

The Presbyterian
A Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church

September 2026

Exalting Christ.
Denying Ourselves.
Loving Our Neighbors.

A Light in the Window

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!
O Lord, hear my voice. . . .
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.*

Lord, be . . .
Lord, be peace to calm the storm.
Lord, be enough, for I am not enough.
Lord, be strength to bear these burdens.
Lord, be wisdom to mend my folly.
Lord, be knowledge, for I do not understand.
Lord, be light outshining the darkness.
Lord, be power to raise up my weakness.
Lord, be hope when I have no hope in myself.
Lord, be goodness to draw my heart.
Lord, be love to heal me, and through me to heal others.
Lord, be grace to set me free from fear of condemnation.
Lord, be faithfulness, for I don't know how to trust.
Lord, be joy on a bitter road.
Lord, be promise when the way ahead is dark.
Lord, be the next step, for I am lost.
Lord, be healing in the midst of pain.
Lord, be music through the discord.
Lord, be justice against the evil in my heart.
Lord, be protection from my enemies, for they are great and I am small.
Lord, be who you are and have always been, because the waters are over my head.
Please . . .
Lord, be.

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."

Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

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 Group and Committee Dates
September

Ladies' Discipleship will meet on September 8th and 22nd.

Finance Team – The next Finance Team meeting will be in October 12 @ 3:00.

Deacon's Meeting – The next Deacon's meeting will be in October 14th @ 6:30.

Gamma Delta will meet September 17th, 12:30 at Lowe Volk Park. Please bring a sack lunch.

Session Meeting – The Session will meet on Thursday, September 17th @ 6:00.

Presbyterian Men - The Presbyterian Men's Bible Study meets each **Friday @ 7:00 AM, at the Pelican**. All men of FPC are invited to attend.



Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday school will resume
on **October 4 at 9:00 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall.
Jake Ritzhaupt will be leading the class on a study of the book of Habakkuk.



Birthdays

- 3 Gary Irwin
- 11 Harley Shaum
- 13 Susan Irwin, Peyton Bardon
- 17 Rowen & Everett Britton
- 22 Duane Watts
- 23 Levi Diebler
- 28 Judy Diederich
- 30 Sammy Rager

Anniversaries

- 1 Mark & Marcia Dishon
- 6 Tom and Sandy Britton
- 21 Tim and Brenda Mutchler

Ushers/Greeters

- 06 –
- 13 – Lori Rager
- 20 – Harley & Rachel Shaum
- 27 –

Flowers

- 06 – Marcia Stout
- 13 – Kathy Bardon
- 20 – Tim & Brenda Mutchler
- 27 – Lori Rager

Liturgist

- 06 –
- 13 –
- 20 –
- 27 –

Prayer Requests

Shut-Ins:

Donna Watts, at home, cards appreciated
Phyllis Reed, Commonwealth Senior Living at the
Devonshire, 2220 Executive Drive, Apt 171, Hampton,
Virginia 23666

Chet Johnston, cards can be sent to Altercare, Room
108. He would appreciate visitors.

Dan Price

Cancer

Charlie Witt, friend of Kathy Bardon

Marcia Dishon, continued prayers

Eliza Cole, starting radiation, Phyllis Cole's grand-
daughter

Sophie Beck, relative of Courtney Posey

Annette Cheney, a friend of Kathy Bardon

Amanda Compton, Lori Rager's step-daughter

Surgery

*Dave Hablitzel – received a Pacemaker

*Bob Thompson – Shoulder surgery

*Linda Ross, Lori Rager's Mother, hip replacement

Tom Ahlefeld, recovering from foot surgery

Kathy Bardon, recovering from shoulder surgery

Sam Eichhorn, recovering from heart bypass surgery

Abigail Sutherland, recovering from heart surgery,

Dishon's granddaughter

Members, Family and Friends of Members:

*Patty Neff for her sister's sudden loss of memory

Pastor Rob's mother, Sherry

Gary Bishop, Lauren Bishop's father

Donna Parsons, friend of Kathy Bardon

Kaitlyn Bardon

Simon, Courtney Posey's friend

Kathy Hildebrand, Courtney's Mother

Judy Eichhorn, prayers while Judy lives with chronic
pain

Whitney Hildebrand, Courtney Posey's sister

Jenny McKee, torn retina, friends of Kathy Bardon

Becky Bellamy, Parkinson's, sister of Kathy Bardon

Military:

Keagan Rios, Gennie Rios grandson

Levi Diebler, member and Carrie Diebler's son

Grayson Robinson, Tami Robinson's grandnephew

**First Presbyterian
Church News**
From My Cozy Corner Office

Recently, I had to battle against a small plague of deer flies. They were somehow getting into my apartment and buzzing around in the evenings when I started turning on lamps. I say 'small' but it really seemed like a plague of Biblical proportions to me; either that, or I was in an Alfred Hitchcock movie! I was up until midnight one night chasing them, swatting them, and tossing their black carcasses outside. The next night they were back. *O Lord, let my people go! Or, at least, let this one servant of Yours go!* But, each night they came back. I didn't sleep well; every little noise was suspect, and I could not figure out how they were getting inside.

Then, one quiet afternoon a few days into the ordeal, I was reading and eating a late lunch at my kitchen table when I heard buzzing. I could see one of the menacing culprits crawling down my kitchen window. After dispatching him quickly to the netherworld of dead pests, I investigated, took down my curtains and lifted up the mini blinds, and found that the top window was not fully secured in place, allowing about a half-inch gap in the top of the frame. Not only that, but the screen had several fairly large holes. Ah ha! I had found their entry points!

Once the window was properly closed and the screen taken away by my landlady for repair, the plague ended. Just as quickly as it started, it was over. I've been thinking that life is like that sometimes. Troubles can seem just to appear and start buzzing menacingly around us; we can feel trapped, helpless, and maybe even downright scared. However, if we sit quietly, doing something different, taking our mind off of our troubles, God may show us an answer: Sometimes all we need to do is close a window.

Enjoy the gifts of September; may they be pest-free. See you in worship!

Marcia, Director of Spiritual Care

Toddlers Church

Toddlers' Church, an interactive play room downstairs, will be opening for parents with children ages birth through Kindergarten **beginning Sunday, September 20** during the worship hour. Volunteers will be needed to staff this room and donations can be put in the basket outside the Resource Room. The church will pay for your background check. See Michelle in the church office for a check to take to the Crawford County Sheriff's Office. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this ministry to our littlest ones.

Membership Classes

Three, one-hour **Membership classes** will be offered this fall on Sunday, **September 20**, Sunday, **September 27**, and Sunday, **October 4** in Fellowship Hall right after worship. Pastor Rob will lead these classes and a light lunch will be provided. Call the church office, see Pastor Rob, or ask Marcia if you would like more information. Anyone who is interested in learning more about our denomination can attend. Please sign up on the clip-board sheets at the back of the church so we have an accurate lunch count.

Women's Discipleship

The Broken Way by Ann Voskamp
2026 Reading Schedule

September 8	Chapters 13 & 14
September 22	Chapters 15 & 16
October 6	Chapters 17 & 18

Thank you

We received this sweet note from Kaitlyn Bardon, our 2026 FPC Scholarship recipient:

I am very grateful for the scholarship I received from the church. With this help I will be able to afford my books and fabric that I need for this year's classes and fashion shows. It means the world to me that I have such an amazing church family. I miss being able to see everyone.

Sincerely and thank you,
Kaitlyn Bardon