

PRAY FIRST

21

DAYS
OF
PRAYER

January 2022
2TH-23RD

Daily Preparation for Prayer

- Humble Yourself and Acknowledge God's Presence
- Ask for Forgiveness
- Express Praise and Thanks to God
- Believe and Expect Answered Prayer!

Daily Prayer Focus

Sun. Jan. 2/Day 1	Worship, praise, hearing God's Word and applying it
Mon. Jan. 3/Day 2	Government leaders: city, state, nation and world (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
Tues. Jan. 4/Day 3	FPC staff members, elders and deacons
Wed. Jan. 5/Day 4	Fairbanks: local missions, churches, schools: staff, students & parents
Thurs. Jan. 6/Day 5	America: strengthening of Christian churches, national missions, EPC
Fri. Jan. 7/Day 6	The World: international missions, spreading of the gospel
Sat. Jan. 8/Day 7	Praise and thank God for being our Provider (Jehovah Jireh)
Sun. Jan. 9/Day 8	Worship, praise, hearing God's Word and applying it
Mon. Jan. 10/Day 9	The Lost: family members, friends, people groups all over the world
Tues. Jan. 11/Day 10	Small groups & Bible studies: Life-changing for leaders/members
Wed. Jan. 12/Day 11	FPC leadership and volunteer development and growth
Thurs. Jan.13/Day 12	Children and youth ministries
Fri. Jan. 14/Day 13	FPC outreach ministries and mission support
Sat. Jan. 15/Day 14	Praise and thank God for being our Healer (Jehovah Rapha)
Sun. Jan. 16/Day 15	Worship, praise, hearing God's Word and applying it
Mon. Jan. 17/Day 16	Families and marriages
Tues. Jan. 18/Day 17	FPC's vision for 2022: evangelistic focus, vision team, pastor search
Wed. Jan. 19/Day 18	Personal Vision for 2022: Seek God's plan and call on our lives
Thurs. Jan.20/Day 19	Deliverance/breakthrough (debt, habits, unhealthy relationships, etc.)
Fri. Jan. 21/Day 20	Our personal requests: finances, health, family members & others' needs
Sat. Jan. 22/Day 21	Praise and thank God for Jesus, our Lord and Savior
Sun. Jan. 23	Sharing the blessings of 21 Days of Prayer

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2022

I AM THE NEW YEAR

I am unused, unspotted, without blemish
I stretch before you three-hundred
And sixty-five days long.
I will present each day,
in its turn, a new leaf in the Book of Life,
for you to place upon it your imprint.

I AM THE NEW YEAR

Each hour of every day, I will
Give you sixty minutes that
have never known the use of man.
Clean and pure, I present them.
It remains for you to fill them
with sixty jeweled seconds of
Love, Hope, Endeavor, Patience,
And trust in God.

I AM NEW YEAR

I am coming —
But once past, I can never be recalled,
Make me your best!

Anonymous

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:15-17

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

One of my favorite movies is called “*Hoosiers*.” It’s a wonderful story about a small town high school that wins the Indiana State high school basketball championship. This story was based on a true story, which was placed back in the 50s. Back in those days, they didn’t have divisions based on high school size or enrollment. Instead, every high school, no matter what size, small or big, plays for the state championship. “*Hoosiers*” was an amazing movie of a small high school basketball team that worked hard and jelled together to become one of the greatest sports stories of America. It was your typical “David beating Goliath” story. This movie was very inspirational and heartwarming.



But another reason why this movie is one my favorites, it is story of redemption. It is a story of new beginnings for a man who failed in the college basketball industry. The story is about a college basketball coach who lost his integrity and credibility in a fit of anger and eventually was banned from coaching college basketball. The coach of the story was given another opportunity to coach, but on the high school level, a very small high school level. The coach of this movie was given a new beginning and a new chance of starting over.

Celebrating the “New Year” is another reminder of how we can have new beginnings and start over again. It is an opportunity to assess the old year and plan for the New Year. I believe God gave us a gift, a holiday, to remind us of God’s grace and mercy in our lives. The God of the Old Testament and New Testament is a God who takes our broken lives and gives us new lives through the process of redemption.

God gives us ample opportunity to “renew” our lives on a daily basis. The “Good News of Jesus” is that God can take our failures, our old broken lives and our sinfulness and renew us....all we have to do is acknowledge our need for a Savior, our need for dependency on the Holy Spirit to transform us and God will renew us. Of course, if sin is the cause of our failures and brokenness, we need to turn from that with God’s help. If it is brokenness and failures that were caused by someone or something else, then we need God’s strength to forgive and to heal.

