship with

Soup & Sandwich Potluck

White Christmas Offering #3

## FRIDAY, 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 around 11 a.m. Anyone interested in

helping with packing or deliveries should

contact Caren Gibson at (270) 586-6260 or

(270) 647-2108 or by email at

[caren.gibson55@gmail.com](mailto:caren.gibson55@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

Lighting of Candle of Love

PC(USA) Christmas Joy Offering during

worship (Check out

[www.presbyterianmission.org/christmasjoy](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/christmasjoy) to  
find out where your donations go!)

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Lessons and Carols @ 10pm

Special Music with Hammered Dulcimer

Player, Craig Duncan @ 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!

### ***Office Hours:***

Tues Dec. 24th 9 a.m.-12 Noon

Wed Dec. 25th & Thurs Dec. 26th Closed





## News & Notes



If you shop on Amazon, please consider using the *LWW Amazon link*. Living Waters for the World receives **5%** for everything you spend on the Amazon site if you enter through the Amazon link portal. This compares with **.5%** that organizations earn through the SMILE link. Let's do the math. If you spend \$100 on Amazon and click on the LWW link before you go there, Living Waters will receive \$5.00 from Amazon. If you spend \$100 on Amazon and donate to an organization through the SMILE link, your organization receives 50 cents. You would have to spend \$1000 for your organization to receive \$5.00. Huge difference. I choose to make a small donation to the organization that I would otherwise support through SMILE.

### Here's how to access the link:

Go to the Living Waters for the World website.

<https://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/>

Click on "Use Amazon Link"

This will take you to the Amazon site. Shop, and 5% of your purchase goes automatically to Living Waters.



**TLC CHRISTMAS POTLUCK  
THURSDAY, DEC, 5TH  
12 NOON  
IN THE CORNERSTONE**

*Please bring a \$5 gift to exchange.*

Our church received a letter from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance thanking us for our donations toward children and other Mexican border relief in 2019. The letter in part read, "please know your gifts of \$1,000 and \$1,430.18, blesses those who walk the hard road toward recovery, letting them know they are not alone..."

Your donations of yard sale items and individual monetary donations helped make this possible!

In 2019, the Special Offerings at FPC were as follows: One Great Hour \$226; Pentecost \$129; Peace Offering \$628.34; Joy \$762; and shared mission support \$50.

*As we work together we do good things. No one can do everything, but we can all do something!*

## Thank you!

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED 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 OVER \$3,500 TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE MISSIONS!



**ORDER FORMS FOR THIS YEAR'S POINSETTIA'S ARE ON THE TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY. COST IS \$6.00. PLACE YOUR ORDER AND PAYMENT IN THE OFFERING PLATE.**



Habitat for Humanity of Simpson Co. is building a new house on the corner of Walker Ave. & Brevard St. The subfloor starts on Saturday, Nov. 30th at 8 a.m. and construction on the walls will start Saturday Dec. 7th & 14th. Workers must be 18 and sign a waiver to work on site. Hard hats & glasses are provided as well as lunch. Working hours are 8-4. Please consider helping build an affordable home for a deserving family. Come for any amount of time you can. For more information, contact Alan Bush at 270-586-6515 or look at Habitat's Facebook page. 10 Workers are needed each week.

**Thanks for your support!**



# Stewardship Corner

## November Average Attendance: 56

Nov. 3	62
Nov. 10	57
Nov. 17	61
Nov. 24	44

## November Weekly Offering Average:\$2,618.00

Nov.	\$3,538.00
Nov.	\$3,262.00
Nov.	\$1,961.00
Nov.	\$1,711.00

## Average Weekly Income Needed for Budget: \$2,282.69

## White Christmas

This years White Christmas Offering will be Sundays, Dec. 1st, 8th, and 15th. We are also in need of toiletry items (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, lotion, etc. as well as hats, gloves, etc.) to place in the boxes. We will pack the boxes on Friday, December 20th at 9 a.m. with delivery to follow around 11 a.m.



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- ◇ The November 19th Session meeting was focused largely on the budget for 2020. A huge thank you to the Finance Committee for wonderful budget recommendations. The 2020 budget was approved.
- ◇ Plan to attend a short informational meeting after worship on Sunday, December 8th. Guy Prall will present information about the FPC budget and about all the work from committees that is going on here at FPC.
- ◇ On recommendation from the personnel committee, session approved an agreement with substitute Heather Kirkconnell. We welcome Heather as she will be helping us to worship through music during the months of January and February.
- ◇ Session approved communion by intinction on December 1st, and quarterly through 2020.
- ◇ Session approved that the Presbytery meeting on August 8, 2020 be held at FPC.
- ◇ The annual Human Rights Commission gospel fest will be held at FPC on the afternoon of Sunday, February 2nd, 2020.
- ◇ At the called meeting on Sunday, November 17th Session spent quite a bit of time talking about vision and mission at FPC. Some of the members from the newly elected PNC were also at the meeting. Session approved that the vision and mission for our church be focused toward children and youth. Of course, this focus won't preclude any other ministries with which we are currently involved. The new focus can be combined with other ministries, including poverty alleviation and innovative music and art.



