



# Anchor Links

# December 2021



Happy Advent, my friends!

Yes, I know it does not have the same ring to it as “Merry Christmas!”, but both Christ and Christmas are coming. When Advent begins, we know Christmas is not far away. It’s much harder to get excited about Advent than Christmas. Advent is the time of preparation for the coming of the Christ to set up the kingdom of God. There is work to be done. Christmas is the time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the very Son of God who has come in human flesh. We celebrate. Christmas is divinity, homemade fudge, sugar cookies, and wassail; chocolate covered pretzels and cinnamon roasted pecans; the smell of evergreen and hot cocoa hanging in the air; bright reds and deep greens; white lights and colored lights; wrapped gifts with bows and carols of joy sung with energy and without a care. Advent is waiting for salvation to come again. Advent is preparing our hearts and homes for the Christ and sharing the joy and hope with others about the advent, or coming, of Jesus a second time. Advent is expectation and waiting.

How we wait is important. We wait with the words of John the Baptist, “the one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” ringing in our ears. As we wait this Advent, may we live as if Jesus is coming this Christmas not as the baby born in Bethlehem, even though he will be the same Lord we know, but as the Son of man and Judge to create a new heaven and a new earth. Let’s prepare the way of the Lord. Practice both kindness in how we treat others and generosity in how we give our gifts. Live in the Spirit of compassion that our Lord Jesus has. Be filled with the love of God we know so well in God’s Son Jesus, that love that did not turn away from

the leper, that love that healed the Syrophenician (Gentile) woman’s daughter, and that love that sent the Gerasene demoniac home from the tombs healed to tell the good news of Jesus and his love. I encourage you to sing both the hymns of Advent hopefully and the Christmas carols joyfully with the knowledge that Jesus is coming and Christmas is arriving. Prepare the way of the Lord!

I wish you all the hope of Advent and the love of Christmas.

May you have a Merry Christmas,

*Jim*

Come let us  
*Adore*  
Him

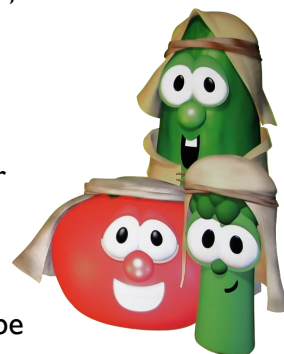


# Birthdays of the Month

Christmas shines most bright and true when you give the love God gave to you!



December 3	James Caperton, III
December 6	Andy Clarkson
December 8	Anna Marsh
December 8	Pat Lemmon
December 11	Linda Griffin
December 12	Graham Turner
December 16	Tony Matussek
December 16	Christy Jensen
December 17	Emily Wilhelm
December 18	Edwin Holcombe
December 18	Robert Windham
December 19	Margaret Smith
December 20	Mary Marsh
December 21	Lewis Obenchain
December 21	Michal Dobson
December 21	Dana Edwards
December 23	Karisa Matussek
December 24	Aksel Jensen, III
December 26	Sara Flannagan
December 26	Blair Turner
December 31	Ellen Treadway



**Sunday School will resume after the first of the year! Looking for volunteers to teach!**  
**If interested contact Christy Jensen.**  
**If you marked available to teach on the Time & Talents for 2022. Christy has your name.**

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### Property

Monday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm

### Mission

Monday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

### Pastoral Care

Tuesday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am

### Worship & Music

TBD

### Faith Development

TBD

### Session

Monday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

### Officer Training

Sunday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am

### Gift Fund Committee

Wednesday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

## Happy Anniversary



### December 19th

Mike & Karisa  
Matussek



### December 9th

Aksel & Norma Zae  
Jensen, III



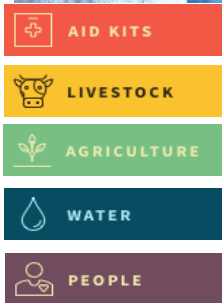
**If you are interested in joining the Property Committee please don't hesitate to contact Rob Marsh at [rmarsh2@gmail.com](mailto:rmarsh2@gmail.com)**



