

The First Press Weekly Update

July 12, 2026



Seeking to see the face of Christ...Striving to be the hands of Christ

Interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church? Please speak with one of our pastors.

Second Harvest in July

Please join First Presbyterian Church volunteers at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee on **Wednesday, July 15**. It is a fun time of fellowship and service! Call or text Bob Stoots at (423-782-6280) to sign up and indicate your time preference: morning (9am-11am), afternoon (1pm-3pm) or both!

Dedication of Articia's House - You are Invited!

You are invited to be a part of the dedication of the Holston Habitat house for Articia and her family on **July 16** at 12:30 p.m. Park in FPC's parking lot or the lot across Charlemont. Thanks to FPC Outreach for funding, volunteer workers and food providers and Judy Grover who painted a mural in Eliana's bedroom. Articia's build is the 21st house FPC has sponsored since 1989. Thank you FPC members for providing food, shelter and clothing for our neighbors.

Ice Cream Social

The Ice Cream Social will be held in the Fellowship Center after church on **July 19**. This is a time to have a sweet treat on a hot, summer day and to share fellowship with other members.

Christmas Worship in July!

Sunday, July 26 we will have a special worship service centering around the theme of Christmas at 10:30 a.m. in our Sanctuary. Feel free to wear some red and green, come ready to sing some Christmas songs, and hear a message that is bigger than just one season of the year!

Save the Date!

- ◆ August 9 ~ Potluck Lunch
- ◆ September 20 ~ Church Picnic at Allandale

Close the Gap Campaign

Congratulations! **YOU DID IT!** You closed the GAP! Thanks to your donations, you have contributed \$20,500 which exceeds the gap (deficit) of \$20,442 in our 2026 Operating Budget.

THANK YOU!

FPC Finance Committee

PNC Update: The Search Continues!

Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been hard at work behind the scenes, and we wanted to pop our heads out of the committee room to give you a quick progress report. Over the last few weeks, we have officially reviewed dozens of matches, resumes, and applications. Our readers have been busy, our highlighters are running low, and our cookie consumption is at an all-time high! We've recently crossed a major milestone by extending and conducting several first-round interviews. While we would love to chat about whom we've been talking to, we have to keep things strictly "hush-hush" to protect the confidentiality of the candidates and their current churches. We promise to share more definitive news just as soon as we can. In the meantime, please keep the PNC and our future pastor in your prayers—and maybe send an extra jolt of caffeine our way!

Directory Update

The 2026 Pictorial Directory is available online under the Members Only section of the website. If you would like a printed copy you may stop by the office during office hours to pick one up or call the office and one can be left for you on the credenza in the breezeway (in a manila envelope) to pick up at your convenience. For privacy and security reasons we will no longer email out copies of the directory. Also, if you notice that some members' information is incomplete/missing, that is because every member that has requested a Realm login has control over their personal information and they may have restricted access to their personal information. We hope you enjoy the updated directory.

Waverly Road Food Pantry

Item of the Month:

Peanut Butter

Supporting a Healthy Congregation

The lifeblood of a healthy congregation is support through prayer and financials gifts.

Prayer Concerns

If you have specific prayer or pastoral concerns, please write them on a pew card and place in the offering basket as you leave or give it to a pastor.

Offering Invitation

Tithes and Offerings can be given online using the QR code, placed in the offering plate as you leave, or mailed to the church.



Serving Today

The Chancel Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

and are presented by Chuck and Celia Bachelder
in celebration of their
69th Wedding Anniversary (July 13, 1957).

Flower Delivery

Debra Smith

Ushers

Patrick and Aleasha Stanley

Sound

Olin Babb

Birthdays & Prayers of the Week

July 13: Dorothy Lightfoot

July 14: Warren Sanders

July 15: Carolyn Doerfert

July 16: Eva Pearson, London Williams

July 17: Jordan Harker

July 18: Pepper McCary, Lauren McInturff, Carson Bethany, Bill Fortenberry

July 19: Emily Gaude

First Presbyterian Church Staff

423-245-0104

Dr. Bradley Walker, *Interim Pastor*

Russ Pearson, *Associate Pastor of Student Ministries*

Amy Smith, *Director of Music Ministries/Organist*

Annie Hill, *Church Business Administrator/Executive Assistant to the Pastor*

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

Kim Alvis, *Media Specialist*

Becca Wright, *Parish Nurse*

Alan Whitt, *Head of Maintenance/Custodial*

First Presbyterian Church

100 West Church Circle, Kingsport, TN 37660

423-245-0104 * www.firstpreskingsport.org