Ash Wednesday

According to the Canonical gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, we can find that Jesus spent 40 days of fasting in the desert, where he endured temptation by Satan. Lent originated as a mirroring of this, fasting 40 days as preparation for Easter. Lent Season starts with Ash Wednesday because ash is the sign of humility, repentance, and to explain that we are from the dust and we will go back to the dust. Easter is the day of Resurrection of Jesus Christ, which means that the day of Victory and Redemption and the process of Salvation is completed.

Ash Wednesday reminds us that we are sinners and we are not able to earn our salvation by our own work, but by God’s grace. He did it for us and we just need to realize it and get prepared and humble ourselves and accept the free gift of Salvation.

In the Bible we have different stories where we can see people use ash to show their sorrow and repenting from sin, we can see its use in Israel and among non-Israelites.

- Israel put the ash on himself when he found that his beloved son was killed by wild animals.
- The city of Nineveh practiced the wearing of sackcloth and ash, and fasting to turn away from their sin.

Ash Wednesday service at First Presbyterian Church will be held on Wednesday, February 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Nursery will be provided. We encourage you to come to this service to begin your Lenten journey.

By Khurram Anthani
Let Us Focus Our Prayers on These Members:

Sympathy: Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Charlotte Trombold family. Please keep Charlotte’s friends and family in your prayers as they grieve her recent death.

February Birthdays

1. Ward Mars
2. Mitch Crouch, Jr.
3. Dot Schneider
4. Ephraim Fox
5. Bob Marley
6. Bruce Cole
7. Dick Blumen
8. Linda Davisson
9. David Swenson
10. Evelyn Koehn
11. Jan Harrison
12. Elfie Alexander
13. Ross Hellwig
14. J.D. Page
15. Emily Geering
16. Ross Hellwig
17. David Grisham
18. Mary Burgett
19. Gale Farmer
20. John Doll
21. Carol Warner
22. Chris Kubik
23. Ross Hellwig
24. J.D. Page
25. Emily Geering
26. Torre Rekoske
27. Gretchen Mason
28. Robert Brown

Ministry Staff
The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston
Pastor/Head of Staff
pastor@firstchurchwichita.org

Judy Conners
Parish Associate (Visitation)
conners@firstchurchwichita.org

Tom Church
Parish Associate (Membership)
tchurch@cox.net

Joan Aldrich
Parish Nurse
jaldrich@firstchurchwichita.org

Geri Doll
Director of Youth Ministry
youth@firstchurchwichita.org

Liz Norris
Director of Children’s Ministry
childrendirector@firstchurchwichita.org

Steve Bixler
Director of Music
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Debbie Schnelle
Administrative Assistant
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Roy Yarbrough
Facilities Manager
facilities@firstchurchwichita.org

Mary Burgett
Economy Corner Manager

Phyllis Robertson
Economy Corner Assistant Manager

Dave Duncan
Whispering Winds Camp Manager
dbduncan@firstchurchwichita.org

Melinda Sears
Clerk of the Session
sj.ml.sears@att.net
Confirmands to Join Church on Transfiguration Sunday (February 11, 2018)

I am excited to see what the Faith Projects of the Confirmands (eight of them) will look like as they claim for themselves the promises made on their behalf at Baptism. Some of our confirmands have not been baptized, so they will be baptized as a rite of initiation into the Body of Christ and membership of First Presbyterian Church. Our confirmands (should) have connected with their Mentors (by now) who will check off that they have memorized the Ten Commandments, The Lord’s Prayer, and the Apostles Creed, as well as guide them in their Faith Project.

We have asked the Confirmands and their families to meet with the Session on February 11th at 9:30 a.m. in the West Dining Room for a Continental Breakfast to informally get to know the confirmands and their families before the Session formally examines them. The Confirmands will be welcomed into the life of the Church at the 10:45 a.m. service. Their Faith Projects will be on display in The Well.

