

**November 2023**

Monthly Newsletter of  
Franklin Presbyterian Church

# The Lamplighter



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## **ANNUAL BEAN SOUP LUNCH TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

11:00 am—1:30 pm

*Chopping Party—Monday, November 6 at 1 pm*

Enjoy varieties of bean soup, cornbread, coleslaw, dessert and a drink all for a suggested donation of \$10.00. All proceeds go toward our Local Service Missions.

*Most important of all, please invite your friends or people at your workplace.*







## Citizens of the Kingdom of God

Beloved, it's hard not to think about politics in the month of November. Last year, we had a "mid term election" in our national races as well as local races. This year, we have a gubernatorial campaign here in Kentucky, And next year, the presidential election is already in our news feeds.

As citizens of Franklin, Simpson County, and the surrounding areas, we want there to be a better community and world in which we live. We have indeed been told by God to "seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper" (Jeremiah 29:7).

Yet we sometimes overemphasize politics, and we may more clearly identify as our party or our ideology than we do as children of the Living God. We can be citizens of both the kingdom of God as well as the created world God gave us. We indeed should be engaged in our communities, but not at the expense of our faith in our Savior Jesus Christ.

How can we better serve our God and our neighbor as both? Ponder that at the polls!

*Pastor Daniel*

### WHAT ARE DESIGNATED FUNDS?

Money given directly for a specific purpose

*This is the second in a series of LAMPLIGHTER articles on Stewardship. This will be discussing the DESIGNATED FUNDS of Franklin Presbyterian Church. This includes various gifts from the past provided to FPC for use in a specific area, from music to education to service to outreach.*

### WHAT?

There are a variety of designated funds here at FPC. Some have been around for a long time and others are much newer. These are funds that are NOT part of the annual operating budget. They have a balance that ebbs and flows and carries over year to year. Some have fundraisers, others have deposits made by gifts or trusts. All are used for Mission & Ministry at FPC!

### DESIGNATED FUNDS AT FPC

- Christian Service
  - Local & Non-Local
- Matthew 25
  - Clothes Closet
- Pastor's Benevolence
- Living Waters for World
- Room in the Inn
- Mustard Seed
- Memorial Gifts
- Music Fund
- Youth Camp Fund
- ... & More!

**Please simply donate to any of these as God leads!**

**NEXT MONTH: Stewardship and how A BOLD APPROACH works at FPC!**

### WHAT ARE BOLD APPROACH FUNDS?

Money from the Clendining Growth & Development Gift

*This is the third in a series of LAMPLIGHTER articles on Stewardship. This will be discussing the BOLD APPROACH FUNDS of Franklin Presbyterian Church. This includes the bequest from Delene Clendining and how it is to be used at FPC as a conduit for growth & development of church & community.*

### WHAT?

The bequest became the Clendining Growth & Development Fund at FPC. This money cannot be used for basic operational costs, but only for mission and ministry that the Session determines is part of our growth & development strategy. To date, this has included the Community Connections position, outreach programs, and community mission projects.

### BOLD APPROACH FUND

- Vision: Develop Bold Ways to Grow FPC
- Strategy: Ensure Deeper Connection with Franklin
- Goals: Offer Ways for More People to Experience God at FPC
- Uses: Added Personnel, New Program Ideas, Kids & Youth Programs, Mission & Ministry Projects in Franklin

**Gifts to Other Funds Helps Bold Approach Last Longer!**

**NEXT MONTH: Dedication Sunday for Pledges!**

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

Happy November, FPC. We seem to have gone to bed in late summer and woken up in autumn! This sharp change in seasons is propelling me into preparation for the winter season at FPC.

It's time to get ready for Room in the Inn—January will be here before we know it! We have two info session + volunteer trainings coming up, one this month and one next month. Please prayerfully consider joining in this sheltering and hospitality ministry to kick off 2024. We have about ten nights to cover this season, and more hands mean lighter work for everyone.

When I say "prayerfully consider," I'm not just using church talk, either! Discernment—prayerful consideration of options in seeking God's will—is the theme of the third quarter of the Thriving Congregations Team's work. At Montreat in October, we learned a five-century-old method of learning to see God's presence and movement in everyday experiences and be guided by that.

In Advent, we will be teaching this prayer method (the "examen") in Sunday school for individual prayer and group discernment of what God might be calling FPC toward. I hope you'll join us for this Advent examen practice, each Sunday in December at 9:30 in the Cornerstone.

One last thing, upcoming in the new year: "Good News Starts Here," an evangelism workshop for those who hate the word "evangelism," those who love it, and everyone in between. I have been an evangelism skeptic most of my life, but I am very curious about the possibility of good news sharing that's actually good news, and actually sharing, that builds genuine relationship with neighbors. That sounds like something that could be Franklin Presbyterian's style.

