

The Focus

First United Presbyterian Church
695 East Calvin Street, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Sunday Fellowship
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth
9:30 a.m.

Phone 479.442.4411

Email
info@fupcfay.org

Website
www.fupcfay.org

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For more information about upcoming events, please contact us, visit our website, or find us on Facebook.

Mission Statement

Called to be a light on the hill, we boldly proclaim and serve Christ, the Hope of our changing world.

Vision Statement

Reaching out as a visible expression of God's grace, we will meet people where they are, inviting all into Christ's family through engaging worship, fellowship, learning, and service.

Volume 53
Issue 1
January, 2019

The LORD says, "Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already—you can see it now!"
(from Isaiah 43:18-19)

2018 was a year of remarkable change for us here at First United Presbyterian Church. Several years of prayerful discernment finally culminated in the decision to proceed with a major renovation of our sanctuary building. That decision entailed five months of worshipping in Fellowship Hall, which our senior members remembered as our first sanctuary here on Presbyterian Hill from the 1960's. We became accustomed to regular change, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, many of us came to welcome and embrace it. Worship was more intimate, more informal, more spontaneous, more visual, and—many felt—more meaningfully engaging.

January of 2019 is arriving, and now we've had a few weeks to fellowship and worship together in our newly renovated sanctuary space. Most of us seem to be thrilled with the physical changes. But now some of us are beginning to wonder how the physical changes will change the patterns of our worship. Will we go back to what we're accustomed to, or will some of the changes be permanent?

Change has been a constant in the life of God's people since biblical times. It's always been welcomed by some and feared by others. We've been thinking, talking, and praying a lot about "Growing Young." If we want to respond to the needs of generations to come, we'll need to learn to embrace appropriate change. That will require more than just changes in our buildings. It will mean recognizing where change is needed in every aspect of our life together, and welcoming change as an expression of our trust that our God holds the future. It will mean watching for the new thing the LORD is going to do in our midst. It's happening already! Can you see it?

On Christmas Eve, our own Calvin Street Band (Don Steinkraus, Richard Lee, and Rob Button) will be playing Christmas favorites in The Gathering Place beginning at 5:00 p.m. Come and enjoy warm beverages and holiday conversation pre-service.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service begins at 5:30 p.m. We're all looking forward to our first Christmas Eve in the newly renovated Sanctuary. The service will be friendly for younger and older and everyone in between. Rev. Jan Butin will be preaching: *Jesus Through the Eyes of Others*.

If you're in town and would like to have Christmas Lunch with your church family, we'll be gathering at Formosa (1998 N. College St.), at 1:00 p.m. The restaurant will be serving their dinner menu, complete with soup and an appetizer, for about \$15/person (depending on your entrée). Afterward, anyone who would enjoy dessert and board games, puzzles, and Christmas movies at the home of the Butin's (2762 E. Birdie Dr.), is welcome. Please bring a wrapped White Elephant gift—something you already own and certainly don't need, new or used, the funnier, the better! Be brave! If you have a tendency only to give nice gifts, \$5/maximum, please. Thrift store bargains are perfect. All sizes of packages make this fun.



Worship Schedule

Continuing Sermon Series: Through the Eyes of....

If you've ever wondered about "The Twelve Days of Christmas," they are our reminder that in the Christian tradition, the Christmas season actually extends 12 days *beyond* Christmas, from the evening of December 25 to the morning of January 6, culminating in what we know as "Epiphany." You may have met individuals who continue to open one more gift each evening on each of these 12 days to remember Christ's presence with us in the newborn Child.

On the Sunday after Christmas, **December 30**, we'll gather for ONE service at 11 o'clock. Kristi Button will be preaching, *Through the Eyes of Simeon and Anna*. There will be a present under the Chrismon tree for our children.