Upcoming Class on Race as our Lenten Study

Pat Welker has agreed to teach an upcoming class on Race as part of our Lenten Study on Sunday afternoon and Wednesday nights. Also, small groups will be reading the book Waking Up White by Debbie Irving for which Pat will provide study guide questions. Given the rise in nativism and nationalism across the United States and Europe, this topic could not be timelier. The Gospel transcends race and should never be reduced to race. It is my hope that our members will find a time to attend the class Pat is teaching and find time to read the book Waking Up White.

Ash Wednesday on Valentine’s Day—February 14

This year Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine’s Day—a day traditionally set aside for love. So, what does Ash Wednesday have to do with Valentine’s Day? Isn’t Ash Wednesday about penance as we come to terms with our mortality as we begin the journey with Jesus to Jerusalem to die? And isn’t Valentine’s Day about finding creative ways to express love to one’s beloved... like giving a card and a box of chocolates over a romantic dinner? (As you can see I am not very creative!) Historically, Valentine’s Day is also associated with death as with the Valentine’s Day Massacre on February 14, 1929, in Chicago. No matter how hard Hallmark would have us believe that life is all about romantic love, we know all too well that everyone we love will die one day. This kind of grief is not removed from our memory or our life with a clever card. Thankfully, the pain of death is taken up in the death and resurrection of God’s own Son. We remember the words from scripture, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him may not perish but have everlasting life” (Jn. 3:16). If you ask me, this is a Valentine’s Message better than any message found in a Hallmark Card. May you experience the beginning of the Lenten Journey by coming to the Ash Wednesday service on February 14th in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. The Choir will be singing, and Pastor Judy will be preaching.

Grace and Peace,

[Signature]

February 2018
Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to the church and whoever delivered my poinsettia. I appreciate the plant so very much, and was sorry I missed seeing the deliverer.

Margarethe Van Zandt

I would like to thank all the members of FPC for making my last 12 years so memorable. We have certainly had our good times and bad but I have truly enjoyed working here. I hope to keep in touch with you and see you around after I retire. Thanks for all the great memories.

Nancy Bishop

Economy Corner

We provided more vouchers in 2017, 1,486, than in any of the last five years! The value of this year’s vouchers is equivalent to $20,793.04. Vouchers are redeemable only for basic clothing items. FPC’s share was $16,659.04 and Grace’s portion came to $4,133.90. It is so rewarding to be able to assist so many in need.

December’s total sales were $10,568.11. FPC’s share was $9,628.30 and Grace’s was $935.73. There was an increase of $935.93 in sales over December 2016. We filled 160 vouchers for basic clothing necessities which were equivalent to $2,308.85. FPC’s portion of the vouchers equaled $2,127.45 and Grace’s was $181.40.

We appreciate your generous support, donations and time which helped us assist so many in need. We are so very grateful for the opportunity to share our profits and to fulfill our Mission of offering assistance to our urban community.

Pastor Judy Conners

Would You Be Interested in “Each One Teach One”?

“Each One Teach One” is an African-American proverb. The phrase originated in the United States during slavery, when Africans were denied education, including learning to read. When an enslaved person learned to read, it became his duty to teach someone else, spawning the phrase “Each one teach one.”

In the first half of the 20th century, the phrase was applied to the work of a Christian missionary, Dr. Frank Laubach, who utilized the concept to help address poverty and illiteracy in the Philippines. Today it is being widely used to help refugees learn the language of their new homeland.

The Mission Commission is exploring the possibility of offering this curriculum to help some members of our Wichita Refugee Congregation Church learn English. This is the only major help that they have specifically requested. If you are curious about this project and how you might help, contact Mary Knecht, knechtmary@hotmail.com or Stephanie Bird-Hutchison, stevie.bird2@gmail.com, 409-4529. There are some young stay-at-home refugee mothers and struggling young refugee fathers eager to learn English so that they can better care for their children and become more productive members of our community. Please make your interest known by Presidents’ Day, February 19.

Pastor Judy Conners
on EPIC/Renewal Sunday
I think we all have read about the dangers of high blood pressure as it relates to heart and kidney disease, stroke, and even cognitive decline, including dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. And we have read the medical professional’s suggestions and recommendations to lower blood pressure: incorporate a healthy diet, exercise, lose weight, restrict salt, quit smoking, lower stress, and take your blood pressure medications. I would like to discuss an important condition involved in contributing to hypertension and strategies to help prevent and/or treat high blood pressure.

