

# the Lamplighter

monthly newsletter of Franklin Presbyterian Church

**THANK YOU & WELCOME!**

JANUARY 2024

## **SESSION (RULING ELDERS)**

CLASS OF 2024 - Jane Rahm, Bob Thompson,  
Nancy Thomas

CLASS OF 2025 - Martha Hodge, Justin Henninger,  
Chris Kessler

CLASS OF 2026 - Barry Hain, Bob Heidbrink, Keith  
Lawrence

## **DEACONS**

CLASS OF 2024 - Linda Knight

CLASS OF 2025 - Marcella Davis

CLASS OF 2026 - Meredith Halcomb, Sylvia Pulliam

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2024**

ELDERS - Bob Thompson, Chris Kessler

DEACON - Marcella Davis

MEMBERS - Tori Henninger, Debbie Sowney

## IN THIS ISSUE

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- LOOKING AHEAD
- STEWARDSHIP CORNER
- WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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## ***Listening for God***

Beloved, the presents have been opened, the food and the cookies have been eaten, the parties have concluded. So what now? We've been waiting for the return of Jesus, waiting to celebrate his birth at Christmas. So what now?

As we have been doing for the past year, we've started to listen. First to each other, in our one-to-one conversations. Then to groups of one another, in our listening sessions. Now, we have some more listening to do. We are entering a time of discernment for the next phase of FPC. Listening for what God is calling us to do together.

The Session is already beginning this discernment. Pastor Bailey helped us learn about The Examen during Advent Sunday School times. Now that we are doing that prayer practice (or perhaps we are ready to recommit to it), we will keep our ears and hearts open to the Holy Spirit.

How do we listen for God? How do we invite Jesus to speak to us? How do we sense the presence of the Holy Spirit? Everyone approaches this differently, yet the simplicity is also what makes it tough to do. God is always here and with us, so our job is to tune in to what God is saying. To prayerfully prepare, to expand how we understand what being a disciple of Jesus means, provides an opportunity to open ourselves up for what is next. Are we listening?

*Pastor Daniel*



# 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 Bailey Pickens  
**Summer Feeding Program** – help deliver lunches to children during the summer months Linda Knight  
**Annual Bean Soup Event in Nov.** – for Mission Projects Donna Houston  
**White Christmas Offering** – deliver food baskets to area residents Caren Gibson  
**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

- |                                       |                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Assist with Youth Program</b>      | Jen Van Beek   |
| <b>Usher for Worship Services</b>     | Donna Houston  |
| <b>Matthew 25 Clothes Closet</b>      | Debbie Wyatt   |
| <b>Video Team Recording Services</b>  | Bailey Pickens |
| <b>Liturgist for Worship Services</b> | Bailey Pickens |





## MISSION & MINISTRY BY THE NUMBERS AT FPC

Franklin Presbyterian Church utilizes four (4) ways in which to fund and operate the mission and ministry we do in our congregation and community. The largest is our annual Operational Budget, recently approved by Session for 2024 and presented at the December 3 Congregational Meeting. Supplementing that Budget is A Bold Approach (ABA), monies derived from the Clendining Bequest Fund. ABA funds are primarily used for ministry programs, including the personnel who run those programs.

Other ministries are funded through Designated Funds. These were established for such well-known programs as Living Waters for the World, Matthew 25 Programs, Clothes Closet, and Christian Service. Funds for each have been raised through fundraisers, grants, or donations. These funds are set aside for the programs to which those monies have been allocated.

The Pastor's Benevolence Fund receives its funding quarterly through specific investment dividends. The total is about \$1,800 per year. In 2023, Pastor's Benevolence provided nearly \$7,000 in assistance through utility payments, gas vouchers, food vouchers, and other assistance. To be able to continue to help as much as we have, additional funding will need to be found. This could mean a new way of funding Pastor's Benevolence through our church investments, or fundraising programs, or additional donations.

One difficult part of doing ministry in modern day America is that it all costs money. Each of these funding sources is important for FPC to do the work it does in Franklin. The operational budget provides the foundation for our facilities and staff to administer ministry. The Bold Approach funding helps pay for new ministries and opportunities. The designated funds offer specific options for local and international mission work, while the Benevolence fund helps alleviate immediate need as we seek to Love our Neighbors.

Keep all of these wonderful things happening at FPC in your prayers and if there are new ways to help and serve, let us know! If there are new ways to help fund these missions and ministries, let us know! God's already been doing a great work in us, FPC, and if we keep following Jesus, even more great work will be done!

**AMEN!**

*For more detailed numbers and information about funding ministry at FPC, ask Pastor Daniel!*

**YOUR GIVING  
MATTERS!**



# News & Announcements

2023 was a very successful year for the Matthew 25 Clothes Closet. Each year, we serve more people and give away more clothes than the prior year. We have been in operation for 3 full years and this graph shows our growth:

Year	Number Served	Items Given to Clients
2021	265	2493
2022	1289	9052
2023	2390	18,524

These numbers do not reflect toiletries or food that were given out.

