

THE WINDOW

First Presbyterian Church

Hendersonville, TN

April 2026



Dear Friends,

We just finished a long series on the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus begins his sermon to the church with the Beatitudes. What we don't see are the questions the disciples ask about this new teaching.

“Then Jesus took his Disciples up the mountain and, gathering them round him, he taught them saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are the meek.

Blessed are they who mourn.

Blessed are the merciful.

Blessed are they who thirst for justice.

Blessed are you when persecuted.

Blessed are you when you suffer.

Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is great in Heaven.

Try to remember what I'm telling you!”

Then Simon Peter said, “Will this count on our final grade?”

And Andrew said, “Will there be a test on it?”

And James said, “By what date do we have to know it?”

And Philip said, “How many words?”

And Bartholomew said, “Will I have to stand up in front of the others?”

And John said, “The other disciples didn't have to learn this. Why do we have to learn it?”

And Matthew said, “What grade do we get if we learn it? Is this a regular assignment or extra credit?”

And Judas said, “What is it worth? Will it help us to get a better job in the real world?”

And the other disciples questioned him likewise.

Then one of the Pharisees who was present asked to see Jesus' lesson plan and inquired of Jesus, “Good Master, what are your terminal objectives in the cognitive domain?”

And Jesus wept.

I wonder if the disciples forgot this sermon, after Jesus was crucified. They were surrounded by death, failure, fear, and a broken future. However, on that first Easter morning, everything changed. The women arrive at the tomb during an earthquake. The stone has been moved and the tomb opened. The angel, sitting on the stone, tells the women, “Do not be afraid, I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here he has risen just as he said.” Suddenly, now there is life, forgiveness, assurance, and a new future.

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The resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything. The attitude, behavior, and life described in the Sermon on the Mount is now possible through the power of the resurrected Lord. The Apostle Paul proclaims this same message in his prayer for the church. He prays the church will know and understand the power God has given them. "This power is the same as the mighty strength God exerted when he raised Christ from the dead." (Ephesians 1:19-20)

We are children of the Kingdom, Son's and Daughter's of God. As we move past Easter, may we be people with a single focus on Christ, sharing mercy and peace with those in our families, neighborhoods, and community.

Love and Prayers, *Michael*

April Missions Focus—Grace Place Ministry



Our church has shown a real heart for supporting our needy neighbors with food, gifts, and personal care donations. In April, we'll be partnering with Grace Place again by collecting items for families to use while they are housed on the Grace Place campus. *We'll highlight the most-needed donation requests in the weekly church bulletin.*

Started in 2015, Grace Place of Hendersonville ministers to single mothers and their families to help them live independently in the community while emphasizing a relationship with Jesus Christ. They provide safe housing, transportation for essential needs, financial training, and enrichment programs.

Thank you on behalf of the hundreds of needy families that our church helps each year!

Coffee Talk: Attention Ladies: First Wednesday Coffee Talk meets on April 1st at 10:00 a.m. Come and meet new friends and get to know old friends better. We specialize in Love and Laughter. Coffee and cookies are involved. Enter the side narthex, go up the stairs, and follow the aroma of coffee and the sound of laughter.... then you have arrived! We hope you can join us.



Easter Events

Maundy Thursday Communion service will be on April 2nd at 7:00 p.m. The choir will lead us through this last supper Jesus had with his disciples. The homily will focus on Jesus washing their feet, including Judas's feet.

Floral Cross: Don't forget to bring some flowers for the Floral Cross on Easter morning. Each year we construct a cross with a black cloth symbolizing the death of Jesus Christ on Good Friday. Then, in celebration, we remove the black cloth and place flowers in the cross symbolizing the resurrection of Jesus. It is a tradition that blesses us and our community.

Mark Your Calendar and Join Us for Easter Brunch on Sunday, April 5th! Come join us for an Easter Brunch immediately following worship on Easter Sunday. Our Congregational Care Team will provide some delicious breakfast items, including ham, and we ask that you bring one or two of your favorite breakfast (brunch) items to share. These might include breakfast casseroles, hash browns, grits, French toast, fresh fruit, cinnamon rolls, donuts, or use your imagination! Hope to see you there.

Egg Hunt! The Discipleship & Education committee will host the annual Easter egg hunt on April 5th. We will meet on the playground immediately following the worship service. Please bring a basket for each child!

April 2026

DAILY BIBLE READING

This year we will read through the New Testament. There will be one chapter for each weekday and no reading assignments on weekends. This time can be used to reflect on the weekly readings. Here are some reflective questions after you read the chapter through twice. Is there a word or phrase that gets my attention? How does this touch my life? Is there an invitation for me? How will this impact my life today?

