

Those We Are Praying For –December 22nd, 2024

Health and Encouragement

Family of Martha Dean Jansen	
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*First time on the prayer list. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month and then be removed unless a request is received to continue on the prayer list. Please help us maintain an-up-to-date prayer list. Notify the church of individuals in the hospital, those who need to be added and when a name can be removed from the list.

Remember Members in Nursing Homes or Retirement Centers

Joan Smith	Martha Garrett	Hazel Brown	Marian Lewis
Ruth Ryter	Norma Hoag		

Please remember those unable to attend, and the following in our Presbytery:

First, Paragould - Church Custodians

Elders

2024 Barbara Allen, Larry Goodsell, Gregg Robbins, Bruce Weidemann

2025 Ron Williams, Liz Larkin, Sheree Miller

2026 Cindy Ford, Pete Leer, Tom Savage, Doug Treptow

Clerk of Session: Jane Webb

Deacons

2024 Ray Sanford, Laura Thompson, Liz Letsch

2025 Diane Stern Phillips, Gwen Blue, Jo Lynn Gergeni, Deborah Robbins, Pat Walker

Thank you for worshiping with us.

FIND YOUR WAY TO THE HEART OF JESUS!

Believing God, Bible Study by Beth Moore, starting on Monday, January 6th at 10:00 a.m. in the church library.

Calendar for Dec 22nd – Dec 29th, 2024

Sunday	22nd	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		9:45-10:30am	Coffee w/Friends	Narthex
		10:30am	Worship	Sanctuary
Monday	23rd			
Tuesday	24th	Office	Closed	
		4:30pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
Wednesday	25th	Merry	Christmas	
Thursday	26th			
Friday	27th			
Saturday	28th	8:30am	Property Meeting	Library
Sunday	29th	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		10:30am	Worship	Sanctuary

Thank you to those who are aiding us in worship today:

Worship Leader: Anne Leer

Welcome: Bruce and Bill Weidemann

CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor: Rev. John Arnold

Accompanist: Ryan Ransdell

Choir Director: Bill Hesse

Financial Secretary: Wayne Williams

Office Manager: Shirley Parham

Custodian: Liz Letsch

FPELC Director: Amanda Kenney

**December 22nd, 2024
First Presbyterian Church of Rogers**

'Making disciples for Christ through our worship, study, service and fellowship'

1901 South 26th Street, Rogers, AR 72758



MERRY
Christmas

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Anthem Note

Bill Hesse, Choir Director

“Gymnopédie for Christmas”

The *Gymnopédies*, or *Trois Gymnopédies* ("Three Nude Dances"), are three [piano](#) compositions written by French composer and pianist [Erik Satie](#). He completed the whole set by 2 April 1898, but they were at first published individually: the first and the third in 1888, the second in 1895. These short, atmospheric pieces are written in 3/4 time, with each sharing a common theme and structure.

By the end of 1896, Satie's popularity was waning and financial situation deteriorating. [Claude Debussy](#), a friend of Satie's whose popularity was on the rise, helped draw public attention to Satie's work. In February 1897, Debussy orchestrated the third and first *Gymnopédies*.

During the latter half of the 20th Century, the *Gymnopédies* have become almost ubiquitous as a precursor to modern ambient music. The slightly melancholic feelings they evoke have made them, particularly *Gymnopédie No. 1* a go-to for a number of popular musicians, from Blood, Sweat & Tears to Cleo Laine to Janet Jackson. *Gymnopédie No. 1* has also been featured in a number of film and television soundtracks.

Ruth Elaine Schram has composed her own unique setting of *Gymnopédie No. 1*. In our anthem today. By adding her own poetry to the melody, she has created a Christmas lullaby for the Baby Jesus. In addition to the flute solo, the harmonic structure builds in an interesting way. The melody is sung twice, beginning simply and adding more harmony with the new verse. It ends with a coda very much like Satie's original composition.

Coming Events

CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS & CAROLS WORSHIP

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 4:30 PM. Please celebrate with us God's greatest gift in this lovely candlelight service filled with special music. You are cordially invited to come early and enjoy refreshments in honor of the baptism of Emily Marie Richardson.

GRIEFSHARE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Our regularly scheduled support group at Pinnacle Springs Retirement Community meeting on Thursdays, at 3 pm, will not meet December 26th. We will resume sessions on Thursday, January 2nd.

LIVING DELIBERATELY

Living Deliberately Sunday school class – What if 2025 could be the year you make a difference with one of your gifts? What if this could be your biggest year of growth as a disciple? What if you could take your relationship with God to a new level? These are all possible, but no one drifts their way to success. Join us in Sunday school for a five-week class starting December 29th, where you will identify an area of growth as a disciple. Also, you will learn how to move into that in the new year for your best year ever.

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