

Moving Toward "Normalcy" on Sunday Morning

In our November meeting, the Session spent quite a while talking about how to move the church more fully toward a sense of normalcy in this time of continuing pandemic, and we'd like to communicate those thoughts and decisions to the congregation. We know there are church members, whose fellowship we deeply value, who have very different feelings about what we as a congregation should be doing to both keep people safe and welcome people back to our church building. Consequently, these have not been easy discussions. That being said, two decisions were made that we'd like you to know about.

First, we were all in agreement that it was time to take the signs and ropes down in the Sanctuary. Speaking personally, the decision to remove the weighted ropes was made easier when I saw first-hand how tempting they were to a certain age demographic with too much energy. More seriously, at this point in the pandemic, we believe that the congregation can do its own spacing.



Second, Session voted to no longer require masks in Sunday services beginning January 1. Mask use will continue to be encouraged, but not required, for as long as necessary after that point. The date of January 1 was not arbitrary, but was chosen because it marks two weeks after the point at which children ages 5 and up will have had the chance to get their second vaccination shots. Each week we ask people to wear masks "to protect the most vulnerable among us," and Session felt that a large portion of those most vulnerable will have added protection after that point.

Session will review the decision in December, taking current case numbers and guidance into consideration.

Please note that even after January 1, we will be sharing our building during some week days with Prairie Song Academy. In order to respect their desire to keep kids and teachers safe, Session decided to continue to require mask use in the building when Prairie Song is holding classes, until such time as they stop requiring mask use for teachers and children.

There's certainly more that could be said about the subject and about our discussions, and I would be happy to talk personally with anyone about questions or concerns you may have.

Scott Thatcher,
Clerk of Session

Advent Readers

November 28 - Matheney family

December 5- Krebs family

December 12- Diane Baer and Margaret Ferrell

December 19- Krissy Giovannini



White Gift Children's practice schedule

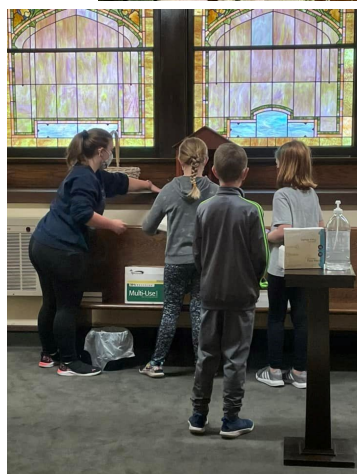
Wednesdays during Operation JOY and
Sundays during Sunday School 10:45

Dress Rehearsal Thursday, December 2 at
5:00 dinner provided

Sunday, December 5 Meet at 9:00 am in
the Travers Room



We are ready for Advent



Upcoming worship opportunities

Date	Speaker	Liturgist	Greeter
November 28	Dale Stone	Matt Matheney	Lynn Van Dolah
December 5	Dale Stone	None needed	Diane Baer
December 12	RIM Massey	Chuck Nicholson	Mary Elam
December 19			Charles Gerdes
Christmas Eve	Dale Stone		
December 26	Paul Yoder		

Please contact Elaine AuBuchon to sign up
to be a liturgist or to provide music.

Do you enjoy creative
writing and keeping our
congregation connected?
If you answered yes then
do we have an opportunity
for you!

As of January 1 we need a
monthly church newsletter
editor. It's time for a new
perspective and new ideas
to start off the new year.
Are you up to the task?
Contact the church office
if you are interested in
learning more.

Christmas Eve Opportunities

Annual Gingerbread House Making and Caroling 2:00 pm
Christmas Eve Service—Lessons and Carols 6:00 pm

December Birthdays

J Biehl—12/2
Courtney Hamilton—12/2
Laura Easley—12/5
Chad Mohler—12/7
Sandy Elliott—12/10
Ron Shepherd—12/11
Perry Easley—12/16
Sam Martinson—12/17
Daniel Marshall—12/18
Michele Yoder—12/21
Harvey Young—12/23
Victor Barrios—12/28
Jason Gran—12/31

December Anniversaries

Victor Barrios & Adriana Gonzalez—12/18
Garrett & Mary Elam—12/30



The Adult Choir joined us for worship for the first time this week. They are small in number, but it is so good to hear their beautiful music once again. Like to sing? Contact Charles Gran for information.

White Gift Service Sunday, December 5 *9:30 am*

This year for White Gift we are collecting the following items for the Clothes Closet Christmas Store to be held Saturday, December 18 from 10:00 to noon.

- Gloves/mittens all sizes (emphasis on adult sizes)
- Laundry detergent
- Toilet paper
- Money donations to the church also accepted until Dec 12 to buy items.
- Full sized hygiene products (5 items total needed for 25 to 30 families) such as:
 1. Shampoo
 2. Deodorant
 3. Toothpaste
 4. Individually wrapped toothbrushes
 5. Razors
 6. Shaving cream
 7. Soap
 8. Hand sanitizer
 9. Band aids
 10. Kleenex
 11. Chap stick

Please choose and bring the items in gift bags (not wrapped in paper) for the children to bring forward OR pick up a "tag and a bag" from the White Gift Tree at the church. The bags will be re-used at the Christmas store. Monetary gifts may be left at the church by December 12 and we will do the shopping for you.



the LANTERN

First Presbyterian Church

Primary Business
Address
Address Line 2

Email articles: brendak75@hotmail.com
Website: www.presbykv.org
www.facebook.com/firstpresbykirkville

Sunday Worship 9:30 am	Sunday School 11:00 am
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Clothes Closet Christmas Store

Saturday, December 18

10:00-Noon

First Presbyterian Church – McPherson Street entrance

This year we are offering hygiene items, gloves, and new socks. Families are encouraged to stop by and shop for items of their choice. Supplies are limited and we request only one visit per family.