

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

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OCTOBER 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

423.638.4533

The Bell



This and that from Pastor Greg...

I admit that this time of year is always, well somewhat, confusing as I walk through the everyday, large, package store. As this is being written in September, for October, I see stores loaded with Fall and autumn decorations, Halloween spooks in every corner, and Christmas decorations are beginning to fill aisles at the edge of each “garden-department!” Am I opposed to such, or have I just become immune as it is “nothing new under the sun.” Certainly it is unavoidable as it has become our life and culture, so I accept the merging of all these now days.

In a way, this same confusion, or maybe it is an anesthetic, dense fog that sometimes surrounds me on the topic of becoming new. A journey to newness is often challenging at different spots of life but it is the Christian way. Feel the changing air outside on certain days in the fall? It is a sign that the seasons are in flux and soon the cool, autumn days will arrive . . . or we hope!

C.S. Lewis once wrote that becoming new people, or making new people within Christ’s work, “is like turning a horse into a winged creature.” He went on to say that his point was to emphasize that “it is not mere improvement but Transformation.” I have to admit, transformation in a way is a welcome progression. It would be great to think that Christianity provides an overnight change from whatever we are in that moment to something nicer . . . but that is not the promise or even reality. Transformation takes time, but intentional time, prayer, life training, and many more things to progress toward being like Christ . . . without any being complete this side of death. Thankfully, as we do seek the mind of Christ on this journey, his Presence is palpable, immediate, and might I even wager unavoidable!

Honorariums & Memorials*(continued on page 3)***Given to Memorial Fund****In honor of Judith Jones****In honor of Deborah Bible**

By Jeanne Stokes

In honor of Judith Jones**In honor of Danny Rice**

By John and Jan Maddux

In memory of Philip M. Bachman, Jr.

By First Horizon Bank

By Ferrari Club of America

Given to Gideons**In memory of Danny Rice**

By Jeanne Stokes

By John and Leeann Smith

Given to General Fund**In memory of Philip M. Bachman, Jr.**

By The Trinity Class

By Wes and Cynthia Pectol

In memory of Philip M. Bachman, Jr.

By Willard and Nellie Blevins

In memory of Danny Rice

By Randy and Pam Harley

Given to Choir Fund**In memory of Philip M. Bachman, Jr.**

By The Trinity Class

Given to Capital Improvement Fund**In memory of Philip M. Bachman, Jr.****In memory of Debbie Bible****In memory of Kendra Wakefield Storey**

By John and Leeann Smith

In memory of Deborah Bible

By Deane Gray

November Bell
ArticleDeadline

Monday

October 20th

E-mail articles to:

fpcscity@gmail.com**The Food Ministry**

In August, FPC donated 157 jars of Peanut Butter, and 14 miscellaneous items.

In September, FPC provided 153 boxes of Macaroni and Cheese to the Greeneville Ministries Food Bank.



This month we are collecting.

Oatmeal and dry Cereal.

Our goal is to collect
100 boxes or bags.**Please begin
collecting
quart jars for
the Winnie****Prugh Circle's soup
making in February.****Thanks bunches!****OCTOBER
LECTIONARY****October 5**

Lamentations 1:1-6

Psalm 137

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

October 12

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalm 66:1-12

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

October 19

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Psalm 119:97-104

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

October 26

Joel 2:23-32

Psalm 65

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

**Food Bank Needs:
Oatmeal and
dry Cereal**

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Thanksgiving Outreach Meal - 2025

The annual Thanksgiving Day Meal on November 27, for the needy, elderly, and lonely of the area, is now being planned and organized at the Cedar Hill C.P. Church. If you have been involved in this inter-denominational joint effort ministry in the past, the planning committee wishes to thank you for your participation. If you have not participated in this ministry before, we invite you to join with us as we seek to serve the less fortunate. We need prepared food, servers, meal packers, and drivers, as well as monetary donations. More specific information about how, when and where to volunteer is posted on the bulletin board next to the Church Office or you may contact Clem Allison at 423-609-9300 (or bcallison@comcast.net). All meals will be prepared on Thanksgiving morning at the Cedar Hill CP Church at 4170 Newport Highway before being delivered to designated homes throughout Greene County. The entire process is generally completed by 11:30 a.m. Thanksgiving morning. Last year, 2,300 meals were delivered on Thanksgiving as a result of this community-wide project. This year we anticipate the number will be closer to 2,500.

