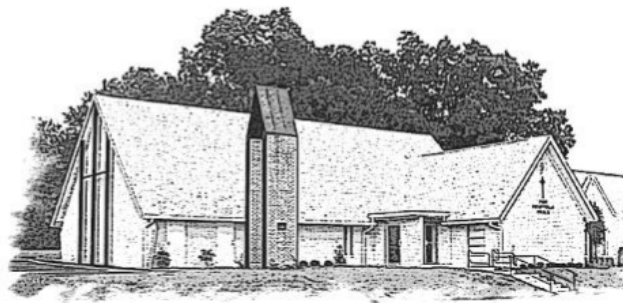




*“Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences”*

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THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

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Issue Ten

More Light and Transformation: Awareness to Welcome to Inclusion

There was a sort of joke/poem going around a while back, when I was still new to this church. It was about church welcome and extolled a friendly worship environment. As I remember, it cleverly invited people with red hair, red hats, and rednecks to come inside. Anyone from 5 to 25 to 105 could fine a pew. Whether you wore a dress, jeans or a three-piece suit, if you have green eyes, green hair, or a green thumb, you will be welcomed here. It was silly. It was funny. Like those signs on bathrooms now: instead of indicating women or men or simply bathroom, they have 8 different things pictured, including an alien, with the caption: who cares, just wash your hands.

Again, good humor, but it misses the point.

As children of God, we are called *to care* about one another. We are expected to do more than co-exist; we are to share compassion for each other. Relationship requires that we know a little something about each other.

I think we at FPC have done a good job moving past the cute quips and the nervous giggles. We have a collective interest in learning and understanding what it means to be an ally in the queer community. As a More Light church, we are expected to display welcome. As our awareness deepens, we can turn welcome into inclusion. We trust that God leads us on a meaningful path.


I'm hopeful that we can learn to discern God's elegant work of creating each of us uniquely in the Divine likeness. This understanding will broaden our horizons in all of our interactions and relations. Our embrace of "the other" is serious, heartfelt work. This work of including and accepting is no less than life-saving.

Suicide is the second cause of death among young people, and LGBTQ youth are four times as likely to seriously consider suicide than others. But our church has the power to improve these numbers. LGBTQ youth who have at least one queer-affirming space, *like a church*, reduced these odds by 35%. Knowing that a church welcomes them can improve their chance of living into adulthood. We can save lives! We can save even more when we stack acceptance and support with the love of God.

For us to be the hands and voices of God in the world, we need to share with our community that God loves everyone, whether gay, straight, trans, old, young, rich, poor, Republican, Democrat, immigrant or citizen. Wherever you are on the spectrum of diversity, you are God's precious child. And we are all seen and beloved in this place.


Rev Michele

On October 31st, representatives from nearly 200 countries will meet in Glasgow, Scotland for the United Nations' 26th Conference of Parties (COP) to consider the state of the Climate Crisis. There will be 12 days of talk to hopefully reach agreement on how to tackle climate change.



Eternal Ruler,
hope of all the earth,
give vision to those who
serve the United Nations,
and to those who govern
all countries;
that with goodwill and
justice,
they may take down
barriers,
foster understanding,
and draw the world
together in peace; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP



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We will be observing All Saints Day on November 7, so be sure to let someone on Session know of any loved ones you want to remember.

Can you believe it's time for the holidays already?

November 25th is Thanksgiving, and

November 28 is the first Sunday of Advent .

We hope you all have a fabulous November!

The Worship Team



World Communion Sunday



Christian Education

Currently our combined Sunday School class is studying *Uppity Women of the Bible: Esther*. We have touched on several thoughts that many of us haven't entertained regarding this book of the Bible in our past studies. Each lesson is separate, so one can join any Sunday morning in the Parlor at 9:45am.

Beginning November 28th, our leaders will guide us in the Advent Study, *Advent in Plain Sight*. By connecting everyday objects with biblical texts, *Advent in Plain Sight* prompts readers to see the near kingdom of heaven on earth and ponder what that divine proximity enables and asks them to do and be. Each daily devotional features a Scripture reading, prayer, and reflection, reminding Christians that God still dwells among us, even in the most ordinary places. This study will prepare us for the gift of the Holy One. Please plan now to join us to learn about Esther, and then, look forward to the Christmas Season.

As a **More Light Presbyterian Church**, we will seek new opportunities to guide us as we seek to embrace inclusion of all in our midst. We hope our team will grow, giving us new ideas and ways we can serve God, becoming whomever God wants us to be in this time and place. We hope to have a new book study soon, and to offer more information on More Light, as needed.

Thanksgiving approaches and we are so very thankful for the many blessings overflowing in our lives. Praise the Lord!

Current members are: Claudia Morgan-Gray, Kathy Porter, Jimmy Chapman, Rev. Michele Goff, and Lynn Tieken, Chair



A Prayer of Gratitude

John F. Kennedy

Proclamation on November 4, 1963 for Season of Thanksgiving



Let us therefore proclaim our gratitude to Providence for manifold blessings — let us be humbly thankful for inherited ideals — and let us resolve to share those blessings and those ideals with our fellow human beings throughout the world.

