

The Voice

First Presbyterian Church

200 North 7th Street
Paducah, KY 42001
270-442-3545

October 2026

Dear Congregation,

Some Autumn poems for your delight:

Gathering Leaves

by Robert Frost

*Spades take up leaves
No better than spoons,
And bags full of leaves
Are light as balloons*

*I make a great noise
Of rustling all day
Like rabbit and deer
Running away.*

*But the mountains I raise
Elude my embrace,
Flowing over my arms
And into my face.*

*I may load and unload
Again and again
Till I fill the whole shed,
And what have I then?*

*Next to nothing for weight,
And since they grew duller
From contact with earth,
Next to nothing for color.*

*Next to nothing for use.
But a crop is a crop,
And who's to say where
The harvest shall stop?*

Enjoy the season!
Lex

All the Bright Colors

by Margaret Wise Brown

*Happy happy colors
Colors of carrots and peas
Red the color of red balloons
Green of grasses and trees
Gray the color of winters skies
Purple of tropical seas
Blue the color of Concord grapes
Yellow the stripes of bees
Happy happy colors
Colors of Autumn leaves*

Treasurer's Report-As of August 31, 2026

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
Income	279,606	283,587	(3,981)
Expenses			
Benevolences	20,633	22,633	(2,000)
Church Staff	197,886	202,329	(4,443)
Administrative	34,237	30,239	3,998
Worship	3,789	5,100	(1,311)
Christian Life	5,396	7,833	(2,437)
Property	24,286	28,140	(3,854)
Missional Outreach	84	1,867	(1,783)
Buddenbaum	3,979	3,333	646
	290,290	301,474	(11,184)
Net Total	(10,684)	(17,887)	7,203

The summary operating statement as of August 31 is presented above. The year-to-date deficit is \$10,684. Please continue to give as you are able so that First Presbyterian can continue to thrive. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Karen Durbin, Treasurer

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER



The Worship & Music Committee will host the October Family Night Supper on Wednesday, October 14th at 5:45pm in Fellowship Hall. Reservations can be made by calling the church office or completing the bulletin insert. The church will provide chicken tenders and drinks. Members are asked to bring their favorite side or dessert. Donations are accepted at the door to offset the cost of the main dish and supplies of \$2.50/person or \$10/family. Following dinner, the children will present their songs of Jonah and the Big Fish. Mark your calendar now!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1~Saundra Dochniak	19~Gary Fleming
2~Joseph Kelly	19~Jason Marshall
3~Carson Smith	19~Britton Shurley
4~Sarah Suitor	19~Milleah Smith
5~Greg McKeel	22~Elaine Shurley
5~Hutch Smith	23~Jack Coale
13~Glenda Miller	25~Jill Durham
15~Margie Pope	31~Marci Lackey

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

4~Lee Emmons & Uppinder Mehan	
6~John & Tiffany Gust	
10~Oscar & Jane Gamble	
12~Joe & Jeane Framptom	
30~Alice & JT Skinner	

Lifelong Learning Class Schedule

The Lifelong Learning class will continue their studies in Memorial Hall through the fall.

David Banister will continue the study “Our Story is Just Beginning: After Pentecost, Before Advent” on October 4th.

On October 11th, we will start another 6 lesson video series about Jesus led by Bishop Robert Baron entitled, “Priest, Prophet, King.”

After November, the class may consider another Great Courses video series – “Jesus and His Jewish Influences.” This series will be led by Jodi Magness, the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism at the University of North Carolina.

Please join us for these and other discussions about the church today.

October Worship

October 4-*Our Money Stories...Remember*
Psalm 19

October 11-*Our Money Stories...Release*
Exodus 32:1-14

October 18-*Our Money Stories...Reimagine*
Exodus 33:12-23

October 25-*Our Money Stories...Restore*
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Youth Choir/Youth Group

The youth are up and running on Sunday nights with choir from 4:30-5:30pm followed by youth group from 5:30-6:30pm.

