

Grace Presbyterian News

January 2017

Game Night and Watch Night Service – Friday, December 30, 2016

We get together at the church for monthly game night on Friday, December 30, starting at 6:30 p.m. Bring your games and snacks and we will have fun. AT 9:00 P.M. in the sanctuary, we will have a Watch Night service with prayers for the coming year. This service brings together several themes: it is still Christmas season. We also mark the Holy Name, given to Jesus on his eighth day; being in church is a pious alternative to other places on New Year's Eve; we mark the passing of the years under the love of our God, our help in ages past; it is a "covenant renewal," as practiced by ancient Israel, and it recalls the faith of American slaves, who gathered to worship in the final hours leading up to the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. This service will last about 25 minutes.

Welcome New Members

Rick, Karen, and Hannah McAdams were received into membership of Grace Presbyterian Church at a special session meeting on Christmas Day. We are happy to welcome this wonderful family, who moved to Memphis from Pennsylvania earlier in the year. Karen is the daughter of John and Rosemary Gordon. Rick currently has to work most Sundays but is able to be with us from time to time in worship and other church events. Hannah frequently serves as an acolyte, often with her cousin Kendall Walker.

A Reminder of Weekly Events at Grace Presbyterian Church

Sunday Prayer and Praise begins at 9:30 p.m. (We sing and pray for those on the prayer list by name.)

Sunday School begins at 9:45 p.m.

Sunday Worship begins at 11:00 a.m.

Bell choir rehearses most Sundays after worship at about 12:00 noon.

Choir rehearses in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Grand Pals read to preschoolers on Fridays at 11:00 a.m.

Thanks to the Musicians for a Beautiful Advent and Christmas

We were so blessed with music during Advent and Christmas from the chancel choir, the hand bell choir, and the music of children from the pre-school, all guided along by Charlotte Hicks, Bob Vawter, Cristaldawn Smith, and Jean Jones, with Donald Hicks on percussion from time to time and soaring solos and descants by Karen Schlichte. Thank you for the faithful and loving sharing of your talents and gifts.

Thanks for Cookie Sale Contributors

The Great Cookie Sale on December 10 realized a profit of \$1500, a new high. Chair Bob Harrold expresses a big thanks to the bakers: Kris Benassi, Paula Bishop, Ruth Ellen Cox, Suzanne & Clyde Getman, Rosemary & John Gordon, Scott Hunter, Sandy Kehrl, Frances Kitterman, Mary Korowin, Martha Krech, Patsy Krech, Jean Markham, Emily Mayne, Hannah McAdams, Jane & Bill McGoldrick, Jim Pickren, Sharon Ragghianti, Jean Starnes, Anna Tate, Bob & Janet Vawter, Elizabeth Velazquez, Kathe Walker, Marilyn Wilson; and to Judy Price for printing and publicity; and Betsy Lewis and Mike Krech in the office.

Thanks for Breakfast with Santa Leaders

We had a wonderful time with a number of children from the church and day school and extended care on December 3. Breakfast snacks, games, stories, crafts, and lively fellowship abounded. Thanks to Sara Lawson Cristaldawn Smith, Jere Lawson, Hugh & Paula Bishop, Scott Hunter, Judy Price, and others.

Thank You for Your Stewardship Response

It is a joy to report that the budget approved by the session for 2017 is balanced and with new money for both mission outreach and building maintenance. **THANK YOU** for your generous response and your financial commitment to Grace Presbyterian Church and to the countless hours given by so many in both tending to the church's physical plant as well as extending the ministry and outreach of Grace Presbyterian Church.

De-Christmas the Sanctuary – Saturday, January 7

We will take down the Christmas decorations in the church on Saturday, January 7, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Many hands make light work, so come ahead on and it won't take long.

Ordination and Installation of Elders – Sunday, January 8

We are grateful to Kevin Bopp, Ruth Ellen Cox, and Emily Mayne, who have heard and answered the call of God through the voice of the church to serve as elders for the Session Class of 2019. January 8, as we also focus in worship upon the Baptism of the Lord, is a good Sunday for all of us to be reminded of and to re-commit ourselves to our baptismal covenant of membership in the Body of Christ and to use our talents for the glory of God and the good of the church. As we ordain Emily and install her along with Kevin and Ruth Ellen, we thank them for their leadership past, present and future, and all seek to be faithful servants of Christ.

Presbyterian Women Meetings in January

The PW Night circle meets Monday, January 9, at 7:00 p.m. and the Day Circle meets Tuesday, January 10, at 10:00 a.m. Also SECRET PAL sign ups are available on the high desk in the narthex.