April 1	John 5
April 2	John 6
April 3	John 7
April 4	Reflection
April 5	Reflection
April 6	John 8
April 7	John 9
April 8	John 10
April 9	John 11
April 10	John 12
April 11	Reflection
April 12	Reflection
April 13	John 13
April 14	John 14
April 15	John 15
April 16	John 16
April 17	John 17
April 18	Reflection
April 19	Reflection
April 20	John 18
April 21	John 19
April 22	John 20
April 23	John 21
April 24	Acts 1
April 25	Reflection
April 26	Reflection
April 27	Acts 2
April 28	Acts 3
April 29	Acts 4
April 30	Acts 5

**May Window Deadline—
April 15th**

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Music Group Practice Schedule

Handbell Choir Practice

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Praise Band Practice

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Adult Choir Practice

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Weekly Group Meetings

Sew Many Blessings

Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Crochet Group

Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m.

Women's Bible Study (New)

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

Sign Language Class

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

April Monthly Meetings / Group Meetings

- April 1 - Coffee Talk 10:00 a.m.
- April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m.
- April 3 - Good Friday
- April 4 - Saturday Sabbath 9:00 a.m.
- April 5 - Easter Brunch / Egg Hunt 11:00 a.m.
- April 6 - Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- April 7 - Missions Meeting 10:30 a.m.
Membership Meeting 4:00 p.m.
- April 8 - Widow & Widowers Lunch—Demos 11:30 a.m.
Worship Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Budget & Finance Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- April 13 - HSA Golf Scramble 10:00 a.m.
Zoom Book Group 6:30 p.m.
- April 14 - PW Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
- April 20 - Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- April 21 - Sunshine Fellowship 10:30 a.m.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

2026 Worship Committee Co-Chairs: Paulette Farnham and Laurie Dishman

Current Members: Karen Abbott, Amy Bish, Sheri Brazelton, Michael Davis, Pam Davis, Richard Roche, and Janice Yearout.

Mission Statement: The Worship Ministry Unit is responsible for the worship life of the congregation - specifically to increase knowledge of worship and the strengthening and deepening of the corporate and individual worship life of the church.

The Worship Committee works to organize and prepare for special services including Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, Women's Sunday, Men's Sunday, Outdoor Worship Services, Reformation Sunday, All Saints Day, and the Advent and Christmas services. They also work closely with Pastor Michael for the organization of pulpit supply when he is out, as well as liturgists and greeters, along with floral arrangements and communion service. Our three music groups (Adult Choir, Praise Band, and Hand Bell Choir) also coordinate with the committee for budget needs and purchases.

For the recent Lent and Easter services, the committee changed the paraments/banners and set up the floral cross, as well as working with the musical groups and recruiting any special volunteers to assist for the special services on Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunday (April 5). The next special service will be Women's Sunday on April 19.

Opportunities: There are many ways to get involved in the Worship Ministry of the church.

- Join the Worship Committee – Please contact Paulette Farnham or Laurie Dishman. Meetings are generally on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
- Provide Floral Arrangements – Please contact Linda Agee in the church office.
- Become a Liturgist – Please contact Pastor Michael.
- Become a Greeter – Please contact Janice Yearout.
- Participate in the Music Ministry – Please contact the leader of the group you are interested in: Adult Choir – Sheri Brazelton, Children's/Youth Choir – Sheri Brazelton, Praise Band – Janice Yearout, or Hand Bell Choir – Laurie Dishman.
- Attend the PAM Worship and Music Conference June 28 through July 3 (returning home on July 4) – Please contact Laurie Dishman or Jean Getter.
- Assist with Women's or Men's Sunday – Please contact Amy Bish (Women's Sunday) or Pastor Michael (Men's Sunday).



Sunshine Fellowship St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Hartley and Amy Scott were our guest speakers for the month of March. They spoke about their latest endeavors at Long Hollow Gardens (LHG), which included their vineyard and wines, flower picking, beautiful sheep, and lots more. Forty-five members and friends enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day meal, featuring corned beef and cabbage, plus lots great desserts, following their presentation. It was a Shamrockin' kind of day!



Janice & Ched Yearout



Karen Baylor and
Jerry Klym



Janet Covington



Phyllis & Jerry Klym



What a crowd! Over 45 members and friends came to hear Hartley & Amy Scott speak.



Presentation by Amy & Hartley Scott



What a spread!



Delicious looking desserts!



Looks yummy!



The Mystery Member This Month Is ...



It's time for the Mystery Member of the month. She has been a member since 1980. She was born in Gallatin, TN, in 1954, and lived in TN all of her life, except for a period of years in FL, when her dad went there for work. They moved around to a few different towns there, til returning to TN, to Fayetteville, when she was 9 years old. She has one sister and two brothers. She attended college at MTSU, and graduated with a degree in elementary education, (being certified to teach grades 1-9), although she spent most of her teaching years in secondary grades. She took so many college math classes that she almost had enough hours to get a minor in math. She taught in the Sumner County school systems for 21 years. Her first year she taught every subject for ninth graders.....math, science, social studies, English and study hall. After that her classes were mostly math and science.

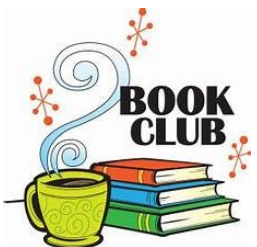
During her first year, Sumner County experienced one of the biggest blizzards of all time. Schools were closed so many days that the "makeup" schedule took away the scheduled spring break, as well as adding a 1/2 hour to each day. She retired from teaching in 2008. After retirement, she began working part time at a local bookstore. She continued to do that til COVID closed so many businesses, at least temporarily. Her current job is in the hospitality industry, employed by Destination Management Company. The job is totally different than the other jobs she's had. She'll drive to the airport to pick up people who are in Nashville to attend various conferences. She will accompany them to restaurants and venue sites.