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesdays are every Wednesday. Our four-year-olds through 5th graders gather for a time of fellowship, learning, crafts, and music for personal and congregational enrichment from 4-5:30pm. We will be presenting our songs about Jonah and the Big Fish on October 14th at the Family Night Supper.

We will share our Advent music during worship on Sunday, December 13th.

Please note-WW will not meet on Wednesday, October 7th due to Fall Break.

Book Club

Book Club will meet Thursday, October 15th at 1:30pm at the home of Shirley Wrinkle. Our October book is *Whistler* by Ann Patchett. Anyone is welcome to join us! Please contact the church office or Jean Meredith for the address or more information.

Presbyterian Women

Viola Blackwell will lead us through Lesson 2 of the Bible Study, "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians." We will meet on October 13 at 10am at the home of Chris Krueger. A few regular print books are still available for \$15. The PW directory has been updated and can be picked up in the church office as well. Please bring your favorite snack to donate for the Hospice Center.



Christian Life Committee:

Sunday School for children ages 4-5th grade will meet with Miss Chris. Tweens and Teens will meet upstairs with Andee English. Come join us!



Cider Stand/Food Pantry

The children would like to provide refreshments as the weather cools. Watch the weekly announcements and bulletin for dates and times. We will serve cider and snacks.

The Tikes have designated \$50/month to purchase food for the pantry from their lemonade funds. In August, James Gwinn stocked the shelves with Jello cups, while Annabelle Wilham chose beef jerky. In September the shelves were stocked with cookies and applesauce by Grayson Gwinn and Sally Marshall. In October, Mia VerCautren will stock Ritz crackers and Scarlett Diaz will stock fruit cups. The total donation from our Tikes for the Food Pantry as of September 1 is \$986.90 (Lemonade & Sunday offering). Way to go Tikes!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 4-World Communion Sunday

Wednesday, October 7-NO Wonderful
Wednesday due to Fall Break

Monday, October 5-Bible Study in Memorial Hall
& on Zoom 12pm

Monday, October 12-Bible Study in Memorial Hall
& on Zoom 12pm

Tuesday, October 13-PW Circle at Krueger house
10am

Wednesday, October 14-Family Night Supper
with Children's Program 5:45pm

Monday, October 19-Bible Study in Memorial Hall
& on Zoom 12pm

Monday, October 19-LILs at Piper's 6pm

Tuesday, October 20-Session 7pm

Monday, October 26-Bible Study in Memorial Hall
& on Zoom 12pm

Saturday, October 31-TOTs at Pastor Lex's home
for Halloween-Reach out to Lex for more
information

Advent Devotional

This year's Advent Devotional is based on the Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree is the family tree of Jesus from Creation to the birth of Christ, often shared during Advent. This season at FPC, we will hear the stories of Jesus's ancestors, and how they prepared the way of the Lord. Each weekday focuses on a different person, while the Sundays center on Jesus. As you write your devotional, please reflect on the impact of family stories and the birth of Jesus Christ.

If you are interested in writing a devotional this season, please contact Becky Binks at binksreb@gmail.com to receive a verse.

This picture is hanging on the office wall of Rosa Bright Academy next to St. Dominic Catholic Mission in Ajaba, near Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria. Thank you for supporting water education for this school and the community. Pictured with the director and his wife are Joseph Gar, Gnomom Gar, Charity Gar, Viola Blackwell.



Paducah Cooperative Ministry

PCM recently received the award for the most individual donors (164) for their campaign in the Community Foundation of West Kentucky's 25th Annual Peggy and Fred Paxton Challenge for Charities. PCM is grateful for the continuing support of our community and very proud to receive this special award for the third straight year. Construction on their Client Choice Pantry is moving along smoothly. PCM staff are eagerly awaiting time when work can begin on the new Emergency Drop-In Shelter; in July they received 178 unique calls looking for shelter and in August it was 150 calls. The need for this facility is clearly here.

Please save the date, Sunday, November 22nd, for PCM's 47th Annual Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service. Details to follow soon.