

First Press Weekly Update

May 5, 2024



Prayer List

CELEBRATION – Welcome to new member **Jamie Davis** who joined First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 28, 2024.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – Pat Bryan; Arielle Sprinkle, Langley Brents and Gillian Brents; Jacqueline Buckles; and Paul, Debra, Megan and Troy Smith.

MISSIONARIES – Eliane Menezes, Guatemala.

New Sermon Series

This morning, Dr. Shelton will begin a sermon series entitled “To be Continued,” based on Acts. Luke, its author, calls it “Acts of Apostles” but it might be called the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Acts was never meant to be the Apostles’ Greatest Hits. The main character wasn’t John, Peter, or Paul but the HOLY SPIRIT. Luke picks up after Easter. The Disciples wait in an Upper Room, huddled in fear. The Holy Spirit comes in a mighty way and the Church was born. This wasn’t Church as a place to come and go. This was Church as it was meant to be: a community, working together, serving together, caring for each other, carrying on Jesus’ mission. This movement soon spread out in many directions, took in all people, and turned the world upside down. Luke will tell gripping stories of courage, love, and excitement. All the heroes eventually die but the Jesus Movement kept going. Below are the readings for May. Here is a thought as we prepare for this series: The outlook of our lives determines the outcome of our lives. Our focus determines our reality.

May 5... “The Opening Act” Acts 1:1-11

May 12... “People Like Us” Acts 1:15-31

May 19... “Stuck in An Upper Room” Acts 2

May 26... “Jesus Builds His Team” Acts 2:43-47

Sermon Notes

Dr. Shelton is now providing the scripture readings and a note guide for each weekly sermon. This information will be sent out with the **Weekly Update** email that includes your weekly bulletin and announcements. On Friday the Weekly Bulletin will be posted on the website under **What's New** on the Homepage. You are encouraged to download a copy of the note guide and bring a copy with you on Sunday mornings. A few print copies will be available on Sunday mornings if you have trouble downloading the file. If you are unable to attend worship on Sunday mornings, you will still be able to livestream the service and follow along with the note guide or you can access the sermon on Monday mornings on the website under **Sermons** on the homepage.

Salvation Army Lunch Serving

Several members of First Pres have volunteered to serve lunch to members of our community on the second Sunday of each month at the Kingsport Salvation Army. If you’d like to add your name to the list of volunteers, please contact Catherine Tucker. 423-782-7782. Thank you.

Lemonade on the Lawn

Please join us for Lemonade on the Lawn on **Sunday, May 19**, after both services. We will serve homemade cookies and lemonade in the hallway leading from the chapel after the first service, and after the 11 o'clock service we will serve the lemonade and cookies outside under the Porte-cochere. Come and join us for this delightful treat!

Vacation Bible School ~ June 17-20!

Get ready to pitch your tents of kindness and ignite the campfire of empathy as we explore the wilderness of compassion together! At “Camp Compassion: What every living thing needs,” we’ll be diving deep into the values of love, empathy, and understanding, while having a blast with fun-filled activities, heartwarming lessons, and unforgettable experiences. But wait, there’s s’more! We need YOU to join our team of compassionate counselors, fearless leaders, canteen workers, and enthusiastic helpers to make this camp the best it can be! Whether you’re a seasoned camper or new to the wilderness, your passion for spreading love and kindness is all you need to join our crew. Together, we’ll create a welcoming and inclusive environment where every camper feels valued, loved, and accepted. So dust off your hiking boots, grab your compass, and join us at “Camp Compassion” as we journey together to spread love and kindness to all! Sign up today to be a part of this incredible adventure and let’s make memories that will last a lifetime! See you at “Camp Compassion”! Contact Head Counselor, Russ, to discuss your role!

Blessings, First Pres VBS Team

Birthdays This Week

May 5: Bill Adams

May 9: Hunter Wright, Celia Osborne, Peyton King

Chamber Players Concert

The Paramount Chamber Players will be in concert at First Presbyterian on **Thursday, May 16** at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and students free. For more information, visit www.firstpreskingsport.org.

Upcoming Events

June 2-8 ~ High School Montreat (\$150 per youth)

Monday, June 17 ~ Thursday, June 20 ~ Vacation Bible School

Waverly Road Food Pantry

For May, please bring **a can of vegetables** for the Waverly Road Pantry. Baskets are located near the Chapel door and in front of the stained glass near the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Thanks for your donations!

Clothes Closet Needs

The Clothes Closet can use men's and women's short sleeve shirts, shorts, women's crops and both men's and women's athletic shoes. We will still accept end of season winter wear so we can get a jump on next season and always, we can use travel size soaps, shampoos, lotions, etc. Thank you for your continued support.

Knuckleheads Men's Bible Study

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

Let's Get Together!

The Congregational Fellowship & Nurture Committee would like to hear from the congregation some ideas for local outings where we could get together some small groups to attend things such as plays, festivals, attractions, etc. We would like to do some of these over the summer. Please contact Barbara Foust with any suggestions. Thank you!

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*

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