



June 2017

The Banner

Newsletter of the Presbytery of Arkansas

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The Presbytery of Arkansas Meets in Little Rock

By Stewart Smith, General Presbyter

The 135th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas convened on Saturday, June 3 at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. Moderator Ruth Hamilton, ruling elder from Kirk in the Pines in Hot Springs Village called the meeting to order at 9:50. There were 124 registered at the meeting. Teaching Elder Lindy Vogado gave an enthusiastic welcome from the host church and gave directions to commissioners to find their way around the

facility. Worship began at 10:00 am with Young Adult Volunteer Ashley Nipp of Stillwater, OK preaching a sermon on our preparations for Pentecost. The Second Presbyterian Church choir provided beautiful music during the service and participants were commissioned for the presbytery's youth mission trip to Memphis. An offering was received to support transportation costs for the Montreat Youth Conference and totaled \$1,169.85.

General Presbyter Stewart Smith updated the presbytery about his participation in the Presbytery Leader Formation program and spoke about a class in the program on adaptive change. He shared that Presbyterians have skills in technical changes but adaptive change is difficult work and the way forward is not clear. He mentioned various partnerships that are forming between congregations and entities as one of the ways we see change occurring. Michael Vinson's workshop on "Thriving in times of change" was highlighted as a great start to get us talking with each other as together we find our way forward.



General Presbyter Stewart Smith

Rev. Stephen Copley, executive director of Interfaith Arkansas, brought greetings from Interfaith Arkansas which involves 12 Christian denominations and 4 world religions. He thanked the presbytery for its support over several decades.



Rev. Stephen Copley

Temporary Stated Clerk Leslie Belden gave the Stated Clerk's report. She brought action items for use of proceeds from Administrative Commissions working with Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church in Farmington and First Presbyterian Church in Siloam Springs. The Walnut Grove church was closed and sales from the facility will be used to establish a fund for the training and support of Commissioned Ruling Elders. The Siloam Springs congregation was dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Proceeds from that dismissal were directed to the Future of the Church ministry area. A new Administrative Commission was appointed to work with One-o-One Presbyterian Church in Gamaliel. Leslie emphasized the need for better participation in statistical reporting and for teaching elders and CREs to sign forms for background checks and acknowledgment of receipt of the presbytery's Sexual Misconduct policy.



Temporary Stated Clerk Rev. Leslie Belden

The presbytery moved from the sanctuary into the Great Hall for an "Order of the Day". D.C. Adams, teaching elder at First Harrison led a discussion on the topic "Really Welcome: A Conversation on Children, Safety and Responsibility". D.C. cited statistics of the wide scope of physical and sexual abuse of children and that most often the perpetrators are known to the children. He encouraged congregations to adopt a "child-protection policy" and that the well-being of children should be a priority and focus in all areas of our lives.

After lunch, the presbytery moved back into the sanctuary. Treasurer Bob Boehmler (RE - Bentonville 1st) gave encouraging news about the financial reports and the performance of the Balanced Fund at Texas Presbyterian Foundation, where most of our assets are managed. Lacy Sellars (TE - Hot Springs 1st) gave the report of the Coordinating Team, which included a proposal to change the name of the current Committee on Church's Ministries back to its former name, Committee on Ministry, to be more in line with practices of other presbyteries. He noted that an Administrative Commission had been named to work with First Presbyterian of Clarksville.

Stated Clerk Leslie Belden made the reports of the Committee on Representation and the Committee on Nominations. She cited the poor statistic that only 35 of our 83 congregations submitted annual statistical reports. She encouraged congregations to do better this year and shared plans to distribute more frequent reminders. For the Nominations committee, Belden encouraged commissioners to provide names for the Nominations Committee to consider to serve on committees.

Dari Rowen (TE-Benton) gave the report for the newly renamed Committee on Ministry. Terms of call and an Installation Commission were approved for Rev. Kade Curry, who is moving from 1st Searcy to become the pastor at 1st Springdale. Rowen announced that TE Robert Hadley was granted Honorably Retired Status, effective June 1 after serving Kirk of the Hills in Fairfield Bay for the past 16 years. She led the presbytery in a moment of silence to remember three honorably retired members of the presbytery who had recently

died: Jack Rorex of Little Rock, Gary Jones of Hot Springs and Duane Farris of Mountain Home.



