

First Presbyterian Church
110 N. Main Street
Greeneville, TN 37743
423.638.4533

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The Bell



This and that from Greg Cartwright

A friend of mine, and former church member at another church, now a part of the Church triumphant, wrote a short book of poems and generic writings. In this month of “love,” which is really all the time for us on the Christian journey, I want to share one of his writings:

Not all who say, “Lord, Lord”
Not all who say, “Love, Love”
Only those who ratify
With kind, helpful, considerate
Deeds for others

Mr. Reiland, friend and neighbor,
Once said
“I don’t care what they say —
I think they are pretty good boys.”
Who are they and
What did they say?
I was always afraid
To ask those questions.

Who’s the Boss around here?
Asked Tom
I lied and said “me.”
He later found out —
It was not me, but she.

Why me? Why me?
That is the question.
The answer is another question:
Why not me? Why not me?
One day we will know the answer.

February Leadership

* Denotes Communion Sunday

Sanctuary Side Door Greeter:

- 1 Ann Van Buskirk
- *8 Jeanne Stokes
- *15 Susan Craig
- 22 Pam Harley

Main St. Door Greeters:

- 1 Sarah Kreeger
- *8 Peggy Bible
- *15 Zan Walker
- 22 Sarah Kreeger

Communion

- *8 Preparer: Leeann Smith
Servers: Loretta Lyle
Meridee Barnes
- *15 Preparers: TBD
Servers: TBD
TBD

Home Communion Servers

- *11 Loretta Lyle
Jan Wilford
Kathleen Copeland

Ushers:

Jay Oberfeiting (H.U.)

- 1 TBD
- *8 TBD
- *15 TBD
- 22 TBD

Lectionary Reader

- 1 Nancy Hobbs
- *8 John Smith
- *15 Susan Craig
- 22 Randy Harley

Flowers:

- 1
- *8
- *15 Myra Cunningham
- 22

**Food Bank Needs:
Peanut Butter**

Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

Continued from pg 18

- After reviewing our funds, projecting that testing kit items and our first water treatment project would cost \$1,000, our brochure and initial mailings and would cost another \$1,000, In November we voted to ask Dot to transfer \$2,000 to our Belize sister team for their January trip to Belize. This would still leave us enough funds to install from 4 to 6 more water treatment units.
- Ron Russell has become quite involved and was asked to be Co-coordinator and he agreed. He has been updating a database I started so we could begin plugging-in new potential families. This has involved GPS based data from the state of TN, with names (possibly out of date), addresses and visual maps of property so can see if any buildings on property. There are approximately 150 or more homes for us to contact.
- Ron has kept in contact with Carson Salyer, who leads most of the work in Central TN and Kentucky and I have been updating Steve Young, Executive Director of Living Waters for the World as to our progress and needs for the near future. We have a Zoom meeting with these two on January 15th.
- This year we are getting some traction, thanks mostly to Rev. Harrell Cobb and the work of Cedar Creek (Greene Co) and Reedy Creek (Bristol) Living Water teams who have installed 16 water treatment units from 2003 until 2015. They continued to provide updates and supplies at cost until this Fall when Rev. Cobb requested us to take over for them. Another big plus is that Earl Shelton, one of the earliest Living Waters Partners in the Viking Mountain Road area, has been willing to be our cultural guide to the community.

Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

Living Waters for Appalachia (LW-A) – Greene County, An Action Team of First Presbyterian Church – Greeneville, TN 2025 Update by David Sallee

We have now made 5 trips to the Viking Mountain and Greene Mountain Road area, meeting current partners, and making some new ones. We visited with 5 families, conducted a water test (sent off to Nashville for testing and waiting for results). At least 3 families have functioning water treatment units installed by Cedar Creek Church.

