

VOL. 65 NUMBER 1 · JANUARY EXPRESS 2023

# THE AMBASSADOR

A publication of First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater

Return to regular Sunday  
morning schedule



**January 15**

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

Children and Worship resumes  
during 11:00 a.m. worship

## **Annual Congregational Meeting & Meeting of the Corporation**

**Sunday, January 22nd, @ 12:15 p.m.  
in Fellowship Hall**

**Lunch provided by the Scouts**

See page 4 for details

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## First Presbyterian Church Staff

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Coordinator  
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Coordinator of Older Adult Ministries

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UKIRK Assistant  
J Jones

Youth Ministry Assistants  
Elijah Ankrom  
Haley Brobston

Children's Ministry Assistant  
Bekah Bowman

Preschool Director  
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Building Supervisor  
Vickie Foust

## New Year, New Custodial Staff

Midway through 2022, Mike Flowers, our faithful, long-time custodian extraordinaire, announced his plan to retire and shutter Flowers, Inc. at the end of 2022. Trustees and staff were busy this fall exploring other custodial options and meeting with prospective companies. Ultimately, Trustees elected to accept a bid from City Wide, a company based out of Oklahoma City who service other businesses here in Stillwater. The new company started work on January 2 and will take on the many custodial tasks that Mike Flowers and crew have so faithfully completed for years.

This will be an adjustment period for all of us as Mike, quite frankly, spoiled us by going above and beyond what is expected of a custodian, including Sunday morning coffee hour and joining for Bible study and worship. We ask for your patience and grace during this time of transition.

## Celebration for Mike Flowers & Flowers, Inc. Sunday, January 29, @ 12:15pm in Fellowship Hall

As a way to come together as a congregation and celebrate the many years of service Mike Flowers, Billy Flowers, and all of Flowers, Inc. have given to FPC, there will be a come-and-go reception for the Mike and the Flowers family directly after worship on Sunday, January 29th, in Fellowship Hall. More details will be coming closer to time, but for now please mark the date on your calendar and plan to take part.

## Staff Notices/Travel

- Pastor Jenny has changed her last name after the resolution of her recent divorce. Please join us in love and hope, as we acknowledge and support Rev. Jenny Wells. Her new email address is: jenny.wells@stillwaterfpc.org
- Pastor Kati is continuing her Doctorate of Ministry studies with Southern Methodist University. January 3-8th she will be onsite with Mission Waco, and January 9-13 she will be taking a course in Dallas on Long-Range Planning. If you are in need of pastoral care, please call the office and you will be connected with someone who can help.
- Pastor Jenny and some of our UKirk students are in Montreat, NC the first week of January. Please keep them in your prayers during their travel and this great spiritual and fellowship opportunity!
- Magdalena Vinson will be out of the office January 13 - 22, returning on Monday, January 23.
- Jenna Campbell, Director of Children & Youth Ministry, will be out of the office January 24-30 attending the APCE Annual Event in Birmingham, AL and will be receiving The Educator of the Year award (more on that next issue!)



PRESBYTERIAN • YOUTH • GROUP



Presbyterian  
Youth Group

## Youth Ministry

### Youth Sunday

February 12 @ 8:30 and 11:00 am

In Fellowship Hall

Worship is planned and led by our youth on the theme of "Following Jesus", based on their studies on faith practices from the fall and how practices of faith move us to listen for the Spirit, love God and love others, and be more like Jesus.

For ALL 6th-12th graders

### Sunday evenings

PYG is a time for connection, fellowship, discipleship, and living our faith. At PYG, we play, laugh, pray, study scripture, serve, ask big questions, and grow as faithful disciples. Join us!

#### January

- 6-7 - Lock-In (8:00pm-8:00am)
- 8 - No PYG
- 15 - PYG (5:00 - 6:30pm)
- 22 - PYG (5:00 - 6:30pm)
- 29 - PYG (5:00 - 6:30pm)

#### February

- 5 - PYG (5:00 - 6:30pm)
- 11 - Youth Sunday Rehearsal (1:30 - 3:30pm)
- 12 - Youth Sunday (7:45am - 12:00pm)
- No PYG



Youth grades 6-12 are invited to a full night of fun! Bring a snack to share and a friend!

## Adult Ministry & Fellowship

### Adult Sunday School Classes - Sundays @ 9:45am

Sunday School Classes will resume on January 15, 2023.

- "Feasting on the Word" - led by Denise Rex, this class follows the Revised Common Lectionary (the Scripture readings we hear on Sunday mornings) and meets in the Upper Room (south end of 2nd floor).
- "Faith & Fellowship" - facilitated by Tim Hardin, Faith & Fellowship decides as a class on their course of study. This class meets in the Multipurpose Room.

### Dine with Nine!

Interested in a night of food and fellowship with small groups? Join us this semester in Dine with 9! You meet once a month with your small group and we rotate groups each semester! If you have young children, FPC provides childcare for the evening free of charge. If interested, please email [fpchurch1889@stillwaterfpc.org](mailto:fpchurch1889@stillwaterfpc.org).

## Tri-Chapter Organ Recital

Friday, January 20, @ 7:30pm at  
First Christian Church

The Cimarron Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is hosting a performance by nine organists from Oklahoma City, Ponca City, Stillwater and Tulsa. Performers will include FPC Stillwater's former choral scholar Brad Newcomb, now Dir. of Music/Organist at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ponca City, and Rebecca te Velde, who will perform a piece by her father. Admission is free and all are cordially invited for a fun and varied program.

## Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir rehearsals resume on Wednesday, January 18th, 7:00-8:15pm. Anyone 7th grade and older is invited to join as we kick off a new year of music-making and ministry.

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting of First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater is called for Sunday, January 22, 2022 at 12:15 pm in Fellowship Hall

For the purpose of:

- Receiving Annual Reports
- Approving Associate Pastor Terms of Call
- Receiving 2023 Session Budget Report

Also:

- Annual FPC Corporation meeting
- Other business from the floor

All members of FPC are strongly encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting. Anyone can attend; only members may vote.

Boy Scout Troop 820 will be preparing and serving lunch and there will be door-prize desserts.

\*Please note there will not be an option to attend via Zoom this year.

## Organ Bench

### Becky's Bench Buddies

Ever wonder what worship feels like from the choir loft? Or what happens at the organ? Come and see for yourself! Anyone 7 years or older is invited to sit on or next to the organ bench with Becky te Velde during a worship service. Contact Becky for yourself or for a child/grandchild to make arrangements. Children may either choose to leave the organ at Time with Children, or stay up in the choir loft for the whole service.

Gloria Osei, granddaughter  
of George and Pat Gilland







The January Series will be broadcast once again to a LIVE audience in FPC's Fellowship Hall beginning Monday, January 9th, 2023, and continuing weekdays through January 27th. This will be the 36th edition of the award-winning series provided by Calvin University, and the 7th time FPC has had the privilege of hosting the broadcast. As always, admission is free, and FPC's doors are open to all. All programs begin promptly at 11:30 am and end at 12:30 pm. Bring your lunch and come join us!

If you are not able to attend in person, all programs will also be available online until midnight PST of the day they are broadcast. Visit [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january) for details and online streaming access.

The January Series is a FREE 15-day award-winning lecture series that takes place each year at Calvin University. The series aims to cultivate deep thought and conversations about important issues of the day, to inspire cultural renewal and make us better global citizens in God's world. We are thankful to share this special gift with our local, regional, and global community, thanks to our underwriters.

### **To help you in marking your calendar, here's the complete lineup:**

- Monday, January 9: Dr. Sara Hendren; *What Can a Body Do?*
- Tuesday, January 10: Monica Guzman; *Reclaiming Curiosity in Divided Times*
- Wednesday, January 11: Nate Mook; *The Urgent Pursuit to Nourish the World*
- Thursday, January 12: Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap; *Following Jesus in a Warming World*
- Friday, January 13: Dr. Amy Kenny; *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request*
- Monday, January 16: Dr. Gregory Thompson; *To Stick With Love: King's Vision for Today's Movement*
- Tuesday, January 17: Kaia Kater; *Song Selections*
- Wednesday, January 18: Dr. Noah Toly; *Learning Together, Living Together: What the World Needs from Christian Liberal Arts Education*
- Thursday, January 19: Kerri Arsenault; *Family and Environmental Legacies*
- Friday, January 20: Dr. Moo Cooper; *Diversity in STEAM from a Real Life Guardian of the Galaxy*
- Monday, January 23: Ken Jennings; *And the Answer Is: Why Is It Better to be a Generalist?*
- Tuesday, January 24: Peter Wehner; *How Christianity Can be a Healing Force in American Society*
- Wednesday, January 25: Dr. Esau McCaulley; *What is African American Biblical Interpretation and Why Does the Whole Church Need it*
- Thursday, January 26: Efosa Ojomo; *The Prosperity Paradox and the Power of the Market-Creating Innovation*
- Friday, January 27: Dr. Kate Bowler; *Life After Perfect*

The January Express  
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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### Worship at First Presbyterian

#### Sunday Worship Schedule

December 18 - January 8  
11:00am Hybrid Worship Service

#### Sunday Worship Schedule beginning January 15

8:30am Worship Service  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Hybrid Worship Service

#### Midweek Prayer

Wednesdays 12:10pm via Zoom

THE AMBASSADOR

JANUARY EXPRESS 2023

## Take the Discovery Tool Survey!

If you've taken the survey before, now is the time to do it again! If you've never taken the survey, now is the time to do it!

We'll be taking time in worship on January 22 and 29 to offer our gifts back to God through the Discovery Tool. Please bring your devices (phone or tablet) to worship and discover how your gifts can enhance the ministry of FPC.

SCAN HERE:



Have you already taken the survey in the past?  
Take it again and see what opportunities come up!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF STILLWATER

VOLUNTEER ACCELERATOR

# DISCOVERY TOOL

## WHAT IS THIS TOOL?

Offering time, talents, and spiritual gifts is an important way we live out Jesus' call to discipleship. With the Discovery Tool, you can connect your particular gifts with the needs of the world, our community, and one another! This survey takes just 2-4 minutes to complete, and you will see the results immediately. Our prayers is that the Discovery Tool helps you pledge your time and talent to Christ's mission through First Presbyterian Church in ways that are joyful and spiritually enriching for you.

## HOW DO I ACCESS IT?

Scan the QR code below or visit [www.stillwaterfpc.org/getinvolved](http://www.stillwaterfpc.org/getinvolved) to access the tool. If you would rather use a paper copy of the survey, please contact the church office.

## WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?

- Quick and simple to use
- Helpful for discovering talents and gifts
- Connect to meaningful volunteer opportunities