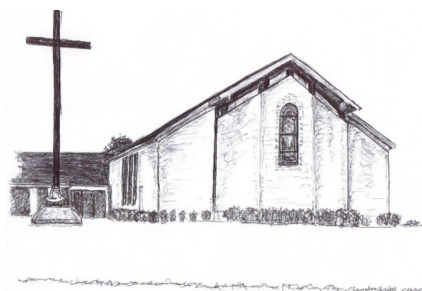


# Presby News

OCTOBER 2016



## FROM THE PASTOR . . .

Invigorating. Is there any other word that better describes the feeling we get when that first little cool front moves in!

Most of us have grown weary of the hot summer temperatures and are ready to welcome in the new season of fall. And it is coming. Even if its coming is much more slow than we would prefer.

The changing of the seasons is built into the nature of the universe by our Masterful Creator. And we watch His handiwork unfold from season unto season. It is almost as though He knew that change is good for us.

As creatures made in the image of God and redeemed to be conformed to the image of His Son, Jesus Christ, we also go through different seasons in our spiritual journey.

Perhaps, as we enter into this fall season, and witness the old leaves falling to the ground, we could ask for the Lord's help in letting some of our bad attitudes and habits fall to the ground. What do you think?

And as the fall winds begin to blow a bit more steadily, maybe we could ask the Holy Spirit to blow His warmth and Presence into our lives on a more consistent basis.

As the daylight hours grow shorter, perhaps we could let that be a reminder that our time on earth is limited and we could ask our Lord to help us make each day count for the most by being more of a blessing to others and focusing less upon ourselves.

As the holiday season approaches and family meals and gatherings are planned, if there are any relationships which need to be mended or healed, maybe this is the year for us to swallow our pride and take that first step, make that first phone call, write that difficult letter offering reconciliation, or invite difficult-to-get-along-with relatives to a family meal or get-together.

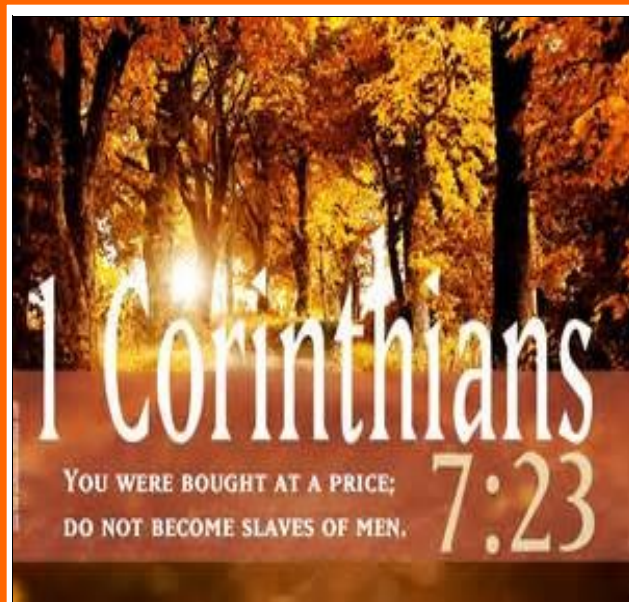
Changing is never easy. But to refuse to change is so stifling, boring, and discouraging.

Can you imagine what it would be like to live here in Central Louisiana with summer time heat and humidity all year long?

Thanks be to God for the change of seasons--for the coming of fall!

And thanks be to God for the changes He can bring about in our lives--if we will permit Him to do so!

Jim



## SPECIAL DATES

October 2	Brookdale Worship
October 2	Communion Served
October 9	Columbus Day
October 17	Session Meeting
October 18	HealthWorx Meal

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



## Minutes of Stated Session Meeting

First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana

August 15, 2016

The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Jane Conerly called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm and led in prayer.

Members Present: Bill Higgins, Jim Hockensmith, Elizebette Kennedy, Jack Ready  
Treasurer: Jim Smolenski  
Elders Excused: None  
Guests Present: Jim Heath, Stated Supply; Jane Conerly, Moderator

A quorum was present.

### Finance Report:

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

**Motion:** That the Session approve the July, 2016 Financial Reports.  
Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Jack Ready  
Motion: Carried

### Approval of Minutes:

The Session reviewed the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for July 18, 2016.

