

THE PROCLAMATION

*"To Know Christ and
Make Christ Known"*

FIGURING IT OUT WITH GOD

REV. DR. JOHN A. HINKLE, JR., SENIOR PASTOR



When it comes to looking into the future, my favorite quote (which I eventually just gave up trying to remember who said it first) is, "We may not know what the future might hold, but we know who holds the future in His hands." I also like and closely connect with another quote, 10 at the latest. "If you want to make God laugh, come up with a plan." Either one is a reminder that the future before us is always unknown. I do my best to be the "glass is half full" kind of guy, especially when I stand before another New Year. Like most of you, I have my hopes and dreams with the coming of any new year. Yet, I am realistic enough to know what I do *not* know, and what I do not know is what the future holds for me.

For example, as I reflect on the year that was, I could not imagine that in 2018 I would be diagnosed with prostate cancer followed up with surgery. That event alone took my breath away, but in many ways, that was just one of many things that came my way. Leila changed schools. My parents continue to age. The church reminded me again that people come and people go. Tripp was awarded his Masters. The list of these milestone events continues to come into my life, one right after another: some expected... others just came out of the blue.

All of this being said, as I face another New Year, what I know in the known and especially in the unknown is that God has got this, and maybe more importantly, God has got me. Recently, I sat with a friend as he laid in his hospital bed. My friend had been sick for some time. The only problem other than the obvious problem of being sick is that doctors did not know why he was ill. Spending time with him that day, I could tell that he was worried, but more than concerned, he was frustrated. "If I just knew what this was," he said. I have been there. I think we all have. Knowing I have been there, I also knew there was not much I could say to take his worry away. Like all visits, I closed this visit with a prayer, but it is when I said, "amen," he looked at me and declared boldly, "I guess whatever this is... I will figure it out with God."

Come to think of it, that is how we can face every New Year, "Whatever this is... I will figure it out with God." Happy New Year.

Follow Rev. Hinkle on Twitter @daltonboy1986 or email him at jhinkle@mborofpc.org



COMING THIS MONTH

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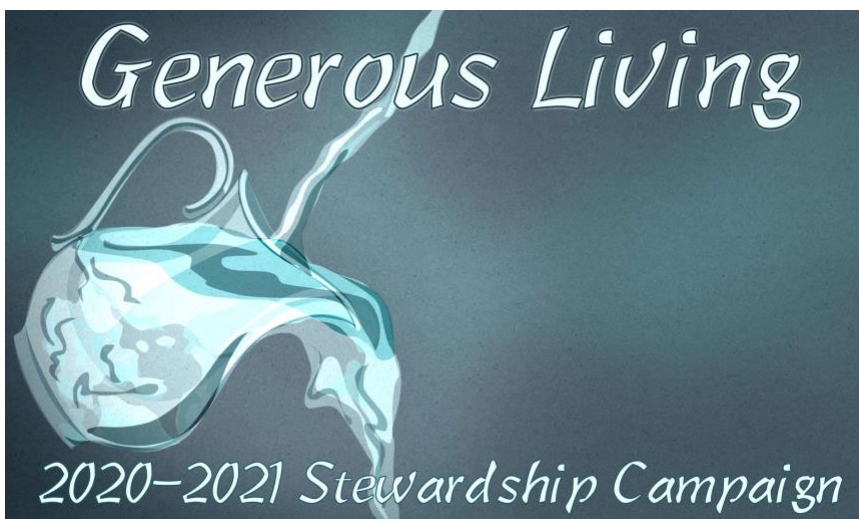
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GENEROUS LIVING: STEWARDSHIP SEASON 2020/2021

The scriptures tell us that we are called to live our lives out of our abundance (in faith). In everyday life this means that we know that God has blessed us beyond our imagination in both sending us His Son, Jesus Christ as well taking care of our daily needs. A generous life includes giving back to God and trusting Him to provide for us in His grace. As we begin our Stewardship Season on January 26th we will see how this generous life can be lived out intentionally and bless God, the hurting in this world, and us. — Bart & Lee Ann Walker



PREACHING THIS MONTH

January 5 **Epiphany of the** **Lord**

"A Different Road"

Psalm 53

Matthew 2:2-12

January 12 **Baptism of the** **Lord**

"Diving In"

Psalm 1

Matthew 3:13-17

Service of Wholeness
After Each Service

January 19 Come find out...

