The Presbyterian Newsletter



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Prayer List

MAGNOLIA PLACE
-Mike Hozer

COLUMBUS -Rona Phillips

HOMF

- -Don Bravaldo
- -Larry Dalrymple
- -Isobel Prater
- -Bill Pugh
- -Todd White

The Presbyterian Newsletter is a bi-weekly publication of First Presbyterian Church Auburn, Alabama

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A WORD FROM OUR SENIOR PASTORS

You should also look for able people among all the people, people who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain; set such people over them as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. Let them sit as judges for the people at all times; let them bring every important case to you, but decide every minor case themselves.—Exodus 18:21-22

We have enjoyed elder training these last few weeks with the elders elect of next year's session class. We have spent time studying Presbyterian theology, worship, history, and polity. With Reformation Sunday on October 27, it has been especially meaningful. Over 500 years ago church Reformers like Martin Luther and John Calvin started a movement to rethink church. John Calvin specifically leaned on passages like Exodus 18 and argued that a church should be ruled not by one person, but the church should be led by officers who are from within the church.

In Calvin's *Institutes* he lifts up the fact that humans are sinful, therefore we should have a diversity of forms of church government and civil government to hold each other accountable. This idea was one of the precursors for the founding of own nation's governmental system of checks and balances. John Calvin writes, "Therefore, men's fault or failing causes it to be safer and more bearable for a number to exercise government, so that they may help one another, teach and admonish one another; and if, one asserts himself unfairly, there may be a number of censors and masters to restrain his willfulness. This has both been proved by experience, and also the Lord confirmed it by his authority when he ordained among the Israelites an aristocracy bordering on democracy (Exodus 18:13-26)..." (Inst. IV.20.8)

The scripture passage from Exodus 18 with Moses' father in law sharing with Moses the idea of officers or elders for the church and this idea of diversity of the forms of government are one of the founding reasons the Presbyterian Church has the office of elder and various councils within the church. Our church's leaders are called elders (presbyters) and they hold different functions. Ruling Elders provide oversight of worship and sacraments and the church affairs, while Teaching Elders preach, teach, and administer the sacraments. In our Presbyterian government we also have different councils of the church that support one another and hold each other accountable. The council of Session consists of ruling elders from a local church and is moderated by the Teaching Elder of the congregation. The congregation of FPC Auburn is part of the council of Presbytery, which consist of congregations across central Alabama. Other councils of Synod and General Assembly are higher councils that consist of representatives from congregations and Presbyteries. All these councils provide support, oversight, and accountability for each other. None of them rule over the other. This one of our favorites things about being Presbyterian, it truly takes a village to support each other and hold each other accountable. Everyone has a voice of leadership! Thanks be to God for wonderful leaders of our church who faithfully serve and lead! Nick and Kathy

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 27

8:30 AM -Communion (Chapel)

9:45 AM -Sunday School

11:00 AM -Worship (Sanctuary)

12:15 PM -Elder Training (Library)

4:00 PM -Confirmation Class

5:00 PM -Chancel Bell Choir

5:00 PM -Youth Dinner & Fellowship

6:45 PM -UKirk Dinner & Bible Study

Tuesday, October 29

12:00 PM -PCM Board Meeting (Library)

4:30 PM -Legacy Committee

Wednesday, October 30

4:30 PM -Adult Ed. Committee

Thursday, October 31

9:00 AM -Weekly Exercise Class (Chapel)

5:15 PM -Congregational Dinner

7:00 PM -Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, November 2

Parking, AU vs. Ole Miss - TBD

Sunday, November 3

8:30 AM -Communion (Chapel)

9:45 AM -Sunday School

11:00 AM -Worship (Sanctuary)

4:00 PM -Confirmation Class

5:00 PM -Chancel Bell Choir

5:00 PM -Youth Dinner & Fellowship

6:45 PM - UKirk Dinner & Bible Study

Monday, November 4

6:00 PM - Children & Youth Committee

Wednesday, November 6

9:30 AM -PW Coordinating Team

Thursday, November 7

9:00 AM -Weekly Exercise Class (Chapel)

5:15 PM -Congregational Dinner

7:00 PM -Choir Rehearsal

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NEWS

Again I want to thank this congregation for the support and participation you have given to both the Flu Clinic and Blood Drive that we have had this past month. In addition to the results I mentioned in an earlier article, I can now add the results of a "mini" flu clinic that we had on Oct. 13. There were an addition of 12 flu vaccines given to add to the previous 74 vaccines for a total of 86. I think that is the highest level of participation that we have ever had. I am so glad that these two opportunities receive your support. Several of you have said that they appreciate the convenience, especially for those with several children in a family. It means that a family does not have to make appointments or take time off from work to get the vaccines.

