

the Lamplighter

monthly newsletter of Franklin Presbyterian Church

THANK YOU & WELCOME!

JANUARY 2025

SESSION (RULING ELDERS)

CLASS OF 2025 - Justin Henninger, Donna Houston, Chris Kessler

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

CLASS OF 2027 - Caren Gibson

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025 - Marcella Davis

CLASS OF 2026 - Meredith Halcomb, Sylvia Pulliam

CLASS OF 2027 - Linda Knight

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2025

ELDER REP - Justin Henninger

DEACON REP - Sylvia Pulliam

MEMBER REPS - Don Chandler, Margaret Crowder

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- WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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NEW YEAR'S LETTER

Here we are again at the beginning of another year, and there has been a thought in my mind that may seem simple, yet it is a powerful truth: "New Year, Same God"!

That statement reminds me of Hebrews 13:8, Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

With changes coming at us so quickly, it is wonderful to know that God never changes! God does not 'adapt" to the times. His words do not change. He does not have to run for political office because He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

As we begin 2025, we each should remember this, God is with us as we together discern His direction for His church here in Franklin. We will study His words together, we will pray together, we will serve Him by serving others together.

Starting in January we will be hosting Room in The Inn and our prayer is that you might find a way to help with meeting the needs of our guests. Our choir, bell choir, Welcome Wagon, Clothes Closet, Art in the Park and more all need you to be successful in serving Christ.

Our pastor nominating committee will go through training and then begin the work of finding the person god is calling here to serve as our next Pastor. They need our prayers and our trust.

Soon we will share with you a Read the Bible program that will take no more than ten minutes each day. It will mix up both Old and New Testament readings to group them together for greater impact. We will be having family conversations about our future, our dreams and through all of that reading and praying and serving we will find God's call for Franklin Presbyterian Church, for you, for me.

Always know that you are loved!

Pastor Tim





MAKING CONNECTIONS

Merry Christmas, friends. As this email arrives in your inbox, we will be halfway through the season of Christmas, looking forward to Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi finding the child Jesus and presenting him with their gifts. So we have received, and we are still seeking and expecting: This is the Christian life and we practice it in every season.

I mentioned last month that this lectionary year, Year C, is Luke's year, and Luke's two-volume gospel (Luke and Acts) was written with gentiles in mind. So the way Luke tells the story of Jesus and the early church is meant to show people who were *not* already expecting the Messiah, who didn't know to wait for good gifts from God, what God was like and who Jesus was for them, too. Luke reaches outward, and by following his account of Jesus' ministry this year we can learn how to reach outward in new ways, too. There are many who need a lot: Food, shelter, clothing, work, meaning, dignity, respect, love. How much we, as the church, are able to share for both the body and the spirit!

Room in the Inn is one way. January 1 begins our season, and we'll have nine chances this year to provide hospitality to Christ in the form of our homeless neighbors. If you haven't signed up yet, I hope you will. And if you haven't filled out the required confidentiality form, you can do so here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpRpWBL6piYc0qAE1xL9oXbvfPrC8PW_q5TtthFJhQPVA_Sg/viewform?ts=67227b0f

To return to Luke for just a moment: In speaking of Jesus the Messiah to the gentiles, Luke was inviting them into the sweep of salvation history recorded in the Jewish Scriptures, what we now call the Old Testament. That invitation is for us, too. So I want to invite you to that, too. Weekly Bible study will resume January 22nd, and we will be reading through the whole Bible, one bite at a time, and using it as a way to talk about our world, our God, and ourselves. Please come.

I can't wait to see what God will do in us in 2025.

Peace,
Bailey



Living Waters for the World

Why do I serve with Living Waters for the World? Because I can. I feel that if there is something I can do about something I care about, I should. I believe strongly that clean water is a human right, especially for children. In fact clean water is not available to millions of children around the world, and as a result they suffer and sometimes die from waterborne illness.

After Living Waters for the World trips with our Franklin Presbyterian Church team and numerous trips with other teams, I am still enthusiastic about this wonderful relational mission opportunity. It has enriched my life far more than any partner that we may have worked with, be it a school, church, health clinic. In the coming months you will have the opportunity to serve, too, because when we have a partner in Guatemala, our whole congregation is a part of our Living Waters for the World team. There are many ways for you to help, and I hope that you can.



News & Announcements

The Matthew 25 Clothes Closet had a very successful 2024. More detailed data will be shared later in our annual report. But the numbers below are pretty impressive. Numbers in () are from 2023 and (()) from 2022.

People Served - 2938 (2390) ((1289))

Items Given Away - 20,231 (18,524) ((10,052))


In our Christmas Shop, we served 180 people and gave 449 gifts away. Our congregation's generosity is what made this possible. One member gave \$100 for us to spend as needed, so we were able to fill in areas where we didn't have enough. We actually will have quite a few toys to save for next year. A big thanks to Nancy Thomas who worked EVERY Tuesday and Thursday and to these people who worked one or more days: Sylvia Pulliam, Betsy Sheppard, Linda Knight, and Linda Lee.

Look for more detailed data next month.

We were blessed with a \$1,000 anonymous donation in December, and many generous donations from Zion Lutheran Church. Also in December we receive a nice donation from an employee at Crocker Animal Hospital. West Madison Baptist Church donate over 30 warm coats this past month as well. We are truly a COMMUNITY Clothes Closet!