January 26 "A Little is Enough" *Psalm 27*



Service of Wholeness

A Service of Wholeness is held the 2nd Sunday of the month around the communion table in the Sanctuary following each service. The service will be brief. Those who would like to be prayed for are invited to attend.

FPC NEWS

RULING ELDERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2022

On Sunday, January 5, during the 11 a.m. service, First Presbyterian Church will celebrate the ordination and installation of Ruling Elders for the class of 2022.

Being Ordained and Installed: Dave Davis and Jan LaLance

Being Installed: Judy Gritton, Kevin Heusinkveld, Bob Hoffman, Handani Kam, Paul Lane, Tracey Lannom, and Don McKinney

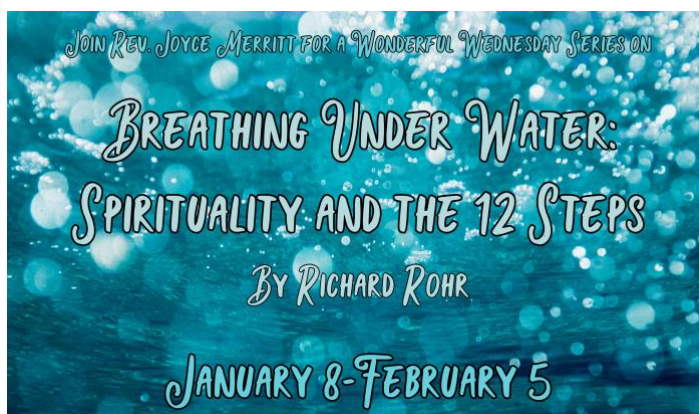
SESSION RETREAT

In place of the Session's regular stated meeting on Tuesday, January 21, the Session will meet on **Saturday, January 25** at 8:00 a.m. The retreat will be used by the Session and the chairs of the ministry teams to focus and plan out the year. Please keep the Ruling Elders of our Session in your prayers.

TIME AWAY

Dr. Hinkle will take his annual winter pilgrimage to Montreat on January 13th through the 20th, spending this time in sermon

preparation for the new year. He also uses this time to map out lesson plans for classes he will teach throughout the year. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact the church office at 615-893-3882, ext. 201, charlotte@mborofpc.org or contact your caregiver to help you connect with a pastor on call.



Join Rev. Merritt on Wonderful Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. for a 5-week study based on Richard Rohr's book, *Breathing Under water: Spirituality and the 12 Steps*. Using the 12 steps of AA as a backdrop, we will consider what it means to accept God's gift of grace as we learn to live into the life Jesus brings day by day. The book can be purchased on Amazon: it is recommended, but not required.



Wonderful Wednesdays are back January 8th so we hope you will be with us for a great new season of great food and time together in classes and fellowship. Please RSVP so we have enough food by using the blue pew cards or contacting the church office at charlotte@mborofpc.org.

Women 's Event

Morning Circle

The Tuesday morning Circle will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 7 in Classroom C. Sandra Hawkins will be our study leader and our hostesses will be Mary Elaine Hargis and Sabrina Donovan. All women of the church are invited to join with us.

Evening Circle

Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor. All women of the church are welcome to join with us as we start a new year. If you have questions contact Laura Harbour at 615-594-2912.

D Group

D Group will NOT meet in the month of January but stay tuned for a future date.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl ministry will resume on Monday, January 6 at 4:00 p.m. in Classroom F. All levels welcome.

SESSION NOTES

BY: GLEN EMERY, CLERK OF SESSION

- We were pleased to welcome Ed and Helen Zelan as new members.
- Rev. Dr. Hinkle led our devotion. Reading from John 1: 1-14. The apostle John says that grace and truth are given to us in Jesus Christ. It is essential to keep in mind that John regards both law and grace as God's life-giving, world-changing grace. In Jesus we hear that God heals, forgives, embraces outcasts, and prays for those who hurt him. In Jesus we hear that God understands betrayal and denial, suffering and pain, humiliation and death. Jesus tells us that God knows that, both as individuals and as a world, we need a Savior; and Jesus is that Savior. In Jesus we hear that God brings victory over despair, defeat, destruction, and death; and God wills and shares that victory with us, with humanity, and with all of His creation.
- Ten high school students and three adults will be going on ski retreat January 17 - 20 at Sugar Mountain, North Carolina. Communion will be celebrated.
- On January 10 and 11, 3 persons from La Vida Joven, in Nicaragua will be visiting us.
- Bart and Lee Ann Walker have agreed to lead our 20/21 Fiscal year stewardship campaign.
- Seventy visitors came to worship with us in November.
- Joanna Riggs and Sarah Bagby are planning to go on medical missionary trip to Guatemala in March. There will be a love offering announced in January to help with their travel expenses.
- Our rental house on Lytle Street is being renovated to comply with current property codes. It is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in mid-January.
- Our insurance with Miller and Loughry is being reviewed for renewal.
- Our annual church family camping retreat is scheduled for April 24-26 at NaCoMe.
- The Sunday School offerings will be going to support the Still Waters Ministry in 2020.
- Our GATE service was conducted by Reverend Harding with 16 persons in attendance. Communion was served and Helen Zelan was baptized. Three meals were coordinated last month for a family with a new baby. Flowers from the sanctuary were delivered to shut-ins.
- Two of our new elders, Judy Gritton and Paul Lane, reaffirmed their previous elder vows and were approved for installation as active elders. Dave Davis and Jan LaLance were examined and approved for ordination and installation.
- The Christmas Eve Collection will be given to Still Waters Family Ministry.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The Session has decided the following as a general rule of thumb: In the event of inclement weather, the church will cancel activities according to county school cancellations. If possible, an email will be sent out. Other places where cancellations will be listed are WGNS radio, FPC's Facebook page or on the church website at www.mborofpc.org. In some cases the decision may be made to hold activities if the weather has improved (for example, if the roads have been cleared in time for Wonderful Wednesday events). In these cases, an email will be sent to the congregation.