Thank you to everyone who picked up an angel!!!!  
 We are out of angels!!!!  
 Please remember to return the gifts UNWRAPPED in a bag, being sure to attach the angel to the bag. This is our ONLY identification of the families receiving the gifts. Please return to the church by **Dec. 9th.**



# Christmas Giving Suggestions



Christmas time is coming and if you listen to your various news media pronouncements, all our gifts are in cargo ships off the coast of California. There are other options for gift giving to those interested in remembering family and friends by honoring them instead of giving an actual gift. Your Mission committee is suggesting you check out the **PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG** to fulfill your gift giving needs. This catalog contains items ranging in price from \$15 to \$5000. You purchase something like a sewing machine or hive of bees or kitchen kit just to name a few and these items are given to folks in developing countries to assist them in making a living. A card is sent to you or the person you are honoring, announcing the gift. You are invited to pick up one of these catalogs which have been placed on the small table at the back of the sanctuary or on the table outside the church office and check out alternatives to your usual gift giving. Our youth are using the receipts of their butter braid sales to purchase something from the catalog that will give some help and hope to families struggling to live.



## CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

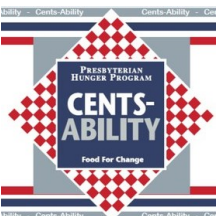


Seeing that we had no hope in ourselves of moving past what separates us, God offered us a gift in Jesus Christ who opens a door — a door we could not open ourselves.

As we support the Christmas Joy Offering, we seek to not only meet needs, but to meet people, to come through the door that generosity opens. We open the door to celebrate “God is with us!”

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future — who point us to God.

Text **CHRISTMASJOY** to **91999** to give or visit [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy) to learn more about how your gift to the Christmas Joy Offering makes a difference.



Cents-Ability, a national Presbyterian Hunger Program initiative, is a small step in the battle against hunger and poverty. Congregations invite every member — of all ages — to contribute a few cents at every meal. This simple act is an expression of thanks for what we have received.

It is also a commitment to share with others in response to Jesus’ command “You give them something to eat.” When members bring their offerings to church on the appointed Sunday, all of those coins “make a joyful noise unto the Lord” as they are received and dedicated.

All monies collected are then used to support local programs and/or to fund grants that are awarded to hunger agencies throughout Middle Tennessee through the directives of the



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### Bake Less Bake Sale

Thank you for all of the generous donations to the Women of the Church Bake Less Bake Sale. We received \$1,038 in donations! This will help the Women of the Church pay all of our benevolences.

We appreciate your support and generous donations.

### T-Shirts...Get your T-Shirts

There are a few t shirts left from the order that our youth group did several years ago. Most of the sizes are small and X Large. If you do not have a t shirt, or if you need a new one, check out the Fellowship Hall before or after church on Sunday. Prices have been reduced. The long sleeve shirts are \$15.00 and the short sleeve shirts are \$10.00. All money from t shirts will be given to the youth group.

There are also some extra t shirts from Bible School several years ago. These are all XXL. These are free to anyone who would like one. They would make great sleep shirts!

## MISSION NEWS

Each Spring FPC gift committee is given the delightful task of selecting charitable organizations who have submitted requests to receive varying amounts of money from the Bailey and Lucy Evans Trust Fund. Below is a letter from Gloria Johnson representing the Rosenwald Community Center here in Shelbyville recounting what they did with their gift:

"With the help of the Bailey Evans Trust money, we have started a Fall garden in raised beds at the Rosenwald Community Center on Tillman Street. With the money we have purchased tee shirts for the children who are participating in the garden project, crafts for decorating their garden, stepping stones, crafts for the Fall and Christmas season and snacks and lunch on the days they meet to work in the garden. We are planning an outdoor outing on their Fall break. The children are so excited.

A plus with this project is the involvement of a few of the parents, two of which are fathers. I deem this project a success when fathers spend quality time with their children and volunteer to help. One father loves art and is doing art lessons with the children. I am more than excited for this adventure and look forward to next year's activities.