Since this project is funded completely through donations, we would greatly appreciate any monetary gift you can provide. In the past, our church has always played a crucial role in being one of the top two in donating money among the approximately 15 churches that are generally involved in this effort. Hopefully, we can continue that tradition! Donations may be made in cash or by check and can be delivered to Clem Allison, or our church office. **All checks must be made payable to Cedar Hill CP Church and marked "for Thanksgiving Outreach".**

Thanks again for your involvement in this worthy event!

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Honorariums & Memorials

(continued from page 2)

Given to Sanctuary Painting Fund

In memory of Wanda Wisecarver

In memory of Myrtle Brown

In memory of Von Clayton

By John and Leeann Smith

In memory of Philip M. Bachman, Jr.

In memory of Von Clayton

By Jim and Wendy Warner

In memory of Von Clayton

In memory of Wanda Wisecarver

In memory of Debbie Bible

By Willard and Nellie Blevins

In memory of Sherry Quillen (Marsha's sister)

By John and Jan Maddux

In memory of Jimmy Loven

By Dr. Brian, Donna, and Jackson Noland

Given to Ruth's Blessings

In memory of Judith Jones

By Willard and Nellie Blevins

In memory of Judith Jones

In memory of Patricia Russell

In memory of Mollie McCaslin

By John and Leeann Smith

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

* denotes a communion Sunday

Ushers:

Jay Oberfeiting (H.U.)
5 Randy Harley
 Debbie Nycum
***12** Loretta Lyle
 Mona & Hal Binkley
19 Debbie Nycum
 Jay Oberfeiting
26 Randy Harley
 Jay Oberfeiting
 Debbie Nycum

A/V:

Aaron & William Caton

Lectionary Readers:

5 Susan Craig
***12** Eva Wehrle
19 Leeann Smith
26 Andy Wehrle

Flowers:

5
***12**
19
26

Sanctuary Side Door

Greeters:

5 Susan Craig
***12** Rebecca Scharding
19 Jeanne Stokes
26 Barbie Zeigler

Main St. Door Greeters:

5 Chris Kilday
***12** Peggy Bible
19 Leeann Smith
26 Kathleen Copeland

In-Home Communion

Servers:

*** 8** David Sallee
 Jan Maddux
 Todd Jenkins

11:00 am Communion

***12** Preparers:
 Servers: Tim Miller



Date	Main St. Door Greeter	Sanctuary Side Door Greeter	Flowers	Lectionary Readers
2-Nov	Pat Donaldson	Susan Craig	Open	Nick Mitchell
9-Nov	Chris Kilday	Jeanne Stokes	Open	Jeanne Stokes
16-Nov	Peggy Bible	Leeann Smith	Rosetta Wells	Sally Causey
23-Nov	Kathleen Copeland	Pat Donaldson	Open	Joyce Johnson
30-Nov	Sarah Kreeger	Beverly Selmeski	Jann Mirkov	Kidwell King

Dear FPC family,
 Thank you for your kindnesses and communications with us after the passing of Danny Rice. We will have a celebration of life service for him in Florida on Oct 25.
 You have been very uplifting for us during these times.

Be Blessed,

Ed and Ann Rice

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

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October Birthdays

- 1 Cynthia Pectol
- 2 Betty Burley
- 5 Kathleen Copeland
- 5 Olivia Schell
- 8 Linda Hensley
- 9 Sally Causey
- 9 Nancy Maxwell
- 10 Nathaniel Beckett
- 10 Sean Britton
- 11 Hunter Henriksen
- 11 Andy McCall
- 11 Chloe Waldroupe
- 12 Glenn Doyle
- 13 Gabriel Echols
- 17 Jimmy Brogdon
- 17 Zach Wallin
- 18 Wes Pectol
- 18 Wesley Spivey
- 22 Chase Ellenburg
- 22 David Sallee
- 23 Scott Deans
- 24 Georgia Echols
- 24 Bob Johnson
- 26 Jim Richard
- 27 Meridee Barnes
- 27 Jaxon Lamb
- 27 Bruce Ford
- 28 Hannah Laposky
- 28 Allison Smith
- 31 Robbie Allen
- 31 Cooper Shepard
- 31 Chad Collins

Did I miss a Birthday or Anniversary?

You can send the information to my email

fpcscty@embarqmail.com

Thank you, Mindy

Deacons

will meet Nov. 9th
after 11am
worship service.
This meeting will be in
person and zoom.