We have also grown in the number of volunteers and the number of community partners.

In December, we completed another "Undie Sunday". Totals will be reported in next month's Lamplighter.

Thanks to everyone who helps support this important community mission!

Debbie Wyatt

Matthew 25 Clothes Closet Coordinator

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING  
TOTAL: \$1,105.00

*Join us after Worship on Sunday, January 7 to help 'Take Down the Green' and enjoy a soup and sandwich potluck. Soup will be provided. Please bring sandwiches or a dessert to share!*

Room in the Inn is an overnight shelter for people experiencing homelessness for a host of reasons. Again this year, we are providing food and a warm bed to those who need it. There

are lots of ways to get involved: Setup, takedown, serving dinner, being "innkeeper"

overnight, and more. We will be hosting each Wednesday in January and February. There's a job for everyone, whatever your availability and skillset!

For information on tasks, concerns, or any information pertaining to Room In The Inn, please contact Pastor Bailey.

@franklinpresbyterian.org.



The White Christmas Offering total for 2023 was \$780.00. Thanks to your donations, we were able to give boxes to families and individuals in our community to help make their holiday season a little brighter. Thank you again to those that helped pack and deliver the boxes.

We're already looking forward to doing it again next year!

*Ladies Luncheon  
Saturday, January 6  
from 11:45-1:00 in the  
Cornerstone. Bring a  
dish to share and a  
small gift for exchange.*

*It's never too late to  
celebrate!*

## January 2024 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 Two]**

#### **Monday, January 1**

Morning: Pss. 98; 145  
Evening: Pss. 99; 8  
Isa. 62:1–5, 10–12  
Rev. 19:11–16  
Matt. 1:18–25

#### **Tuesday, January 2**

Morning: Pss. 48; 146  
Evening: Pss. 9; 29  
1 Kgs. 19:1–8  
Eph. 4:1–16  
John 6:1–14

#### **Wednesday, January 3**

Morning: Pss. 111; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 107; 15  
1 Kgs. 19:9–18  
Eph. 4:17–32  
John 6:15–27

#### **Thursday, January 4**

Morning: Pss. 20; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 93; 97  
Josh. 3:14–4:7  
Eph. 5:1–20  
John 9:1–12, 35–38

#### **Friday, January 5**

Morning: Pss. 99; 148  
Evening: Pss. 96; 110  
Jonah 2:2–9  
Eph. 6:10–20  
John 11:17–27, 38–44

#### **Saturday, January 6**

##### **Epiphany of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 72; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 67  
Isa. 49:1–7  
Rev. 21:22–27  
Matt. 12:14–21

#### **Sunday, January 7**

##### **Baptism of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 104; 150  
Evening: Ps. 29  
Gen. 1:1–2:3  
Eph. 1:3–14  
John 1:29–34

#### **Monday, January 8**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Gen. 2:4–9 (10–15) 16–25  
Heb. 1:1–14  
John 1:1–18

#### **Tuesday, January 9**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Gen. 3:1–24  
Heb. 2:1–10  
John 1:19–28

#### **Wednesday, January 10**

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
Gen. 4:1–16  
Heb. 2:11–18  
John 1:(29–34) 35–42

#### **Thursday, January 11**

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
Gen. 4:17–26  
Heb. 3:1–11  
John 1:43–51

#### **Friday, January 12**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
Gen. 6:1–8  
Heb. 3:12–19  
John 2:1–12

#### **Saturday, January 13**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
Gen. 6:9–22  
Heb. 4:1–13  
John 2:13–22

#### **Sunday, January 14**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
Gen. 7:1–10, 17–23  
Eph. 4:1–16  
Mark 3:7–19

#### **Monday, January 15**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
Gen. 8:6–22  
Heb. 4:14–5:6  
John 2:23–3:15

**Tuesday, January 16**  
Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
Gen. 9:1–17  
Heb. 5:7–14  
John 3:16–21

**Wednesday, January 17**  
Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
Gen. 9:18–29  
Heb. 6:1–12  
John 3:22–36

**Thursday, January 18**  
Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
Gen. 11:1–9  
Heb. 6:13–20  
John 4:1–15

**Friday, January 19**  
Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
Gen. 11:27–12:8  
Heb. 7:1–17  
John 4:16–26

**Saturday, January 20**  
Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
Gen. 12:9–13:1  
Heb. 7:18–28  
John 4:27–42

**Sunday, January 21**  
Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
Gen. 13:2–18  
Gal. 2:1–10  
Mark 7:31–37

**Monday, January 22**  
Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
Gen. 14:(1–7) 8–24  
Heb. 8:1–13  
John 4:43–54