I pray for a blessed “New Year” for all at First Presbyterian Church in Fairbanks.

PS—Thank you for your generous financial Christmas gift, but especially, I thank you SO much for your loving fellowship and friendship.

Pastor Peter Dembroski

2 Cor 5:17- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! NIV

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OFFICE CLOSURE
In recognition of the Martin Luther King
Holiday, the front office will be closed
Monday, January 17, 2022

SESSION

What follows is a short summary of the decisions and actions of the Session, at the December 21, 2021 Session Meeting. The minutes of the meeting will contain a more complete record.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in the Conference Room at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, November 16th.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, TE Peter Dembroski, with prayer.

Pastor Peter provided a devotion based on the Birth of Christ.

Minutes from the last meeting and vital statistics from the last month were reviewed and approved.

Correspondence from the Presbytery was received with an update on the upcoming January Presbytery Meeting and another letter requesting that the FPC Session, at the next Session Meeting, discuss plans to assemble a Pastor Nominating Committee.

Correspondence was received from the a member who had a concern about Communion.

Session reviewed the Deacons Meeting minutes from October 26th and approved vacation days for Pastor Peter.

Session received a written report from the Church Treasurer.

The second draft of the proposed 2022 budget was presented. Through various motions, the session amended various line items of the draft budget.

It was **moved, seconded, and passed** to adopt the 2022 Budget as presented.

It was **moved, seconded, and passed** to fund travel to the January Presbytery Meeting in Portland, for David McConnell-Booher. He will be attending as an observer and a candidate under care of Presbytery.

It was **moved, seconded, and passed** to call the Winter Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting for February 6, 2022 after morning worship.

It was **moved, seconded, and passed** to replace all the carpeting in the mid-level youth rooms and to repaint the mid-level youth rooms and other downstairs classrooms, funding to come from the Capital Facilities Equipment Repair and replacement fund.

Church Security was discussed and it was **moved, seconded, and passed** to form a committee to write a security policy.

Written ministry team reports were received.

Elders spent time in prayer. After making prayer requests known, Moderator Dembroski prayed for the elders and for First Presbyterian, and then adjourned the meeting in prayer.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on January 18, 2022 at 6:00 pm, in the Church Conference Room.

Don't Miss It!

FPC Men's Overnight Retreat



- When:** Friday, February 11, 5:30 PM – Saturday, February 12, 4:00 PM
- Where:** Knox Retreat Center – Meet at First Presbyterian Church to car pool.
- Retreat Leader:** Pastor Carl Cady
- Retreat Topic:** Back to the Basics
- Cost:** \$55.00 per person.
- RSVP:** [Space is Limited.](#) Reservations and Payment for the retreat are required by February 3rd. Reservations and payment can be made by contacting Jim Aldrich, cell: 907- 378-2582; email: jwaldrich@gmail.com

All of the men of First Presbyterian Church (FPC) and their male friends are invited to join us for an overnight retreat at the Knox Retreat Center at Harding Lake. We will meet in the FPC parking lot at 5:30 PM on February 11th and car pool to the Knox Retreat Center where Lonny Marney and crew will have a nice dinner waiting for us. Pastor Carl Cady will talk to us on Friday night and Saturday about getting “Back to the Basics” – a discussion of personal spiritual growth. We expect to finish up just after lunch, clean up the retreat center and be back to FPC by about 4:00 on Saturday February 12th. There is limited space and there is a small fee to cover our costs, so advanced reservations and payment are required. The fee for the retreat is \$55.00 per person. Reservations and payment can be made by contacting Jim Aldrich, cell 907-378-2582 or email jwaldrich@gmail.com. Initially, the retreat will be open to the men of FPC and their immediate friends, but if it appears that we will have room available we will open the events to several other churches, so make your reservation early. Parking and plug-ins are very limited at the retreat center, so it will be necessary to car pool from FPC. If you would like to attend, but the fee is a problem, contact Jim as a limited number of scholarships are available. Some of you will remember when we have done this in the past, and it has always been a great time. We are looking forward to getting together again!

MEN MINISTRY



FPC Men's Breakfast

Come join us for a pancake breakfast and fellowship on

**Saturday January 15th
at 9:00 am.**

All of the men of the church, sons and male friends are invited. For more information, contact Jim Aldrich phone 907-378-2582 or email jwaldrich@gmail.com.