Thank you so much."

An additional note of explanation.....there were 16 to 20 children who participated in the garden project along with 2 fathers and several mothers all from the neighborhood around the Rosenwald Center. The garden produced turnip and mustard greens, kale, and some root veggies which the children and their parents sampled and declared tasty. The plans are to expand the garden to a tilled plot next Spring in order to raise summer vegetables.

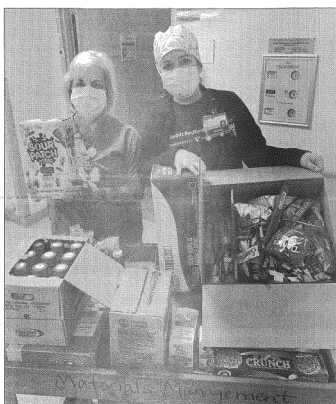


### **Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital: "Thank You!"**

Staff touched by outpouring  
from community

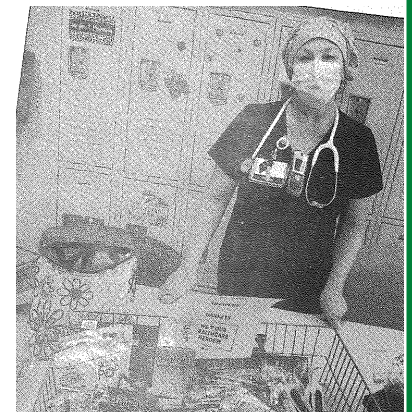
Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital staff recently shared how touched they've been by the community's support during the recent COVID-19 surge.  
The hospital staff was also "incredibly thankful" for the gifts they have received. Anyone who would like to continue to show love and support to the community's healthcare heroes, the wish list may be found at: <https://www.amazon.com/for/vanderbilt-bedford-hospital>

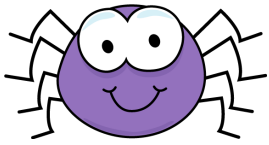
Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital  
VANDERBILT HEALTH



## Pastoral Care

Our pastoral care group got together to provide snacks to the front line night shift workers at Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital. They also included words of encouragement for the nurses. Keep up the good work.





# Parent's Day Out



**P  
D  
O**



**FALL  
FESTIVAL**





Katherine Marsh  
Came in to read  
to the kids.



The kids enjoyed a  
special visit from  
former Marine,  
Steve Northcutt



**Join us! Bring a friend! Tell your neighbors! Let's celebrate this time together!**

## The Season of Advent at First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville

**December 5, 2021** (Sunday) 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent "Peace" – Worship Service at 10:00am with communion  
The children will present: "The Nativity Through Song and Scripture." Come watch our children tell the story of Jesus' birth while we all sing some familiar Christmas songs & get ready for this special season.

**December 12, 2021** (Sunday) 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent "Joy" – Worship Service at 10:00am  
 Cantata at 3:00pm – A special program performed by the choir. They will be presenting  
 "I Call Him Lord" by John Bolin, Cliff Duren and Blake Walker

**December 19, 2021** (Sunday) 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent "Love"  
 Worship Service at 10:00am with Christmas Potluck Luncheon to follow – Special Christmas Joy Offering  
 "Blue Christmas" Service at 5:00pm - Bring your sadness and leave with HOPE.