This year we have also:

- Contacted 6 different water testing laboratories,
- Using state of Tennessee GPS maps we have begun charting all the residents in the Viking Mountain and Greene Mountain Road areas (our current Catchment Area)
- Continued refining the map of Greene County that delineates all the part of the county with no public water utility service (people on wells, springs, etc.)
- Met as a committee 7 times, as subcommittees another 7 times, we have reviewed the Living Waters for Appalachia Manual, and planned activities.
- Corresponded with the previous head of Living Waters Appalachia (who has resigned and not been replaced)
- Drafted a letter that was mailed in the middle of January to all our LW-A partners and will be modified with their input to go out then to the 100 or more potential partners not yet reached within our current Catchment Area.

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Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

Presbyterian Women



PW Coordinating Team meets Thursday, February 12, at 1 pm in the church library and via Zoom.

Agape Circle meets Thursday, February 19, at 11 am in the church library. Pastor Todd leads us in Lesson Six “Finding Our Joy “I Will Say It Again, Rejoice.” Plan to join us for a meaningful experience and a time of fellowship.

Winnie Prugh Circle meets Friday, February 6, at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall kitchen to prepare its famous “Souper Bowl” turkey and wild rice soup. Orders may be picked up on the morning of Sunday, February 8.

Save the Date: Make plans to join us for good food and great fellowship on Palm Sunday, March 29, as PW hosts a baked potato/salad bar and dessert immediately following the 11am worship. The cost will be by donation with proceeds going to support the church maintenance projects funded by the Capital Improvement Fund.

Thank You: Your generous giving during the Christmas season assisted one family with four children. Gift cards were also purchased for two Plaza Tower residents and one for each school system. Special thanks to DeAnna Bowman for her shopping and coordinating this project.



Our Sympathies to John DeWit, family and friends in the passing of his wife, Evelyn DeWit.

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Honorariums & Memorials

Given to Sanctuary Painting Fund

In memory of Evelyn DeWit
By Grant and Karen Reaves

Given to Ruth's Blessings

In memory of Jimmy Miller (*Cissy Kite's brother*)
By John and Leeann Smith

In honor of Mindy Meade and Marsha Bowers

By Mike and Jama Garner

Given to Choir Fund

In memory of Evelyn DeWit
By Randy and Pam Harley
By Deane Gray
By John and Leeann Smith
By The Trinity Class

Given to General Fund

In memory of Evelyn DeWit
By Wes and Cynthia Pectol

Given to Memorial Fund

In memory of Evelyn DeWit
By The Bordignon Family
By Jim and Wendy Warner
By Jeanne Stokes

In memory of Dr. J. Wiley Prugh and Winne Prugh

By John Prugh

Given to Capital Improvement Fund

In honor of those who lost loved ones
By Mike and Jama Garner

MARCH Leadership

Date	Main St. Door Greeter	Lectionary Reader	Sanctuary Side Door Greeter	Flowers
1-Mar	Nancy Russell	Bryan Root	Ann Van Buskirk	Open
8-Mar	Peggy Bible	Debbie Nycum	Kathleen Copeland	Valentine Roses
15-Mar	Rebecca Scharding	Andy Wehrle	Nellie Blevins	Myra Cunningham
22-Mar	Kathleen Copeland	Susan Craig	Susan Craig	Open
29-Mar	Pat Donaldson	Randy Harley	Pam Harley	Open

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**First Presbyterian Church
Mission Statement**

The mission of First Presbyterian Church is to celebrate, proclaim, and share God's reconciling love in Jesus Christ. To that end, we are a community of believers in faith, worship, growth, and service, giving sacrificially for the sake of Christ in the world.