Happy Birthday

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 2 | Sarah Curtis |
| 4 | Dwight Morris |
| 5 | Denise Wartes |
| 6 | Beth Brummond |
| 7 | Benjamin Hull |
| 8 | Dave Stephenson |
| 10 | Michael Repasky |
| 11 | Dale Shelley |
| 12 | Joan Riggs |
| 13 | Jake Sirevaag |
| 14 | Sara Cogley |
| 16 | Geoff Beyersdorf |
| 16 | Jack Schnurr |
| 25 | Shelia Williams |
| 26 | Kari Nore |
| 31 | Karina Huffaker |

Upcoming!
Annual Reports are due
February 17, 2022

DEACON MINISTRY

Special Thanks and Prayers for a Blessed New Year

The end of 2021 was quite difficult for most of us here in the interior, but we are truly thankful for what our Lord, Jesus Christ has given us:

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me." Philippians 4:13

Thank you to all the leaders of our church and to you, the congregation, that helped provide gifts of love through baked goods, financial gifts to assist with fuel oil and electricity and groceries, and your gifts of musical talent that are continually shared with others.

Thank you for the many gift cards, popcorn tins, and personal cards that were shared with our youth and young adults and our elders. Thank you for sharing your personal time with others and exchanging fun stories from the past and creating new memories in the present. YOU are making a difference in your life and the lives of others.

"Don't be selfish . . . Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself." Philippians 2:3

Now is the time to PRAY every day – PRAY FIRST. It really works! We did a lot of praying in the month of December and He hath provided!

You can be a beacon of light to many. Reach out and help someone – it will uplift you. Call someone on the phone that you have not seen recently. It will make both of you feel terrific!

This is a new year, and it will be a great year. Your Board of Deacons wishes you the best BLESSED NEW YEAR.

In His Service, Barbara Nore



CHILDREN MINISTRY

Dear First Pres,

Thank you for the love and time you've poured into the children's ministry this month!

It was a joy to put on this year's Christmas Program for many reasons, but especially because so many of you participated. We presented the Christmas story during a Sunday service which allowed most of you to attend and respond to the children. What better way to show your love and care to our kids than to bless them with your attention and your open hearts?

In addition to the audience members, many others participated in a "team effort": our Music Director, Nancy Dreydoppel; our Dance Captains, Rebecca and Autumn Vanderlugt; our Costume Master, Stephanie Rozell; our Excessive Energy Output Co-ordinator, Michelle Marney; our Tech Guru, Paul Bonnell, and the many, many parents who walked alongside the kids. They got those costumes on and remembered to get to rehearsals, and hummed those tunes to themselves all day. Bless you parents!

If that weren't enough, our youth were gracious to help us. They read our scripture and even gave us the pleasure of hearing a world premiere piece of instrumental music (thank you Henry Repasky for sharing your offertory arrangement)! Thanks also to Jim Aldrich for building the foundation that made Mary's donkey come to life. What a fun, special touch to our program!

Last but not least thank you to all the kids

They were **diligent** to practice,

BRAVE to perform,

& generous

In giving themselves to worship God.



January prayer requests:

***Please pray that our newer families will truly sense God's love and care in this new place**

***Please pray that our kids would take scripture to heart and apply it in their daily lives**

***Please pray for patience and wisdom for the parents**

May the redemptive, ridiculously generous, wonderful love of God sustain you through all these winter days and far into the future.

Carina

YOUTH MINISTRY

The Spicy Mustard Youth Group is halfway through Confirmation Class! Be sure to encourage our young people when you see them taking sermon notes, volunteering in worship, and generally taking part in the life of the congregation. Soon the students will be meeting with the Elders, going before the church, and affirming creed and faith in Christ Jesus before being baptized or affirming their baptism and then becoming full members of First Presbyterian!

David's Seminary News

In December, I completed Hebrew, Practical Theology, and Social Ethics. I have begun a new quarter with classes on Pastoral Ministry, Family Ministry, and Preaching for Special Occasions. Thank you all for your continued prayer, financial support, and words of encouragement for me on this journey!

WAYS TO GIVE



(In person)
Worship Service,
office visit, etc.



(mail)
547 7th Avenue
Fairbanks, AK
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(Online)
fairbanksfirstpres.com

PRAYER TIME

All are invited to prayer time each
Tuesday in the sanctuary at 12:15pm.
This is a time for us to intercede for
our world, nation, community, church
family and friends.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Prayer Chain

If you would like to request
prayer via the Prayer Chain,
please contact the front office
and submit request to Marta.