

the Lamplighter

monthly newsletter of Franklin Presbyterian Church

JANUARY 2021

LOOKING FORWARD EVEN THROUGH THE STRUGGLE

Beloved, I'm happy to lift my eyes to the hills as a new year begins. I'm glad to look toward those hills from where our help comes from. Our God is ready to join us in this endeavor as we travel into 2021 and leave 2020 behind us. Some things we'd rather not remember, the pain of losing those close to us, the continued strife in our nation, and the pandemic that turned our world upside down. Though there are some good things too. Jesus Christ never wavers in his undying love for us, the Holy Spirit brought together a congregation and a pastor and opened up new ways of doing ministry even amidst the challenges.

This poem by Langston Hughes captures some of the feelings I've had about moving forward even when the recent past hasn't been so good. The poem is titled "Mother to Son" and serves to share the wisdom of one generation to the other, giving forth hope in a new spirit despite the struggles. Contemplate this, dear church, as we enter a new year.

Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor—
Bare.
But all the time
I've been a-climbin' on,
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,

And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
So, boy, don't you turn back.
Don't you set down on the steps.
'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.
Don't you fall now—
For I've still goin', honey,
I've still climbin',
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

Langston Hughes

IN THIS ISSUE

- PASTOR'S PORTION
- GET INVOLVED AT FPC
- MATTHEW 25 UPDATE
- NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
- DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS
- JANUARY CALENDAR
- LOOKING AHEAD
- STEWARDSHIP CORNER
- WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



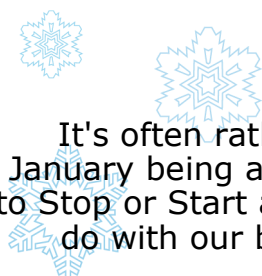
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Pastor's Portion



New Year, New Opportunities

It's often rather trite to talk about the flipping of a number at the beginning of January being a chance for trying something new. Though we tend to prioritize what to Stop or Start as a New Year's Resolution, don't we? Sadly, it's usually something to do with our behavior or our body, and we end up frustrated and disappointed.

Maybe we should look at the New Year as not a way to try to "fix" something that went wrong last year, but rather as a way to see what opportunities we might have missed. A deep meditation in prayer or a clearer focus on what's important could lead us to amazing new things in front of this year.

We have found some new partners in God's ministry in Franklin. We've found some new ideas and old ideas and new ways to serve and be served. We've found one another. But what might we have missed? Could the Holy Spirit be calling us to something even greater?

When I think of new opportunities, it's more about LISTENING than about THINKING. It's more about observing than it is planning. It's more about being receptive to the love of Jesus in our lives than trying to force that Jesus thing onto others.

Take a deep breath.

Open your eyes wide.

Concentrate on the sounds around you.

Feel the breeze on your skin.

Surround yourself with love.

This January, we may hear a new calling from God. Or we might not. We might see a new challenge to take on. Or we might not. Yet let us listen. Let us be open to how God may offer a new idea, a new opportunity, maybe even a small one in our personal life. Or a big one in the life of Franklin.

A new year. Full of possibilities. What is Jesus saying to you today?

Pastor Daniel

Ruling Elders Serving on Session

Larry Smith
Cathy Stratton
John Halcomb
Jim Sowney
Caren Gibson
Woon Yen Prall*
Jane Rahm
Bob Thompson

Deacons:
Donna Houston*
Meredith Halcomb*
Marcella Davis

Clerk of Session: Woon Yen Prall

**Installation January 3*



Get Involved at FPC!

Opportunities to serve Locally

These are areas where you can serve and who to contact or how to enroll:

Franklin-Simpson Boys and Girls Club Meals Marcella Davis

People Serving People (serve Wednesday meal, Thanksgiving, Christmas) Caren Gibson

Franklin-Simpson Good Samaritan – pantry items, funds for rent, shelter, electricity,
water, and food Curry Davis

Habitat for Humanity – host Spring pancake fundraising meal Caren Gibson

Room in the Inn (RITI) - Cold Weather Homeless Shelter housing in The Cornerstone
Guy Prall

Summer Feeding Program – help deliver lunches to children during the summer months
Frances Hain

Annual Bean Soup Event in Nov. – for Mission Projects Donna Houston

White Christmas Offering – deliver food baskets to area residents Caren Gibson

TARP (Try Anything Rhino Project) – raising funds to protect endangered rhinos in Africa.
Marla Knight-Dutille

Summer Church Yard Sale – mission outreach Marcella Davis

Opportunities to serve Globally

Living Waters For the World Ministry - trains and supports teams to provide access to clean
water by installing water systems Donna Houston

Opportunities to serve In the Church

Provide dinner for Sunday Youth Fellowship* Sign Up Sheet on Bulletin Board

Usher for Worship Services* Sharon Smith

Matthew 25 Clothes Closet Cathy Stratton

Video Team Recording Services Guy Prall

Liturgist for Worship Services Donna Houston

*once in person services resume





December has been a busy month for Matthew 25. We applied for 2 grants and have received one of them and have been approved for the other and are awaiting funding to be sent. Our team will meet next week and work on a yearly budget for these funds.

