

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church

The January View



OUR VISION: To identify and claim our God-given gifts and use them to: Reach the world with Christ's good news; Equip each other as disciples; Respond, "Here I am," when the Spirit calls.

Happy New Year, dear ones!

I hope your Christmas season was full of light, and that it brought you time with people you love and a bit of rest, as well. Joe, Mallory, Stan and I would like to extend our warmest thanks for your contributions to the staff gift and for all the thoughtful sweet and savory goodies we received! They certainly made our holidays merry and bright, and we are so grateful.

As one calendar year ends and another begins, I find myself feeling reflective about what I'm leaving behind and contemplative about what I hope to carry with me. One spiritual practice that I have is to choose a word or two (no more than that) to set as my intention for the new year. It's a way for me to pay attention to my well-being and a tool to guide my decision-making for the next 365 days.

You see, my typical way of functioning in the world is as a thinker and a planner; I spend quite a bit of time in my head and, as a result, can carry around a fair amount of stress and anxiety. As a way to open myself to more ease and joy (two words that a friend and colleague chose), my word for this year is just "be." I want to spend more time being present, more time being playful, more time being outside, more time being with others, connecting face-to-face, heart-to-heart.

To just be. That's my intention for the year. What word speaks to you? I know some other Forest Hills folks are already in on this practice, so let's start conversations as we see one another about our intentions for this year and keep up with how they unfold along the way.

Whatever your word, whatever your intention, may 2018 be full to the brim with God's blessings, Christ's peace, and the Holy Spirit's love for you and yours.

All my very best,
Lindsey

REMINDERS

OCAW - We've collected 8576 canned food items as of the publication of this View!

De-Greening of the Church - As we embark upon a new year, we invite you to join us at 9 a.m. on January 6 to help take down the Advent decorations throughout the church.

Retirement Celebration - In honor of Forest Hill's longtime organist and music director, Stan Grady, we're declaring this month as *Stanuary*. Stan will be retiring at the end of January—er, we mean *Stanuary*—and we hope you'll join us for a special luncheon to bid him farewell. Please mark your calendars for January 14 after worship and help us show Stan our support and gratitude for 31 years of service at Forest Hills Presbyterian Church.

Farewell Gift - We're sure going to miss Stan here at FHPC, but we know he will enjoy this new journey of retirement! If you would like to make a contribution toward Stan's parting gift, simply include the words 'Stan gift' in the memo line of any checks or envelopes and place them in the offering plate during worship.

Giving Envelopes - Those who expressed interest in using giving envelopes for 2018 can pick them up in the Commons.

SPECIAL THANKS

The Forest Hills staff would like to extend a big thank you to all who contributed toward this year's staff gift. It is a special blessing for our team to be part of such a loving, supportive congregation.

Christian Formation Opportunities

Brown Bag Book Club: The Brown Bag Book Club will resume on January 16, 2018, with a discussion of *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. On February 20 we will discuss *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford and on March 20 we will discuss *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan.

Men's D-Team: The Men's Discipleship Team regularly meets on Saturday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Join us as we take a journey with the Apostle Paul. All men are welcome!

Fall Formation Activities

Adults: The adult sermon discussion class will continue with leadership shared by the participants.

Wired Word: A second adult class will meet in the library and use the Wired Word curriculum. Teachers are Erica Davis and Nancy Williams-Berry.

Youth: Middle and high schoolers will use a video curriculum from Spark House that is both funny and thought-provoking. Teachers are Anne Smith and Greg Hubble. Joe and Lindsey will teach the confirmation class.

Elementary: Grades K-5 will continue the WoRMSs curriculum. Teachers will vary each week.

Preschool Children: Our youngest explore Bible stories with Gina Gilchrist and Gay Wyche in the nursery.

To Guide Our Prayers

For those who are homebound or in nursing care:

- Bobbye Jones
 - Harriett Ray
-
- ✦ Ann Johnson
 - ✦ Marge Meurs
 - ✦ Mary Garber, mother of Ken Garber
 - ✦ Bobbye Jones
 - ✦ Mike Kuck, brother-in-law of Sheila McKenna
 - ✦ Hazel DuRant, aunt of Cindy Salter
 - ✦ Mike Shillinglaw, friend of Bruce Thomas
 - ✦ Randy Scoggins, friend of McKenna family
 - ✦ Mike Waltman, cousin of Krissa Schaaf
 - ✦ David Dowdy, brother-in-law of Don Boone
 - ✦ Wayne Caddick, family friend of the Simmons & McGees
 - ✦ Mac & Kathy Fairly, brother & sister-in-law of Cindy Salter
 - ✦ Gretchen Braswell
 - ✦ Charlene Berube and Pat McKenzie
 - ✦ Cathy Tate
 - ✦ Harriett Ray
 - ✦ Monie & Rod Plueger
 - ✦ Mission Co-workers Amanda Craft & Omar Chan Giron
 - ✦ Mission Co-workers Mark Adams & Miriam Escobar
 - ✦ Bo & Marion Stephenson
 - ✦ Dan Winzeler
 - ✦ Bob Smith
 - ✦ Lisa Draughn, daughter-in-law of Claude Draughn
 - ✦ Edith Drucks, mother-in-law of Lee and Carole Richie's daughter, Minda
 - ✦ Groome & Ann Fulton
 - ✦ Marty Long, cousin of Betsy Garber
- ✦ Maggie Hager, sister of Marion Stephenson
 - ✦ Dan Carter
 - ✦ Shawn Link, friend of Lisa McClamrock
 - ✦ Judy Ingram, friend of Cathy Butte
 - ✦ Norma Stewart, friend of Cathy Butte and Liz Vernon
 - ✦ Joshua Gilbert, son of Jim and Linda Mason's nephew
 - ✦ Jennifer Cox, stepsister of Jessica McClamrock
 - ✦ Minda Drucks, daughter of Lee and Carole Richie
 - ✦ Dawn Law, relative of David and Linda Sasser
 - ✦ Bettie Massey
 - ✦ Dick Johnson
 - ✦ Phyllis Wagner
 - ✦ Katie Shuler, friend of Gay Wyche
 - ✦ Charlie Christian
 - ✦ John Causey
 - ✦ Lucille Vandemeer
 - ✦ Stan Grady
 - ✦ Colleen & Greg Hubble
 - ✦ Pam Stallings
 - ✦ Jo Judd, friend of Mich Krull
 - ✦ Ron Krull
 - ✦ Peggy Hussey
 - ✦ Kathy Key, co-worker of Lisa McClamrock
 - ✦ Ralph Maddocks

For Our Community

- Those who are homeless and hungry, bound by addiction or abuse - particularly those involved in ministries we support: Leslie's House, Caring Services, Open Door Ministries, West End Ministries, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Presbyterian Counseling Center, among many others.
- Those in need of a job or having financial struggles.
- Caregivers and those who require care.

For God's Church called to service through FHPC

- Our children, youth, college and seminary students.
- For those God has called to this congregation and those God is calling.
- Our congregation - that we are actively listening for Christ's call and responding in trust.
- Our Pastor, elders, staff and others who nurture our congregation, equipping them for discipleship.

For Our Country and God's World

- Our servicemen and women around the globe where people long for peace, food and safety.
- The missionaries we support: Amanda Craft in Guatemala (blog <http://amandacraft.wordpress.com/>) and Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar in Mexico.
- Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness even in the face of danger.
- For our President and government, that God will be active in their decision-making.

At Forest Hills, we firmly believe in the power of prayer. We support that belief with a phone/email prayer chain. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, contact Carole Richie at 307-0556. If you are active on Facebook and would like to be part of the FB prayer chain, search it and make a request to join.

Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. members of our congregation come together for group prayer. Everyone is welcome!

To include or remove your prayer request or joyful noise, call the office at 883-4239 or email foresthills@northstate.net. Prayer requests may also be submitted on our website, www.ForestHillsPres.com.

If you would like to request a prayer quilt for someone, please contact Carole Richie at 307-0556.



SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

January 7

Acolyte: Isaac Garber

Nursery Volunteers: Gay Wyche

Elders on Call: Brenda Drewry & Betsy Garber

Hospitality Elder: Tom Schaaf

Ushers: Bill & Sissie Burgess, Colleen & Greg Hubble

Children's Message: Staff

Communion: Sheila McKenna, Tom Schaaf, Brenda Drewry, Lynn Roach, Carole Richie, Gordon Stallings

January 14

Acolyte: Benjamin Davis

Nursery Volunteers: Brenda Drewry

Elders on Call: Brenda Drewry & Betsy Garber

Hospitality Elder: TBD

Ushers: Betsy & Ken Garber, Tom Blount & Mary McNeal

Children's Message: Cindy Salter

Flowers: Joe & Jamie Blankinship

January 21

Acolyte: Lee Richie

Nursery Volunteers: TBD

Elders on Call: Brenda Drewry & Betsy Garber

Hospitality Elder: TBD

Ushers: Sandy Tew, Sheila Lefler, Jessica & Lisa McClamrock

Children's Message: Anne Smith

January 28

Acolyte: Jackson Davis

Nursery Volunteers: TBD

Elders on Call: Brenda Drewry & Betsy Garber

Hospitality Elder: TBD

Ushers: Gordon Stallings, David Elosser, Mary & Landie Hill

Children's Message: Gay Wyche

THANK YOU!