Never underestimate the impact FPC is having on our community!

Join us after Worship on Sunday, January 5 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 more information, contact Pastor Bailey!

The White Christmas Offering total for 2024 was \$898.00. 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 11
from 11:30-1:00 in the
Cornerstone. Bring a
dish to share and a
small gift (\$5) for
exchange.
Join Us!*

January 2025 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]

January

Wednesday, January 1

Morning: Pss. 98;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 99; 8
Gen. 17:1–12a, 15–16
Col. 2:6–12
John 16:23b–30

Thursday, January 2

Morning: Pss. 48;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 9; 29
Gen. 12:1–7
Heb. 11:1–12
John 6:35–42, 48–51

Friday, January 3

Morning: Pss. 111; 148
Evening: Pss. 107; 15
Gen. 28:10–22
Heb. 11:13–22
John 10:7–17

Saturday, January 4

Morning: Pss. 20; 149
Evening: Pss. 93; 97
Exod. 3:1–5
Heb. 11:23–31
John 14:6–14

Sunday, January 5

Second Sunday of Christmas

Morning: Pss. 99; 150
Evening: Pss. 96; 110
Deut. 33:1–5
1 John 2:12–17
John 6:41–47

Monday, January 6

Epiphany of the Lord

Morning: Pss. 72; 145
Evening: Pss. 100; 67
Isa. 52:7–13
Rev. 21:22–27
Matt. 12:14–21

Tuesday, January 7

Morning: Pss. 46 or 97; 146
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114
Isa. 52:3–6
Rev. 2:1–7
John 2:1–11

Wednesday, January 8

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114
Isa. 59:15b–21
Rev. 2:8–17
John 4:46–54

Thursday, January 9

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114
Isa. 63:1–5
Rev. 2:18–29
John 5:1–15

Friday, January 10

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 148
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114
Isa. 65:1–9
Rev. 3:1–6
John 6:1–14

Saturday, January 11

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 149
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114
Isa. 65:13–16
Rev. 3:7–13
John 6:15–27

Sunday, January 12

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 13

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

Tuesday, January 14

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

Wednesday, January 15

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 16

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

Friday, January 17

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

Saturday, January 18

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 19

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

Monday, January 20

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

Tuesday, January 21

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

Wednesday, January 22

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 23

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

Friday, January 24

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

Saturday, January 25

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

Sunday, January 26

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

Monday, January 27

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

Tuesday, January 28

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

Wednesday, January 29

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

Thursday, January 30

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 31

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



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LECTOR/USHER
SCHEDULE

Elder of the Month:
Keith Lawrence

Elder Helper:
Barry Hain

Ushers:
Halcomb Family

Lector
Debby Helton

WEEKLY EVENTS &
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **RITI** each Wednesday
- **Grief Group:** January 9 at 5 pm
- **Women's Group:** January 20 at 5 pm (@ D' Legion Restaurant)
- **SESSION** meets January 28 at 5 pm

JANUARY 2025

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Epiphany Sunday	6 <i>Joe Shumaker</i>	7	8	9 <i>Donna Houston</i>	10 <i>Will Rahm</i>	11 Ladies Social
12	13	14 <i>Jo Becker</i>	15	16 <i>Beth Lagani</i>	17 <i>Pat Chai</i>	18
19 <i>Ada Stubbs</i>	20 <i>Terry Joiner</i>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 <i>Dan Ware</i>	28	29	30	31	

* Birthdays in italics

JANUARY

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Keith Lawrence

ELDER HELPER: Barry Hain

FRIEND OF THE MONTH: Debbie Wyatt



CHURCH STAFF

TIM LEIGH
INTERIM PASTOR

REV. BAILEY PICKENS,
COMMUNITY
CONNECTIONS
DIRECTOR

CANDICE MENDOZA,
OFFICE MANAGER

JASON MATTESON,
MUSIC DIRECTOR

DONNA HOUSTON,
ORGANIST

SHIRLEY CRUTCHER,
NURSERY

Looking Ahead

FEBRUARY

11th Red Cross Blood Drive 12-6



CONNECT WITH US!

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Stewardship Corner

DECEMBER AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 60

DEC. 1	59
DEC. 8	66
DEC. 15	60
DEC. 22	64
DEC. 29	50

DECEMBER AVERAGE OFFERING: \$3,028.00

DEC. 1	\$1,896.00
DEC. 8	\$2,063.00
DEC. 15	\$5,365.00
DEC. 22	\$1,256.00
DEC. 29	\$4,560.00

December Online Total: \$1,997.35

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

This year, our weekly Bible study will turn to the whole Bible. It might sound like a big undertaking (and it is a reading commitment!) but Tim and Bailey are very excited to invite you into this practice. We will use a **five day a week plan** that **combines the Old and New Testaments**. Each day will take about fifteen minutes to read, and you will have two days a week to take a break, meditate on what you've read, reread, or catch up. Doing this in community will save us all from overwhelm and help us make connections between what we read and

the world we live in *now*.

You will find a link to the year's schedule, readings for the week, the Zoom meeting link, and links to video overviews of each book read that week in the weekly email.

Join in at 4:30pm on Wednesdays beginning January 22nd, 2025, in person or on Zoom. It'll be fun!

CHILDREN'S & ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM

Have an item you would like to add to next month's Lamplighter? Please submit it to the office by Tuesday January 28.



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