**Insulin Resistance.** Insulin is a hormone that transports glucose into the cells. When there is insufficient insulin or when the cells are resistant to insulin’s attempt to let in the glucose, blood sugar climbs and diabetes develops. In type 2 (insulin resistant) diabetes, the body responds by producing even more insulin which results in high glucose and insulin levels. An estimated 25 to 40 percent of our entire population has early stages of insulin resistance. In these individuals, glucose levels may not be elevated but high insulin levels cause increase body fat and obesity. This causes upsets in the normal metabolism of fats by raising cholesterol and triglyceride levels. It also disrupts intercellular communication, including blood pressure regulating signals. Also, it can provoke the nervous system causing the heart to pump with more intensity and cause the arteries to constrict. And it creates an imbalance in sodium and potassium (which increase blood volume) and calcium and magnesium (causing arterial constriction), all which increase blood pressure and risk of heart disease.

Fortunately, insulin resistance responds well to non-drug interventions. One of the most effective ways to deal with insulin resistance and to decrease blood pressure is to increase insulin sensitivity. To do this, we must address our love affair with white flour, sugar and fructose, and other refined carbohydrates. These unhealthy foods disrupt blood sugar regulation and cause a surge in the release of insulin. By dramatically cutting back on bread, pastries, white potatoes, white rice, candies, and other high starch food, and replacing them with whole foods like vegetables, legumes, clean meats, poultry and fish, and limited fruit and whole grains, you can attain more normal glucose and insulin levels with the added benefit of weight loss.

Other strategies that may improve blood pressure that you can discuss with your doctor include incorporating animal based Omega-3 fats in your diet, as well as Calcium/Magnesium/Vitamin D supplementation to help in relaxing arteries. Of course, we all know the importance of regular exercise, including weight training. A comprehensive fitness program can go a long way toward regaining your insulin sensitivity and normalizing blood pressure.

I invite you to come to the Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Clinic on the 3rd Sunday of each month in The Well from 10 a.m.-10:40 a.m. and see how your blood pressure is doing. I would be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. I want for us all to ‘Be Well’.

*Joan Aldrich*
We need volunteers for Wednesday nights. We are continuing to grow and expand, and we are always looking for those who want to serve and help with our programs. If you are interested, please contact Liz Norris for more details. We have several different areas we are looking at for some extra help.

Starting this month, we ask that you bring your children into service and then have them come forward at “Time with the young church” if you wish your children to Nursery (If they are ages 0-5) or into The Well with Staff please allow them to exit with Liz and volunteers.

We will return to the Sanctuary most Sundays after the sermon and your kids will be free to go.

We are trying to foster a more kid friendly worship space and teach the children the importance of worshipping and praising the Lord.

Upcoming dates to remember
01/28-Annual meeting *only one service 10:45 a.m. (meeting will follow service)
01/31- NO CLUBS Geri, Liz, Lindsey, Cynthia @ APCE
02/06 CE& F meeting 5:30 a.m. in The Well
02/07- Awana/Youth club 5:30 p.m. Potato Soup
02/11 EPIC SUNDAY (Kids will perform)
02/11- Lenten Study 12:00 p.m. -2:00 p.m. (LUNCH PROVIDED) *six-week study over Race the Power of an Illusion and the Church in Racism.

Evangelism and Hospitality will be hosting this event and providing lunch and staffing the nursery in hopes that our younger families who work and have children will be able to attend. Please sign up in The Well if you have not done so or see Liz or Geri for more details.

02/14 - Ash Wednesday:
7:00 p.m. No kid’s activities.
WE WILL OFFER NURSERY FOR ALL PARENTS WANTING TO ATTEND THIS SERVICE.
Youth will still meet.
02/28- Awana/ Youth Club 5:30 p.m.- Mac & Cheese & Chicken.

We are trying to update the nursery and remove outdated, old, worn, and unsafe items from the nursery. If you want to help we are taking gift cards and cash donations for this project. Please NO donated items at this time.

