



First Press

Worship and Wisdom

First Presbyterian Church

December 25, 2022

Our Pastor

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

Email: helen@firstpreslawrence.org

Helen will be in the office Monday through Thursday.

Our Mission

We are a community of disciples who celebrate God's inclusive love by ministering to one another and the world.

Church Office Hours

Holiday Office Hours:

Closed December 26 and 30

10 am to 2 pm December 27, 28, and 29

Beginning January 2

9 am to 3 pm

Monday through Friday

Care

Deacon Family Groups

A	Peggy Southard	L-Ma	Linda Upstill
B	Grace Nganga	Mb-Ne	Nancy Rumsey
C-De	Cherie Hoover	Nf-R	Sandy Groene
Df-F	Diana Schoneweis	Sa-So	Kathy Stover
G-Hi	Julie Simon	Sp-V	Charles Tuttle
Hj-K	Charles Tuttle	W-Z	Peggy Southard

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- Arlois McLay fell and broke her hip. She is in LMH
- Ken Blair is recovering from a fall and COVID.
- Judy Hutchison, Helen's Mom is having hip surgery December 27. Prayers for a good outcome.
- Congratulations to Erin Tuttle for successfully completing her Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) this semester!
- Bill Wallace, father of Nora Wallace, is in a rehab facility to regain his strength after being hospitalized with a blood infection. Prayers for healing please.
- Lisa Wallace, sister of Nora Wallace, is suffering from severe long COVID complications and appreciates our prayers.

- Gratitude for successful heart surgery! Matthew Waegelin had surgery last week and is doing well. He is the son of Peggy Southard.
- Prayers for Becky May and her friend Jeff Schroeder. Family members are doing better, but prayers are welcome following a car accident.
- George Crump is being treated for some health issues and is grateful for our prayers.
- Jeanine Tiemann continues to cope with health issues and is grateful for our prayers.
- Ellie Rose Calton, great-granddaughter of Jan Poulson had surgery December 15.
- Jean Givens is home following a couple of surgeries and is experiencing some pain and welcomes our prayers for healing.
- Kristi McAlister, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.
- Ray Glass and his family are facing a variety of challenges at the moment. Prayers for strength.
- Phil and Sharon Rankin appreciate our continued prayers.

Birthdays in the Congregation

December 26

Thelma Bellinger

December 28

Jonathan Drury

December 29

Tom Groene

December 29

Carolyn Stillions

December 30

Charles Tuttle

December 31

Therese Hathaway

Calendar

December 25

10:30 am Worship

December 26

Church Office Closed

December 27

10:00 am Church Office Open until 2 pm

December 28

10:00 am Church Office Open until 2 pm

December 29

10:00 am Church Office Open until 2 pm

December 30

Church Office Closed

December 31

11:30 am Baby Shower

4:00 pm Sunshine Group New Year's Eve Party

January 1

10:30 am Worship

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Jim Rumsey, Cherie Hoover, Larry Schlosser

Greeters: Vernis Flottman and Heather Soper

Offering: Henry Johns and Paul Laird

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Mugger: Margie Dyck

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone, whether you are joining us virtually or in-person, as a long-time member or a first-time guest, we are happy to have you with us. **Please be sure to sign the Friendship Pad if you are worshipping with us in person.** If you join us on-line, live, or recorded - **please send us an email letting us know you joined us in worship.**

Session and Church policy

This Sunday we are in a GREEN – LOW zone. Masks are optional. Thank you!

Just a reminder that during this flu, covid, RSV, and cold season we need to remember to take care of ourselves and others. If you have been exposed to any of these viruses, you might consider wearing a mask when you are at church. The health department says that if you have been exposed to covid but are not testing positive or having symptoms you still need to wear a mask for at least 5 days. If you test positive for covid, you need to stay home for 5 days and then wear a mask for another 5 days when out in the community. Thank you!

Worship

Liturgists needed! We are starting a new year soon and hope to encourage some folks to join us as liturgist. No study required. All parts are provided ahead of time, so we just need you to read slowly and clearly! If you are interested in serving in this important role to assist with worship, please contact Charles Tuttle for possible dates at cftuttle@gmail.com Thank you!

Mission

Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. We will be receiving this offering at services on December 24 and December 25. Please give to this special offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

End of Year Giving – If you wish to make a donation to the church for 2022 it must be received in the church office by December 29th. The office will be closed on December 30th. If you send it in the mail, it must be postmarked December 31st or earlier. Offering collected on Sunday, January 1st will be part of the 2023 giving year. Thank you!

Education for all ages!

Our Sunday School program is “on vacation” during the holidays.

This includes the Nursery. We will not have staff in the nursery for December 24, 25 or January 1. The room will be open if any parents need to use it during worship. You can hear the service from there. Thank you!

Please join us as we resume classes for the children on January 8th at 9:15 am.

The Adults will have the opportunity to attend the first in the Earth Care Series – also at 9:15 am.

