

THE CHURCH & YOU

November 2019



Welcome Blake Barrett, Communications Director

We are delighted to welcome Mr. Blake Barrett to our staff. Blake began as our Communications Director on Oct. 7. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a B.A. in journalism.

He comes to us recently returned from Israel where he was on a Fulbright Fellowship, teaching English to college students.



Blake grew up in Oologah, Oklahoma, and he goes back often to visit family. He recently relocated to Oklahoma City and is excited to work at First Presbyterian Church.

“I’ve grown up in and around church my entire life. It felt natural to put my skills to use in a place that I’m proud to serve. It also helps that the people at FPC have been incredibly welcoming,” Barrett said.

Thank you to the search committee, Beverly Brown, Pastor John McKinnon and Mickie Smith, for the skill and dedication they brought to the search.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OKC

This Month:

Sunday, Nov. 3 | 1:00-3:30 p.m.
High School Youth Fellowship

Friday, Nov. 8–Sunday, Nov. 10
Youth Quake

Sunday, Nov. 10
Stewardship Sunday
and Veterans Day Celebration

PW Bunco Night
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 16th | 9:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.
Reserve the 3rd

Sunday, Nov 17
Youth Mission

Sunday, Nov. 24
Hanging of the Greens
12:00-2:00 p.m.

4th Sunday: A Peanut’s Thanksgiving
1:30-3:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 27 | 5:45 p.m.
Thanksgiving Service

Annual Meeting

The Session has called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

As set forth in the by-laws, the purpose of this meeting is to elect officers. The slate is listed below.

~ Gayle M. Cox, Clerk of Session

Slate of Nominees

Ruling Elder - Class of 2022:
Angie Sholar

Ruling Elders - Class of 2023:
Rachel Boggess
Mary Ann Doolen
Larry Nichols
Jim Tack
Steve Whylen

Deacons - Class of 2023:
Lacey Howard
Travis Johnson
Scott Wilson
John Woodard

Trustees - Class of 2023:
Don Carter
Brad Davenport
Eric Foster
Harold Namminga

Nominating Committee 2020:
Gaylan Adams
Dan MacLemore
Lolietta Miller
Amanda Ogden
Cyndi Stumpf

Meet the Nominees

Elders



Angie Sholar

I am honored to be nominated as an elder. I grew up in First Presbyterian Church and have raised my own family here. I was baptized, confirmed and married in the sanctuary (not all at once). I am a public school, special education teacher, currently serving the children of Cashion, Oklahoma. I enjoy volunteering through the church, and my hobbies include keeping up with my husband, our grown daughters and OSU athletics. I am excited to see our church respond to the current needs in our city, country and congregation. I'm not sure what specific talents I bring, but I trust God to use me however I am needed.



Rachel Boggess

I am honored to be nominated as an elder. I have three sons and daughters-in-law, five grandchildren, two sisters and three brothers. I was a stay-at-home mom for many years, a dentist office manager, and a Care Manager and Community Educator at Third Age Life Center. I currently volunteer at Integris Baptist Hospital three days a week. I enjoy crossword puzzles, reading, hand embroidery, cooking and spending time with my family. While there are several exciting aspects of the First Presbyterian Church, the welcoming atmosphere is what made me the most comfortable when I was searching for a church home. I bring a strong Christian foundation and love of Jesus to all that I do. I bring years of experience not only from my life as a mother and employee, but also in the church. I have served as an Adult Sunday School Leader, sung in the choir and served two terms as an elder at First Presbyterian Church Edmond.

Meet the Nominees

Elders



Mary Ann Doolen

I am honored and excited to be nominated as an elder. I am retired and have raised three wonderful children who now have their own families. They all live in the OKC area and we get together weekly for a Sunday brunch to catch up on all their doings. I love being involved with Mobile Meals, in cooking and sometimes delivering. My three-year-old marriage to my husband also keeps me busy. I have one grandchild and one on the way. I have a 10-month-old, 55-pound puppy that is a joy. I am looking forward to contributing my leadership skills in serving in whatever capacity I am called.



