

First Press Weekly Update

August 20, 2023



Prayer List

IIN THE HOSPITAL – Phoebe Newell – JCMC

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – Dan and Dee Dee Dietrich; Donnie Osborne; Carol Dixon; and Celia Osbourne.

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.

Friends in Faith Class Begins New Series begins Today!

"Into All the World: Participating in God's Mission"

The Friends in Faith Sunday School Class will begin a new 6-week series on August 20 entitled "Into All the World: Participating in God's Mission." Usually when we think of God's mission or "missional vocation" we don't think of ourselves but those who serve around the world that we never see (missionaries). When we think about "missional vocation" is when we begin to see ourselves differently. Our service and calling in God's mission includes our daily lives (work, home, community, church, school, etc.). Join our class as we explore the following 6 sessions (lesson #1 will be on August 20): The 6 sessions (discussions) are: • *Understanding God's Plan* • *Realizing It's All about Jesus* • *Discovering Our Global Witness* • *Connecting with God's Strategy* • *Learning from the Global Church* • *Embracing Our Missional Vocation*. 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.

New Horizons class to begin book study:

"An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith" by Barbara Brown Taylor

The New Horizons class kicks off their study of "An Altar in the World" on **August 20**. The New Horizons class meets in Room 202: top of the stairs outside the sanctuary, then left, 2nd door on the right past the elevator. An overview of the book from Amazon: In the *New York Times* bestseller *An Altar in the World*, acclaimed author Barbara Brown Taylor continues her spiritual journey by building upon where she left off in *Leaving Church*. With the honesty of Elizabeth Gilbert (*Eat, Pray, Love*) and the spiritual depth of Anne Lamott (*Grace, Eventually*), Taylor shares how she learned to find God beyond the church walls by embracing the sacred as a natural part of everyday life. In *An Altar in the World*, Taylor shows us how to discover altars everywhere we go and in nearly everything we do as we learn to live with purpose, pay attention, slow down, and revere the world we live in.

August Youth Group

Sunday, August 20: Old Fellowship Hall. Middle School 3-4:30 p.m. - Food 4-5 p.m. - High School 4-5:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 27: Meet in OUR church parking lot at 2:15 p.m. All youth Presbytery event and dinner at FPC Johnson City (6-8 other churches will attend!). We will return by 6:30 p.m. Get your homework done early!

"At the River" Documentary and Discussion

An "At the River" documentary and discussion led by the director, Carolyn Crowder, will be held **Sunday, September 10** in the Fellowship Center. Lunch is at 12:00 p.m. The two-hour movie will begin between 12:45 and 1:00 p.m. following lunch. There will be a discussion with Carolyn after the movie. This is a **FREE** meal and event, but we need sign-ups by **Wednesday, September 6** to have enough food and space. Read more about this movie at <http://carolyncrowder.com>. From Carolyn's website: *For the feature length documentary Carolyn traveled throughout the Southeast interviewing ministers, now in their 80's and 90's, about their experiences and what it took to go against the racist currents during those hard days within their local communities and congregations. Her other question was why they dared.* Contact Russ to sign up.

Birthdays This Week

August 21: Will Barbour, Alan Ruffel

August 22: Agnese Goin, Sarah Barbour, Arielle Sprinkle

August 23: Jane Boyd, Beth Williams

August 24: Lillie Ward

August 25: Brad Pendleton

August 26: Langley Brents

Knuckleheads Men's Bible Study

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

Upcoming Events...

September 24

All-Church Picnic

October 18

Fall Care Ministry Dinner

New Church Directory

The church will be doing an updated photo directory for 2023. Photos will be taken by our own Don Thompson on several Sunday mornings. Don will take photos before and after each worship service on: **September 10, September 17, September 24 and October 1**. The directory will be in digital format and available on the membership page of the church's website or a printed copy can be requested. Additionally, you may submit your own photo to be included in the directory if you are unable to pose for one.

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:

Healthy Cereals

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/Executive Assistant to the Pastor* (ext. 203)

Vickie Green, *Membership & Website Specialist/Church Administrative Assistant* (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*

First Presbyterian Church

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