

February, 2025

Dear FPC Members & Friends,

One of the highlights for me of First Presbyterians Sunday Worship Service is the place in the Order of Worship when we say what we believe in the words of the Apostles Creed. This is one of those times when the unity of our confession of faith shines Christ's light in the middle of a world filled with conflict, confusion, and distress.

As I stand in front of the congregation and look out at the First Presbyterian Church Family, I feel blessed and encouraged as you confess your faith using words that have been spoken for over two thousand years. This is a moment of crystal clarity that reminds us that our ultimate loyalty is to the Triune God who created us, saves us, and daily holds us in the palm of his hands.

As we say the Apostles Creed in worship, we focus on what we agree on, the most important things that join us together. Differences like personality, income, education, politics, age, ethnic origin, and faith experience all find their place in the kingdom of God under the gracious care of the Risen Christ.

Every time we say these ancient words, they come alive in our family of faith today. As we finish the creed, we experience the unity that we confess:

"... I believe in the holy catholic church ("worldwide"); the communion of saints ("unity and fellowship of all who open their heart to Jesus"); the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen"

Our unity in Christ is a sign of hope, help, and blessing for each other, for the Athens community, and for the world that God loves.

> 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.



PW Circle will meet on Tuesday February 4 at 1pm in Rodgers Hostesses: Vicki Kellogg Program: Lesson 5: Air Quality Devotional: Wanda Blair

## SHINE

## **All FPC Children and Youth**

Wednesday, February 26th 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.



Please join us for a baby shower celebrating Lauren and John Cagle February 2, 2025 12:30-2:30 in Revival. The Cagle's are registered at Target and Amazon but diapers and wipes are always appreciated.

### <u>Tickets on sale for the Alabama Family Resource</u> <u>Center Stew Fundraiser</u>:

The fundraiser will be held on February 7th

Please see Gina Garth to purchase tickets They are 8.00/quart or 25.00/gallon

Orders need to be placed by February 4th.

## Mark you Calendar

The Annual Meeting of Congregation and Corporation will be held on February 9, 2025 following the 10am service.

Join us after the service for a "Souper Bowl Lunch," the Annual Meeting will be held following the lunch.

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

## Potter's Hand Empty Bowls

## Friday, February 28th 11:30-1:00 Revival

The Cost is \$20 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 LCCI, School Backpack programs, Hearts for the Homeless, and Beyond Blessed.

Auction of a week long condo rental in Gulf Shores. Pottery 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.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS CHURCH FAMILY

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

#### THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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

#### 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) 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) 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)



Saturday	0	ω	15	-	
Friday		OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	B Empty Bowls Fundraiser by Potter's Hand OFFICE CLOSED
Thursday			14	21	28
Wednesday		5 9:00-1:00 PM 6 The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio	3 9:00-1:00 PM The Potters Hand Pottery Studio SHINE FPC Children K-5th Revival 5:30-6:30 pm
Tuesday		PW Circle in Rodgers Center 1pm	Stated Session Meeting 6:00 pm Revival	19	50
Monday		4	F	18	25
Sunday		2 9am Sunday School 3 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship Communion Cagle Baby Shower	9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship "Souper Bowl Lunch Annual Meeting Full Tummy Pack	16 9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship	23 9am Sunday School 24 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship

Birthday's

# FEBRUARY 2025

5th Debbi O'Neill

5th Betty Spencer

7th Ruth Clem

10th Sara Barksdale

12th Don Payne

12th Colleen King

13th Steve Copeland

14th Micah Gregg

18th Ruth Whitten

18th Aaron King 19th Erica Hand 21st Mary Crowell 23rd Ethan Gossett 24th Charlotte Lyle 27th Pam Gregg 28th Doug Harbin