

**First Presbyterian  
Church of Littleton**

**November 1, 2020**

*I will praise  
the name  
of God  
with a song,  
and will  
magnify him with*

**THANKSGIVING**

*Psalms 69:30*



# THANKSGIVING NEWS



We are very excited to announce that we have received permission to prepare and send out this year's Thanksgiving delivery meals at the beautiful new Meals on Wheels facility, which is located at 92 E. Arapahoe Rd. in the former Las Delicias restaurant! We will have lots more space for social distancing, and best of all, no stairs!

As a reminder, we will only be doing delivery meals this year. We will be doing contactless deliveries, wearing masks, and following all applicable safety protocols. We will need lots of volunteers to help prepare and deliver meals, and money for purchasing food and supplies. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church of Littleton and mailed to the church, attention Elinor. To order a meal, call or email the church. To volunteer, call or email Stacey Ryan at 303-345-8193 or [staceyryan123@gmail.com](mailto:staceyryan123@gmail.com)



Happy Thanksgiving!

## Minute for Mission



This month we will again be preparing the Grab and Go bags for people who come to church looking for food. Also, we will be preparing the Socks and Bars to fill the orange bucket. We made a donation to John Altemus, a missionary who is a part of our church. We try to divide your mission dollars between local, regional, national and international donations.

We are also starting to collect backpacks for next year since this is a good time to buy them when they are deeply discounted.

## Financial update

	September 2020		Year to Date 2020	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$28,948.56	\$41,530.55	\$ 343,596.22	\$ 335,844.48
<b>Expenses</b>	\$32,393.45	\$36,075.66	\$ 304,447.50	\$ 338,460.46
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	(\$3,444.89)	\$5,454.89	\$ 39,148.72	\$ (2,615.98)

By now you should have received both your giving statement for 2020 and the pledge letter for 2021. Thank you to those who have already sent in their 2021 pledge. Those numbers help us to establish a balanced budget for the coming year. Please take a look at your giving statement for 2020. Near the bottom, you will see the amount that is remaining on your pledge for 2020. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Joan Lund, Financial Secretary 303.798.1389 ext 103.

## Honoring Our Saints

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

November 2019—October 2020

**Dee Jordon**

1 2-9-2019

**Steve Woodworth**

12-25-2019

**Joseph Bartnick**

1-13-2020

**Bill Witt**

1-8-2020

**Al Christensen**

5-12-2020

**Nancy Christen**

9-11-2020

**Sally Holden**

9-19-2020

**David Turner**

10-6-2020

To Our Thoughtful and Caring Church Family,

Kati Bach, Bill and I would like to thank you all for the many cards, flowers, phone calls, and emails expressing your condolences in the passing of our Grandmother, Mother-in-Law, and Mother. We appreciate all the comforting messages.

A Memorial Service to celebrate Sally Holden's life will take place (hopefully, due to the pandemic) at our church in April, 2021. Please check back in the First Word in 2021 for updates.

Kathy Frear



**Thank you to everyone who continues to use their King Soopers reward cards !! We are happy to report that the King Soopers rewards continues to earn monies for our church ! We just received \$1,032 for our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter payment for this year. We are grateful for the 70 rewards cards used during the quarter. To date, we have received over \$3,000 through the first three quarters of 2020.**

If you haven't signed up for the FPCL King Soopers rewards program yet, please consider doing it. With the holidays coming up, it is a great way to support our church with your shopping. We are happy to help people signed up anytime. Remember, every time you use your King Soopers rewards card you are helping to raise monies for our church.

# A Minute for Stewardship — Q&A: Fall Pledge Drive 2020

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Matthew 6:21*

This month we wanted to give some more information about our Pledge Drive and address some commonly asked questions. We hope that you'll find this helpful and insightful.

## **1. Why Pledge? I already give throughout the year.**

We can approach pledging both practically and spiritually. Practically, pledges of financial support received by First Presbyterian reduce the amount of uncertainty around creating a sustainable operating budget for the coming year. That budget is what provides us the guidance on what ministries we'll be able to offer and how we'll be able to grow.

Spiritually, and more importantly, a pledge of support is a commitment, one we make with our church (each other), our God, and even with ourselves. If we believe that everything we have and everything we are comes from God, and that we should regularly give a portion back, the pledge is a way that we can hold ourselves accountable to that goal.

