



*"See, I am making,
all things new."*

Revelation 21:5, NRSV



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
100 W. Church Circle
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 245-0104

First Presbyterian Church

The First Press

Seeking to see the Face of Christ...Striving to be the Hands of Christ

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May 2022

Mark Your Calendar

5-15 *Space for Grace and Church Picnic*

5-19 *Newsletter Deadline*

Weekly

Tuesdays
Knuckleheads Men's Bible Study
12:15-1:15 p.m.
Room 103-104



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Keep Your Fork

A woman was diagnosed with advanced cancer and given only a few months to live by doctors. She called her Pastor. They talked for a while, discussing her funeral, the songs/bible readings she wanted, how she wanted her **FAVORITE BIBLE** in one hand, and a **FORK** in the other. When he asked about the fork, she said...

WHEN THE MAIN COURSE IS OVER, I LOVE IT WHEN SOMEONE SAYS, "KEEP YOUR FORK; SOMETHING WONDERFUL IS COMING" IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT THE SURPRISE WAS, I LOVED IMAGINING WHAT IT MIGHT BE. WHEN THEY SEE A FORK IN MY CASKET, I WANT THEM TO WONDER, "WHAT'S WITH THE FORK". PLEASE TELL THEM, "SOMETHING BETTER IS COMING, SO YOU KEEP YOUR FORK, TOO"

People were puzzled by the fork as they filed by her casket prior to the funeral but the Pastor stood there with tears in his eyes. Life, as we know it, is an **APPETIZING MEAL**, but no matter how good we feel when the meal is over, it is wise to **KEEP YOUR FORK**. Something **WONDERFUL** is coming. If Easter does not send chills up and down our spines every time you ponder it, then we may have one foot in the grave already. We don't have to wait until the grave to **TASTE IT**. In fact, something wonderful has already come. Celebrate the news: **THE SON IS OUT**. Rain or not rain, sorrow or no sorrow, the **SON IS OUT**. God raised Jesus from the grave to bring new life to his people, before and after death. God is our God on both sides of the grave and he wants us to be a part of the **GREAT THINGS** he is **doing in this world**. In no time flat, Jesus' followers would be **SHADOWS** of their former selves, no longer **COWARDLY**, and hopelessly **SHORT-SIGHTED**, but living up their full potential

Yes, life is hard, and it is often **UNFAIR**. Things in this world can be messy. There are no guarantees that by following Jesus our lives will be happy or healthy. We serve Jesus Christ for one reason, and one reason only: not for **WHAT HE CAN DO FOR US**, but because **HE IS WORTHY**. Yes, he is so very **WORTHY**. Jesus is **WORTH SERVING** even if none of our plans ever come true; even if life breaks our hearts and we lose the ones we love the most.

Miko

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m.

Chapel

11:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

Fall Prevention & Balance Class

Balance Class meets **Thursdays** at 1:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Center! The cost will be \$6.00 (cash only) per class. Scott Held, an exercise physiologist with The Great Body Company, is our instructor. Each week Scott teaches the group exercises that strengthen foundation or "core muscles" while sharing techniques that can help diminish the possibility of a fall occurring. A fall can be a life changing experience. If you have fallen, stumbled, or can tell your balance has diminished you will most likely find this class beneficial. This class is open to the community. Invite a friend and come join the fun!



Remind 101

Sign up for our church texts! Text the number 81010 and include @fpc100 in the text to opt in.

It's Gonna Be Some Summer

Sunday, May 15 ~ 5:30 p.m.
(following Space for Grace)

\$5 for adults/ Children 18 or younger are free.

Braeden's Barbeque to cater hamburgers/hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, and dessert.

Reservations encouraged, please!

Sign up in the church foyer May 1 and May 8 or call the church office. You may also sign up online to register and pay by credit card.

[It's Gonna Be Some Summer! - First Presbyterian Church-Kingsport \(fpckpt.org\)](http://www.firstpresbyteriansport.org)



Called Congregational Meeting

A called Congregational Meeting will be held **Sunday, May 15, 2022** during the 11:00 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing Claudia Byrd, Agnese Goin and Paul Smith as Members-at-Large to the Nominating Committee. Also serving on the committee are: Matt King, chair; Tim Arrowsmith, vice chair; and Chad Correll.



