

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28, 2021



### COVID COMMISSION REPORT

The Commission encourages everyone to assess one's own risk factors, use good judgment and precautions, and act responsibly for the benefit of oneself and others.

Knowing that the CDC is continuing the process of approving the vaccine for children, children's ministry staff and volunteers are required to wear a face mask to continue providing an additional level of protection for all our children.

Current Covid protocol is available at <https://1stpresbyterian.com/about/covid-19-announcements/>.

### SUNDAY AT 1ST PRES

9:30am Fellowship Hall Service  
10:30am Sunday School  
11:30am Sanctuary Service ([Livestream https://vimeo.com/event/73055](https://vimeo.com/event/73055)).

**For a paperless bulletin**, text to 423-888-0345:  
**FELLOWSHIP** for the Fellowship Hall bulletin  
**BULLETIN** for the Sanctuary bulletin  
The bulletin is also available in the [1st Pres app](#) and [1st Pres calendar](#).

### SUNDAY SCHOOL END OF YEAR SCHEDULE:

#### ADULTS

There will be no classes for our adult Sunday school on **December 26** or **January 2**. A time of fellowship between the 9:30 and 11:30 worship services will be offered to provide an opportunity for congregants of each service to greet and get to know each other as a church family. Let's call it "Coffee in the Connector!"

#### KIDS\*

There will be no Kids Sunday school **November 28, December 26, or January 2** for the holiday season. Nursery will still be available all morning **this Sunday, November 28**.

#### YOUTH LARGE GROUP

No youth large group **November 28, December 26, or January 2** for the holiday season.

### Silent Night: Contemplating the Birth of Christ Through Scripture and Song

December 4 & 5 4pm

Save the date for this year's Christmas concert - featuring scripture readings, performances from the adult & children's choirs, soloists, and orchestra! Join us as we gather our hearts and minds on the transformative birth of Jesus Christ. Nursery will be available: registration not required, but is appreciated. Register for nursery at <https://1stpresbyterian.tpsdb.com/OnlineReg/148>.



### SESSION REPORT

In the November session meeting our Senior Pastor challenged the session to consider *Isaiah 11:8* and *Genesis 3:15* in the light of God's promises kept to His people.

- The Session approved the dismissal of Adult Sunday School classes on December 26 and January 2 for the holidays. This will give our teachers and attendees more time for families to be together. On those days, during the SS hour, coffee will be available for the congregations of both the 9:30 and 11:30 services to fellowship together in the Connector.
- A new members class will begin January 15 for those who are considering membership at 1st Pres, and for those who simply want to learn more about the church and her doctrine(s). A group of 10 children are now busy taking a communicants' class for membership early next year. There is no greater joy than to see our children walk in "Truth".
- The mid-week meals and teacher were well received this past semester and will begin again January 12 (through April 27). The teaching will include Rapha classes, Choir rehearsals, a study on "the Gospel and your Marriage, and a Biblical/Theology study. Later in the Spring semester these two studies will combine into one large group study on Anxiety and Mental Health.
- Camp Vesper Point reported 944 summer campers this year with 161 campers trusting Christ for the first time and 336 re-committing their lives to Him. Another 1000 attendees have come to CVP in the "off season" at weekend retreats and seminars.
- The Session has a Pastoral Care Committee which has established smaller care groups assigned to each of our pastors to support and encourage them in their work. The annual report from this committee was presented to the Session and is appreciated by our pastors.

Please continue to pray for your Session as we seek to serve well and make decisions that demonstrate care and concern, lead to good governance, and expand the Kingdom of God in our community and around the world.



Join us on **December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4pm** for our Christmas Eve Communion Service! We will be preparing our hearts to remember the coming of Christ with songs and Christmas Eve message followed by Communion. Livestream of the service will be available, <https://vimeo.com/647342153>.

## OFFICER NOMINATIONS THROUGH NOVEMBER

There are only a few days left in November to submit your officer nominations! 1st Pres members can nominate men who you feel are qualified to be a deacon or elder at our church. Nomination forms are located in the Connector. Go to <https://1stpresbyterian.tpsdb.com/EmailView/23481> for nominations details and guidelines.

## HOPE FOR THE INNER CITY CHRISTMAS STORE

First Pres has partnered with Hope for the Inner-City by donating toys to their Christmas store for over 15 years. Here are ways you can donate:

- 1) **Unwrapped new toys.** The most desired items are: for boys-sports equipment of all kinds; for girls-African American Barbie dolls and baby dolls; for teens -electronic items, t-shirts; for all ages-bikes of all sizes
- 2) **Christmas wrapping paper and tape.**

**First Pres will be collecting your donations November 14-December 12.** Look for the collection boxes in the connector and at the Douglas Street entrance. Thanks for the many years of loving our inner-city neighbors.



## RAPHA FELLOWSHIP

Rapha Fellowship is meeting in-person and on Zoom **Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30 PM in rooms SS209 and SS210** following the fellowship meal. Please join us for Biblical life skills learning as we discuss a variety of topics on God's design for finances, employment, and relationships. To RSVP for in-person fellowship, Zoom link, or to get information on Rapha, contact Pam, [pam@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:pam@1stpresbyterian.com).



## BEATITUDE LIVING

Our Christian Woman's 12-Step recovery program meets on **Tuesdays from noon - 1pm in Tower 404**. Some of the needs addressed include perfectionism, control, codependency, eating disorders, or coping with the addictions of a family member or friend. For information, please contact Nancy Mills, [nmills322@aol.com](mailto:nmills322@aol.com), or Gail Pinchak, [gailpinchak@yahoo.com](mailto:gailpinchak@yahoo.com).

## 1<sup>ST</sup> PRES KIDS

**All 4th & 5th Graders and their families** are invited to a fall hike **this Sunday, Nov. 28!** We'll meet at Signal Point on Signal Mountain at 1:30pm. Please pack a lunch, water bottle and appropriate clothing.

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Contact Misha, [misha@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:misha@1stpresbyterian.com), for 1st Pres Kids info.



## IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE!

Come join IAWL on **Thursday, December 9 at 10:30 AM** for the senior fellowship group's Christmas program. Susan Whitacre and Sigrid Luther will usher in the joy of Christmas for us with a mix of Christmas carols and beautiful classical music. David Luther will be on hand to sing for us and to lead us in a sing-along medley of carols. Let's celebrate the Father's gift of love to us – the Lord Jesus.

Please RSVP to Janette Barnes or Rosa Wrenn. The cost of lunch is \$6.



## WORLD MISSIONS

Thank you for your continued prayers for the Lord's provision to meet the needs of the current World Missions budget of \$850,000 as well as the needs of the 2022 budget—also set at \$850,000. Please note that the World Missions budget is based on the calendar year.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS SUCCESS!

Thank you to all who volunteered to help with this year's Operation Christmas Child collection! We appreciate the many volunteers who helped collect boxes as well as those who turned in filled boxes. As a church we collected 176 boxes, and collected 410 boxes from those in our community! Thank you for your help in sharing the gospel with boys and girls all around the world.

A special thank you goes out to the church staff, especially facility staff, for all their help (Roy took three truckloads of cartons to the final drop off for us and even took one load when he was supposed to be on vacation!).

