



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



September 2024

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast

Session members:

Class of 2024:

Patricia Clark

Class of 2025:

Slade Weaver and Kathy Winn

Class of 2026

John Clark and Patricia Fields

Treasurer:

Ronny Knight

Clerk:

Patricia Clark

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Tina Hammer, Secretary

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Pulpit supply

Sept. 1st - Jane Els, communion

Sept. 8th - John Coleman

Sept. 15th - Jane Els

Sept. 22nd - John Coleman

Sept. 29th - lessons and hymns Sunday

Congregational Meeting Notice

This notice is a little early, but it is something members need to be considering.

A congregational meeting has been called for October 27 to vote on bypassing the election of a nomination committee and proceed directly to electing officers for the class of 2027. (0-2 session members and 1 trustee)

Additional Information (Please read!)

Our bylaws and the Book of Order state that a nomination committee should be elected to nominate and present a slate of officers to the congregation to vote on at a subsequent congregational meeting. We have become so small that this step seems superfluous. The last several nomination committees

have ended up being the nominees for officers. Plus, we would have to call a 2nd meeting to vote on officers which means needing to meet again the very next month. If the congregation sees fit, in order to do things "decently and in order," we would need to vote to bypass the nomination committee and proceed to electing officers. BUT that means that the members of the congregation need to come to that meeting with names to place into nomination for officers! So please be ready with names. Remember that you need to have asked that person if she/he is willing to serve and gotten her/his permission ahead of time.

So, how many officers do we need? Only Tricia Clark is rolling off Session. We can have 4 to 6 members serving on Session. Four people will remain on Session (Slade, Kathy, Patricia, and John). Therefore, we can elect 0, 1, or 2 people to Session for the class of 2027. John Clark is rolling off as Trustee, so we will need to elect one Trustee. (A trustee rolling off may be reelected.)

Also, the Session appoints the Clerk of Session each year. Tricia is resigning that position, so the Session/Church is in need of someone willing to fill that position. That person does not need to be a member of Session, but she/he does need to be an ordained ruling elder.

Please give prayerful consideration as to whether YOU may be willing to serve as a Session member, Trustee, and/or Clerk of Session.

Our next Fellowship Lunch will be after church on September 29th in the Fellowship Hall. Plan to bring a dish or a dessert to share, and join us, it's always a lot of fun!

September 2024 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, September 1 (Proper 17)

Semicontinuous

Song of Solomon 2:8–13

Psalm 45:1–2, 6–9

James 1:17–27

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Complementary

Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

Psalm 15

James 1:17–27

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Sunday, September 8 (Proper 18)

Semicontinuous

Proverbs 22:1–2, 8–9, 22–23

Psalm 125

James 2:1–10 (11–13) 14–17

Mark 7:24–37

Complementary

Isaiah 35:4–7a

Psalm 146

James 2:1–10 (11–13) 14–17

Mark 7:24–37

Sunday, September 15 (Proper 19)

Semicontinuous

Proverbs 1:20–33

Psalm 19

James 3:1–12

Mark 8:27–38

Complementary

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Psalm 116:1–9

James 3:1–12

Mark 8:27–38

Sunday, September 22 (Proper 20)

Semicontinuous

Proverbs 31:10–31

Psalm 1

James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a

Mark 9:30–37

Complementary

Jeremiah 11:18–20

Psalm 54

James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a

Mark 9:30–37

Sunday, September 29 (Proper 21)

Semicontinuous

Esther 7:1–6, 9–10; 9:20–22

Psalm 124

James 5:13–20

Mark 9:38–50

Complementary

Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

Psalm 19:7–14

James 5:13–20

Mark 9:38–50



Jane's Journey

A few months ago I applied for and was accepted to be part of the Faithful Preaching Project to be conducted by Austin Seminary and funded by the Lily Endowment. Our cohort will be led by Dr Carolyn Helsel, who taught my preaching class at seminary and by Dr Mark Jefferson who taught preaching at Pittsburgh Seminary. We will meet via Zoom twice a month beginning next week and continuing through May of 2025. I have agreed to commit my time and energy to this project and I must confess that I'm not sure at this point just how much of a commitment it will be. It's starting to sound a little scary.

I have to confess that I am a lazy preacher. A great portion of the sermons I write are really written by the Holy Spirit. I just write down what the Spirit tells me to say. This technique has seemed to work up to this point. I have always been a big fan of the Holy Spirit. And I have to wonder if taking a fancy class might mess up a good thing I've got going with Casper. (Casper Supreme is my nickname for the Holy Ghost.) Right now Casper and I are pretty tight and I don't want to offend him by taking a class on how to write a sermon when he has been such a great help to me.

I've been reading a book by one of my favorite TV guys, Jean-Pierre Isbouts. He makes great documentaries for the National Geographic channel on the archeology of the bible and the historical Jesus. (Beaven and I recently bought one of his books that I highly recommend: In the Footsteps of Jesus. It's loaded with maps and photos, as well as taking the reader to the sites of familiar stories of Jesus then showing photos of the place.)

But the book I'm talking about right now is called The Search for Heaven by Isbouts and it is totally different from his other historical books. And it's about the spiritual realm. The first thing Isbouts does is count off the things in our world that are physical, the things of the five senses: taste, touch, sight, smell, and hearing. Anything beyond those five are spiritual.

The more I thought of the spiritual realm, the more I remembered times I encountered spiritual happenings. The interesting thing is I can't necessarily prove my spiritual encounters happened. You can't photograph them because there's nothing to see, nothing to hear, or touch, taste or smell even. You can't record a spiritual event. You can't save it to refer back to it later.

Casper is telling us to Embrace the moment. Anticipate it. Enjoy it. Feel it. It is God. Come to say, "I love you." Feel free to join the conversation.

August BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARIES

1 John Clark
6 Rick Drennan

ATTENDANCE:

June 30—17
July 7—16
July 14—13
July 21--15

September

Presbyterian, Birthdays, Holidays in United States

Sep 2024 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion	2 Labor Day Office closed	3	4	5	6	7 12pm - Al-Anon
8	9 2pm - Bible Study	10	11	12	13	14 12pm - Al-Anon
15 First Day of Hispanic	16 2pm - Bible Study	17	18	19	20	21 12pm - Al-Anon
22	23 Gross & Crown dot 2pm - Bible Study	24	25	26	27	28 12pm - Al-Anon
29 Fellowship Lunch	30 2pm - Bible Study	1 Olivia Hobman	2	3	4	5 12pm - Al-Anon