This year, Epiphany, or the coming of the Wise Men to see the Baby Jesus, the revelation of One who is the Son of God, lands on a Sunday! We'll conclude our Advent/Christmas sermon series with "Through the Eyes of the Wise Men" on **January 6**. Our children will open the final gift under our Chrismon tree. Several new members will be received at the late service. A reception with star cookies will be served. (You are welcome to bring cut-out sugar star cookies to share.) Come and be part of the celebration! "*Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*"



Next Sermon Series: Starting Over

At the start of each new year, many of us take time to review how we've been living and resolve to make personal changes. This year, over seven Sundays, we'll reassess our personal lives, habits, disciplines, and direction with the intention of living in Christ, achieving our personal goals (by the grace of God), and ending well (to the glory of God). These biblically-based messages will speak to all ages.

- January 13** *Whose Am I?* (Identity)
- January 20** *How Do I Look?* (Inventory)
- January 27** *Who Do I (Still) Want to Be?* (Purpose)
- February 3** *What Do I Do with My Time?* (Habits)
- February 10** *How Is My Life with God?* (Spiritual Care)
- February 17** *How Do I Tend to My Relationships?* (Friendships)
- February 24** *What Do I Want Others to Say About Me?* (Legacy)

Notes: On January 13, we will have an opportunity to renew our baptismal vows. Incoming elders and deacons will also be ordained and installed (at both services). February 10 is Scout Sunday, with participation by any/all Scouts in the service. An invitation has been extended to United Campus Ministry students to lead one of the February services.

Planning Ahead: Youth will be confirmed and formally received as members on Sunday, March 1.

Daily Bible Readings

- | | | | | | |
|------|------------------------|------|----------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1/1 | Genesis 17:1-12, 15-16 | 1/12 | John 9:1-12, 35-38 | 1/22 | Mark 3:19-35 |
| 1/2 | Hebrews 11:1-12 | 1/13 | Hebrews 1:1-12 | 1/23 | Isaiah 44:24-45:7 |
| 1/3 | John 10:7-17 | 1/14 | Mark 1:1-13 | 1/24 | Mark 4:21-34 |
| 1/4 | Exodus 3:1-5 | 1/15 | Ephesians 1:15-23 | 1/25 | Ephesians 6:1-9 |
| 1/5 | Joshua 1:1-9 | 1/16 | Mark 1:29-45 | 1/26 | Isaiah 46:1-13 |
| 1/6 | Revelation 21:22-27 | 1/17 | Isaiah 2:1-12 | 1/27 | Hebrews 10:19-31 |
| 1/7 | John 2:1-11 | 1/18 | Ephesians 3:1-13 | 1/28 | Galatians 1:1-9 |
| 1/8 | Isaiah 59:15-21 | 1/19 | Mark 2:23-3:6 | 1/29 | Mark 6:1-13 |
| 1/9 | Revelation 2:18-29 | 1/20 | Hebrews 6:17-7:10 | 1/30 | Isaiah 49:1-12 |
| 1/10 | John 6:1-14 | 1/21 | Isaiah 44:6-8, 21-23 | 1/31 | Galatians 6:30-46 |
| 1/11 | Isaiah 65:13-16 | | | | |

Spiritual Growth for All

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

The following opportunities resume on January 6. We hope you will join us!

Children

Nursery (*children under 3 years old*) hear a Bible story and enjoy a short activity in Lower Calvin.
Preschoolers meet in Upper Knox with Ruth Rodgers and Lora Horne.
Kindergarten and 1st Graders meet in Upper Knox with Lea Millett.
2nd through 4th Graders meet in Lower Knox with Melissa Werner and Sara Eichmann.

Middle School and Youth

5th and 6th Graders meet in Lower Knox with Hillary Fischer and Rob Button.
The Confirmation Group (*8th and 9th graders*) meets in Lower Knox to learn about the basics of faith with Tom Verdery and Lorraine Brewer.
7th through 12th Graders meet in Lower Witherspoon for UPY Mornings with Brianne and Jacob Christiansen and Megan Ober.

Adults

Thoughtful Christians meet in Calvin 201. We will have a new eight-week series that will focus on *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction* by Eugene Peterson, led by Rev. Danny and Joyce Daniel. Peterson, who died October 22, 2018, authored many books, but the most well-known is a translation of the Scriptures, titled *The Message*.