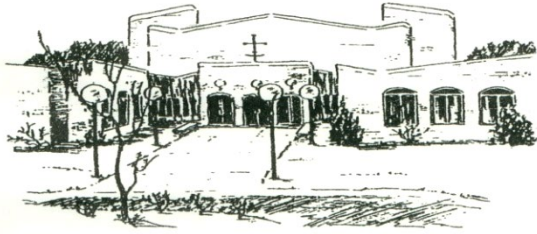
Men's Friday Morning Group – Next meeting is Friday, January 6. Join a group of men meeting at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room at FPC. Call Charles Tuttle for more information. 785-760-0747.

News from the Presbyterian Church USA

The 2022 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA, adopted proposed Amendments to the Constitution of PC-USA (the Book of Order). There are 32 Amendments, divided into two groups: 22-A through 22-BB deal with the Foundations of the Church, the Form of Government for the Church and The Directory of Worship for the Church; 22-CC through 22-GG is a complete revision of the Rules of Discipline for the Church. These Amendments must be voted upon by all the Presbyteries and passed by a sixty percent (60%) majority.

The Presbytery of Northern Kansas (PNK) will vote on these matters at the next two Presbytery Meetings on February 7, 2022, (a Zoom meeting) and April 29, 2022, (an in-person meeting at the First Presbyterian Church in Salina), respectively. The PNK Bills and Overtures Task Force has two meetings held by Zoom, prior to each PNK meeting. The two Zoom meetings before the February PNK meeting will be on January 11, 2023, at noon and also on January 26, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.; while the two Zoom meetings prior to the April PNK meeting will be held on March 28, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. and April 12, 2023, at noon.

Anyone who wishes information about the proposed Amendments is directed to the PC-USA website and you will find many pages of material to read about them or contact Jim Rumsey.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Day

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison, pastor
bobbie frances mcdonald, liturgist

December 25, 2022

David Pérez, organist

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Friendship Pads: Please help us maintain good communication with all our members and guests by completing the Friendship Register as it is passed from the end of each pew. Please include your email address if you wish. We invite you to note the names of those sitting near you and greet them before leaving today.

Cards of Encouragement: Blue cards found in the pew rack ~ please put in offering plate.

Introit

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light
ERMUNTRE DICH

Glory to God #130

Call to Worship

One: On a night long ago, when the stars shone brightly in the sky,

All: Jesus Christ is born.

One: Underneath the light of one especially bright star,

All: Jesus Christ is born.

One: In a plain and simple manger,

All: Jesus Christ is born.

One: With animals gathered all around,

All: Jesus Christ is born.

One: Wrapped in a mother's embrace and a father's care,

All: Jesus Christ is born.

One: So that we might know God better,

All: Jesus Christ is born.

* Hymn of Praise

Joy to the World
ANTIOCH

Glory to God #134

* Call to Confession

bobbie frances mcdonald, liturgist

One: The infant Child has been born, and comes to let us know of God's love and care for us. Christ invites us to share all we are, including the mistakes we've made, with our creator, so that he might make us whole. Let us confess our sins together. Let us pray ...

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

bobbie frances mcdonald, liturgist

Wondrous God: On this birthday of your Son, when we rehearse the Christmas stories we love so much, we confess with embarrassment that, if we had been around at the first Christmas, we might have missed it all! Some of us would have been too busy cleaning house to notice anything outside. Others would have been so engrossed in buying and selling, so engulfed in the hubbub of the marketplace, that we would not have noticed even the setting sun, let alone an odd little star that had no business being where it was. Even now, Father, we seldom pay real attention to signs and signals from you, missing messages of hope, comfort and love.

Help us to be more attentive, O God, to your presence: in a guiding star, in the angels' song, in the small body of your newborn Son, but also in the face of a lonely old woman or the sprawling shape of a homeless man; for they may be bearing a Christmas message to us -- from you. We pray in the name of the Holy Child who grew up to care and would have us care. (Silent prayers) Amen.

* Pouring the Water

* Declaration of Forgiveness

bobbie frances mcdonald, liturgist

One: God has made a highway in the wilderness and brought forth streams in the desert! Jesus Christ came to break down the walls that divide us from God and from each other. Praise God! We are forgiven and freed to reach out in love.

* **Passing the Peace**

One: Knowing the grace and mercy of the Lord, we share it with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.)

* **Hymn**

Glory Be to the Father
GLORIA PATRI

from The Presbyterian Hymnal

*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

Prayer of Illumination

bobbie frances mcdonald, liturgist

Come and see! We have found the Messiah! He is present to us in the Word read and the Word proclaimed. Come and see! The living God awaits us here in these pages. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts bear witness to you, O God, and to the Anointed One, Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hebrew Bible Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

bobbie frances mcdonald, liturgist

Vocal Anthem

Angela Loganbill, soloist
David Pérez, piano

New Testament Reading

John 1:1-14

Sermon

Conversation with St Nick

Pastor Helen Hutchison and St Nick

Children's Moment

Pastor Helen

Hymn

What Child Is This
GREENSLEEVES

Glory to God #145

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And, lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever...
Amen.**

Call for Offering

Piano Solo

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

David Pérez, piano

* **Offertory Response**

In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 4)

Glory to God #144

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can give Him, give my heart.*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in Jesus Christ and his gospel, born to us all so long ago in Bethlehem of Judea. We believe in Him whose birth glorified Bethlehem, but for whom there was no room in the Inn. We believe in Him whose guiding star brought together to his manger the humble shepherds and the wise men. We believe in Him whose guiding star can bring together in his Name the humble and the

wise everywhere. We believe in Him who walked among the common people, and who was welcomed by those with open minds and yearning hearts, whom the poor, the oppressed, the discouraged, the sick and afflicted, welcomed and accepted as their Lord and Savior.