Celebrations of Communion in 2017

The session has approved the dates for the observance of the Lord's Supper in 2017. Our pattern is to celebrate Communion at least once during each season of the liturgical year and a few times during the long season after Trinity Sunday when the Scripture readings most directly reflect the theme of believers gathering at table, or Jesus being at table during his ministry. The dates for Communion will be: January 1; February 5; March 1 (Ash Wednesday); March 19; April 13 (Maundy Thursday); April 30; June 4 (Pentecost); July 9; August 6; September 3; October 1 (World Communion); November 5 (All Saints); December 10; December 24 (Christmas Eve).

Salt Shaker Dinner Sign Ups

There will be forms in the worship bulletins on January 1, 8, and 15, to sign up for salt shaker dinners, a chance to get together for a meal and conversation in groups of 8 or so, in various homes, or sometimes at the church, to get to know fellow church members a bit better.

Visitors in Worship who signed the register in December 2016

Chuck, Patty and Jessica Bagwell, Bartlett; Don & Betsey Bogen and Kayla Donahue, Bartlett; Ed, Stephanie, Grace, Bo, Michael Bowen Bartlett; John Boyce, SC; Diana Cole, Dallas TX; Gabriel Davenport, Bartlett; Turid Dulin, Memphis; Greg Elmore, Bartlett; Bob & Eve Gammon, Cordova; Sherry Hathaway Hodges, Lee's Summit MO; Sissel Jangaard; Brad Hunt family, Bartlett; Jim King, Memphis; Joe King, Russellville AR; Ryan, Aimee, Addie, Will Krech, Destin FL; Dan and Roseann Mayo, Bartlett; Rick, Karen, and Hannah McAdams, Memphis; Shawn McGoldrick, Memphis; Don and LindaJo McKim, Germantown; Andrea Nichols, Bartlett; Gretchen Perez, Bartlett; Adam Price, Oklahoma City; Hollie Price, Bartlett; Crandall Quinn, Bartlett; Anna & Steve Tate, Bartlett; Ted, Kim, Samantha, Emily, Olivia Upshaw, Bartlett; Katelyn Vawter, Memphis; Dustin Westfall family, Bartlett; Daniel Whitaker, Hickory Wythe; Steve White, Olive Branch; Linda Young, Bartlett.

Tapestry – A Great Leaning Opportunity – January 27-28 at First Pres. Memphis

A keynote address Friday, Jan. 27 by William Carl and workshops through the day Saturday on a variety of topics. The Presbyteries of the Mid South and St. Andrew join together. See brochures at church.

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Christmas 2; Epiphany/ Communion</p>	<p>2</p> <p><i>Jeanne Baker</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Rick McAdams</i> <i>Karen Schlichte</i></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 am De- Christmas Sanctuary</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Baptism of the Lord/Ordain & Install Elders 12:00 Bell Choir <i>Bill Byrd</i> <i>Eric Washburn</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 p.m. PW Night Circle</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 a.m. PW Day Circle</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Mike on study leave Thursday through Sunday <i>Cephas Starnes</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:00 am GrandPals read to pre- schoolers</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Epiphany 2/ McKim preaching 12:00 Bell Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Session Mtg.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>Elizabeth Velazquez</i></p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Epiphany 3 12:00 Bell Choir</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Daniel Hicks</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal <i>Lee Guenther</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p><i>Martha Krech</i> <i>Caitlyn Walker</i></p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:00 Tapestry Keynote at First Pres Memphis 6:30 p.m. Game Night</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30-3:30 Tapestry Educational Opportunity at First Pres Memphis</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Epiphany 4 12:00 Bell Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Frances Kitterman</i></p>	<p>31</p>				

Communion Elders

January 1: Paula Bishop, Harold Howard,
Scott Hunter, Ken Hathaway, John Price

Usher Schedule

January 1 & 8:
Hugh Bishop, Ken Hathaway

January 15 & 22:
Ruth Ellen Cox, Harold Howard

January 29:
John Price, Elizabeth Velazquez

Elder on Duty

January 1: Kevin Bopp
January 8: Ruth Ellen Cox
January 15: Paula Bishop
January 22: John Gordon
January 29: Paula Bishop

Lectionary Readings for Worship:

Jan. 1: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72;
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Jan. 8: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:15-17

Jan. 15: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40;
1 Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

Jan. 22: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27;
1 Cor. 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

Jan. 29: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15
1 Cor. 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

A Prayer for Epiphany

Everlasting God, the radiance of faithful souls,
who brought the nations to your light and kings
to the brightness of your rising: Fill the world
with your glory and show yourself to all nations
through him who is the true light and the bright
morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Grace Presbyterian Church

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Sent With Love To: