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"Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing



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Follow that Star! 2022 Edition

Happy New Year, 2022! May this year bring us joy and adventure as we deepen our relationship with our loving, gracious, and merciful God.

As we read in the gospel according to Matthew, magi came from the east following a star to pay homage and worship our infant Savior. This year we continue our practice of following star words that may guide us closer to the Holy One.

Star words are an invitation to pray and to play. Whatever word you receive, take some time to consider how God may be reaching out and calling you to notice your life, your faith, the community, and the world in context of this guiding star.

For example – your word for 2022 is color. Sit with the word at first. Let your mind go wherever it wants: Crayola boxes of 64 colors, rainbows, sunsets, your favorite color, or the bright yellow of sunlight. Be thankful for those colors. Thank God for the variety of color in the world.

Perhaps "color" as an invitation to explore nature. Find yourself thinking of the color green, how it changes from pale and yellowy to dark and dusky as the seasons change. Maybe you notice a garden with a myriad of cultivated colors, or a monochromatic field with one flower repeating many times displaying subtle hues. Imagine God taking the time to create these details, each petal and each leaf, even as they return to the soil to bloom fresh again in the spring.

What are the colors of your favorite sports team? How do colors make you feel? Consider how colors allow us to communicate, like traffic lights and public signs. Why do sports cars look faster in red? Is your closet full of clothing that is similar in color? Imagine our world without color. Give God thanks for variety, freedom to choose, and creativity to express ourselves. Be open to new insights you might not have considered before. Notice the color of your favorite places – interiors and in the environment – and consider how these colors shape your feelings of home.

Return to your word at different times of day throughout the year. God may be nudging you to consider something deeper. Have you considered the elegant variety in the colors of skin. Notice the people around you. No two of us are alike, yet we are all God's beloved children. What would it be like to live shoulder to shoulder like the many flowers in a garden? (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

Seek God's wisdom as you notice more color in our world.

This is an example of where one star word might lead you – any way you feel comfortable exploring your word is perfectly fine. Give it a try! Brainstorm, google it, seek your word in natural and created environs. Imagine life with more of your word, or none of it all. Allow God to lead your wandering and wondering.

Like the magi following the star to Bethlehem, your star is an invitation to discover something new that God wants you to see. Enjoy the adventure!

Rev Michele

Welcome 2022!

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday, and Happy New Year. We're excited to celebrate the New Year with the Epiphany of the Lord, and communion on January 2nd. We hope you have a blessed January!