### CONNECT WITH US!

[www.franklinpresbyterian.org](http://www.franklinpresbyterian.org)  
[franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com)



[www.facebook.com/  
franklinpresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/franklinpresbyterian)



## December 2019 Daily Lectionary

*These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press 2018). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.*

### **Begin Year 2**

### **DECEMBER**

#### **Sunday, December 1** **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 2**

Morning: Pss. 122; 145  
Evening: Pss. 40; 67  
Amos 2:6–16  
2 Peter 1:1–11  
Matt. 21:1–11

#### **Tuesday, December 3**

Morning: Pss. 33; 146  
Evening: Pss. 85; 94  
Amos 3:1–11  
2 Peter 1:12–21  
Matt. 21:12–22

#### **Wednesday, December 4**

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 5**

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 6**

Morning: Pss. 102; 148  
Evening: Pss. 130; 16  
Amos 5:1–17  
Jude 1–16  
Matt. 22:1–14

#### **Saturday, December 7**

Morning: Pss. 90; 149  
Evening: Pss. 80; 72  
Amos 5:18–27  
Jude 17–25  
Matt. 22:15–22

#### **Sunday, December 8** **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 9**

Morning: Pss. 122; 145  
Evening: Pss. 40; 67  
Amos 7:1–9  
Rev. 1:1–8  
Matt. 22:23–33

#### **Tuesday, December 10**

Morning: Pss. 33; 146  
Evening: Pss. 85; 94  
Amos 7:10–17  
Rev. 1:9–16  
Matt. 22:34–46

#### **Wednesday, December 11**

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 12**

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 13**

Morning: Pss. 102; 148  
Evening: Pss. 130; 16  
Hag. 1:1–15  
Rev. 2:18–29  
Matt. 23:27–39

#### **Saturday, December 14**

Morning: Pss. 90; 149  
Evening: Pss. 80; 72  
Hag. 2:1–9  
Rev. 3:1–6  
Matt. 24:1–14

#### **Sunday, December 15** **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 16**

Morning: Pss. 122; 145  
Evening: Pss. 40; 67  
Zech. 1:7–17  
Rev. 3:7–13  
Matt. 24:15–31

#### **Tuesday, December 17**

Morning: Pss. 33; 146  
Evening: Pss. 85; 94  
Zech. 2:1–13  
Rev. 3:14–22  
Matt. 24:32–44

**Wednesday, December 18**

Morning: Pss. 50; 147:1–11  
 Evening: Pss. 53; 17  
 Gen. 3:8–15  
 Rev. 12:1–10  
 John 3:16–21

**Thursday, December 19**

Morning: Pss. 18:1–20;  
 147:12–20  
 Evening: Pss. 126; 62  
 Zeph. 3:14–20  
 Titus 1:1–16  
 Luke 1:1–25

**Friday, December 20**

Morning: Pss. 102; 148  
 Evening: Pss. 130; 16  
 1 Sam. 2:1b–10  
 Titus 2:1–10  
 Luke 1:26–38

**Saturday, December 21**

Morning: Pss. 90; 149  
 Evening: Pss. 80; 72  
 2 Sam. 7:1–17  
 Titus 2:11–3:8a  
 Luke 1:39–48a (48b–56)

**Sunday, December 22**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**

Morning: Pss. 24; 150  
 Evening: Pss. 25; 110  
 2 Sam. 7:18–29  
 Gal. 3:1–14  
 Luke 1:57–66

**Monday, December 23**

Morning: Pss. 122; 145  
 Evening: Pss. 40; 67  
 Jer. 31:10–14  
 Gal. 3:15–22  
 Luke 1:67–80 or Matt. 1:1–17

**Tuesday, December 24**

Morning: Pss. 33; 146  
 Evening: Pss. 32; 114  
 Isa. 60:1–6  
 Gal. 3:23–4:7  
 Matt. 1:18–25

**Wednesday, December 25**  
**Nativity of Jesus Christ /**  
**Christmas Day**

Morning: Pss. 2; 147:1–11  
 Evening: Pss. 98; 96  
 Micah 4:1–5; 5:2–4  
 1 John 4:7–16  
 John 3:31–36

**Thursday, December 26**

Morning: Pss. 116;  
 147:12–20  
 Evening: Pss. 119:1–24; 27  
 2 Chron. 24:17–22  
 Acts 6:1–7  
 Acts 7:59–8:8

