

# First Pres Page

## A REFLECTION ON 2015 AND LOOKING AHEAD

Dear Members and Friends of First Pres,

2015 was yet another year of seeing God at work in the life of First Pres and the Luling community. We welcomed new members and a new baby, we contributed more than ever to local and global mission, and we were faithfully active in ministry outreach opportunities around Luling. What a joy it is to share the experience of ministry with you all!

I invite you to join us on **January 31st for our annual congregational meeting**. We will spend some time reflecting on 2015 and celebrating some of the things that happened, as well as look ahead to what 2016 will hold for us. We will be having our meeting at 9am during our normal worship time and will combine it with our hymn sing. So, it will be a worship-filled meeting with some business items to discuss. Two new elders will be elected at this meeting, the pastor's terms of call will be approved and the 2016 budget will be presented.

Because a good celebration pairs nicely with good food, let's have a potluck breakfast while we're at it! A sign up sheet will be available in the Fellowship Hall, but even if you can't bring anything, we'd love to see you there anyway!

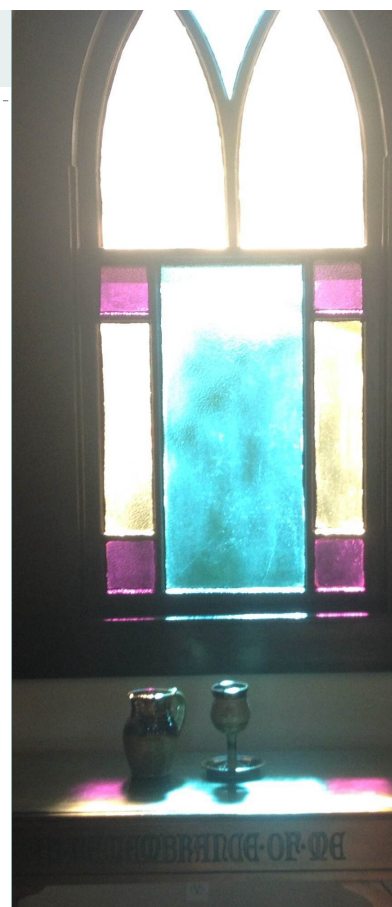
Grace and Peace to you,

Rev. Becca Weaver Longino

### Building Campaign Pledges

This is a friendly reminder to everyone who made a pledge toward the "Securing the Next 100 Years" campaign to renovate our wonderful building. If you have not yet given the full amount you pledged, you are encouraged to faithfully complete your pledge over the next few years. These pledges will help fund future projects and maintenance on the church.

Thank you!



### PREACHING SCHEDULE

#### JANUARY-MARCH

- 1.10.....MARK 2:1-22
- 1.17.....MARK 4:1-34
- 1.24.....MARK 5:21-43
- 1.31...CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND HYMN SING
- 2.4.....MARK 8:27-9:8
- 2.14.....MARK 10:17-31
- 2.21.....MARK 10:32-52
- 2.28.....MARK 12:1-12
- 3.6.....MARK 12:28-44
- 3.13 .....MARK 13:1-8, 24-37
- 3.20.....MARK 11:1-11
- 3.27.....MARK 16:1-8

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## Opportunities to serve...

Session has finalized the structure for committees that will serve the church. If you are interested in serving on one or more of the committees, please talk to Pastor Becca or any member of Session.

Here are the committees and what they do:

### Worship and Education Committee

The Worship and Education committee works with the pastor to make sure Sunday morning worship glorifies God, in accordance with the Book of Order. This committee also tends to the Christian education needs of the church, by supporting programs for all ages.

### House and Grounds Committee

The House and Grounds committee is the steward of the church property, making sure all spaces are safe and well maintained.

### Mission and Outreach Committee

The Mission and Outreach committee acts as the hospitality team for ministry conducted inside and outside the church walls.

### Finance and Stewardship Committee

The Finance and Stewardship Committee is charged with the task of ensuring financial accountability on behalf of the congregation as well as promoting good stewardship from the congregation.

#### Members of Session:

Jehu Derrickson (2012-2015), Finance and Stewardship chair

Joanna Glass (2013-2016), Mission and Outreach chair

Bill Rutherford (2012-2015), House and Grounds chair

Etta Weise (2013-2016), Worship and Education chair

## What Gifts Do You Have to Offer?

Do you have time, a talent, or a treasure to offer to the church? Our congregation is blessed with folks of various skills and passions. We want to make sure you're putting your gifts to use in the life of the church!

At the congregational meeting on January 31st, you'll be given a survey in which you can tell us what your gifts and passions are and how you want to put them to use at First Pres. Here are some ideas to get you thinking:

### **Do you enjoy yardwork?**

The church lawn needs mowers and leaf removal!

### **Do you have an eye for design?**

Our old Sunday school rooms needs to be fixed up for children to enjoy!

### **Do you like to pray for others?**

The church can always use prayer and people dedicated to the spiritual task!

### **Do you have a musical gift?**

We'd love to hear it during worship as a musical offering!

...more to come at the congregational meeting.