



**This Week at First Presbyterian Church of Puyallup**

**Sunday, December 30**  
**10:30am Worship Service** Sanctuary  
 6:00 pm Living Free Fellowship Hall, Library, Parlor

**Monday, December 31** *New Year's Eve*  
 7:30 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Parlor

**Tuesday, January 1** *New Year's Day*  
 Commissions \*Check with your elder for date/time

**Wednesday, January 2**  
 8:00 am Men's Bible Study Good Sam. Hospital Cafe

**Thursday, January 3** *Pastor Sue Returns*  
 6:00 pm T.O.P.S. Fellowship Hall  
 6:30 pm Choir Sanctuary

**Friday, January 4**  
 10:30am Prayer Walk (Outdoor) Meeker Elementary

**Saturday, January 5**  
 8:00 am Alcoholics Anonymous Parlor  
 8:00 am Step Up to Life- Gamblers Anon. Library

**Next Sunday, January 6**  
 9:00 am Adult Ed. Class  
 9:30 am Children's Sunday School  
**10:30am Worship Service** Sanctuary  
*After Worship* Removal of the Greens  
 6:00 pm Living Free Fellowship Hall, Library, Parlor  
 6:30 pm Youth Group Senior High Room

**If your group/committee is meeting, please call our Office Manager, Darice, with the date and time.**

**SERVING YOU TODAY**

Lay Leader: .....Cheryl Hodgson  
 Usher Team Leader.....Ralph Cristler  
 Organist.....Inok Pak  
 Video Team:..... Gert Williams, Alice Dowie, & Galen Stark  
 Sound Team: ..... Paul Arbuckle, Scott Byrd & John Dowie

**Mission Yearbook: Vital Congregations Initiative**

By the time Newark (N.J.) Presbytery was invited to participate in a two-year Vital Congregations Initiative pilot program, it had already been placed under an administrative commission in the Synod of the Northeast. "The presbytery was broken," says the Rev. Dr. Barbara A. Smith. "There was little trust. There weren't good policies or procedures in place — checks and balances, things like that." When Smith arrived in Newark in 2016, she was tasked with helping the presbytery live into a new structure that had been implemented by the administrative commission to prevent past problems from happening again. The invitation from the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Vital Congregations associate Kathryn Threadgill to be part of a pilot program appeared to be a lifeline. Smith, and Newark's stated clerk, Warren McNeill, reached out to the presbytery's pastors with an invitation saying, "if the initiative didn't work in Newark, it wouldn't work anywhere." Nearly every pastor and church leader joined the program's pastoral cohort groups. They meet monthly to study together the 7 Marks of Congregational Vitality. The initiative helps them discern the Holy Spirit's movement in the life of their congregations and live out more fully what it means to be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Each cohort group is also learning firsthand the strength and sense of worth that comes from being in relationship with one another. Pastoral leaders are seeing that revitalization calls for a new approach. So far, 14 of the 34 congregations in Newark have come aboard and are at various stages of involvement in the initiative. For Smith, it's been very rewarding to see the presbytery churches — no longer under the administrative commission — working so hard and with great dedication at their renewal. At the same time, she cautions that that the vital congregations initiative "is no magic bullet. But, God is doing a new thing among us. We just have to be willing to be a part of it — I firmly believe that."

*Paul Seebeck, Presbyterian Mission Agency*



Prayer requests may be passed to the aisle, where an usher will pick them up for use in our prayer time.



We would love to get to know you over a cup of coffee & refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

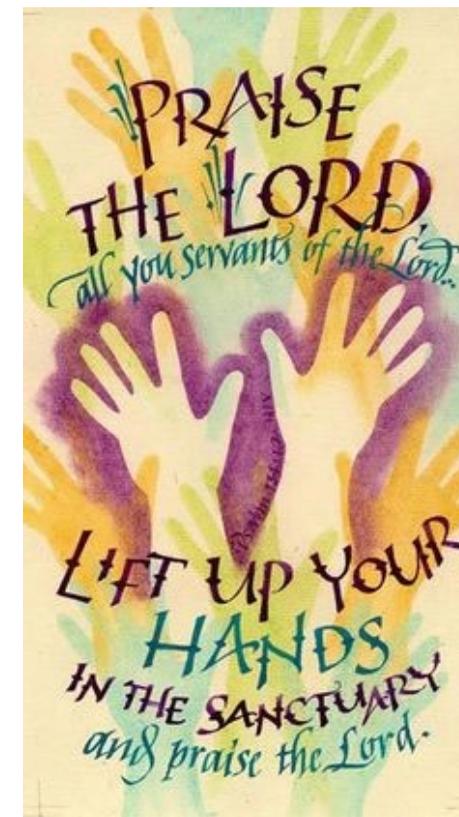
**Let us know you were here!** Whether you are a first time guest, regular attender, or member, please let us know you were here this morning by signing the Friendship Pad. Please place the sheet in the offering plate. Be sure to include children!

**Assistive Hearing Devices & Large Print Bulletins** are available, please see an usher for one.



**Welcome to Worship  
 this Lord's Day!**

First Sunday after Christmas December 30, 2018  
 10:30 am Worship Service



**First Presbyterian Church of Puyallup**  
 412 West Pioneer Puyallup, WA 98371  
 www.fpcpuyallup.org

*As faithful disciples of Jesus Christ  
 we reach up to God, reach into His Word,  
 and reach out to love and serve.*

*FPC Mission Statement, adopted by Session, May 20, 2014*