



# First Presbyterian

hope. help. here.

## The Lighted Spire January 2024

Dear loved ones at the First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville,

I cannot thank you enough for all of the time, effort, physical resources, and love that you put into the creation of blessing bags this year! I will try, though, by expressing gratitude on behalf of those who received them. There is always a need for warmth and sustenance during Chicago's winters, and that is especially true for those who are living outside. This year, though, that need has grown exponentially as thousands of migrants have been bussed to the city. Most have made long journeys from Venezuela to seek safety and opportunity, not expecting to end up in this cold city without housing. For several months they had to camp at police stations, many in tents outside. Now they have been placed in makeshift shelters inside old warehouse buildings without access to many resources. One of these makeshift shelters is near to my apartment, and I have encountered many families with children outside looking for ways to survive. The first few blessing bags went to one of these families with three young children. They were also excited about extra socks that came in addition to the bags! The next few blessing bags went to a local man and his significant other who live in a tent city under a nearby overpass. For the remaining blessing bags, Vima and I drove over to the migrant shelter on December 23rd. We parked near one family, and as soon as we opened the trunk there were too many people surrounding us to count. Vima was able to speak with everyone in Spanish and to hear how folks were doing while I handed items out. We handed out everything in the car. Everyone was thrilled to receive gifts so close to Christmas! Sometimes what we have to offer can seem like a small drop in an ocean of need. There are major changes that need to happen in our society to address that ocean, but the small things that we do are still deeply meaningful. When people receive love and care, they know that their humanity is seen and embraced. Thank you for sharing with these fellow children of God and thus showing the love of God!

God bless you, Tyler Orem



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [FPCSHELBYVILLE.ORG](http://FPCSHELBYVILLE.ORG)

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Gretchen Schneider, Transitional Pastor

Max Muska, Associate Pastor

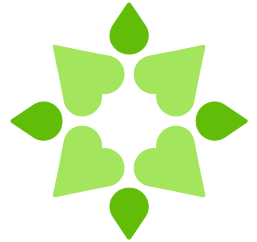
Cynthia Morningstar, Director of Music

Jane Runshe, Office Manager

Sara Roberts, Sunday School Coordinator

Dan Runshe, Sexton

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## Confirmation Class

Pastor Gretchen is offering a Confirmation Class for youth who are 5th grade through high school students. There will be a meeting with the students and parents on Sunday, January 21 in the parlor following worship. The first class will be held on February 18, also following worship. If you have a youth interested in taking this class, please talk to Pastor Gretchen.

## Confirmation Class



## Session & Team Meetings

The Teams and the Session will meet on Monday, January 22 (since 15th is a holiday). Everyone is invited to gather at 6:15 in fellowship hall for a Soup Supper, then stay for team meetings beginning at 6:45. A short Session meeting will be held following the team meetings if there are things that require a vote. If you haven't had a chance to join a team, please come on the 22nd and decide which team you would like to be on! If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Gretchen or Pastor Max.



## Annual Meeting of the Congregation

**February 4, 2024**

Please make plans to stay for the annual meeting to be held in the sanctuary on February 4 following worship. All teams, organizations and groups should have their reports for the meeting turned in to Jane. If you have questions about this, please talk to Jane.

Plans are to have the reports ready to be distributed on January 28 so you can read it beforehand.

## Hospitality Team

The Hospitality Team met in January and have gotten organized for the coming year. We have 2 groups on the team which can be seen on the Church Officers sheet elsewhere in the *Spire*. The months they serve are listed. Every third month will be "volunteer" month when we are asking families to sign up for one Sunday to plan, prepare, serve and clean up for our time of fellowship. There is a dry-erase calendar in fellowship hall by the kitchen where you can pick a Sunday for your family to serve. The first month for volunteers is March, so please pick a Sunday to help.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**      **Fourth Monday of each month 1:00pm** **They will meet on Monday, January 22 at Walker Place**

This small, fun group knits and crochets prayer shawls and other items for those going through transitions in their lives.

Guests are always welcome to come and join this ministry. If you like to knit or crochet, come and check out this group. Even if you don't know how to knit or crochet, they will be glad to teach you and get you started. This group is open to men and women. Even if you don't want to knit or crochet, you can always just come and enjoy the company.



### **Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
9:00am to 4:00pm  
May be closed during lunch time  
Office will be closed on Fridays

### **Walker Place** **2216 North Riley Highway**

Pastor Gretchen and Pastor Max are leading worship services on the second Sunday of each month at 1:00pm at Walker Place. Please feel free to attend, or if you would be willing to help with one of these services, please talk to Gretchen or Max.