Does this all make you feel jazzed or tired out even before we begin!? For me it's sometimes both. But with the Holy Spirit's comfort and a 9pm bedtime, I know this will be our richest winter yet. (PS: Got any good soup recipes? This Thai coconut soup [<https://hot-thai-kitchen.com/tom-ka-gai/>] is my favorite right now—use chicken or swap it out for mushrooms!)—Peace, Bailey

### "Good News Starts Here: Rethinking Evangelism" Workshop 3rd Sundays in January, February, and March 2024 following worship

Do you love evangelism? Hate it? Feel complicatedly? Do you wish you could invite people to church but aren't sure how, or feel weird about it? Great! That's what we need to talk about. Let us come together as a congregation and take time to look at ourselves, our church, and our relationships with our neighbors, and work together on evangelism and invitation as ways to truly BOLDLY love God and our neighbor.

Please consider joining this three-part workshop on cultivating our spiritual soil for connection with others, the first step toward genuine sharing of the good news. The three sessions will focus on SELF, CHURCH, and INVITATION. Each session will build on the one(s) before it, so if possible, please prioritize coming to all three. But if that's not possible, come when you can! A workshop is only as good as its participants, and this will be best if YOU are there.

The series will run January 21, February 18, and March 17, 2024, and will include food and fellowship. Questions? Comments? Talk to Bailey.

### *SUNDAY SCHOOL IN ADVENT: DISCERNMENT AS A SPIRITUAL EXERCISE*

Please mark your calendars for the four Sundays in December!! Members of the Thriving Congregations Team will lead Sunday School during Advent as a time to learn and practice the Examen, a 500-year-old method of praying through your emotions and experiences and listening to God's guidance, and then engage in prayerful **congregational discernment about what might be next for Franklin Presbyterian Church**. This is a special opportunity to engage in an old and widely loved form of prayer, consider what a Christian means by "discernment," and participate in congregational consideration of who we are and how we wish to be. Join us at 9:30am each Sunday in December.

### Room in the Inn Trainings

As the year winds down, Room in the Inn starts up, and it is time to do our yearly volunteer trainings in anticipation of the hospitality season beginning January 1. Every year, we join other churches in Franklin in providing shelter, meals, and company for people experiencing homelessness in our community. It's a major ministry effort that depends on the time and energy of many people working together in love. FPC's volunteer trainings will be held right after the service on Sunday, November 19th, and Sunday, December 3rd. **If you might want to volunteer, it's important to attend training** so that everyone is on the same page and you can sign the appropriate waiver. Some of the information is likely to be the same as past years, and some may change. We also need a handful of people who are able to "captain" a portion of the RITI process (setup, meal, innkeeping overnight, takedown) in case staff are absent, sick, or unavailable. If you feel invested in this ministry and are willing to take extra responsibility, please speak with Bailey.



# NEWS & EVENTS

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Received the dates of the Rethinking Evangelism Workshops set for winter 2024
- ◆ Approved Rev. Bailey Pickens to administer the Lord's Supper on Sunday, November 5, 2023
- ◆ Approved John Halcomb to serve as the Elder-Commissioner to the November 14 meeting of the Presbytery of Western Kentucky at Highland Presbyterian in Hopkinsville
- ◆ Approved the 2024 FPC Operating Budget as presented by the Finance Committee
- ◆ Set the Annual Congregational Meeting for after Worship on Sunday, December 3, 2023 to elect Elders and Deacons and the 2024 Nominating Committee, to approve Pastor Daniel's Terms of Call for 2024, and to receive the 2024 Budget

## MATTHEW 25 UPDATE

We are putting out a call for men's blue jeans for the Clothes Closet. We especially need waist sizes 32, 34 and 36. Now that the weather is getting cold and no shorts are being worn, jeans are flying off our shelves! Used in good shape are a critical need right now. If you don't have any, talk to your friends to see if they can donate. If you like to go to thrift shops, see what you can find. If you get a receipt you can be reimbursed. New are certainly welcome, but we can not reimburse for those unless you can find some for less than \$10.

Winter coats are also a big need.

We like to have a section for seasonal clothing on a separate rack. We gave away lots of Halloween costumes during October and will be putting out Christmas clothing soon.

Toy shop to open in December for parents to shop for toys for their children. If you want to donate small toys, coloring books, or unused toiletries for adults, that is also welcome! If you know of community church members who might be willing to help, please let Debbie know at 270-223-7831.

