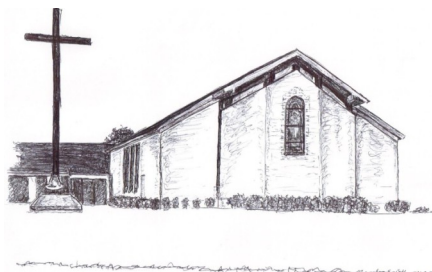




Presby News

DECEMBER 2015



A DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT...

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:1-20 (King James Version)

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



O, HOLY NIGHT

SPECIAL DATES

- December 1 - World AIDS day
- December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent
- December 8 - Choir Rehearsal (6:00 pm)
- December 10 - Human Rights Day
- December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent
- December 15 - Healthworx Meal (5:00 pm)
- December 15 - Choir Rehearsal (6:00 pm)
- December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
- **December 24** - Christmas Eve Service (6:00 pm)
- **December 25** - Christmas Day (Office Closed)
- December 30 - No Choir Rehearsal
- December 31 - New Year's Eve
- **January 1** - New Year's Day (Office Closed)



Minutes of Stated Session Meeting
First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana
October 19, 2015

The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Jane Conerly called the meeting to order at 5:55 pm and led in prayer.

Members Present: Bill Higgins, Jim Hockensmith, Elizebette Kennedy, Jack Ready
Treasurer Present: Jim Smolenski
Elders Excused: None
Guests Present: Jane Conerly, Moderator
A quorum was present.

Finance Report:

The financial statements for September, 2015, were distributed to the Session. The September, 2015 bank statements were reviewed and initialed by Session members.

Motion: That the Session approve the September, 2015 financial statements.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Bill Higgins
Motion: Carried

Approval of Minutes:

The Session reviewed the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for September 21, 2015.

Motion: That the Session approve the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for September 21, 2015, with one correction under *Congregational Life* to change the "first Sunday in November" to the "first Sunday in December."

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Bill Higgins
Motion: Carried

Clerk's Report: Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SESSION ACTIONS:

Congregational Life/Christian Education, Evangelism, Worship & Missions Committee Report: Jim Hockensmith

By common consent the Session approved the following:

- Supply Preachers have been confirmed through November.
- Jim Heath will be asked to preach through December.
- Donations are coming in for the new *Glory to God Hymnals*. Jim Hockensmith purchased 10 hymnals. Donations will continue to be accepted until enough hymnals are purchased.

Personnel Committee Report: Bill Higgins

Bill Higgins reported that he called FPC Pianist DeAnna Brister and left a message. DeAnna did not return his call.

Property Committee Report: Jack Ready

Jack Ready gave a brief update on property matters as follows:

- Playground equipment will be picked by Hope House when their van is repaired.
- Windows and air conditioner have been repaired.
- Plumber has been contacted about restroom repairs.
- Fiberglass doors will cost \$11,000 for two doors. Wood doors will be \$9,000 for all three, but they do not last as long as the fiberglass doors.

Motion: That the Session approve replacing two doors with fiberglass doors for approximately \$11,000.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Bill Higgins
Motion: Carried

Pastor's/Moderator Report: None

Old Business:

The Archery equipment has been sold.

New Business:

The Session discussed the letter from Feliciana Retreat Center offering a presentation highlighting the various aspects of the Center.

The Session discussed a letter from the Salvation Army regarding a donation of \$997.50 to provide 250 Thanksgiving meals.

Motion: That the Session approve a \$997.50 donation to the Salvation Army to provide 250 Thanksgiving meals.

Moved: Jack Ready Seconded: Jim Hockensmith
Motion: Carried

2016 Stewardship Campaign:

The Session discussed the 2016 Stewardship Campaign and pledge cards. Jim Smolenski agreed to write a letter to the congregation.

Wedding Request:

The Session discussed a request from Kathy Ross to use the FPC facilities for a wedding on Saturday, April 16, 2016, with the rehearsal on Friday, April 15, 2016. The appropriate fees will be applied.

Motion: That the Session approve the April 16, 2016 Ross Wedding request to use the church and facilities, with appropriate fees.

Moved: Jack Ready Seconded: Jim Hockensmith
Motion: Carried

Adjournment:

Motion: That the Session Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Jack Ready
Motion: Carried

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned at 6:43 pm with a closing prayer by Jane Conerly. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be Monday, November 16, 2015.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes taken by: Elizebette Kennedy
/cs



December Responders Schedule

| | Usher Narthex | Monitor | Communion Servers |
|--------------------|--|--|---|
| December 6 | Vacancy Sulin Best (Oct-May) Helen McDaniel (May-Oct) | Jim Hockensmith | Elder Liturgist: Bill Higgins Communion Team: Annelize & Dirk Benade |
| December 13 | Vacancy | Jim Smolenski | |
| December 20 | Bob Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy | Bill Higgins (May-Oct) Roger Best (Oct-May) | |
| December 27 | Jim Hockensmith Vacancy | Dirk Benade | |
| | | | |



Anniversaries and Birthdays

Dec 3 Charles Ellington
Dec 6 Georgia McBurney
Dec 8 Bill Higgins

Dec 9 Robert Coon
Dec 12 DeAnna Brister
Dec 18 Gil & Dee Arnold
Dec 19 Brandi Woolam
Dec 20 Jim & Stephanie Huffman
Dec 22 Laverne Willson
Dec 23 Roger Best
Dec 23 Leon Coody
Dec 23 Carolyn Sterne
Dec 24 Waylon Smith
Dec 24 Ruth Coon
Dec 30 Helen McDaniel



First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd. Phone: 318-443-7229

Alexandria, LA 71303 Fax: 318-443-5965

office@alexandriafpc.org

www.alexandriafpc.org

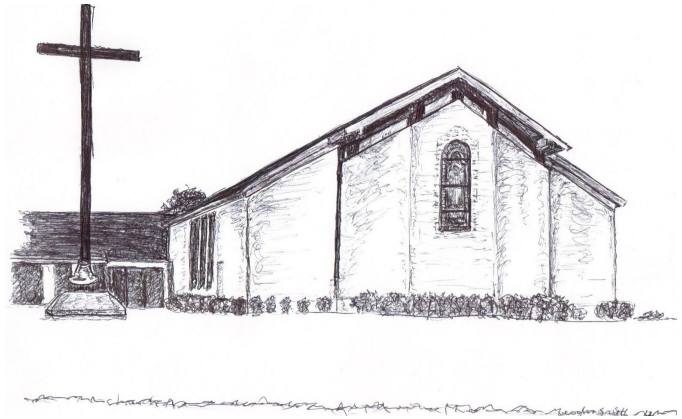
Vacancy, Pastor

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

DeAnna Brister, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Secretary*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

- | | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 5:45 | Meal |
| 6:30 | Fellowship/Committees |
| 7:15 | Choir Practice |

First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

Come experience God's love at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday School—9:45 a.m., Worship—11:00 a.m.