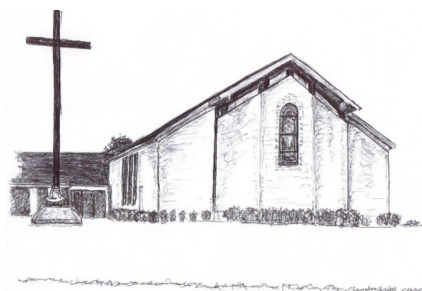


# Presby News

NOVEMBER 2016



## FROM THE PASTOR . . .

As the fall season unfolds, there seems to develop a sense of anticipation, don't you think? It is almost as if the cooler night air and the occasional fall breezes suggest that changes are on the way.

Before we know it, we will be gathering around tables loaded with turkeys, hams, and pumpkin pies as we gather with family members and others we love to celebrate **Thanksgiving** on November 24.

Then, the following Sunday, November 27, we will as a church family observe the **first Sunday of Advent** with **The Hanging of the Greens**.

To assist me in the planning of Advent as well as worship in general and to help me to meet the needs of the congregation as effectively as possible, I am forming a **Pastor's Advisory Committee**.

I have been so pleased that each member of the congregation I have asked to serve has agreed to do so. I am so grateful for the willing spirit which they have shown.

Here are the individuals who will be serving: **Jim Smolenski, Sulin Best, Aaron Rogers, Dirk Benade, Elizebette Kennedy, and Beth McDaniel.**

If you have any ideas or suggestions about what you would like to include in our celebration of Advent, worship in general, or how I as your pastor could better meet the needs of the congregation, **please feel free to share them with any of the members of this Pastor's Advisory Committee.** Or, if you would rather remain anonymous, remember that **you can always use the suggestion box located outside the church office.**

As your pastor, I want to emphasize that those of us who serve on the church staff of First Presbyterian Church exist to **SERVE YOU WHO ARE MEMBERS!!!**

If we are not doing that, then we are failing both you and our Lord.

As always, remember to pray for your cracked pot pastor. I need the Lord's help in so many ways. As I pray for you, please pray for me.

Jim



## SPECIAL DATES

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| November 6  | Brookdale Worship<br>Communion Served<br>Daylight Savings Time Ends |
| November 11 | Veterans' Day ( <i>Church Office Closed</i> )                       |
| November 15 | HealthWorx Meal   |
| November 21 | Session Meeting   |
| November 24 | Thanksgiving ( <i>Church Office Closed</i> )                        |
| November 27 | First Sunday of Advent  |

*Dr. Heath in office on Thursdays 10 am to 2 pm*



## Minutes of Stated Session Meeting

### First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana

September 19, 2016

The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Jane Conerly called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and opened with prayer.

Members Present: Bill Higgins, Jim Hockensmith, Elizebette Kennedy  
Treasurer: Jim Smolenski  
Elders Excused: Jack Ready  
Guests Present: Jim Heath, Stated Supply; Jane Conerly, Moderator  
A quorum was present.

#### Finance Report:

The financial statements for August, 2016, were distributed to the Session. The August, 2016 bank statements were reviewed and initialed by Session members.

**Motion:** That the Session approve the August, 2016 Financial Reports.  
Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Bill Higgins  
Motion: Carried

#### Approval of Minutes:

The Session reviewed the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for August 15, 2016.

**Motion:** That the Session approve the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for August 15, 2016.  
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

The Session members discussed the Brookdale ministry. Dr. Jim Heath stated he would ask Robert Smith if he would be willing to help on the first Sunday of each month. Currently, only Jim Hockensmith is available to serve. More volunteers would lighten the burden on one person.

##### Personnel Committee Report: Bill Higgins

FPC Pianist, DeAnna Brister has used all of her personal time off (4 weeks) for the entire year. She will now only get paid for the Sundays she is playing the piano. Her health is, unfortunately, not good and Dr. Heath noted that she is pushing herself to play each Sunday, and she needs our prayers.

##### Property Committee Report: Jack Ready

No report

##### Pastor's/Moderator Report: Dr. Jim Heath

- Dr. Heath suggested placing a listing for First Presbyterian Church in the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk* newspaper. He stated the ad would cost \$11 per week. The Session pointed out that prior efforts with newspaper ads have not been successful, but Dr. Heath felt that many people know him from his teaching at Louisiana College, and it might be an good option to try once more. The Session agreed to a 3-month trial.
- Dr. Heath mentioned several new people who have recently visited during the worship service. He expressed hope that they would continue.
- Dr. Heath stated that he felt positive that the numbers will keep increasing through the Grace of the Lord.