**Friday, December 27**

Morning: Pss. 34; 148  
 Evening: Pss. 19; 121  
 Prov. 8:22–30  
 1 John 5:1–12  
 John 13:20–35

**Saturday, December 28**

Morning: Pss. 2; 149  
 Evening: Ps. 110; 111  
 Isa. 49:31–23  
 Isa. 54:1–13  
 Matt. 18:1–14

**Sunday, December 29**  
**1st Sunday after Christmas**

Morning: Pss. 96; 150  
 Evening: Pss. 132; 97  
 1 Sam. 1:1–2, 7b–28  
 Col. 1:9–20  
 Luke 2:22–40

**Monday, December 30**

Morning: Pss. 93; 145  
 Evening: Pss. 89:1–18;  
 89:19–52  
 1 Kings 17:17–24  
 3 John 1–15  
 John 4:46–54

**Tuesday, December 31**

Morning: Pss. 98; 146  
 Evening: Pss. 45; 96  
 1 Kings 3:5–14  
 James 4:13–17; 5:7–11  
 John 5:1–15

**d365**  
 devotionals 365 days a year

[www.d365.org](http://www.d365.org)

## LECTOR/USHER SCHEDULE

### Sunday, December 1

LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON

USHERS: DANNY JOINER  
TERRY JOINER

### Sunday, December 8

LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON

USHERS: DANNY JOINER  
TERRY JOINER

### Sunday, December 15

LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON

USHERS: DANNY JOINER  
TERRY JOINER

### Sunday, December 22

LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON

USHERS: DANNY JOINER  
TERRY JOINER

### Sunday, December 29

LECTOR: LARRY GIBSON

USHERS: DANNY JOINER  
TERRY JOINER

## WEEKLY EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Handbells:** Wednesdays, 4:45-5:45

**Choir:** Wednesdays, 6-7:30 pm

**AA Meetings:** M, T, R, & F @  
7:30pm; W @ 6pm; M. & Sat. 8am

# DECEMBER 2019

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Advent Breakfast White Christmas	2	3 <i>Tim Crocker</i>	4	5 TLC Christmas Potluck	6	7
8 White Christmas <i>Steve Thomas</i>	9 <i>Mae Williams</i>	10 Red Cross 12-6	11	12	13	14 <i>Hailey &amp; Tomas Williams</i>
15 Christmas Celebration White Christmas	16 <i>Nancy Thomas</i>	17	18	19 <i>Eleanor Caudill</i>	20 White Christmas Pack & Delivery	21
22	23	24 <i>Lessons &amp; Carols</i>	25 Office Closed <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26 Office Closed <i>Frank Wakefield</i>	27	28
29	30	31				



# Looking Ahead

## JANUARY

Elder of the Month: John Halcomb

Elder Helper of the Month: Mary Jo Dreher

Friend of the Month: Debbie Wyatt

⇒ 1ST: OFFICE CLOSED

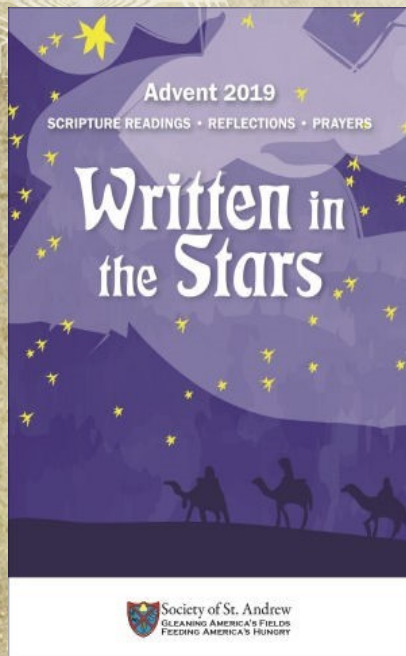
⇒ 5TH: SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH  
TAKE DOWN DECORATIONS

## **RITI**

*Thank you to all of those who have signed up to help with this year's RITI. There is still time to do so! The sign up sheet is on the board in the educational wing or for more information, please see Jane Rahm!*



*Be sure to look at the Advent devotional materials now available for you to use during the coming season.*



Take home a copy of *Written in the Stars*. This booklet is for you to keep. If you prefer an online version you can download the devotion book free of charge at <https://endhunger.org/advent/>.

***Worship Committee has made a donation to the Society of Saint Andrew for these devotional booklets.***

### **Devotional Lending Library**

We also have a devotional lending library which contains several wonderful devotion books for the Advent and Christmas season. You can check out the books and return them after the Christmas is over. The books are located in the sanctuary.



# Worship Opportunities

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

9:30-9:45 — Coffee & Fellowship

9:45-10:30 — Class Time

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, 4:45-5:45



Franklin Presbyterian Church  
201 North College Street  
Franklin, KY 42134