## **2. But what if I make a pledge, something comes up, and I can't fulfill it?**

We understand. Life happens. None of us can predict unexpected changes in employment, health or other circumstances that might impact our personal finances. If you need to adjust your pledge during the year our request would be that you notify our Financial Secretary, Joan Lund. However, the church's number one priority is to provide you with any support possible to help you through whatever you're facing. Please reach out and let us know what's going on.

## **3. How else can I support First Presbyterian if I can't commit to a financial donation?**

While financial commitments are crucial to the operation of the church, our gifts of time and talent are also equally important. If you are unable to pledge a monetary amount, please consider volunteering your time through the year. We frequently need help in various areas including Mission, Pastoral Care, Church Leadership, Christian Education and Office Administration. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Elder Julie Johnston, Pastor Cody, or any member of this committee.

## **4. Why do we ask for a separate Per Capita donation?**

Per Capita connects PCUSA congregations and mid councils like the Presbytery with the work of the wider church. It's how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of moving the church forward in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Many congregations simply allocate a portion of their annual budget to paying their Per Capita assessment. At First Presbyterian we have made a choice to request a separate donation so that we can devote as much of our operating budget as possible to the more immediate needs of our congregation and community.

## **5. What if I don't contribute a Per Capita amount?**

First Presbyterian pays our obligation in full regardless of member support. If members do not contribute separately to Per Capita, this money comes out of the operating budget as an increased expense.

## **6. Why didn't we ask for an increase in pledging for 2021?**

2020 has been a challenging year for all of us for obvious reasons. We are grateful that First Presbyterian has remained financially stable due to your generosity and responsible planning by our leadership. That said, with so much uncertainty right now, and the potential need for everyone to watch their expenses, the church leaders thought would be best to hold our planned budget steady from 2020 to 2021 and not ask for an increase in financial support.

If you are able and called to increase your pledge of support in 2021, our commitment to you is continued responsible use of your gifts to grow the ministry of the church.

## **7. How can I submit a pledge for 2021?**

Cards can be dropped off at the church, however, with continued restricted access this is not the best option this year. You can always mail the card back to the church with the provided envelope. If you prefer, you can directly and securely e-mail Joan Lund at [finance@fpcl.org](mailto:finance@fpcl.org) with your contact information and pledge amount (simply include the same information that you'd fill out on the pledge card).

If you have already submitted your pledge for 2021, we thank you. If you haven't, we hope that you will consider making a pledge on or before the Stewardship Sunday celebration on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your love and support of our church as we work to spread the grace and Good News of our savior Jesus Christ!

Your Stewardship Committee:

Dave LeMay, Chair: 303-619-5190, [leprinoRD@gmail.com](mailto:leprinoRD@gmail.com)

Trey McDowell: 720-254-0639, [trey.mcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:trey.mcdowell@gmail.com)

Sue Chandler, 303-347-9191, [mesue35@aol.com](mailto:mesue35@aol.com)

Dee Getzinger, 303-797-8343, [deedg2667@gmail.com](mailto:deedg2667@gmail.com)

Don Meersman, 303-319-6774, [dmeers77@gmail.com](mailto:dmeers77@gmail.com)

**Share Your Story!** If you are interested in contributing your faith story, please let us know. Sharing your story may be just what someone needs. Encouraging each other in our walk with God is so essential to bringing us all together. Contact Elinor Packard or Cody Sandahl with questions or to request help . 303-798-1389 or [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org) or [cody@fpcl.org](mailto:cody@fpcl.org)



## THE DEACONS' JOURNAL...

We hope you will use the Poinsettia Order Form in this issue of the First Word to honor someone or memorialize your loved ones. Your names and comments will be printed in an insert in the church bulletins at the in-person Christmas Eve Services. It's as close to normal as we can get during the Pandemic.

We're also planning to make some changes to the Hanging of the Greens and what we intend to "hang", as well. Since we can't linger and gather in the common areas, we intend to minimize those decorations. While the doors and Columbarium will appear as usual, everything else will be scaled back. Nevertheless, the sanctuary will be as close to the decorations we associate with FPCL at Christmas.

This is only possible because of volunteer help from Pete Gordon with the property crew; Karen Ervin with her Christmas recruits, Pastor Carol's funding for additional poinsettias; Kathy McDaniel's additional time to prepare; Cheri Blanchard's additional day for receiving poinsettia plants, and all of the Deacons.

