



# THE PRESBYTERIAN NEWS



*FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*  
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Friends,

One of the gifts of being Presbyterian is that we elect and ordain spiritual leaders, who are dedicated to prayerfully seeking God's will for the church. Serving on the Session can be a big job – our elders not only serve as committee chairs and volunteers, they are also entrusted with making decisions for us regarding all aspects of church life: Communion, Baptisms, Sunday School, worship, property needs, and finances. It is a weighty responsibility, and I am so thankful to work with elders who care deeply about this congregation. They do not make decisions lightly. They pray, ask questions, and study – all in an effort to listen for God's will and to lead us in Christ's way.

Please join me in saying a big "thank you" to those who are completing a three-year term of service on the Session: Bernice Brown, Barry Long, Martha Moody, and Mary Catherine Williams.

And please join me in welcoming and praying for those who will begin their service in mid-January: Barry Long, Violet Nash, Peyton Phillips, Laura Slaughter, and Ernie Wallace.

It takes all of us to make our church a place of welcome, rest, outreach, and learning. If you would like to get more involved in the New Year, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

With gratitude,

Melissa McNair-King

*NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN*

From Day Circle by Phyllis Vice:

Day Circle will meet on Monday, January 14th, at 11 a.m. in the Manse. We will be on lesson four, *God With Us When We Seek God*. The focus of this lesson is God summons God's people, and especially God's leaders, to walk in God's ways and to seek God. Scripture for this lesson is: I Chronicles 28:1-21; I Kings 11:1-13, 29-39. Each lesson is independent of the others, so if you have not joined us yet you will not be lost. All are welcome. Bring a sack lunch and stay for fellowship after the meeting.

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From Night Circle by Dianne Wallace:

Night Circle will meet on Monday, January 14th, at 6:30 p.m. at Ginza Asian Fusion Restaurant in Pulaski. Day Circle is invited to join us and each member's husband, relative or friend is invited. Please respond to Dianne Wallace with the number attending for reservations.

Presbyterian Women -  
Praying, Studying, Loving, Serving



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

**WELCOME TO THE WORLD** Vance Thomas Wallace, born December 10, 2018 in Asheville, NC to Robbie and Amanda Wallace. Vance was 8 lbs., 2 oz., and 21 inches. The proud grandparents are Dianne and Ernie Wallace, and great-grandmother Anne Wallace.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed on New Year's Day, January 1st.

**YOUTH EPIPHANY PARTY!** All children and youth in 4th grade and up are invited to an Epiphany party (dinner included) on Sunday, January 6th, 5:30-7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. "Epiphany" is a celebration of the day that the wise men brought gifts to Jesus, honoring and recognizing him as King. Please bring a WRAPPED "white elephant" gift with you! It can be something from home, either silly or serious. If you purchase a gift, please do not spend more than \$5.

**THE ELDERS FOR 2021** will be ordained and installed on Sunday, January 20th. They are: Barry Long, Peyton Phillips, Laura Slaughter and Ernie Wallace. Violet Nash will be installed for the class of 2019.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS** to the church office for the February newsletter no later than Monday, January 21st.

**MEAL TRAIN:** Several church members have provided meals for Martha and Rick Moody, as Martha continues to recover from her cancer treatments. If you would like to participate, you can sign up at the following website, or contact Melissa. <https://mealtrain.com/00v6w4>

**IF YOU HAVE** pledged for 2019, please pick up your offering envelopes in the back of the sanctuary.

**FLOWERS:** The new calendar for 2019 is in the back of the sanctuary. Please select a special Sunday or Sundays and sign up to put flowers in our sanctuary. Fresh flowers add to our worship experience and are a wonderful way to glorify God and remember or honor people we love. You may order flowers from a florist and have them delivered or bring flowers from your garden and put them in a vase. If you need a vase, you can borrow one from the church. Also, please let Doreen in the church office know what wording you want in the bulletin by Wednesday of that week.





**CHECK IT OUT!**



For our Wonderful Wednesdays this half of the year, Pastor Melissa will be introducing us to major religions of the world besides Christianity. We have several resources in the church library that can further your understanding if you are so inclined. Check them out!

**261.2 WOG** What Christians can learn from other religions by J. Philip Wogaman - Examining other religions provides Christians the opportunity to more deeply understand their own beliefs.

**270.8 HUD** Coffee, tea, and holy water: One woman's journey to experience Christianity around the globe by Amanda Hudson - Somewhere between making cinnamon cappuccinos, coffee frappes, and chai smoothies, barista Amanda Hudson started pondering the great diversity of caffeine - and the even greater diversity in life, in the church, and in faith.

**274 OLS** Christianity and the Celts by Ted Olsen - the author digs beneath the layers of romanticization to introduce the reader to the world of the Celts, focusing on their interaction with the Christian faith.

**290 HAR** Popular aspects of oriental religions by Louis O. Hartman.

**297.09 FUL** A World without Islam by Graham E. Fuller - The author guides us through history, geopolitics, and religion to investigate whether or not Islam is indeed the cause of some of today's international crises.

**CH FIC KIM** Herschel and the Hanukkah goblins by Eric Kimmel - Herschel outwits the goblins that haunt the old synagogue and prevent the village people from celebrating Hanukkah.

## *Join us for Wonderful Wednesdays!*

6:00-7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Plan to make Wednesday church nights a part of your regular routine! It is a special time of learning and growing together as a church family. The suggested "offering" for dinner is \$4/person or \$15/family. This is anonymous, and give-as-you-can. Everyone is welcome regardless of your ability to give.

During the New Year, the youth and adult study will focus on Religions of the World. Children will have Bible study during January and February, then switch to children's choir during Lent (March and April).

Thank you to those who are serving in January:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cooking Team</b>	<b>Clean-Up Team</b>	<b>Program</b>
January 2	OFF	OFF	OFF
January 9	Potluck	Bernice, Mary Catherine, Jessie	New Year's Dinner and Party
January 16	Ron, KD, Pam	KD, Ernie, Joe	World Religions: Hinduism
January 23	Barry, Violet, Carla, Mardia	Mike, Larry	World Religions: Hinduism
January 30	Barry, Violet, Carla, Mardia	Mary Catherine, Joe, Bernice	World Religions: Buddhism



**DATE:**

**LAY READERS:**

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:**

**1/6/19**

Phyllis Vice

Karen Payne

**1/13/19**

Ernie Wallace

Barbara Roberson

**1/20/19**

Jessie Woods

Aubrey Vaughan

**1/27/19**

Joe Zagraban

Peg Vaughan