Feed the Need Bi-weekly meals are continuing. Many thanks to Young Disciples, Fellowship, and Christian Service for preparing and serving meals during December. Please let Debbie Wyatt know if you can help. If you don't wish to cook, you can just come to help with packing the lunch bags. We have a gentleman who will be providing free eggs (up to 25 dozen!) every other week. We would like to give some of the eggs away, but we would need our own cartons. This gentleman brings them in cartons, but we have to return them. So please help us by saving your egg cartons and dropping them off at church. Also, if you are involved with making meals and could use the eggs, let me know. We hope to use them for Room in the Inn as well.



The Matthew 25 Clothes Closet served four families and one shelter in the month of December. We distributed more than 90 items, which includes underwear, socks, winter coats and other articles of clothing to 8 adults and 4 children.

Last month The Clothes Closet received a large donation of infant clothing and blankets. Which has enabled us to offer newborn layettes. To date we are excited to say 3 layettes have been distributed expecting mothers.

Currently, the Matthew 25 Clothes Closet is in need of the following new or used items:

- ♦ **Adult sweatpants (all sizes)**
- ♦ **Adult winter hats and gloves**
- ♦ **Children's winter hats, gloves and mittens**
- ♦ **Children's pajamas (sizes 2-16)**
- ♦ **Winter coats are always needed**

Please place your donations in the Matthew 25 basket located in the parlor.

If you would like to volunteer for the Clothes Closet in some way. Sorting and folding, laundering clothes or assisting clients. Please contact Cathy Stratton at 270-223-6548.

News & Announcements



On January 1st, Franklin Presbyterian Church opens the doors of the Cornerstone for Simpson County's homeless. This year there are greater

spaces between the cots; new blinds in the windows, and a new fogger for sanitization. The HVAC system is set to maximize mixing of outside air. Wonderful volunteers from FPC are already lined up for the entire first week. We are looking to other churches and individuals to volunteer their time after that first week. Additional big news is that Room In The Inn Franklin has hired TWO coordinators this season! Cathy Stratton is the RITI Coordinator, and Tammie McCorry is the RITI Outreach Coordinator. Both are hitting the ground running to ensure that this community will be able to offer safe and warm shelter seven nights a week in the year's coldest months. Many, many thanks to all who have made this possible so far!



- * Seven care packages were delivered to MS/HS youth during Finals week.
- * Kids & Youth made cards for and helped pack 24 White Christmas boxes.
- * The Cocoa and Carols on December 20th was very successful. It was good to see everyone and music, readings, poems, memories, etc., were shared and enjoyed by all!
- * Youth helped pack and serve the Feed the Need lunches on December 22.



Lots of information is sent out to church members several times a week especially through email.

If any of your contact information including email, needs to be updated, please send any changes to the church office. Also, if you would like a hard copy of the directory, please let the office know.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING TOTAL: \$125.00

If you would still like to give to the 2020 Joy Offering, please send a check to the church office with Joy Offering written on the memo line.

Thank you!

The White Christmas Offering total for 2020 was \$875.00 Thanks to your generosity, we were able to brighten the holidays for many families in our community.

Also, thanks to everyone who helped pack and deliver the boxes. Your help and continued support is greatly appreciated! A big thank you to the FPC Youth for all their help and especially the cards!

New Years is all about getting another chance. A chance to forgive, to do better, to do more, to give more, to love more. And stop worrying about 'what if' and **start embracing** what would be.

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January 2021 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.

[Year One]

Friday, January 1

Morning: Pss. 98; 148
Evening: Pss. 99; 8
Gen. 17:1–12a, 15–16
Col. 2:6–12
John 16:23b–30

Saturday, January 2

Morning: Pss. 48; 149
Evening: Pss. 9; 29
Gen. 12:1–7
Heb. 11:1–12
John 6:35–42, 48–51

Sunday, January 3 Second Sunday of Christmas

Morning: Pss. 111; 150
Evening: Pss. 107; 15
Deut. 33:1–5
1 John 2:12–17
John 6:41–47

Monday, January 4

Morning: Pss. 20; 145
Evening: Pss. 93; 97
Exod. 3:1–5
Heb. 11:23–31
John 14:6–14

Tuesday, January 5

Morning: Pss. 99; 146
Evening: Pss. 96; 110
Josh. 1:1–9
Heb. 11:32–12:2
John 15:1–16

Wednesday, January 6

Epiphany of the Lord

Morning: Pss. 72; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 100; 67
Isa. 52:7–10
Rev. 21:22–27
Matt. 12:14–21

Thursday, January 7

Morning: Pss. 46 or 97;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114
Isa. 52:3–6
Rev. 2:1–7
John 2:1–11

Friday, January 8

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 148
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114
Isa. 59:15b–21
Rev. 2:8–17
John 4:46–54

Saturday, January 9

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 149
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114
Isa. 63:1–5
Rev. 2:18–29
John 5:1–15