Rev. Dari Rowen (left) and Rev. Kade Curry (right)

Leah Shell (RE - Little Rock Second) reported for the Future of the Church Ministry area. She reported on the participation at the pre-presbytery workshop (Thriving in Times of Change - Creating a Life-Nurturing Environment in Your Congregation) led by Michael Vinson. 43 attended from 23 churches. She also encouraged committees to utilize the Zoom Video Conference account for meetings and reported the purchase of a camera that could be used for multiple people in one location.



RE Leah Shell

Kelly Pearson (CRE - Dardanelle) reported for the Mission of the Church area and reminded commissioners of grants of \$50.00 to help with expenses for those wanting to travel to the "Big Tent" conference of the PC(USA) that will be held in St. Louis on July 6-8. He also encouraged congregations to apply for Unified Mission Grants to assist with ministries to/with the most vulnerable - young and old.

Ruling Elder Noah Williamson from Barr Memorial Presbyterian in Norman led the presbytery in a discussion of an overture submitted by the session of Barr Memorial on excluding campaigning in the church. After discussion, it was decided to refer the overture to the polity committee.



RE Noah Williamson

Kade Curry (TE - First Springdale) gave the report for the Committee on Leadership Development. The presbytery voted to receive 2 inquirers under care; Keith Dove from Central Presbyterian in Russellville and LaWanda Harris from Pulaski Heights Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. Keith was unable to attend and LaWanda was introduced and addressed the presbytery. Her pastor, Ruskin Falls offered a prayer on her behalf.



TE Kade Curry (left) with new Inquirer LaWanda Harris (right)

Curry then introduced Stacey Hammons and Stephen Moody and presented them to move toward Candidacy phase. He explained the unusual step of moving them quickly, but due to their seminary coursework in other Christian traditions, the CLD committee felt they more properly fit in the candidacy phase. Both inquirers shared with the presbytery and answered questions and then were approved as candidates for ministry.



Candidate Stacey Hammons



Candidate Stephen Moody

Marie Mainard O'Connell (TE - Little Rock Second) gave a presentation on the "conceal carry" legislation and its implications for churches. She made a video recording of her presentation which she shared with the presbytery. The video is available below:



An informational handout regarding the law is available [here](#). After several short announcements, Moderator Hamilton gave the closing prayer at 3:41 pm.

We thank the staff and volunteers of Second Presbyterian Church for hosting the 135th Stated Meeting. The 136th stated meeting will be held at Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church in Forrest City on October 6, 7 2017.

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Nominations Sought for Committee, Ministry Area Service

Presbytery's Committee on Nominations is seeking names of qualified and willing persons to serve on presbytery ministry areas or committees or subcommittee beginning in 2018. To download the current form, [click here](#). Also see special opportunity further down in The Banner.

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Church Employment (and Other) Opportunities in our Presbytery

Pastor -- Huntsville First Presbyterian Church --First Presbyterian Church (Huntsville) seeks a half-time pastor to help lead their congregation. Full details are available through the CLC portal through www.pcusa.org. Inquiries can be directed via email to Jason Holt at jholtmd@gmail.com. The website for the church is: <http://fphar.church>.

Pastor -- First Presbyterian Church--Newport -- The First Presbyterian Church of Newport, AR, is searching for an energetic part-time minister to serve a small, loving and active congregation. Newport is a county-seat town in East Arkansas, and the members of the church are active in the life of the community. For more information, contact Marvin Hare, Jr. at mbhare@hughes.net or 870-217-3661.

First Presbyterian Church, Searcy, AR, is seeking a **part-time Pianist/Accompanist**. Responsibilities would include accompanying one weekday rehearsal with the adult and children's choirs and accompanying choral and congregational music for Sunday morning worship. This individual would serve under the supervision of the church pastor and session. Please send resumes and any additional documentation to fpcsearcy@gmail.com or mail to First Presbyterian Church, Attn: Pianist/Accompanist Search Committee Chair, 400 West Arch Street, Searcy, AR, 72143. For more information about FPC Searcy, visit us online at <http://fpcsearcy.com> or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpcsearcy.