Thank you for your efforts and I am grateful for each and every one of you.
Youth Activities for February 2018

February 2-4 (Friday-Sunday) – Middle School Winter Retreat (register by Jan. 22)
www.westminsterwoodscamp.com

February 3 (Saturday) – Start off the New Year by volunteering at the Community Breakfast. The community breakfast is an ongoing mission of our church. We encourage you and your family to volunteer. Arrive at 7:30 a.m.

February 4 (Sunday) – (2) worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday school is in the Youth Lounge from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Melodrama rehearsal 12-2 p.m.

February 6 (Tuesday) – CE Commission meeting in The Well 5:30-7 p.m.

February 7 (Wednesday) – Youth Club-5:30-8 p.m.

February 11 (EPIC Sunday) – ALL CONFIRMANDS NEED TO BE HERE THIS DAY! (2) worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Confirmation breakfast in the WDR at 9:30 a.m. No Youth Sunday school. Melodrama rehearsal 12-2 p.m.

February 14 (Ash Wednesday) - Youth Club-5:30-8 p.m.

February 17 (Saturday) – Trivia Night-youth volunteering

February 18 (Sunday) – (2) worship services at 8:30 am and 10:45 am. Youth Sunday school is in the Youth Lounge from 9:30-10:30 am. Melodrama rehearsal 12-2 pm.

February 21 (Wednesday) – Youth Club-5:30-8 p.m.

February 25 (Sunday) - (2) worship services at 8:30 am and 10:45 am. Youth Sunday school is in the Youth Lounge from 9:30-10:30 am. Melodrama rehearsal 12-2 pm.

February 28 (Wednesday) - Youth Club-5:30-8 p.m.

Questions? E-mail Geri Doll doll@firstchurchwichita.org, call or text 316-737-8855.
We are happy to give you a ride if needed.

Congratulations to Nancy Bishop on her retirement from FPC. We wish her the happiest of retirements. Photos from the reception on January 21, courtesy of Bruce Cole.

(Pictured Left: Top-Pastor Brent, Nancy Bishop, Ann Eastwood
Left Bottom: Retirement Cake
Right: Don & Nancy Bishop)
A Few Words from Pastor Judy

“Baby, it’s cold outside,” the hit song that Dean Martin crooned in 1959, comes to mind in this Kansas winter of 2018. Everyone is bundled up, but the cold still seeps into our bones no matter how many layers we pile on.

It’s certainly one thing on which we all agree. It instills a sense of togetherness that not much else does. We smile at each other as we huddle at the gas pump, pass on the street, in a parking garage, or on our way in or out of shops. As we scrunch down in our coats and caps, we toss out a cheery quip – “Stay warm!” or “It’s cold outside!” (We leave out the “Baby” as it would definitely not be well received!) I find myself noticing the homeless shivering on the corners of downtown Wichita with more compassion too.

Alas, as soon as it warms up and we unbutton our coats and leave our gloves and mittens at home, we go back to our old preoccupied selves – giving barely a glance to strangers around us.

We rally together when a major disaster occurs. Remembering our nation’s response in times of national crises – war or the threat of war, forest fires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and domestic terrorism – there are those who drop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand to the suffering. Others reach in their wallets and give generously at such times.

But, we live in an era of unease and suspicion, and so we are hesitant to reach out to strangers in personal ways that take us beyond our comfort zone. Jesus says to “love our neighbors as ourselves.” How do we do that and feel safe? It’s pretty simple, actually. Start by smiling at strangers you pass and don’t give up if they don’t smile back. BE AWARE IS NOT THE SAME AS BEWARE! Be watchful for people who could use a simple assist with a door or package, give someone your seat who needs it more than you do, etc., etc. Being a good neighbor is a learning process.

There is one opportunity for “loving our neighbors” that is as close as your church at 525 N. Broadway – get to know our Congolese family of faith that worships in our building. Consider asking Mary Knecht how to help these newcomers to our culture and community in ways that fit your time, interests and ability.

I’m sure our parish nurse, Joan Aldrich, would agree that connecting, even briefly, with the lives of others, benefits us too – we discover that when we feel better about the community around us, we feel better ourselves – in both body and spirit.

