

February 1, 2023



# The First Word

First Presbyterian Church of Littleton  
Belong Believe Beloved

Join us Every  
Sunday!  
10:00 am  
Worship

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**12 Pillars In God's Temple**  
**Virtues for Spiritual Growth**

**New Sermon Series**  
**begins**  
**Sunday, February 5**  
**At 10 am**

**Pick up a**  
**Sermon Guide & Notes**  
**on your way into the Sanctuary.**

## A Minute for Stewardship—Beloved

***“When we treat each other like family – one by one, person by person – we begin to build a beloved community.”*** – Jonathan Sacks, *Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times* (2020), 104–5

Mother Teresa was one of the most unselfish women in this world. She was all about love and giving and serving. How do we want people to feel after they have spent time with you? This is how she explained:

*“Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God’s kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile. Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, and a beautiful thing.”*

“It’s not how much we give, but how much we put into the giving.”

“Not all of us can do great things; but we can all do small things great. I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot; but together, we can do great things.”

“Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person.” - one person at a time!

“The world is full of good people. If you cannot find one, be one.”

February is a good time to talk about love — how can we love more in serving others and giving of our time with them? How can we help someone who is struggling by just offering our time to help them? How many people can we cause to smile and feel good simply by smiling at them? Perhaps we can share love and kindness with just “one smile at a time.”

Mark Twain said, “Kindness and love are the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” We have a young woman who is blind who comes to our church, and she has said, “I come because you are all so kind.” Wow! How great is that?

May we all remember to 'do unto others as you would have them do unto you!' — Luke 6:31

May you be blessed, beloved and belong this month and always.

See you in church!

### 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)

**Congratulations to our Community Dinner Team!**  
**The City of Littleton Council has awarded**  
**First Presbyterian Church a Grant in the amount of \$1,450**  
**for the Community Dinner.**

**FREE COMMUNITY DINNER**  
**LAST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**  
**6:00 – 7:00 PM**

**February 28, 2023**

**Doors Do Not Open Until 6:00**

**Where – First Presbyterian Church**  
**1609 W Littleton Blvd.**

Green chili and Chicken Casserole, confetti corn, tossed green salad,  
chips and salsa and Seasonal fruit and handheld desserts



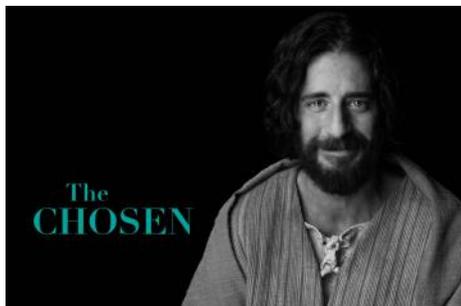
**Questions- (303) 798-1389**

**<http://littletonpresbyterian.org/dinner>**

**All Are Welcome!**

**COME AND SEE: SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS  
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY  
PANCAKES TOO!**

**Beginning February 5 at 8:30 am—Ficklin Hall**



Pastors Bill and Blakeley will be offering a before Worship Sunday School class for the whole family and church! The class will consist of watching and a time of discussion and sharing about episodes of the TV show called The Chosen which is a retelling of the story of Jesus and some of those whose life he impacted.

Here are some of the reviews:

*The Chosen is must-see, even if you're not into Christian or historical programming or particularly religious. It's an extraordinarily created piece and a labor of love in motion.*

*Jasmine Blu [TV Fanatic](#)*

*The Chosen is one of the most engaging Bible-inspired productions I've seen. Surprisingly funny and relatable, we continue watching episode after episode not because we feel obligated to support it as dutiful Christians, but because it's compelling. [Megan Basham](#)*

*Jesus is so much more than just a preacher or just a solemn man of God. The Chosen does a great job of showing the more. He is shown as fully God and fully man with all of the amazing complexity, humility, and humanity that involves. He is love. All this comes through each episode. The Chosen is a masterpiece of Christian entertainment. [A Pastors Review](#)*

[The Chosen Season One Official Trailer \(HD\) - YouTube](#)

## **The Deacons' Chronicles**

The Deacons' would like to thank everyone for their assistance in taking down the Christmas Decorations. Everyone's help was greatly appreciated.

