**Preparing to Prepare**

We know that these are different and often difficult times: changes come at us from all angles, hurdles arise in front of us, old traditions fall away, and new patterns emerge. Even in the midst of uncertainty and unrest, we hope that there are moments in the maelstrom that reveal hope, peace, joy, and love to you. The Worship Committee will be asking our fellow congregation members to focus on one of these areas in each of the coming months. For example, during the months of August and September we will ask that you ponder what has recently brought you Hope (August) and Peace (September). October will be Joy; November will be Love. What brought you Hope or Peace? Was it a work of art—by a master or a masterful child? Was it a piece of music—familiar or with a new rhythm? Was it a recipe—a family favorite or internet sensation? Was it a meme—one that made you think or made you laugh? Was it a meeting—either in person or on Zoom? You get the picture…or the tune…or the taste…or the laugh…or the everlasting Zoom meeting! Now, all you have to do is be willing to share all of the above.

Why are we doing this? We are hoping to share and spread some hope, peace, joy, and love with each other when we so desperately need it. We are also hoping to compile your contributions as we prepare for Advent, hence the “Preparing to Prepare” title! We will be asking for your contributions on email, Instagram, Facebook, and maybe even Realm. These are items that will be shared with the congregation during their specific month and compiled for the season of Advent when everything will be shared during its corresponding week. Watch for more emails and social media posts asking for specific items during the upcoming months!

Those responding by email can send their emails to Kelly Kerr at kkerrarchitect@hotmail.com , and Jill Clemmons has volunteered to monitor Facebook and Instagram for responses that you can send directly to Facebook at [www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian/](http://www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian/) or to Instagram at [www.instagram.com/universitypresbr/](http://www.instagram.com/universitypresbr/) . (Be aware that stories submitted to Instagram are ephemeral and will only be on that page for 24 hours.)