Judy

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions $530,429.31</td>
<td>Communications $5,099.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments $6,461.18</td>
<td>Deacons/Evangelism $851.84</td>
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<td>Foundation $237,280.00</td>
<td>Worship/Music $4,184.93</td>
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<td>Economy Corner $90,419.20</td>
<td>Camp $8,834.50</td>
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<td>Other $18,070.60</td>
<td>Education/Fellowship $25,433.79</td>
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<td>Mission/EC $91,864.28</td>
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<td>Finance $83,665.97</td>
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<td>Total $882,660.29</td>
<td>Facilities $152,657.29</td>
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<td>Stewardship $642.11</td>
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<td>Evangelism $1,287.37</td>
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<td>Personnel $578,943.79</td>
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<td>Total $953,465.18</td>
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</table>

We concluded the year with a $70,804.89 shortfall, which is significantly better than the projected deficit of $181,018.01. Total income received was $882,660.29, which amounted to 103% of what we had projected. The Foundation provided approximately 27% of our total income. Our total expense of $953,465.18 was 8.2% less than the budgeted amount. This is largely attributable to the reduction in our administrative and facility expenses. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.
**Lenten Study**

**RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION AND THE CHURCH IN RACISM**

A Six Week Lenten Study at First Presbyterian Church to challenge us to listen, think, discuss, and decide about how to follow Jesus today!

**RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION AND THE CHURCH IN RACISM**

12 noon—2 P.M.
THE WELL
Free lunch and nursery provided

**SUNDAYS—Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18**

**Renewal Sunday**

**Pastors Brent Johnston & Tom Church on EPIC/Renewal Sunday**

**PW Lesson #6:**

“In Community with the Reality of the Present”

Presbyterian Women continue their study of the book of Hebrews. Joan Aldrich will be the leader for lesson #6 “In Community with the Reality of the Present” that will be held Wednesday, February 14, 10:00 am in the Parlor. God of the present cares about each and every human life. In joy or in struggle may we find and share love and support within the community of faith. Any woman in the church is welcome to attend this fellowship. For additional information: knechtmary@hotmail.com or 942-8068.

**WEDNESDAYS—Feb. 7, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21**

6:00—7:45 P.M.
THE WELL (repeat of Sundays)
SIGN-UP SHEETS IN THE WELL
Facilitator: Pat Welker

**Is a world without racism possible?**

Richard Lee-Thai
"Do Not Go Quietly"
JOURNEYS CLASS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 4
LED BY GERRY WINTERS
9:30 SUNDAY WEST DINING ROOM
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

The February Journey study will be a review of *Do Not Go Quietly*—a guide to living consciously and aging wisely for people who weren’t born yesterday—GenXers, Boomers & Elders. It is written by George & Sedenz Cappannelli—founders of AgeNation. Check them out on their website www.agenation.com

So if you are approaching the second half of life, this book invites you to take the matter of how you live and why—back into your own hands. It encourages you to use the power and resources available to help live your life with dignity and purpose.

It will be supplemented with “From Age-ing to Sage-ing,” a guide that was written to facilitate an aging process that is full of adventure, passion and mystery—rather than anxiety.

At the very least, the conversation should be lively! Join us.

A courier picks up the items following each month’s Community Meal and whisks them away to their food pantry. If an average of four bags were received per month, over the course the years of this collection practice in total it would be the equivalent of placing a bag in every seat in the sanctuary including the balcony. Take a moment to visualize that!

Lent is close at hand. Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras is Tuesday, February 13th. One of the long standing customs related to Fat Tuesday was the cleaning out of the larder, using up all of the left overs in preparation for Lent. So how about taking a look at your pantry food storage closet or that lazy susan turn-style shelf laden with cans and boxes of food you thought you might use last year but never did. How about filling a big “yellow” bag for Sunday, January 28th? It’s a small thing, but could make a difference for someone who really needs it. There are a few yellow bags outside the office and a few near the south entrance doors to the sanctuary. Really, any bag will do.

And P.S….thanks to all those who have been yellow baggers through the years!

