



News & Reflection from **First Presbyterian Church**
PresbyNews

P.O. Box 31, Ponca City, Oklahoma 74602
(580) 762-2431 www.fpcponca.org

Join us for

9:00am Youth Sunday School, with waffles
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service

At:

First United Methodist Church

200 South 6th St., Ponca City, OK 74601 580-762-1681

With Pastor Leon Veazey



If you are unable to join us in person,
Please Join us on
Youtube at:

Ponca City FUMC
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)



December 2024

First Presbyterian Ministers in Leadership

Interim Pastor: **Mark Southard**

Music Director: **Ann Salmons**

Ministers (the entire congregation)

SESSION

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Lisa Lessert 27 | Dawn Spaulding 27 | Emma Kimbrel 27 |
| Kerry Ebbert 26 | Linda Vanderburg 26 | Mike Vanderburg 26 |
| Rick Norris 25 | Steve Ernst 25 | Joe Lessert 25 |
| Gay Norris (Clerk of Session) | | |



Monday Night Bible Study

Come and join us on Monday evenings at 7:00pm at FUMC
With Mark Southard

A Note From Your Treasurer

31 October 2024

First Presbyterian finished the month of October with a bank balance of \$8,648 compared to a balance of \$30,739 at the end of October 2023. Because of this revenue shortfall, we continue to draw from our unrestricted investments at Texas Presbyterian Foundation to meet our ongoing obligations. Through October, we have drawn just over \$107,000 from these investments and are scheduled to make another draw in November.

Our income for the month of October 2024, \$8,625, is about one-fourth of that received in October 2023. Expenses for October 2024, \$13,939, were slightly lower than for the same month in 2023, \$16,490. Until the church property has been sold, this will be an ongoing situation, and we will continue to see our monthly expenses exceed our income and continue to draw from our investments when necessary.

Below are the year-to-date numbers for the month of October 2024 compared to the same month one year ago. You can see that despite higher revenue, our expenses are higher still.

	As of October 31, 2024:	As of October 31, 2023:
Receipts:	\$202,595	\$146,996
Expenses:	<u>\$242,639</u> (\$40,044)	<u>\$181,823</u> (\$34,827)

With our having joined with First United Methodist Church for worship and mission, the two churches agreed to share certain expenses with First Presbyterian providing quarterly financial support for FUMC's operating budget. The amount we provide FUMC is based on the relative Sunday attendance figures. FUMC's attendance averages 110, FPC's averages 40, about 27% of the total. So, FPC is supporting 27% of that part of FUMC's budget devoted to operating their building. In the short run, we are seeing an increase in our expenses BUT, once our property is sold, we should see a decrease in our expenses and the expectation is that our focus will become more on funding mission work rather than maintaining our building.

First Presbyterian has successfully relocated its offices to the fourth level at First United Methodist Church just down the hall from the Coryell Cupboard. While our phone number remains the same, our mailing address will necessarily be changing. However, mail will continue to be received at the Grand Avenue address for the foreseeable future. **Our new mailing address is P.O. Box 31, Ponca City, OK, 74602.**

For submitting weekly offerings in the worship service, use the blue envelopes in the pew rack. As always, you may mail offerings to the church office to the address mentioned above. You may now go online to the church's webpage (www.fpcponca.org), click on the green "Give Now" button and present your offering, using your credit or debit card. You may also donate using your smartphone or tablet, once again using your debit or credit card, by pointing your mobile device's camera at the QR Code appearing here.

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There are only two more months before the end of the year so please review your pledge and consider bringing it up to date as you are able. First Presbyterian Church is committed to mission and your continued faithful support through your offerings is encouraged and greatly appreciated.

If you are unable to attend Sunday worship services, you may follow online at <https://www.fumcpc.org> and click on the "Watch on Facebook Live" button. There are also links on our homepage, <http://www.fpcponca.org>, for YouTube videos of each Sunday's worship service at First United Methodist Church.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Peace and Grace,



Treasurer



Merry Christmas from the staff

Ann

Maureen

Emma

Dawn

Connie

And a Happy New Year

1st Presbyterian Church Leadership

Session Members:

Class of 2025: Steve Ernst; Joe Lessert; Rick Norris

Class of 2026: Kerry Ebbert; Linda Vanderburg; Mike Vanderburg

Class of 2027: Lisa Lessert; Dawn Spaulding; Emma Kimbrel

Clerk of Session: Gay Norris Treasurer: Rick Norris President of Corporation: Mike Vanderburg

Commissioned Pastor: Mark Southard

2024/2025 Committee Assignments

Building Finance and Administration

Chair Rick Norris, Linda Vanderburg, Steve Ernst, Kerry Ebbert, Mike Vanderburg

Personnel Committee

Steve Ernst ('25); Chair: Mike Vanderburg ('26); Lisa Lessert ('27)

Scholarship and Memorials Committee

Chair Linda Vanderburg, Barbara Younger, Gay Norris, Kerry Ebbert

Stewardship Committee

Chair: Steve Ernst; Kerry Ebbert; Joe Lessert

Congregational Life

Chair: Linda Vanderburg, Dawn Spaulding and Gay Norris

Church Property Dispersal Committee

Gay Norris, Ann Salmons, Steve Ernst.