Although we do not offer these vaccines, I do want to encourage you to get both the pneumonia vaccine. There has been real improvements in this vaccine. The newest one covers 23 types of pneumonia. It is especially good for those in their 60's or older. The other vaccine that I want to encourage is the one for Shingles. This too is especially recommended for those who are in their 60's or more. Shingles happens when the immune system ages and cannot prevent the activation of the Chicken Pox (varicella) virus. If you have had chicken pox, the virus remains in your system for your life but is generally dormant. However, as we age so does our immune system and does not always contain the virus as well. The vaccine helps to increase that protection. As I see it, having one injection is a lot better than the pain and itching of shingles.

Wishing each of you good health!

Your Faith Community Nurses, Jan Widell & Erin Brown

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 27, 2019

8:30 a.m. - Communion (Chapel)

11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)

Worship Leader: Rev. Kathy Reed

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 6, 2019

8:30 a.m. - Communion (Chapel)

11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary) Worship Leader: Rev. Kathy Reed **CE NEWS**

-Sunday, Oct. 27: Children and Youth activities begin with dinner at 5:00 p.m. in Baird Hall and then activities for children and youth from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

-Sunday, Nov. 3: Children and Youth activities begin with dinner at 5:00 p.m. in Baird Hall and then activities for children and youth from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Registration for the 2020 Montreat Youth Conference will open Sunday, November 3. Registration forms will be available beginning at 5:30 during youth group. A \$150 deposit will reserve a spot. Space is limited and this retreat will fill up! Registration is first come, first served so don't miss it!

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call! Chris Sarkowski

WE HELP COOKIE WALK

SAVE THE DATE! The 26th Annual Cookie Walk to benefit Habitat for Humanity will be held Saturday, December 7, at Grace United Methodist Church on Glenn Avenue. You can support this event by: baking cookies, volunteering to help set up and display cookies on Friday evening, or helping with the sale. The Cookie Walk is an important part of raising funds for the WEHELP Coalition that has participated in building 14 new homes for deserving families in our community.

THURSDAY DINNERS

Please join us for our weekly congregational dinner in Baird Hall. We begin serving at 5:15 p.m. and continue until 6 p.m. The cost of the meals is \$5/person with a maximum of \$10/family. College students eat for only \$2. No reservations are required.

Oct. 31 - Menu: Chicken Picatta, Seasoned Oven Rice, Italian Green Beans, Tossed Salad, French Bread, Banana Pudding.

Nov. 7 - Menu: Baked Ham W/ Glaze, Macaroni and Cheese, Baked Apples, Biscuits, Cookies.

Birthdays

Oct. 27 Jan Bartels, Gwen Reid

Oct. 29 Amy Pope

Oct. 31 Rodney Greer

Nov. 2 Will Arnold

Nov. 4 Kevin Wells

Nov. 5 Missy DuToit

Nov. 6 Reesa Gerards, Jack Hamersky, Katie Lindsey

Nov. 7 LuAnn McQueen

Anniversaries

Nov. 5 Paul and Trish Dimick

RECEPTIONISTS

October 28 - November 1

AM - ?, ?, Vicki Throckmorton, Shirley Bartels, Larry McQueen.

PM - Bonney Schowalter, Susan Stanley, Larry McQueen, Larry McQueen, ?.

November 4-8

AM - ?, Carol Griffin, Jo Cooper, Jim Disque, Larry McOueen.

PM - n/a

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

If you have been, are currently, or would like to volunteer as a church receptionist, you are invited to an appreciation brunch on Monday, November 18 from 11 to 1, provided by Susan Stanley and Kay Recknor. Circle your calendar and join us.

2020 PLEDGES

Stewardship Dedication Sunday was last week, but it's not too late. If you have not yet done so, please submit your pledges of time, talent, and treasure during the offering Sunday or mail (or bring by) to the church office as soon as possible. Additional pledge materials can be found in the narthex, chapel vestibule, or church office.