

Grace Presbyterian News

January 2018

Game Night – Friday, December 29, 2017, and Friday, January 26, 2018

We get together at the church for monthly game night on Friday, December 29, 2017, starting at 6:30 p.m. Bring your games and snacks and we will have fun. Game Night happens again on January 26, 2018.

Twelfth Night Worship, and Pot Luck Meal – Friday, January 5, at 6:30 p.m.

Yes we are trying something different this year – a worship service and fellowship to conclude The Twelve Days of Christmas. Friday, January 5, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. is the time for worship to begin. After the service we will enjoy food and fellowship. The focus of worship is the visit of wise men (Matthew 2:1-12). Also, if we have the energy we will de-Christmas the sanctuary, or, if not, will do it Saturday morning. You may also want to plan to observe a custom associated with this date – go back to your home by a different route than the one you took to church, just as the wise men did to evade King Herod.

How Blessed We Have Been By New Members These Past Twelve Months

We give thanks for the persons who in the past year made Grace Presbyterian Church their church home. They are listed below in the order of their reception. Since Christmas 2016, the following people have joined the church; please continue to help welcome them and get better acquainted.

Rick, Karen and Hannah McAdams
Bob and Eve Gammon
Linda Young
Grace Lawson
Cole Price

Anna Tate
Michelle Clifford
Judy Rutkauskas
Matthew Smith

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, all guided along by Charlotte Hicks, Bob Vawter, and Jean Jones, with Donald Hicks on percussion and soaring solos and descants by Karen Schlichte. Thanks also to Cristaldawn Smith for reading some of the lessons at the Lessons and Carols service, as well as our Advent wreath candle lighting families. Thank you for the faithful and loving sharing of your talents and gifts.

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 9. Breakfast snacks, games, stories, crafts, and lively fellowship abounded. Thanks to all.

Thanks for Cookie Sale Contributors

The Great Cookie Sale on December 9 realized a profit of about \$1700, a new high. Thanks to all who made it happen.

Thank You for Your Stewardship Response

It is a joy to report that the budget approved by the session for 2018 is balanced and with new money for both mission outreach and building maintenance. **THANK YOU** for your generous response, which over-subscribed the askings and for your ongoing financial commitment to Grace Presbyterian Church. We are also indebted 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.

Ordination and Installation of Elders – Sunday, January 7

We are grateful to Brooks Keiser, Rosemary Gordon, and Elizabeth Velazquez, who have heard and answered the call of God through the voice of the church to serve as elders for the Session Class of 2020. January 7, 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 Elizabeth and install her along with Brooks and Rosemary, 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 8, at 7:00 p.m. and the Day Circle meets Tuesday, January 9, at 10:00 a.m.

Celebrations of Communion in 2018

The session has approved the dates for the observance of the Lord's Supper in 2018. 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 on those occasions when the lectionary Scripture readings most directly reflect the theme of believers gathering at table, or Jesus being at table during his ministry. The 2018 dates for Communion are: January 21 (season after Epiphany); February 14 (Ash Wednesday); March 4 (Lent); March 29 (Maundy Thursday); April 15 (Easter season); May 20 (Pentecost); June 17; July 22; August 26; October 7 (World Communion); November 4 (All Saints); December 9 (Advent); December 24 (Christmas Eve).

Visitors in Worship who signed the register in December 2017 (through Christmas Eve)

Jerol Black, Memphis; **Holly & Tiffany Bopp**, Bartlett; **Charlie, Kristy, Zach, Aiden & Lydia Drake**, Canton, GA; **Sierra Fry**, Blytheville, AR; **Linda Gafford**, Bartlett; **Rusty Gammon**, Cordova; **Kevin, Whitney, Caroline & Anna Cate Getman**, Memphis; **Nadiyah Gibbs**, Memphis; **Wendi Glenn**, Bartlett; **Cliff, Kristen, Casey & Ellie Gurlen**, Memphis; **Jerry W. Jones**, Bartlett; **Cathi, Taylor & Alex Kennedy**, St. Louis, MO; **Joe King**, Russellville AR; **Ryan, Aimee, Addie & Will Krech**, Destin FL; **Seth Mayne**, Memphis; **Dan and Roseann Mayo**, Bartlett; **Shawn McGoldrick**, Memphis; **Don and LindaJo McKim**, Germantown; **Adam Price**, Oklahoma City; **Geri Raghianti**, Knoxville, TN; **Ann Rhodes**, Southaven, MS; **Susan, Bill & Aidan Smith**, Largo FL; **Martha Starnes**, Atlanta GA; **Margaret & Ryan Tolbert**, Mt. Juliet, TN; **Jim & Rosie Trobaugh**; **Andrew, Sarah, Isaac, Leah, & Nathan Vawter**, in transit; **Tony & Jo Veltri**, Bartlett; **Roger & Ann Wade**, Bartlett; **Kathy Ward**, Memphis; **Dave, Karen, Corey & Caleb Weiss**, Havertown, PA; **Daniel Whitaker**, Hickory Wythe; **Steve White and grandson Daxton Rowland**, Olive Branch, MS.

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 31 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Christmas 1	1 New Year's Day	2	3 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	4	5 6:30 p.m. Twelfth Night Worship & Pot Luck <i>Rick McAdams Karen Schlichte</i>	6
7 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Baptism of the Lord/Ordain & Install Elders 12:00 Bell Choir	8 7:00 p.m. PW Night Circle <i>Bill Byrd Eric Washburn</i>	9 10:00 a.m. PW Day Circle	10 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	11 Mike on study leave Thursday through Sunday	12 11:00 am GrandPals read to pre- schoolers	13
14 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Epiphany 2/ Don McKim preaching 12:00 Bell Choir	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday 5:30 p.m. Session Mtg.	16	17 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	18	19 11:00 am GrandPals read to pre- schoolers <i>Elizabeth Velazquez</i>	20
21 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/ Communion Epiphany 3 12:00 Bell Choir	22 4:15 p.m. Chapel for Extended Care resumes	23	24 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal <i>Daniel Hicks</i>	25 <i>Lee Guenther</i>	26 11:00 am GrandPals read to pre- schoolers 6:30 p.m. Game Night <i>Martha Krech Caitlyn Walker</i>	27
28 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Epiphany 4 12:00 Bell Choir	29 4:15 p.m. Chapel for Extended Care <i>Frances Kitterman</i>	30	31			

Elder on Duty

January 7: Rosemary Gordon

January 14: Kevin Bopp

January 21: John Price

January 28: John Price

Readings to prepare for Worship:

Jan. 5 (Friday): Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72;
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Jan. 7: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

Jan. 14: 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139;
2 Cor. 11:21b-29; Matthew 6:20-34

Jan. 21: Jonah 3:1-5,10; Psalm 62;
1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Jan. 28: Deut. 18:15-20; Psalm 111;
1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

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.

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Sent With Love To: