

Friends in Faith Class Starting New Series on October 9 "Christian Living in God's Splendor"

The *Friends in Faith* Sunday School Class will begin a new 6-week series on October 9th entitled "**Christian Living in God's Splendor.**" This study explores how Christian life can be shaped by our religious affections—participating in a worshipping community, accepting our physicalness, dying and rising with Christ, and engaging in vocations that embrace the total web of our relationships. Join our class as we explore the following 6 sessions:

The 6 sessions (discussions) are:

- **Seeking Beauty in the Christian Life**
- **Christian Life is Affectional**
- **Christian Life is Communal**
- **Christian Life is Incarnational**
- **Christian Life is Cruciform**
- **Christian Life is Vocational**

Each session (6-8 pages) is a stand-alone discussion so do not worry if you have to miss a Sunday. Books may be picked up in room #103.

So, whether you attend the 8:45 service or the 11:00 service the Friends in Faith class encourages and invites you to join us in room #103 at 9:45 a.m.



Weekly

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

CNS - Food Trucks Available
5:30-6:30 p.m.

Bible Study

6:30-7:15 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

7:15 p.m.

Thursdays

Balance Class

1:15 p.m.

Fellowship Center



First Presbyterian Church

100 W. Church Circle
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 245-0104
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Great Ends of Church

My grandfather and I saw the world differently. This crazy old man from another world taught me that honesty is better than shading the truth. That all work has dignity, and that Jesus was right when he said being a servant is more important than being a boss. Had I written him off as a guy from another time, it would've been foolish. We do well to listen to the wisdom of all who have gone before us. Our Grandparents in the faith have wisdom to share. Our denomination, **PCUSA**, has given us **language** to describe **the church's purpose**. What does **church mean to you?** What do we **mean to the world?** In our Book of Order, there are **6 statements**, called the "**great ends or great purposes**" of the church.

Church exists for the Proclamation of Gospel for the salvation of humanity.

Our first purpose is to remind people that they belong to God before they belong to anything or anyone else. The 2nd great purpose:

Church exists for the shelter, Nurture, and spiritual fellowship of God's children

Church exists to foster spiritual friendship. Church is a community, not a building. We belong to one another. The third great end:

Church exists for the Maintenance of Divine Worship.

The language "maintenance of divine worship" may sound odd, but it carries a reminder: what we want to happen in worship is crucial, but it isn't the only thing that matters. What does God want to happen? The 4th great end:

Church exists for the Preservation of the Truth.

God is the source of truth. In God's world, we don't determine truth or create truth; we simply discover the truth. Truth is the ligament that holds communities together—from families to nations. Apart from truth-telling, trust erodes, and communities fall apart. The 5th great end of Church:

Church exists for the Promotion of Social Righteousness

Righteousness is relational. Jesus shows up not just in our hearts, but our relationships. To be righteous is to be in right relationship with God and right relationship with one another. The last great end:

Church exists to be an exhibition of heaven to the world.

This great end reminds us that it isn't enough to make Christians of others; it is more important that we be Christian to others. That is the theological foundation we have for all mission.



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

Miko

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m.
Chapel

11:00 a.m.
Sanctuary

Peace & Global Witness Offering

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith—a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together. Through participation in the **Peace & Global Witness Offering**, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God's peace, empowered by God's joy, reminds us that we are connected to each other. Twenty-five percent of today's Peace and Global Witness Offering will go to our Ukrainian friends, Oxana, Max and Alisa Lypska, who escaped an active war zone in Ukraine and traveled through unfamiliar places without being able to speak any of the local languages. Having been in Tennessee for about four months now they are getting more settled, but they have a long way to go to be totally comfortable with life here that is so different from their life in Ukraine before the Russian invasion began. May the Holy Spirit continue to walk along with them on their journey!

Wednesday Nights at FPC

- * Food Truck available from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- * Bible Study - 6:30-7:15 p.m., Fellowship Center
- * Choir Rehearsal - 7:15 p.m.

This year we will be hosting food trucks to provide supper. Supper is served from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and the program for the evening begins around 6:30 p.m. The cost for the meal will be based on what the food truck charges, and you will pay the food truck employees for your meals.

So that we can have an approximate headcount for the food truck, we ask that you sign up in one of three ways. On Sunday mornings when you fill out the Ritual of Friendship Pad, indicate that you plan to attend church night supper by checking the box at the end of the row and indicate how many in attendance; or you can register online at [Church Night Supper - First Presbyterian Church-Kingsport \(fpckpt.org\)](http://ChurchNightSupper-FirstPresbyterianChurch-Kingsport(fpckpt.org)) or you can call the church office. **Reservations must be received by noon on the Tuesday before the meal.**

Wednesday Night Class

Dr. Shelton will continue his Wednesday Night study on the book, "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of The Boat," based on John Ortberg's book on Discipleship. The study will also be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

Flowers Needed for Church in 2023

January 22	June 18
January 29	July 9
March 5	July 16
March 12	July 30
March 19	August 13
April 23	September 3
April 30	September 17
May 21	October 1
May 28	November 5
June 4	

Please call Vickie in the church office (423-245-0104) to sign up for a date.