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Gideon Report

José Airton- was working as a trucker's assistant who traveled all over the country. One day in front of a school he saw a group of men distributing Testaments. He desired tremendously to have one of those little books. He asked one Gideon for a Testament, but he said he could distribute only to the students. Jose Airton was really upset, but when he was leaving, the Gideons came running to him and gave him two New Testaments, one for him and the other for the truck driver.

One year later the trucker accepted Jesus as his personal savior and seven years later Jose Airton also gave his life to Jesus. On one of their trips, at dawn on a Saturday, they stopped at a gas station to drink something warm because the weather was freezing. Jose Airton saw a homeless man laying on the sidewalk when a group of bad boys got a hose and began spraying water on that man. The homeless man screamed and jumped with much pain because of the cold water. Jose Airton was astonished. He took a towel and dried the man and gave him some clothes. He also provided him with a hot drink. Jose Airton took his New Testament and gave it to the man saying: "God will work in your life through this Word."

Years later, visiting the same city on Sunday, Jose Airton went to a church where he saw a man in the pulpit among the leadership of the church who fixed his eyes on him during the service and started crying. At the end of a blessed service, that man came to Jose Airton and hugged him while crying. He hugged Jose Airton and lifted him up and said, "For many years I asked God for this encounter. Jose thought that the man was crazy. But the man took from his coat pocket a Testament and there was the name, "José Airton". He said, "It was through this Word that God used you. I was a homeless on the street, you welcomed me, dried me, gave me clothes, gave me coffee, and gave me the Word. I read the book, and it changed my life. I looked for an evangelical church. The pastor took me to a recovering home, treated me, and today I am an Elder in this church.

Sidney Lino de Oliveira
International Trustee – Brazil

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Baked Potato/Salad Bar with Dessert

Baked Goods Sale

Your Presbyterian Women will be hosting a baked potato/salad bar with dessert in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 26, immediately following the 11 am worship. The cost of the meal will be by donation with the proceeds, after expenses, going to support Living Waters (International). No reservations required. Come and join us for good food, great fellowship, and the opportunity to support this worthy mission.

Also, you will not want to miss the opportunity to stop by our baked goods table and purchase a delicious item(s) or even place an order for some items. Baked goods will be by donation with the proceeds going to support the Presbyterian Women's Birthday and Thank Offerings. Please see the 2025 Birthday and Thank Offerings' recipients on the adjacent page.

Baked goods are needed and welcomed! If you wish to contribute, please contact one of the following:

Dot Culton – 639-4474
culton@embarqmail.com

Leeann Smith – 639-0860
leapyearbaby2-29@comcast.net

Jeanne Stokes – 639-4567
jeannemark@comcast.net

We look forward to seeing you on October 26th!

Agape circle

The Agape Circle will meet on Thursday, October 16 at 11:00 in the Church Library and via Zoom. The Lesson is the 3rd one entitled "Jesus Is Tested". These lessons are led by Pastor Todd and are helping us "Find Our Resilience." Everyone is invited, you may come this time for your first time and it's OK.

Dinner Out Group

October 25

Meet at the church at 10:30 am to load the bus.

We will travel to

Stoney Knob Cafe in
Weaverville, NC

Call the church office to let us know you will be joining us and we will reserve you a seat.



Help Needed

Congregational Life committee is looking for volunteers to deliver in home communion to our shut ins. Volunteers do not have to be elders of the church. Our church will be serving in home communion the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The volunteers will leave the church at 1:30 p.m. to visit with those shut ins who would like communion and a visit. Please call the church office to have your name added to the list. Please designate what month you would be able to volunteer to serve. Thank you.

We are
collecting
Halloween
candy for
the Halloween
Happenings Activities.



Please place
donations in the
box next to the
conference room.

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

FPC's Living Waters for the World-International

LWW-International is sponsoring a fundraiser to pay for the installation of water systems in Belize.

Join us on Saturday, November 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a lovely dinner prepared by Chef Priscilla Hutto. Priscilla will show us how to make salad dressing, focaccia, lasagne (vegetarian will also be available), and tiramisu. As she is demonstrating, we will be eating her creations.

Tickets go on sale on October 1st. The tickets cost \$60 per person which includes the cooking demonstration and dinner. A limited number of tickets will be available from any member of the LWW-International team and also on the church's website. Members include Jennie and Todd Jenkins, Chris Kilday, Tim Miller, Nancy Russell, Jeanne Stokes, and Mary Alice Williams.

