



First Presbyterian
Church on the Square

FEBRUARY 2024 GRAPEVINE

Dear FPC Members & Friends,

One of the most important words in the Bible occurs 240 times in the Old Testament. It provides the foundation for our relationship with God and also directs our daily living.

The Hebrew word “hesed” is most often translated “steadfast love.” Throughout the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, God promises to love us with everlasting, never-ending, steadfast love.

The prophet Isaiah uses poetic imagery to describe the permanence of God’s love: mountains may disappear, and hills may become level ground, but God’s “hesed” will never be taken away from God’s people (Isaiah 54:10).

All human beings sometimes get lost. We go off course or make wrong turns. But God’s love is always waiting for us to come back. “Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful ... abounding in steadfast love ... (Joel 2:13)”

“God is good, all the time ... all the time, God is good,” a traditional call and response often used during Christian worship, echoes God’s “hesed” that is celebrated in Psalm 100:5

For the Lord is good;
His steadfast love endures forever,
And his faithfulness to all generations.

During FPC’s 194 years as a Church Family, there have been many changes in the City of Athens, Limestone County, and throughout the world. One thing that has not changed is the foundation of FPC’s life, faith, and ministry. From generation to generation, our congregation continues to pass along the unchanging truth of God’s steadfast love in Jesus Christ.

In his dedication of the Temple in 1 Kings 8:23, King Solomon prayed:
O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you

In heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love
for your servants who walk before you with all their heart...”

As the Church on the Square, it is a joy to serve with you every day, trusting in the unequalled, never-failing, everlasting, “hesed” of the Triune God.

Blessings,
Pastor Karl



ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- All submissions for Grapevine and the monthly calendar should be sent by email (fpcathens@fpcathens.org) or by phone (256-232-0122) by the 20th of the month.
- Directories are now available in the church office!
- Office hours are Monday - Thursday from 9am - 1pm.



The Service for Ash Wednesday will be

February 14, 2024

6:00 pm



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

**PW Circle will meet on Tuesday February 6th
at 1 pm in the Rogers Center.**

**Hostesses: Carol Creech and Vicki Kellogg
Program: Joyce Counter
Devotional: Karan Baker**

Mark you Calendar



The Annual Meeting of Congregation and Corporation will be held on February 11, 2024 following the 10am service.

A “Souper Bowl Lunch” will be provided by the Mission Committee after the meeting in Rodger’s Center to benefit LCCI.

Stay after the lunch as the congregation participates in a Full Tummy Pack to benefit the children of Limestone County.

Please make plans to stay for all events on February 11th for a wonderful day of Worship, Fellowship and celebrating the Good News about FPC’s plans for 2024.

Potter's Hand Empty Bowls

Friday, February 23rd

11:30-1:00

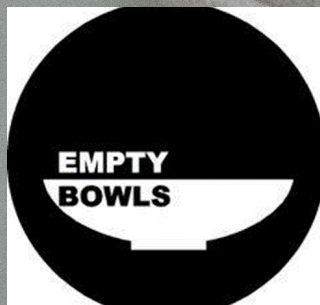
Revival

The Cost is \$15 per ticket. Each ticket will get 2 cups of soup, bread, and a handmade pottery bowl to remind you that someone's bowl may be empty.

Proceeds go to LCCL, School Backpack programs, Hearts for the Homeless, and Beyond Blessed.

Makers Market will have pottery, art, and miscellaneous items for sale.

Tickets available from committee members and the church office. Or you can purchase a ticket on Athens Limestone Empty Bowl Project by following the link on Facebook page. Contact Emily Clem or Julie McNeese for questions about tickets.



Attention FPC Children and Youth:

Join us for SHINE

Shine meets the 4th Wednesday of each month from 6-7 pm at Revival. Shine is open to all kids K-5th grade. Each meeting will include a light dinner or snacks, verse of the month, lesson and related activity. Free play will be at the end of the meeting.

"IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN." -MATTHEW 5:16

Please contact DeAnna McNeill for additional information at deannahmcneill@gmail.com or 256-497-5020.



CHILI CHALLENGE

March 9, 2024
Veterans Museum

HELP NEEDED!!

256-232-5017

Do you love Hospice and our mission for this community? Do you want to cook Chili, volunteer, help collect silent auction items, be a sponsor, or want more information? Just give us a call!



**CHILI
3/9/24**

PRAYER REQUESTS

CHURCH FAMILY

Doris Welch (Home)
Dean Steele
Susie Fogg (Home)
Sharon Massey
Rene Brown (Traditions)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)

Bonnie Chambers (Home)
Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Stephen Toney (Home)
Ruth Martin (Healing)
Jac Catlett
Diane Lynn (Health)

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Brandon Noel - Army	Sean Miller - Army
Adam Naves - Marines	Damien Williams - Army
Michael Ress - USAF -AZ	Joshua Hargrove - Deployed
Jay Tulley- Middle East	Justin Ruf- Army Air Guard
Kevin O'Neill-Army Res.-Poland	

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bob Defour (Doyle & Suzanne Weeks son-in-law)
Brent Harris (Friend of Chris Hilgeman)
Sue Guyer (Health & Healing, Bonny Noel's sister)
Gerry & Denzil Smith (Healing) cousin of Jan Ruth)
Alex Noel (Nephew of John & Bonny Noel)
Bill Grisham (Health, Pam Gregg's dad)
Hazel Ruf (Mason Ruf's mother, home)
Kierra Anderson (Friend of Gale Cottles)
Gary Kilgo (Health, Kay Baugher & Carol Quillen's family member)
Karen Ferguson (Potter's Hand)
Sherry Thompson (Healing, sister of Christy Arnett)
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)
Amy and John May (Healing for both, family of Jan Ruth)
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)
John Cotten (Healing, Potter's Hand)
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)
Maggie Ruth Naves (Healing, great granddaughter of Hazel White)
Finley McAllister (Healing, sibling of Jennifer Quillen's student)
Cheryl Phelps (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10 AM WORSHIP	5	6 PW Circle Rodgers Center 1:00 PM	7 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	8	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10 OFFICE CLOSED
11 COMMUNION 9 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10 AM WORSHIP Annual Meeting/ Lunch/ Full Tummy's	12	13 Mission Shower Day Stated Session Meeting 6:00 pm Revival	14 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio Ash Wednesday Service @ 6pm	15	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17
18 9 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10 AM WORSHIP	19	20	21 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED Empty Bowls Revival 11:30-1:00 pm	24
25 9 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10 AM WORSHIP	26	27	28 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio SHINE FPC Children K-5th Revival	29		

Birthday's

FEBRUARY 2024

5th Debbi O'Neill

18th Ruth Whitten

5th Betty Spencer

18th Aaron King

7th Ruth Clem

19th Erica Hand

8th Bonnie Chambers

23rd Ethan Gossett

10th Sara Barksdale

24th Charlotte Lyle

12th Don Payne

27th Pam Gregg

12th Colleen King

28th Doug Harbin

13th Steve Copeland

28th Elise Harbin

14th Reid Chambers

28th Ruth Martin

14th Micah Gregg

28th Sharon Massey