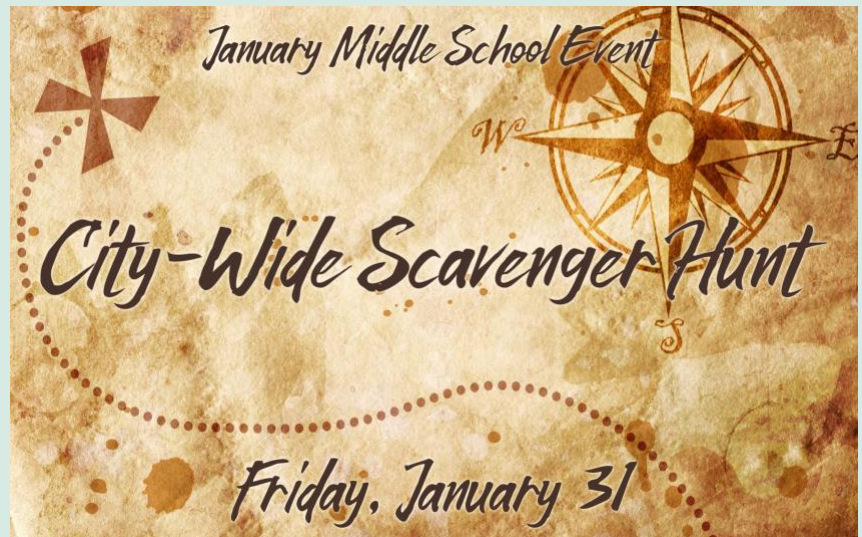


**ADULTS
OPEN PLAY**

PICKLEBALL AT FPC

JANUARY 4, 11, & 18
9AM 'TIL 11AM

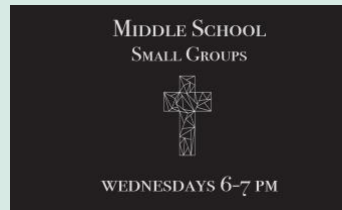
BEGINNERS WELCOME!



GRAD BOXES

LET'S SEND OUR GRADUATES
SOME LOVE!

BEGINS: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8
ENDS: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29



SUMMER TRIPS 2020

For rising 7th-9th grade students...

A GREAT ESCAPE CHRISTMAS

GREAT ESCAPE LEE 2020
JUNE 7-12, 2020

For rising 10th-Class of 2020...



REGISTRATION OPEN!
SIGN UP NO LATER THAN JAN 22

Time for **middle school students** to register for
The Great Escape 2020

For rising 7th through rising 9th grade.

June 7-12, 2020: \$250 per person \$100 Deposit due: WED FEB 5, 2020

Last day to register: WED JAN 22, 2020

Balance due: SUN MAY 24, 2020

Click this link (online) or visit the site below for info and to register
before Jan 22 <https://forms.gle/t1Zsnnv8PL83Efr46>

Time for **HS students** to register for our 2020 Summer Trip: **Locally Grown!** For rising 10th through Class of 2020

LOCALLY GROWN is a mission experience that hits close to home!

Our group will stay in a nearby Airbnb home and visit a different local mission organization each day. In the event that other plans might conflict with these dates, your student is welcome to attend only part of the trip.

Thu May 28 — Wed Jun 3: \$325.00 per student

Click this link (online) or visit this site for info and to sign up by Jan 22.
<https://forms.gle/4hWovH1moYAZPPEY7>

PLUS: Save the Date for Cake Auction Fundraiser: Feb 12th



Omar and Rosa from Young Life Nicaragua will be visiting from January 11-12, 2020. More information coming soon and please join us for MataBoro on January 26th (NEW DATE) at 9:30 in Rev. Bobby's office.

MataBoro



MOVED TO JAN. 26

Rev. Bobby's office at 9:30 am
open to everyone



FPC
TWEENS

4th Grade
Faith Milestone

RISK

AT THE ASCENT

01.11.20

2020 CHURCH FAMILY RETREAT

APRIL
24-26



SAVE THE DATE

Care Ministry

First Presbyterian Church of Murfreesboro

210 North Spring St.
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

The GATE Service
(Giving Access To Everyone)
1st Sunday of the Month
2 - 2:30 PM

This service is to help adults who find a standard length, or morning service, difficult to attend.
If you have any questions please contact the church office (615-893-3882)

FPC
Playdate
group

DATE CHANGE
THIS MONTH!

Meeting January 10th at 10:00am

Contact Lauren Brandon at laurenlbrandon@gmail.com or 615-335-3087 for more details.

CHILDREN'S JANUARY MEMORY VERSE

"This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalms 118:24



UKIRK
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Greetings First Pres Family!
We are just wrapping up another great semester here at MTSU!
We've had a lot of fun, from

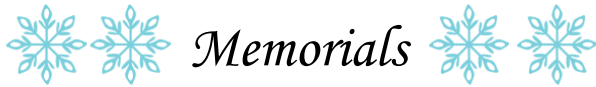
MTSU's Chili Cook-off (We should have won!), fall retreat in Gulf Shores, to ending the semester with Turkey (Thanks Rita Shacklett and Board Members!) and a Christmas Party almost back to back! I couldn't be prouder of this group of UKirkians. They have done an excellent job this semester of making new students feel welcome at UKirk.