First Presbyterian Church of Walnut Ridge is searching for a full-time minister. Full salary and benefits are available. The church is prepared to help that person repay educational debt over a several year period. For more information, please contact Tom Moore, (870) 219-9379, thomasmoore929@gmail.com.

Central Presbyterian Church (Fort Smith, AR) is searching for a full-time pastor. The church is between 251-400 members, with average worship attendance of 86 members. Desired experience is Solo Pastor/Head of Staff with 5-10 years of

experience. Central Presbyterian Church is a welcoming community of faith that seeks to serve Jesus Christ through sharing our collective talents, proclaiming the Gospel, feeding the hungry, healing the brokenhearted, supporting local and worldwide missions, and enjoying the journey with the Triune God. For more information, visit the church's website at www.centralfortsmith.org, email at info@centralfortsmith.org or call 479-783-8966.

Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock seeks *Director of Youth, Young Adult and Young Family Ministries*. The person in this full-time position will provide vision, leadership and support for the church's ministry with youth, young adults, and families with young children. We are open to an ordained or non-ordained person for this position. Job Description can be found at <http://www.secondpreslr.org/ministry-search/>. Resumes and cover letters may be sent to Britton Varn at brittonvarn@secondpreslr.org.

Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock seeks *Associate Pastor for Congregational Nurture*. The person in this full-time ordained position will provide leadership and support for the church's ministries of pastoral care and counseling, hospital visitation, and congregational fellowship. Job Description can be found at <http://www.secondpreslr.org/search-for-associate-pastor/>. Personal Information Forms can be sent to Philip Shell at pshell88@gmail.com.

First Presbyterian of Jacksonville would like to donate 50 blue Presbyterian Hymnals and 25 gold, machine-washable robes with burgundy stoles to any congregation that needs them. Please call Paula at 501-773-1738 for more information.

First Presbyterian Church
1208 West Main Street
Jacksonville, AR 72076

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People and Church News

News of Our People

--Word has reached the presbytery office of the death on May 27 of **Rev. Donald E. Roulet**, who served as interim general presbyter from 1998 through 1999. Christian sympathy is

extended to his family and friends.

--**Baxter Yarbrough** is the intern in youth ministry at First, Springdale.

--**Yedea Walker** is the summer intern at Second Presbyterian, Little Rock.

--**Maggie Alsup** has moved from interim chaplain to chaplain at Lyon College, Batesville.

--**Rev. Kris Crawford** has completed her interim pastorate at First, Springdale.

--**Joyce Leeming**, administrative assistant at Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village is retiring.

--**Rev. John Gibson** has completed his pastorate at Mount Vernon Presbyterian, Pea Ridge.

--The new Presbyterian Planning Calendar features photos from Presbyterian colleges and universities, including three from U of O, Clarksville. **Obed Gonzalez**, son of Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Gonzalez, is shown sculpting. He is a member of Committee on Representation and will graduate in December.

News of Our Congregations and Ministries

--**First, Morrilton** men's breakfast group held a fundraiser on May 18 to raise money to buy electric fans for area residents.

--**Central Presbyterian, Russellville** enjoyed the annual youth service on Mount Nebo on May 7 with a meal afterward.

--**First, Benton** is working on their labyrinth, partially supported by a Wine and Beer fundraiser in a private home on May 19.

--**First, Springdale's** Chancel Choir presented their spring concert during worship on May 21 and was honored at a special reception after worship.

--**First, Yellville** will serve dinner to military reserve personnel on June 12.

--**Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village** produced a benefit play on May 11 for Safe Haven Women's and Children's Shelter and will have their annual picnic, a catered bar-be-cue, on June 14 with program following on flags over the U.S.

--**First United, Fayetteville** honored five confirmands and 15 graduates on May 7 and temporarily moved meetings of United Presbyterian Youth from Sunday night at church to Wednesday night at a local park.

--**First, Malvern** plans Dinners for Eight as an additional fellowship opportunity.