The poinsettia sale brought in \$312 this year. We would like to thank everyone for their support of this fund raiser. There will be a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in January with the offering dedicated to the Deacons' Fund.

Hospitality table help is needed throughout the year. This is one of the Deacons' responsibilities and in order to continue we are asking help from the members. Beginning in March, we will have a signup sheet for volunteers to sign up each month. If you have questions, please call one of the Deacons. We do have a job description.

We continue serving Communion, mailing Sunday sermons and reaching out to members who are homebound.

The new church directories are ready for pickup in the church office. Please check your name off the list when you pick up a directory.



**A HEART FULL OF THANKS  
FOR THE VOLUNTEERS OF  
OUR NURSERY TEAM**

Sue Chandler, Janice Fagan, Maria Franklin, Jan Hole,  
and Sheri Wyatt

On behalf of the entire congregation,

Mary Lareau



♥ I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how blessed we are to have First Presbyterian Church as a community Partner for Field Families. For several years, your congregation has generously collected and donated full backpacks with supplies, and also gift cards for our students. Every year we are touched by your generosity and genuine care for our community. It is because of organizations like First Presbyterian, the students at Field continue to thrive and achieve their educational goals. We are committed to keeping this growth evident in the years to come. Warmly, Joe Hayes, Principal, Eugene Field Elementary School

♥ Thank you so much for your gift of \$1288.55 designated for the Refugee Central Undesignated fund. Because of your generosity, Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains is able to serve members of our community most at risk, and we are committed to caring for these groups of regardless of the circumstances. Together, **“We Are There”** making a real difference in people’s lives. For **Refugees and evacuees**, For **Foster Care families and children**, For our **Adoption program**, For **KPC Center families needing relief**, and for our **Older Adults program**.

Warm Regards, James Horan, President & CEO

♥ Thank you for the outpouring support and love from FPCL when I needed it most. I am so very grateful for your cards, calls, and especially for being driven to and from church and for doctors’ appointments. Thanks to all of you, my Driver’s License has been reinstated. I am now more confident driving my loaner car until my car is repaired from the accident. You were truly the hands and heart of Jesus for me. Thank you! Love, Barbara Biner

## **Interested in Joining FPCL or Learning More about us?**

Join in the fun of getting to know more about the church and meeting new friends on Saturday, February 11, 2023 here at the church.

WHO: Anyone interested in learning more about us and making new friends!

WHEN: Saturday, February 11

TIME: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Please RSVP to Elinor at 303-798-1389 ext 1

Questions? Call or email Dee Getzinger. DeeDG2667@gmail.com or (303) 797-8343.



## KING SOOPERS REWARDS PROGRAM – 2022 YEAR END SUMMARY

Our Kings Soopers rewards program for 2022 did well. As seen below, **the church received a total of \$3,185 for the year.**

2022	Amount FPCL Received
1Q	\$785
2Q	\$853
3Q	\$812
4Q	\$735
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,185</b>

Also our number of households that participated in the program remained at 70. FPCL has benefited tremendously over the years from this generous program receiving thousands of dollars.

**We appreciate those using your King Soopers card to support the church,**

**THANK YOU !!**

If you are interested in learning more or to sign up call Sue Chandler (303-522-7216).

### **Volunteers Needed!**

- ⇒ Pick up the Sanctuary after Sunday worship or memorial services
- ⇒ Refresh Children's Worship Bags

## Important Newsletter News!

After much discussion, we have made the choice to no longer mail the First Word Newsletter using the bulk mail process. But don't worry... here are the ways to still receive the newsletter!

- Pick up a printed copy at church. Look in Chandler Hall or by the Windermere door.
- We will mail or hand deliver printed copies to those who cannot get to church or do not have internet access.
- The newsletters (and bulletins too) are posted on our website. Go to [littletonpresbyterian.org](http://littletonpresbyterian.org), click on Newsletters and Bulletins. It's close to the top of the page. Once the page is open, you will see the link to open the newsletter and/or bulletin. Just click and read!
- We will send an email letting everyone know when new newsletter is posted.