## Stewardship Corner

October Average Attendance: 56

Oct. 1 57  
Oct. 8 50  
Oct. 15 45  
Oct. 22 66  
Oct. 29 63


October Weekly Offering Average: \$1,815.80

Oct. 1 \$1,507.00  
Oct. 8 \$2,051.00  
Oct. 15 \$1,185.00  
Oct. 22 \$805.00  
Oct. 29 \$3,531.00

October Online Giving: \$2,899.07

Average Weekly Income Needed for Budget:  
\$2,692.31





**"The earth is  
full of His  
unfailing love."**

*Psalm 33:15*



## *Christian Service News*

The following is an update on Christian Service missions in 2023 so far:

- ◆ Sent \$1,000 to Live the Proof for renovation of the Men's Center.
- ◆ Gave \$1,000 for Pastor's Benevolence
- ◆ Sent \$1,000 to Turkey for earthquake relief.
- ◆ Sent \$500 to Harvester's Warehouse Church for help with utilities at the drop in center.
- ◆ Sent \$250 to Buckhorn Children's Ministries for continued flood relief. (\$1,000 was sent in September 2022)
- ◆ Sent \$450 to Presbytery Giving to purchase a cow for a family
- ◆ Sent \$1,000 to Maui for wildfire relief

Christian Service also helps with several activities and leads others during the year. The committee served a meal at the park for People Serving People & a light lunch was provided to the Boys and Girls Club twice in 2023.

The committee headed up Summer Feeding, which ran through Friday, August 4.

Over \$2,600 was raised in this year's Yard Sale to help fund non-local mission projects.

Many people throughout FPC have worked to support these activities!





## November 2023 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

#### **Wednesday, November 1** **All Saints' Day**

Morning: Pss. 96;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
Isa. 26:1–4, 8–9,  
12–13, 19–21  
Rev. 21:9–11, 22–27  
(22:1–5)  
or Heb. 11:32–12:2  
Matt. 5:1–12

#### **Thursday, November 2**

Morning: Pss. 116;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 26; 130  
Neh. 1:1–11  
or Lam. 2:16–22  
Rev. 5:11–6:11  
Matt. 13:18–23

#### **Friday, November 3**

Morning: Pss. 84; 148  
Evening: Pss. 25; 40  
Neh. 2:1–20  
or Lam. 4:1–22  
Rev. 6:12–7:4  
Matt. 13:24–30

#### **Saturday, November 4**

Morning: Pss. 63; 149  
Evening: Pss. 125; 90  
Neh. 4:1–23  
or Lam. 5:1–22  
Rev. 7:(4–8) 9–17  
Matt. 13:31–35

#### **Sunday, November 5**

Morning: Pss. 103; 150  
Evening: Pss. 117; 139  
Neh. 5:1–9 or Ezra 1:1–11  
Acts 20:7–12  
Luke 12:22–31

#### **Monday, November 6**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Neh. 6:1–19  
or Ezra 3:1–13  
Rev. 10:1–11  
Matt. 13:36–43

#### **Tuesday, November 7**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Neh. 12:27–31a, 42b–47  
or Ezra 4:7, 11–24  
Rev. 11:1–19  
Matt. 13:44–52

#### **Wednesday, November 8**

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
Neh. 13:4–22  
or Hag. 1:1–2:9  
Rev. 12:1–12  
Matt. 13:53–58

#### **Thursday, November 9**

Morning: Pss. 97;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
Ezra 7:(1–10) 11–26  
or Zech. 1:7–17  
Rev. 14:1–13  
Matt. 14:1–12

#### **Friday, November 10**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
Ezra 7:27–28; 8:21–36  
or Ezra 5:1–17  
Rev. 15:1–8  
Matt. 14:13–21

#### **Saturday, November 11**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
Ezra 9:1–15  
or Ezra 6:1–22  
Rev. 17:1–14  
Matt. 14:22–36

#### **Sunday, November 12**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
Ezra 10:1–17  
or Neh. 1:1–11  
Acts 24:10–21  
Luke 14:12–24

#### **Monday, November 13**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
Neh. 9:1–15 (16–25)  
or Neh. 2:1–20  
Rev. 18:1–8  
Matt. 15:1–20

#### **Tuesday, November 14**

Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
Neh. 9:26–38  
or Neh. 4:1–23  
Rev. 18:9–20  
Matt. 15:21–28

**Wednesday,  
November 15**

Morning: Pss. 15;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
Neh. 7:73b–8:3, 5–18  
or Neh. 5:1–19  
Rev. 18:21–24  
Matt. 15:29–39

**Thursday, November 16**

Morning: Pss. 36;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
Neh. 6:1–19  
Rev. 19:1–10  
Matt. 16:1–12

**Friday, November 17**

Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
Neh. 12:27–31a, 42b–47  
Rev. 19:11–16  
Matt. 16:13–20

**Saturday, November 18**

Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
Neh. 13:4–22  
Rev. 20:1–6  
Matt. 16:21–28

**Sunday, November 19**

Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
Ezra 7:(1–10) 11–26  
Acts 28:14b–23  
Luke 16:1–13

**Monday, November 20**

Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
Ezra 7:27–28; 8:21–36  
Rev. 20:7–15  
Matt. 17:1–13