Refugee Families Need Our Help
Winter illnesses such as colds, coughs and especially the flu has hit the 18 families in our refugee congregation hard. With their limited resources it is difficult for them to purchase some of the items they need to stay healthy. The Mission Committee is asking your help to provide the following items: facial tissue (and/or handkerchiefs), toilet issue, cough syrup, cough drops, aspirin, mentholated rub, lip balm and bar soap. There is a collection basket outside the church office. Thanks for your support of this request!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 1</td>
<td>8:30 Sr. Men's Breakfast (WDR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 2</td>
<td>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study *(Parlor)</td>
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<td>7:00 Kell First Friday (Liz &amp; Bob Workman's)</td>
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<td>*note location change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 3</td>
<td>8:00 Community Breakfast (EDR, WDR, KIT)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:00 Guadalupe Clinic (EDR)</td>
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<td>Sunday, February 4</td>
<td>8:30 Worship (Chapel)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:15 Coffee Fellowship <em>(The Well)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 Sunday School &amp; Luccock Class (Parlor)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:45 Worship &amp; Music Com. Mtg. (C103)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 Journey's Class <em>(The Well)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 Melodrama Practice (EDR)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 6</td>
<td>1:00 Staff Mtg. (Hobbs)</td>
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<td>5:30 All Committee Meeting Night</td>
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<td>6:00 Deacons (C103)</td>
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<td>Wednesday, February 7</td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:30 Awana &amp; Youth Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00 Wednesday Night Lenten Study <em>(The Well)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 8</td>
<td>9:00 Economy Corner Board Mtg. <em>(EC)</em></td>
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<td>4:30 Promote the Growth <em>(The Well)</em></td>
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<td>5:15 Mission Com. Mtg. (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 9</td>
<td>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 10</td>
<td>9:00 Gardens &amp; Grounds</td>
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<td>9:30 Transportation Mtg. (C109)</td>
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<td>Sunday, February 11</td>
<td>8:30 Worship (Chapel)</td>
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<td>9:30 Confirmation Breakfast (WDR)</td>
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<td>9:30 Stephen Ministry Supervision (C103)</td>
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<td>9:30 No youth Sunday School</td>
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<td>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
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<td>10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)</td>
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<td>10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)</td>
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<td>11:45 Worship &amp; Music Com. Mtg. (McComb)</td>
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<td>12:00 Journey's Class <em>(The Well)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 Melodrama Practice (EDR)</td>
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<td>Monday, February 12</td>
<td>4:30 Personnel Com. Mtg. (Hobbs)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 13</td>
<td>1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:30 Finance &amp; Administration Com. Mtg. (Hobbs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 14</td>
<td>9:00 Dorcas (C105)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 PW Study Circle (Parlor)</td>
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<td>5:30 Youth Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 Ash Wednesday Service <em>(Sanctuary)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 18</td>
<td>8:30 Sr. Men's Breakfast (WDR)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:45 Theological Themes in Lit. <em>(RR)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 16</td>
<td>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, February 25</td>
<td>8:30 Worship (Chapel)</td>
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<td>9:15 Coffee Fellowship <em>(The Well)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 Sunday School &amp; Luccock Class (Parlor)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
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<td>10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)</td>
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<td>10:45 Refugee Worship (C204/C201)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Session Notes

- The Session approved The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston’s housing allowance ($39,830.70) for 2018.
- The Session finalized plans for the 01/28/2018 Annual Congregational Meeting.
- The Session approved the amended budget as presented by Finance ($61,724 projected deficit.)
- The Session approved the removal of six pews at the front of the sanctuary.
- The 2018 regular session meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September & November.
- The Session elected Peggy Church and Sheli Blessant as the Chair & Co-Chair of the 2018 Nominating Committee.
- Membership of FPC as of 01/16/2018 is 412

Melinda Sears
Clerk of Session

Calendar-continued

Sunday, February 25
12:00 Journeys Class (The Well)
12:00 Melodrama Practice (EDR)

Tuesday, February 27
1:00 Staff Meeting (Hobbs)

Wednesday, February 28
9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105)
5:30 Awana & Youth Club
6:00 Wednesday Night Lenten Study (The Well)
6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)
7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)