

First Presbyterian Church
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www.womensgatheringplace.org

December 2014

Sharings from Sharon

Dear Friends:

May the days of Advent and the preparation for our Lord's birth once again in our hearts bring you much joy and peace.

I had the joy of finding a new book last year that I have enjoyed so much. It is entitled "Faces at the Manger" by a Presbyterian Poet and Pastor. J. Barrie Shepherd gives us an imaginative collection of poems, stories, and prayers all drawing our attention to the manger. Along with Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds and the Wise One's, we are invited to be one of the people who, literally and figuratively, knell at the manger and worship our Lord and Savior. If you are drawn to that kind of book, I would highly recommend it as you prepare your hearts this Advent season.

We will once again provide numerous opportunities for you to gather with the Church Family to celebrate, reflect, worship, and fellowship during the month of December. Please take the time to check out the calendar in this newsletter. Christmas Eve is always a very meaningful and holy event. You and your loved ones are invited and encouraged to make this the most holiest of times by drawing together and worshipping our Lord.

As many of you know, our Front Door Ministry, has expanded, offering a drop in center for homeless women two afternoons a week. We begin at noon with a hot meal followed by an activity, and time for women to rest, talk, and be safe for a few hours. It has been going very well. We are looking for volunteers to help with several things: Cook a meal for 15 hungry people, share a hobby or play a game, entertain with music, story telling, and perhaps share a skill that you have and can teach to another person. It is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Christ and to put names and stories to the people that are called "the homeless". It is an opportunity to be a blessing.

Blessings, Sharon

SHAWN THOMAS LIVE !

Worship Service- Sun.Dec. 14th 10:30am

Come and hear wonderful, uplifting music from recording artist

Shawn Thomas, all the way from Florida!

We'll hear some old favorites and some new tunes as well.



Community Sing Along Sun. Dec. 14th 6:30pm

We will start out next door at TPT caroling, and then we'll all go back to the church and sing some more and have refreshments. Please bring your friends and family.



Annual Christmas Brunch! Sunday Dec. 21st, 11:45am

Sign-up now to bring your favorite side or dessert.



SOCKS and CAPS



This year we are collecting Men's (and some ladies) socks (please no anklets or tube socks) and caps (no red or blue,) for our own Front Door Ministry.

Please bring your donations by Sunday Dec. 28th. They will be given out on New Year's Eve Day along with hot homemade soup.

Speaking of HOT SOUP..... We could also use some veggies for the soup we are making on Sunday Dec. 28th.



Christmas Eve Service here at FPC Wed. Dec. 24th 7:00 pm