**Tuesday, November 21**

Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
Ezra 9:1–15  
Rev. 21:1–8  
Matt. 17:14–21

**Wednesday,  
November 22**

Morning: Pss. 65;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
Ezra 10:1–17  
Rev. 21:9–21  
Matt. 17:22–27

**Thursday, November 23**

Morning: Pss. 143;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
Neh. 9:1–15 (16–25)  
Rev. 21:22–22:5  
Matt. 18:1–9

**Friday, November 24**

Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
Neh. 9:26–38  
Rev. 22:6–13  
Matt. 18:10–20

**Saturday, November 25**

Morning: Pss. 122; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 63  
Neh. 7:73b–8:3, 5–18  
Rev. 22:14–21  
Matt. 18:21–35

**Sunday, November 26**

**Christ the King /  
Reign of Christ**  
Morning: Pss. 108; 150  
Evening: Pss. 66; 23  
Isa. 19:19–25  
Rom. 15:5–13  
Luke 19:11–27

**Monday, November 27**

Morning: Pss. 62; 145  
Evening: Pss. 73; 9  
Joel 3:1–2, 9–17  
1 Peter 1:1–12  
Matt. 19:1–12

**Tuesday, November 28**

Morning: Pss. 12; 146  
Evening: Pss. 36; 7  
Nahum 1:1–13  
1 Peter 1:13–25  
Matt. 19:13–22

**Wednesday,  
November 29**

Morning: Pss. 96;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
Obad. 15–21  
1 Peter 2:1–10  
Matt. 19:23–30

**Thursday, November 30**

Morning: Pss. 116;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 26; 130  
Zeph. 3:1–13  
1 Peter 2:11–25  
Matt. 20:1–16

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Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 2

LECTOR/USHER  
SCHEDULE

**Elder of the Month:**  
*Jane Rahm*

**Elder Helper:**  
*Chris Kessler*

**Ushers:**  
*Deb Thompson  
Bob Thompson*

**Lector**  
*Tori Henninger*

WEEKLY EVENTS &  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **Adult Bible Study:** Tues. 5:30 pm
- **Hand Bells:** Wed. 5:15
- **Choir:** Wed. 6:30 pm
- **Grief Group:** Nov. 9 & 30 at 5 pm

**MEETINGS**

- Facilities:** Nov. 8 at 4 pm
- FPC Men:** Nov. 11 at 10 am
- SESSION:** Nov. 20 at 5 pm

# NOVEMBER 2023

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 <i>Larry Adamson</i>	4
5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Communion	6 Bean Soup Prep	7 Bean Soup <i>Debby Helton Loyd Gant</i>	8	9	10	11
12	13 <i>Prentice Knight</i>	14	15 <i>Candice Mendoza</i>	16	17	18
19 <i>Anna Smith</i>	20	21 <i>Larry Smith Eli Rahm Susan Hoffman</i>	22	23	24 <i>Dick Timmerman</i>	25
26 Hanging of the Green & Potluck	27	28	29	30		

\*Birthdays in italics



# Looking Ahead...

## **HANGING OF THE GREEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

**THERE WILL ALSO BE A  
SOUP & SANDWICH  
LUNCH FOLLOWING WOR-  
SHIP!**



## **ADVENT BREAKFAST SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**

PROVIDED BY  
THE MEN OF FPC

We will soon be accepting donations of items to be placed in this year's White Christmas boxes. You may bring: shampoo, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc. Place them in the box in the parlor. Monetary offerings can be placed in the offering plates on Sundays December 3, 10 & 17. Packing & delivery, TBD.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 after Worship



*LESSONS & CAROLS  
COMING CHRISTMAS EVE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24!*



*CHRISTMAS  
CELEBRATION  
SUNDAY,  
DECEMBER 17  
AFTER WORSHIP*

### CONTACT US

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday thru Thursday  
9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.**

#### **TELEPHONE**

(270) 586-4535

### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Daniel Van Beek

*Pastor*

Bailey Pickens,

*Community Connections Director*

Candice Mendoza,

*Office Manager*

Jason Matteson,

**Music Director**

Donna Houston, *Organist*

Shirley Crutcher, *Nursery*



# WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM

KIDS CLUB'

MEETS EACH SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAYS AT 5:30 PM IN THE CORNERSTONE &

ON ZOOM—CURRENT BIBLE STUDY RUNS THROUGH TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

*(NEW ADVENT BIBLE STUDY STARTS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28)*

DON'T FORGET TO FALL  
BACK ONE HOUR ON  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5!



Do you have something to go in the  
December Lamplighter? *Submit it to the  
office by Monday, November 27.*



Franklin Presbyterian Church  
Franklin, Kentucky

Franklin Presbyterian Church  
201 North College Street  
Franklin, KY 42134