## Focus on Finance

	December 2022		Year to Date 2022	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$44,078.40	\$49,881.25	\$ 458,215.33	\$ 435,280.00
<b>Expenses</b>	\$38,497.46	\$37,777.15	\$ 407,459.17	\$ 435,280.00
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	\$5,580.94	\$12,104.10	\$ 50,756.16	\$ -
<b>Business Interruption Credit</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 8,613.70	\$0.00
<b>Net Surplus</b>	\$5,580.94	\$12,104.10	\$ 59,369.86	\$ -

Hoping your 2023 is starting our well. Thanks to all of you that pledged your support of 2023. You should have received your 2022 giving statements by now. Please take a moment to review those statements and contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to the new year with personnel in key positions to maintain our beautiful building and grow our Christian Education Program. Although 2022 was a time of change for this church, it was financially a positive year. Thank you for your continued support.



### Mission Committee News

The Mission Committee continues to provide Grab and Go food bags for Elinor to give to those who come to the church looking for food. This month, we donated to the mission work of Jory Baynes, son of Joy Carreno. He works for CRU, a local college ministry group. We also gave to Love In The Name of Christ (Love, INC) which is a group where Christian churches are united in purpose and fully engaged in actively living out their faith by lovingly serving people in need in their communities.

**Annual Meeting—February 12, 2023**

**Following Worship**

**Come pick up your copy of our annual report and learn more about all we've accomplished in 2022 and plans for 2023.**

## **Upcoming Sermon Series 12 Pillars in God's Temple**

**February 5: Introduction to Temple Virtues**

Isaiah 6:5-8

Colossians 3:12-14

“Button Up Your Overcoat”

**February 12: Virtue # 1 Honesty**

Isaiah 64:6-7

Romans 3: 10-12

“Honesty is the Best Policy”

**February 19: Virtue # 2 Hope**

Psalms 18:2-3

Romans 4: 7-8

“Hope is the Thing with Feathers” Emily Dickson

**February 22: Ash Wednesday—6:00pm**

**February 26: Virtue # 3 Faith**

John 1:12-13

Hebrews 11:6

“Without Faith It is Impossible”

**March 5: Pastor Blakeley Winslow Preaching ( Bill gone)**

**March 12: Virtue # 4 Courage**

Psalms 31: 24

Matthew 7:1-4

“Courage Is Not the Lack of Fear”

**March 19: Virtue # 5 Integrity**

Proverbs 28: 13-14

1 John 1:8-10

“Does Your Walk Match Your Talk?”

**March 26: Cantata with the Chancel Choir**  
The Weeping Tree

**April 2: Palm Sunday**  
Memorial Handbells

**April 9: Easter Sunday**

**April 16: Virtue # 6**  
Deuteronomy 6:4-5  
John 5:1-8  
“The Wine is Good, but the Meat is Spoiled”

**April 23: Virtue # 7 Humility**  
Psalms 37:1-4  
Luke 18:14  
“It Hard to be Humble”

**April 30: Virtue # 8 Discipline to Act**  
Micah 6:8  
Luke 19: 1-9  
“Do As I Say...And as I Do!”



**FPCL Afternoon Book Club**

**February 9, 2023 - Dreaming of Flight** - by Catherine Ryan Hyde (novel) You can contact Janice Fagan at [JLFagan69@gmail.com](mailto:JLFagan69@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Dollars and Sense – A Word from Finance

We've all seen that mysterious little line item on our pledge card – “Per Capita” – with an encouragement to support it. So – what is Per Capita, and *why* should we support it?

Per Capita is the annual dues that we pay to be a part of Presbyterian Church (USA). PCUSA each year determines a “cost per member” for the services that they provide us; for 2022, the cost was \$32.00 per member. PCUSA determines our total bill based on our total number of members for the year, and we send a check to them with hopes that our members' Per Capita contributions will offset it.

We have traditionally encouraged each FPCL member to make a separate pledge for Per Capita. Where this does not occur, we must make up the difference from FPCL's operating budget. As you make payments against your pledge, it's helpful to let Joan know any offerings or pledge payments related to Per Capita.

