

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN BOARDS:



Board of Deacons

Class of 2018 June Boyd, Elaine Green, Michelle Hayt, Marti Walrath
Class of 2019 Peggy McConathy, Chris Testa, Patty Harrison, Judy Stallings
Class of 2020 Bill Holt, Richard Griffith, Margaret Griffith, Paula Smart, Clint Jenkins
Moderator: Elaine Green/ Treasurer: Patty Harrison/ Secretary: Michelle Hayt

Board of Elders, Session

Class of 2018 Keith Brewer, Janet Derichsweiler, Bill Dickson, Don Edgar
Class of 2019 Tom Crowl, Mozelle Proctor, Steve Harrison, Alfred McConathy, Sally Judge
Class of 2020 Donna Erickson, Sharon Lackey, Vickie Cherry, Bob Burden, Ron Boyer

Committee Chairs

CE Committee	Sally Judge
Property Committee	Tom Crowl
Mission	Janet Derichsweiler
Stewardship Committee	Steve Harrison
Worship	Ron Boyer
Membership & Outreach	Sharon Lackey

Clerk of Session: Jim Thompson
Treasurer: Mozelle Proctor
Council: Clerk of Session (Jim Thompson), Treasurer (Mozelle Proctor), Sally Judge, Tom Crowl, Janet Derichsweiler, Steve Harrison, Ron Boyer, Sharon Lackey

First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 1550
McAlester, OK 74502-1550

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. D. Scott Vandenheuvel, Pastor
fpcmcpastor1@gmail.com

Ann Owens, Secretary
fpcmsecretary1@gmail.com

Verna Caudill, Financial Secretary
fpcmfinance1@gmail.com

Dawn Vandenheuvel, Media Coordinator
fpcmmedia1@gmail.com

Debbie Young, Custodian
April Brown, Organist/Pianist
Paul Crowl, Director of Music Ministries

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Phone: 918-423-2186 **Fax:** 918-423-3478

Website: www.fpcmcalester.com

Office Hours: M-F / 9:00 am—3:00 pm

After hours, messages may be left on the voice mail and your call will be returned at the earliest opportunity.



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MARCH 2018



Ministering in our community since 1894

A Monthly Publication of the
First Presbyterian Church of McAlester, OK

THE Visitor



Dear Friends in Christ:

Imagine looking through the eyes of Jesus at the Sea of Galilee for the last time, and then the towns on the road to Jerusalem, and then the stones in the path as He ascended Golgotha – then being lifted up on the cross looking out over the crowd of loved ones and enemies. Did the view move you?

This month I will be taking my Continuing Education in the form of a trip to the Holy Land with Educational Opportunities led by Pastor Dr. Gary Harber from Tulsa St. James Methodist Church. We both have a passion for archeology and will spend 2 extra days in Jerusalem visiting the sites where new and exciting finds are validating the historicity of the record in the Bible. My feet and eyes are going where Jesus' feet and eyes have been – I expect to be profoundly moved spiritually.

Today, I am moved to deep gratitude for all of you who have made this trip possible with your kind gifts to help complete the gift from my family. THANK YOU! I hope to Facebook live my baptismal vows renewal at the Jordan River for you all to see. I can only imagine this future experience through the view I have from the biblical accounts about Jesus' baptism there by John the Baptist. Does the Bible come alive for you this way as well? I hope that this experience will help me make that more of an experience for you when I teach.

I am also told that I will be moved in another way that I did not originally consider: this will not be a vacation. I am told that I will be moved up many stairs and over many miles on a very demanding schedule. I was recently informed for this trip to be physically, intellectually and spiritually challenging. Please pray for my strength.

I also want to pray for you: I will be going to the "Wailing Wall" and would be honored to place your prayers written on a small piece of paper in the cracks of the wall as I pray its prayer. You can drop them off at the church office or place them in the Sunday collection plate for the usher to give me. Sunday March 4th will be the last day to get them to me physically but also feel free to send them via email to fpcmcpastor1@gmail.com.

Coincidentally, the March 2018 Sermon Series is called "The Road to the Cross". Lent is here but remember Easter is coming!

3/4	Psalm 19	John 2: 13-22 Sermon Title: "The Market"
3/11	Guest Preacher	Rev. Bill Westmoreland
3/18	Psalm 119:9-16	John 12:20-33 Sermon Title: "The Drawing"
3/25	CANTATA	

Peace,
Pastor Scott

dates to Remember

GOOD FRIDAY..... Service at 6:00 PM
 EASTER Sunrise..... Service 6:30 AM held
 @ the Little Chapel on the Hill
 Easter Breakfast..... 7:30 AM @ FPC
 Sunday School..... 10:00 AM
 EASTER..... Reg. Service 10:55 AM

Remember, during the week of Holy Week, the **Men's Breakfasts** are held each morning at various churches throughout McAlester. Men, please plan on attending with your pastor each morning. Friday, March 30th, the breakfast will be held at First Presbyterian Church. Let's show our love & support for your



Holy Week

MARCH SERMONS

The March 2018 Sermon Series is called "THE ROAD TO THE CROSS".