Larry Nichols

I have attended this church for as long as I can remember. When I was in grade school, I enjoyed running around the maze of hallways in our former location, downtown on Robinson. My wife and I just celebrated our 48th wedding anniversary. We have two children—a son who has two sons and a daughter who has two daughters. They are all great fun. I started Devon Energy with my father in 1971. I have now retired and spend a lot of time on various civic, non-profit and trade organizations. Being with grandchildren is at the top of my list of hobbies. I would be honored to be re-elected as an elder, although I cringe a little bit at the word “elder.” We have made great progress in improving the financial situation of the church and the condition of our building and grounds. I look forward to assisting in even more progress.



Jim Tack

I am honored to be nominated to be as an elder. I have been blessed to have been married to the lovely and talented Ginnie Tack for 42 years. We have two daughters, Madelaine (with her husband, Mike) and Meredith (with her husband, Patrick) and two grandchildren, Ellie and Artie. I have been a practicing attorney in Oklahoma City for 42 years. Off-work activities include playing with grandchildren, fly fishing and brewing beer. FPC is an exciting and interesting place to worship because of the people who worship here and the diverse activities the church sponsors.

Meet the Nominees

Elders



Steve Whaylen

I am pleased to be nominated as an elder. My two children are married, have families of their own and have made me a grandfather with three grandsons. Prior to retirement, I worked in oil and gas accounting and auditing for 35 years. I currently volunteer with First Presbyterian's Rat Pack, doing maintenance, repairs, painting, refinishing, and multiple other small and not so small jobs around the church building. Bike riding is my primary hobby.

My son and I have done two, 60-mile rides along the Potomac River down the C & O Canal. I'm excited to see FPC's building use improving and the major improvement in appearance and use with the parking lot resurfacing. My years of business experience have helped me develop the ability to organize, analyze data and work in group settings.

Deacons



Lacey Howard

I am honored to be nominated to be as a deacon. This church has been my home since 2001 when I joined the middle school youth group. I was baptized and became a member in 2003. I married my high school sweetheart, Wesley Howard, in the sanctuary. I have a master's degree in Interior Design and currently work for Office Interiors, a commercial furniture dealership in downtown OKC on Film Row. Wes and I have been active mem-

bers involved in church activities such as volunteering with Reserve the Third, attending mission trips and planning events for the Builders Group. One thing that excites me about FPC is the people. We are a growing community of believers and I love the diversity of personalities and talents that we attract. I will bring my organizational skills and passion for serving others with me to the Board of Deacons.



Scott Wilson

I am thrilled to be up for nomination as a deacon. I'm from Oklahoma City and grew up going to church with my family at Northwest Baptist Church. I work in Advertising at Paycom. My hobbies include storytelling, tinkering with technology and singing in the choir. I am excited to be at FPC because of the genuine affection and passionate heart of service I see in the congregation.

I will bring the gifts of communication and teamwork to the diaconate in order to accomplish lofty goals.

Meet the Nominees

Deacons



Travis Johnson

I am honored to be nominated as a deacon. I'm Emily's amazing husband, Olivia and Ruby's incredible (superhero) father and Cyndi's favorite son-in-law. I'm the Vice President of Purchasing for a contract foodservice company that operates the concessions and catering facilities at over 30 Minor League Baseball stadiums nationwide. After hours, I'm the night ninja of bubble-bathing, teeth-brushing, book-reading, more book-reading and "pluhhhhleeeeeease one more" book-reading. I currently hold the most underappreciated volunteer position on Earth...Board President of our homeowners association. One thing that excites me about FPC is the overall family atmosphere we feel when coming here and being a part of the congregation. Besides my multiple impressions and my ability to juggle...if you choose me as your candidate for the diaconate, I promise I will keep the pews fully stocked to ensure that NO offering is left un-enveloped, NO prayer request goes unwritten and NO parishioner goes unrecorded!



John Woodard

I am honored to be nominated to be as a deacon. I am the 6th generation to be a Presbyterian. My mother and I have attended First Presbyterian Church for approximately 6 years. I have worked in construction for the past 25 years, 16 of those years have been in Construction Quality Control. I currently work for an architecture firm in Oklahoma City. My hobbies are painting and drawing. At times, I volunteer at one of the downtown missions. I love the people at FPC; they are my church family. I feel I can bring the gift of experience to the diaconate. I served two terms on the Board of Deacons at FPC Norman.

