

First Presbyterian Church

"God is Still at Work and So Are We"

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Sunday, November 22, 2020 – 9:30 a.m. – In-Person, Live Streaming, and Facebook Live

Christ the King

Prelude:	<i>"Thanks Be to Thee"</i>	G. F. Handel
Hymns:	<i>"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"</i> (Vs. 1-4) <i>"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"</i> (Vs. 1, 2, 4)	No. 145 No. 142
First Reading:		Ephesians 1:15-23
Second Reading:		Matthew 25:31-46
Anthem:	<i>"Come, Thou Almighty King"</i> Jesse Warkentin, Piano; Chancel Choir Ensemble	Patti Drennan
Sermon:	<i>"Jesus' Identification with the Least of These"</i> Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston	
Offertory:		Khyah Van Es, Alto
Postlude:	<i>"Now Thank We All Our God"</i>	Sigfrid Karg-Elert

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Praying for the Church Family

As a congregation we weekly focus our personal and corporate prayers upon a selection of church members and friends. Let us remember in prayer this week the following: Gary & Loyce Booher, Doug & Stephanie Hutchison, Mark Johnson, and Mary & Mitch Crouch, Jr.

Congratulations!

Trebor and Ellie Rekoske are proud parents of a baby girl. Adalynn Jo Rekoske was born at 9:36 p.m. on November 17, 2020. She is 9 pounds and 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are Jamie and Cynthia Rekoske, great grandmother, Donna Coldwater, and lots of proud aunts, uncles, and big Cousins Avi and Finley!



Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will once again adorn the Sanctuary for the Advent season. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one, the suggested donation is \$12. Please place your order by December 12. Envelopes are located outside of the church office. If you mail your order to the church, please make sure to notate that the donation is for a poinsettia and who you would like it to be dedicated to. This year we will not have the poinsettia trees. It will be a scaled down version with fewer poinsettias that will be viewable on our live streaming service. Thank you!



Journeys Class to meet on Sundays on Zoom at 10:45 a.m.

- **November 8-29 - *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* by Drew I.G. Hart-** Called "A savvy and balanced blend of topics that should serve as a useful introduction for Christians of all races," Hart covers subjects that will make us all more attuned to what it means to be black in a white-dominated world. Hart is a theologian, blogger, and activist. His blog is hosted by *Christian Century*, and he speaks regularly at churches, universities, and seminaries. Books are available at your favorite bookstore. Jeff Van Sickle will lead the class.
- **December 13 and 20 - *Kneeling in Bethlehem***-Russ Davisson will provide leadership for the Journeys Class for two Sundays in Advent. On December 13th Ann Weems' poem "The Church Year" will provide the backdrop for a look at the church liturgic year beginning with the season of Advent. December 20th will be a continued look at Advent and Christmas with selected poems from her book *Kneeling in Bethlehem* as a starting point. All are welcome to join and participate in what we hope will be an expression of community. **Please plan to join us!**

CHURCH ACCESS & SESSION MOTIONS APPROVED

There will only be one Worship service each week at 9:30 a.m. both in-person and live streaming, and Facebook Live through May 2021. (In order to maintain social distancing during worship, please do not sit in the pews that are roped off.)

- In person Worship services require the following protocols to be followed: face masks required, maintain social distancing, only one entrance (to the building) will be open, temperatures of all participants will be taken, the collection plates will NOT be passed but instead will be placed at the doors, and there will be no congregational singing during services.
- All other activities on-site, except for Sunday worship, have been suspended effective November 16 due to the rising number of COVID19 cases in Sedgwick County. Session will reevaluate the opening/closing of the church for other activities at their next meeting on November 24th.

LEADERSHIP CLASSES OFFERED AT KANSAS LEADERSHIP CENTER

Background-As we pass through our 150th year, First Presbyterian Church can be proud of its rich history. Our church continues to provide its ministry through strong worship and numerous mission projects such as Economy Corner, the backpack project, and the community breakfast. But we, like so many mainline churches, face challenges. Many people, while claiming to be spiritual, have no interest in church membership. Christians are becoming a minority. Our downtown neighborhood is changing. Our congregation is getting smaller. **To thrive and survive, what will our church members do?**

Take a Leadership Class!

Through arrangement with the Kansas Leadership Center, we invite you to enroll in an excellent class called *Your Leadership Edge*. **These classes will outline the skills needed as the church faces the challenges and opportunities for the future.**

Here is what you do to enroll in a class:

- First, you will need a code: Contact Cynthia Berner, Chair of the Core Transformation Team, at ictbooks@gmail.com, 641-7587. You may also call the church office at 263-0248.
- Then, go to the KLC website kansasleadershipcenter.org and follow the instructions. You will need the code number, as noted above. Future class dates will be announced for January.
- Finally, pick up your books in the church office. These are *Your Leadership Edge: Lead Anytime, Anywhere* and a spiral-bound notebook "KLC Guidebook." There is no charge for these books.