**Tuesday, January 23**  
Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
Gen. 15:1–11, 17–21  
Heb. 9:1–14  
John 5:1–18

**Wednesday, January 24**  
Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
Gen. 16:1–14  
Heb. 9:15–28  
John 5:19–29

**Thursday, January 25**  
Morning: Pss. 143;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
Gen. 16:15–17:14  
Heb. 10:1–10  
John 5:30–47

**Friday, January 26**  
Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
Gen. 17:15–27  
Heb. 10:11–25  
John 6:1–15

**Saturday, January 27**  
Morning: Pss. 122; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 63  
Gen. 18:1–16  
Heb. 10:26–39  
John 6:16–27

**Sunday, January 28**  
Morning: Pss. 108; 150  
Evening: Pss. 66; 23  
Gen. 18:16–33  
Gal. 5:13–25  
Mark 8:22–30

**Monday, January 29**  
Morning: Pss. 62; 145  
Evening: Pss. 73; 9  
Gen. 19:1–17 (18–23) 24–29  
Heb. 11:1–12  
John 6:27–40

**Tuesday, January 30**  
Morning: Pss. 12; 146  
Evening: Pss. 36; 7  
Gen. 21:1–21  
Heb. 11:13–22  
John 6:41–51

**Wednesday, January 31**  
Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
Gen. 22:1–18  
Heb. 11:23–31  
John 6:52–59



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**LECTOR/USHER  
SCHEDULE**

**Elder of the Month:**

*Justin Henninger*

**Elder Helper:**

*Chris Kessler*

**Ushers:**

*Everett Halcomb  
Sam Halcomb*

**Lector**

*Prentice Knight*

*Bailey will be out of the office from  
January 4 thru January 11.*

**WEEKLY EVENTS &  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Hand Bells**-Wed. at 5:15

**Choir**-Wed. at 6:30

**Grief Group**-11th & 25th at 5 pm

**FPC Men**-13th & 27th at 10 am

**Fellowship**-9th at 2 pm

**Worship**-14th after Worship

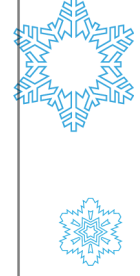
**Facilities**-10th at 4 pm

**Session**-28th after Worship

# JANUARY 2024

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	Ladies Luncheon <i>Joe Shumaker</i>
7 Communion Take Down the Green	8 9 <i>Donna Houston</i>	10 11 RITI <i>Will Rahm</i>	12	13	14 15 Installation Sunday <i>Jo Becker</i>	16 17 RITI <i>Pat Chai</i>
21	22 23	24 25 RITI	26	27 28	29 30	31 RITI
					19 <i>Ada Stubbs</i>	20 <i>Terry Joiner</i>
						27 <i>Dan Ware</i>





# JANUARY

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Justin Henninger

ELDER HELPER: Chris Kessler

FRIEND OF THE MONTH: Nancy Thomas

## Looking Ahead

### FEBRUARY

6th Red Cross Blood Drive 12-6

14th Ash Wednesday

### CHURCH STAFF

REV. DANIEL VAN BEEK,  
PASTOR

REV. BAILEY PICKENS,  
COMMUNITY  
CONNECTIONS  
DIRECTOR

CANDICE MENDOZA,  
OFFICE MANAGER

JASON MATTESON,  
MUSIC DIRECTOR

DONNA HOUSTON,  
ORGANIST

SHIRLEY CRUTCHER,  
NURSERY



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## Stewardship Corner

### DECEMBER AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 54

DEC. 3 54  
DEC. 10 63  
DEC. 17 67  
DEC. 24 43  
DEC. 31 43

### DECEMBER AVERAGE OFFERING: \$2,500.80

DEC. 3 \$2,905.00  
DEC. 10 \$4,466.00  
DEC. 17 \$2,283.00  
DEC. 24 \$570.00  
DEC. 31 \$2,280.00

December Online Total: \$3,079.74

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### **FPC Sunday School Study How Should Christians Live in a Polarized Society?**

***Start Date: Sunday, January 7, 2024***

We hear constantly about the deep polarization in America. What is meant by polarization? How severe is the polarization in America? What insights do the Old Testament and New Testament provide on how Christians should relate to others who seem to have very different values from us? Is the guidance from biblical times when people lived under the rule of kings and empire relevant to a modern democracy? The class will explore these questions and others during a five-week study of how Christians should live in a polarized society.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 am with Ms. Shirley

Kids' Club-Each Sunday after Worship

### WINTER BIBLE STUDY

***On Esther. Please join us on 01/09; 01/16; 01/23;  
01/30; 02/06; 02/13***

***Have an item you would like  
to add to next month's  
Lamplighter? Please submit  
it to the office by Tuesday  
January 30.***



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