

As we gather with family and friends during this Christmas season, I'm sure that we spend some time reminiscing about the "good old days". We remember those who are gone, we will laugh at the same old stories and exploits. Perhaps we adults will even confess to something we did in our youth with the hopes that the statute of limitations has long expired.

Most of the time, those gatherings cause joy and laughter. I hope that is our experience this year.

No matter how well we think we know someone, there is always something new to be discovered. That holds true not only with our family and friends, but also in our relationship with God. No matter how many Sundays we have been in the pews, how many classes we have taught or listened to, how many times we have lifted our voices in prayer, there is always something new.

God invites us to sit with God and with one another so that we can listen, learn, and grow.

*Pastor Ray*

FPC Miami Church Family, please take the time to thank and pray for several of our local community friends who are in partnership with our ministries here at First Presbyterian Church Miami.

Backpack	Food Pantry	Deacon's Christmas Baskets
The Quapaw Nation	All Saints' Episcopal Church	Harp's
Community of Christ Church	Miami Main Street	Roosevelt Elementary School
The Friends Church	Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma	Deacon's Rummage Sale
Calico Quilters	Eastern OK Presbytery	Parishioners here at First Pres.
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<b>December 7</b>	From Repentance to Growth	Psalm 85, Matthew 3:1-12
<b>December 14</b>	Wilderness of Despair to Flourishing of Joy	Psalm 126, Luke 1:46-55
<b>December 21</b>	The Loving Gardener	Psalm 36:5-12, Matthew 1
<b>December 24</b>	The Promised Seed	Psalm 98, Luke 2:1-20
<b>December 28</b>	Refugees	Matthew 2:13-23

## **Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom**

**We meet every Wednesday on ZOOM for fellowship, study and prayer. 7:00 PM. The link to the Zoom Meeting is sent in the Wednesday Email each week.**

## **Kum Ba Yah topics:**

<b>December 3</b>	Family Christmas
<b>December 10</b>	Friends Christmas
<b>December 17</b>	Christmas with Strangers
<b>December 24</b>	NO KBZ
<b>December 31</b>	NO KBZ

## **Adult Sunday School**

**Sundays at 9:30am on Zoom and in Person!**

<b>December 7</b>	The Gift of Justice
<b>December 14</b>	The Gift of Joy
<b>December 21</b>	The Gift of Salvation
<b>December 28</b>	TBD

# BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are grateful for the leadership of Dave Foster and Janice Johnson, who organize our weekly food program with children at Roosevelt Elementary School. Since school started this year, we are averaging about **27** backpacks per week.

If you have not previously assisted with this ministry and would like information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Dave Foster or the office. We are grateful to all of you who volunteered to pack backpacks this year.



## MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission program is partly sustained by gifts from the Myers Sisters' bequest and gifts from members. You can designate gifts to "Local Mission" or "Global Mission." For the month of November, the Mission committee has donated to these local missions: **Efforts of Hope \$300, New Life Nazarene \$300, and CASA \$200.**

**The Deacon's Shoe Ministry:** The Deacons have delivered **22 pairs of shoes in 2025.**

**Food Pantry:** The food pantry served **82** households and **268** individuals from November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 20, 2025.

Thus far in 2025, we have served **594** bags (or homes) and **1,476** people.



## FPC Miami Presbyterian Women's Luncheon

There wasn't a Ladies Luncheon in October. The November Luncheon was an assortment of leftovers from the Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday.



Next Luncheon: Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am

# Offertory Collection Schedule



December 7	Open& Open
December 14	Open & Open
December 21	Open& Open
December 24	Open & Open
December 28	Open & Open

## Servers in the Lord's House

	Coffee Host	Backpack Packers
<b>December 7</b>	Tim & Ross	Thu Dec 4 – The Schmiedekes
<b>December 14</b>	<b>B-Day Sunday</b> (Cari & Shawn)	Thu Dec 11 – Open & Open
<b>December 21</b>	Open	<b>Wed Dec 17 – Open &amp; Open</b>
<b>December 28</b>	Open	<b>Christmas Break</b>



December 7	Tim Keith
December 14	Ross Tomlinson
December 21	Clyde Shaffer
<b>December 24</b>	<b>Candlelight Service 7:00 pm</b>
December 28	Karin Shaffer



# December 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 10 – Noon Food Pantry	2 10 – Noon Food Pantry	3 10 – Noon Food Pantry 10am Windridge 7pm KBZ	4 10 – Noon Food Pantry 7pm GA	5 10 – Noon Food Pantry	6
7 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	8 10 – Noon Food Pantry	9 10 – Noon Food Pantry 11am Mission 11:30am Ladies Lunch	10 10 – Noon Food Pantry 7pm KBZ	11 10 – Noon Food Pantry 7pm GA	12 10 – Noon Food Pantry	13 9am – 2pm Christmas Basket Distribution
14 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship 11:30 Deacons Mtg	15 10 – Noon Food Pantry	16 10 – Noon Food Pantry 7pm Session	17 10 – Noon Food Pantry 7pm KBZ	18 10 – Noon Food Pantry 7pm GA	19 10 – Noon Food Pantry	20
21 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	22 10 – Noon Food Pantry	23 10 – Noon Food Pantry	24 Office Closed Merry Christmas! 7pm Candlelight Service	25 Office Closed Merry Christmas!	26 10 – Noon Food Pantry	27
28 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	29 10 – Noon Food Pantry	30 10 – Noon Food Pantry	31 10 – Noon Food Pantry NO KBZ	1/1/2026 Office Closed Happy New Year!		



**Isaiah 9:6:** "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."





Jeraldine Wilcox 12/2	David Prince 12/12
David Foster 12/7	Diana Schmiedeke 12/13
Bill Neill 12/7	



*During November and December, Miami Main Street had a canned food drive. They were generous enough to donate these canned goods to our food pantry. Thank You, Miami Main Street!*

### Wednesday at Windridge

Please plan to join us as we travel to Windridge Nursing Home in Miami on the first Wednesday (December 3) at 10:00am to lead worship. We will plan to sing lots of Christmas carols this time!





*Join us on  
Christmas Eve  
Wednesday,  
December  
24<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
at 7:00 pm  
for a  
Candlelight  
Service*



# CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

# Poinsettia ORDERS



If you would like to order a Poinsettia for the sanctuary, return completed form to the church office by December 17th. Poinsettias costs will be \$20.00

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ I will be taking my poinsettia after worship on the 24th.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be leaving my poinsettia at the church to be delivered to shut ins.



## Deacon's Christmas Baskets

We will be distributing Christmas Baskets on Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>  
9 am – 2 pm.

Join us as we bless families from  
Roosevelt Elementary



Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year!

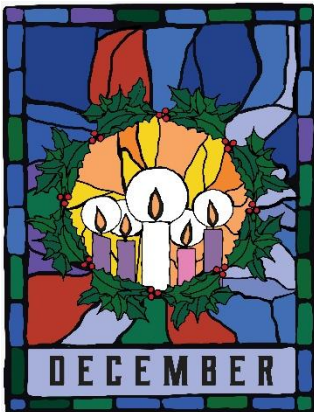
**Office Closed:**

Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

& New Year's Day

*The First Presbyterian Church*  
*1410 N.E. Veterans Blvd.*  
*Miami, OK 74354*



**Luke 2:14**: NRSV

“Glory to God in the highest, And on earth  
peace, goodwill toward men!”