Coryell Cupboard Board of Directors

Kerry Ebbert; Mike Vanderburg; Mark Southard; Leon Veazey

Mission Committee (also joint with FUMC on some projects)

Chair: Mike Vanderburg, Bill Salmons, Barbara Younger, Maryann Holt, Laura Southard, Bonita James

Committees integrated with FUMC:

Worship, evangelism/outreach, Christian Ed/Youth

Children/Youth: Dawn Spaulding (staff); Emma Kimbrel; Kerry Ebbert; Joe Lessert

Worship Committee Volunteers:

Lisa Lessert, Ann Salmons, Gay Norris, Linda Vanderburg

December Birthdays

FPC

11th Chip Whipple
13th Chelsea Paynter
13th Vicki Poulson
15th Mary Ann Holt
15th Rosalie Majors
21st Adrian Luna



FUMC

2nd Peggy McGuire
4th Tom Carter
5th Marta Sullivan
7th Lori Slater
8th Cheryl Wilson
8th Dennis Wilson
13th Edith Mears
16th Waylon Fleming
17th Lori Nuzum
20th Mark Doyle
24th Trish Goodman
26th Suzanne Lunsford
27th Deanna Cohenour
27th Phillip Rice
31st Howard Matheson



Find us on facebook!

For updated information and news on the First Presbyterian Church.

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Ponca-City-OK-113884925304561/>

JOYS

God is with us, everyone, no matter what we're going through!
We have much for which to be thankful!

LORD, We are grateful... Hear Our Prayer!

Beyond Our Own Faith Families

Continued Russian Aggression in Ukraine
Israel-Hezbollah-Hamas War
Natural Disasters (recent hurricanes, continued wildfires)
Bishop Merrill and the cabinet as a new year approaches
Rev. Dr. Tish Malloy who is ill.
Rev. Dr. Gordon Edwards, Presbytery, Synod, Presby. USA

LORD, in your mercy... Hear Our Prayer!

FPC Prayer List

Peter and Sharon Uhlig (Peter in Stillwater Hospital, Room 301)
Curtis Bradley (Father-in-Law of Ebberts' Daughter)
Larry Williams
Shirley Dunster
Ana Rule
Brad Larimer
Leslie Waite & her child
Peter and Sharon Uhlig
Chip & Jody Whipple
Emily & Andrew (Valerie Smith's Niece/husband)
Family of Tom Sissons
Dennis Poulsen
Mary Gordon
Rosemary Overton
Wanda Vick
Elder Mark Southard



FUMC Prayer List

Jesse Gann (Gineta Swanson's brother. Brain Cancer)
Israel (Crystal Layton's 3 y.o. Grandson, blood disorder)
Family of Darla Church
Linda Heitz
Judy Million
Bea Whitfill (Hospice)
Valinda Goeppinger
Carol Bottoms
Family of Myrtle Shelton
Carroll and Debra Rue
Krista Harbeson

Kathy Hughes
John Bloomer
Dee Kutz
Lesa Farlow
Sandi Hedinger
Marcia Caudle
Kay Anthony
Diane Cavett
Connie Scott

***LORD, We are grateful...
Hear Our Prayer!***



First United Methodist Church

200 South 6th St., Ponca City, OK 74601
580-762-1681

With
Pastor Leon Veazey

PoncaCityFirstUnitedMethodistChurch

YouTube @PoncaCityFUMC/streams

Pastor Leon Veazey
(580) 762-1681 ext. 102
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Ministry Assistant
Brenda Stephenson
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Business Manager
Sheila Foxworthy
(580) 762-1681 ext. 104
fumcpc.business@gmail.com

Music Director
Marta Sullivan
(580) 762-1681 ext. 103
fumcpc.music@gmail.com

Children's Director FPC & FUMC
Dawn Spaulding
(580) 762-1681 ext. 105
fumcpc.kids@gmail.com

Youth Director FPC & FUMC
Emma Kimbrel
(580) 762-1681
fumcpc.kids@gmail.com

ORGANIST Debra Rue
fumcpc.accompanist@gmail.com

Mission Committee News



PONCA CITY NURSING HOME

Soap, Toothpaste, brushes, combs, lotions, shaving cream, etc. All sizes of sweat suits, robes, gowns, socks. Puzzles, board games, cards, crossword and crypto quote books. Books, large and small print, *(they have a library)*

Friendship Feast 2nd Thursdays in:
February April June
August October December



Beany Babies
Needed for
Friendship Feast

THE MISSION

Items are still being collected for the Mission on South Avenue. Items needed are: clothing, bedding, towels, soap. There is a small box for plastic spoons, forks and knives, these items must be in plastic wrapper that they came in. They now have a **shower** available for those who need that sort of thing, so soaps and shampoo are needed.

