

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

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Greeneville, TN 37743  
Permit #137

NOVEMBER 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

423.638.4533

# The Bell



## Scriptural Curiosity

Here's a long-held question I have about the second creation narrative in Genesis 2:

When the first human was formed in God's sandbox (or maybe it was in God's dust bin), did God have to add spit to hold together that first form into which spirit/breath (Hebrew - ruach) was inspired to create a divine bundle of appetites (Hebrew - nephesh)?

Are we, in fact, intimate and yet humus-based (& maybe hubristic) beings fashioned from divine saliva and creation's dust bunnies?

And is Jesus reenacting this creation story in John 9, not only for the man born blind, but also for the Pharisees and for anyone with eyes to see and maybe even for those without them, including you and me?

Hey, would you get back to me when the tingling – or maybe it's a quaking – that you feel in your bones taps out a Morse code answer to any of these questions on the screen of your life?

Sometimes I feel like I'm just dying to know.

Grace,  
(Wait; maybe this is the answer!)  
Todd

## Birthday-Thank Offering Opportunity

The following individuals have graciously offered to give their time and talent during November through December to participate in the baked goods fundraiser for the 2021 Birthday/Thank Offering (a list of this year's recipients for both offerings is printed in the Bell). If interested in placing a baked goods order, you are asked to contact the individual and set up the necessary arrangements. Please be mindful in your requests by giving at least two days' notice. Payment for baked goods is by donation with checks being made payable to Presbyterian Women, earmarked Birthday/Thank Offering, and given to the individual at the time of delivery/pick up. Monetary donations are welcome and may be mailed to Dot Culton, 402 Oak Grove Avenue, Greeneville, TN 37745.

Bonnie Brownell – almond cookies {two orders available}  
(787) 378-5318

Dot Culton – oatmeal cookies; pecan pie; pumpkin bread  
culton@embarqmail.com or 639-4474

Dan Donaldson – salt rising bread drdan@gmail.com or 278-8191

Anne Laposky – cream cheese flan {three orders available}  
anne.laposky@gmail.com or 329-6620

Leeann Smith – pumpkin roll; cookies; cake; cheeseburger soup  
leapyearbaby2-29@comcast.net or 639-0860

Shirley Snyder – brownies; birthday cake; apple pie  
Snyder002@gmail.com or 639-4563

Tori Spendel – 16 pints South Greene wildflower honey  
(pure/minimally processed) may be purchased/picked up at  
the church office

Jeanne Stokes – truffles; homemade from scratch chocolate cake  
jeannemark@comcast.net or 620-0749

Ann Van Buskirk – cream puffs; lasagna (8x8 size); or  
chicken noodle soup  
annvanbuskirk@comcast.net or 552-6863 or 638-7517

If you would like to join in with a baked good item(s) or a specialty item(s), please notify Dot Culton, Jama Garner, or Leeann Smith along with your contact information. Presbyterian Women thank you for your participation and support in this fundraising opportunity!

### *December Bell* **Article Deadline**

Friday November  
19th

E-mail articles to:

[fpcscy@gmail.com](mailto:fpcscy@gmail.com)



### Reminder

Deacons' Meeting  
November 7, 2021  
12:00 pm

### **Dinner Out Group**



Dinner  
out  
group is  
in a  
holding  
pattern.

### **The Food Bank**



Last Month we  
collected  
Oatmeal &  
Dry Cereal.

This month we  
are collecting Crackers. Our goal  
is to collect 100 boxes.

### **Directory UPDATE**

Mary Merrill: 342 Viking Place, 37745

Bonnie Brownell: (787) 378-5318

### **Sunday November 7, 2021**



**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

## Food Bank Needs: Crackers

### Poinsettias Available

We welcome you to purchase a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one. Poinsettias will be displayed during Advent in either the Sanctuary or Christ Chapel (please designate below). Price per flower is \$15.00. Proceeds will go to community outreach. Please place orders no later than Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to Presbyterian Women. Order form and payment may be placed in the offering plate, given to Chris Thorpe or dropped off at the church office.

