

First Press Weekly Update

July 30, 2023



Prayer List

IN THE HOSPITAL – Kay McBee – Vanderbilt.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – John Demuth; Mike and Martha Pendley; Maranda, Shelby and John Christopher Demuth; and Larry and Patty Pendleton.

MISSIONARIES – Eliane Menezes, Guatemala.

With Love from Paul...this Summer

Dr. Shelton will continue his sermon series on Paul's letter to his favorite church: the Church at Philippi. From the start, it is personal in tone; it conveys the warmth of a relationship; and it is filled with lessons on what mature Christianity looks like. It is the only letter where he isn't putting out fires, rebuking bad behavior, or correcting false teaching. Come join us in worship or watch the series online.

Knuckleheads Men's Bible Study

The Knuckleheads meet Tuesdays from 12:15-1:15 p.m. in the History Room.

Sunday School Kickoff

We will kick off another Sunday school season on **Sunday, August 13**. All children and youth will meet in the Old Fellowship Hall downstairs for their program. Russ will lead the program with our youth. All adult classes plan to meet in your regular classroom.

BLTs after Church!

Please join us for the annual BLT Luncheon which will be held right after the second service on **Sunday, August 13**, in the Fellowship Center. This is one of Claudia Byrd's specialties, so be sure not to miss it. Please sign up in the attendance book at church or by calling the church office at 423-245-0104.

Upcoming Events...

September 24

All-Church Picnic

October 18

Fall Care Ministry Dinner

Birthdays This Week

July 30: Audra Moore

August 2: Bill McClure

August 4: Jenella Oliver

August 5: Emily Childress, Sue Redmon

Montreat Women's Connection

Montreat Women's Connection is **August 11-13**. First Presbyterian has rented Reynolds Lodge which houses 32 people. About two months ago registration was cut off because the conference was full. A few days ago we were contacted by Montreat and they have some openings. If you are still interested in going, **we still have open spaces**. The cost is \$247 for the entire conference, including the keynote speaker Kate Bowler. The online registration is closed so if you're interested, please contact Cindy Sharitt, 706-577-1815.

Striving to be the Hands of Christ...

Breakfast Ministry

Our Breakfast Ministry continues to operate successfully on Saturday and Sunday mornings. We will soon be scheduling volunteers for the fall and would love your help! If you would like to volunteer or be added to the list, please email Sarah Good at sar4680@gmail.com or call Becca Wright at 423-963-9617.

Waverly Road Food Pantry

Item of the Month:
Peanut Butter

Open Books for Guatemala

Our church members have an opportunity to promote literacy in Guatemala by supporting the Libros Abiertos, or Open Books, program run by our retired mission co-workers, Debbie and Richard Welch. Debbie continues the project she started when they lived in Guatemala to give kids in the Coban region access to books. Public schools in the region receive very limited funding, and many schools and classrooms cannot afford books or a library for students. Open Books currently provides children's books for three schools with a request for a fourth, and an idea for a mobile library that could support multiple schools. The Outreach committee allocated funds to support the purchase of books, as well as to provide a training workshop to help those involved with the libraries learn activities they can do with the children and ways they can incorporate the books into their curriculum. If you would like to personally get involved with this ministry, you can purchase books from the program's Amazon wish list via the link below that will be shipped to Debbie. She and Richard will be traveling to Guatemala in August and will take the books with them. If you prefer to send a monetary donation to allow additional books to be purchased, you can send your donation to the church marked for "Open Books". Thanks for your support!

Libros Abiertos (Open Books)

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3Q96U5RNT259D?ref=wl_share

First Presbyterian Church Staff

423-245-0104

Mike Shelton, *Pastor* (ext. 204)

Russ Pearson, *Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries* (ext. 208)

Mark Owen Davis, *Director of Music Ministries* (ext. 210)

Annie Hill, *Church Business Administrator and Secretary to the Pastor* (ext. 203)

Vickie Green, *Membership Secretary/Church Receptionist* (ext. 202)

Beverly Johnson, *Financial Administrator* (ext. 206)

Kim Alvis, *Media Specialist* (ext. 209)

Becca Wright, *Parish Nurse*

Mike Weiss, *Custodian*

Tammy Jackson Hodge, *Director of Presbyterian Children's Center*

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