

THE PRESBYTERIAN PRESS

2022

A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church



Safe and secure

The Resurrection is an exploding flare announcing to all sincere seekers that it is safe to believe. Safe to believe in ultimate justice. Safe to believe in eternal bodies. Safe to believe in heaven as our estate and the earth as its porch. Safe to believe in a time where questions won't keep us awake and pain won't keep us down. Safe to believe in open graves and endless days and genuine praise. ...

Because of the Resurrection, everything changes. Death changes. It used to be the end; now it is the beginning.

—Max Lucado, *When Christ Comes*



Weekly prayer meetings are held on Tuesday at 10 A.M by Zoom and in person. If you have prayer concerns, please call the office at 304-622-6831, leave a note in the offering plate or email Harriett Northey at wayneharriett@frontier.com

School starts August 24th

Bible study is held on Wednesday afternoon at 3:00. You may join in person or by Zoom.

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/5517202769> Pw3046226831



Love makes our friends a little dearer.

Joy makes our hearts a little lighter.

Faith makes our paths a little clearer.

Hope makes our lives a little brighter.

Peace brings us all a little nearer.

—Author unknown



Church School 9:30 AM

Worship 10:45

Live on WPDx

Radio 109.4 FM or 750AM



Sermons & Scriptures

August 7 **9th Sunday after Pentecost
(Communion)**

Scriptures: Luke 12:32-40
 *Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Sermon: "Faithing Into the Future"

Theme: To have faith in God is always to be turned to the future. We can't always see what God is going to do next. But we move forward with confidence anyway, because we know that God has already promised us the kingdom.

August 14, 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Scriptures: Isaiah 5:1-7
 *Luke 12:49-56

Sermon: "Popularity vs. Faith"

Theme: The peace of Jesus is more than the absence of conflict. In today's gospel lesson, Jesus says, "I came to cast fire upon the earth." Truly engaging in the life of faith will bring us into many areas of conflict. This is a good news message, but it is not a popular one.

August 21, 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Scriptures: Jeremiah 1:4-10
 *Luke 13:10-17

Sermon title: "What Did You Expect From Jesus?"

Theme: In our lesson a woman who had been crippled for 18 years is told to come stand before Jesus. We don't know what she expected. We do know that she was healed and left praising God. Time after time the Bible tells us of people who encountered Jesus. Many of them did not get what they expected. But all of them were changed by the encounter.

August 28, 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Scriptures: Jeremiah 2:4-13
 *Luke 14:1,7-14

Sermon title: "Jesus as Judge"

Theme: Jesus admonished his disciples "Do not judge, or you too will be judged." (Matthew 7:1-3) But he never promised that he would not judge us. Jesus loves us enough to give us guidance and help in living right. That means he is willing to do the hard work of correcting us, of judging us.



I continue to be amazed and grateful for the generosity and faithfulness of you, the members of First Presbyterian Church. You obviously believe that the work done here is necessary and important and you show that in the way you generously give your time, talents, and money to this work. Thank you!

Some believe so strongly in the work of the church that they have arranged to support it long after they have departed this earth. Some have the mistaken belief that you have to be wealthy to do this. But that is not true. Very modest gifts can make a huge difference in what the church is able to do ministry and mission wise.

Let me tell you about one such couple. Bob and Betty Dodd were dedicated and faithful members of this church for many years. I very much enjoyed visiting them and talking with them. They were very special people. Betty, in particular loved music and wanted that ministry to continue from many years to come. The Dodds left the church a gift from their estate of a few thousand dollars to be used for music. That money made it possible to offer music scholarships to some students from A.B. College. In return, they came and sang in the choir on Sunday morning. This arrangement ended after three years because the music program at the college changed. However, while they were with us, these students greatly enriched our worship! Some of the Dodd bequest will also be used to help bring in the singing group, "The Gospel Harmony Boys" on Sunday evening, Nov. 13th. We continue to look for ways to use this money, this gift, in ways that glorify God and honor the Dodds.

In time, the gift that the Dodds gave to the music fund will be all used. But they didn't stop there. They also bequeathed to the church some very small percentages of oil and gas interests that they had inherited from family members. This is a gift that keeps on giving. Though the percentages were very small, the rising prices of oil and gas products means that the church gets checks from leases for over \$100 each month! Although Betty and Bob died over ten years ago, their influence and support for Christ's work continues to be felt!

There have been many, many others who have chosen to leave lasting gifts to help continue the work of Christ here at First Presbyterian Church. We are grateful and indebted to each and every one of them! Some have left sums of money to be invested and only the interest used. Some have left us set sums of money or property. Some have left us with memorial gifts of banners, musical instruments, and other necessary items needed to carry out our ministry. Each gift is greatly appreciated and helps us to expand our ministry. Perhaps I can share more of their stories with you in the future.

So why is the session talking about this now? First we have become aware that someone in the past must have lifted up this opportunity for legacy giving. Otherwise we would not be receiving these gifts now. So we owe it to the future church to make people aware of this giving opportunity in the present.

Research shows that many church members just don't think about the opportunity provided by legacy giving. They don't think about it, and even if they do, they don't know the practical steps and options for doing what they want to do.

The Presbyterian Foundation was established over 200 years ago as the original trustees of our denomination with the purpose of receiving gifts and bequests from pious Presbyterians. They provide all sorts of services to manage and distribute gifts to support mission and ministry. A part of that work includes investment management for churches and individuals as well as Planned Giving and Stewardship Education. This church has some investments that the Presbyterian Foundation manages for us. The Foundation exists to support the mission and ministry of local congregations such as ours.