Mobile Meals Needs More Volunteers

Recently, the Mobile Meals mission at FPC lost five of its volunteers, leaving us challenged to fill the needs of this special endeavor. Consider whether you could volunteer approximately two hours a month to help prepare meals or an hour to drive and deliver those meals. Drivers furnish their own vehicle and gas. Cooks prepare food.

Mobile Meals at FPC is one of the ways we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in our own community. If interested, contact Gayle Cox (gaylecox1@cox.net). Better still, come to the Tuscan Café between 9:00-11:00 on Monday or Friday morning. Have a cup of coffee and see for yourself what goes on. You just might want to become a part of it!

Fall Festival Thank You!

The 2019 Fall Festival was a huge success! We had a wonderful day hanging out in the newly paved parking lot, enjoying hot dogs and popcorn, playing games and petting exotic animals. The chili cook-off had such a range of flavors and good, friendly competition. Congratulations to Cady Lewis for taking first place! The community garden was busy with crafts, snacks and fun demonstrations of just how good squash and pumpkin taste.

The day was made a success because so many of you volunteered your time and I thank you for all the help. A special thank you goes to the staff of FPC for so much of the physical work that went into set up, tear down and the organization of it all. Jack, Matt, Jasmine, Stephanie and Becki—thank you for helping me keep it all on track.

One of the goals of Fall Festival is to show the community and neighborhoods around us that our church is open to all and a place of hospitality. Part of being good stewards of God's gifts is to give back to those around us and I think we did that well. This festival is a wonderful way to show our neighbors our commitment to community and service. Thank you for your support of Fall Festival and our church!

~ Rachel Morse

Stewardship Sunday and Veterans Day Celebration

November 10th will be a very special Sunday in the life of First Presbyterian. It will be Stewardship Sunday.

We will dedicate our pledges, tithes and offerings as an act of worship during the services. It is also the Sunday we will honor our veterans, both in worship and at a Stewardship Sunday/Veterans Day celebratory luncheon in Watchorn Hall, following the 11:00 a.m. service. During this delicious catered lunch, the music department will present a mini concert! John L. Edwards and Warren Puffer Jones, joined by special guests, will play and sing music to honor veterans.

Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 27 | Dinner 5:45 p.m. | Worship 6:30 p.m.

Please join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Dinner and Worship with Communion. This traditional turkey dinner with all the sides is sure to please. What better time to worship God with thanksgiving and praise!

To make your reservations, please email stephanie@fpcokc.org or call (405) 525-6584 by Thursday, Nov. 22.

Holiday Schedule

The church will be closed on Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 28, as well as Friday, Nov. 29.

**Reserve the 3rd
Saturday, Nov. 16 | 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
The Urban Mission**

Come join us as we help out at The Urban Mission! We will be conducting our usual projects, including sorting food and restocking the pantry. The Urban Mission is located at 3737 N. Portland Ave. in Oklahoma City.

**Christmas Food Boxes
Friday, Dec. 6 & Saturday, Dec. 7th | 9:00 A.M.
The Urban Mission**

Our “Reserve the 3rd” community mission project for December will be on Friday, December 6th and Saturday, December 7th! It is our annual Christmas Food Box assembly to benefit the families of The Urban Mission. The Mission’s Santa Store program allows parents to shop for gifts for each of their children in a joyful and festive environment. Each child gets two gifts, books, hats, gloves, socks, Christmas decor, and a box of food for the whole family.

First Presbyterian provides food boxes to these families as well as senior clients of The Urban Mission. You can help make this happen by volunteering at The Mission.

- Day 1 (Friday) will involve setting up the assembly line by organizing the food and building the boxes that will be filled.
- Day 2 (Saturday) we will meet to fill the boxes built on Day 1.

For more information contact Roane Pittman (johnpittmanmd@pnfmc.com).

Monday Morning Bible Study

The Bible and C.S. Lewis go together like coffee and pastries. Enjoy both of these classic combos at our Monday Morning Bible Study!