Sunday, January 10

Baptism of the Lord

Morning: Pss. 104; 150
Evening: Ps. 29
Isa. 40:1–11
Heb. 1:1–12
John 1:1–7, 19–20, 29–34

Monday, January 11

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Isa. 40:12–24
Eph. 1:1–14
Mark 1:1–13

Tuesday, January 12

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Isa. 40:25–31
Eph. 1:15–23
Mark 1:14–28

Wednesday, January 13

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Isa. 41:1–16
Eph. 2:1–10
Mark 1:29–45

Thursday, January 14

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
Isa. 41:17–29
Eph. 2:11–22
Mark 2:1–12

Friday, January 15

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Isa. 42:(1–9) 10–17
Eph. 3:1–13
Mark 2:13–22

Saturday, January 16

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Isa. (42:18–25) 43:1–13
Eph. 3:14–21
Mark 2:23–3:6

Sunday, January 17

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Isa. 43:14–44:5
Heb. 6:17–7:10
John 4:27–42

Monday, January 18
Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Isa. 44:6–8, 21–23
Eph. 4:1–16
Mark 3:7–19a

Tuesday, January 19
Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Isa. 44:9–20
Eph. 4:17–32
Mark 3:19b–35

Wednesday, January 20
Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Isa. 44:24–45:7
Eph. 5:1–14
Mark 4:1–20

Thursday, January 21
Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Isa. 45:5–17
Eph. 5:15–33
Mark 4:21–34

Friday, January 22
Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Isa. 45:18–25
Eph. 6:1–9
Mark 4:35–41

Saturday, January 23
Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Isa. 46:1–13
Eph. 6:10–24
Mark 5:1–20

Sunday, January 24
Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Isa. 47:1–15
Heb. 10:19–31
John 5:2–18

Monday, January 25
Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Isa. 48:1–11
Gal. 1:1–17
Mark 5:21–43

Tuesday, January 26
Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Isa. 48:12–21 (22)
Gal. 1:18–2:10
Mark 6:1–13

Wednesday, January 27
Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Isa. 49:1–12
Gal. 2:11–21
Mark 6:13–29

Thursday, January 28
Morning: Pss. 143;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Isa. 49:13–23 (24–26)
Gal. 3:1–14
Mark 6:30–46

Friday, January 29
Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Isa. 50:1–11
Gal. 3:15–22
Mark 6:47–56

Saturday, January 30
Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Isa. 51:1–8
Gal. 3:23–29
Mark 7:1–23

Sunday, January 31
Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Isa. 51:9–16
Heb. 11:8–16
John 7:14–31



www.d365.org

JANUARY 2021

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Please continue to go to our Facebook page and YouTube channel for weekly virtual services.

For Youth & Children meetings, please check our Facebook page and church emails!

WEEKLY EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **Hand Bells:** TBD
- **Choir:** TBD

MEETINGS

Fellowship: 01/04/21 1 pm
Matthew 25: -01/12/21 6:30 pm
Young Disc.: 01/13/21 10 am
Finance: 01/19/21 3 pm
SESSION: 01/25/21 6 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion at Home	4	5 Jen Van Beek	6 Joe Shumaker	7	8	9 Donna Houston
10 Will Rahm	11	12	13	14 Jo Becker	15	16 Beth Lagani
17 Pat Chai	18	19 Ada Stubbs	20 Terry Joiner	21	22	23
24 Danny Joiner	25	26	27 Dan Ware	28	29	30
31						

JANUARY

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Caren Gibson

ELDER HELPER: Larry Smith

FRIEND OF THE MONTH: Debbie Wyatt

Looking Ahead

FEBRUARY

9th Red Cross Blood Drive 12-6

17th Ash Wednesday

MARCH

14th Daylight Savings Time Begins

28th Palm Sunday

CHURCH STAFF

REV. DANIEL VAN BEEK

PASTOR

CANDICE MENDOZA,
OFFICE MANAGER

DONNA HOUSTON,
ORGANIST

SHIRLEY CRUTCHER,
NURSERY

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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



CONNECT WITH US!

www.franklinpresbyterian.org
franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com



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

Stewardship Corner

DECEMBER AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE: N/A

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped with and participates in our virtual services. To all who view those services, we thank you!

DECEMBER AVERAGE OFFERING:
\$2,065.00

DEC. 6 \$975.00
DEC 13 \$1,875.00
DEC. 20 \$2,190.00
DEC. 27 \$3,220.00.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Zoom link sent via email. Contact Jane Rahm for details.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Every Sunday night at 7:00 pm. The youth are online on Google Meet, one week is Sunday School, the next is Youth Group. Contact Melissa Cropper for details.

ELEMENTARY KIDS CLUB

Wednesday afternoons at 5:00 pm on Zoom. Contact Jen Van Beek for details.

ADULT CHOIR

HANDBELL CHOIR

***Have an item you would like
to add to the Lamplighter?
Please submit it to the office
by Thursday, January 28.***



Franklin Presbyterian Church
201 North College Street
Franklin, KY 42134