She and her husband were married in 1974 at Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Inglewood. They will celebrate 52 years of marriage in August. She has not always been Presbyterian. She spent a lot of her high school years as a Methodist, and her mom was a member of the Church of Christ. Her dad was a Missionary Baptist. She remembers going to church with her grandmother, and remembers the church as a very conservative one.

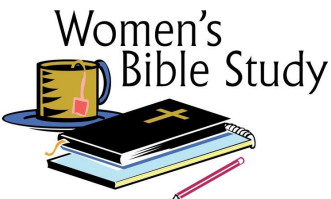
She and her husband love to travel, although they don't get a chance to go as often as they used to. One of their favorite trips was to Italy. They have been on several Viking Cruises. They traveled on the Rhine River once, and got to experience going through several locks.

They have two adult children....a daughter and a son, and four grandchildren. Their daughter lives in Atlanta with her family, and their son lives in California as a senior editor at an entertainment magazine.

Book Club: The FPC Evening Book Club is currently reading *Framed: Astonishing True Stories of Wrongful Convictions* written by John Grisham, who rarely writes nonfiction, teams up with Jim McCloskey, "Godfather of the Innocent Movement." We will meet for discussion on **Monday evening, April 13th, at 6:30 p.m.** Read along and meet with us for discussion from the comfort of your own home as we meet by Zoom. Just send an email to our "Zoom Master" Charles Lott so he can send you a link. (crlott@bellsouth.net) For any further questions, contact Jackie Decker (thepauldeckers@comcast.net).



Looking ahead: Our next book is a historical fiction novel, *Merchants of Virtue* written by Paul C. R. Monk and recommended by Scott Blackwell.



Women's Bible Study

Something Old, Something New!

These Days - Daily Devotions for Living by Faith, is tried and true. Many of you have loved it for years. Our new Weekly Women's Bible Study will be a new and exciting way to experience this valued publication. Pick up your copy in the front Narthex and meet us for our first Thursday study on April 16th at 11:00 a.m. in the session room. The fresh breath of the Holy Spirit will meet us there every Thursday.

SERMONS

April 5 – Easter (no Communion; choir), He is always waiting for us in Galilee, Matthew 28:1-10

April 12 – Elizabeth Gilliam (guest preacher, praise band)

April 19 – Women’s Sunday (Women’s choir)

April 26 – Ecumenical praying (Bell choir)



SESSION ACTIONS

- Prayed for congregation
- Read the session statement of faith
- Approved minutes from February 16, 2026
- Discussed the book, *Proclaiming the Great Ends of the Church* – Introduction and Section 1, The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind
- Approved Ministry Unit reports
- Received pastor’s report
- Received a pavilion update

February 2026

Revenue \$ 35,419.35

Expenses \$ 64,981.93

Shortfall \$ - 29,562.58



Ministry Around the Church

Most Mondays, these ladies quietly meet (well not always quietly) to sew prayer quilts and personal care kits for the Nashville Rescue Mission and crochet bears and lap quilts for children at hospitals, Community Child Care, and nursing homes. Hundreds of people have been blessed by their hands and loving hearts. Know someone who needs a prayer quilt or cuddly bear? Just let them know.



**Sew Many Blessing Ladies, which include
Cari Lou Westendorf, Suzi Bass, Janice
Yearout and Margaret Suhr**

Not in the photo: Margaret Ewald, Evelyn
Kemp, and Linda Carrier



**Crochet Group Ladies, which include Janet
Varley, Linda Ballenger, Mitzi Head and
Janet Covington**

Not in the photo: Mary Lou Settle

CHURCH STAFF

Michael Davis, *Pastor*

michael@fpchendersonville.org

Linda Agee, *Church Administrator*

linda@fpchendersonville.org

Sheri Brazelton, *Music Director*

sheri@fpchendersonville.org

Lee Druce, *Pianist*

leedruce@gmail.com

Tina Yar, *Nursery Attendant*

Tina.ostovar@gmail.com

Lauren Finn, *P.D.S. Director*

PDSDirector123@gmail.com



**Did you guess who our
Mystery Member was?**

- Cathy Lind

First Presbyterian Church

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(615) 824-8604

Website: www.fpchendersonville.org

Email: linda@fpchendersonville.org

Sunday School—9:00 a.m.

Worship Service—10:00 a.m.



- 6 - Doris Tyler
- 9 - Paulette Farnham
Lance Dary
- 14 - Cathy Young
- 16 - Scarlett Riggs
- 20 - Cara Suhr
- 21 - Charles Batey
Phyllis Klym
- 23 - Lee Carrier
- 24 - Jordan Suhr
- 25 - Linda Agee
- 27 - Alida Williams
- 30 - Sheryl Trickel