--**Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals** newsletter publishes sermon titles and scriptures for the full month along with activities after worship.

--**First, Mountain Home** held a rummage and bake sale on May 19-20 benefitting charities.

--**Pulaski Heights Presbyterian, Little Rock** collected the Pentecost Offering benefitting children at risk on June 4 and designated the 40% local portion to Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home.

--**Park Hill, North Little Rock** has a Giving tree. It all started in the stewardship season last fall with the theme Growing in Faith and then it turned into a monthly spot to hold all kinds of things each month: Angels for Vera Lloyd, socks for the Van, supplies for Hospice baskets, cereals for the Food banks. Pictured below is the tree covered with baby layettes for UAMS.



--Do you have a graduating high school senior who will be attending the **University of Arkansas in Fayetteville** this fall? Please send us their name, home address, email and cell phone information so we can connect with them this summer! Send information to ucm_chaplain@yahoo.com or call me directly at 479-445-2064. UCM looks forward to welcoming them to campus! -Rev. Susan Rose, Campus Minister, United Campus Ministry --**First Presbyterian Church of Walnut Ridge** sent 10 cleanup buckets to Church World Service at Ferncliff. This is in response to the flooding in Northeast Arkansas. The Session also voted to spend up to \$2,000 to cover free lunches in the Walnut Ridge Independent School District.

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Resource Center News

by [NiAnn Thompson](#), Resourcing Director
Phone 501.663.2424, ext. 104
Monday & Wednesday, 7:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.



PRESBYTERY FACEBOOK PAGE

If you have events that you want the people of the Presbytery to know about, post them to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PresbyteryOfArkansas. Rev. Anne Russ at First, North Little Rock (Argenta) at 501.374.7677 or email revruss@gmail.com will be glad to answer your questions.

--Two copies of the new 2017-2018 Presbyterian Planning Calendars were not sold at registration at the June 3rd presbytery meeting and are available for \$14 each. Please contact niann@presbyteryofarkansas.org

WHAT ARE YOUR SUMMER PLANS?

With schools out, graduations passed, and vacations approaching, a new rhythm captures congregations. Creative ways to keep children and families engaged are being floated in several congregations. For example, First, Springdale's Director of Christian Education Mary Shaw suggests resources from GenOn ministries, including **"family 'round the table," A Ministry Resource for Families**. This downloadable resource is "written especially for families who are committed to supporting spiritual growth in each other, and who commit to intentionally gathering once a week to eat, play, study the Bible, and pray together at home." This resource is organized to follow the readings of the Revised Common Lectionary, which is the basis for worship planning for many of our pastors and leaders. "family 'round the table" is available for the three years of the lectionary cycle. YOUR Resource Center has Year A sample to peruse and a free sample of week 1 in Year A (the first week of Advent) is available to download.

DCE Theresa Spragins at First, Conway filled pizza boxes with aids for summer education for "the first and most important teachers of children, their parents," including "Flat Jesus." This drawing of Jesus can be posed in selfies on trips to grandparents' house or fun around town, reminding all that Jesus is always with us.

First United, Fayetteville plans summer adult Christian Education by reading and discussing Tom Long's **"Testimony: Talking Ourselves into Being Christian"** (also available in YOUR Resource Center). Theologian/preacher Long considers "how Christians talk when they are NOT in church and how...speech is grounded in our faith in God." They will read and discuss a chapter each week from June 4-August 13. Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education, suggests ideas for staying connected when in and out of the pew: ask your child where they saw God in their day, visit the website at games.childrensbulletins.com (Kristi includes codes in their worship packets that lead to online games) and read stories about Christian care and nurture such as **"Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge"** (also in Resource Center), **"Joseph Had a Little Overcoat"** and **"Always."**

COMING THIS FALL

Staying with the education of children, resources are coming out to help them join their elders in observing the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (Oct. 31, 2017). **"Growing in Grace & Gratitude"** has released a one-session study for multiage (ages 5-10) on Ephesians 2:1-10 for use on Sunday, October 29 entitled "Luther Learns from Paul" with the goal to hear Paul's teaching about God's grace that changed Martin Luther's life and be assured God's grace is for us too. Lesson comes with historical background piece, gathering activities, responding in gratitude activities, word search, illustrated story, color pictures of Paul and Luther, song lyrics, and a support map for children with disabilities and special needs.

