

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWSLETTER JANUARY, 2018

Pastor's Ponderings:

As we begin a new year of ministry together at Greenfield First Presbyterian Church, I want to thank you for your many gifts to me. You are open to new ideas, encouraging, hospitable, and caring. As we continue our faith journey together I have seen your passion for doing God's work with many of you reaching out to the community and serving your neighbors with compassion, your abilities, and the resources available. God continues to bless our efforts in ways we may never know. Our worship together in the coming season will be centered on experiencing God's presence. As we renew ourselves in worship each week then we follow Jesus out into the world that so needs to experience God's great love through us. As we enter the New Year don't pack your faith, hope, and love away with the decorations of the season. Keep them at the center of your plans for each day.

Our congregational conversations about our future continue after worship on February 4th. We are inviting Shelly Wood our liaison from the Presbytery Commission on Ministry, and some community partners to join us for brunch as we seek new ways to be a church together. Come that day with open minds and listen for God's guidance that may come from the ideas expressed together.

During this 2018 New Year, grow your faith by daily prayer to develop your relationship with God. Listen for God's leading and ask for God's blessing and guidance. Be

thankful for God's presence in your life. As you pray remember our church and seek to understand what our mission is as we move forward serving our neighbors and following wherever Jesus leads us. Ask God who you know that needs a church family. Pray regularly for those people and invite them to visit church with you. My prayer is that God will help us focus our mission together to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and that other people will want to join Jesus as we seek to follow him.

Sunday morning bible study is starting a new book, *Bad Girls of the Bible*, so it is a good time to join us. We meet at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday in the library. Ideas for study are welcome, so let me know what growing edges you have. Our choir may contribute to worship periodically so join your musical gifts to worship. Liturgists are needed to lead worship as well since our Session is a smaller group now. We need encouraging worship experiences so offer your abilities and ideas to make this year uplifting for us all.

Come join Jesus in the hope and joyful expectation of this New Year. I can hardly wait to see how God will use our group of faithful people as we pray for God's guidance and hope in the power of Jesus alive in the hearts of our people at Greenfield Presbyterian Church. Relying on God's love, we can count on becoming a blessed church.

In Christ,
Pastor Ann

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Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Amount</u>
12/03	16	\$ 380.00
12/10	16	572.25
12/17	21	1,348.00
12/24	24	<u>237.17</u>
Total		\$2,537.42


*Birthdays
of the
Month*

- 01/08 Susie Circle
- 01/09 Frances Hibray
- 01/18 Tom Bloodgood

ANNIVERSARIES

- 01/04 Frank & Julie Chandler

January 1, 2018



- 01/07 Communion
- 01/17 Session Meeting 7pm**
- 01/25 Newsletter Deadline

Adam asked God, “Why did you make Eve so beautiful?” God said, “So you would love her.” Then Adam asked, “Why did you give her beautiful long flowing hair?” God said, “So you would love her.” Adam asked, “Why did you give Eve such an awesome figure?” God replied, “So you would love her.” So Adam asked, “Then why did you make her so dumb?” God replied, “So she would love you!”



The Pastor bought a horse. Being original, he taught the horse these commands; “Praise the Lord” to go and “Halleluiah” to stop. While he was riding one day, something spooked the horse. He ran toward the cliff. The Pastor could not remember what he taught him. Finally he shouted “Halleluiah!” The horse stopped within inches from the cliff. The Pastor breathed a sigh of relief and said, “Praise the Lord!”