Council Actions

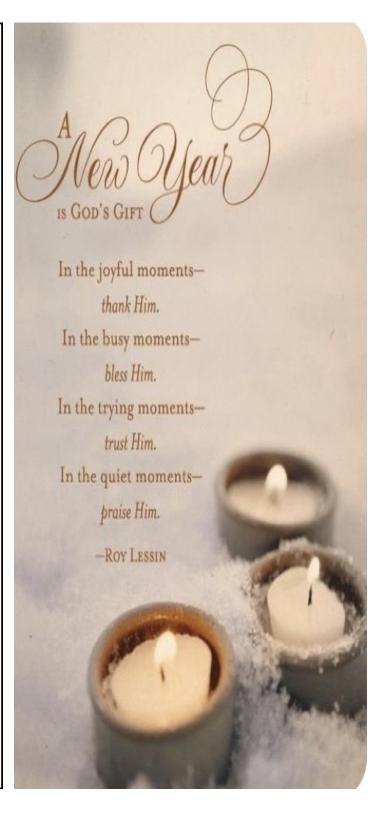
December 16, 2021

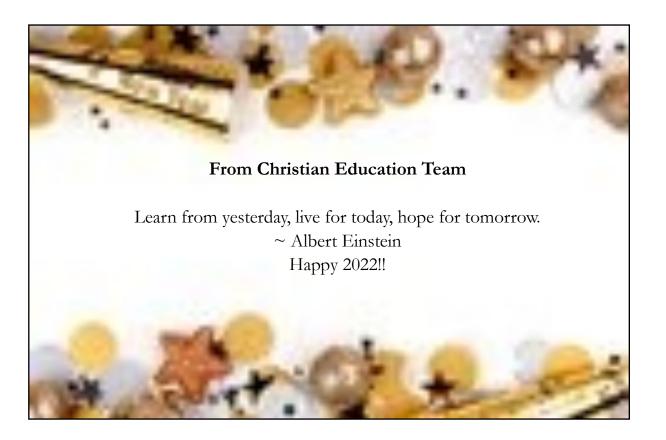
- **Worshiped and prayed together**
- **♦** Accepted new member
- **Examined and approved new elders**
- **Appointed members for Personnel**
- **Approved the yearly Financial Review**
- **Approved update from Covid Task Force**
- ♦ Reviewed membership roll of FPC
- Set date for Session retreat

There is much to do my Beloveds, There is much to resist and Dismantle And there is building to be Done, Coalition building, Community building, Power building, And there had already been a foundation laid. Rest now, Because we need all of us, To heal us, We need all of us, To repair us, We need all of us. Meet us here, O God.