Join us on Monday mornings — 8:00 a.m. — at Ingrid’s (36th & Youngs) for a lively study based on C.S. Lewis’ “The Screwtape Letters,” the most engaging account of temptation—and triumph over it—ever written. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Borgstadt (jborg1@yahoo.com).

Choir Corner

Thank you all for your whispered prayers, kind words spoken and every kind deed shown toward us as we sing praises to our Lord. Your kindness matters!

May we lift up our voices in worship to our Lord. May he take joy in what he hears, and may it be a sweet, sweet sound to his ear.

Blessings to All,
John, Puffer and the Sanctuary Singers

P.S. We welcome all those who would like to join our family!

Presbyterian Women (PW) Upcoming Events - Open to PW Members & Nonmembers Nov. 10 | 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Bunco at Tapestry Senior Living—the retirement home of PW member Judy Glaspey*

The cost is \$5. Half of that fee goes to cash prizes and the other half goes to PW missions.

Feel free to bring your own beverages, and please bring an appetizer to share.

In addition to the Bunco winner prizes, there will also be several drawings where you'll be able to win wine!

*(For addresses, please contact the church office or speak with a PW member.)



Upcoming PW Meetings

Priscilla Circle: Nov. 12 at 10:00 a.m. –
Church Reception Center

Phoebe Circle: Nov. 12 at 1:30 p.m. –
*Home of Kova McLean. Bring change
for Least Coin.

Abigail Circle: Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m. –
*Home of Ginnie Tack

Presbyterian Women (PW) Ornament Sale

The Presbyterian Women are kicking off their winter fundraiser!

You can support PW by ordering a beautiful FPC-OKC commemorative ornament.

The ornaments will be delivered December 1—
just in time for Christmas!

Cost: \$20 (pre-ordered), \$25 (after Nov. 15)

Ways to order:

- Online: fpcokc.org/pw
- Church Office: See Stephanie Phillips.

Ways to pay:

- Church Office: Cash or check (payable to Presbyterian Women), put in PW's mailbox.
- Venmo App: Send to @pwfpcokc and put "ornament" in the memo.



KirkNights in November

Wednesdays | 5:00 p.m. (Children) | 6:00 p.m. (Dinner) | 6:45-7:30 p.m. (Children & Adults)

This month will be collecting items for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Cleanup Buckets. Leigh will deliver these to Ferncliff Camp in Arkansas at the end of January. You will be asked to bring different items each week. Buckets will be assembled at Kirk Night on January 22nd.

Upcoming Themes, Meals & PDA Items

Nov. 6: Theme | Crazy Hair Night

Meal | Roasted Chicken, Harvest Cobb Salad, Roasted Potatoes and Cherry Pie

PDA Items | None

Nov. 13: Theme | World Kindness Day

Meal | Pumpkin Alfredo Sausage Pasta, Spinach Salad and
Blueberry Hazelnut Cheesecake

PDA Items | 5 gallon buckets with resealable lids

Nov. 20: Theme | Fill the Bucket for PDA

Meal | One-Pan, Brown-Sugar Pork Loin with Roasted Apples and
Squash and Apple Dumplings

PDA Items | 5 scouring pads and 7 assorted sponges (amount per bucket)

Nov. 27: Theme | Thanksgiving Service

Meal | Thanksgiving Menu

PDA Items | Scrub brushes and packs of cleaning towels like Easy Wipes

If you would like to know what the programming will be each week, call the church office, check the Sunday bulletin Upcoming Events section or view the church email blast and social media.

Confirmation Class

Beginning in November

Leigh Miller will lead a confirmation class for youth of the church who are ready to join as full voting members of our congregation. This class is being offered to youth, 8th grade and higher, who have not been confirmed. Classes will be held on Wednesday nights beginning Nov. 6 through Feb. 5 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

We confirm youth to assure that they have working knowledge of what it means to be a Christian, and specifically to be a Presbyterian, so that they can decide for themselves if they want to confirm the vows made by their parents and the church at baptism. All interested youth are invited to participate—even those not raised as a baptized member of FPC-OKC. To sign up, use the online form available at <https://fpcokc.org/confirmation-fall-2019/>.

Children & Youth

Sunday, Nov. 3 | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Youth will be attending the first meeting of the new youth-lead nonprofit, began by the Sergeant Family, “To Community and Beyond.” We will meet at the church at 1:00 p.m. and travel together to Pitts Recreation Center (1920 N Kate Ave.). We will join in and help plan creative opportunities for young people to build relationships and serve our city.

Friday, Nov. 8-Sunday, Nov. 10

Youth Quake will take place at Central Christian Camp in Guthrie, Oklahoma. There will be worship, Bible study, games and LOTS of fun and fellowship! The theme is “What’s Your Super Power?” We will leave FPC-OKC at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 8 and return by 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 10.

Register online at form.jotform.com/92746349691168.

Sunday, Nov. 17 | 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Youth Mission - Service at Food and Shelter

Middle and High School Youth will be going to serve at Food and Shelter in Norman. A little bit about the program: “The mission of Food and Shelter is very simple. We feed those who are hungry and wrap our arms around the lost and alone, helping them find their way back home. We believe no person can overcome life’s most difficult obstacles if they are hungry and worried constantly about where they will sleep. The services we provide are the most basic needs of a human being: food and shelter. Women, children and men come for food and shelter. They leave with friends, a support system and acceptance. They find home.”

We will have lunch together and then travel down to Norman to serve. We will probably be doing some cleaning and maintenance, so dress accordingly or bring appropriate clothes to change into.

Sunday, Nov. 24 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.

4th Sunday: A Peanut’s Thanksgiving

We will all watch the Peanuts Thanksgiving Special and eat popcorn and toast....and whatever else you people know how to “cook” for yourselves!



To RSVP for any of the events above, please email Leigh Miller (leigh@fpcokc.org) or let her know in the youth GroupMe (search for “First Pres OKC Youth” in the GroupMe app).

For more children and youth activities planned for later in October, keep an eye on the church’s social media and Sunday bulletins.

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, Nov. 24 | 12:00-2:00 p.m.

We are asking for your help on November 24th. It's our annual Hanging of the Greens! Your gifts are needed — anything you can do, we can find a job for you! Come and join your friends in decorating a part of the church. We will be hanging greenery around the church, readying ourselves, and the church, for the coming season.

We have three areas to work on, specific instructions and tons of fun! Lunch will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Erica Taylor (erica.burden@yahoo.com).

ADVENTure

Sunday, Dec. 1 | 4:30-7:00 p.m.

ADVENTure is our annual kick-off to the Advent season! This is a great time to spiritually prepare for the season as well as spend time with family and community.

There will be activities for everyone! Activities include: a family-friendly Advent prayer room, Advent wreath making for older youth and adults, a wood-block nativity craft for the whole family, and kids' storytime in Watchorn Hall.

Dinner will be provided. Carol singing will be encouraged.

If you have any questions, please contact Leigh Miller (leighmiller@fpcokc.org).

November Birthdays **Happy birthday to all!**

01: Marcia McMillin

02: Chloe Royer

03: Sarah Hausner, Andrea

Jordan, Jordan Keith,

Susan Mullens, Janet Rus

04: Randolph Welch

08: Michelle Evans, Emily Vogt

09: Edgar Siewert

11: Katherine Crawford, Ardath

Curtis, Saraellen Woodard

13: Quentin Lusby,

Lee Allan Smith

15: Mary Ann Doolen, Jean

Nelson, Olive Sosiga

16: Caroline Kivett, Sara

Maxwell, Kaitlin Streuli

17: Robert Brittan,

18: Bobbie Adams,

Eric Broadhead,

Brian Hall, Elye James

19: Susan Hilbert

20: Amy Backus, Riley

Fitzhugh, Blaine Moore,

Harold Myers

22: Julie Alvarez,

Naun Alvarez,

Matthew Johnson

23: Diane Nola

24: Lili Alvarez,

Alexandra Hurley

25: Rachel Boggess, Scott

Buxton, John Buzan,

Karen Floyd,

Kristine Rogers

26: William Dykeman

28: Beverly Brown

29: Nita Cadenhead

30: Jacquelyn Rippetoe

First Presbyterian Church
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www.fpcokc.org



All are welcome! First Presbyterian Church is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages: 9:40 a.m.

For more information, please contact the church office at (405) 525-6584 or email office@fpcokc.org.

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