Noted educator Carol Wehrheim has written a 5-session study on **"The Protestant Reformation"** for youth and young adults divided among "Here I Stand" (Luther's famous quote), the Lawyer Pastor (John Calvin), Three Styles of Worship (Lutheran, Reformed and Catholic), Sacrament of Communion, and From Reformation to Reformations (from Luther across Europe).

Reminder: I am in the Resource Center on Monday and Wednesday and available by phone (cell 501.337.2360) or email other days.

(Your Resource Center receives funding from the presbytery's Mission of the Church ministry area.)

Presbytery of Arkansas Youth News

We have had two spots open up on two of our summer trips. Please help us spread the word about these openings so that we can fill them!

AVAILABLE: 2 SPOTS ON THE MISSION TRIP WITH MONTREAT YOUTH MISSION

July 9-14

Open to any 8th-12th grader

Cost: \$320

More

info: <http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/files/documents/YouthCouncil/Mission%20Trip%202017%20-%20Info%20and%20Registration%20form.pdf>

Please contact britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org if you are interested!

AVAILABLE: 1 SPOT ON THE MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE TRIP

July 22-29

Open to any 8th-12th grader

Cost: \$799 \$400 (the person who had to cancel is letting this spot go for a reduced price!)

More

info: <http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/files/documents/YouthCouncil/Montreat%202017%20-%20Info%20and%20Registration%20forms.pdf>

Please contact britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org if you are interested!

PLEASE SHARE! SEEKING YOUTH, COLLEGE, AND ADULT DELEGATES TO SERVE ON THE YOUTH ADVISORY TEAM!

It's time to recruit a wonderful group of youth (10th-12 graders), college students, and adults to serve as our Presbytery's Youth Advisory Team (YAT) for next year! Please help us get the word out that YAT applications are available and are still being accepted. Thank you for sending this info to youth, college students, or adults who would be great on the Team. We would love to have YOU serve as well!

If you have any questions regarding the Youth A-Team or the application process,

please contact outgoing Adult Co-Moderator Geoff Ryken (geoff@ryken.com) or incoming Adult Co-Moderator Rachel Cowan (rscowan@yahoo.com).

Applications can be found here:

<http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/documents/YouthCouncil/Youth%20Advisory%20Team%20Letter%20and%20Application%20for%202017-2018.pdf>

Youth Advisory Team of the Presbytery of Arkansas

We are a team of youth, college students, and adults that gather to grow in our faith and our leadership abilities & to help the Presbytery make disciples of Jesus Christ through events, conferences, and mission opportunities!

The Youth Advisory Team (A-Team) plans events and trips open to all youth in the presbytery.

The A-Team is a sub-committee of the Presbytery's Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Mission Team.

There are three types of delegates for Youth Advisory Team:

Youth delegate - 10th-12th grade for 2017-2018 school year

College delegate - high school graduate through age 22

Adult delegate - 23 or older

Want to stay updated about Youth Ministry happenings in the Presbytery?

"Like" us on Facebook!

Search

PresbyteryofArkansasYouthMinistry

on Facebook,

or go to

www.facebook.com/PresbyteryofArkansasYouthMinistry

This page is for anyone wishing to stay updated about Youth Ministry happenings in the Presbytery -- Youth Workers, parents, youth, Educators, Pastors.

(Presbytery's Youth Ministry receives funding from
Presbytery's new Ministries with Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry.)

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Alternates to General Assembly Commissioners Sought

Presbytery's Committee on Nominations is receiving referrals and self-referrals from Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders who are interested in serving as back-up alternates for the "regular" commissioners to the 223rd General Assembly of the PC(USA) in St. Louis, MO June 16-23, 2018. These alternates would be nominated to become the "regular" commissioners for the 2020 General Assembly gathering. Teaching Elders who have previously attended and Ruling Elders from congregations who have recently provided commissioners to G.A. should not now apply.

Under the recently adopted "Process for Nominating GA Commissioners," the role of the commissioner is "serving to discern the direction of the Holy Spirit within the context of the whole church, not chosen to 'represent' the Presbytery of Arkansas or any particular view." Please also note the "Criteria for Choosing GA Commissioners" ([click here](#)). Alternates would be trained for service this winter along with the "regular" commissioners. Referrals should include name, physical address, church of membership or service, phones, email addresses, and gender emailed to niann@presbyteryofarkansas.org by July 17. Names will be presented at the Oct. 6-7 presbytery meeting.

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Last Call for Big Tent Conference in St. Louis July 6-8

Grants Available from Presbytery's Mission of the Church Ministry Area

Big Tent 2017 to focus on 'Race, Reconciliation and Reformation'

Presbyterians from around the country are invited to live out their faith at **Big Tent 2017 in St. Louis, Missouri**. This biennial gathering will take place **July 6-8**, on the campus of **Washington University**. The theme-Race, Reconciliation and Reformation-will emphasize the hope of the gospel and its power to transform society in the current cultural context marked by anxiety, racial division, political animosity and economic inequality.

Big Tent offers Presbyterians an exciting opportunity to discern some of the toughest concerns of the day, while actively engaging with their faith community.

"Big Tent is one of the finest denominational events put on by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)," said **Tony De La Rosa**, Interim Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. "Three days of quality programming held in a central, convenient location at a reasonable cost for participants-this year's Big Tent gathering promises to be among the best ever."

The opening worship preacher will be PC(USA) Stated Clerk, the **Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II**. The Rev. Dr. Christine Hong, Assistant Professor of Worship and Evangelism and Chapel Worship Coordinator at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will be the closing worship preacher.

"As we grapple with the emerging church of the 21st century it is imperative that we come together to listen, learn and envision the future," said Nelson. "God through Jesus Christ is providing us an opportunity at Big Tent to go deep in our theology and faith while renewing our spirits."

Registration is nearing closure and is \$395. The price includes registration, accommodations for three nights and meals. A \$145 rate for commuters is also being offered.

For updates visit pcusa.org/bigtent.

The Mission of the Church ministry-area of the presbytery wishes to encourage any person who plans to attend the Big Tent event discussed above to **apply for one of the \$50 grants** to assist in meeting expenses in making the trip to and from St. Louis and associated costs. You may apply via email to Kelly Pearson, moderator-- ktpearson@suddenlink.net. Also, those willing to caravan or carpool with persons from other congregations, please coordinate with NiAnn Thompson in the Presbytery Office. Mission of the Church was pleased to award grants to people from Jonesboro and Prairie Grove to attend the NEXT Church Conference in March in Kansas City.

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Conference Opportunities at Mo-Ranch Conference Center

Summer Camp 2017
One to two week sessions
June 4-July 22, 2017
Ages 8-15
Early bird and sibling discounts available

Mo-Ranch Summer Camp is a co-ed residential Christian summer camp that's located along the north fork of the Guadalupe River in the wide-open spaces of the beautiful Texas Hill Country! Our summer camp is a place where your child will grow in character, faith and confidence through meaningful relationships in a Christ-centered natural setting.

Registration is open. Register now online at www.summercamp.moranch.org.

Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly, 2229 FM 1340, Hunt, TX 78024

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Lee Power Library at First United Presbyterian Church

The Lee Power Library housed at First United Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, consists of over 200 volumes from the late Reverend Power's personal library. The collection offers scholarly resources in the fields of counseling, philosophy, scripture, and theology. In gifting the collection to FUPC, it was Lee's wish that these resources be made available to FUPC members, Presbytery, and those seeking a career in church leadership. A catalog of the collection can be found in the resource section of the church website (fupcfay.org). Items can be checked out by contacting the FUPC office manager officemanager@fupcfay.org or the church librarian nwaite@att.net.

For a list of the available resources, [click here](#).

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New List of Churches by Region

The 2016 new 4-Region list of churches can be found [here](#).

You can also find this file at the presbytery's website under "Resources | Presbytery Documents."