Peterson writes: "It's not enough that I announce the gospel or explain it." He asserts that the gospel needs to be lived... wherever a person is on their daily journey. Peterson writes, "Along the way I found that it is living it myself, which turned out to be a far more formidable assignment." The class will address ways of helping Christians live the gospel in daily life, and will include a discussion of Peterson's book along with actual practice of various ways of praying and drawing closer to God.

Copies of the book can be purchased through the Church Office for \$20 each.

The Present Word: God's World and God's People meets in Calvin 203 with Dennis Brewer and Jane Steinkraus. On January 6, we will begin Unit Two of our winter study, *Our Love For God, Loving God by Trusting Christ*. This five-week unit is as follows:

- January 6 *Hold Fast to God's Love*, 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5; 2 John 4-11
- January 13 *Submit to God in Love*, James 4:1-10
- January 20 *Submit to God in Christ*, Philippians 1:12-21
- January 27 *Devote All to Christ*, Philippians 2:1-11
- February 3 *Renounce Everything for Christ*, Philippians 3:7-14

Come As You Are meets in Upper Witherspoon with Brett and Sara Torbett. This drop-in group is designed for those who may not be able to attend every week. We work through books and curriculum at our own pace and often decide together what we'd like to read or explore next! Join us to find out what the new year has in store!

Welcome to Our New Office Manager!

We are pleased to announce that Tina Warden will begin serving as our new Office Manager on January 2. Tina and her husband Jay recently moved to Northwest Arkansas from Louisville, KY. Before that, they were in the Memphis area, where Tina worked for 14 years as an administrative assistant for the Catholic Diocese. She has begun training already and will be in the office frequently over the next two weeks. Please stop by the office to get to know her better, and let her know some of the ways you will be interacting with her in your ministries through the church.





We have a special **Time with Children** in worship each week. Afterward, children under 5 years old may stay in worship or go to the nursery in Lower Calvin. Children of all ages are invited to participate in worship.



January 13, we will gather in Upper Witherspoon at 4:00 p.m. for a brief program. We will then join UPY for dinner and games from 5:00-5:45 p.m. All middle schoolers and friends are welcome!

Contact Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education, to learn more about children's and middle school ministries. To receive texts via the Remind app, text @fupcc to 81010.



UPY Mornings • 9:30-10:30 a.m.

UPY Together • 5:00-7:00 p.m.

January 6, 13, 20, and 27

A place where 7th-12th graders come to mature as people, form relationships, and have fun. Together we serve others, learn about God, and reach out to each other.

UPY Winter Break Hangout Thursday, January 3

We will meet at FUPC at 5:30 p.m. and take the bus to Fast Lane. Please bring \$10. We will hang out, have some fun, and return by 9:30 p.m. Friends are welcome! R.S.V.P. to Brianne by Tuesday, January 1.



1/11-1/12 NWA Presby Lock-In, FUPC

1/20 UPY Servant Night, Upper Witherspoon

1/25-1/26 Youth Advisory Team Retreat at the University of the Ozarks, Clarksville

Contact Jacob and Brianne Christiansen, Directors of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, to learn more about our youth ministry. (See contact info on back.)

Young Adults Gathering

Friday, January 4, from 7:00-9:00 p.m.



It's been a while since we've seen each other! While you are here for winter break, let's get together and reconnect! Join us for snacks, board games, and fun at the home of Jacob and Brianne Christiansen (4329 E. Broomsage Dr.). Please R.S.V.P. to Brianne by Wednesday, January 2, if you plan to attend.



Coming back from Christmas break I am always surprised by how much the children have grown over the holidays. We will be learning about the hibernation of animals, snow, and arctic animals this month. It's hard to believe we are half way thru the school year!

Cathy Hairston, First School Director



The Healing Touch Program is a gentle hands-on practice designed to promote peace and relaxation. For more information, please visit healingtouchprogram.com, call 310-5135, or email EvasHouseofHealing@gmail.com.



