

# THE CHURCH FAMILY

*Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ*

## FROM YOUR ASSISTANT PASTOR'S DESK

Of all the many ailments I've witnessed among others, or experienced myself, vertigo is up there on the list. I don't mean mild dizziness coming off a roller coaster, or being seasick on the lake, but head-spinning vertigo. The closest I've come to this is being inside a cargo plane while negotiating a steep banked turn in thick clouds. Without windows and any point of reference, the dips and turns with the constant weight of my spine being pushed into the seat made my eyes scan for a stationary object, while my head felt like it was floating in figure 8s.

This type of discombobulating vertigo describes our cultural climate. We've practically replaced any spiritual point of reference with each individual's feeling toward their preferences. Truth has been replaced by feelings. Morals replaced with preferences. And this vertigo is creeping into other spheres of influence. Oxford Dictionary decided that "post-truth" was the word of the year in 2016. Our society thrives on 'what's true for me' and 'you do you,' so much so that if/when I attempt to find truth, it seems camouflaged behind so many experiences and feelings. Our own modern day tools to explore and express our feelings are awash with one-liners, #memes, and 140-character sayings so trite it's hard to tell which way is up.

This is not an isolated problem, not for our culture and not just in the 21st Century. David often wrestled with his own soul vertigo, as in Psalm 42:5,11 "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?" Jesus recognized our need for direction (John 14:6), foundations in truth (Matthew 7:24-27), and communities where we could often be reminded of His eternal truth (John 17:3ff). Paul even addressed the cultural vertigo in Athens when he preached his famous sermon in response to "the unknown god." (Acts 17:22-31)

God's clear answer to our vertigo isn't a formula, a set of logical propositions, or another YouTube rant to set us all straight. God's answer helps us rephrase the question, because His truth isn't just factual, but a person, His own Son, Jesus the Christ. And so to know Jesus personally is to want to know more in order to love more about Him, through His life, death and resurrection. And what I know and believe about Jesus reframes the view I have of my feelings and the culture around me. The church has called this the doctrine of the faith, our faith seeking understanding. It remakes my feelings of vertigo into a stable foundation for my soul and restructures my life around the true and lasting foundation of Christ and His church.

And this is another reason why doctrine matters.

*Mad*



## 2019 MISSIONS CONFERENCE UPDATE

We currently have 132 people signed up to pray. Our goal is 300.

We have received Faith Promise commitments totaling \$126,905 to date. Our goals are Level 1-\$165,000, Level 2-\$170,000 and Level 3-\$175,000.

Although you can commit to pray and give at any time, we would prefer to get the commitment cards turned in as soon as possible. Help us reach our conference goals by turning in your card(s) in the near future. You can place them in the offering plate or the lock box in the main hallway.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 9:45 AM

This meeting is called for the purpose of electing elders and deacons to the class of 2022.

The following officer candidates have been nominated:

### Elder

Don Hensley  
Dan Ormsby  
Grady Rhyne  
Kevin Rhyne

### Deacon

Ryan Abernathy  
Chip Beatty  
Ken Dake  
Tracy Withers



## BEST YEARS FALL EVENT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7 12:00 PM

Come enjoy a hamburger lunch with all the fixings. We will honor our veterans this day and hear stories from 3 men of their honorable service. Make plans to join us for a time of fun, fellowship, and good food!

# 2019 CHRISTMAS SCENES DECEMBER 12-14

There are numerous ways in which you can participate. If you haven't already done so, complete a scenes participation form and turn it into the church office. Forms can be found on the literature display in the main hallway!



The American Heritage Girls are once again collecting items for the Samaritan's Purse

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD.

You can bring in filled, ready-to-go boxes or just bring in loose items which can be used to fill boxes. Volunteers from American Heritage Girls will take the miscellaneous donations and fill boxes. Donations can be placed on the Operation Christmas Child table in the Sanctuary extension. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, you may give a check made payable to Samaritan's Purse. It is preferred that monetary donations be in increments of \$9.00 as this is the cost of shipping a box. Monetary donations should be given to Sherry Teague or dropped off in the church office. **Donations are being accepted now through November 10th.** Additional information can be found on the Samaritan's Purse website at <https://www.samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>.

### **Suggested (NEW) items are:**

toys, pens, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, coloring and picture books, bar soap, toothbrushes, combs, washcloths, t-shirts, socks, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, flashlights with batteries, playing cards, small stuffed animals, small tools. Keep in mind the boxes are not very big so you will want to limit the size of items you purchase.

### **Items NOT to include:**

saws, knives, toy guns, military figures, food or candy, powdered drink mixes, any kind of liquids, lotions, medicines, vitamins, toothpaste, aerosol cans, breakable items.

## WIC NEWS

WIC Council meets  
Sunday, October 27  
at 4:00 pm.

### NOVEMBER CIRCLE MEETINGS:

#### Monday, November 4 (see times below):

Ruth Circle meets in the Parlor (6:30 pm).

Elizabeth Circle meets at the home of Tommi Rust (7:00 pm).

Martha Circle meets at the home of Vicki Murphy for a covered dish supper (6:30 pm).