Celebrations & Activities!

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or listed incorrectly please contact the church office to have our database updated.

Happy Birthday!

Thorany Tagalk	Jan. 1
Janice Grady	Jan. 4
Lucille Vandemeer	Jan. 5
Katie Kennedy	Jan. 6
Todd Patterson	Jan. 8
Pam Stallings	Jan. 8
Ryan Krull	Jan. 9
David Elosser	Jan. 12
Rod Plueger	Jan. 12
Rustin Thomas	Jan. 15
Erica Davis	Jan. 16
Janet Hutchens	Jan. 17
Jean Mauldwin	Jan. 17
Mark Troutman	Jan. 22
Fred Wilson	Jan. 22
Dan Winzeler	Jan. 28
Bob Smith	Jan. 30

Happy Anniversary!

Bill & Cathy Bencini	Jan. 3
Anna & Mark Troutman	Jan. 9

Every Week Activities

Sundays @ 9:45 a.m. - Intergenerational Christian Formation Activities

Sundays @ 11:00 a.m. - Worship

Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m. - Prayer Group

Wednesdays @ 7:00 a.m. - Men's Prayer Breakfast

2018 PER CAPITA

Per capita exists as a way for all Presbyterians to share costs that belong to the whole church and allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. Be reminded that this year's per capita is \$35.57 per confirmed member. It is a wonderful time of the year to "pay it forward" in memory or honor of another person's ministry, or to pay for someone just for fun. If you have any questions pertaining to the concept of per capita, contact one of the elders or go to pcusa.org/percapita.

FROM THE MAILBOX

Dear FHPC,

Thank you so very much for your prayers and thoughtfulness My prayer quilt will always be special to me.

-Nancy Scott

Dear Members of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church,

It is with a grateful heart that I attempt to thank you for your monumental financial gift to the families of Northwood who are in need of your help. When Gay Wyche told me of your unbelievable generosity, I was overwhelmed enough to be speechless - quite a rarity! I have already dispensed joy to six of our families who shared in my shocked response; I look forward to visiting one Sunday and telling you about them personally. By the time your gift is used up, numerous other families will be blessed in untold ways by your kindness.

You are truly the hands of God in humbly serving His children. The toys, clothing, food, rent payments, etc. that you have so generously provided for have changed lives.

With loving gratitude, Liz Samuels

In Appreciation

Throughout the year Forest Hills receives many donations in honorarium and in memory of loved ones.

Memorial Fund

Annina & Dario Delmestri

W.E. and Phyllis L. Mays (In memory of Clayton Mays)

Dorothy Oliver (In memory of Clayton Mays)

John Mays (In memory of Clayton Mays)

Music Fund

Gay Wyche (In memory of John Massey)

Janice & Jerry Hughes

(In memory of Bryan Fulton)

Helping Hand Fund

Bill & Sissie Burgess (In honor of Rev. Lindsey & Rev. Joe)

Bo & Marion Stephenson

Youth Mission and Retreat Fund

John & Gloria Causey

Pennies for Hunger Fund

Bill & Sissie Burgess

Betsy & Ken Garber

Gay Wyche

John & Gloria Causey

Giving Funds

Listed below are the available ways for memorial or honorarium giving at any time during the year. If you feel led to give towards any of these funds please send your contribution along with a note advising of the designation and any dedication, honorarium or memorial.

Counseling Assistance

Courtyard Garden

Education

General Operations

Helping Hands

Memorials

Mission Scholarship

Music

Nursery Renovation

Pennies for Hunger

Youth Mission & Retreat

Online Giving Is Available

It's so simple! Go to our website, www.ForestHillsPres.com, scroll down to the "Give Now" button & click! You'll be directed to the donation form for Forest Hills. From this form, select a fund to which to give, fill in your payment information, and submit. You will receive an email acknowledgement of your donation from the Presbyterian Mission Exchange. This service is free to you. The church pays a nominal fee for the service which goes towards the denomination - so it's win-win! If you have any questions direct them to the Financial

View Publication & Church Information

We welcome your input to this newsletter! If you, your gathering or group have information or pictures you'd like published, simply email or call the church office prior to the deadlines posted on the [church calendar](#).

We encourage you to keep informed of the activities and events of Forest Hills by going to our [online calendar](#) at www.ForestHillsPres.com. We are also on [Facebook](#).

You are welcome to stop by during the week, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in more information about anything you read in this newsletter or about our church in general, please do not hesitate to contact us at 883-4239 or ForestHills@northstate.net.

Contact Us

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foresthills@northstate.net

Like us on [Facebook!](#)