\* See the attached flyer for all the information on the Blue Christmas Service

**December 24, 2021** (Friday) Christmas Eve Service with communion at 5:00pm

**December 26, 2021** (Sunday) 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas – Worship Service at 10:00am

**January 6, 2021** (Thursday) Epiphany of the Lord Service – time is yet to be determined.



## *trust* Servers for December *pray*

Date	Ushers/Greeter	Hall Monitor	A Time for Young Christians	Children's Church	Nursery
Dec. 5	Richard Wilhelm & Kristin Wilhelm	John Marsh	N/A	N/A	Christy Jensen
Advent Readers & Candle Lighters :			Belinda, Walker & Isabella Craig		
Dec. 12	Charlotte Williams & Margaret Smith	Pat Marsh	Kate Canady		Pat Thomas
Advent Readers & Candle Lighters :			David & Debbie Kee		
Dec. 19	Roy Turner & Lisa Turner	Richard Smith	Kate Canady	Melanie Hamilton & Christy Jensen	Mary Marsh
Advent Readers & Candle Lighters :			Steve, Kristin & Jennie Kate Conley		
Dec. 19 5:00PM	Bailey Little & Trena Little		N/A	N/A	Katherine Marsh
Dec. 24 5:00PM	Pat Thomas Melanie Hamilton Leo Skelton Rob Marsh		Kate Canady	N/A	
Advent Readers & Candle Lighters :			Tim, Raychelle, Jacob & Sarah Flanagan		
Dec. 26	Richard Smith & Kathy Smith	Roy Turner	Kate Canady		Lisa Turner

\*\*\* We still have some spots that need to be filled. Please contact the office if you can help. Thank You! \*\*\*

# Goodbye

## Our Farewell to Cindy Lamb

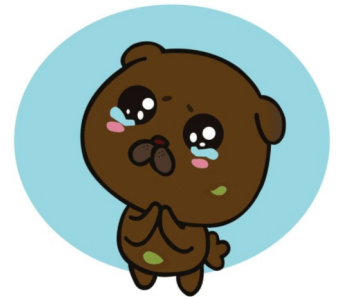
**god-send** *noun* a very helpful or valuable event, person, or thing

Similar: blessing      bonus      benefit      asset      gain

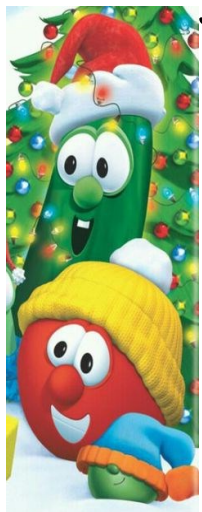
There is just no other word for it....Cindy Lamb is a godsend.....she was sent by God. From the day she arrived, she was full of energy and ideas...and then COVID hit and shut the church down. But Cindy Lamb was not going to let a little ole global pandemic stop her mission of sharing the love of Christ with the youth and young children of this church. She made countless trips to the homes of the young people of this church to drop off Easter baskets, a bundle of books for the youth, and just little things to the children to let them know she was thinking of them. She set up Zoom Bible Studies with the youth. When the products arrived for Vacation Bible School the first year she was here....they weren't up to her standards so Cindy CREATED a VBS program to be used during a pandemic. Drive-by supply pick-ups, meeting via Zoom to share a story and to see the craft the children had made, and then a drive-thru celebration of completing VBS with cheerleaders and an appearance by Moses. When we began to "come out" of the COVID restrictions, she planned outings with the youth, had a REAL Easter Egg Hunt, organized Trunk or Treat, created a Sports VBS....and the list goes on and on.

Thank you Cindy. Thank you for arriving when we had no idea what was coming. Thank you for the hours spent with our children and youth talking to them about God. Thank you for the hours spent planning. Thank you for just being you and for the spark of joy you bring to everyone who knows you.

You are....a godsend and we know that God sent you to us. We will miss you but we were so blessed by you that we can't be sad. We're only grateful that God showed His goodness in sending us you.



DO YOU REALLY  
HAVE TO GO...?



## First Presbyterian Ladies

Please join us for our Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, December 14th 6:00pm at Riverbend Country Club

Dinner will be a hearty soup, salad bar and dessert

Cost is \$13.50 (Dinner, drink, dessert and gratuity is included)

Please make your reservation, with payment To

Ginny Saylor by December 6th

Please bring a wrapped \$10.00 gift to exchange for some crazy fun.

