



First Press

Weekly Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church

February 2, 2025

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 Christ's disciples who celebrate God's inclusive love by ministering to one another and the world.

Church Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm Monday through Friday.

Welcome!

We encourage everyone to come as you are, be who you are, and create a community with us! 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 anytime! If you are new to First Presbyterian Church, please let us know you are here by signing the **Friendship Pad**. If you are worshipping with us online either live or recorded please **email us at firstpreslawrence@gmail.com** letting us know you joined us in worship. We look forward to getting to know you. If you are interested in membership at FPC please talk with Pastor Helen.

Prayers

Cares, Concerns, and Celebrations

- Prayers for Myron Shipley as he receives treatment for cancer.
- Prayers for Eloise Sloan who has been experiencing issues with her heart. Stan Sloan is her husband and caregiver.
- First 5 Years teacher, Lisa Marie Benke, asks for prayers for her husband, Russell, who was just diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.
- Liz McGregor, a First 5 Years parent, asks for prayers for her mother who is in hospice care.
- Michael Devlin is hospitalized at LMH and is now in acute care after a set-back recently.
- Susan and Pat - dealing with health concerns.
- Bruce Humphreys, step-father of Robert Mugridge, is home now and asks for our continuing prayers.
- Ray Borden, Linda Bridges' dad, is in rehab to gain strength. Grateful for all your prayers and support!

- Kelly Grube is receiving chemo and being evaluated by Mayo Clinic.
- Ruthanne Stucky, mother of Alisa Stucky, asks for our prayers of healing and strength as she continues her fight against cancer.
- Jenny Skridulis Vellon, a former member of FPC, had breast cancer surgery recently. She will rest for a few weeks before starting radiation. Prayers welcome!
- Tim Dutcher, son of Lois and David Dutcher, had a kidney transplant. Tim is home and doing well.
- Nancy Brink, a friend of Lois and Dave Dutcher, asks for prayers as she copes with brain and lung cancer diagnosis.
- George Crump is asking for prayers in support of his health and well-being.
- Linda Wilson, Carol Fleeger's sister-in-law, asks for prayers while dealing with her continuing her fight against cancer.
- Prayer for our pastor and church leaders, for those leading our community, our state, and our nation.
- Allison Clunn-McPlin and family, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- Kristi McAlister, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.
- Prayers for those facing surgery or treatments, living with addiction or mental health issues, and for the caregivers supporting them.

Deacon Family Groups - 2025

A-Ca	Deborah Norwood	N-Q	Sandy Groene
Ce-Do	Joyce Carroll	Mc-Mz	Becky May
Dr-F	Diana Schoneweis	R-Si	Linda Longino
G-Ha	Lucille Eggenberger	SI-T	Russ Heikes
He-Ko	Mary Warren	U-Z	Allen Macfarlane
Kr-Ma	Lois Dutcher		

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Mark and Diana Schoneweis, Mark Shiflett, Larry Maxey

Greeters: Linda Watts

Securing the Offering: Eric Fischer and Jeff Southard

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Bag Brigade Volunteer: Dede Dresser
Communion Servers: Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, Melinda Fischer, Jeff Southard, Marilyn Heikes, Jim Rumsey, Ed Manda

Birthdays in the Congregation

February 4 Julie Simon	February 7 Cherie Elo
February 5 Becky Lewis	February 8 John Stover
February 6 Dena Bracciano Paige Hofer Hank Boyd	February 9 Kristina Bradley

Calendar

February 2
 9:15 am Earth Care Forum
 9:15 am Sunday School for Children
 10:15 am Youth Sunday School Meeting
 10:30 am Worship:

February 3
 9:00 am First 5 Years Classes
 1:15 pm Staff Meeting

2:00 pm	Pastor Helen's Class
6:00 pm	Cub Scout Den Schwaller
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 pm	First 5 Years Staff Meeting
February 4	
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
1:00 pm	Small World Classes
February 5	
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
February 6	
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
1:00 pm	Small World Classes
February 7	
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
10:00 am	Men's Group
February 8	
6:00 pm	EcoTeam Meeting at the Kyner's home
February 9	
9:15 am	LGBTQ+ and All of Us
9:15 am	Sunday School for Children
10:30 am	Worship:

Children and Youth – classes resume January 12th

- **Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth**
 - Pre-K and Kindergarten – Room 9 – Joan Golden and Nancy Hodges
 - 1st and 2nd Grades – Room 12 – Anne Emert and Nikki Barcomb
 - 3rd – 5th Grades – Room 14 - Chris Heider and Linda Longino
 - Youth attending the Earth Care Forum

Youth Activities

Calling all Youth and their Parents! On Sunday, February 2nd we will meet at 10:15 in the Library to talk about what you would like see / do with the youth Sunday School class study. We have options – bring your ideas!