Please place \_\_\_\_\_ RED (number) poinsettia(s) in **Christ Chapel**.  
Please place \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE (number) poinsettia(s) in **Christ Chapel**.

Please place \_\_\_\_\_ RED (number) poinsettia(s) in the **Sanctuary**.  
Please place \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE (number) poinsettia(s) in the **Sanctuary**.

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Please take your poinsettias with you following the Christmas Eve Service.

## Presbyterian Women



**PW Coordinating Team** will meet  
Monday, November 15, at 5 pm in the Library  
(also on Zoom).

### Agape Circle

on November 17 at 11:15 via ZOOM  
Bible study: Lesson 4 - "Ruth and Loyal Love"

### November Lectionary Readings

#### Nov. 7

1 Kings 17:8-16  
Psalm 146  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44

#### Nov. 14

1 Samuel 2:1-10  
Psalm 16  
Hebrews 10:11-25  
Mark 13:1-8

#### Nov. 21

2 Samuel 23:1-7  
Psalm 132:1-12  
Revelation 1:4b-8  
Matt. 25:31-46

#### Nov. 28

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

### General Fund Update

#### September 2020:

Budget: \$29,807  
Disbursed : \$26,587  
89% of offerings: \$19,976  
Memorials & Gifts: \$0  
Difference: (\$6,611)

#### 2020 YTD:

Budget: \$280,903  
Disbursed: \$250,762  
89% of Offerings: \$248,013  
Memorials & Gifts: \$200  
Difference: (\$2,549)

\*Please remember that the General Fund represents 89% of offerings received. The remaining portion of offerings go to the Benevolence Fund (10%) and Capital Improvement Fund (1.0%).

**NOVEMBER Leadership**

\* denotes a communion Sunday

**Ushers:**

Randy Harley (H.U.)

**7** Zack & Eddie Barnes

**\*14** Jay Oberfeiting, Aaron Caton

**21** Greg Bowman, Nick Mitchell

**28** Douglas Payne, Aaron Caton

**Elder On Display/  
Sanctuary Side Door  
Greeter:**

7 & 14: Debbie Nycum

21 & 28: Aaron Caton

**Main St. Door Greeters:**

**7** Pam Harley

**\*14** Kathleen Copeland

**21** Jama Garner

**28** Nellie Blevins

**Flowers:**

November 7, 14, 21, & 28 are open and available

**Sharing Tree**

All donations go to needy children through the Health Department.

**Special need: mittens and hats for very young children and infants.**

Bring your donations to the church office.

THANK YOU for YOUR help with our Sharing Tree!

**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

**GET READY CHURCH FAMILY  
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR  
THE 2021 CHURCH PICNIC!**

If you like fun, food, and fellowship, then the place for you to be is at the Church Picnic, Sunday, November 21st from 3:00 until 6:00 PM at the Homeplace at the Johnston Farm. This is the same location as the picnic of 2019.

The Homeplace is on a hilltop with a gorgeous panoramic view of the mountains and just 6 miles from the church! The lodge at the Homeplace is very spacious and all on one level.

The church will provide grilled hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings. Also, chips and drinks will be provided. All you have to bring is a sweet or savory to share. Please let Nellie Blevins know if you plan to attend. (call or text 639-5751.)

It will be an extra special time for our church family this year, because it's been a long time since we have been together to have fun, socialize, and enjoy great food!

Don't forget to call or text  
Nellie Blevins @ 638-5751  
to let her know you are coming.

Ya'll come and bring a friend!



Our sympathies to Dot & Dan Culton in the passing of Dot's sister, Carolyn Bean.