Readers Circle meets at the home of Sherry Wagstaff for a covered dish supper (6:30 pm).

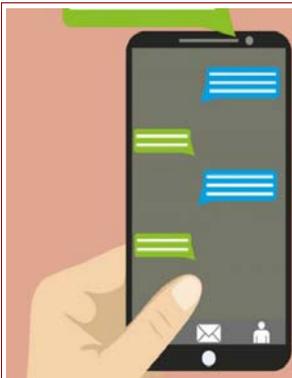
#### Tuesday, November 5, 7:00 pm:

Denver Circle meets at the home of Vickie Smith.



### ANGEL TREE IS COMING NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>!

Don't miss the opportunity to bless a child this Christmas! Each angel on the tree represents a child in need. Please consider taking an angel and purchasing the gifts listed. You may do so individually or pair up with other people. A sign up sheet and instructions will be next to the Angel Tree located at the back of the Sanctuary extension.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

If you are involved in our Children's Ministry as a parent, teacher, or volunteer, please register to receive our informational reminders by text! This will give you quick information on weather cancelations and events!

All you have to do is text the code @9d4f8ba to the number 81010.

See Lauren with any questions!

# November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2  2:00 Men's Basketball
3 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends.</i> AM Communion  4:45 Choir  6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups	4 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  6:30 Readers, Martha, & Ruth Circles 7:00 Elizabeth & Readers	5  6:30 Barton Life Group CE Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Burrell Life Group	6 10:30 Wed. Morn Life Grp.  6:30 Abernathy Life Group Worship Jam Session	7 12:00 Best Years Lunch Honoring Veterans  6:15 HS Class to E Gaston 6:30 MTW Committee Mtg. 7:30 Officers' Prayer	8   2:00 Men's Basketball	9 <b>Man Day</b> 7:00 Deacons' Meeting  2:00 Men's Basketball
10  4:45 Choir  6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups	11  6:30 Outreach Comm Mtg 7:00 Adult Volleyball	12  6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group	13 10:30 Wed. Morn Life Grp.  6:30 Abernathy Life Group Tech Team Meeting	14  6:30 AHG Unit Meetings 7:00 Worship Team Mtg	15   2:00 Men's Basketball	16   2:00 Men's Basketball
17 <b>Youth Sunday</b>  4:45 Choir  6:00 Children's Ministry, Life Groups	18 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  7:00 Facilities Comm Mtg Adult Volleyball	19  6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group	20 10:30 Wed. Morn Life Grp.  6:30 Abernathy Life Group	21  6:30 AHG Unit Meetings 7:00 Session Meeting	22   2:00 Men's Basketball  Youth Fall Retreat →	23   2:00 Men's Basketball  Youth Fall Retreat →
24 Youth Fall Retreat ←  4:00 WIC Council Mtg. 4:45 Choir  6:00 Children's Ministry, Life Groups	25  7:00 Adult Volleyball	26  7:00 Community Thanksgiving Service 	27 <span style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px;">CDC Closed</span>	28 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;"> <i>Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise... Psalm 100:4</i> </div> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">             Church Office &amp; CDC Closed           </div>	29   2:00 Men's Basketball	30   2:00 Men's Basketball



## SAFETY AND SECURITY REMINDER

Have you been assigned a security code for our keyless entry system? If so, this code is only for use by you and your immediate family. Please do not share your assigned code with anyone else. If you encounter someone needing a code, please refer them to Sandra in the church office to apply for a personal code. Also, please be aware that your code may not work on all doors or at all times depending on the reason you were assigned a code.



## COME ONE, COME ALL!

The choir is beginning to practice the music for the Christmas Cantata and we need you! The Cantata will be during Sunday morning worship on December 22nd. The Cantata will feature the choir plus various instruments and small ensembles on 6-7 pieces of programmatic music. Excellent singing talent not required - only a willing heart and yearning desire to make a joyful noise unto our Lord! Anyone interested in singing and/or playing an instrument can contact Chris McAllister at [ChrisM@fpcstanley.org](mailto:ChrisM@fpcstanley.org).



## ATTENTION ALL VETERANS

Our American Heritage Girls Troop is working on a special project for Veteran's Day. We need the names of all veterans and active military personnel at FPC and their branch of service. Please put your name and branch of service on the list located on the bulletin board across from the church office. **We need all names by November 03, 2019.**

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



**ENDS  
NOVEMBER 3.**

Remember to set  
your clocks back  
1 hour before  
you go to bed!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **R U OK?**

The Stanley Police Department is starting up a senior adult program called **R U OK?** This program is designed to provide assistance for the elderly, sick, home bound or disabled persons that live in Stanley and do not have family to check on them on a consistent basis.



Citizens of the Stanley community that subscribe to the service will receive a call from the Stanley Police Department each weekday (Monday—Friday) to make sure they are OK, coherent and not in need of assistance. If a subscriber fails to answer the call after several attempts, a Stanley Police Officer will be sent to the residence in an effort to make contact and confirm everything is OK. If the officer believes there may be a situation of risk, an emergency contact or EMS may be notified. Each subscriber of this service must provide the Stanley Police Department with emergency response information including a brief medical history, physician's name and number, and emergency contacts in case EMS is called for a medical emergency.

