

# *The First Press Weekly Update*

August 16, 2026



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

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

## **Worship Schedule**

Today we mark the return to two worship services – 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. There will be a Joint Meeting of the Session and Diaconate following worship today.

## **Second Harvest Food Bank in August**

Please join First Presbyterian Church volunteers at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee on **Wednesday, August 19**. 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!

## **BLTs are Back ~ August 23!**

BLTs are returning again this year on **August 23** in the Fellowship Center after the 10:30 a.m. service. Only white bread will be offered to make the sandwiches. If you want any other kind of bread, please bring it with you. Claudia Byrd is graciously preparing these for us.

## **Looking Ahead!**

- ♦ September 2 ~ Church Night Supper and Wednesday Night Programs Resume
- ♦ September 20 ~ Church Picnic at Allandale

## **Workday at FPC**

The Property Committee would like to invite you to a workday for the church to get some needed work done by members and friends of the church. The work would entail inside and outside jobs. The date is **Saturday, October 10** starting at 9:00 a.m. The jobs and information will be posted in the next newsletter and church bulletin.

## **Fellowship Dinner Groups**

As we endeavor to come together as a congregation this is a request for determining which members would be interested in being part of a Fellowship Dinner Group. Interested members are assigned to be part of a Fellowship Dinner Group for a period of six months. Every six months there is a new group. The groups meet monthly for fellowship and dinner. In the past there has been a group that chose to go out to eat. It is a great way to visit with and get to know each other in a relaxed setting. Please contact Claudia Byrd at (423) 963-4754 or [claudia@BristolMotorSpeedway.com](mailto:claudia@BristolMotorSpeedway.com) with questions or to indicate your interest.

## **Legacy Funding**

YOUR LEGACY FUNDING through FPC's ENDOWMENT: Contribute to FPC Ministries, Mission & Outreach, Capital Facilities. To make an Endowment gift now or later, talk with Mike Wilkins, Mary Glenn Lively, Nic Clemmer, Rebecca Combs, Steve Miller, Gary Tucker, Barbara McCary, Dee Dee Dietrich or call the church office at 423-245-0104 or Matthew Crowder, Investment Advisor, ECU Asset Management/LPL Financial 423-578-7371.

## **Waverly Road Food Pantry**

*Item of the Month:*  
Healthy Cereals

## **FPC Clothes Closet ~ Help Needed!**

Help is greatly needed on Mondays in the FPC Clothes Closet. Come when you can to sort clothes beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Monday mornings. Your volunteering will be greatly appreciated!

## **Breakfast Bags--Please Help!**

We have many open shifts left in August, especially on Saturdays. We will be starting to fill our Fall schedule soon. Most of our volunteers are regulars, often filling 3-4 slots a month--we would love to involve more of our members in this ministry. If you have not volunteered before, it truly is a very small commitment--6:45-8:15 a.m. on Saturday or Sunday mornings. We know that life is busy, but our neighbors' needs are still there, and we are called to be the hands and feet of Christ to them. If you would like information or to sign up for a shift, please email Sarah Good at [sar4680@gmail.com](mailto:sar4680@gmail.com) or text 423-967-3148.

## **Supporting a Healthy Congregation**

*The lifeblood of a healthy congregation is support through prayer and financial 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.

### **Christian Sympathy**

The congregation extends its Christian sympathy to the family of Dr. Nathan Alvah Ridgeway, Jr. (stepfather of Candi Harker) who passed away on Sunday, August 9, 2026, in Kingsport, TN.

### **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 Don and Karen Thompson  
in celebration of their  
42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary (August 17, 1984).

### **Ushers**

Lylah and Eleanor Combs

### **Sound**

Olin Babb

### **Flower Delivery**

Tonya McInturff

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### **Birthdays & Prayers of the Week**

**August 16:** Peter Gale, Gemma Robinette, Paul Smith, Lee Walker

**August 17:** Bob Stoots

**August 18:** Lindsey McInturff

**August 19:** Karen Reed-Wright

**August 21:** Alan Ruffel

**August 22:** Agnese Goin, Sarah Barbour, Arielle Sprinkle

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### **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*

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*First Presbyterian Church*

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