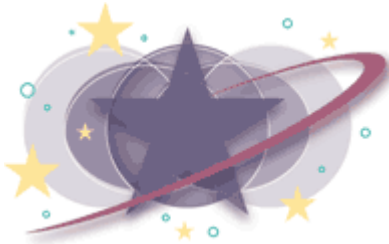
Our session has learned that the Presbyterian Foundation will provide, free of charge, one of their staff members to come and answer questions about estate, wills, and investment giving. We think this is a great opportunity and one we need to take advantage of. We have scheduled the Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley to come preach for us on Sunday morning, September 11, 2022. There will be a congregational meal after church. Then Rev. Johns-Kelley will lead a workshop in the afternoon on legacy giving and answer whatever questions you may have.

Rest assured this will not be an attempt to pressure you into doing something you do not want to do. This is an educational event in which you will learn about possibilities and options for supporting the ministry you love after your lifetime. It will also contain some practical advice on how to go about setting up future and legacy giving. This is an opportunity to get your questions answered and your options explored.

We look forward to the 11th being a great day and we sincerely hope that you be there to enjoy it with us.

Hope and Confidence,

Pastor John



“When I look at the galaxies on a clear night, when I look at the incredible brilliance of creation, and think that this is what God is like, then instead of feeling intimidated and diminished by it, I am enlarged,” said author Madeleine L’Engle. “I rejoice that I am a part of it.”

How wonderful — and mysterious — that the Creator of the universe not only knows and loves us but wants us to know and love him! Incredibly, we are at once infinitesimally small and yet immeasurably significant because of whose we are.

A Message from Dolores

*Mustard Seed – Our busy volunteers note that during summer, often we’re supplementing the garden produce many families are growing to sustain themselves. During the last 10 days of every month there’s an astonishing increase of families seeking help. Transportation is now much more costly. Already families are seeking school clothing and supplies. **Thank you** for providing for our neediest families. Our particular needs now are peanut butter and jelly, pasta and sauce, pork and beans, shampoo, toilet paper, towels and school supplies. Please drop off donations only if someone is there to receive them. Every M, T, Th, & F we are there from 11 am till 3pm. To make an appointment call any of our volunteers or me (Dolores 304-624-6077).*



Mark 4:30-31, NRSV

He also said,
“With what
can we
compare
the kingdom of
God ...? It is like
a mustard seed ...”

August Birthdays

Wayne Northey	August 2
Ellen Merriott	August 6
Rev. James Harris	August 6
Hannah Burnett	August 7
Susan Clark	August 7
Bryon Delawder	August 7
Phillip Bailey	August 10
Terra Burnett	August 11
Andrea Myerberg	August 23
Earl Langley	August 24
Rev. Dr. Eric Faust	August 26
Dawn Woodburn	August 27
Gale Byers	August 29
Megan Graves	August 29



WORSHIP LEADERS

August 7-Courtney Nuzum
 August 14-Hannah Burnett
 August 21-Loria Cavallo
 August 28-James Harris



CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

August 7-
 August 14-Heather Sigmon
 August 21-Beckie Alvaro
 August 28-Jeanne Harris



DEACON GREETERS

August 7-Jeanne Harris
 August 14-Courtney & Sandi Nuzum
 August 21-Kandy Atkinson
 August 28-Beckie Alvaro



ACOLYTES

August 7-Anthony Corsini & Bradley Burnett
 August 14-Bradley & Hannah Burnett
 August 21-Gia Corsini & Hannah Burnett
 August 28-Amelia & Kierra Harris



OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pastor

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Rev. James A. Harris

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Harriett Northey, Asst. Clerk

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Church Treasurers

Wayne Northey	Jenna Bennett
Chuck Leuliette	Dave Allman

Nursery Attendant

Ashleigh Burnett

Education Coordinator

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Organist

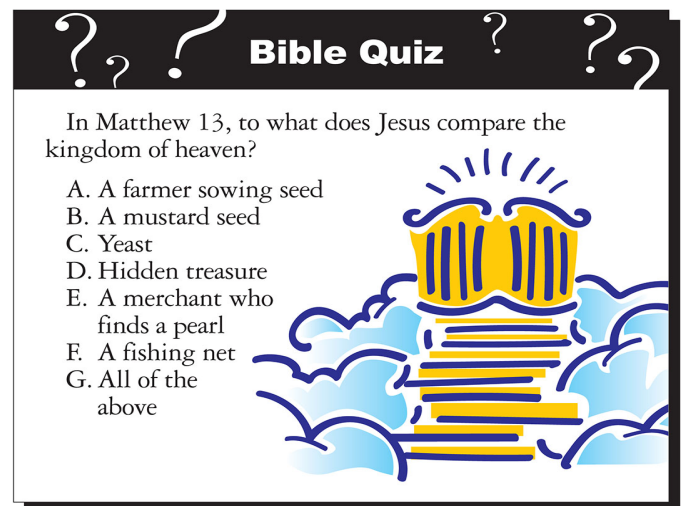
Dr. Mary Kay Devono

Church Secretary

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Summer — time to stand and stare

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.
No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
And watch her feet, how they can dance.
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.
A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.



Answer: G (See Matthew 13:24-51.)

Laundromat schedule for August

August 4	James and Jeanne
August 11	John and Charla
August 18	Sally and Cathy
August 25	Wayne and Harriett