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title
3/4	Psalm 19 / John 2: 13-22	"The Market"
3/11	Guest Preacher - Rev. Bill Westmoreland	
3/18	Psalm 119:9-16/John 12:20-33	"The Drawing"
3/25	EASTER CHOIR CANTATA	

NOTICE:

Last month we wrote asking for everyone to mark their things in the church refrigerators. There are many things still unmarked. We are going to be cleaning out the fridges soon, so if you want anything in the frig that's yours saved, you **MUST** put your name or committee name on it.

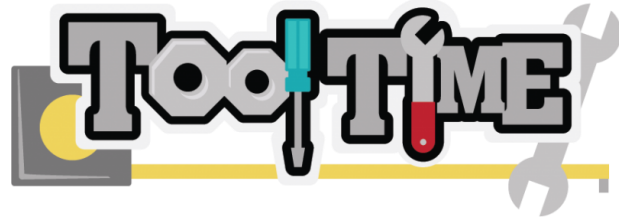
This also goes for the Deacons "Soup Kitchen" food. Please mark it



FPCMC Secretary1, Contacts, First Presbyterian Church, FPC Finance, FPC Pastor, fpcmcmedia1@gmail.com

Mar 2018 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 Comunion 10am - SS 10:55am - Worship 6:30pm - AA	26 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Deacons in	27 6:30pm - AA	28 9:30am - Service Day 4pm - Committee 6pm - Handbell 7pm - Choir Practice	1 10am - PW Sarah	2 6:30pm - AA	3
11 2nd Sun Social Daylight Saving 10am - SS 10:55am - Worship 6:30pm - AA	12 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	13 1pm - Bridge 6:30pm - AA	14 9:30am - Service Day 6pm - Handbell 7pm - Choir Practice	8 15	9 6:30pm - AA	10 5pm - Ignite the
18 10am - SS 10:55am - Worship 6:30pm - AA	19 5:30pm - Stewardshi 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	20 6pm - Bunco 6pm - Council 6:30pm - AA 6:45pm - Session	21 9:30am - Service Day 6pm - Handbell 7pm - Choir Practice	15 16	16 6:30pm - AA	17 ST. PATRICK'S 9am - PW Cluster
25 Holy Week begins 10am - SS 10:55am - Cantata - 3:30pm - Soup 6:30pm - AA	26 7am - Men's 5pm - Christian Ed 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	27 7am - Men's 1pm - Bridge 6:30pm - AA	28 7am - Men's 9:30am - Service Day 6pm - Handbell 7pm - Choir Practice	22 29	23 6:30pm - AA	24 31 8am - Men's 10am - Easter Egg
				28 7am - Men's 11:30am - Ladies'	29 7am - Men's 6pm - Good Fri 6:30pm - AA	

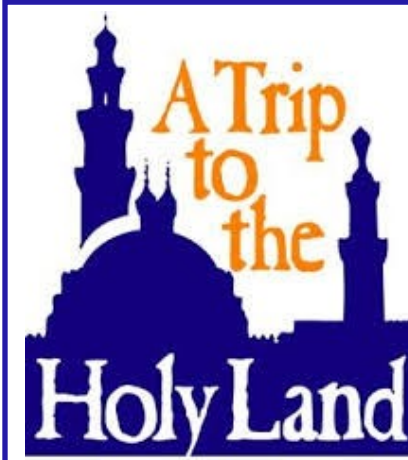


Looking for anyone handy with tools and wants to form a "Tool Time" group for repairs &/or maintenance at the church property and possibly for members, if needed.

Contact Pastor Scott at the church for more information.



THE FPC CHOIR EASTER CONTATA WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 25TH, 2018 DURING THE 10:55 AM WORSHIP SERVICE. PLEASE JOIN US TO ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL EAST MUSIC!!!

