



First Presbyterian  
**Church** on the **Square**  
January 2025 Grapevine

January 2025

Dear Members & Friends,

Happy New Year!

The FPC Family looks forward to another wonderful year as we respond to God's call to love worship and serve in Christ's name.

One of the great teachings of the Christian faith is that we live "in between the times." This means that, with the birth of Jesus, God's kingdom has already begun on earth. But Jesus is not yet finished building his kingdom throughout the world.

Every day during 2025, Jesus will continue to lead girls and boys and women and men to help build God's kingdom. God's Spirit will use words, actions, worship, and all the relationships of Christ's followers to make Christ's love come alive each day.

Until Jesus returns to earth and completes his promise to make "all things new," we live "in between the times." We already are living, loving, and working as members of God's kingdom. At the same time, we look forward to Christ's return when he will complete God's kingdom and rule over all creation for eternity.

The following quote by C.S. Lewis from "Mere Christianity" offers us hope as we respond to God's call to "in between the times" living during this new year:

"Hope is one of the Theological virtues. This means that a continual looking forward to the eternal world is not (as some modern people think) a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do.

It does not mean that we are to leave the present world as it is. If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The Apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great [leaders] who built up the Middle Ages, the English Evangelicals who abolished the Slave Trade, all left their mark on Earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with Heaven.

It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at Heaven and you will get earth "thrown in": aim at earth and you will get neither. ... Most people, if they had really learned to look into their own hearts, would know that they do want, and want acutely, something that cannot be had in this world."

I look forward to worship, fellowship, learning, and servanthood that God calls us to as we help build God's kingdom as the Church On The Square during 2025.

New Year's Prayers & 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.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

**PW Circle will meet on  
Tuesday January 7  
at 1pm in Rodgers  
Hostesses: Diane Payne  
Program: Lesson 3: Water- Justice  
Devotional: Emily Clem**

## SHINE

**All FPC Children and Youth**

**Wednesday, January 29th at 5:30 in Revival**

Shine is open to all children 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.

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## CHURCH FAMILY

Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)	Duane Counter (Health & Healing)
Larry and Cynthia Ugarte` (Healing)	Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Doris Welch (Home)	Jac Catlett
Dean Steele	Diane Lynn (Health)
Susie Fogg (Home)	Gale Cottles (Healing)
Sharon Massey	Christy Arnett (Healing)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)	Ken (Healing) and Connie Brown
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)	

## THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bob Defour (Doyle & Suzanne Weeks son-in-law)  
Brent Harris (Friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Larry Harris, ( Healing, friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Sue Guyer (Health & Healing, Bonny Noel's sister)  
Gerry Smith(loss of Spouse 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)  
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)  
Silvana Smith (Loss of Spouse cousins of Jan Ruth)  
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)  
John Cotten (Healing, Potter's Hand)  
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)  
Phyllis Ramshur (Health, mother- in - law of Sean Harbin)  
Mike Frehner (Support, friend of David Lyle)  
Dawn (Healing, mother of Brittney Hicks)  
Cindy Newman (Healing, cousin of Chris Hilgeman)  
Jesse Saunders (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Rick Monroe (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Candee & Blair Berger (Loss of a spouse & father damage from  
the hurricanes, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Martha Taylor(Healing, mother of John Cagle)  
Shane Cramer (Healing, neighbor of Jan Ruth)

# January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship Communion	6	7 PW Circle in Rodgers Center 1pm	8 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	9	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship	13	14 Mission Shower Day Stated Session Meeting 6:00 pm Revival	15 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	16 Annual Reports Due to the office via email	17	18
19 9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship	20 OFFICE CLOSED FOR MILK DAY	21	22 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship Installation of Officers	27	28 Session Meeting 6:00 pm Revival 1st meeting for Class of 2027; Prepare for Annual Mtg on 2/9/25	29 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio SHINE FPC Children K-5th Revival 5:30-6:30 pm	30	31 OFFICE CLOSED	

# **January Birthday's**

## **2025**

**7th- Karl Kling**

**9th - Mason Ruf**

**12th - Randi Harbin**

**12th -Ian Emerson**

**17th - A.D. Barksdale**

**23rd- Lauren Cagle**

**25th- Danielle Chouinard**

**27th - Dean Steele**

**27th - Jerry Witt**

**30th - Will Greene**

**31st - Lance Greene**

*Art work created by Emily Brunson  
during church*