Please help support this important mission project of FPC. Encourage your friends to join us as there will be room for 8 people at each table.

Help us purchase water systems that will provide clean water which is desperately needed for the children of Belize and their families.

Thank you for your participation in this event.

WFC Menu

Oct. 1

Marinated chicken,
Steamed broccoli,
TaterTots, Salad,
and Dessert

WFC October 1

Immigrant/Citizens
will share

"How does it feel
to live in Greene
County today"

Join us to hear their
stories

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

2025 Birthday Offering Recipients

- Leland Presbyterian Church - Leland, Mississippi
The grant will help with the building of Windward Volunteer Housing Facility. Members in the community who need a temporary place to stay and volunteer groups who come for disaster recovery will find a warm welcome in Leland.
- Red Cloud Renewable - Pine Ridge, South Dakota
Lakota Thiyua Dome Home Project. Tribal communities in the U.S. are experiencing housing crisis. The grant will construct three dome homes. Thiyua in Lakota translates to "having a home; starting a family; settling down; creating new life."

2025 Thank Offering Recipients

- Olympia Presbytery - Centralia, WA - awarded \$50,000
To build Shalom Village Tiny Home Duplexes
- Homestead Presbytery - Omaha, NE - awarded \$5,000
Sleep in Heavenly Peace to build/deliver beds to needy children
- Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky - Campton, KY - awarded \$33,935
Buckhorn Children & Family Services - Dessie Scott campus for delayed teen boys to provide fencing around outdoor areas
- Presbytery of the Peaks - Lynchburg, VA - awarded \$22,800
Lynchburg Daily Bread - generator to sustain daily meal program
- Presbytery of the Peaks - Lexington, VA - awarded \$25,000
Roanoke Justice Ministries comprised of 15 congregations to end poverty/racism - 20 volunteers to national training events
- Albany Presbytery - Spencertown, NY - awarded \$50,000
For renovations to the Church and Community Kitchen
- Presbytery of New York City - awarded \$6,000
Upgrade technology for First Jamaica Comm & Urban Dev Corp
- Presbytery of Wyoming - Sheridan, WY - awarded \$14,362
Lagniappe Ministries empowers low income parents through paid vocational training and mentorship
- Grace Presbytery - McKinney, TX - awarded \$45,800
Community Garden Kitchen (free meals) training for 10 youth
- Presbytery of South Louisiana - Hammond, LA - \$5,000
Shower ministry providing cleaning supplies, food, clothing

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Pumpkin Patch Outing



Come join us at the Myers Pumpkin Patch on Saturday, October 4th from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Over the fire we will roast hot dogs & S'mores. Also chips, brownies & drinks will be served. Feel free to bring a snack to share. Cost for the meal is \$3.00 per person – pay Randy or Pam Harley to make your reservation. If you would like to go on a hayride it is \$4.00, payable to Myers. Visit the Country Store to purchase fall decorations, jellies, apple butter and pumpkins. The Church van is available if you would like. Call Mindy to make a van reservation. Bring lawn chairs for comfort.

We will have games and Bingo!

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Presbyterian Women



PW Coordinating Team

will meet in person and via Zoom on Thursday, October 9, at 1 pm in the church library.

Agape Circle

will meet in person and via Zoom on Thursday, October 16, at 11 am in the church library. Please join us as Pastor Todd leads study Lesson Three from "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ."

A Baked Potato/Salad Bar with Baked Goods Sale

hosted by PW will be held on Sunday, October 26, immediately following the 11 am worship. For more information, please see the weekly bulletin insert and the announcement in October's Bell. Plan to join us for good food and fellowship and in supporting next year's Living Waters (International) mission trip with your meal donation, as well as supporting the PW's Birthday and Thank Offerings with your purchase from our baked goods table.

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your expressions of sympathy, the flowers, gifts, and all the cards. I have felt your love, and appreciate your kindness during this difficult time. I miss Sherry deeply, and I am blessed to be part of the First Presbyterian family.

Marsha Bowers

Sharing Tree

Collecting socks, underwear, and disposable diapers

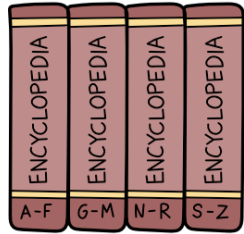
For individuals birth to 18 years old

All donations go to needy children through the Health Department.