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Help Prepare Boys and Girls at Vera Lloyd for the School Year

Your help is needed to make sure boys and girls at Vera Lloyd's children's home are ready for the first day of school! You, your church or community organization are invited to host a school supply drive to benefit youth at Vera Lloyd. We are in need of school supplies for the

first day of school and all year long.

We will pick up school supplies by Monday, August 7, in time for the first day of school on August 14. Call Melissa Hendricks, 501-666-8195 or email info@veralloyd.org if you can help.

School Supply Wish List

- 3-ring binders - ½ inch and 1 inch
- Art supplies, including colored pencils, crayons, markers, glitter, paint, stickers, cardstock colored paper and construction paper
- Composition notebooks, no wire-bound spiral notebooks
- Fabric backpacks, unisex, no rollers
- Facial tissues
- Folders with brads and pockets
- Hand-held or electric pencil sharpeners
- Highlighters
- Pens and #2 pencils
- Poster board
- Small pencil/supply boxes or zippered pouch type that fits in binders
- Staples and staplers
- Walmart gift cards for school clothes and shoes

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Mark Your Calendar:

Pilgrimage Coming: October

This fall, the foliage will make your Pilgrimage experience even more memorable. The fall Pilgrimage is October 19-22. Mark your calendars now, and make your reservation (below).

When you attend your Pilgrimage, you experience the love of Jesus Christ as lived out in practical ways. You learn practical tools for walking the Christian path day-by-day. You sing with joy, taste good food, and you laugh out loud. AND, you have a chance to experience all of this away from the day-to-day cares of the world.

"It felt like a preview of Heaven," a participant said about their Weekend.

Each Pilgrim comes for his or her own reason. Some come for a "retreat" from the world's cares; others participate to reconnect with Jesus. Some come just because they've heard it was fun. Whatever the reason, almost everyone who has attended their Pilgrimage has reported they were so glad they came.

All costs except room and board are donated by volunteers. Room and meals cost \$200 for the three-day Pilgrimage, but [scholarships are available upon request](#). (Arkansas Presbytery helps support these scholarships.)

To register online, or to learn more, just go to the Pilgrimage website, at www.pilgrimage-arkansas.org.

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Centsability Recipients for 2017 Named

Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team has named the following international, national and local agencies as the recipients (1/3 to each) of donations to Centsability (formerly known as 2 cents a meal):

International--Feed the Children Mission, established in 1979 and headquartered in Oklahoma City, is a non-profit relief organization serving 11 countries around the world with food and essentials. It is accredited by guide star exchange, BBB Wise Giving Alliance and rated by Charity Navigator.

National--Feeding America Network, based in Chicago, is a non-profit nationwide network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs including recipient food banks in Fort Smith, Jonesboro and Little Rock.

Local--Helping Hands in Bentonville, AR is a non-profit organization formed by local churches and volunteers, receiving no government funding, and which last year helped 11,707 families.

Centsability donations (ideally 2 cents for every individual's meal or 42 cents a week) may be sent to the Presbytery office, 9221 North Rodney Parham Road, Little Rock, AR. 72227.

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Prayer List for Congregations -- 2017 can be found [here](#).

(Note: some web browsers may require you to press and hold the "Ctrl" key while you click the link to reach the linked website).

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PRESBYTERY STAFF:

General Presbyter [STEWART SMITH](#)
Temporary Stated Clerk [LESLIE BELDEN](#)
Resourcing Director [NIANN THOMPSON](#)
Director of Mission Support [KENNETH RICH](#)
Staff Resource for Youth [BRITTON VARN](#)
Staff Resource for Vital Congregations [MICHAEL VINSON](#)
Treasurer [BOB BOEHMLER](#)
Moderator of Presbytery [RUTH HAMILTON](#)
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The Presbytery of Arkansas is a council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which is part of the Reformed family of churches within the universal Church of Jesus Christ. Our vision is *to make visible the body of Christ* (Acts II).

We are composed of over 12,000 Presbyterians gathered in 83 active churches, a new church development and one ministry located in various towns and cities in the northern two-thirds of the State of Arkansas.

Phone 501.663.2424 Fax 501.224.2429 <http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org>

Presbytery of Arkansas, 9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, AR 72227