Therefore, we commit ourselves in mission:

- To call people to faith in Jesus Christ
- To proclaim in word and deed the good news of the gospel
- To minister to people's hurts and hopes
- To nurture and provide care for people within and beyond our community of faith

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RECYCLE UPDATE

	Aluminum Cans	Steel	Cardboard	Total
Total for 2025	324 lbs \$ 225.00	9,235 lbs \$ 686.04	55,620 lbs \$ 1,830.70	65,404 lbs \$ 2,914.11

Please help by

- Removing paper from cans
- Washing steel cans
- Separating aluminum and steel
- Breaking down you cardboard boxes FLAT
- Encourage others to do the same
- Remember the pill bottles

**Thank you all
for keeping it out of a landfill.**

FPC Financial Update

General Funds	<u>December 2025</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted	\$32,039.00	\$423,957.00
Expenditures	\$36,765.00	\$417,888.00
Offerings	\$56,445.00	\$424,724.00
	\$19,680.00	\$ 6,836.00

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Remember in Prayer

Mission:

- Danny Sharpe & Hollman Mendoza (Vida Joven Nicaragua)
- Nicaragua's Santa Lastenia Clinic
- Please remember military and first responders with PTSD.

Trish Chaloux	Gay Jenkins Howell	+Austin Riggs
+Andrew Dalton	Jim & Sarah Hornsby	+Anthony Sasser
David & Kristi Dalton	*Jackson Jeter	Maggie Joy Selmeski
Haskell Fox	+John Lopez	+Wyatt Wilson
Dr. Mark & Susie Hannis	Arcelito Mai	Kathleen Wright
Wanda Headrick	Mel Pierce, III	+Clay Yancey
	Tim Price	Jenny & John Yeip

• +Military serving stateside.

*Military serving overseas.

**FEBRUARY 22
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Paul and I have loved our years with our family at First Presbyterian of Greenville. You have stood by us for joys and sorrows for over 20 years. Our children thrived in the youth program and I was honored to serve as an Elder. As we settle into our new home in Columbia, SC we would invite any of you who are passing through to stop and see us, and perhaps join us for a service at Shandon Presbyterian.

We send love and thanks to you all.

Paul and Nancy Harr

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February Lectionary

Feb. 1

Micah 6:1-8
 Psalm 15
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
 Matthew 5:1-12

Feb. 8

Isaiah 58:1-9a
 Psalm 112:1-10
 1 Corinthians 2:1-16
 Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 15

Exodus 24:12-18
 Psalm 99
 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Matthew 17:1-9

Feb. 18

Ash Wednesday
 Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
 Psalm 51:1-17
 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Feb. 22

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
 Psalm 32
 Romans 5:12-19
 Matthew 4:1-11

Deacons Meeting
 April 12, 2026
 12 noon

The Health Department sends a HUGE thanks for the wonderful collection of hats, mittens, diapers, socks, and underwear collected on the First Pres' Sharing Tree.

If you discover any of these items during your shopping expeditions (perhaps even on SALE at this time of year!), please leave them in the box outside the conference room. Don't forget items for older kids (up to age 18). Mission and Outreach Committee will see to their timely delivery. **THANK YOU ALL!**

Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

February Birthdays

- 2 Beverly Selmeski
- 3 Katie Anderson
- 6 Cindy Cowles
- 6 Sarah Delosh
- 8 Erin Britton
- 9 P. B. Bachman
- 9 Ron Williams
- 10 Mark Smith
- 13 Jenny Yeip
- 14 Carol Wells
- 17 Jessica Ricker
- 25 Thames Jackson
- 26 Heather Donaldson
- 29 Leeann Smith

February Anniversaries

- 10 Jordan & Christi Stokes
- 20 Sammy & Peggy Fox

Did I miss a Birthday or Anniversary?

You can send the information to my email
fpcscty@embarqmail.com
 Thank you, Mindy

Snow Policy

On those Sundays when we have snow, we will have services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. for those who can arrive safely. The 11:00 a.m. service will be broadcast on the church's Facebook page and Youtube channel. FPC also provides a full podcast version of our services on our website @<https://www.firstpresgreeneville.org/streams/podcast-media>. There, you can pick any week to listen to the audio version of our full service. On Wednesday, we follow the Greeneville City School schedule. If city schools are closed or dismissed early, we will not meet for Wednesdays at First Church. If in doubt, you are encouraged to listen to WGRV, WSMG or WIKQ for information.

Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

An Invitation for Unity and Hope

A group of our friends and neighbors, after months of discussion, began to feel that something in our world just wasn't right. We felt we should do something. An idea started with the Zacchaeus Class at First Presbyterian Church, with the phrase made popular by Eleanor Roosevelt,

"it's better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."

Our class decided to take action. Every Sunday evening, by walking together, we are walking to light the way to Unity and Hope.

We slowly walk down Main Street holding our battery powered Christmas candles. We leave from the upper parking lot at Walter's State at 6:00p.m. and walk to Reformation Lutheran Church and back. It takes approximately 45 minutes to make the circuit. Let your friends know about our mission.

The mission is for unity and hope in a totally positive way. If you don't have a candle, we have extras.

Please join us!

This is to be a regular Sunday evening event in hopes of changing hearts.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing our walk.

If the weather is such that it would be unsafe, we will not be walking. Also, we have several folks driving along with us to assist anyone who feels that they need to ride rather than walk.

Winter Movie Afternoon

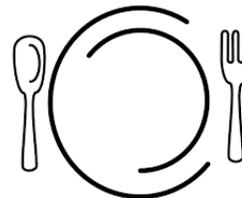
Church Family,

Come join the fun as we watch together Little Giants. This warm, funny tale of a misfit group of wannabe football players is a comic crowd pleaser that proves heroes come in all sizes. Rated PG with a running time of 106 minutes. Saturday, February 21st at 2:00 pm in the Simon Room. Popcorn & Drinks will be provided. Bring a snack to share if you wish. Bring a lawn chair for comfort.

See you at the movie!



Dinner Out Group



We will meet at
Rebel Fork Kitchen
(5641 Erwin Hwy,
Chuckey, TN 37641)

on Saturday, February 14th at 12:00 p.m.

Contact the church office at 423.638.4533
if interested in joining the group and/or need a ride.

Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

February FWFC

This is an invitation to join us for a fundraiser dinner for Immokalee, Florida on

Wed., February 4th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

We will be serving traditional Mexican, Haitian, and Guatemalan dishes like chicken, pork carnitas, tortillas, rice, beans, and a variety of sauces along with dessert and beverages.

Please plan to stay for the fun family games to follow.

There might even be some prizes for winning.

Please be sure to call the church office or go online to make you reservations.

Cost of the meal will be by donation.

All proceeds will go to the immigrant families of Immokalee, Florida.

The Food Bank



In December, we collected 102 jars of Pasta Sauce, totaling 260 lbs.

In January, we collected boxes of Pasta.

THANK YOU!

This month we are collecting Peanut Butter. Our goal is to collect 100 jars.

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Peanut Butter**

MARCH Bell

Article

Deadline:



Monday, February 16th

E-mail articles to:

fpcscity@gmail.com

2026 Committee Chairpersons:

Congregational Life:	Jan Wilford
Finance & Facilities:	Wendy Warner
Education & Enrichment:	Nancy Wallin
Mission & Outreach:	Jan Maddux

Food Bank Needs: Peanut Butter

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you all for the support I have received during this time with my knee replacement Journey I've been on. To all the ones who have been working and covering my job all this time, to the personnel committee and the session of this church, for all the sweet cards and visits and flowers and food brought to me. For the rides to the doctor appointments and to physical therapy appointments, for loaning me the medical supplies I needed to get through! And then to have car troubles in the middle of it all, and you took care of this for me! For the Thanksgiving meal that was put together for me and the one that was delivered for me and the ham I received, really helped during what I felt was a difficult holiday time for me. I'm sorry this comes so late as I am just now starting to feel somewhat back to normal. I want each and every one of you to know how much I appreciate you! Such a wonderful outpouring of love! I send it back to you all!

Thank you so much!!

