

FIRST NEWS

First Presbyterian Church

Fourth Week of December, 2018

Whiteville, NC

“To be a light in our community reflecting Christ’s love and compassion”



Sunday Worship: During this Advent season we have been in sermon series, “Faces at the Manger”. This series seeks to invite you to virtually enter the manger scene and take a look around at the different faces of the people present so we may listen to their stories...that they may help us in our journeys of faith. What I hope this does is help us to see that these manger scenes are more than beautiful decorations for the season, but also offer us an invitation to enter the story of God’s love for us that we see played out in the birth of his son, Jesus Christ.

During the first three weeks of Advent we have explored Mary, the Inn Keeper, and the Angels. This Sunday we take a look some visitors from the east...the magi. We will explore a little bit about who they are, where they are from, and then at how their story can challenge us in our own walks of faith. I encourage you to read our scripture passage for this Sunday, Matthew 2:1-12.

I hope to see you Sunday and don’t forget to invite your friends and neighbors to join you!

Christmas Eve Service: I hope that you will plan to join us for our annual Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This service will include the singing of many hymns, the last sermon in our series “Faces at the Manger” as we examine the shepherds, and then end with a beautiful candle light service. This is a great service for the whole family and one to invite your friends and neighbors to join you! See you Monday evening!

Sermon Note Sheets: Please remember that if you would like to take notes on the sermon, we make available “Sermon Note” sheets. These can be found in the fellowship pads as well as the Narthex.

First Presbyterian Church Introduction Cards: Please be sure to pick up our new cards about First Presbyterian Church. On one side you will find information as to the times of our regular programs. On the other are all of the ways to follow us on Social Media and live stream. This is a great resource intended to be handed to people you meet or want to invite to join us for worship. These cards can be found in the narthex and in the church office.

-Pastor Joe

December 2018 Worship Schedule

Head Usher, December: Sara Cartrette Head Usher: January: Coke Gray III

December 23 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Matthew 2:1-12 “Faces at the Manger...the Magi”

Sunday School 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 am

December 24 – Christmas Eve

Luke 2:8-20 “Faces at the Manger...the Shepherds”

Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm

December 30 – First Sunday after Christmas Day

Rev. Jeremy Simmons Guest Minister, Worship Assistant – Peggy Blanchard

Sunday School | Worship 11:00 am

December 23: A/V: Jonathan Medford Nursery: Kaye Pope

December 30: A/V: Fuller Royal Nursery: Sarah and Coke Gray

Backpack Ministry

1st Sunday: Men of the Church

2nd Sunday: Young Adult Sunday School

3rd Sunday: Youth

4th Sunday: MVE Committee

5th Sunday (as needed): Scouts or Young Adult Sunday School

VOLUNTEERS



For information on Online Giving through the Presbyterian Foundation, go to <https://fpcwhiteville.org/giving/> to sign up for automatic drafts, one-time donations, and more!

BIRTHDAYS



4- Will Thompson, 5 - Price Wheatley, 10 - Mary Eplee, 10- Tom Owens, 11 - Carrie Burney, 11 - Chris Cook, 12 - Junius Lee, 13 - Melena Hester, 16 - Mary Moody, 16 - Chris Smith, 18 - Kathryn Clark, 18 - Maggie Horne, 18 - Sally Smith, 19 - Sarah Kindschuh, 19 - David Smith, 20 - Fran Thomas, 21 - Madison McLean, 22 - Meredith McColskey, 24 - Bob High, 27 - Debbie Viets, 28 - Natalie Royal



1- Jeff Rudnik, 2- Jayne Smith, 2- Jennifer Yoder, 3- Randy Yoder, 5- Jackson Cook, 6 Grace Palmer, 11- Janna Neisler, 12 - Mary Louise Bannerman, 14 - Greg Williamson, 15 - Hillary Kindschuh, 15- Berry Love, 16- Wes Gray, 17- Olivia Smith, 17- Tripp Thompson, 18- Emily Hooks, 20- Karen Ware-Rudnik, 21- Paul Pope, 21- Mckenna Ware-Rudnik, 22- Geraldine Becker, 24- Abbie Edwards, 27- Jenny Meekins, 28- Jolie Burney

- Sympathy is extended to Miriam Marks and her family upon the death of her brother, Arthur Sweum, who died Sunday, December 16, 2018.

Prayer Concerns: Geraldine Becker; Kathryn Clark; John Hall; Dolores Harris; Bob High; Rita & R. L. Lewis; Miriam Marks; Grace Palmer; Sally Smith; Walter Strickland; Nancy Thurston.

Assisted Care: Arlene Blaha; Anna Jane Collier; Charlene Hinnant; Kenneth Smith; Ellen Thurston.

Friends:

Pat Allen - friend of Butch Row, cancer
Sara and Rob Armstrong
Annette Caldwell
Billie Joe Conrad
Shari Dutton - friend of Bookie and David Trogdon
Betty Faircloth - friend of Janet Gray
Rick Hedgecock - former member of FPC, cancer
Shelby Hodge
Barry Housend - friend of Steve Smith, cancer
Daphne McLeod - friend of Butch Row, cancer
Jerome McPherson
Fred Meekins, Sr.-father of Fred Meekins, hospice
Gail Moye
Angie Pinkston - friend of Bookie and David Trogdon
Dottie Robinson - friend of Bookie and David Trogdon
Hollis Salyer - friend of the church, cancer
Barbara Shepherd - sister of Julie Stocks, hospice
Ken Smith - friend of Butch Row, cancer

Tori Tarro - friend of Mandy Smith, cancer
Ronnie Thayer - friend of David Trogdon, cancer
Gail Townsend
Melba Ward - mother of Janet Royal, stroke
Please notify the office when names can be removed.

We invite you to join us for this special activity during the season of Advent

December 24

at 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

2018 Advent Season

First Presbyterian Church

CHURCH CALENDAR

Thursday, December 20:

Scouts Roundtable Meeting, Fellowship Hall - 6:30 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Office Closed

Friday, December 21:

Christmas Eve - Office Open!

Monday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary - 5:00 pm

Al-Anon, Reformed Rebels Classroom - 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Christmas Day - Office Closed

Tuesday, December 25:

Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26:

Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Guest Minister Jeremy Simmons

Thursday, December 27:

Centsability Offering

Sunday, December 30:

Monday, December 31:

Al-Anon, Reformed Rebels Classroom - 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 1:



A Message from The Session:

If you would like to give a gift to our staff members, Pastor Joe, Doug Spivey, or Karen Ware, you may give a gift directly or write a check to "First Presbyterian Church" with "staff gifts" in the memo; all monies collected by December 24th will be split evenly between them.

Reminder: 2018 Pledges



*Must be finalized by
December 31, 2018*

All money given after this date will be applied towards 2019 totals.

Please contact the church office at 642-2253 if you have any questions or concerns.

Church Office Closed

- Friday, December 21
- Tuesday, December 25 –
- Wednesday, December 26
- Tuesday, January 1, 2019



Have a safe and Merry Christmas!



Have you checked the
Lost and Found lately?

Check today!

(In the hall just outside of the church
office)

**ALL UNCLAIMED ITEMS WILL BE DONATED AT
THE END OF THE YEAR!**