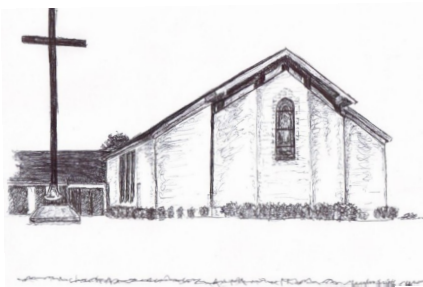


Presby News

SEPTEMBER 2019



FROM THE PASTOR . . .

In the great love chapter, I Corinthians 13, Paul concludes by saying: "So these three things continue forever: faith, hope, and love. And the greatest of these is love." (The Everyday Bible)

Let's think about each one of these virtues as it relates to our church.

Every Sunday, as a congregation, we stand and recite together an affirmation of our faith "The Apostles Creed." It begins with the words: "I believe." The Creed goes on to enumerate the objects of our belief, namely, God the Father, Jesus Christ his only Son, and the Holy Ghost.

The word, "believe", for much of our society has to do with intellectual agreement or mental assent. But in the Bible, the word has to do most often with personal trust. So when we quote a verse like John 3:16, the word "believe" does not mean simply that we intellectually agree that Jesus is God's Son and the giver of eternal life. Rather, it means that we personally trust Jesus, God's only Son, as our Savior.

You, see, for there to be a meaningful ongoing relationship between us and God, we must daily place our personal trust in Jesus. There is a world of difference between just giving our mental assent to the truth that Jesus is God's Son and trusting Him as our personal Savior and Lord.

The second thing which Paul said continues forever is "hope." When we come together as a congregation to worship, we hope to truly encounter the living God. At the top of the front cover of each Sunday's bulletin, we see: "A Service for the Worship of God."

As we leave the worship service each Sunday, it is our hope that in the coming week we will be instruments of God's love as we live out our faith in our deeds, our words, and our relationships.

Also, we place our hope in our risen Lord to send new people our way to worship with us and to join us in being a community of faith, hope, and love. Even though our numbers may be small on some Sundays, we hope that God will help us to be faithful and that He will continue to assist us in being a lighthouse for Him in our community.

The third lasting value Paul enumerates is love. And he says that of the three, love is the greatest. When we worship as part of the Body of Christ on Sundays, we confess our love for God and for one another. We are a community of faith bound together with one another and with our Master, Jesus Christ. Our distinguishing mark is love.

We love Jesus Christ for the great love He showed in coming to this earth as God in the flesh to reveal who God really is and to give His life sacrificially for our salvation.

We love one another as fellow believers aware that Jesus said that the way the world will know that we belong to Him is by the fact that we love one another.

May the Holy Spirit help us in living out the faith, hope, and love which He has so freely imparted to us.

I would like to thank you for the vacation time which you allow me both in the fall and spring. I will be out for vacation September 2-15.

Grace and peace!

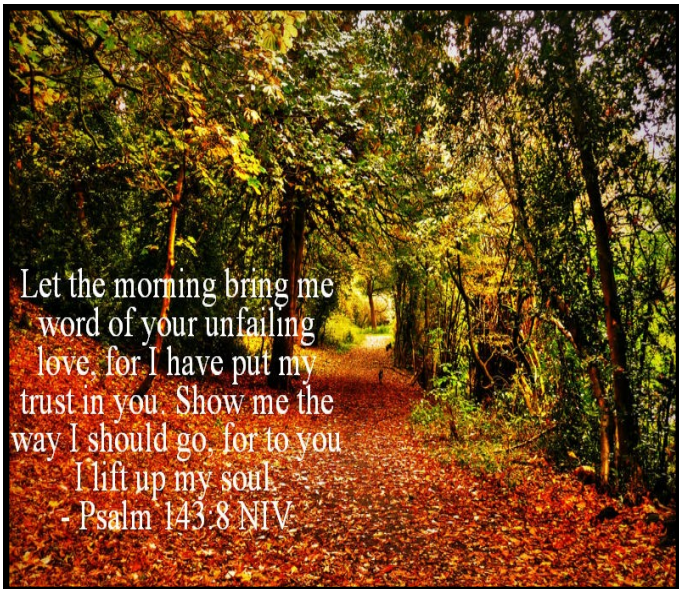
Jim

SPECIAL DATES

- September 1** 9:00 am Brookdale Worship
11:00 am Communion Served
September 2 Labor Day (Church Office Closed)
September 4 3:00 pm Prayer Meeting Cancelled
September 11 3:00 pm Prayer Meeting Cancelled
September 18 3:00 pm Prayer Meeting Resumes

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

NOTE: Dr. Heath on Vacation September 2-15



Let the morning bring me
word of your unfailing
love, for I have put my
trust in you. Show me the
way I should go, for to you
I lift up my soul.
- Psalm 143:8 NIV

Minutes of Stated Session Meeting

First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana

June 17, 2019

The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Sandy Brister called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened with prayer.