### **Fall Sunday School**

The children go with Jon Orem and Sara Roberts for their lessons following the Children's Time in worship.



**Grades 6-12** Sarah Smith teaches our Middle and High School students at this same time. They meet in the Wall Room upstairs.

Nursery care is provided for **infants and toddlers** during worship.

If you would like to volunteer to help with Sunday School, please talk to Jon, Sarah, or Sara.

### **CCC Group — Where Everyone is Welcome!**

With questions about the weather and other factors, the CCC's have decided that they will not have a meeting in February but will regroup and begin meeting in March. Please talk to Sheila if you have any suggestions or ideas about things the group can do. Watch for more details later in February.



Statler Study Group  
Fellowship Hall  
Breakfast Served  
Wednesdays at 8:00am

New Study  
James, Peter, John & Judah  
By N.T. Wright  
New members & visitors always welcome!

## Prayer Requests

Betty Alexander	John & Jody Linton
Shane Appleton	Judy Mitchell
Jeanne Boback	Janet Orem
Shelby Bowers	Sharon Orem
Charline Brown	Bill & Joyce Runshe
Joanne Bubar	Jonita Smith
Marilyn Bushfield	Megan Smith & Dahlia
Vickie Butler	Kevin & Penny Springman
Woody Collins	Deloris Sorrell
Annette Craft	Eric Sorrell
Hugh Garner	Walter Stone
Becky Gattis	Marilyn VanCleve
Phil & Linda Howell	Wilma Weaver
Ron Kramer	Dawn Whitfield
	Nancy Wittekind

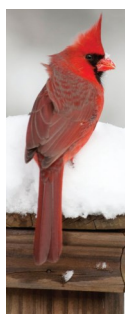
## Church family and friends

Matthew & Michael Berndt, Steven Binder, Elizabeth Bir, Mary Brown, Kristi Burton, Wyatt Cameron, Bill Collins, Betty Craft, Lida Craft, Cory, Dakota, Teri, Amber, Britney & Justin Douglass, Esther Gahimer, Julie Harris, Deloris Hassebroek, Vicki Hassebroek, Ashley Hedges, Hunter, Cammi Hooker, Jaxon, Betty Nichols, Chelsea Overhage, Lynn Pitts, Jon Ross, Mark Rowe, Darryl Runshe, Natalie Sargent, John Scudder, Chera Shaub, Shannon Trimnell, Peggy Trittipio, Brady Vanes, Cheryl White, Susan Woolledge

## Those in military service

Curtis Bridgewater	Alex Dillon
Rocky Iaria	Deacon Marshall
Adam Smith	Deryk Smith
	Brett Walburn

If the situation for any of these people has changed or someone needs to be added to our list, please let the church office know.



Wednesday Rehearsals  
7:00pm  
Choir Room  
Sunday Warm Up  
9:30am  
Sanctuary

Anyone who has a love for music is welcome to join the choir. This is a fun group who enjoy getting together.

## Volunteers needed

We are in need of people who would be willing to run the screens and/or sound during our worship services. If you would be interested in learning how to do this, please talk to Gretchen, Max, Jane or Mike Whitfield.

If you would like to come to worship on Sunday mornings, but don't have a way



## Rides Available

to get there, Jon and Sharon Orem are offering to pick people up on their way to worship. Please call them by Saturday if you would like a ride so they can make plans.

For more information or to schedule a ride, call Sharon Orem (317-512-1842) or Jon Orem (317-517-1341)





## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

### Save the Date for SOUPER BOWL 2024

On February 25 during fellowship we will be doing **CANstruction** for our Human Services Food Drive as a part of the Souper Bowl of Caring. Groups have been formed to use the cans we collect to make interesting structures. The groups are Sunday School, Statler Study Group, Session, Deacons, and Choir. Each will pick a color scheme for their build. If you are not in one of the groups and would like to be, just pick one to join. Boxes are available in the hallway behind the sanctuary for your donations. Of course, we will always take any food items, paper products or hygiene items that you wish to donate. We are going to have a soup lunch and then start building! Keep watching for more details!



### Singing and Treats!

The Sunday School children will be singing during the worship service on January 28. They are practicing during their Sunday School time on Sunday mornings. Please pass the word along to our Sunday School families.