We hope to keep that momentum and welcoming spirit going forward into spring semester! We've added two new members to our student leadership team (SALT)! We will meet in the coming days to put the finishing touches on our plans for spring semester! But, before spring semester begins we will kick-off the new year with a trip to Montreat College Conference! Montreat has definitely become one of the yearly events our students look forward to most!

To keep up with everything we are doing at UKirk please follow us on Instagram (@ukirkmtsu) or Facebook (@ukirk.mtsu)! Also, please keep our students in your prayers as they travel for break and then again as we travel to Montreat in early January! Thanks, Rev. Micah Watson UKirk MTSU (PSF @ MTSU) Cell: 615-692-2742 ukirk.mtsu@gmail.com psf.mtsu@comcast.net <http://www.ukirkmtsu.com>



Bill and Beth Brasch
January 4
Matt and Lauren Lane
January 5
Taras and Katie Struk
January 8



**Designated:
Endowment Fund**

Jane Brandon Clemons
Dickens & Barbara Kidwell

Chancel Choir

Sally Ledbetter
Kevin & Annette Heusinkveld

Undesignated:

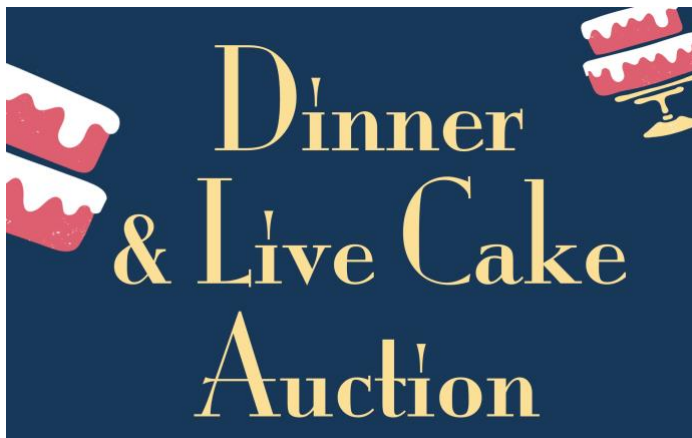
William Connelly
Earl & Sue Pond

In Honor:

In honor of Rev. Dr. John
A. Hinkle, Jr. a gift has
been given on behalf of the
William Roger Williams
family of Dalton, GA.

In Honor:

In honor of Billy Ledbetter
a gift has been by
Kevin & Annette
Heusinkveld



Wednesday, February 12
6:00pm



BIRTHDAYS

1-Jan	Polly Bullock
3-Jan	Ridley Bouldin
4-Jan	Meredith Peck
7-Jan	Jeff Hazard, Ryan Saar
8-Jan	Mark Blackwelder, Rachel Pote
10-Jan	Debbie Edwards, Toby Moore, Maggie Swender
11-Jan	Will Fraley, Martin White
13-Jan	John Moss
15-Jan	Carole Peterson
16-Jan	Spencer Couch, Bobbie Pierce
17-Jan	Hank Lampley, Tom Smith, Moses Tesi
18-Jan	Olivia Flanagan, Morgan Neal, Mamie Sevier
19-Jan	Thomas Bailey, Judy Nichols
20-Jan	Shelby Bailey, Christie Hall, Nancy Smith
21-Jan	Averie Brasch, Bill Brasch, Katie Brasch, Laura Harbour, David Parsons
22-Jan	Joel Paddon, Adam Panter, Shannon Smith
23-Jan	Kristen Harbour
24-Jan	Annabelle Baughman, Harrison Arney, Allan Maynard, Helen Louise Sanford
25-Jan	Beau Bergsieker
27-Jan	Dylan Iske
29-Jan	Glenn Himebaugh
30-Jan	Thom Christy, Joe Nunley, Chris Speck, Lauren Speck
31-Jan	Andrew Cowden, Andrea Prince



The Proclamation is a monthly newsletter of

First Presbyterian Church

210 N. Spring Street

Murfreesboro, TN 37130

www.mborofpc.org

**Have an announcement for the February
Newsletter?**

Submit it to Charlotte at charlotte@mborofpc.org or
call 893-3882 ext. 201 by Tuesday, January 21.