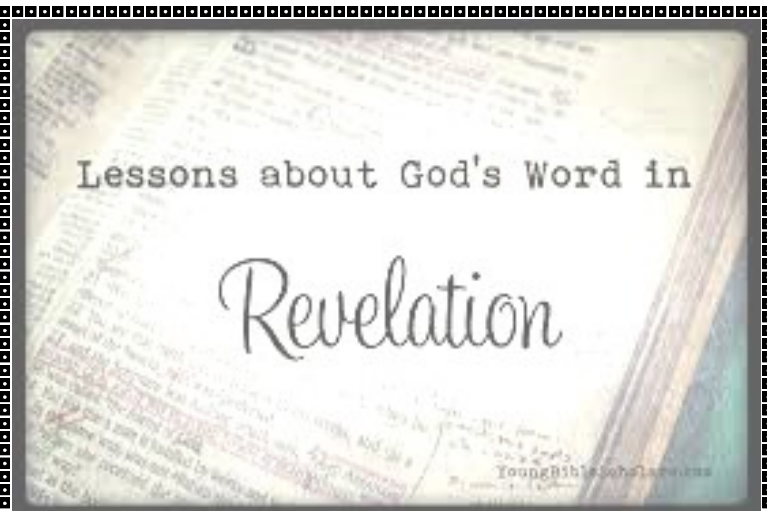


PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED!!

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON! By the time you receive this, Pastor Scott and his group from Tulsa will almost be on their way to Israel. The group leaves Tulsa Monday AM, March 5th and will return Friday PM, March 16th. I am still

looking for prayer partners to join me in praying for this trip. Please contact me via email at: fpcmcm1@gmail.com, or you may call the church office and leave a message with the secretary, Ann @918/423-2186. Blessings,

Dawn Vandeneuvel



The "Lunch Bunch" Bible Study will be taking a break during the Easter season from their study in Revelation. **We will resume April 10, 2018** at 11:30 AM for lunch, with the Bible Study beginning at 11:45 AM. It is an interactive approach with discussion in working through the text.

It's not too late to join us. We are working our way through the seven churches with lots more to go! We hope to see you April 10th when we resume!

LOST & FOUND

Do you know that the church has a "Lost & Found" area for items that may have been left behind after church service or at any other events that are held here?

The "Lost & Found" is located in the office area to the right as you enter the room in a basket on the bottom shelf.

If you are missing items, please check it out during office hours.

PW Sarah Circle will be held on Thursday, March 1st in Westminster Hall at 10:00 AM.



Our condolences go to the families and members of First Presbyterian Church who have lost loved ones this Christmas Season, as they went home be with Jesus Christ for Christmas.



L.R. "Jerry" Grubbs
November 2, 1936 - January 31, 2018



Everett Roy Baskin
October 21, 1927 - January 17, 2018

NOTICE:

There are still Sundays available for providing flowers for the Sanctuary for Sunday Service. The sign-up book is located in the back of the Sanctuary.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summary Notes from February 2018 Session Meeting



Budget Summary: Our January 2018 Budget Summary is posted on the bulletin board in Westminster Hall.

Deacons: The Deacons are busy planning activities for Easter.



Visiting Minister: Rev. Bill Westmoreland will fill the pulpit on Sunday, March 18, 2018.

Concert in the Sanctuary: Session approved holding a Michelle Williams concert on April 21, 2018, as an outreach event in the sanctuary. Watch the bulletin for scheduling and other information.

MUAMF: Pastor Scott is now President of the McAlester United Area Ministers Fellowship. They are sponsoring the *Re-Ignite the Fire Gospel Extravaganza* on March 10, 2018, at S. Arch Thompson Auditorium.



Presbytery Meeting in June: Our Church will host a meeting of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery on Saturday, June 2, 2018. We look forward to hosting leaders of congregations from around eastern Oklahoma. We plan to hold a "clean-up day" before the EOP meeting. Volunteers will be needed for clean-up day and for the event.



Next Session Meeting: The next regular Session meeting will be Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

Minutes and Committee Reports:

Copies are posted on the bulletin board in Westminster Hall.



The Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church will be hosting their Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31st, 2018 at 10:00 AM. Please meet downstairs in Westminster Fellowship Hall. If you have children, grandchildren, friends or neighbor children that would like to

attend, please contact the church office at: 918/423-2186 with how many children you will be bringing to the hunt! Hope to see lots of you

"NEW" FPC FACEBOOK PAGE

After months of preparation, our "new" First Presbyterian Church of McAlester website is up and running! Please check it out at:

First Presbyterian Church of McAlester OK

The website is a "work in progress" type project and is always being added to and changed, so check it often! We will have an events calendar online so you can always check for new events! I am always looking for input for the website such as pictures, articles, etc..



Salad Luncheon



The *46th Annual Holy Week Salad Luncheon* will be held on Maundy Thursday, March 29th at the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple in McAlester. Serving begins at 11:30 AM. Women in the community who do not work outside

their home are asked to bring salads and deliver them to the Temple by 11:15 AM. Working women are asked to arrive by 11:30 AM & are not expected to bring a salad. Our FPC Presbyterian Women are the Hostess church this year which means we will need all women, who can, to help receive the salads & serve drinks. If you can help, please arrive at the Masonic Temple at 10:45 AM with your large salad. Please make sure your salad bowl is marked with your name. Serving utensils will be provided. Diane Whipps, our PW Moderator, will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. We hope all women can attend.