**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

**November Birthdays**

1	Anna Benson	10	Sammy Fox
1	Katherine White	14	Courtney Fletcher
3	Jay Oberfeiting	15	Barbara Henriksen
4	Dan Culton	15	Pam Smead
4	Janel Prugh	15	George Spivey
4	Jim Morgan	17	Charlotte Grubbs
5	Debbie Collins	20	Jennifer Waldroupe
6	Kristi Dalton	20	Brandon Allen
6	Patti Hopkins	21	Paul Harr
6	Andrew Riggs	22	Pat Donaldson
7	Kidwell King	23	Emily McCaslin
7	Jeremy Gray	23	Bobby Wells
7	Ty Henriksen	27	Carolyn Ward
9	DeAnna Bowman	28	Erin Kobs
9	Alan Britton	28	Alex Riggs
9	Ben Hopkins	30	Bob Beamer
9	Mary Elizabeth Thomas		

**November Anniversaries**

20	Jan & John Maddux
22	Mark & Katie Smelcer
26	Bryan & Carolyn Root

**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

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**DECEMBER Leadership**

Date	Main St. Door Greeter	Elder on Display	Sanctuary Side Door Greeter	Office/Church St. entrance Greeter	Flowers
5-Dec	Loretta Lyle	Beverly Selmeski	Beverly Selmeski	TBD	Open
12-Dec	Rebecca Scharding	Beverly Selmeski	Beverly Selmeski	TBD	Open
19-Dec	Pam Harley	Nellie Blevins	Nellie Blevins	TBD	Open
26-Dec	Kathleen Copeland	Nellie Blevins	Nellie Blevins	TBD	Open

**Notes from Spiritual Outreach Committee**

- ✳ The 5 cents a meal offering is still being collected. Please note on your offering what your donation is to be used for.
- ✳ There is still a need for someone to take over sending Care Packages and cards for our Military Outreach.
- ✳ The Soup Kitchen has requested donations of canned vegetables. Particularly the #10 can size. They can be left in the specially labeled container in the middle room on first floor.

**Remember in Prayer**

Mission:

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

Hana Allen	Dr. Mark & Susie Hannis	+Austin Riggs
Sandra Britton	Jim & Sarah Hornsby	+Anthony Sasscer
*Ellen Canupp	Jack Jaynes	Maggie Joy Selmeski
Pat Earnest Counts	*Jackson Jeter	Carroll Shepard
Corky Cutshaw	+John Lopez	Trish Wahe
*Andrew Dalton	Danny & Megan Rice	+Charlie Wilcox
Trixie Detrick		+Robyn Wilcox
Shelia Fillers		*Wyatt Wilson
Haskell Fox		+Clay Yancey

- +Military serving stateside.
- \*Military serving overseas.

**GIDEON REPORT**

The Gideons Intl. [TGI] has chosen Phil 1:27b for our guidepost verse throughout the pandemic:

"....., that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel. "

Share the word, use a Gideon Card  
 cards are in the 3rd floor Lobby  
 or at  
<http://www.gideons.org/>

The prayer list will start over in January 2022.

In the future, names will remain on the list for 1 month and will then be removed. If a name needs to remain on the list, please submit a new request each month.

thank you, Mindy

**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

**IMMEDIATE JOB OPENINGS**

Holston Presbytery, the regional council of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in upper northeast Tennessee serving 60+ congregations and new worshipping communities, is seeking to immediately fill two retiring staff member positions:

Full-time Assistant/Transitional Treasurer/Financial Manager, and  
Part-time Assistant/Transitional Stated Clerk

Complete information, including qualifications and position descriptions, is available on the Holston Presbytery website: <http://holstonpresbytery.org/>. Interested applicants are encouraged to send a letter of interest and résumé to [search@holstonpresbytery.org](mailto:search@holstonpresbytery.org).

**Dates to remember ...**

- November 21 Annual Church Picnic
- December 5 Youth Christmas Party
- December 7 Presbytery meeting
- January 12, 2022 WFC begins
- January 2022 Resurrection
- March 25-27, 2022 Holston Youth Retreat
- July 24-27, 2022 Youth Triennium

**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

## Food Bank Needs: Crackers

### Honorariums & Memorials

#### Given to Audio/Visual Upgrade Project

In honor of Bobby and Carol Wells

In honor of Bobby and Carol Wells

by Ed and Ann Rice

#### Given to Ruth's Blessings

In memory of Congregants, Family, and Friends of  
First Presbyterian Church who have passed  
during 2021

by Mike and Jama Garner

In memory of Carolyn Bean

by John and Leeann Smith

### Christmas Giving Opportunity

Each Christmas, Presbyterian Women shop for families in need. This year we plan to assist three families, two of whom the directors of the Family Resource Center for both the city and county school system have provided, and one family recommended by a PW Coordinating Team member. In all, we will be making a brighter Christmas for six children. Monetary donations are now being accepted for these families. Your donation may be dropped off at the church to the attention of Dot Culton or mailed to her at 402 Oak Grove Avenue, Greeneville, TN 37745. Be sure to earmark your check for Christmas families. Your support to the missions of Presbyterian Women is greatly appreciated!

