



Walk
in the way
of the good
and keep
to the paths
of the righteous.
Proverbs 2:20



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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September 2022

Mark Your Calendar

- 9-7 Choir Rehearsal begins
- 9-14 Church Night Supper begins
- 9-14 Mike's Bible Study begins
- 9-19 Newsletter Deadline
- 9-25 All-Church Picnic

Weekly

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

Thursdays
Balance Class
1:15 p.m.
Fellowship Center



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The Dream of All Dreams

God appeared to Solomon in a DREAM, offering him anything that his heart desired. Imagine it: ANYTHING. What would you want if you could have it all? Be careful how you answer: you might get it. This wasn't a BLANK CHECK. God was testing him to see what kind of leader that he would be, what he'd learned from watching his father David's rise and fall. To his credit, he didn't take advantage of God's offer by asking for POWER/MONEY but only for WISDOM. That God give him the ability to discern right from wrong. What he requested was given. For a while, he lived wisely. He gained a reputation for his witty insights; his court rulings were legendary; and he is credited with writing Proverbs. He led Israel with humility and gratitude, recalling the blessings that he had received and ruling God's people with integrity. He jumpstarted the economy by creating an import-export business with a fleet of ocean-going ships. He cleared roads and built buildings, the most famous of which was the TEMPLE in Jerusalem. It stood 3 stories high, had a massive front porch flanked by BRONZE COLUMNS, CEDAR CELINGS, and OLIVEWOOD DOORS.

As wise as he was, Solomon made a mess of his life, and brought disgrace to his Kingdom. In the ways that most mattered, he was the WISEST FOOL who ever lived. Put in a position where he could have made an indelible mark upon history, he isn't remembered for his building projects or wealth but his fall from grace. He prayed for an UNDERSTANDING HEART but died with a HARDENED HEART. This man who once loved and trusted God, lost sight of who God intended him to be. He forgot that God was more interested in his FAITHFULNESS than in his ACHIEVEMENTS. Success, like a strong perfume, is best sniffed and not taken internally. It all went to Solomon's head. His life reminds us of what happens to a person when all you ever wanted isn't enough and when what you thought would bring you happiness doesn't. He fell to the same temptation we all battle: that contentment is OUT THERE; that there is something separating us from JOY, from REAL LIFE; that it is only by getting it that life will be complete.

Toward the end of his life Albert Einstein went through his house, removing the PORTRAITS of two great scientists from his wall-Newton and Maxwell-and in their place, he hung pictures of two great human beings, Gandhi and Albert Schweitzer. His rationale:

WHAT MATTERS TO ME MORE NOW IS NOT SUCCESS BUT SERVICE
What matters more to us?

Mike

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m.
Chapel

11:00 a.m.
Sanctuary

Calling All Young Singers

After a long hiatus the **Children's Choir of First Presbyterian Church** will start once again **September 11**. This choir is open to all children K-5th grade. Parents, please bring your children to our new music room downstairs opposite the Sunday school rooms at **9:30 a.m.** I know it's difficult to get there at that hour, but it will be so worth your while. I am so looking forward to teaching your child. If you have any questions, please call Agnese Goin at (423) 943-1017.

Music Program

Alice will present an organ/piano program for the Kingsport Music Club in the FPC sanctuary at noon on **Friday, September 16**. The program, centered around the Psalms, will be in the tradition of her usual Wednesday Music for Meditation. The meeting is open and all are welcome!



Session Highlights

- Tony Cole will serve as the Commissioner to the September Presbytery meeting.
- The Session approved the recommendation from Outreach to allow the Grab N Go breakfast ministry to use dining room space and restrooms in the Fellowship Center on Saturday and Sunday mornings during cold weather beginning with the expected date of November.

Wednesdays at FPC

Church night suppers will resume on **Wednesday, September 14, 2022**. This wonderful fellowship gathering takes place every Wednesday evening (from September to May) in the Fellowship Center at First Presbyterian Church. Members and guests come together to enjoy a delicious meal followed by a brief Bible Study or family-oriented program. We invite you and your family to drop by and enjoy a delightful evening. You can be assured of a warm welcome and we know you will want to come time and again.

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

Beginning September 14, Dr. Shelton will begin another Wednesday Night study and his book is, "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of The Boat" Using Peter's infamous walk on water, John Ortberg has written a book on Discipleship. All of you are welcome to attend. Register your interest with church office. You may order the book on Amazon or pick up a copy at the church for \$10.00.

September Youth Group

- September 4: Labor Day Weekend: No youth group
- September 11: 4:00-5:30pm All youth group
- September 18: 4:00-5:30pm All youth group
- September 25: 4:00-5:30pm All youth group

Upcoming Event:

November 11-13

Youth Retreat at Holston Presbytery Camp (6th-12th).



- Sept. 1:** John Christopher Demuth, Lisa Good
- Sept. 3:** Roger Goin, Charlie Compton, Beth Compton, Sam Compton
- Sept. 4:** Jimmy Dickerson, Eleanor Combs, Claudia Mihovk
- Sept. 6:** Crockett Taylor, Mark Barbour, Fred Martin
- Sept. 7:** Gray Stothart, Carol Dixon
- Sept. 8:** Jim Wright
- Sept. 9:** Sarah Tatchi, Lylah Combs
- Sept. 12:** Jane Harris, Martha Pendley, Heather Kunysz
- Sept. 13:** Mary Ruth
- Sept. 14:** Henry King
- Sept. 15:** Cynthia King, Alan Hobbs, Norie-Anne Watts
- Sept. 16:** Cooper Bunch
- Sept. 18:** Betty Nelle Duke
- Sept. 20:** Carl Eilers
- Sept. 22:** Bill Argabrite
- Sept. 25:** Donna Shelton
- Sept. 27:** Gail Cole
- Sept. 30:** Laura Drayne

Happy Birthday!

Pledge Update ~ Year to Date

(as of Aug. 23, 2022)

Pledges Budgeted to Date:	\$503,525.36
Pledges Received to Date:	\$499,428.49
Difference:	(- \$4,096.87)
Loose Offerings Budgeted to Date:	\$ 8,389.36
Received to Date:	\$ 14,325.25
Difference:	\$ 5,935.89

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

September 19
October Newsletter

Presbyterian Aid for Kentucky Flood Victims

Dear Church Family,
 You have warmed my heart immensely with your amazing response during the recent collection of items for Letcher County Kentucky flood victims. A rental truck full of a large variety of things was taken to two distribution locations on August 9. In addition to items, I received \$617 in cash and gift cards. The entire Kingsport community gave so unselfishly. The volunteer directors of both centers expressed their gratitude for your generosity and the love expressed through your gifts. By serving your "brother," you have followed Christ's example of being His hands and feet here on earth. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I especially want to thank my two right-hand-men, John Porter and Bob Stoots, for help in receiving donations, and my husband, Gary, for driving the delivery truck.

In Christ's love,
Catherine Tucker



CHURCH PICNIC

Cluck & Shuck

Fried chicken (breasts, thighs and legs), corn on the cob, coleslaw, potato salad, dinner rolls, banana pudding

**at Allandale Pavilion
 Sunday, September 25**

Fellowship at 5 p.m. ~
 Dinner served at 6 p.m.

Cost: \$10; Children ages 6-10 - \$5
 Free for children under 6
 \$35 family max

(When booking your reservations, please note that a family = parent(s) and dependent children 18 years of age and under.)

Make reservations and pay online at
www.firstpreskingsport.org

or

Sign up at church on Sunday, Sept. 11 and 18

We will celebrate our new members for the last three years.



Labor Day Holiday Schedule

The church office will be closed **Monday, September 5** for the Labor Day holiday. The Clothes Closet will be closed **Monday, September 5** and **Tuesday, September 6**.

Waverly Road Food Pantry Item of the Month

Pasta and
 Canned Sauce



