

Stained Glass Gazette

First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, GA

AUGUST 14, 2025

Confronted by Love

Lately, I've been preoccupied with one question: What is love? Scripture says,

"God is love" (1 John 4:8) and that the world will know we are Christ's disciples by our love (John 13:35). When we encounter real love, we are encountering the very presence of God. We glimpse Him in the tender gaze of a mother holding her newborn, or in the raw embrace of someone comforting a grieving friend.

To be confronted by love is to come face to face with God's heart. Love is more than a feeling—it's the deep desire for another's flourishing, and the commitment to help bring it about. Sometimes this means celebrating with someone in joy; other times, it means sitting with them in pain.

In church culture, saying "I love you" or even "God loves you" can easily become a cliché—a slogan of sentimentality without any real substance. Words don't mean much if we claim to love our neighbors but act in ways that devalue them. We do this when we refuse to empathize, when we gossip or label people as "other" without taking the time to understand their story. Those who don't fit neatly into our pre-made checklist of how people should be often become scapegoats for our prejudice.

It's easy to love those who are close to us—family, friends, our church community. But love becomes a challenge when it turns toward the stranger, the outsider, or even the person we see as an enemy. Different politics, religion, language, or culture can tempt us to withhold compassion.

Yet God's love for them is just as fierce and beautiful as it is for us. He sees their fears, wounds, and hopes. He died for them, too.

To be confronted by love means we don't get to choose who receives our compassion. We don't get to put limits on grace. We don't get to walk away when justice costs us something. It's choosing to see the image of God in every person—no exceptions, no loopholes.



So here's the question:

When love steps into your path, will you look away... or let it change you?

Austin Pounds



Our FPC Preschool started August 13th!

Preschool staff from left to right:

Anna Davis (director),

Kelly Bruchey (para pro),

Hope Keigans (1-year teacher),

Marilee Bridges (4-year teacher),

Aubrey Bennett (3-year teacher)

Dawn Davis (1-year assistant),

and Mary Madelyn Jacobs
(2-year teacher).

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

501 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia 31768

Email us at firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-5 and Friday 9-4

*To all who are weary and need rest, to all who mourn and need comfort, to all who are lonely and need friendship,
to all who are glad and would serve others, to all who are complacent and need disturbing, to all who sin and need a Savior,
this Church opens wide its door in the name of Christ, and bids you welcome.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, August 14 at 1 p.m. Card Playing

Friday, August 15 at 4:30 p.m. Cornerstones theatre trip – Swamp Gravy

Monday, August 18 at 5:30 p.m. Cornerstones Anniversary

Tuesday, August 19 at 5:15 p.m. SESSION

Wednesday, August 20 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPER

Thursday, August 21 at 1 p.m. Card Playing

Sunday, August 24 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. CONFIRMATION CLASS

Wednesday, August 27 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPER

Thursday, August 28 at 10:30 a.m. Cornerstones LUNCH ON THE ROAD

(NO 5th Sunday lunch this month. We will have other fellowship lunches scheduled in September & October.)

MUSIC

IN MOULTRIE

**JOIN US FOR FOOD,
LIVE MUSIC, GAMES
& A SERVICE PROJECT!**

Bring your favorite side or
dessert or donate to
our love offering toward the
cost of the food.

Bring your old T-shirts &
linens to help us make
no-sew throws for our friends
at the animal shelter.
Pet food also appreciated.

Team up with others
and test your trivia skills
or play some poker!

Saturday, September 27th from 12-3 pm

First Presbyterian Church, 501 1st St SE, Moultrie, GA 31768

Card Schedule

1 p.m.
These Thursdays:
August 14 and 21



SPECIAL REQUEST FROM HOLLY BEARD

If you reserved a date for flower arrangements August-December, please check the flower calendar in the office lobby and make sure your name is listed by your date. *(Holly misplaced her list and needs our help!)* Call her if you need to add or correct a date 229-798-0669.





WATCH BIBLE STUDY

Join us at WATCH for a class on how to study Scripture. This class will equip you with the tools to read and understand the Bible effectively. We will be using *Grasping God's Word* as our guide book.

JOIN US

BOOKS WILL BE \$25 AMAZON LINK: [HTTPS://A.CO/D/CTN6PXM](https://a.co/d/CTN6PXM)
(FREE IF YOU HAVE KINDLE UNLIMITED)

Email Austin at: dcefirstpresmoultrie@gmail.com if you want to purchase through the church. Make your check out to FPC for \$25 or bring exact cash.

BACKPACKS FOR HOPE

Our church will be supporting our Backpacks ministry to local children during this quarter. During the last school year, our Alice Griner Backpacks for Hope Ministry served 52 kids in 14 different families with bags of food weekly to help them get through the weekend. The ladies who prepare the bags of food can stretch every dollar by purchasing items that are on sale each week of delivery.

So, as we prepare for the new school year, the BEST thing you can do to support the ministry is make a financial donation by writing a separate check to First Presbyterian and put "backpacks" in the memo line. You can bring/send the check to the office or put it in the collection plate.

If you prefer to donate food items in the helping hands box, please only bring select items from this list in September to ensure freshness: Peanut butter, Vienna sausages, individual packaged fruit (raisins, fruit cups), breakfast bars, granola bars, spaghetti sauce (ONLY can or plastic containers - no glass) and Spaghetti noodles.



**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW
FOR THE MISSIONS DINNER
to benefit the Fellowship for
Disadvantaged People in
Bangladesh**

**12 noon to 1:00 pm
on Sunday, September 14**

Fried Chicken, Creamed Corn, Green Beans,
Roll and Peach Cobbler (and Ice Cream and
Iced Tea for those who eat in)

Donation \$10 per plate

SEE PATTY JUNE FOR TICKETS

CONFIRMATION CLASS

2025-
2026

STARTING
SUNDAY,
AUGUST 24
at 6 PM

**Students from 5th-12th grade are
eligible for participating in this class**

This will be a year-long, once-a-month class:

- Students will go through confirmation curriculum as a class, with family, and with mentors (Adults and older Youth)
- Students who complete the class will be welcomed as full members of the church
- Confirmation will be on the 4th Sunday of every month from 6-8 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church

501 First Street SE

Moultrie, Georgia 31768

229-985-3158

Email: firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

www.moultriefirstpres.com

Return Services Requested

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MOULTRIE, GA
PERMIT NO. 162

W.A.T.C.H. SUPPER

Wednesday Nights at the Church

JOIN US WEDNESDAY AT 5:30 P.M.

MENU: Wednesday, August 20

Regular/Children: Spaghetti or Lasagna, Breadsticks, Cream Corn,
Sweet Carrots, Salad Bar

Diet: Baked Chicken, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar

Dessert: Lemon Blueberry Bar, Cookies & Ice Cream

RESERVATIONS

Remember to let Penny know if you need to change or cancel your reservation.

229-985-3158 or firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com