We believe in Him whose life changed the course of history, over whom kings had no power, whose life humbled the proud, toppled the mighty, and elevated those of low degree.

We believe in Him whose love changed human hearts for the better, and whose life and death on the Cross proved that it is more important to serve than to be served, and that the greatest are those who give their lives in service for others. We believe in Him who is the Prince of Peace, whose spirit makes for justice and peace among all peoples, everywhere.

We believe that the Christmas spirit - the spirit of Christ - is the spirit that can change the world for the better through the power of love, faith, and hope.

* Closing Hymn

Go, Tell It on the Mountain
GO TELL IT

Glory to God #136

Blessing and Charge

Postlude

David Pérez, organist

* Stand as you are able – in spirit or in body

Presbyterian Women's Winter Gathering



Decorations by First 5 Years





Earth Care Forum Series - 2023

OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED

Sundays, January 8 – February 5, 9:15 - 10:15 am

Recordings can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpreslawrence2258/playlists>

First Presbyterian Church, 2415 Clinton Parkway
(Fellowship Hall)



Jan. 8: Bringing the Ocean Back to Kansas

Presenter: Lisa Ball: Ball teaches environmental Science at Lawrence High School. Her teaching awards include the following: Toyota International Program (Galapagos Islands); Earthwatch Teacher Fellow (2009 and 2017); 2020 KEEP Konza Teacher of the year; Science Communication Fellow with Ocean Exploration Trust. She was recently awarded a Fulbright Teachers for Global Classroom. As a result, Ball will be part of an international school exchange somewhere in spring or summer of 2023.

Description: Lisa had the opportunity to sail with Dr. Bob Ballard and his ship, the Nautilus, in December 2021 as a Science Communication Fellow for the Ocean Exploration Trust. She was able to teach her classes in Kansas as well as students around the world while on expedition near the Hawaiian Islands. For Kansas students, she connected the ocean of today with the native biome prior to the prairie (the Cretaceous Ocean). Come and learn about her adventures and the science and conservation of the deep sea.

January 15: Is Solar for Churches a Possibility?

Presenter: Bill Woods, Project Director for Cromwell Solar

Description: The Inflation Reduction Act that was recently passed in Washington DC included direct 30% payment available to nonprofits, including churches. Wood will explain how this can occur. Since the Solar Tax Credit was increased back up to 30% for homeowners and commercial businesses, their interests in solar have been raised as well.

January 22: All About Bees

Presenter: Sidney Plantz, Master Gardener, KU Graduate in Cellular Biology, Retired from Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Description: Plantz has incorporated her academic studies into genetic research being performed in the development of Varroa destructor resistance in bee colonies. As a beekeeper she will discuss plants for bees, pollination, types of bees, nesting, pests, bee "products" and how to become a beekeeper.

January 29: Recycling Critical Metals Utilized in Lithium-ion Batteries Using Oxalate Chemistry

Presenter: Mark B. Shiflett, Ph.D., P.E., *Foundation Distinguished Professor Institute for Sustainable Engineering, Editor-In-Chief Journal of Ionic Liquids*, The University of Kansas, Institute for Sustainable Engineering

Description: Lithium-ion batteries (LIBS) are rechargeable energy storage devices having great importance in portable electronic goods and electric vehicles. The growing demand for LIBS has prompted a need to mitigate the scarcity of critical metals used in production. Today, less than 5% of the critical metals in LIBS is recycled. New technologies are being developed by the Shiflett Research group to recycle the Lithium, Cobalt, and other critical metals in an environmentally friendly manner that will be highlighted in this presentation.

February 5: "Do we have an Ethical Duty to Conserve the High Plains Aquifer?"

Presenter: Burke W. Griggs, Associate Professor of Law, Washburn University School of Law

Description: The High Plains-Ogallala Aquifer spans eight states and supplies modern production agriculture with its most important single ingredient, water. The aquifer is enormous and is responsible for transforming High Plains agriculture from a risky proposition into a dependable, if not always profitable, business. Unfortunately, the aquifer is also mostly non-renewable, and so groundwater pumping to supply the agricultural industry has permanently depleted the aquifer, especially across Kansas, Oklahoma, and the Texas panhandle. Prof. Griggs will pursue the question of whether the State of Kansas and its citizens have an ethical duty to conserve the aquifer. How far should the state go in regulating private property rights-- water rights-- to serve the public interest? Should eastern Kansans have a say in the management of water supplies that are mostly confined to western Kansas? Are the aquifer's supplies really any different than other valuable sub-surface minerals such as oil and natural gas? And finally, just what is-- and what should be-- the connection between the state's water supplies and its citizens?