

# THE CHURCH MOUSE

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Georgetown, KY 40324

February 2024, Vol. 18 No. 2

“February 14 is Ash Wednesday *and* Valentine’s Day. You might not think it, but Ash Wednesday has a lot to do with the heart.

Lent is the season of the Church when we intentionally turn our heart towards God, not just for one hour on Sunday, but for forty days.

In Joel 2 God says change your heart, not your clothes. Let’s admit it: One is easier than the other. Ashes smudged on our face may be a striking change to our outward appearance, but it means nothing if we are not also open to inward change. Receiving the mark of ashes or giving something up for Lent has value only if it ultimately draws us closer to the heart of God.

But today rest assured that no matter what; God is patient, full of faithful love, and ready to forgive. Even though we are dust and to dust we shall return (Genesis 3:19), life is more than this ash, far deeper than dust. The “Spirit wants to breathe new life into us. So God, open our mouths to sing your praise. This Lent, open our hearts.”

Browka, Abigail. *The Sanctuary for Lent 2024*. Abington Press:2

## LOOKING AHEAD TOWARD LENT

More daily devotionals, similar to the above, are in the Lenten devotional booklets,

*The Sanctuary for Lent 2024* which are now available in the narthex.

**Plan ahead: February 14 Ash Wednesday; March 24 Palm Sunday; March 24-29 Holy Week;  
March 28 Maundy Thursday; March 29 Good Friday; March 31 Easter Day**

## CLERK'S REPORT

### Session has taken the following actions:

- approved the use of the Annex on 01/26/2024 and 02/13/2024 and 02/20/2024 by AMEN House
- approved the use of the upper room on 02/27/2024 by AMEN House
- approved the use of the Annex on 02/27/2024 and 03/26/2024 by the Little Garden Club
- approved the use of the Annex on 03/02/2024 for a baby shower
- approved the 2024 spending plan
- approved communion dates for 2024
- accepted bid for roof repairs on main building and on annex
- designated 02/04/2024 as Cub Scout Sunday
- elected officers of the Session and the Corporation for 2024
- scheduled stated session meetings for the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm
- The next stated session meeting will be 02/21/2024 at 5:30 pm

### NOTICE:

Per our By-Laws, the annual congregational meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2024 immediately following the

11:00 am worship service for the purposes of:

- Receiving the 2024 budget
- Reviewing committee reports and ministries for 2023

### Attendance (includes Church School)

01/07/2024 : in sanctuary, 27

01/14/2024 : in sanctuary, 33

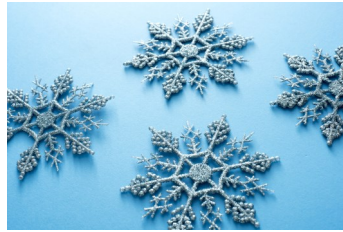
01/24/2024 : in sanctuary, 17

01/28/2024 : in sanctuary, 48

### COMMUNION

Traditional communion will be served during morning worship on 03/03/2024

## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



**If worship or activities are cancelled due to weather you will be informed as soon as possible. Local news, our Facebook page, and emails are all ways we will communicate cancellations. Remember that if you are unable to make the trip to church, you can always tune in to our YouTube channel (First Presbyterian Church Georgetown, KY) to see live worship.**

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

**Adult Sunday School Classes meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.**

We continue to offer two Adult Sunday School Classes. **Adult I** meets in the Church library and uses current books by Christian writers to discuss how modern issues impact our faith journeys. Here's the address to join the class via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88041635485>

**Adult II** meets in the downstairs classroom. The class is less than half way through a year-long reading and discussion of Brian McLaren's book *The Road Is Made by Walking*. Each week he chooses several scripture passages related to some aspect of living out our Christian faith and starts an interesting and thought-provoking discussion. We would love to have new people join these activities.

As you know, Lent begins this month. Taking part in some new activity or spiritual discipline is a traditional way to celebrate the season.

\*\*\*\*\*

The weekly Bible Study meets via Zoom on Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM. You can join through an internet computer connection or by phone. We are currently working our way through the Gospel of Luke and are finishing up chapter 12 this week.

**Here's the Zoom address:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82346112262>

**Young children** are invited to "Children's Church" during worship service.





## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The **Morning Circle** will meet **Monday, February 5 beginning at 9:30**. We will discuss Lesson 6, “A Person With a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus” in the current *Horizons* Bible Study titled Sacred Encounters.

The February meeting of the **Nite Circle** will be **Monday, February 5 at 6:30 at the church**.

### *Recipe of the Month* **Six Can Chicken Tortilla Soup**

*Source: allrecipes.com*

*(Have these ingredients on hand before the next big snowfall)*

- 2 (14.5 ounce) cans chicken broth
- 1 (15 ounce) can whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 (15 ounce) can black beans, drained
- 1 (10 ounce) can chunk chicken
- 1 (10 ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chile peppers, drained (such as Rotel)
- 1 package tortilla or taco seasoning

Toppings:

- Crushed tortilla chips (optional)
- Shredded cheddar cheese (optional)

Directions:

Pour chicken broth, corn, beans, chicken and tomatoes with green chilies into a large saucepan over medium heat. Add seasoning. Simmer, stirring occasionally until chicken is heated through, about 15 minutes. Serve hot, topped with tortilla chips and grated cheese if desired. A dollop of sour cream would be good, also.



## GATHERING PLACE MISSIONS CONTINUE TO NEED OUR HELP

The Second Sunday collection of supplies for the Gathering Place will be Sunday February 11. There are containers in the Narthex for supplies for the Gathering Place Mission for Homeless Men and The Gathering Place Mission for Homeless Women and Children— both on Bourbon Street

**ONGOING NEEDS:** Paper goods - large and small plates, bowls, napkins, toilet paper and paper towels (These items are the main ones that our church has approved to supply.) Also needed are personal care items and clothing.



## AMEN House Wish List

### Food Pantry Needs

- **Knorr pasta sides packets**
- **Peanut Butter**
- **Canned Fruit**
- **Canned Soup**
- **Heavy duty grocery bags (Kroger Click List bags)**

### Thrift Store Needs

- **Clothing (all sizes)**
- **Winter Coats (all sizes)**
- **Hats/Gloves/Scarves**
- **Shoes**
- **Blankets**
- **Towels/washcloths**



# February 2024

**Sun**

**Mon**



**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

				1	2 Ground Hog Day 	3
4 <i>Cub Scout Sunday</i> 9:30 Adult I and II Sunday School 11:00 Worship	5 9:30 Morning Circle 6:30 Nite Circle	6	7 6:50 Choir Practice	8 10:30 Bible Study 1 pm Worship Committee	9	10
11) 9:30 Adult I and II Sunday School. SSS* 11:00 Worship 1 pm Live Wires to Woodford	12	13	14  ASH WEDNESDAY 6:00 Ash Wednesday service	15 10:30 Bible Study	16	17
18) 1st Sun. in Lent 9:30 Adult I and II Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Annual Congregational Meeting followed by lunch in the Annex	19	20	21 5:30 Session Meeting 6:50 Choir Practice	22 10:30 Bible Study	23	24
25) 2nd Sun. in Lent 9:30 Adult I and II Sunday School 11:00 Worship Noisy Offering	26	27	28 6:50 Choir Practice	29 Leap Year Day 10:30 Bible Study		

Plan Ahead: February 14 Ash Wednesday; March 24 Palm Sunday; March 24-29 Holy Week; March 28 Maundy Thursday; March 29 Good Friday; March 31 Easter Day

\* SSS Second Sunday Supplies for the Gathering Place