- May 1: Ben Harris
- May 4: Chuck Mooney, Clayton Walker
- May 5: Bill Adams
- May 9: Hunter Wright, Celia Osborne
- May 13: Larry Maston
- May 14: Christine Baugh, Randell Drayne
- May 15th: Sally Crawford
- May 17: Jennifer Walker
- May 18: Leslie Pope, John Bovender, Grayson Mott
- May 20: Bette Patton, Stewart Taylor, Autumn Hagan
- May 21: Kinsley Argabrite
- May 25: Dave Hafele
- May 27: Tricia Argabrite, Colin Pendleton, Linda Osborne
- May 29: Doug Benton
- May 31: Kathy Redwine

Happy Birthday!

Pledge Update ~ Year to Date

(as of April 25, 2022)

Pledges Budgeted to Date:	\$251,762.68
Pledges Received to Date:	\$245,075.33
Difference:	(-\$6,687.35)

Loose Offerings	
Budgeted to Date:	\$ 4,194.68
Received to Date:	\$ 7,423.25
Difference:	\$ 3,228.57

Special Offerings -	
Five Cents a Meal - March (A portion went to the Waverly Road Food Pantry)	\$436.00
Five Cents a Meal - April (A portion went to Backpack for Kids)	\$608.00
Easter/One Great Hour of Sharing (Went to PCUSA)	\$2,014.00

From the Finance Office

ONLINE GIVING INSTRUCTIONS

Online giving is available on the church website: www.firstpresbyteriansport.org. Scroll down to the "Give Online" bubble. Follow the instructions on that page. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 245-0104.

QR CODE GIVING INSTRUCTIONS



Before you begin you will need to have a QR app installed on your mobile device. For an Apple device go to the App Store and choose a QR scanning app. For an android device go to the

Google Play store and choose a QR scanning app. For Apple, staff has tested QR Code Reader and for Android they have tested QR Scanner. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 245-0104.

Make Your Offering Automatic!

An automatic payment of money from your credit union or bank account to First Presbyterian Church-Kingsport will be convenient for you, especially when traveling, and ensure your offering is received in a timely manner by FPC. Beverly Johnson at FPC would be happy to assist you in setting up automatic payment of your offering.



Next First Press Newsletter Deadline

May 19

*He is risen
indeed!*



Breakfast Ministry

We continue to serve 50-75 breakfasts to our neighbors in need each Saturday and Sunday morning, and are so grateful for the continued support of FPC. As the summer travel season begins, please consider donating any travel toiletries you may accumulate to our ministry—they are often asked for and much appreciated. If anyone would like to join the list of volunteers for the Breakfast Ministry, please email Sarah Good at sar4680@gmail.com. Thank you!

Many Thanks!

- ◆ Thanks to those who helped prepare our church for Palm Sunday and Easter—Barbara Foust, Helen Baylor, Barbara Maston, Roger and Agnese Goin, Ivey Redmon, Judy Grover, Patty Pendleton, Cheryl Rice, and Wayne and Lance.
- ◆ Thanks to all who purchased geraniums and brought flowers for the outside cross to help make Easter a beautiful and glorious celebration of our Lord's resurrection!

Session Highlights

- The Session approved a Called Congregational Meeting for Sunday, May 15 during the 11:00 worship service for the purpose of electing Claudia Byrd, Agnese Goin and Paul Smith as Members-at-Large to the Nominating Committee.
- The Session approved \$99,100.00 from the Reserve Fund to cover the cost of replacing the 12 original windows in the basement on the Broadstreet side of the church.

Calling All Helpers!

Vacation Bible School will be **June 20-23** from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. This year's theme is *Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness*. We need station leaders, shepherds, and registration desk help. If you are available and feel called to help with this important ministry please contact Russ at church.

- Station Leaders will help teach a particular station daily. (need 2 per station)
- Shepherds help bring the kids to their stations. (need 2-3 per group)
- Registration desk helpers greet the kids daily, provide name tags, and check in with parents. (need 3-4)

All roles are important and vital to a successful VBS! Sign up today!

Youth News

May 1

Regular Youth Group

May 8

Youth Sunday

All youth invited to participate
No afternoon Youth Group

May 15

All-Church Space for Grace Fellowship Center, 5:00 p.m.
All are welcome to come to a contemporary worship service led by our youth and children with a message from Russ Pearson.

May 22

All Youth Group
end of year bowling!
(times to be announced)

Summer 2022

June 5-11

High School Montreat

Saturday, July 23

High School Youth Overnight.
Hosting Kemper's Church as they travel from Ohio to Montreat.

Tuesday, July 26

All Youth Overnight Service Blitz:
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Morning Work:

Clothes Closet Back-to-School
workday

Afternoon Work:

Second Harvest Food Bank



PALM SUNDAY