Help us share the peace and love of Christ with all who worship with us on Sundays. If you would like to greet others, contact Michelle Price (michelle.price@fayar.net).



FUPC Childcare

Need childcare during a church event? Just submit your request at least one week ahead. You may use the QR code to the left, call, or email us!



Healthy Marriages

Friday, January 11

6:00 p.m., Upper Witherspoon

We'll have a brief discussion followed by "Date Night." Childcare is offered with reservation a week ahead.



Thursday, January 10

6:30 p.m., Tacos 4 Life

(1572 N College Ave.)

Come for food, fun, and fellowship! All are welcome!



Every Wednesday

6:30 a.m., Village Inn

Join us for breakfast, coffee, prayer, fellowship, scripture, and meditation.



1st Sunday of each month at 12:15 p.m.

We'll gather near the coffee bar to decide together where to eat. Lunch is on us!



Every Thursday

3:30 p.m., Butterfield Trail Village

This group is open to all members who would like to participate. Call Ann Roberts (443-1910) for location.



Curl up with a good book from our library and dream away the cold!



4th Tuesday of each month
12:00 p.m., Western Sizzlin'

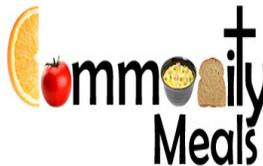
Join us for lunch, a devotion, and prayer.



Yoga • Tuesdays
6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Zumba • Saturdays
10:00 a.m., Upper Witherspoon

It's fun!!! \$5 donation suggested.



Sunday Suppers

1st Sunday, 3:00 p.m.

Trinity United Methodist Church

7Hills Lunch

3rd Friday, 11:00 a.m.

7Hills Homeless Center



FUPC is a Stephen Ministry congregation. Stephen ministers are here to listen, talk with you, and help! Contact Rev. Jan Butin for more information. Stephen Ministry Supervision meets January 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Music at FUPC

Sundays	9:30 a.m.	Children's Music Rehearsals
Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	8:00 p.m.	Music Ensemble Rehearsal



At Butterfield Trail Village



First Fellowship
Thursday, January 10
11:30 a.m., Lodge

We will enjoy a presentation and meal. Lunch is \$8.00 (cash or BTV fob). Reservations can be made here or by calling Ron Talbert (841-9742).

Worship and Communion
Tuesday, January 15
4:00 p.m., BTV Chapel

This service is open to all members and friends. You do not need to live at Butterfield Trail Village to attend.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

All women are invited to participate in one or more of our Presbyterian Women's monthly circles or groups. For more information, contact Barbara Verdery (466-1539 or bjverdery@gmail.com).

Circle and Covenant Gatherings

Circle 1 will meet at the home of Betty Ezell on Tuesday, January 8, at 9:30 a.m.

Circle 2 will meet at the home of Katie Jackson on January 8, at 6:15 p.m.

Circle 3 will meet at Butterfield Trail Village in the Green Room on January 7, at 1:00 p.m.

Circle 4 will meet at the home of Jo Anne Brown at noon on Monday, January 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Covenant Group will meet in Upper Witherspoon on Tuesday, January 22, at 10:30 a.m.

Coordinating Team will meet in Calvin 201 on January 17, at 10:30 a.m.

Hooks & Needles will meet every Friday at 10:00 a.m. in Lower Witherspoon. Bring a project and join us for knitting and fellowship.

Presbyterian Women will be partnering with our Young Adult Ministry to make and send Valentine's Day care packages to the college students in our congregation. In January, each circle will have an offering that will go toward this project, if you wish you can also donate items to put in the packages. There will be a cookie baking and decorating session at the church on February 2 and the packages will be prepared for mailing on February 4. Times to be announced. If you would like to help with shopping, baking, decorating, packaging or making a donation, please contact Amy Rossetti, Together in Service Chair (713-0479 or amyhrossetti@gmail.com).

Session Highlights Clerk of Session Report

• Stated Session Meeting •
November 29, 2018

Session approved...

Update of Church Rolls:

Judith (Judy) Marino requests to be moved to the inactive roll for the next 12 months.

