

Those We Are Praying For – May 31st, 2026

**Health and Encouragement**

Kanon – friend of Sheree Miller	Bill Leer – Pete Leer’s brother
*Mary Middleton – Friend of Sheree Miller	

**Remember Members in Nursing Homes or Retirement Centers**

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

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

Mission Trip Participants - First, Fort Smith

**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: Drew Miller  
 Welcome: Liz Letsch and Drew Miller

**CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS**

Pastor: Rev. John Arnold  
 Accompanist: Ryan Ransdell  
 Choir Director: Bill Hesse  
 Financial Secretary: Wayne Williams  
 Office Manager: Shirley Parham  
 Building Superintendent: Cory Wills  
 Custodian: Liz Letsch

**Calendar for May 31st – June 7th, 2026**

Sunday	31st	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		10:30am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		11:30am	Reception for Bill Hesse	Narthex
		2:00pm-5:00pm	Girl Scouts 5342	Washburn Hall
		5:00pm-8:00pm	Boy Scouts 314B	Washburn Hall
Monday	1st	10:00am	Monday School	Library
		6:00pm	Girl Scout Troop 314G	Washburn Hall
		6:00pm	GED Class	Library
Tuesday	2nd	6:00pm	GED Class	Library
		6:00pm	Cub Scout Pack 81	Washburn Hall
Wednesday	3rd	11:30am	Men’s Lunch	Village Inn
Thursday	4th	6:00pm	GED Class	Library
		7:00pm	NW Arkansas Audio Theatre	Sanctuary
Friday	5th			
Saturday	6th			
Sunday	7th	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		10:30am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
		5:00pm-8:00pm	Boy Scouts 314B	Washburn Hall

*Thank You for Worshipping with Us!*



*May 31st, 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



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# Anthem Notes

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

*And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God Almighty,  
Who was and is and is to come!”* **Revelation 4: 8**

Reginald Heber (1783-1826) was the son of an English minister. He was educated at Oxford, where he excelled at poetry. After graduation, he succeeded his father as vicar of his village parish. He served there for 16 years.

Heber had an interest in lifting the literary quality of hymns. His skills at poetry led him to compose a collection of hymns relating to the church year. However, the Bishop of London rejected the idea and the hymns went unpublished. He continued to write for his own church and eventually composed 57 hymns.

In 1822, Heber realized a lifelong dream when he was appointed to oversee the ministry of the Church of England in India. On April 3, 1826, he preached to a large crowd in the village of Trichinopoly. Because of the heat, he entered a pool of cool water where he suffered a stroke and drowned.

After his death, his widow discovered his 57 hymns in a trunk. She succeeded in publishing them. Among these was the text of our anthem for today. In 1861, a publisher discovered this text and submitted it to John B. Dykes in the hope that he could set it to music. Dykes accepted the words and it took him about 30 minutes to compose the melody “Nicea”, the musical setting to Heber’s poem.

“Holy, Holy, Holy” has achieved the status of one of our most beloved and inspiring hymns. The congregation is invited to join us on verses 1 and 4, as printed in your bulletin.

“Benediction”

*Grace, mercy and peace be with you from God the Father and  
from the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Son of the Father in truth and love. 2 John 3*

This popular sending song was written in 1880 by Jeremiah Rankin, pastor of Washington, D.C.’s First Congregational Church and, at that time, president of Howard University. He wrote it after discovering that the word “goodbye” is a contraction of “God be with you.” In my last church position, the choir always sang it at the end of the final service before our

summer break. There’s another interesting story associated with it.

Darlene Diebler was a missionary in New Guinea. In 1937, she was imprisoned by the Japanese in Kampili, where she remained through World War II. On her release in 1945, she was a 28-year-old widow who had witnessed and experience atrocities that couldn’t be described. When she was released, in her despair she sent up a bitter prayer that she would never return to the island that she associated with such loss and misery. At that moment, she heard voices singing in Indonesian. They were congregants from her mission singing this very song. Darlene later wrote in her autobiography, *Evidence not Seen*, “The song released the waters of bitterness that had flooded my soul, and the hurt began to drain from me as my tears flowed in a steady stream. The healing had begun. I knew then that someday, God only knew when, I would come back to these people and my island home.”