★  
For  
unto  
you is  
born this  
day in the  
city of David  
a saviour, which  
is Christ the Lord.  
Luke  
2:11

# DECEMBER 2021

<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thu</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>
<b>SUNDAY SERVICE</b> <b>LIVESTREAMS</b> EVERY WEEK AT 10 AM 			Book Club 10am 1	2	3	Sorting for Backpacks 10am 4
Officer Training 11am Backpacks 5pm 5	6	7	Gift Fund 5:30pm 8	9	10	Soup Kitchen Breakfast Prep 7:30am Handout 9am 11
Cantata 3:00pm 12	Mission 5:30pm Property 5pm 13	Pastoral Care 10am WofC Christmas Party 6pm 14	15	16	17	18
Christmas 11am Luncheon Blue Christmas Service 5pm 19	Session 5:30pm 20	21	22	23	Christmas Eve Communion 5pm 24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



## Prayer Request

**Patti Jo Bennett** (Sister of Jim Sepull)  
**Carissa Craig** (Belinda Craig's Daughter-In-Law)  
**Billie Crowell** (Music Directory)  
**Mary Channell** (Linda Anderton's mother)  
**Evelyn Davidson** (Member)  
**Diane Green** (Nursery Director)  
**Fred Hunt** (Member)  
**Aksel Jensen, III** (Member)  
**Family & Friends of Larry Kee** (David Kee's Brother)  
**Carolyn Matusek** (Member)  
**Family & Friends of Hugh Parker** (Member)  
**Family & Friends of Nowlin Taylor** (Former Member)

**LT Andy Canady** (Member)

**Airman Chase Blanton** (Member)



**Those in Military service and their families**

**Those who are serving abroad and at home**

If you would like to add someone  
 to the Prayer List,  
 please call the church office  
 at (931)684-6541.

*Never  
stop  
praying*

First Presbyterian Church  
600 N. Brittain St.  
Shelbyville, TN 37160  
Office: (931) 684-6541  
Fax: (931) 684-6575

first.pres.church600@gmail.com  
firstprezshelbyvilletn.org

Jesus loves you

### FPC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jim Moran  
Pastor

Cindy Lamb  
Children and Youth  
Christian Director

Billie Crowell  
Music Director

Chenel Gervais  
Church Secretary

Diane Green  
Nursery Director

Teresa Phillips  
Parents' Day Out Director

*Session minutes are available in the church office  
for any member of the congregation to review.*

We have a variety of options for tithing and offerings. They  
can be made by Facebook, Venmo, Vanco, Check or Cash.



### SESSION

Class of 2021  
Rob Marsh, Leo Skelton,  
Margaret Smith,  
LeaAnne Windham (Clerk of Session)

Class of 2022  
Aaron Crafton, Melanie Hamilton,  
Ginger Shofner, Richard Smith

Class of 2023  
Helen Garner, Christy Jensen,  
Kristin Wilhelm, Terry Saylor

Class of 2024  
Brent Canady, Katherine Marsh,  
Lori Sain-Smith, Drew Turner

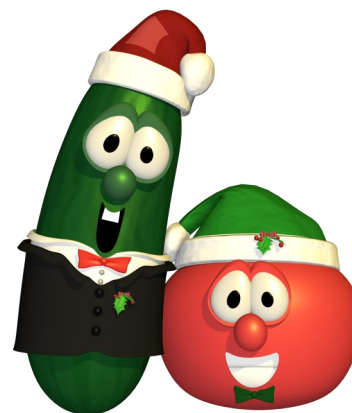
### TRUSTEES

Class of 2021  
Kathy Smith

Class of 2022  
Pat Thomas

Class of 2023  
Tommy Anderton

Class of 2024  
Bailey Little



### Holy Communion Preparation

December 5  
Karisa Matussek &  
Nancy June Brandon

December 24  
Pat Thompson



### View Our Church Directory on your Mobile Device!!!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory* and download the FREE app to begin.  
You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.  
If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

\*\*\*\*\*Currently it has your address, phone number and email listed. If you don't want others to see it please let Chenel know.  
Only members you can see when you are logged in can see your information.

Please keep in mind that it is just getting started. Questions, Comments, Concerns...please don't hesitate to contact Chenel