On that day let us gather in sanctuaries dedicated to worship and in homes blessed by family affection to express our gratitude for the glorious gifts of God; and let us earnestly and humbly pray that He will continue to guide and sustain us in the great unfinished tasks of achieving peace, justice, and understanding among all men and nations and of ending misery and suffering wherever they exist.



**As we worship God, love
our neighbors, and
cherish our families, we
become billboards of
God's message.**

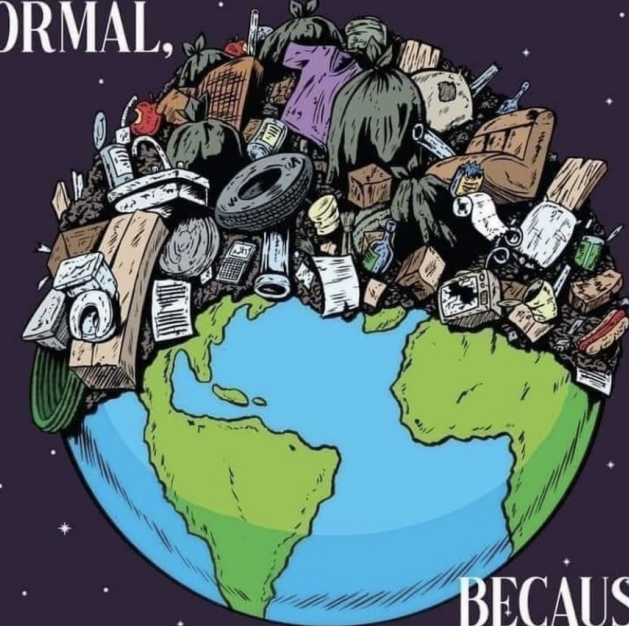


Not what we
say about our
blessings,
but how we
use them,
is the
true measure of
Thanksgiving.

WT Pickster

DID YOU KNOW?

WE SHOULD NOT GO BACK TO
NORMAL,



BECAUSE
NORMAL WAS THE PROBLEM.

C E Green Team

**Love Your Neighbor
Wear A Mask**



**Our OUTREACH Tree is
Big Enough for Everyone**



“We gather together to ask the Lord’s blessing.....” and we gather together to help be a blessing for others. As we approach the holiday times of this year, FPC-Henderson is again participating in the **HIM Thanksgiving Harvest Baskets Food Drive**. We have placed a sign-up sheet in the Narthex where you can sign-up to give a “Box” in honor or in memory of someone special. Each box is \$10.00 and all the money we raise for this worthy drive will be given to HIM to help them provide a wonderful Thanksgiving for their clients and our neighbors in community. If you would like to participate but aren’t yet attending church in person, please contact Debbi in the front office, Monday -Thursday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm or contact Claudia directly. Your generosity is abundant and much appreciated. Thank you.

It is also that time of year when the **Salvation Army “Bell Ringer”** drive is gearing up. FPC has for many years had several in our congregation who volunteer and help with this holiday drive. If you are interested in signing up to be a “Bell Ringer” for the Salvation Army, please let Kathy know and she will help you sign up.

While we are and continue to practice safe encounters at church and in the neighborhood, we are continuing our **Adopt A Block** mission in our neighborhood. If you’d like to join us on our walk through the neighborhood to visit with our neighbors, our November walk is scheduled for November 15th. We meet at the church at 4:00 pm. All are welcome – the activity is good for our bodies, the fellowship with friends and neighbors is good for our souls and doing the work of our Lord here on Earth is good for the spirit.

The Outreach Team

Council Actions

October 21, 2021

- ◇ Prayed and worshiped together
- ◇ Shared joys and concerns
- ◇ Reviewed church’s insurance policy
- ◇ Heard Church Officer Nominating Committee report
- ◇ Moved November Pipeline deadline to November 19
- ◇ Set Annual Congregational Meeting for November 21
- ◇ Selected Commissioners to Grace Presbytery Meeting on Nov. 13



For your 2022 pledges for the mission of our church

Finance & Stewardship Team

November 2021



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 6:00 Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting	3	4 2:00 Modern Study	5 Meals on Wheels Annual Downtown Christmas Open House	6  Annual Downtown Christmas Open House
7 All Saints Day 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship/Communion HIM Donation Day	8 Home Communion	9 6:00 Theology on Tap	10	11  Veterans Day	12 Meals on Wheels	13 Grace Presbytery Meeting Heritage Syrup Festival
14 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship 3:00 Walk with a Doc	15 4:00 Adopt a Block	16	17	18 6:00 Session Meeting	19 Meals on Wheels	20
21 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship Annual Congregational Meeting	22	23	24	25  Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	26 Meals on Wheels Office Closed	27
28 Advent Begins 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship	29	30 Giving Tuesday				

**DUTY ELDER FOR
NOVEMBER**

Claudia M.

LITURGISTS FOR NOVEMBER

11/7 Lynn T.

11/14 Steve L.

11/21 John T.

11/28 Kathy P.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/4 Suzanne C.

11/14 Kelly W.

11/18 Mary Ann C.

11/19 Debbie W.

11/23 Patricia P.

11/25 Bob R.