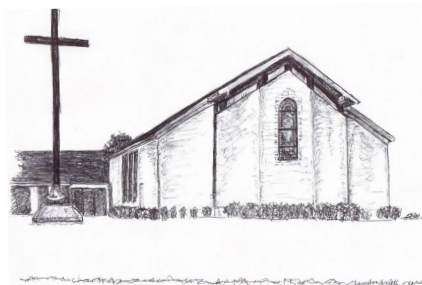


Presby News

NOVEMBER 2023



FROM THE PASTOR . . .

The images of Thanksgiving are filled with colors, sights, and smells. My mind fills with images of fall colors. I see browns, reds, yellows, oranges, blacks, and whites. I see the brown leaves and pine straw that reminds me that fall has taken over. The leaves and grass have turned from the many shades of green to just as many shades of brown. But complimenting the browns are the reds of the tallow tree leaves and maple leaves. I see the bright yellow of the ears of corn in the horns of plenty and the decorations of the flint corn. The pumpkins color the porches and the cooling sweet potatoes pies color the window ledges with orange hues. Golden hay serves as blocks for seated scare crows with golden hair and gingham red and black shirts. Fires dance in the darkness with reds, yellows, oranges, and hints of greens and blues. Many weekend fires will have the brown and white dots of color from the roasted marshmallows for s'mores. The closer we get to Thanksgiving, the more we see Pilgrims in black and white. Add to these colors the images of golden-brown turkeys and light brown stuffing.

The smells and sounds of Thanksgiving are just as strong in my mind. I smell the roasting turkey and the baking bread. The smells of celery, onions, and other seasoning vegetables for the stock for the dressing waft through the house. The sound of electric beaters banging against glass pyrex bowls making pies muffles out the sounds of the parade on the TV. At my house all these smells have to be mixed with a good cup of coffee in the background. It all seems to blend together in my mind: sights, sounds, smells.

The many images of Thanksgiving are not the only things that crowd my mind. For every color, sight, sound, or smell associated with this season, I could list no less than two or three blessings of my life for each image of Thanksgiving in my mind. I know we all feel the same way. We start with thanking God for the blessings of friend and family to fill our lives. We thank God for our health and for his hand of provision for homes. We get reminiscent and thank God for our children and for our parents who gave us so many memories.

We have so many reasons to give thanks. We have a wonderful church family who is supportive and loving. My heart is so full and glad as I look back over this past year. It's nearly been a full year since I joined you worshipping here! We are blessed by each other's encouragement and presence each week.

I thank God for all the blessings of our lives. James 1:7 reads "Every good and perfect gift is from above." Certainly, God has given countless gifts like raindrops from heaven. And I'm not talking about a west coast kind of rain. I'm talking about the big ol' frog-strangling raindrops that fall here in the South. These are the types of blessings like rain that fill our lives.

May each of us be reminded to give thanks this season for the bounty of God's blessings, grace, love, and forgiveness that He gives to us. May we take time to add to our lists of blessings each day between now and Thanksgiving. May we live the words of the Psalm: "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." (Psalm 9:1)

I hope you all have a very blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.
Bro. Greg

Happy Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1



SPECIAL DATES

- November 1 All Saints' Day
- November 5 Brookdale Worship
Worship/Communion
Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 11 Veterans' Day
- November 23 Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)
- November 26 Christ the King/Reign of Christ

This is the *Day*
that the Lord has made;
let us *Rejoice*
and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24



Veterans Day

Honoring All Who Served



HEBREWS 13:15

Happy THANKSGIVING

*...let us continually offer up a sacrifice of
praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that
give thanks to His name.*



November Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
November 5	Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	Communion Team: Elizabette Kennedy & Bill Higgins
November 12	Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	
November 19	Robert Kennedy Elizabette Kennedy	Bill Higgins	
November 26	Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	

NOVEMBER



Rebecca LaPrairie

11/25

**We give thanks to You,
Lord God Almighty,
the One Who is
and Who was...**

- Revelation 11:7 -

First Presbyterian Church

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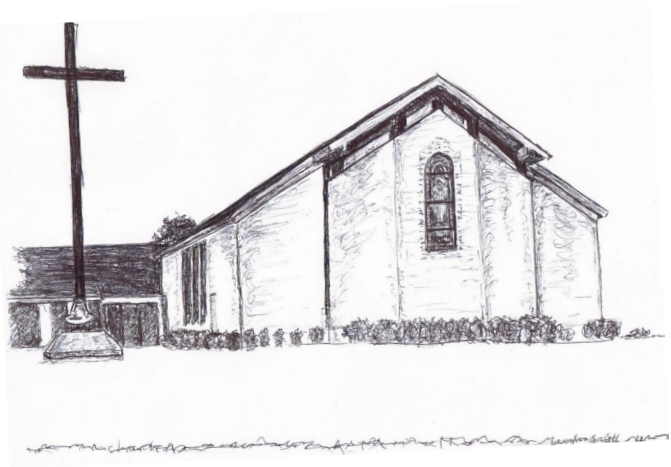
Greg Carroll, *Interim Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Music Director*

Jennifer Ciobanu, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Administrative Assistant*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

Come experience God's love at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday School—9:45 a.m., Worship—11:00 a.m.