



The REDbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church
Mountain Home, Arkansas



February



Sunday Worship Services 10:00 am

Coffee Fellowship after Worship Service

Phone: 870-425-3799 email: fpcmh@centurytel.net

Office hours: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Tuesday- Thursday

Leave it to God

Fourth-century theologian Augustine urged again and again that we focus on practicing love in the here and now, not on worrying about our lives in the hereafter.

In *Beautiful Bodies*, Margaret Miles writes that especially regarding complicated doctrines like predestination and challenges like “The one who endures to the end will be saved” (Matthew 24:13), we can’t do anything but leave those to God. It’s impossible for humans to take responsibility for ourselves in such matters. If we could determine our afterlife destiny by means of effort, persuasion or bribery, self-pride would surely be the accompanying sinful result.

“In fact,” Miles writes, “preoccupation with one’s eternal destiny distracts from a Christian’s present business. ‘Leave it to God,’ St. Augustine said, and place your attention on living lovingly in the body of Christ here and now.”



Where'd That Come From?

Some expressions sound biblical but are they really in the Bible? One expression is “Idle hands are the devil’s work”. The short answer is that this phrase that warns of the dangers of laziness, depends on which Bible you read.

Proverbs 16:27 in the Living Bible translates that verse as “Idle hands are the devil’s workshop”, but the Living Bible is not an exact translation. This and similar translations like The Message fit into the category where passages are paraphrased to get the main idea.

Some Bibles, such as the New American Standard Bible (NASB) translates the words as closely as possible or a word for word translation. It does not have the “devil’s workshop” so that would be gone from the earlier Greek or Hebrew. The thought for thought New International Version (NIV) has it as “A scoundrel plots evil, and on their lips, it is like a scorching fire”. The word for word NASB translation has it as “A worthless person digs up evil while his words are like scorching fire”.

By the 4th century, in a St. James Latin translation, it was to “Do something so that the devil always finds you busy”. In the 18th century, the Scottish Proverbs book expressed that but was combined with references to the “devil’s work”. Over the next few centuries all the current components that are known were added, to what we commonly hear today in conversation.

There is an entire focus of study of biblical resources from all over, that works on the accuracy of wording and the phrases of everything that is in the Bible. It is checked and rechecked through ancient resources and the meanings of ancient words. When new resources are found, like the Dead Sea Scrolls, it starts all over again. Where a difference exists, you will often see a footnote in your Bible that says, “Some versions say....”

No matter how you read Proverbs 16:27 as it’s translated, it is teaching about plotting evil, being a scoundrel and not being lazy. On one level, this is good advice. It is easy to be idle. People should seek honest labor but always in moderation. The Bible also speaks about rest and a day of Sabbath to honor God. We are directed to do good works and honest labor that God calls us to do. In doing so, we will escape temptation and become the workers God designed us to be.

Special Dates in **FEBRUARY**

Birthdays and Anniversary

- February 9-Wayne Faust
- February 12-Alex Ruegsegger
- February 18-David Petersen
- February 21-Mari Ruegsegger
- February 23-Karen Gillespie
- February 27-Kay Kunkel
- February 27-Ron Smith

Anniversary

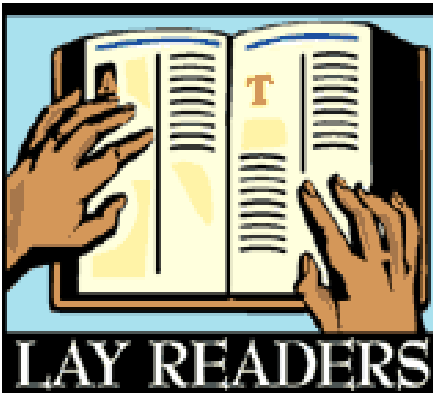
- February 6—Ron & Mary Smith



Special Dates

- African American History Month
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2025
- Presidents Day, February 17, 2025

Serving in Worship



February Lay Readers

- 02-Marty H
- 09-Doug W
- 16-Nancy P
- 23-Kay K



FEBRUARY Fellowship

Don't forget to volunteer to host fellowship by signing up on the bulletin board on the way to the fellowship hall. There is a sign up sheet for February currently hanging on the board.