**Motion:** That the Session approve placing a listing for First Presbyterian Church in the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk* newspaper for a 3-month trial, starting the first Saturday in October until December, 2016.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Elizebette Kennedy  
Motion: Carried

#### Old Business:

The Session noted that the Dr. Greg Carroll worked out well during Dr. Heath's absence.

**Motion:** That the Session officially approve Dr. Greg Carroll who served as pulpit supply during Dr. Heath's absence on September 4, 2016.  
Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Bill Higgins  
Motion: Carried

#### New Business:

Annelize Benade requested the use of First Presbyterian for a her daughter Christelle Benade's wedding on Saturday, December 31, 2016.

**Motion:** That the Session approve the use of the church for Christelle Benade's wedding on Saturday, December 31, 2016.  
Moved: Bill Higgins      Seconded: Jim Hockensmith  
Motion: Carried

The Session discussed a recent request from Martha Powell, the Volunteer Coordinator at Compassionate Care Hospice, to give a presentation about hospice care and partnering with churches to help meet the needs of patients and caregivers. The Session felt that there was no interest at this time in this presentation, and the Session will ask Carolyn Sterne to respond to the request stating that we will let her know if there is any interest in the future.

The Session discussed a letter recently received from Colonel "Mac" McBurney. Dr. Heath will write a letter, submit it to the Session members for approval, and, after approval, mail it to Colonel McBurney.

#### Adjournment:

**Motion:** That the Session Meeting be adjourned.  
Moved: Elizebette Kennedy      Seconded: Jim Hockensmith  
Motion: Carried

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with a closing prayer by Dr. Jim Heath. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be 6:00 pm Monday, October 17, 2016.

Respectfully submitted:  
Minutes taken by: Elizebette Kennedy

/cs



Daylight Savings Time Ends  
Sunday, November 6, 2016

# November Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
<b>November 6</b>	<b>Vacancy</b> Helen McDaniel (March-Oct)	Jim Hockensmith	<b>Elder Liturgist:</b> Elizebette Kennedy <b>Communion Team:</b> Roger Best, Jim Hockensmith
<b>November 13</b>	Annelize & Dirk Benade	Dirk Benade	
<b>November 20</b>	Bob Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Bill Higgins (May-Oct) Roger Best (Oct-May)	
<b>November 27</b>	Jim Hockensmith <b>Vacancy</b>	Jim Smolenski	



Blake Brown	11/02
Barbara Ware	11/20
Jack Ready	11/22
Darrah Mannix	11/23
Emily Young	11/24
Rebecca LaPrairie	11/25
Jack & Judy Ready	11/25

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

IT'S TIME TO PLACE YOUR POINSETTIA ORDER

Deadline for Ordering: Sunday, November 20, 2016

Cost: \$15.00 each

*Please Return Your Order Form to the Church Office  
Prior to November 20*



## First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd. Phone: 318-443-7229

Alexandria, LA 71303 Fax: 318-443-5965

[office@alexandriafpc.org](mailto:office@alexandriafpc.org)

[www.alexandriafpc.org](http://www.alexandriafpc.org)

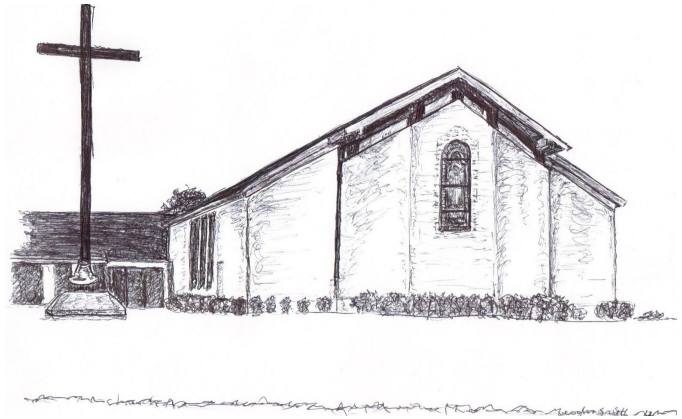
Jim Heath, *Stated Supply Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

DeAnna Brister, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Secretary*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



### ***WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE***

5:45 pm	Meal ( <i>Suspended</i> )
6:30 pm	Fellowship/Committees ( <i>Suspended</i> )
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal ( <i>Will Continue</i> )

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.