## Food Bank Needs: Crackers

### The Agape Circle

will meet Wednesday,  
November 17  
@ 11:00am via Zoom.  
Pastor Todd will lead  
the discussion on  
Lesson 4 - "Ruth and  
Loyal Love". This is a  
wonderful time of  
worship and  
fellowship so please  
plan to attend.

## All Saints' Day Sunday, November 1

It has been our custom in recent years to toll the church bell for the years of life of those in our congregation who have gone from Church Militant to Church Triumphant in the past year. Join us at Noon, Monday, November 1, on the front porch of the church for this special time of remembrance and acknowledgement.

### Directions for a pleasing recycling program

In order for recycling to work, we need to follow some very easy directions.

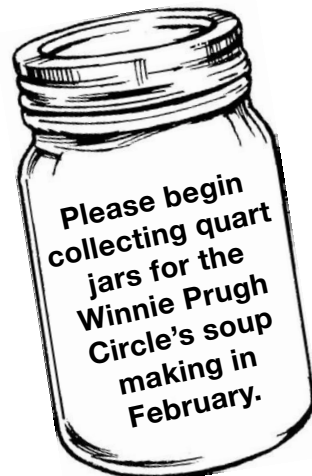
1. Please, please, please remove the paper label from steel cans.
2. Please, please, please wash your cans and aluminum foil.
3. Please, please, please Separate your steel, aluminum, pull tabs, and pill bottles.
4. Please, please, please break down your cardboard boxes.
5. Please, please, please use a paper grocery sack to stack your newspapers.

And please remember, recycling is a part of the Lord's request of us to be good stewards of the land.

NOVEMBER 2021

1	<b>All Saint's Day</b>
2	<b>Election Day</b> 6:00 p.m. F & F called ZOOM mtg. 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Outreach ZOOM mtg.
3	5:30 p.m. Choir Practice
4	10:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. E & E ZOOM Meeting
7	<b>24th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>5 cent-a-meal Offering</b> 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Sanctuary 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary FaceBook live Service 12:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting 5:00 p.m. Youth & FPC kids 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.
9	5:30 p.m. F & F ZOOM mtg.
10	5:30 p.m. Choir Practice
11	<b>Veterans Day</b> 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Congregational Life ZOOM mtg.
14	<b>25th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Sanctuary 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary FaceBook live Service 4:00 p.m. Session ZOOM mtg. 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.
17	11:00 a.m. Agape Circle mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice
18	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

20	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
21	<b>Christ the King</b> 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Sanctuary 9:30 a.m. Sunday school In person and ZOOM meetings 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service in Sanctuary FaceBook live Service 3:00 p.m. Church Picnic 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.
25	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>
26	<b>Office Closed</b>
28	<b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30 a.m. In-Person Worship in Sanctuary 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.



**Food Bank Needs: Crackers**

**Living Waters for Appalachia (LWA)  
"Buy a Part, Be a Part"**

It's about people - not water - those who need clean, affordable water and the people who produce the water when they install a new system.

Please stop by our table during the upcoming church picnic on November 21st to learn more about what our FPC LWA outreach is doing right here in our own community to help bring clean water to those who don't have access to safe water.

We are excited to share with you why this is so important and to tell you a little about how it works! You will also have the opportunity to "Buy a Part" so that you can "Be a Part" of a family's clean water system. Each part is essential, from the smallest unions and O-ring lubricants to a complete system, and everything in between. All money raised will be used toward the purchase of a system that we will install.



Our team has worked hard, and we are ready ... we just need your help!