February Ushers

- 05-Open
- 12-Open
- 19-Open
- 26-Open

Church Leadership Meetings

DECEMBER SESSION UPDATE

The Session met on 17 November 2024 with all the elders but Ruth Fine in attendance; Rev. Lila DeMoss, moderator. Session met to discuss disposal of /sale of church equipment and the budget for next year. A copy of the approved minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the mailroom. Next meeting set for December 29, with Rev. Lila DeMoss as moderator. More updates will be available next month.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Clerk of Session

JANUARY DEACONS UPDATE

The Deacons report for January 2025 includes a review and discussion of our members, friends, and family. Any needs were shared with the Prayer Group. Some personal visits were made.

The Deacons were activated to contact their members that church services for both January 12 and 19 were canceled due to snow and /or ice. Cancellations are also listed on the KTLO website. Special thanks to Chris Constantine for shoveling the walkways.

If you ever have a question, please call your Deacon. We wish you blessings during the new year.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Wheat, Moderator

TREASURER'S REPORT as of DECEMBER 31, 2024

Donations/Deposits	\$ 8,375.80
Uncleared Checks/Expenses	\$ 7,960.22
Bank Balance	\$ 45,586.83

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Treasurer





SOUP-R-BOWL

The New Year continues with the church collecting cans of soup to be donated to the Mountain Home Food Basket. Two tables are set up on opposite sides of the Fellowship Hall with signs of the participating teams that will play in the Super Bowl. When you are grocery shopping, please pick up an extra can to donate.

Place your cans of soup on the table where your team is and hope to win! On Super Bowl Sunday, February 9 2025, the Mission Committee will serve a soup meal after the service that day.

In March, we will collect food for the Mountain Home Food Basket.

Mary Smith– Moderator



Just a few of the items donated last year.



Women of the Church

The women met on January 14 at 1 pm. The next meeting for the women will be Tuesday, February 11 at 1 pm. All women are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted, Eleanore Wheeler

Prayer List for Congregations, Presbytery of Arkansas

February 02-First, McGehee (Members:071 Est:1911)

Inquirers and Candidates for Ministry

February 09-Commissioned Ruling Elders

First, Heber Springs

(Members:041 Est:1961)

February 16-Synod of the Sun

Church Musicians

February 23-First, Jacksonville

(Members:096 Est:1926)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

*"Go, give to the needy, sweet charity's bread,
For giving is living," the angel said.
"Must I keep giving - again and again?"
My peevish, pouting answer ran.
Oh, said the angel - piercing me through,
Just give 'till the Master stops giving to you!*

SCRIPTURES FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday February 02

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30

Sunday February 09

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13) Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11

Sunday February 16

6th Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26

Sunday February 23

7th Sunday after Epiphany



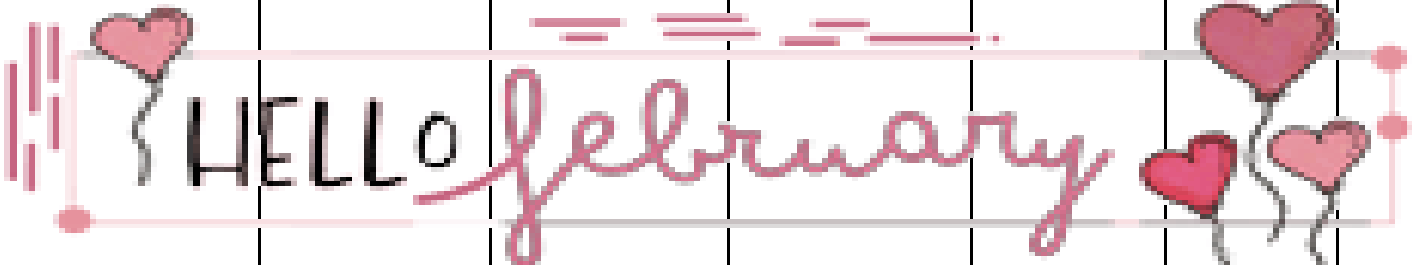
Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38

All Scriptures are taken from the Presbyterian Planning Calendar.
(Complementary)



FEBRUARY 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
						1
					Office Closed	
2 Communion 	3 Office Closed	4	5 MISSIONS 1 pm	6	7	8
					Office Closed	
9	10 Office Closed	11 WOC 1 PM	12	13 Master Gardeners 12 pm	14	15
					Office Closed	
16	17 Office Closed President's Day	18 DEACONS 10 AM	19	20	21	22
					Office Closed	
23	24 Office Closed	25	26	27	28	
					Office Closed	
						

First Presbyterian Church

1106 Spring Street

Mountain Home, AR 72653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. /Tuesday -Thursday

Church Mailing Address:

1106 Spring Street

Mountain Home, AR 72653

8704253799

fpcmh@centurytel.net

Website: www.fpcmh.net

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.