Members Present: Annelize Benade, Bill Higgins,
Jim Hockensmith

Treasurer: None

Elders Excused: Elizebette Kennedy

Guests Present: Jim Heath, Reverend Vincent Smith, Pastor of Circle Church, Alexandria, and 2 Guests, who accompanied Reverend Smith

A quorum was present.

Proposal from Circle Church, Alexandria, Louisiana:

Pastor Vince Smith presented a proposal from Circle Church, Alexandria, Louisiana, to enter into a rental agreement with First Presbyterian Church to use FPC for their church worship and activities. After a brief discussion the following motion was made:

Motion: That the Session approve entering into a relationship with Circle Church.

Moved: Bill Higgins Second: Annelize Benade
Motion: Carried

Motion: That the Session prepare a written contract to be mutually approved by First Presbyterian and Circle Church.

Moved: Bill Higgins Second: Annelize Benade
Motion: Carried

Finance Report:

Financial statements and bank statements for May, 2019, were distributed, reviewed, and initialed by the Session.

Motion: That the Session approve the financial and bank statements for May, 2019:

Moved: Bill Higgins Second: Annelize Benade
Motion: Carried

Approval of Minutes:

The Session reviewed the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for April 15, 2019.

Motion: That the Session approve the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for April 15, 2019 as presented.

Moved: Bill Higgins Second: Annelize Benade
Motion: Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SESSION ACTIONS: Congregational Life/Christian Education, Evangelism, Worship & Missions Committee Report: Jim Hockensmith

Motion: That the Session approve the following salary increases for the FPC Staff, effective on their anniversary date:

Carolyn Sterne - 50 cents an hour

James Heath - \$25/week

Aaron Rogers - \$25/each pay period

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Second: Bill Higgins

Motion: Carried

New Business:

Motion: That the Session approve Martha Higgins' request for Kappa Kappa Iota to use the FPC Library on Wednesday morning, July 10, 2019.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Second: Annelize Benade
Motion: Carried

Adjournment:

Motion: That the Session Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Bill Higgins Second: Jim Hockensmith
Motion: Carried

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned at 7:10 p.m. with a closing prayer by Jim Heath. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be held at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 19, 2019. The Session will conduct business through email until the August 19 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Hockensmith
/cs



September Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
September 1	Robert Kennedy	Jim Hockensmith	Elder Liturgist: Elizebette Kennedy Communion Team: Bill Higgins
September 8	Annelize & Dirk Benade	Dirk Benade	
September 15	Robert Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Jim Smolenski	
September 22	Jim Hockensmith Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	
September 29	Robert Kennedy	Jim Hockensmith	



09/07	Elaine Conner
09/08	Martha Higgins
09/09	Ben Yang
09/22	Marjorie Bengé
09/25	Nancy Davis
09/26	Laurie Morris
09/27	Brady Huffman
09/29	Joseph Ellington



IT'S TIME FOR THE FALL LSUA DONATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Below is a list of supplies needed:

Toiletries: soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body lotion, razors, shaving cream, toilet paper, paper towels, shower curtains

Linens & Laundry: twin bed sheets, blanket, pillows and pillow case (twin), bath towels, clothes hangers, laundry detergent, laundry bags

Kitchen Items: water bottles, bowls, cups, plates, utensils, dish soap, can openers, snacks, instant noodles, canned food, drinking water

(Place donations in boxes in Narthex & Church Office)

Thank you so much for your generosity! The students are most grateful!

First Presbyterian Church

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www.alexandriafpc.org

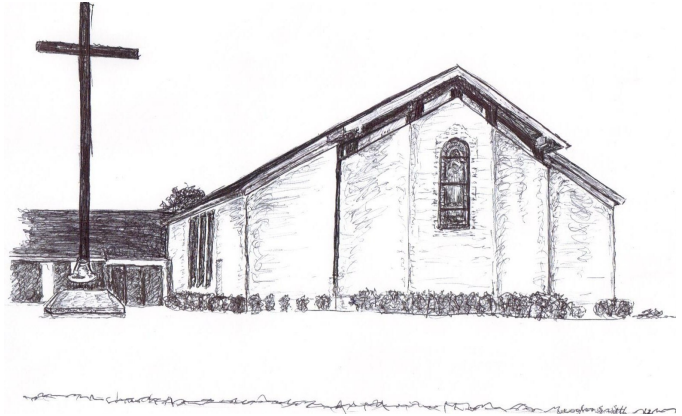
Jim Heath, *Stated Supply Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

Robyn Tan, *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.