A motion to sustain the examination of the incoming Elders and Deacons:

Elders - Class of 2019 (renewable annually): Reed Fagg and James Price

Elders - Class of 2021: Ted Belden, Angel Frazier, Walt Manger, Mary Mann, Amy McCann, Amy Rossetti, and Diane Warren

Board of Deacons - Class of 2019: Mary Boushelle

Board of Deacons - Class of 2020: Carol Hanna (fulfilling an unexpired term)

Board of Deacons – Class of 2021: Karen Crocker, Lora Horne, Roger Koeppel, Nancy Waite

A motion to approve the use of \$31,588 from the budget contingency, the landscaping credit, and the additional items pledged from the congregation, \$25,619 from the Capital Campaign funds, and \$19,881 from the 2014 undesignated gift to pay for the \$45,500 for items still needing to be paid on the Sanctuary Area Renovation.

A motion for the Planning Ministry to review Family Ministries role description as part of a complete review of all Session Ministries, with a recommendation to be presented to Session on both in March, 2019.

A motion to approve Boy Scout Troop 142 for 2019.

A motion to approve the 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting for February 24, 2019.

Session received...

A report on the Stewardship Campaign.

A report from Elders Tom Verdery and Chris Boushelle on Boy Scout Troop 142.

Session Minutes are available to members of the congregation upon request from the Clerk of Session.

Phillip Harrington, Clerk of Session

Upcoming Meetings

January 13	Board of Deacons (12:15 p.m.) Moderator Training (5:00 p.m.) Session (6:00 p.m.)
February 24	Annual Congregational Meeting (12:15 p.m.)

Presbytery of Arkansas Prayer Connections

The list of Arkansas prayer connections will be published in the Weekend Update when it becomes available. You may also access this list through the Presbytery of Arkansas' website (www.resbyteryofarkansas.org) under the Resources tab.



March 16-23

We are planning to travel with a team of up to 20 individuals on a spring mission trip to Trinidad de Copan. We will be working on a small housing project where we hope to construct nine homes. Construction and Spanish skills are appreciated but not required. Leigh Woodruff will be leading this trip. If you are interested and would like an application or more information, please contact Leigh (601-1437 or leigh.woodruff@yahoo.com).

The Gathering Place is Working!

It's wonderful to see members and friends getting a cup of tea or coffee between services and lingering for a long time after late service. This space is receiving rave reviews! WE'LL NEED YOUR HELP IN JANUARY! This hospitality takes two friendly people during each service. Please sign up to be a point person (available to those who have already helped in the new kitchen) or a helper (no prior experience needed and afterward, you can also be a point person). We appreciate your commitment to being a welcoming church.



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695 E. Calvin St., Fayetteville, AR 72703

PRESORTED
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72703
PERMIT NO. 151

Please send February articles and information to the Church Office by January 11, 2019.

Core Values

Inspiring Worship • Psalm 105:1-3

Praising God together and being touched and changed by the Spirit

Faithful Service • I John 3:18

Working together to reflect and demonstrate God's love to all people

Spiritual Growth • Colossians 2:6-7

Encouraging growth by studying scripture and the Christian faith

Generous Stewardship • II Corinthians 9:8

Sharing our gifts and cultivating our resources for God's purposes

Loving Relationships • I John 4:11

Nurturing connections in a joyful and safe environment

Welcoming Community • I Thessalonians 2:8

Striving to be an inviting and supportive Christian family

Pastors and Staff

Leslie Belden, Parish Associate

Rev. Jan Butin, Co-Pastor

Rev. Phil Butin, Co-Pastor

Kristi Button, Christian Education Director

Brianne Christiansen, Co-Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Jacob Christiansen, Co-Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Cathy Hairston, First School Director

Jeannie Lee, Organist

Katie Herzog, Childcare Coordinator

Tina Warden, Office Manager

Christopher Verdery, Audio-Visual Coordinator

Michael Shuman, Music Director

Laura Winburn, Financial Administrator

Food Events Coordinator

Membership Secretary

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