Cook Book found from 1925 at First Presbyterian Church
compiled and Published by "The Ladies' Aid Society"

CREAM OF POTATO SOUP

1 Cup mashed potatoes	1 Tablespoon of minced onion
2 Cups of milk	1/2 teaspoon of salt; paprika
1 tablespoon of butter	

Cook all ingredients in double boiler for ten minutes.
Strain, sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve.

Mrs. N. E. Barnes



Coryell Cupboard

Things are very busy and we are providing many dry items for those who come on Tuesdays, 8am to 10am and 4pm to 6pm.

The Cupboard continues to serve record numbers, this past Tuesday we had 206 shoppers, impacting 747 members of our community.

All of this is due to the generousities of those who give! Thank you for making this cupboard a success!



Youth News

Wednesdays Study Time @ 4:30
Youth 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Sunday School 9am to 10am

Emma Kimbrel is taking the position as Youth Director and Dawn Spaulding has moved to Children's Director. Dawn's office is now in the Children's Wing of FUMC.

What a blessing to have two dedicated young women planting seeds of love and kindness to our youth!





December

Christmas Celebrations

1

10:00am First Advent Sunday
Communion

8

10:00 am Second Advent Sunday
4:00pm. Music Ministry Concert

14

7:00pm Prairie Carillon Handbell
Concert - Ponca City Music Club

15

10:00 am Third Advent Sunday
5:00 pm Christmas Party
Covered Dish

22

10:00 am Fourth Advent Sunday

24

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service



200 S 6th Street
Where first Presbyterian & first Methodist
Worship together



Worship Committee Donation to Southminster Presbyterian Church, Tulsa

As voted on by our session, the Worship committee donated choir robes and handbells folders to Southminster Presbyterian Church of Tulsa. Sunday, November 10, Southminster had a dedication of the robes and recognition of the generosity of our church. Pastor Olivia Lane referred to us a true Presbyterian connectional church who reaches out in generous ways. The entire church were so excited and appreciative. Besides commenting on the soft lite material of the robes, they are excited that the stoles have the Presbyterian Cross on the front. And the handbells appreciated having folders that were not falling apart.

Our church continues being a blessing bringing joy in many different ways.



December 2024

Words of Wisdom
 “It takes great courage to grow old”
 Thank you Rosalie



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 1st Sunday Advent 9am Youth Sunday School 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	2 3:30pm TOPS 7pm Bible Study 6pm Carillon Bells 6pm	3 Coryell Cupboard 8am to 10 am & 4pm to 6 Chancel Bells 1pm 8:30am Men's Coffee Group	4 11:00 Mission Committee 10am Bible Study Via Christi 5:30 Youth	5 1pm UWF Meeting	6	7
8 2nd Sunday Advent 9am Youth Sunday School 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 4pm Music Ministry Concert	9 3:30pm TOPS 7pm Bible Study 6pm Carillon Bells 6pm	10 Coryell Cupboard 8am to 10 am & 4pm to 6 Chancel Bells 1pm 8:30am Men's Coffee Group	11 10am Bible Study Via Christi 5:30 Youth	12 1:30 Building Ground & Finance Friendship Feast FPC	13 2pm UWF Sandwich	14 7pm Prairie Carillon Handbell Concert Ponca City Music Club
15 3rd Sunday Advent 9am Youth Sunday School 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5pm Rock & Roll Church Wide Christmas Party <u>Pot Luck</u>	16 3:30pm TOPS 7pm Bible Study 6pm Carillon Bells 6pm Friendship Feast FUMC	17 Coryell Cupboard 8am to 10 am & 4pm to 6 Chancel Bells 1pm 8:30am Men's Coffee Group	18 10am Bible Study Via Christi 5:30 Youth	19 6pm Session	20 2pm UWF Sandwich	21
22 4th Sunday Advent 9am Youth Sunday School 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	23 3:30pm TOPS 7pm Bible Study 6pm Carillon Bells 6pm	24 Christmas Eve Coryell Cupboard 8am to 10 am & 4pm to 6 Chancel Bells 1pm 8:30am Men's Coffee Group	25 10am Bible Study Via Christi 5:30 Youth	26	27	28
29 5th Sunday Advent 9am Youth Sunday School 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	30 3:30pm TOPS 7pm Bible Study 6pm Carillon Bells 6pm	31 Coryell Cupboard 8am to 10 am & 4pm to 6 Chancel Bells 1pm 8:30am Men's Coffee Group				