

Those We Are Praying For –March 15th, 2026

**Health and Encouragement**

Anne Leer	Rev. John Arnold
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**Remember Members in Nursing Homes or Retirement Centers**

Joan Smith	Martha Garrett	Hazel Brown	Marian Lewis
Ruth Rytter	Norma Hoag	Ken Garvin	

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

First United, Fayetteville - Lyon College, Batesville

**Elders**

**2026** Pete Leer, Drew Miller, Doug Treptow  
**2027** Gregg Robbins, Bruce Weidemann, June Nesbitt  
**2028** Ron Williams, Liz Larkin, Barbara Allen  
*Clerk of Session: Tom Savage*

**Deacons**

**2026** Jan Wills, Ray Sanford, Susan Wright, Jerri Arnold-Cook  
**2027** Ron Mullikin, Julie Pruitt, Gwen Blue, Diane Stern Phillips

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

Worship Leader: Jane Webb  
 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  
 Building Superintendent: Bob Dunbar  
 Custodian: Liz Letsch  
 FPELC Director: Amanda Kenney

**Calendar for Mar 15th – Mar 22nd, 2026**

Sunday	15th	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		10:30am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		11:30am	Deacon's Meeting	Library
		2:00pm-5:00pm	Girl Scouts 5342	Washburn Hall
		5:00pm-8:00pm	Boy Scouts 314B	Washburn Hall
Monday	16th	10:00am	Monday School	Library
		6:00pm	Girl Scout Troop 314G	Washburn Hall
		6:00pm	GED Class	Library
Tuesday	17th	6:00pm	GED Class	Library
		6:00pm	Cub Scout Pack 81	Washburn Hall
Wednesday	18th	11:30am	Men's Lunch	Lin's Garden
		7:00pm	Choir Practice	Choir Room
Thursday	19th	6:00pm	GED Class	Library
		6:30pm	Cub Scout Pack 12	Washburn Hall
		7:00pm	Audio Theater "Captain Blood"	Sanctuary
Friday	20th	6:00pm	GED Class	Library
Saturday	21st	8:30am	Property Committee Meeting	Library
		10:00am-12:00pm	GED Class	Library
Sunday	22nd	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		10:30am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		11:30am	Deacon's Lunch	Washburn Hall
		5:00pm-8:00pm	Boy Scout Troup 314B	Washburn Hall

*Thank you for Worshipping with Us!*



*March 15th, 2026*  
**First Presbyterian Church of Rogers**

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

1901 South 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Rogers, AR 72758



Church Office phone: 479-636-5542  
 email: [secretary@fpcrogers.com](mailto:secretary@fpcrogers.com)  
 web site: [www.fpcrogers.com](http://www.fpcrogers.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCRogers>

# Welcome to FPC of Rogers

## March 15th, 2026

### **Bold text is to be read in unison**

\*Please stand, as you are able. Large Print Bibles are available.  
Ask an usher.

**Please sign attendance book in the pew**

Attendance for 3/8/2026 – 50

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord speaks not only in wind and fire, but in quiet whisper of his presence.

**All: Teach us to listen, O God.**

Leader: Christ calls us to sit at his feet and receive the words of life.

**All: Gather our scattered attention, and draw us near to you.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord with hearts open and attentive.

\*OPENING SONG OF PRAISE **#451 Open My Eyes, That I May See**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, our lives are often filled with noise and hurry. We confess that we are easily distracted, pulled in many directions by our worries and tasks. Like Martha, we are drug away by many things. Forgive us for the ways we allow business to capture our attentiveness to your presence. Quiet our restless hearts. Gather our scattered thoughts. Teach us to listen for your voice. Form within us the Sacred Mind of Christ, that we may receive your word and humility and joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: the Lord who spoke to Elijah in a gentle whisper is the same Lord who calls us today. Christ welcomes us into his presence and invites us to sit at his feet and receive life. In him we are forgiven.

**All: In him our restless hearts find peace. Thanks be to God.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 1 Kings 19:9-13  
Pg. #322 Red Bible OT Pg. #404 Blue Large Print Bible

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM I Feel Like a Motherless Child Worship  
Spiritual, Arr. Carla J. Giomi

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:38-42  
Pg. #946 Red Bible NT Pg. #87 Blue Large Print Bible

SERMON The Attentive Sacred Mind Ruth Amensen

HYMN **#649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Christ reminds us that only one thing is truly necessary. As we bring our gifts before God today, we offer them with grateful hearts, trusting that all we have comes from the Lord. May our giving reflect lives centered on God's presence rather than anxious striving. If you are worshipping with us online, you may join us in today's offering using the link in the comments.



*Thank you for worshipping with us. You can join in and support the ministry of our church through a tax-deductible gift online. Giving is convenient, safe and simple. Just scan the QR code or go to <https://fpcrogers.com/giving> to use our online giving portal.*

\*DOXOLOGY

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below! Praise him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, receive these gifts and receive our lives. Teach us to hold our work and responsibilities with wisdom while keeping our hearts attentive to your presence. Form in us the Sacred Mind of Christ, that we may listen for your voice and follow faithfully. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles Creed  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*SONG OF DEDICATION **#169 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind**

\*SENDING SONG **On Eagle's Wings**  
**And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of his hand.**

\*POSTLUDE

# Anthem Notes

Bill Hesse, Choir Director

## “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Chile”

One of the great stains on our history as a nation was the practice of slavery. Since slaves were regarded as little more than livestock, families were separated at will by their owners who sold them at auction without a thought for their families. A great irony of that period was that in an effort to deny these people a sense of their own history, they were taught Christianity. This was less of an effort to save their souls than it was to convince them to accept that their lot in life was ordained by God.

