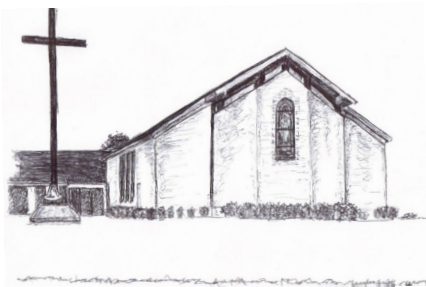


# Presby News

NOVEMBER 2018



## FROM THE PASTOR . . .

November is here and with its coming the fall holidays will soon arrive as well. The big ones, of course, are Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Thanksgiving reminds all of us about the virtue of gratitude. It is so easy and tempting for us to take so many of our blessings for granted, isn't it? Thanksgiving provides us with an opportunity to stop and count our blessings one by one.

We all sometimes become a little discouraged about different things which are somewhat challenging in our lives. But have you noticed that when we start thanking God for each and every blessing, we soon feel encouraged and our spirits are lifted.

Nothing is too small for us to give thanks for. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the sun that shines, whatever measure of health we have, our family members, our friends, our country, the food we eat, the cars we drive, our fellow church members, our freedom to worship as we choose--and on and on we can go and should go! And we must never forget to give thanks for the magnificent gifts of God's grace, love, salvation, and eternal life!

Think about the multitudes of people who due to no fault of theirs do not know where the next meal is coming from. Many of them watch as their children struggle daily with hunger and malnutrition. Employment opportunities for some are severely limited. And being paid a living wage is something they only dream about.

How grateful we should be for living in this land! And how our hearts should be stirred with compassion toward those who are not as fortunate as we are.

Thanks again for allowing me to serve as your pastor.

Please remember me in your prayers as I seek to be the kind of shepherd the Lord wants me to be.

I will be praying for you, too, that each day might find you growing in the likeness of Christ.

Please let me know if you need me.

Jim

**Give thanks**  
to the Lord, for  
He is good; His love  
endures forever.

*Psalms 107:1*



## SPECIAL DATES

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Nov. 4  | Brookdale Worship at 9:00 am<br>Communion Served<br>Daylight Savings Time Ends |
| Nov. 11 | Veterans Day   |
| Nov. 12 | Veterans Day Monday ( <i>Office Closed</i> )                                   |
| Nov. 22 | Thanksgiving Day ( <i>Office Closed</i> )                                      |

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





**Minutes of Stated Session Meeting**  
**First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana**  
**August 20, 2018**



The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Moderator, Sandy Brister, Pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Leesville, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Jim Hockensmith opened with prayer.

Members Present: Annelize Benade, Bill Higgins, Jim Hockensmith, Elizebette Kennedy

Treasurer: None

Elders Excused: None

Guests Present: Sandy Brister, Jim Heath

A quorum was present.

**Finance Report:**

Financial statements and bank statements for June and July, 2018 were distributed to the Session; reviewed and initialed by the Session.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The Session reviewed the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for June 18, 2018.

**Clerk's Report:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SESSION ACTIONS:**

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

The Session discussed the FPC Website and Bill Higgins stated that his wife, Martha Higgins, volunteered to look at it. She is not a professional, but she is good at working with websites. The Session also discussed the FPC Facebook page. Aaron Rogers and Carolyn Sterne oversee the account. They post the Bible verses and sermon topic weekly.

The Session discussed the FPC sound system. Jim Hockensmith will check with Aaron and discuss its operation.

Nanette Cagney, Representative from Presbytery of South Louisiana Executive Council, will visit with the FPC Session during the October 15 meeting.

**Property Report: Jim Hockensmith**

Dr. Heath reported that he knows someone who would cut up the Bradford Pear Tree that had a big limb down. The Session decided that he could have the whole tree since it is only a matter of time before the rest of the tree falls over.

**Pastor/Moderator Report: Jim Heath**

Dr. Heath thanked the Session again for the privilege to serve as pastor. He asked for continued prayers as he ministers to the congregation. He reported that he has been going door to door in the nearby community and has received warm responses. He has come across people with needs, which he could fulfill. His hope is that, eventually, they will come to FPC and join the fellowship.

Dr. Heath requested vacation time from September 17-30, 2018. Jim Hockensmith volunteered to fill in for him.

**New Business:**

Jim Hockensmith reminded the Session that Christmas plans will need to be discussed during the October 15 meeting.

**Motion:** That all the above-mentioned reports and proposals be approved.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith      Seconded: Bill Higgins  
Motion: Carried

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** That the Session Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Bill Higgins      Seconded: Annelize Benade  
Motion: Carried

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned with a closing prayer by Sandy Brister. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be held at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 15, 2018. The Session will conduct business through email until the October meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elizebette Kennedy

/cs

# November Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
<b>November 4</b>	Robert Kennedy	Dirk Benade	<b>Elder Liturgist:</b> Bill Higgins: November, 4, 18, 25 Jim Hockensmith: November 11 <b>Communion Team:</b> Jim Hockensmith, Vacancy
<b>November 11</b>	Annelize & Dirk Benade	Jim Hockensmith	
<b>November 18</b>	Robert Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Bill Higgins (May-Oct) Vacancy	
<b>November 25</b>	Jim Hockensmith Robert Kennedy	Jim Smolenski	



**November 20** Barbara Ware

**November 25** Rebecca LaPrairie



If you would be able to provide transportation for those wanting to attend church services, please contact: Dr. Jim Heath, Church: 318-443-7229; Home: 318-641-1221

## **First Presbyterian Church**

357 Windermere Blvd. Phone: 318-443-7229

Alexandria, LA 71303 Fax: 318-443-5965

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

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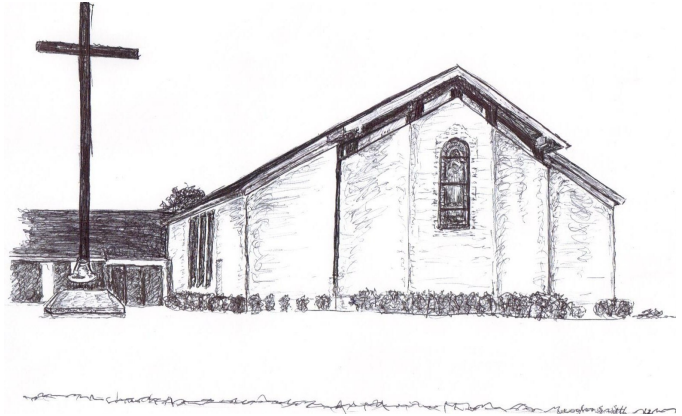
Jim Heath, *Stated Supply Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

Vacancy, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Secretary*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



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

3:00 pm Prayer Service

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.