If you are interested in this program for yourself or a loved one, please complete the R U OK? Program Application. Contact Sandra in the church office for an application.



**2019 Community Thanksgiving Service**  
**Tuesday, November 26, 7:00 pm**  
at  
**Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**203 S. Main Street, Stanley**

## NOVEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES



### NURSERY (Volunteers should be in place at 10:00 am.)

**November 3:** **Babies:** Ashley Abernathy; Suzy Deneen  
**Toddlers:** Deanna Beatty; Robin Mundy

**November 10:** **Babies:** Tracy McMinn; Heather Roberts  
**Toddlers:** Stacy, Natalie and Devon Helms

**November 17:** **Babies:** Greg and Amanda Huss  
**Toddlers:** Lee and Kristen Henderson

**November 24:** **Babies:** Brent and Lisa Grice  
**Toddlers:** Rob and Tracy McMinn

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he  
is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**November 3:** Communion

**November 10:** Robert Rhyne

**November 17:** Matt Ormsby

**November 24:** Ron Smith

## WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILIES

**Roger and Laura Dye** have been in Costa Rica for the past several days with their Core Family Life Team for Latin America laying out strategy for the next five years. Pray for God to bring much fruit from this.

**Michael and Tricia Lee** ask that we pray for the upcoming November 9 wedding of their youngest daughter Amber and for Tricia's brother Roy who has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer and is undergoing simultaneously both radiation and chemotherapy.

### Happy Birthday in November

02 – Steve Williams	13 – Bill Schweitzer
04 – Ricardo Santana	14 – Catalina N.
05 – Sica Lepadatu	16 – Chris Griffith
06 – Claudia Comer (2011)	27 – Sabrina Wadhams (1996)
09 – Leticia Zapata	29 – Nathanael K. (1998)
12 – Bobbi Jo Brooks	

Covenant Theological Seminary has been a part of the FPC Benevolence Budget for many years. Here is a thank you note we recently received from one of their students:

*Dear First Presbyterian Church,*

*I'm a scholarship student at Covenant Seminary and I'm writing to thank you for your generosity to the seminary. Your support gives students like me the ability to graduate without crushing debt and launch into ministry.*

*Thank you for your trust and generosity,  
Jose E. Carlo  
Founders Scholar 2020*

## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Christian sympathies are extended to **Alyssa Lowery** in the death of her dad. **Wayne Lowery** passed away on October 2. We also extend our sympathies to **Robert Rhyne** and family in the death of his cousin, **Hayne Cannon**. Hayne, age 60, lost his battle with cancer on October 12. Although Hayne was not an official member of First Presbyterian, he was a member of our covenant family. Hayne was baptized by Pastor Steve on October 8 in the presence of Robert and family.

Congratulations to **Patrick and Betsy Theodossiou**. They welcomed their second child, **Sawyer James**, on October 9. Sawyer's proud sister is **Wren** and his equally proud grandparents are **Gary and Teresa Neely**.

**Tom Barton** is recovering at home from hernia surgery on October 21. Other than being super bored, he is doing well. **Mary Rankin** was treated at the hospital after passing out last week. She is doing fine. **Debra Wallace** took a fall at her home last week and suffered a sprained shoulder. She is still in a lot of pain but otherwise doing well.

## WITH LOVING THANKS

*Thanks to our church family for all the prayers, visits, meals provided, kind words of sympathy and encouragement during the last few weeks while mom was in hospice care. These have been of great encouragement. We are grateful to be in such a loving church. Thank you church family.*

*Ron and Karen Ensley*

*A special thanks not only to the Burrell Life Group but to each individual for their prayers, cards, and acts of kindness for my 93rd birthday! You are all very special to me.*

*Ailene Friday*

## SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget .....	60,059.06
Received in September for budget.....	67,152.67
Needed to date for budget.....	540,531.57
Received to date for budget .....	535,769.88
Needed monthly for Faith Promise .....	14,091.25
Received in September for Faith Promise .....	7,280.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise .....	126,821.25
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	127,248.53

## *Birthdays to Celebrate in November*

1 Brianna Gosnell  
Gabriella Griffin  
Debra Wallace

2 Landon Abernathy  
Phyllis Ribbeck

3 Buddy Cavin  
Torie Jurina

4 Ashleigh Fox

6 Jimmy Fowler  
Onie Kasper  
Rebecca Lasley

7 Mason Frisenenhahn  
Pete Johnson

8 Janet Kaufman  
Vicki Murphy  
Jeff Redding

9 Garret Drenth



10 Olivia Fox  
Anna Friensenhahn  
Mason Hamrick  
Wayne Kerley

11 Kathy Lineberger

13 Teresa Neely

14 Ann Smith (Becky's mom)

15 Eric Dake  
Ann Davis  
John Hill  
Johnny Smith

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Senior Pastor, Steve Jessen • Assistant Pastor, Thad Davis  
Sunday School 9:00 AM • Worship 10:15 AM



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