JANUARY



Wednesday, January 1

New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

No events scheduled

Friday, January 3

No events scheduled

Saturday, January 4

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

9:00 AM Pickleball Open Play

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany Sunday

8:30 AM Worship Service

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship Service
(New Elders)

2:00 PM The GATE Service

Monday, January 6

4:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:30 PM Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, January 7

Preschool Resumes

9:00 AM Yoga Class

10:00 AM Morning Circle

6:00 PM Ministry Team Meetings

Wednesday, January 8

5:00 PM Wonderful Wednesday
resumes

6:00 PM Classes & Handbells
Middle School Small
Groups & High School
Group

7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

5:30 PM ESL Registration Begins

Friday, January 10

10:00 AM Playdate Group

Saturday, January 11

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

9:00 AM Pickleball Open Play

Time TBA 4th Grade Faith
Milestone: Risk (the
Ascent)

Sunday, January 12

8:00 AM First Choir

8:30 AM Worship Service

9:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Service of Wholeness

11:00 AM Worship Service

12:00 PM Service of Wholeness

Monday, January 13

4:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:30 PM Men's Bible Study

5:30 PM ESL Registration

Tuesday, January 14

9:00 AM Yoga

1:00 PM Care Team Meeting

6:30 PM Evening Circle

Wednesday, January 15

5:00 PM Wonderful Wednesday

6:00 PM Classes & Handbells

Middle School Small

Groups & High School

Group

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

Rehearsal

Thursday, January 16

Session Reports Due

5:30 PM ESL Registration

Friday, January 17

High School Ski Trip Depart

Saturday, January 18

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

9:00 AM Pickleball Open Play

Sunday, January 19

8:00 AM First Choir

8:30 AM Worship Service

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship Service

Monday, January 20

Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Church Office Closed

High School Ski Trip Return

NO ESL

Tuesday, January 21

Proclamation Deadline

9:00 AM Yoga

Wednesday, January 22

5:00 PM Wonderful

Wednesday

6:00 PM Classes & Handbells

Middle School Small

Groups & High School
Group

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

Rehearsal

Thursday, January 23

No events scheduled

Friday, January 24

No events scheduled

Saturday, January 25

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

8:00 AM Session Retreat

Sunday, January 26

8:00 AM First Choir

8:30 AM Worship Service

9:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM MataBoro Class
(new date)

11:00 AM Worship Service

5:00 PM Chili Cook-Off/
Brownie Bake-Off

Monday, January 27

9:00 AM Proclamation Folding
Party

4:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:30 PM Men's Bible Study

5:30 PM ESL Classes Begin

Tuesday, January 28

9:00 AM Yoga Class

Wednesday, January 29

5:00 PM Wonderful

Wednesday

6:00 PM Classes & Handbells

Middle School Small

Groups & High School
Group

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

Rehearsal

Thursday, January 30

No Preschool/RCS ½ Day

5:30 PM ESL Class

Friday, January 31

Middle School Event: City-Wide
Scavenger Hunt

210 NORTH SPRING STREET
MURFREESBORO, TN 37130



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MURFREESBORO, TN 37129
PERMIT #198

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Already tired of winter? Got the blahs from too much comfort food? Join us for one of our favorite events of the year: the Annual Chili Cook-Off/Brownie Bake-Off and great Talent Show on January 26 at 5:00! In fact, one of our winners from last year recently won 2nd place in a Murfreesboro competition. Sign up to bring your best chili, soup, or stew or best brownie secret recipe. Inserts to sign up will be in the Sunday bulletins or at the Welcome Center. You can also contact the church office at charlotte@mborofpc.org. Questions? Call 615-893-3882, ext. 201.