- **February**
 - MISSION: The youth group will lead the congregation in serving a meal at LINK February 1st.
 - MISSION: The Youth will lead in collections of canned food for the Souper Bowl of Caring Feb. 9th.
 - MISSION: The Youth will lead a Valentines celebration at Presbyterian Manor on Feb. 15th.
 - FUN, FOOD, GAMES: The FPC Youth present Family Game Night and potluck, February 23rd.



- **March**
 - FUN, FAMILY: Bowling with FPC Youth – Everyone is invited to Royal Crest Lanes on Sunday, March 23rd at 3:00 pm. RSVP to Kelly at 785-979-2713

Adult Sunday School Classes

- **The Earth Care Forum** - February 2, Sharon Ashworth, Ph.D., presents, "Gardening to Support Insects: Native Plants Matter, But Don't Rip Out Your Peonies". Join the EcoTeam for their annual offering of current issues around God's creation. Meeting at 9:15 am in Fellowship Hall and running through February 2nd.
- **This is the last day of the Earth Care Forum** - If you missed any of the presentations you can watch any of them on our YouTube channel.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Qp1wC8GkBM&list=PL5MCrf1WTPSmKCHVC22HA_BCziNwqu_np
- **Beginning Feb. 9, "LGBTQ+ and All of Us"** led by Paul Laird and Eric Fischer. Class will meet in the Fireside Room at 9:15 am.
- **Adult Offerings during the week**
 - **The Men's Group** meets on Friday morning at 10:00 am in the Library. Contact Charles Tuttle for more information at cftuttle@gmail.com.
 - **Pastor Helen's Monday Class** – On Monday, February 3 we will finish the class on Genesis by watching the final video entitled *Exile*. The class meets at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room.



Save the Date for an All Church Bowling Night! March 23 at 3:00 pm at Royal Crest Lanes. Plan to join the youth and show them your skills! Challenges given and accepted!

Valentines Day Celebration at Presbyterian Manor All are welcome to join in the fun! There will be crafts, snacks, hymns, a message from Helen, and a chance to connect with the residents and learn their stories. Contact Claire for more information on how you can help. claire@firstpreslawrence.org



Game Night and Potluck for Everyone! Sunday, February 23rd at 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. What a great time to bring a friend and play a game or three! There will also be arts and crafts, puzzles, corn hole, and dinner! Sign up that you are coming on the table in the Narthex. There are also things you can bring to help with the dinner – sign up at the table or use this Sign Up Genius link: [FPC Youth and friends: FPC Church game night food](#). If you have a favorite game that you would like to be the leader of the table please let Kelly know at kellygal78@hotmail.com.

On February 10th Pastor Helen will start a new Monday class on the Kings and Prophets of ancient Israel and Judah. Everyone is will to join the class meeting on Monday afternoons at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room.



Presbyterian Women are inviting you to their Chocolate Extravaganza, and Silent Auction on Sunday, February 16th following the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.



Don't miss this opportunity to bid on amazing items, purchase wonderful chocolate treats, and share a lunch together. This will be held immediately following our Annual Meeting of the Congregation where we will receive the 2025 Budget and Annual Report. Church Directories will also be available.

The FPC Fellowship Committee will provide a giant garden salad, cheese and crackers, bread and beverages. The congregation is asked to bring another type of salad or a side dish to share. You can also bring a chocolate dessert to share or to sell. Music will be provided by our FPC Presby Pickers!

There will be a quilt in the silent auction as well as a variety of other items. If you have event tickets, vacation cabins / homes for a weekend, jewelry, antiques, collectibles, rides to the KC airport, service offerings ie, carpentry, babysitting, gourmet meals or any other items you might like to donate to this fundraiser for the Presbyterian Women.

The Silent Auction will begin at 9:00 am (a "buy it now" option will be offered) and run through 2:00 pm. Please call Carol Kyner (785-856-1683) or Mary Kaye Chandler (620-271-4020) if you have questions or items to offer for the auction. Items will be accepted February 10 – 15. Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

Mission/Matthew 25

Because the world is filled with fear, we go with courage.

The Matthew 25 committee will have a table in the Narthex the next several Sundays on how you can actively show your support for our neighbors during this difficult time. There will be information on the petition to support public education, Bread for the World offering of letters, lobby days at the state capitol.



The Deacon Love Fund is working to support our friends and neighbors who need a hand up. Your gifts to this fund allowed us to help five families with utility and rent assistance in December. We have assisted three families so far in January. Thank you for your support as we work together to make life just a little bit easier!

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Sunday, February 16
Immediately following worship**

- To receive the Annual Report for 2024
- To approve the Pastor's Terms of Call
- To receive the 2025 Budget

In response to recent changes in immigration issues we will now keep the building locked to keep our children and visitors safe and secure. Please note that this will include the south entrance. You can ring the bell and office staff will let you in. After 3:00 pm on weekdays, the door will be open as determined by building usage. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our church a safe place for our community!