With love, Marsha

Gideon Report:

Dr Carl Hargrove is a staff Pastor at Grace Community Church in Sun Valley CA. He preached a sermon to the Gideons at the INT'L Convention in 2025. The sermon ended as follows:

Paul was a man of prayer. In EPH 1:18-23, he prayed for enlightened eyes, understanding of the calling, and understanding of the riches of faith. In EPH 3:14-19, Paul prayed for understanding of the great vastness of the love of God.

In EPH 6:20, he requested prayer "that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak."

Globally, 107 people a minute, 6400 an hour, 154,000 a day, 1,078,000 a week, 56 million people a year die most without Christ. That is why we need to be "steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." [1COR15:58]

Father, we thank you for these Words You give us.
Show us mercy. Give us all boldness as we speak.
Help us to follow Christ. Amen.

Thank you, FPC, for your support of the Gideons INT'L.

The Agape Circle

will meet on Thursday, February 19, in the Library and via Zoom at 11:00. Pastor Todd will teach Lesson 6 - Finding our Joy in Christ: "I Will Say it Again, Rejoice". This is a wonderful time of worship and fellowship and if you haven't attended before, you are welcome to come.

Lenten Services

Date	Host Location	Guest Preacher
Feb 25	Reformation Lutheran Church	Ken Saunders
March 4	First Presbyterian Church	Andy Blackwelder
March 11	Cumberland Presbyterian Church	Sarah Varnell
March 18	St. James Episcopal Church	Sharon Bowers
March 25	Trinity Methodist	Todd Jenkins
April 1	Asbury Methodist	Mike Sauls

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FEBRUARY 2026

1	4th Sunday after Epiphany 5 Cents-A-Meal Offering 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Christ Chapel 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary FaceBook live Service 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.	12	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m. PW Coordinating Team 4:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach 5:30 p.m. Congregational Life
4	Wednesdays at First Church 2:45 p.m. FPkidz and Youth 5:30 p.m. family meal 6:30 p.m. Choir practice	14	Valentines Day
5	10:00 a.m. Staff meeting 6:00 p.m. E & E Meeting	15	Transfiguration of the Lord 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Christ Chapel 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary FaceBook live Service 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.
6	10:00 a.m. Soup making <i>(FH Kit.)</i>	16	President's Day
8	5th Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Christ Chapel 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary FaceBook live Service 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.	18	5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Meal 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
10	5:30p.m. F & F Meeting	19	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 11:00 a.m. Agape Circle mtg.
11	1:30 p.m. Home Communion 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	21	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 2:00 p.m. Church-Wide movie <i>(Simon Room)</i>
		22	1st Sunday in Lent 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Christ Chapel 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary TBD Annual Congregational meeting FaceBook live Service 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.

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FEBRUARY 2025

24	12:00 p.m. Faith & Grief
25	6:30 p.m. Choir practice
26	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Beer & Hymns <i>(@ Old Oak tap Room)</i>

Important dates:

- February 4 FWFC (Mission & Outreach)
- February 18 Ash Wednesday Meal (meal only) & Ash Wednesday Service
- February 21 Afternoon Movie in the Simon Room
- February 22 Annual Congregational Meeting
- February 24 Faith & Grief
- February 26 Beer & Hymns
- March 4 FWFC - Chili Cook-Off
- March 8 Punch & Cookies
- March 16-22 Mission Trip
- March 24 Faith & Grief
- March 26 Beer & Hymns
- March 29 PW Baked Potato Bar
- April 1 FWFC *(possible Isaiah House presentation)*
- April 2 Maundy Thursday Service (@FPC)
- April 3 Good Friday Service @ First Presbyterian Church
- April 4 Easter Egg Hunt *(@ Doak House)*
- April 5 Easter Sunday
- April 11 ETA Banquet
- April 12 Deacons Meeting
- May 13 PW Gathering
- July 26 Church Picnic
- October 25 PW Baked Potato Bar