

Stained Glass Gazette

First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, GA

October 9, 2025

**THERE WILL BE NO GAZETTE NEXT WEEK
& THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR FALL BREAK OCT. 16 & 17**

When Love Calls You

What does it mean to love our neighbors as ourselves? We hear this all the time but rarely do we reflect on it for our own lives, our faith, and how we practice that faith both individually and communally.

C.S. Lewis once said, “Love is not an affectionate feeling, but a steady wish for the loved person’s ultimate good as far as it can be obtained.” While you can certainly have affectionate feelings for your neighbor, to truly love them means desiring their flourishing as far as it can be obtained—and then doing what you can to help make that flourishing possible.

We all fall short of this every day. Surely there is someone in our lives, in our community, or even in our church family toward whom we could take an extra step of care, compassion, or understanding. My goal here isn’t to judge, but to invite reflection. Being a Christian means more than attending church on Sunday, bringing food to a potluck, or joining a few committees. It means embodying love in tangible ways—seeing Christ in others and acting accordingly.

In Matthew 25:40, Jesus reminds us, “What you do for the least of these you do for me.” Every act of kindness, every moment of listening, every effort to serve is an act of worship. The goal of faith is to shape us into people who serve and care for others, because in caring and loving others we honor the image of God in them.

Sin is both the omission of love and the rejection of its call—when we harm others instead of seeking their flourishing. We live in systems of sin, upheld by cultures that refuse to honor people as people, made in God’s image, and instead value them only for their productivity or status. If we are to truly love our neighbors, we must be mindful of the needs and struggles people face—both individually and collectively—and then seek to respond with compassion and courage. We will not do this perfectly, and many of us are carrying our own burdens. But healing begins when we acknowledge our brokenness and open ourselves to the transforming love of Christ.

As we move toward Thanksgiving and into the season of Advent, may we see each act of kindness, generosity, or hospitality as a way of honoring Jesus himself. Every time we slow down to listen, share a meal, offer forgiveness, or meet a need, we are participating in the work of Christ in the world. In doing so, we not only prepare our hearts for his coming—we make his presence known among us, here and now.

So, I invite you into a season of responding to love’s call, remembering that you, too, are God’s beloved. You who are reading this may have a roof over your head, food in your belly, and a family who holds you close and cherishes you. But your neighbor might not be as fortunate. Their hunger, their thirst, their loneliness are a cry for us to recognize their belovedness—and to act toward them as we would hope someone might act toward us if our cry were the same.



Austin Pounds

**We need a Children’s Sunday School Teacher for the rest of this month and November.
Please contact Austin at dcefirstpresmoultrie@gmail.com.**

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

Sunday, October 12 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. OUR TIME (kids and youth) >>>>>

Monday, October 13 at 10 a.m. CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Monday, October 13 at 12:30 p.m. CORNERSTONES MEETING

Monday, October 13 at 7 p.m. PW EVENING CIRCLE

Tuesday, October 14 at 10 a.m. PW MORNING CIRCLE

Wednesday, October 15 NO WATCH SUPPER (Sunbelt AgEXPO week)

Thursday & Friday, October 16 & 17 FALL BREAK – OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, October 16—deadline to sign up for THRIVE spring retreat at Epworth

Sunday, October 19 – Stewardship Campaign begins

Tuesday, October 21 at 5:15 p.m. SESSION

Wednesday, October 22 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPER

Thursday, October 23 at 11 a.m. CORNERSTONES LUNCH ON THE ROAD

Sunday, October 26 FAMILY HERITAGE SUNDAY with covered dish lunch

Sunday, October 26 from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. CONFIRMATION CLASS

Monday-Wednesday, October 27-29 CORNERSTONES RETREAT - Epworth

Wednesday, October 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. FPC/FMC FALL FESTIVAL

Thursday, October 30 from 10 a.m. to noon FPC Preschool Fall Festival

Saturday, November 1 at 1 p.m. Beverly Cagle Montgomery memorial service

Sunday, November 2 at 5:30 p.m. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