Bring your donations to the church office.

THANK YOU for YOUR help with our Sharing Tree!

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal



A complete set of 1939 Encyclopedia Britannica has been found in a church closet.

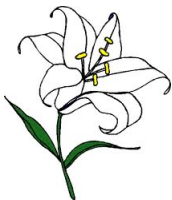
Does anyone know anything about this “treasure”?

According to research, it is not “valuable”!

What should be done with it?!?

Please reply to Beverly:
bookworm290@comcast.net

Thank You for ANY thoughts!!



With Sympathy

Our sympathies to Ed & Ann Rice
in the passing of Danny Rice.

Still collecting pop-tops for
Ronald McD House
and various small “stuff”
to be used by
art teachers in collages!

Beverly Selmeski

Update On Sunday School Classes Partnership for CANUP

Over eighteen months ago two Sunday School Classes began a partnership to help meet some of the needs of persons served by CANUP (Coalition Addressing the Needs of Underhoused People). Members of the Library Class provide water and needed food items and members of the Shepherd's Class pack these items into gallon bags, making meal packages which are distributed by CANUP volunteers to those in need.

The Shepherd's Class sometimes works on meal packs during class time on Sunday but also meet two or three times a month on Wednesday afternoons to assemble these packs. This has also been a service project for the Shepherd's Class during VBS the past two summers. This year the partnership has added a GHS National Honor Society volunteer, Noah Janha, to the Wednesday afternoon crew, and he has earned 25 hours of volunteer credit for his work with the project. So far in 2025 this partnership has yielded over 900 meal packs, with a goal of 1,200 by the end of the year.

This partnership is not exclusive! If anyone would like to contribute water or food items, those can be left in the Library Class or Shepherd's Class (on 2-R) at any time. A list of needed items is below. If anyone would like to join the Shepherd's Class for a “packing party”, contact Pat Donaldson at 423-329-7383 for a schedule.

Shepherd's Class members seek to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our church and the community with their work in this partnership. They sincerely appreciate the generous donations of food items from the Library Class, and the work of Dr. Mike Hartsell who takes completed meal packs to the CANUP office where the meals are distributed by volunteers to those in need.

Meal Pack Items:

- water: 16oz. bottles
- meat: individual, zip-top cans (Vienna Sausages, Beanie Weenies, etc.) or individual foil packs of tuna, chicken or fish
- pudding : individual ready-made serving cups
- vegetables : individual serving cups or small zip-top cans
- fruit: individual servings cups (applesauce or other fruit)
- cereal or protein bars: (like Nurti-grain or, Granola, etc.)
- plastic utensils: (particularly forks and spoons or even the packets you get with take-out meals work great)
- peanut butter crackers
- Gallon zip-lock bags

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Returning God's Gift of Generosity with Joy

Our Generosity Team's task this year is to highlight God's wish for us to be able to Give generously back to our Creator, less out of duty and more out of Joy! This is a spiritual journey, part discipleship and part letting go and letting God lead us into full agape love. As we move in small steps from a generosity of obedience more and more into one of joyful willingness, we continue to reflect the agape love of our God demonstrated most clearly in Christ. Pastor Todd has already provided a poetic and insightful scriptural underpinning of the Joy of Generosity the last few weeks of September as he illuminated Luke's parables focusing on sharing our God given bounty with all of our neighbors and with the origin of our bounty; with God.

As we begin our planning to soon celebrate 250 years of being a vibrant part of the Body of Christ in Greeneville and Greene county in 2030 there are remarkable possibilities for our congregation to respond with a joyous generosity and visionary response to God's call in 2026. We are fellow travelers along with Reverend Samuel Doak and other pioneers who founded what became First Presbyterian in Greeneville in 1780. We continue to meet along the same stream flowing just one block from the Big Spring where they originally gathered. A shared flowing path of ever-growing generosity of love to our neighbors both near and far. The next 2 months we will continue to encourage you in your walk of learning the spiritual joy of generosity which includes being inspired to pledge, to tithe (or work towards a tithe), and even includes considering sharing your wealth after you have departed this world for the next. The final challenge is to learn how to do so with joy.

continued on page 11

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

October has long been recognized worldwide as Pastor Appreciation Month or Clergy Appreciation Month. The call to honor our church leaders' contributions can be traced back to St. Paul. In establishing the first Christian churches, St. Paul advised the congregation to give "double honor" to the elders of the church who managed the affairs of the church well, "especially those whose work is preaching and teaching" (1 Timothy 5:17). St. Paul further urged Christian communities to acknowledge those "who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you," holding these spiritual leaders "in the highest regard in love because of their work" (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13). – Dolores Smyth

This month is an opportunity for congregations to express gratitude and appreciation for their spiritual leaders. Your Congregational Life Committee would like to encourage the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church to take the opportunity to honor and show your appreciation to Pastor Todd and Pastor Greg. We have been richly blessed by their preaching and teaching.