--- Rev Shawna Bowman

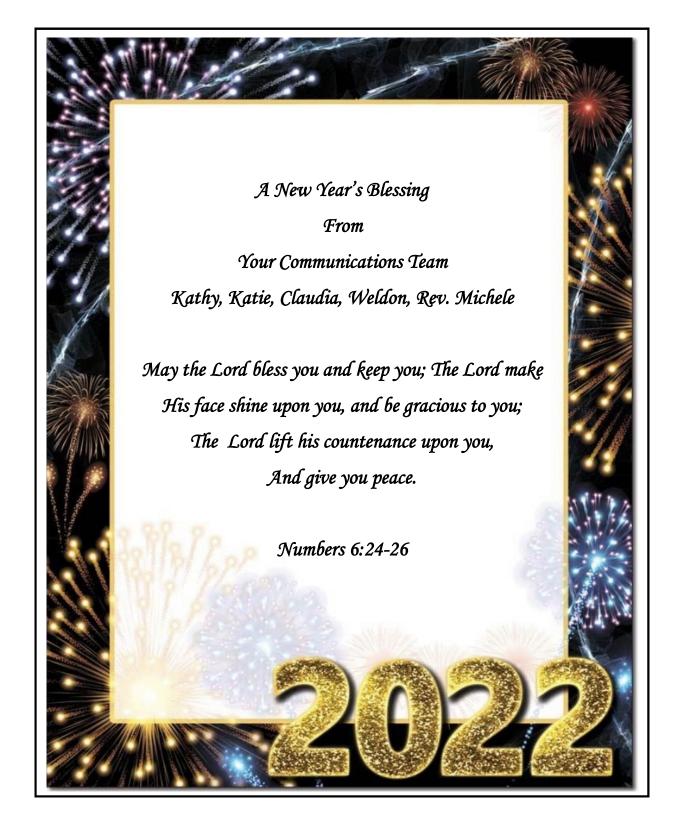


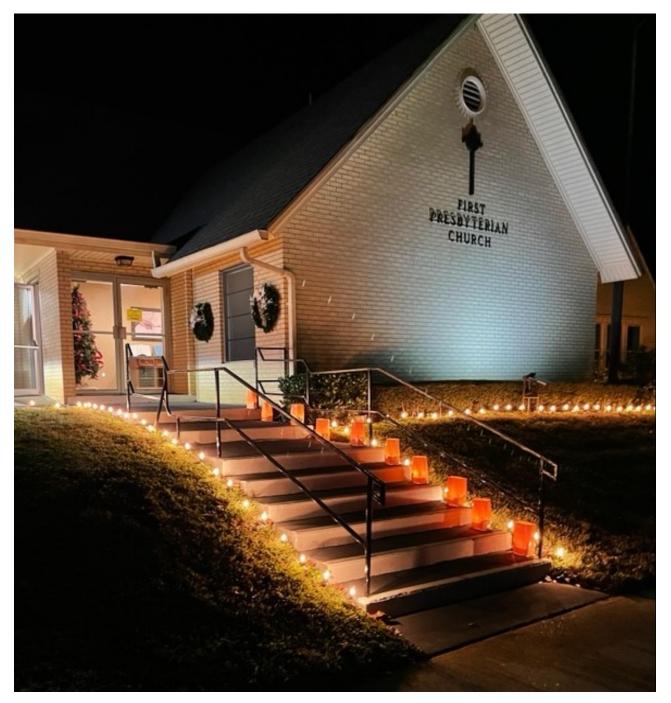




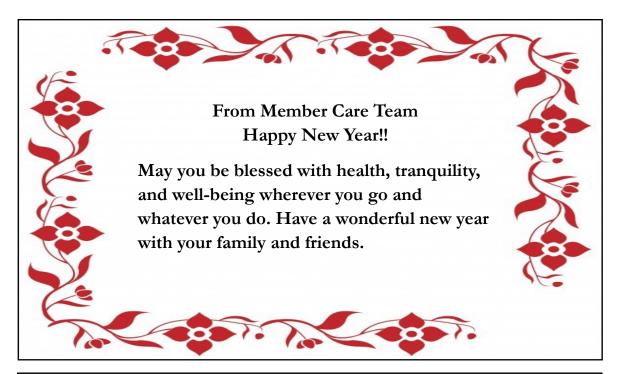
"He comes in the form of the beggar, of the dissolute human child in ragged clothes, asking for help. He confronts you in every person that you meet. As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbor..."

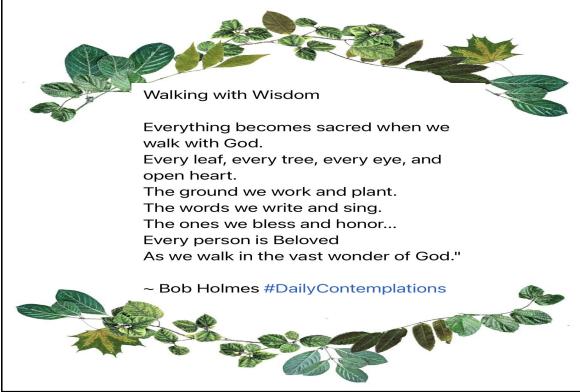
Dietrich Bonhoeffer





First Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve 2021





New Covid Protocols

The Session of FPC enacted the following Protocols at the December 16, 2021 meeting:

When the Test Positivity is 10% or above, all persons in the building will be expected to wear masks in the presence of others.

When the Test Positivity rate is below 10%, masks are recommended but not required of persons who have received the vaccine. Those who are not vaccinated are expected to wear a mask in the presence of others.

Following Christ's example to love "the least" of God's people, we continue to utilize tools available for minimizing the spread of Covid virus at our church.

Masking, social distancing, and vaccinations, along with hand washing and sanitizing, are part of this effort.

Navy Seaman **Michael DeLeon** received a very warm welcome home at FPC while on Christmas leave.







HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

YOUR FINANCE/ STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

STEVE, CAROL,

KATHY, TAMMY,

KELLY, AND TOM

January 2022



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

2 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live	3 Home Communion	4 6:00 Theology on Tap	5	6	7 Meals on Wheels	New Year's Day
Worship/Communion HIM Donation Day				Epiphany		
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship 3:00 Walk with a Doc	10	11	12 6:00 Radical Welcome study group	13	14 Meals on Wheels	15
16 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship	17 OFFICE CLOSED Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19 6:00 Radical Welcome study group	20 6:00 Session Meeting	21 Meals on Wheels	22
23 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship	24	25	26 6:00 Radical Welcome study group	27	28 Meals on Wheels	29
30 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Sanctuary/FB Live Worship	31					