- October 3:** Allen Wright
- October 4:** John Newell, Pat Bryan, Rebecca Quillen
- October 5:** Don Osborne, Tal Francisco
- October 6:** Leola Campbell, Matt King
- October 7:** Ellen Sims, Taylor Bunch
- October 9:** Ian Ward
- October 10:** Morris Hadden
- October 11:** Marthe Kincaid
- October 12:** Neely Mink
- October 13:** Beth Amstutz
- October 14:** John Hay, Arlee Mott
- October 15:** David McBee, Pam Babb, Steve Miller
- October 16:** Don Good
- October 17:** Jim Amstutz
- October 18:** Duncan Harker, Owen Heindselman, Jack Addleburg
- October 19:** Cheryl Ann Hess
- October 21:** Bo Grover, Al Asbury
- October 22:** Michael Holt, Alyson Argabrite, Anna Hagan
- October 24:** Laura Jane Yantz
- October 26:** John Alan Smith, Jacqueline Buckles, Leslie Light, Will Jennings
- October 31:** Betsy Boyd, Tonya McInturff, Wes Argabrite, Sharon Amstutz

Pledge Update ~ Year to Date

(as of Sept. 27, 2022)

Pledges Budgeted to Date:	\$566,466.03
Pledges Received to Date:	\$549,776.78
Difference:	(- \$16,689.25)

Loose Offerings	
Budgeted to Date:	\$ 9,438.03
Received to Date:	\$ 18,379.25
Difference:	\$ 8,941.22

Special Offerings -	
Five Cents a Meal - August (A portion went to the Shades of Grace)	\$675.63
Five Cents a Meal - September (A portion went to Ukirk@ETSU)	\$519.43

From the Finance Office

ONLINE GIVING INSTRUCTIONS

Online giving is available on the church website: www.firstpreskingsport.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

October 20
November Newsletter

Youth Group Fall 2022



SEPTEMBER 2022

Church Picnic at Allandale and
Mike's Fall Bible Study



No Faith Builds in Kingsport This Year

Laura Kelly, Executive Director of Holston Habitat for Humanity talked with Bob Stoots about having no Faith Builds in Kingsport this year. She explained that to reduce the backlog of applicants in the queue and to improve turnaround time from approval to occupancy, the process was changed to receive applications only during designated times. This allows Habitat to evaluate a manageable number of applicants in a more efficient way to select qualified future owners in areas where land is already available and ready for a home. Inflation has had a significant impact on the cost of Habitat houses which makes the financial criteria harder for applicants to meet. Also more single mothers are applying for Habitat houses, but that demographic has trouble performing the required "sweat equity" for time based reasons. She regrets that no faith builds are ready for Kingsport this Fall because of no approved applicants. However, she anticipates one or maybe two for Kingsport in the Spring. She asks for our continued support, and as an alternative this Fall, she says "Holston Habitat for Humanity encourages their volunteers and the entire Tri-Cities community to be a part of the Kingsport Homeless Ministry project to build a new shelter and day center for homeless in the Kingsport community." First Presbyterian Church has provided significant financial support to the Grace House project and has already worked one day there on several things; removing ceiling tiles & insulation, deconstructing a bathroom to be repurposed for handicapped access, removing carpet, and moving walls to make a new bedroom. Future work days will be planned and scheduled to mesh with the other ongoing construction activities needed to achieve a tentative January 2023 opening date. If you would like to be notified when the next FPC workday at Grace House is planned, please call Gary Tucker at 423-378-5419.

Outreach Service Project at Second Harvest Food Bank

On September 21, we had 17 First Presbyterian Church members and one special guest, Dr Bob Miller, volunteer to package food for distribution to Food for Kids Backpack participants and for Seniors and Walk-in clients. In the morning session our group of 13 filled 381 bags of food weighing on average 12.5 lbs each. The afternoon group of 7 filled 468 Food for Kids bags. The Food for Kids bags are smaller and contain items more suitable for young people to prepare for themselves to supplement their weekend nourishment. Kids Bags are about half the size of those for walk-in clients. We had a very productive day and enjoyed lots of fun, fellowship and service. Thanks to all who participated.



Volunteer Drivers Are In High Demand! Will you help us?

Meals on Wheels of Kingsport is a community based service that prepares and delivers over 200 fresh, nutritious meals each weekday to elderly and disabled individuals in the greater Kingsport area. However, we are "more than just a meal." Our drivers provide social contact and friendly checks on our meal recipients. These special connections help us monitor our clients' well-being and brighten their day. United Way of Greater Kingsport provides 85 percent of the program costs for Meals on Wheels of Kingsport today. The remainder of our funds are provided by individual and organization donations including First Presbyterian Church. Meals are prepared by a team of volunteer cooks, Monday through Friday at First Presbyterian Church and Waverly Road Presbyterian Church. The meals are delivered by teams of volunteer drivers throughout the Greater Kingsport Area. Volunteer drivers are still needed to meet the needs of our growing base of meal recipients. Drivers typically deliver once or twice a month. This is done on Mondays through Fridays from 10:30 until 12. Would you like to spend a couple of hours, once a month, delivering much need meals to folks in need and get a big warm smile in return? If so, give us a call at 423-247-4511. We will get you on the schedule at a time that matches your availability.

Breakfast Ministry Needs Your Help

We still have MANY available Breakfast Bag shifts available in the upcoming months. Our numbers continue to rise, and so does our need for extra hands to serve. If you are able, please consider volunteering for a shift to support this important ministry. We have a dedicated group of volunteers, but will need to add more in order to keep the ministry going through the fall and winter months. If you are interested in volunteering from 6:45-8:15 a.m. on a Saturday or Sunday morning, please email Sarah Good at sar4680@gmail.com or call or text (423) 967-3148.

"...and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

~ Isaiah 58:10

Waverly Road Food Pantry Item of the Month Canned Soups & Stews

Please drop donations in the basket outside the chapel door or in front of the stained glass on Sundays mornings.

Thank you!