

First Press Weekly Update

March 9, 2025



Prayer List

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY - The Congregation extends Christian Sympathy to the family of **James Arthur “Jimmy” Campbell** (son of Leola Campbell) upon his death on February 26, 2025, in Kingsport, TN.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – Chuck and Celia Bachelder; Gary and Catherine Tucker; Stewart and Madelyn Baggett; and Koleta Tilson

MISSIONARIES – Eliane Menezes, Guatemala.

Handbell Showcase Today!

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.

Church Night Supper ~ March 12 ~ 5:30 p.m. ~ Fellowship Center

Breakfast for Dinner
(Worship Committee Serving)

Lenten Bible Study

6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Center after dinner

To sign up for dinner, 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.

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 commandment?” 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.

Second Harvest in March

First Presbyterian Church volunteers will be working their hearts out at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee on **Wednesday, March 19**. Please join us for moral support, fun, fellowship and service! Call or text Bob Stoots at (423-782-6280) to sign up and register your time preference; morning (9-11am) or afternoon (1-3pm)!

New in the History Room

Collection of Easter and Lent photos are now available for viewing in the History Room.

Looking Ahead to Summer Worship

A combined summer worship service at 10:00 a.m. will begin **Sunday, May 18** and conclude **Sunday, July 27**. Our regular schedule will resume Sunday, August 3. More information to come.

Birthdays This Week

March 10: Cindy Gale, Beth Correll

March 11: Becca Wright, Owen Barbour, Kellan Good, Don Sharitt

March 14: Candi Harker

March 15: Caleb Robertson

Flowers Needed for Church in 2025

May 18 September 14
June 1 November 9
September 7

Please call Vickie in the church office (423-245-0104) to sign up for a date.

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 March 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. Thank you for your donations.

Breakfast Ministry Needs

We need at least one person to help in our Breakfast Ministry on the following days:

March 15	April 5
March 16	April 12
March 22	April 19
March 23	April 20
March 29	April 26
March 30	

If you are able to serve on any of these dates, please email Sarah Good at sar4680@gmail.com or text at 423-967-3148 to be added to the schedule. Thanks!

First Presbyterian Church Staff

423-245-0104

Mike Shelton, *Pastor* (ext. 204)

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

Tammie Davis, *Interim Director of Music Ministries*

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*

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