 **First Presbyterian Church of Huntsville**

307 Gates Avenue SE, Huntsville AL 35801

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

December 24 - Christmas Eve Day

10:30 a.m. - Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services



Joy Gift Offering Christmas Eve

The Joy Gift Offering will be collected during the 3:00 and 5:00 Christmas Eve services. Joy Gift envelopes may be found in the pew rack.

Prayer Vigil



First Presbyterian Church of Huntsville
24-hour Prayer Vigil
for our Pastor Nominating Committee

8:00 a.m. Friday, December 29
through
8:00 a.m. Saturday, December 30
Sanctuary

Sign-up list in Fellowship Hall

[Click here to sign-up online](#)

[Click here for details](#)

Holiday Office Hours

December 22, 25, 26 - OFFICE CLOSED

December 27 & 28 - 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

December 29 - OFFICE CLOSED

January 01, 2018 - OFFICE CLOSED

Regular office hours will resume
Tuesday, January 02, 2018 at 8:00 am.

*The Staff of First Presbyterian Church wish you all a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!



**Farewell Reception for
Dr. Carol Tate
December 31, 2017
Fellowship Hall**

Immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on December 31st, everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for a reception honoring Dr. Carol Tate.

This is the final day of her contract with FPC. There will be a basket provided for notes and cards of appreciation and thanks.

Please join us!



Mark Your Calendar

ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

December 31, 2017 - New Year's Eve Day

10:30 a.m. - Sanctuary

Welcome!

We will welcome the Rev. Rosemary McMahan back as our interim Head of Staff in January.

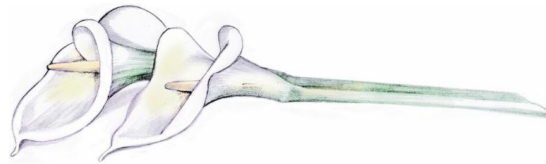
Her first day in the office will be Wednesday, January 3rd.

In Sympathy

Sympathy of the Congregation

is expressed to Steve Siniard
on the death of his mother,
Shelba Wills Siniard

The Siniard's mailing address is:
5725 Criner Road SE
Huntsville, AL 35802.



WNL Adult Education Class 2018

WNL will be offering a new adult education opportunity beginning January 10, 2018.

John Dominic Crosson, one of the world's foremost historical Jesus scholars, examines this question in the Living the Questions DVD series "Violence Divine".

Registration opening soon.

[Click here for more details](#)

Celebrating First Presbyterian's

First 200 Years in Christ

**\$200 for 200 Years
Mission/December Devotional**



For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 3:11

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of December 19th, we have received pledges for \$711,664 for 2018. We are grateful for your faithful commitments to support First Huntsville next year. Communicating the level you intend to give is very helpful for planning purposes.

If you have not submitted a pledge card, please consider indicating your plan to contribute to the Church's work by contacting:

Ellen DeAngelo (finance@fpchsv.org, (256) 536-3354 Ext 136)

As we turn the page on 2017, we are setting the 2018 budget based on your generous pledge to support the many ministries of First Huntsville that live out our Mission -

"drawn into community, nurtured by God's Word, called into the world".

A Note From the Finance Office



Last minute Contributions:

Our sincere thanks to all who have given generously this year to the life and work of our church. If you plan to make any additional contribution before year's end that you wish to be counted as a 2017 tax deduction, please remember that it must be either postmarked or received by the church by December 31, 2017. Any contributions postmarked or received on or after January 1 will be considered a 2018 tax deduction.

Also, if you are considering a gift of stock, please be aware that it takes several days for the transfer to occur and the stock market usually has limited hours during the holiday season as does our church office. Please contact the finance office to let Ellen know that you are preparing to transfer stock before the end of 2017.

Ellen will be in the church office on December 27 & 28 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. to accept contributions in person. Otherwise contributions can be put through the mail slot in the outside office door. Again make sure that your contribution is postmarked December 31, 2017 to be counted as a 2017 tax deduction.

Thank you for your continuing support to First Presbyterian Church and its ministries.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 14, 2018
Immediately following the 10:30 am Worship Service

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the annual report and to elect the 2018 representative nominating committee.

DEADLINE REMINDER

The deadline for all announcements for the bulletin and/or the weekly email is Wednesday morning by 9:00 a.m.

Please submit your announcements to Cynde Tannehill at:

administrator@fpchsv.org

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE . . .

The Newsletter will be taking a break for the Holiday Season.

The last Weekly News for 2017 will be emailed on:

December 21, 2017

The Newsletter will resume after the holidays on:

January 4, 2018

Worship This Week



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2017

**Rev. Dr. Carol Tate,
Interim Pastor**

"Not What We Thought We Wanted"

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Scripture this week:

[Psalm 96:10-13; Titus 3:4-7](#)

[View Bulletin](#)

Sermons Online

In Keeping with Presbyterian tradition, the hearing of God's word in Scripture and preaching is central to each Sunday service of worship at First Presbyterian Church.

For those who were unable to be with us, and for those who want to reflect further on a sermon or save it, you will find below the online text of the most recent sermons. Simply click "Audio Sermon."

For a PDF of the Sunday worship bulletin, click on the service time.

**Sunday, December 24,
2017**

***"Not What We Thought
We Wanted"***

Rev. Dr. Carol Tate

[10:30 a.m.](#)

**Sunday, December 17,
2017**

"Mothers of God"

Rev. Dr. Carol Tate

[8:20/10:30 a.m.](#)

Audio Sermon

**Sunday, December 10,
2017**

***"Has Anybody Seen My Old
Friend John?"***

Rev. Dr. James Roberts

[8:20/10:30 a.m.](#)

Audio Sermon

**Sunday, December 3,
2017**

Hanging of the Greens

No Sermon

[10:30 a.m.](#)

Music at FPC



THE MUSIC MINISTRY *of* FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24:

- **Many thanks** to our readers Houston Matthews, Karen Madison, Katie Fogle, Natalie Fogle, Lori Smith, David Jones, Melissa Row, and Connor Howard. Many thanks to our Elders and Deacons for assisting in worship today.
- **Many thanks** to Sherry Smith, Woodward Howard, Katie Buckner, George Edwards, David, Stacy, Brandon, Chelsea and Celeste for providing beautiful, inspiring music this Christmas Eve.
- **NO CHOIR REHEARSAL DECEMBER 27.**
- **Choir Rehearsal** will resume on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 7:15 pm in the choir room.

Dr. Patricia Hacker, Director of Music
256-536-3354, ext. 126
music@fpchsv.org

Announcements



Schedule

- Nursery provided from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
- Children's Church - 10:30 a.m.



December/January

12/24 – No PYC (Christmas Eve)

12/31 – No PYC (New Year's Eve)

1/7 – New Year Kickoff
Bring your friends as we go Ice Skating in the Park! Meeting in the Fellowship Hall then we will walk down to the park to get our skate on!!

1/14 – No PYC (Martin Luther King Jr. weekend)

Louise McCallion,
Director of Youth Ministry
256-536-3354, ext. 131
youth@fpchsv.org

First Friends Preschool



*First Friends Preschool provides a loving and nurturing Christian education program for children ages twelve weeks through Pre-Kindergarten. Established in 1982, First Friends Preschool's mission is to nurture children of First Presbyterian Church and the community and to serve as a preparatory school for entrance into public or private school Kindergarten. *Click the photo to visit our website.**

Lacy Guthrie, Director of First Friends Preschool

Upcoming Events

[View our Church Calendar Online](#)

Flower Dedications for Sunday

Flower Dedications for 2017

Flower Dedications are given to the Glory of God in memory of loved ones or in honor of special a special occasion such as a birthday, wedding, or anniversary.

A donation of \$50 will sponsor a flower arrangement by the Flower Guild.

Flower Dedication cards/envelopes are located at the back of the sanctuary, or at the bulletin boards, or can be picked up at the church office.

Upcoming available Sunday dates:

Dec. 31, 2017

Jan. 7, 14, 28, 2018

Prayer Requests

We are here to pray for you . . .

Members: Anne Boles, Charlie Bonner, Paula Brown, Emily Butler, Frances Byrd, Marlyn Harris, David Hatch, J. R. Howard, Kara Howard, Billie Jones, Cay Lambert, Sage Lyons III, Sanders Pair, Amy Ricks, John Shaver, Jr., Dolly Shuey, **and Anita Verble.**

Friends & Relatives: Alice Contreras Anaya - Sister of Frank Contreras; Joany Bass - Sister of Nancy Lundy; Kolebi Baxter - Friend of Roger and Irmie Hamner; Mary Nell Beam - Daughter of Gene and Alicia Beam; Colleen Bolton and Holly Bolton - Daughters-in-Law of Bill and Miriam Bolton; Kim & Jeanne Chamberlin - Friends of Frank Contreras; Leslie Crows on - Friend of Everett Mosley; Kimberly Daniels - Friend of Carol Cotney; Claudia Fahrner - Friend of FPC; Stella Fair - Sister of David Galloway; Calhecia Francis - Sister of Eliza Francis; Jimmy Ford - Son of Jean Forbes; Susan Gillespie - Friend of FPC; Donna Hester - Sister-in-law of Anne Peters; Tina and James Hester - Parents of Anne Peters; Frances Kyser - Friend of Patricia Hacker; Lori Lee - Friend of Beverly Wills; Beverlee Leo - Mother of Lori Smith; Markes Little - Brother of Peggy

Galloway; Kevin McCarley - Brother of Roy McCorkle; Beth Lee McCormick - Friend of the Fowler Family; Glenn Myers - Friend of Beverly Wills; Diana Rose - Mother of Serena Neely; Scott Sedlitz - Stepson of Annwhite Fuller; **Billy Wallace - Brother of Beverly Wills.**

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care: Elissa Green (Brookdale Hampton Cove); Jeanette Hollis (Harbor Chase); Pat Ivy (Redstone Village); Darwin Perkins (Brookdale Place); Ray Rose (Diversicare of Big Springs); Virginia Rowe (Whitesburg Gardens); Marge Sharp (Birmingham)

The Church: The Pastor Nominating Committee; the Nominating Committee; First Presbyterian Church, the Session, the North Alabama Presbytery, and for all the church staff.

Military & International: All those serving in the armed forces.

Our Nation: President Trump and our representatives.

First Presbyterian Missions & Ministries: Appalachia Service Project (ASP); Good Samaritans; International Missionary Fellowship (HaitiHospital.org); The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center; The Presbyterian Home for Children; Second Mile Preschool; Kids to Love; and the CUP program.

Other Prayers: Let us remember all those who have suffered and continue to suffer from natural disasters: the victims of... Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, José, Maria, and Nate; the earthquake in Mexico; the fires in the West; to the victims, families & loved ones affected by the senseless violence in Las Vegas and Texas. Also, our Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program and other benevolent agencies.

First Presbyterian Church Staff & Leadership

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Office: 256-536-3354; Fax: 256-536-3038

THE CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Carol Tate, *Interim Pastor*; ext. 132; pastor@fpchsv.org

Dr. James Roberts, *Interim Associate Pastor*; ext. 127; associatepastor@fpchsv.org

Dr. Patricia Hacker, *Director of Music*; ext. 126; music@fpchsv.org

Dr. Frank Contreras, Organist

Louise McCallion, *Youth Director*; ext. 131; youth@fpchsv.org

Lacey Guthrie, *Director of First Friends Preschool*; ext. 128; ffdirector@fpchsv.org

Cynde Tannehill, *Office Administrator/Notary*; ext. 132; administrator@fpchsv.org

Amber Stewart, *Receptionist*, ext. 130; receptionist@fpchsv.org

Finance Department, ext. 136; finance@fpchsv.org

Quentin Fitzpatrick, *Sexton*

THE SESSION

Class of 2017: Harriet Bibb (Care); Bo Lundy (Gather); Houston Matthews (Maintain); Heidi Meadows (Share); Melissa Rowe (Grow); Andy Watson (Sustain); Charlotte Wessel (Worship).

Class of 2018: Vicky Goodwin (Care); Marshall Schreeder, Jr. (Sustain); Danny Bryant (Gather); David Galloway (Maintain); Bob McKemie (Worship); Karen Madison (Share); Woodward Howard (Grow).

Moderator:

Dr. Carol Tate, *Interim Pastor*

Clerk of Session:

Bruce Williams

Moving Clerk:

Louis Horn

To view Current session minutes, click [HERE](#).

DIACONATE (DEACONS)

Class of 2017: Gene Beam (Sustain); Libby Brown (Maintain); Karen Clayton (Gather); June Guynes (Share); Andi Gaskins (Care); Elaine Stowe (Grow); Sally Troy (Worship).

Class of 2018: Ryan Parker (Sustain); Sue Garrison (Worship); Joe Lundy (Gather); Annewhite Fuller (Care); Andrew Bevel (Share); Jesse Guthrie (Maintain); Ben Peters (Grow).

TRUSTEES

Class of 2017: Mac Martinson and Charles Bozeman (Treasurer of Trustees)

Class of 2017: Bill Johnson and David Galloway

Class of 2019: Bill Lummus and Jim Daughtry

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