**Motion:** That the Session approve the minutes, as corrected, for the Stated Meeting of the Session for July 18, 2016.  
Moved: Bill Higgins      Seconded: Jim Hockensmith  
Motion: Carried

**Clerk's Report:** Approved as presented.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SESSION ACTIONS:

**Congregational Life/Christian Education, Evangelism, Worship & Missions Committee Report: Jim Hockensmith**  
No Report

**Personnel Committee Report: Bill Higgins**  
No Report

**Property Committee Report: Jack Ready**  
Jack Ready will check on water in the hallway following a recent rain storm.

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

- Dr. Heath expressed gratitude that he can serve as pastor to FPC.
- Dr. Heath noted that he is approaching his first six months of service at FPC. He requested time off from August 22 through September 4. He will arrange for pulpit supplies for the two Sundays he will be on vacation (August 28 and September 4).
- Dr. Heath requested that the Session move Communion to the second Sunday in September (September 11) to enable him to serve.

**Motion:** That the Session approve Dr. Jim Heath taking vacation from August 22-September 4.  
Moved: Jack Ready      Seconded: Jim Hockensmith  
Motion: Carried

**Motion:** That the Session approve moving the Communion Service to September 11, 2016.

Moved: Bill Higgins      Seconded: Jack Ready  
Motion: Carried

**Motion:** That the Session approve paying Aaron Rogers the usual Pastor Supply salary for preaching in behalf of Dr. Heath on Sunday, August 28, 2016.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Bill Higgins  
Motion: Carried

### Old Business:

Jim Smolenski stated that Captain D's is willing to give the church a special deal for HealthWorx meals if we provide them with our Tax ID Number.

### New Business:

After reviewing the recent GuideOne Insurance Workers Compensation Audit for FPC, it was noted that the premium had increased from previous years.

**Motion:** That the Session approve the GuideOne Workman's Compensation annual premium of \$858.00.  
Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Jack Ready  
Motion: Carried

### Adjournment:

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

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned at 6:45 p.m. with a closing prayer by Dr. Jim Heath. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be 6:00 pm Monday, September 19, 2016.

Respectfully submitted:  
Minutes taken by: Elizebette Kennedy  
/cs



The Wednesday Night Fellowship  
Meal Will be Temporarily  
Suspended.  
Choir will continue.

# October Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
<b>October 2</b>	Vacancy Helen McDaniel (March-Oct)	Jim Hockensmith	<b>Elder Liturgist:</b> Jim Hockensmith <b>Communion Team:</b> Jack Ready, Jim Hockensmith
<b>October 9</b>	Annelize & Dirk Benade	Dirk Benade	
<b>October 16</b>	Bob Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Bill Higgins (May-Oct) Roger Best (Oct-May)	
<b>October 23</b>	Jim Hockensmith Vacancy	Jim Smolenski	
<b>October 30</b>	Vacancy	Bill Higgins	



Anniversaries  
and Birthdays

Jace Huffman 10/03  
Debbie Ware 10/09  
Jim Smolenski 10/29

## Sunday Solo Series - Extended

*Want to be involved in the worship service?*

Congregation members and student musicians are invited to participate in the Sunday Solo Series. Please sign up at least 1 (one) week prior! (Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.) Be sure to make an appointment with Aaron to discuss music, and set up a rehearsal time.

Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday night

*All rehearsals are open, and you are encouraged to get involved!*



## First Presbyterian Church

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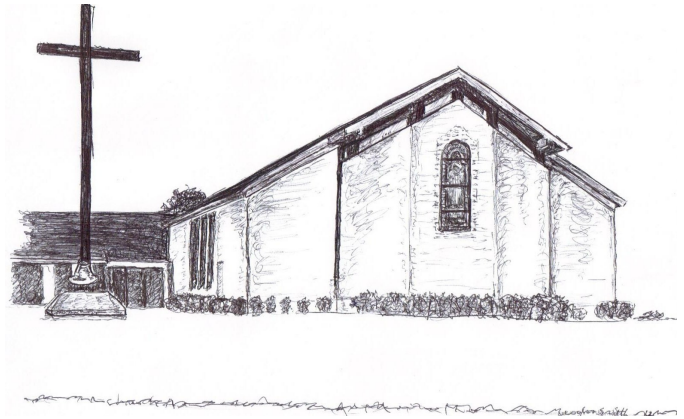
Jim Heath, *Stated Supply Pastor*

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.