Please consider joining us for these very informative classes!

Sunday Kids Connection-Kids Connection is prerecorded as part of the live stream worship service on Sundays. If you have questions on how to join or find the group, please call Liz at 316-214-4318.

Stewardship Campaign Drive Information for 2021

We have received \$229,004.00 in pledges so far. Our pledge drive is scheduled to end on November 22. If you have not sent in your pledge card with the ACH Debit sheet, please get that into us. The finance committee is working on the budget for 2021. Thank you.

2021 Calendars Needed for Refugees

The Mission Commission is collecting 2021 calendars for the members of the Wichita Redeemer Congregation Church. As you start receiving complementary calendars that you cannot use, please bring them to the church and place them in the basket outside the office marked "Items for Refugees."

Alternative Gift Market a BIG success!

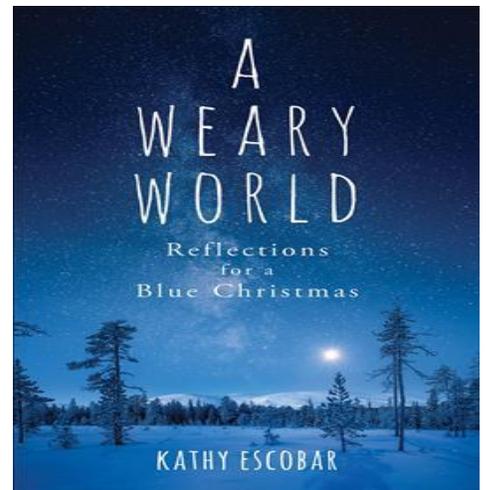
What a wonderful event the Alternative Gift Market turned out to be last Saturday. The committee thought that if \$10,000 was raised it would be a good day. The result was \$21,248.88! What blessings these dollars will be to some very needy folks. This Market obviously has some very loyal shoppers. The temperature reached 74 degrees, it was windy, but everyone wore masks, were good at social distancing, and appreciated being out and about on a beautiful fall day. The sports court proved to be an ideal location under the circumstances. Thanks to all those at FPC who worked to make the Market a success.

You can still support the Market. Go to the AGM website and review the 2020 projects: <https://alternativegifts.org/giving/gifting/causes>. Contribute online or mail a check to the church office made out to AGM, in the memo line place the number of the project/s you want to support.

To print out the shopping list go to: <https://alternativegiftmarketwichita.files.wordpress.com/2020/10/2020-wagm-shoppinglist.pdf>. There are also project books and shopping lists on the table outside the office. People served by the AGM projects are some of the very "least of these." Even a small donation can make a big difference in their lives.

Wednesday Night Advent Class - *A Weary World: Reflections for a Blue Christmas*

For three Wednesday nights in December from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., I will be teaching a class on a book of devotions by Kathy Escobar. The main purpose of the book is to help people cope with the Christmas Blues that affect those who have experienced a profound loss and find it hard to get in the celebratory mood of Christmas. And as I think about all the loss so many Americans have experienced on account of this virus—loss of health, loss of life, loss of job, loss of physical contact, loss of social interactions, I think this is a timely study. In many ways Escobar's devotions take the form of lament. They allow us to bring our complaint to God, knowing that we will be heard and comforted by the one who is our Emmanuel—God with us. The class starts on December 2 and ends on December 16. The class will meet via Zoom. I will send out an invitation each week and a reminder.



RAISE FUNDS FOR FPC USING AMAZON SMILE

You can also help earn money for FPC when you make purchases from Amazon. Amazon Smile is a program that donates 0.5% of each purchase to the charity of your choice. When you are ready to shop, go to <http://smile.amazon.com>, choose FPC as your charity, then shop!

Happy Friday

Shop your Black Friday deals at smile.amazon.com or with AmazonSmile ON in the app and Amazon donates

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CALENDAR

Sunday, November 22

- 9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live
- 10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)
- 10:30 Hanging of the Greens (Sanctuary)
- 10:45 Journey's Class (Zoom)

Monday, November 23

- 6:30 KS Leadership Center Transformation Team (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 24

- 1:00 Staff Meeting (MS Teams)
- 2:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (MS Teams)
- 6:30 Session (Zoom)

Thursday, November 26

OFFICE & ECONOMY CORNER CLOSED-Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 27

OFFICE CLOSED-Thanksgiving Holiday
ECONOMY CORNER-OPEN FOR BUSINESS from 1-4:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 29

- 9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live
- 10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)
- 10:45 Journey's Class (Zoom)