MEET IN STEGALL BUILDING

STEWARDSHIP BEGINS OCT. 19



**SHOW
YOUR
SUPPORT
WITH A
PLEDGE
for 2026**

SIGN UP FOR A CHURCH DISCUSSION MEETING

We have scheduled congregational meetings during the month of October to discuss current issues at our church.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday	October 21	3:00 – 4:30 PM
Wednesday	October 22	2:00 – 3:30 PM
Thursday	October 23	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Saturday	October 25	9:00 – 10:30 AM
Alt 1 Wednesday	October 22	10:00 – 11:30 AM
Alt 2 Thursday	October 23	1:00 – 2:30 PM

There will be a maximum of 20 slots for each meeting and the sign-up sheets will be in a notebook in the Fellowship Hall or you can call or email the church office to ask them to sign you up at your preferred time. Each meeting will last a maximum of 1 ½ hours.

Following these meetings, the information gathered will be summarized and circulated back out to the congregation. At that point, we will call a congregational meeting to have a formal vote from the membership on whether or not to enter into discernment.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Sunday, November 2, 2025

5:30 p.m. ♦ Sanctuary

At our annual Remembrance Service, candles will be lit in memory of those who have passed on to the church triumphant in the last year as well as anyone who has passed that had an impact on your faith journey.

As each name is spoken, a candle will be lit and a bell will be chimed. In our Reformed theological tradition, the lighting of a candle signifies the light of Christ in the life of each of those who is named. The chiming of the bell signifies the presence of the Holy Spirit with them now in death, even as the same Spirit dwells with us in life.

Please join us for this very moving service, a touching tribute to those who have gone before us.

SIGN UP NOW for the Spring Retreat
Email: dcefirstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

THRIVE RETREAT

Theme:
Sacred Ordinary: Finding
Rhythms of Grace, Rest, and
Joy in Every Day Life

MARCH 13-15, 2026

EPWORTH BY THE SEA

For Details and Pricing see Austin
Pounds

\$20 off Registration if signed up

By OCTOBER 16th!



Fall
FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29
5 - 7 P.M.

GAMES, FOOD, PRIZES, & FALLTASTIC FUN!
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Joint Event Between
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
& FIRST METHODIST

Presbyterian Women: Bereavement Meals

When a member or friend of the church passes away the Presbyterian Women usually offers to prepare a meal for the family. If anyone would like to bring a dish of food, please let the office know so your name can be added to the contact list. Everyone is always welcome to contribute to the meal.

HELPING HANDS COLLECTION BOX

This quarter, First Presbyterian will be collecting for the Colquitt County **FOOD BANK**. Bring in items like canned food and peanut butter to help local hungry people.

October 26 Family Heritage Sunday

We will have a Kirkin' o' the Tartans during
our Reformation Sunday Service at 11 a.m.
Bring your favorite side or dessert
for the **covered dish lunch**.
Fried chicken provided by the church.
Invite your friends and family.

Week 2 winners of **Spot the Scot**:
Leila Hall and Melody Jenkins.



Remembering Beverly



The family of Beverly Cagle Montgomery invites you to join them at a memorial service at the First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, on **Saturday, November 1st at 1 p.m.**

Following the service, please join us at 3 p.m. at the farm (2250 Bay Rockyford Rd.) for a celebration of Beverly's life with her favorite foods and the Georgia/Florida game.

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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W.A.T.C.H. SUPPER

Wednesday Nights at the Church

JOIN US WEDNESDAY AT 5:30 P.M.

SKIP NEXT WEDNESDAY!

NEXT SUPPER MENU: Wednesday, October 22

Everyone: Bean Soup, Tomato Soup, Chicken N Dumplings, Sandwiches & Fixings

Dessert: Fruit Tray Treats, Cookies, Ice Cream

NO WATCH SUPPER ON THESE TWO NIGHTS: OCT. 15 & OCT. 29

RESERVATIONS

229-985-3158 or firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com



Help Needed Oct. 22nd at 3:30 p.m.

We need to complete the ASPCA DOG MATS PROJECT begun at a church event in late September. We have an opportunity to finish the mats. All you have to be able to do is cut on a straight line and tie a knot! Help wanted. We are going to meet Wednesday, October 22nd at 3:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall before WATCH supper. Please come and lend a hand.

Linda Stegall & Susan Turner