

First Press Weekly Update

February 23, 2025



Prayer List

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – Ann Asbury; Debbie Waggoner; Mike and Pam Babb; and Tengone Vengchiem.

MISSIONARIES – Eliane Menezes, Guatemala.

Sermon Series

This morning, Dr. Shelton continues his sermon series, "LESSONS FROM THE SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS" based on the premise that the only way most of us learn anything is the hard way...through trial and error.

Five Cents-A-Meal Offering

The Five Cents-A-Meal offering will be received today. Donations may be dropped in the basket by the door as you leave the Chapel service, and in the basket on the altar steps during the "Hymn of Sending" for the Sanctuary service. The *KCS Homeless Education Program* will receive 50% of today's Five-Cents-A-Meal collection.

Youth Group Today

- 4-5 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
- 5-6 p.m. High School Youth Group

Birthdays This Week

February 23: Greta Robinette

February 24: Catherine Tucker

February 25: Flint Gray, Don Thompson, Kim Thomidis, Briggs Mink

February 26: Lynetta Johnson

Church Night Supper ~ February 26 ~ 5:30 p.m. ~ Fellowship Center

SoupFest

No Charge. Members bring their favorite soup dish to share. Dessert is provided. If you choose not to bring soup, crackers or cornbread would be appreciated. Either way, we need your reservation, so we'll have enough dessert.

Bible Study on the Psalms ~ Psalm 25 ~ led by Rev. Russ Pearson

Fill out the pew pad on Sunday morning, call the church office at 245-0104 or register online: www.firstpreskingsport.org. Reservations are due noon Tuesday.

Handbell Showcase

The Kingsport Music Club will present "A Handbell Showcase" on **Sunday, March 9** at 3:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Center. The showcase will feature bell choirs from the Church Circle churches, including our own *Westminster Ringers*, under the direction of Tammie Davis. All are welcome. Free and open to the public. Doors open at 2:30 p.m.

What's So Great about the Great Commandment?

When Christianity loses its way, we forget to keep first things first. So did the Jews of Jesus' era. They had lost sight of the essentials. Jesus had an ongoing debate with Jewish leaders who accused him of veering off the truth. Four times they corner him in the Temple to catch him in error. In one case a scribe asks him "Which is the greatest command?" He was not seeking an answer but gathering evidence to entrap Jesus in his words. Jesus wouldn't quibble over which law was superior. He underwhelmed critics by quoting scriptures that all Jews would know: "*Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord and you shall love him with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength.*" The scribe knew the right answer; he just didn't live the right answer. Quoting what God expected and doing what he expected are not the same thing. Dr. Shelton will lead a study of this text, "What's so great about the Great Commandment" on **Wednesdays March 12, 19 and 26** at 6:15 p.m. after Church Night Supper.

Missing

Missing from the History Room is the most recent scrapbook of newspaper articles from 2023 and 2024. It is a large 12x12 scrapbook. If you have borrowed it please return or give Jane Harris (423-239-9477) or Laura Drayne (423-361-0960) a call.



40th Anniversary Holston Habitat for Humanity-Faith Build

FPC's work week for Matt's Build will be **Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, April 9, 11 and 12** to paint interior walls, ceiling, trim, doors. How can you help? You can pray for the family and the construction workers; provide individual financial support; volunteer to help with construction; feed lunch to 15 workers including Holston Habitat "regulars" each day for three days; make something for the home; celebrate by attending the home dedication and open house. FPC youth can participate (16-17 and 14-15-year-olds) with adult supervision. Contact Gary Tucker to let him know how you will help with this Faith Build: 423-378-5419 or tuckersbigblue@chartertn.net

Waverly Road Food Pantry

For February please bring **canned meats and stews** 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. Thank you for your donations.

Breakfast Ministry Needs

- VOLUNTEERS
- monetary donations
- blankets
- hats
- gloves (especially men's)
- thick socks
- backpacks or tote bags
- HotHands hand warmers
- dog biscuits and dog coats/sweaters
- travel size toiletries
- women's sanitary products.

If you would like to **donate items**, please drop them in the church breezeway (labeled "Breakfast Ministry") at your convenience or contact Sarah Good (423-967-3148) or Becca Wright (423-963-9617) and we will arrange to pick them up. If you would like to **volunteer**, please email Sarah Good at sar4680@gmail.com to be added to the current schedule. Thanks, as always, for helping us to be the hands and feet of Christ to our neighbors in need.

First Presbyterian Church Staff

423-245-0104

Mike Shelton, *Pastor* (ext. 204)

Russ Pearson, *Associate Pastor of Student Ministries* (ext. 208)

Bryan K. Underwood, *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)

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

Becca Wright, *Parish Nurse*

Alan Whitt, *Head of Maintenance/Custodial*

Lexy McConnell, *Maintenance/Custodial*

First Presbyterian Church

100 West Church Circle

Kingsport, TN 37660

423-245-0104

www.firstpreskingsport.org

Email: office@firstpreskingsport.org

Follow us on Facebook

FPCCK - GUEST Wi-Fi - Password: Genesis1:3-4