During fellowship time on the 28th, as a special treat, the Hospitality Team will be serving root beer floats.

**Join us for the children's song and also a tasty treat that day!**

### 2024 Offering Envelopes Are Here!

The weekly offering envelopes for 2024 have arrived. They are on a table in the hallway outside the choir room. If you prefer to use envelopes for your offerings, please take a box and write your name on the corresponding number on the yellow sheet on the table.



# Church Officers

## Session

### **Christian Education/Nurture**

Becky Gattis  
Sarah Smith  
Pattie Stone

### **Finance**

Glen Hobbs  
Phil Howell  
Jim Marshall

### **Worship/Evangelism/ Benevolence**

Sheila Palmer  
Melody Skipton  
Mike Whitfield

### **Property**

Phil Howell  
Dan Runshe

### **Treasurer**

Glen Hobbs

### **Clerk of Session**

Dawn Whitfield

## Deacons

Sharon Orem—Moderator  
Emily Campbell—Treasurer  
Carolyn Statler—Secretary  
Jim Browning  
Linda Howell

Debby McLeod  
Judy Mitchell  
Jon Orem  
Ron Kramer

## Hospitality Team

### **Jan-Apr-Jul-Oct**

Glen Hobbs  
Debby McLeod  
Sharon Orem  
Deb Hassebroek

### **Feb-May-Aug-Nov**






Shane Appleton  
Jim Browning  
Vickie Butler

### **Mar-Jun-Sep-Dec**

Volunteer months  
See calendar in  
fellowship hall to  
sign up

**Alternates - Ron Kramer & Pattie Stone**

***You do not need to be a member of the church to be  
on the Hospitality Team***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday Schedule</b> 9:30 Choir Warm up 10:00 Worship - on-line and in sanctuary Following children's moment: Children's and Youth Sunday School 11:15 Time of fellowship	1 	2 <b>B-Kevin Springman</b>  7:00 BRCC-cr 7:00 AA-fh	3 8:00 Statler Group breakfast at Bistro  No Choir	4 <b>B-Sheila Palmer</b>	5 <b>B-Dave Wheeler</b>	6  <i>Epiphany</i>
7 <b>Sunday Schedule</b> <b>B-Cynthia Morningstar</b> 	8	9  6:00 BRYC-s & p 7:00 BRCC-cr 7:00 AA-fh	10 8:00 Statler Group-fh  6:00 HS Youth Group 7:00 Choir-cr	11 <b>B-Melody Skipton</b>  6:30 Craft Group Stone - fh	12	13  8:00-PEO-fh
14 <b>Sunday Schedule</b>	15 <b>B-Tom Crouch</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 	16  6:00 BRYC-s & p 7:00 BRCC-cr 7:00 AA-fh	17 8:00 Statler Group-fh  6:00 HS Youth Group 7:00 Choir-cr	18 <b>All reports for            Annual Meeting            should be            turned in by            this date</b>	19	20  4:00 Ham Radio Club-fh
21 <b>Sunday Schedule</b> 11:15 Confirmation Class Meeting-fh  3:00 Craft Group-fh	22 1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry-Walker  6:15 Teams/ Session dinner & meeting-fh	23  6:00 BRYC-s & p 7:00 BRCC-cr 7:00 AA-fh	24 8:00 Statler Group-fh  7:00 Choir-cr	25	26	27
28 <b>Sunday Schedule</b>	29	30  6:00 BRYC-s & p 7:00 BRCC-cr 7:00 AA-fh	31 <b>B-Kip Schnaiter</b> 8:00 Statler Group-fh  7:00 Choir-cr			
					<b>B-Birthdays</b>	<b>A-Anniversaries</b>

# Mark your calendars!

## *Coming in January . . .*

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| January 22 | Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet at 1:00pm at Walker Place<br>Session and Team meetings ~ with Soup Supper at 6:15 |
| January 28 | The children will sing during worship<br>Root beer floats during fellowship time                                  |

## *. . . and February*

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 4  | Annual Meeting of the Congregation  |
| February 14 | Ash Wednesday (also Valentine's Day)  |
| February 25 | <b>CANstruction</b> for Souper Bowl of Caring<br>Soup Lunch and building can structures |

## *. . . and March*

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| March 24 | Palm Sunday, Holy Week Begins<br>Choir will present cantata                          |
| March 28 | Maundy Thursday service at First United Methodist Church with First Christian Church |
| March 29 | Good Friday  |
| March 31 | Easter Sunday  |