Christmas Giving Opportunity

Presbyterian Women are now accepting monetary donations for assisting a family in need at Christmas. 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. Please be sure to earmark your check or donation for Christmas family. Your support to this Presbyterian Women ministry is greatly appreciated!

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

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

General Fund Update

	<u>August 2025</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted	\$34,554.00	\$282,086.00
Expenditures	\$31,024.00	\$275,587.00
Offerings	<u>\$52,620.00</u>	<u>\$277,231.00</u>
	\$21,596.00	\$1,644.00

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Continued from page 10 Returning God's Gift of Generosity with Joy

There is something both challenging yet comforting in remembering that we Own Nothing. We are as humans, just renters, here for a short while. As Rev. Karl Travis, a friend of mine who has been in and out of hospice this last year writes, "As I approach my own death, returning God's tithe has a liberating resonance". He also writes in his 2024 book God's Gift of Generosity, "Imagine a congregation.... who speak freely and comfortably about financial giving....and where children share, newlyweds pledge ...and where members converse openly about temptations to excessive accumulation."

In Rev. Doak's time the church service might have a section entitled "Returning God's tithe and offering", everything we have fundamentally belongs to God. While few people tithe at 10% it can remain a long-term goal. What we are asking is for you to pray about your giving and if you feel led, to increase it by, for example, .5 or 1 % or however you respond to the Holy Spirit's nudges. I can attest that in learning to live without the ten percent it actually becomes easy to forget about the sacrifice in your giving, it is replaced by a Joy of feeling generous to our church and to others.

Thank you for your giving this year and for our coming year, and may you learn to experience the true Joy in your Generosity.

The Generosity Team 2026

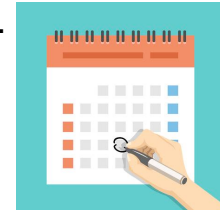
Deacons

will meet Nov. 9th after the
11am worship service

OCTOBER 2025

1	Wednesdays at First Church 2:45 p.m. Activity Programming 5:30 p.m. Family Meal 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	16	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 11:00 a.m. AGAPE Cir. Mtg. <i>(Library)</i>
2	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	18	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
4	11:00 a.m. Myers Pumpkin Patch Outing	19	19th Sunday after Pentecost 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 1:00 p.m. Session Meeting 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.
5	17th Sunday after Pentecost 10 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 4:00 p.m. Zacchaeus Project Sunday School Class <i>(Conference Room)</i> 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.	22	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
8	1:30 p.m. Home Communion 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	23	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Beer & Hymns <i>(Old Oak Taproom)</i>
9	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 mtg 6:00 p.m. E & E Meeting	25	10:30 a.m. Dinner Out <i>(Stoney Knob , Weaverville, NC)</i>
12	18th Sunday after Pentecost 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.	26	23rd Sunday after Pentecost 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 12:00p.m. PW Potato Bar Lunch 7:00 p.m. Library Class ZOOM mtg.
13	Columbus Day	28	12:00 p.m. Faith & Grief
14	5:30 p.m. F & F Meeting	29	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
15	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	30	10:00a.m. Staff Meeting
		31	Halloween 4:00 p.m. Halloween Happenings

Food Bank Needs: Oatmeal and dry Cereal

Dates to remember ...

October 1	WFC
October 4	Myers Pumpkin Patch Outing
October 23	Beer & Hymns
October 26	PW Baked Potato Bar
October 28	Faith & Grief
November 2	Tusculum U. Day
November 5	WFC
November 8	LWW Fundraiser <i>(Cooking with Priscilla)</i>
November 9	Deacons' Meeting
November 14-16	Presbytery Youth Retreat
November 18	Faith & Grief
November 19	Thanksgiving Meal
November 27 & 28	OFFICE CLOSED
December 3	WFC
December 11	Beer & Hymns
December 14	Punch & Cookies
December 16	Faith & Grief