Importantly – how does Per Capita benefit First Pres? The benefit has been special in 2022 and 2023. PCUSA is the source of our outstanding interim pastor, Pastor Bill. And PCUSA is supporting us with a strong process and candidates for our next permanent pastor.

Per Capita is also a primary funding source for the work of Presbyteries, Synods, and the General Assembly on our behalf. A browse of the PCUSA website will turn up hundreds of support resource topics, such as camps, disaster response, scholarships, tax and legal advice, and support ideas for various ministries. Many of FPCL's leaders regularly make use of PCUSA's resources; the finance committee has benefited from PCUSA's advice in setting up FPCL's Legacy Fund, and as an investment option for FPCL's operating cash.

PCUSA is doing God's work, both in support of FPCL and in its broader missions. To all who support Per Capita – thanks! And to those who have not yet -- please join us!

### Some Breaking News

*We have been notified that Amazon is discontinuing their Amazon Smile program effective February 20. Thanks to all who recently signed up for this expected added source of income to FPCL. At least we tried!*

Your Finance Committee

John Ansted (co-moderator), Scott Chandler, Susan Strauss, Dick Graves, Charles Kellogg, Dave LeMay and Joan Lund (ex-officio), and Bob Chapman (moderator)



## Prayer List

Mary Ake, David Campos, Aimee Blanchard, Donna Farris, Jon Heggie, Joyce Fuller, Rollie Fuller, Kent Griffith, Joy Carreño, Judy Macdonald, Lonna Williams, Joan Cook, Eileen Witt, Pat & Jaime Yrastorza

### In Service to Our Country

Major Ricky Casburn; Capt. Connor Venrick, Hawaii; Brett Wilson; Sgt. Benjamin Lund, Jordan; Bobby Johannsen; Connor McDaniel, Army; LCDR. Per Rychecky, Germany; Donnie Donahue, Marines; Nathaniel Syron; Cpl. Isaiah Boehm, Ft. Carson CO; Jeremy Colwell; C1C Cameryn McKinnell, USAFA; MAJ Wm McKinnell, USAF War College; Ulises Serrano, Boot Camp

### Missions

Jory & Mallory Bayne; Metro Denver; Presbytery of Zimbabwe; South Asia Mission; Highline Place; Love INC

### Elders

Trey McDowell, Clerk of Session	Maggie Ashworth,	Jan Hole,	Mary Lareau
David LeMay	Don Meersman	Michaela Rodefeld	
Rick Wilson, Presbytery Commissioner	Kathy McDaniel, Presbytery Commissioner		

### Deacons

Kathy McDaniel, Becky Gibson, Cheryl Baughman, Joy Carreno, Kathy Frear, Julie Johnston

### Stewards

Cheri Blanchard, Danny Ferguson, Karla Ferguson, Connie Strandberg

### Staff Directory

**Pastor, Bill Johnson,** (303) 798-1389 ext. 1002, Text or call 719-778-2375 (texts are best)

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

**Pastor Blakeley Winslow, Director of Christian Discipleship** 303-798-1389, Ext. 1003

**Mary Dailey, Director of Worship Arts,** Cell: (303) 668-0727, Email: [mkdaileyco@gamil.com](mailto:mkdaileyco@gamil.com)

**Karen Meersman, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music,** Email: [meers@ecentral.com](mailto:meers@ecentral.com)

**Elinor Packard, Office Administrator** (303) 798-1389 push 1, Email: [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)

**Main Office:** 303-798-1389, then push 1

**Joan Lund, Financial Secretary** (303) 798-1389 ext.1004, Email: [finance@fpcl.org](mailto:finance@fpcl.org)

**Mary Lareau, Wedding Coordinator:** (303) 798-1389, Ext. 1005, Home: 303-799-3467



**Belong**  
**Believe**  
**Beloved**

#### OFFICE HOURS

**Monday—Thursday 9am to 2pm, Friday 9am to Noon, Closed Saturday**

#### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- **10:00 am Sunday Worship**
- ♦ **FIRST WORD NEWSLETTER: The DEADLINE for the March newsletter is February 16.**

#### **Interested in Joining FPCL?**

If you are considering joining First Presbyterian Church or would just like to know more about it, contact Elinor Packard at 303-798-1389 ext. 1