Barbara Biner  
Deacon Moderator



**Poinsettia Order Form:** Your purchase helps to provide assistance to members and the local community. You may take your plant home after any of the Christmas Eve services or leave it to be delivered to our homebound. **If you would like someone's name included in the Christmas Eve bulletin, the order must be received by December 18th.**

Quantity	Price	Color Red, White or Marbled	Take Home	Give to Homebound	Total Due
	\$15				

**In Memory/ Honor of (Please circle one):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Ordered by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church. Please include payment with your order. Place it in the box in Chandler Hall or mail it to: First Presbyterian Church, 1609 W. Littleton Blvd., Littleton, CO 80120. When you purchase a poinsettia, \$5 goes to support the Deacons Fund.

## Prayer List

- Family of David Turner upon his death
- Bob Backus
- Jon Heggie
- Gloria Pool
- Jim Biner
- Joyce Lei
- Eleanor Spence
- Joyce Fuller
- Rollie Fuller
- Wilmajean Coate
- Kent Griffith
- Jean Wilbur
- Joy Carreño
- Lonna Williams
- William Hults
- Hedy Lemieux
- Joanie Coffey
- Tracey & Mike Eidson

## In Service to Our Country

- Capt. Ricky Casburn
- Capt. Connor Venrick, Hawaii
- Brett Wilson, at sea
- Sgt. Benjamin Lund, Kuwait
- Bobby Johannsen, at sea
- LCDR. Per Rychucky, USS Harry S. Truman
- Connor McDaniel, Army
- Donnie Donahue, PFC, Marines, Prague
- Nathaniel Syron, Aide to the Army Chaplain
- Pvt. Isaiah Boehm, Ft. Polk, LA
- Jeremy Colwell, Afghanistan
- C3C Cameryn McKinnell, USAFA

## Missions

- John Altemus
- Jory Bayne, Metro Denver
- Presbytery of Zimbabwe
- Cross Cultural Community
- South Asia Mission
- Jeffco Action Center

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## Staff Directory

Pastor Cody Sandahl: (303) 798-1389 ext 104,

- Emergency Number: 720-258-6185, Email: [cody@fpcl.org](mailto:cody@fpcl.org)

Pastor Carol Parsons, Director of Congregational Care: (303) 798-1389 ext 106

- Cell: (303) 919-7624, Email: [pastorcarol@fpcl.org](mailto:pastorcarol@fpcl.org)

Kate Ballard, Director of Children's Ministry, Email: [children@fpcl.org](mailto:children@fpcl.org)

- Cell: (720) 443-8918

Mary Dailey, Director of Worship Arts, Cell: (303) 668-0727

- Email: [mkdailey@me.com](mailto:mkdailey@me.com)

Karen Meersman, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

- Email: [meers@ecentral.com](mailto:meers@ecentral.com)

Jason Jones, Director of Youth, (303) 798.1389 ext.110

- Email: [youth@fpcl.org](mailto:youth@fpcl.org)

Cynthia Kern, Wedding Coordinator Cell: (720) 985-7090, Home: (303) 988-1984

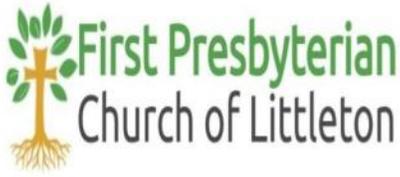
- [C.A.Kern@icloud.com](mailto:C.A.Kern@icloud.com)

Elinor Packard, Office Administrator (303) 798-1389 ext 101

- Email: [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)

Joan Lund, Financial Secretary (303) 798-1389 ext.103,

- Email: [finance@fpcl.org](mailto:finance@fpcl.org)



**First Presbyterian**  
Church of Littleton

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## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday : The church office is closed for normal business hours. Someone will be in the office on Monday mornings from 9:30 am to noon.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ◆ **Sunday Worship: online at fpcl.org**
- ◆ **In-Person Worship will held on the 1st Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Reservations required. Go to FPCL.org.**
- ◆ **Children’s Sunday School check out Kate’s recorded message during online worship.**
- ◆ **FIRST WORD NEWSLETTER: The DEADLINE for the December Newsletter is Friday, November 20.**

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