Many slaves embraced Christianity for obvious reasons. The Bible is full of stories of God’s people being delivered from slavery and oppression. In addition, the Christian faith offers the promise of a joyful afterlife in Heaven for believers. Music became an important part of the expression of faith. Since teaching a slave to read or write was a crime, hymnals were useless to them. As a result, they had to create their own songs and thus, the spiritual came to be.

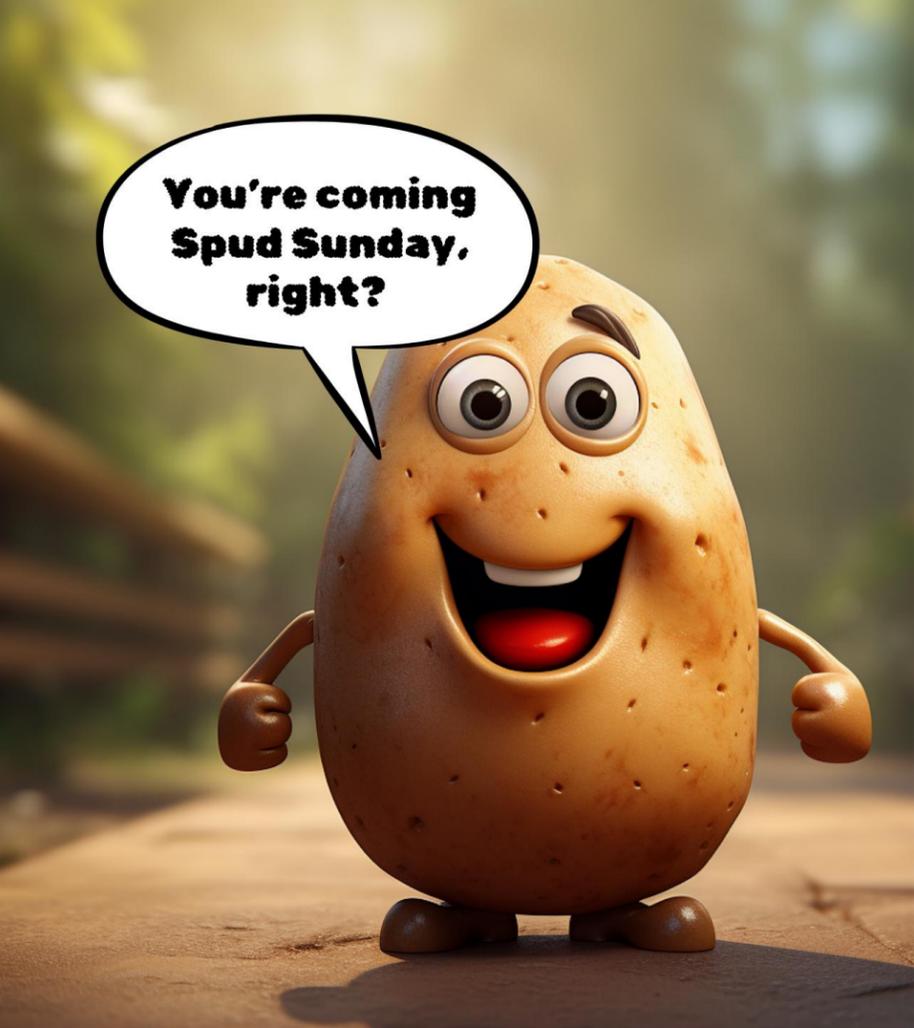
Like more Eurocentric hymns, spirituals express the gamut of emotions associated with faith, from the deepest despair to the greatest joy. “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Chile” can be compared to the Lamentations of Jeremiah. It is especially poignant because of its double meaning. The motherless child image was a common one as children were frequently sold away from their families like cattle. A deeper context was the sense of separation from God because of our sins.

As with most spirituals, “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Chile” is presented in a way useful for people who had to learn their songs by rote. Each verse is formed by repeating the same line three times, ending with the refrain “a long way from home”. Carla Giomo’s setting includes an original middle section that sets the refrain to an original melody. The tempo is deliberately slow and the harmonies are frequently dissonant, amplifying the sense of unsettlement that comes from separation from God. Like a lamentation, there is no happy resolution.

There is always a question about white choirs performing spirituals. Often, they are written in dialect to reflect the speech of the people who created them. The arrangements of William L. Dawson from the Tuskegee Institute are a good example. We are singing this in its intended dialect as a way of showing

respect to the suffering of those who gave us this powerful song.

Carla J. Giomo earned her B.M. and MA. In music from the University of Denver and her Ph.D. in music education from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She has taught at several colleges and worked as a parish musician. Her sacred choral compositions draw from a number of sources. “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Chile” is taken



**This Spuds for You!**  
Sunday, March 22, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Join us for lunch and enjoy baked potatoes, salads, chili, deserts, and beverages.

Bring a friend and come hungry.  
It's going to be Spudtacular!