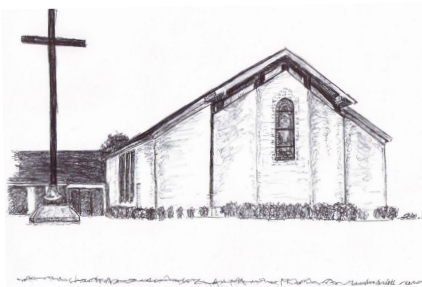


# Presby News

OCTOBER 2023



## FROM THE PASTOR . . .

The Preacher of Ecclesiastes says "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Someone needs to tell the heat that it's October and time for more Fall-like weather!

I love the summer and usually don't complain about the heat. Summer is clearly my favorite time of year. Even so, I like the change of the seasons. I love to watch some of the leaves turn yellow or red. I notice the tallow trees and the maple leaves changing colors. I enjoy the brisk mornings and the cooler nights at the football stadiums. The smell of burning leaves in the early dusk wafts over the air teasing me with the urge to roast some hot dogs and make some smores.

Change can be good. The change of seasons reminds us of the design and order that God established for the world from the beginning. (Ironically, change in our world also illustrates the unchanging grace and character of God!) Change can help us keep our perspective on the present. It's easy for us to get accustomed to the same routine and pattern. It's easy to lose the vibrance of life if everyday remained the same as every other day. So, we must acknowledge change in order to adjust and move forward. In a strange way, change becomes part of the routine.

Like the change of the season, we might see some changes in our worship as well. Oh, most of them will be like the changing leaves on the trees. We expect and even anticipate them. For example, we are nearing the time we change the order of worship for Advent. We might also see some minor changes as well. We might see some elements of worship at different times in the order of service. We might hear some different hymns and songs of worship. I know the colors of our vestments will change from green to purple and to white. All of these will come with no surprise. We might not even notice them at all if I didn't mention it in this article.

Everything we do in worship happens for a reason. Nothing is simply tacked on as part of some routine or just to check off a box to say "Oh yea, we do that." We order our worship with the intention of helping us come before God to offer our gratitude and praise. We come before God to give him our troubles, seek his presence, and hear his voice. Everything we do comes with a purpose. It's a blessing to be able to join with others to celebrate in a special moment when God and humanity gather for the purpose of simply spending time together.

When we worship, we can expect one more change. We can expect God to change us and our world. Thanks be to God that He never gives up on shaping us to become what HE knows we can become. And thanks be to God that He is patient with us as we tend to change slowly.

Grace and Peace,  
Bro. Greg



## SPECIAL DATES

- Oct. 1     9:00 am Brookdale Worship  
            11:00 am Worship/Communion
- Oct. 9     Columbus Day
- Oct. 16    World Food Day



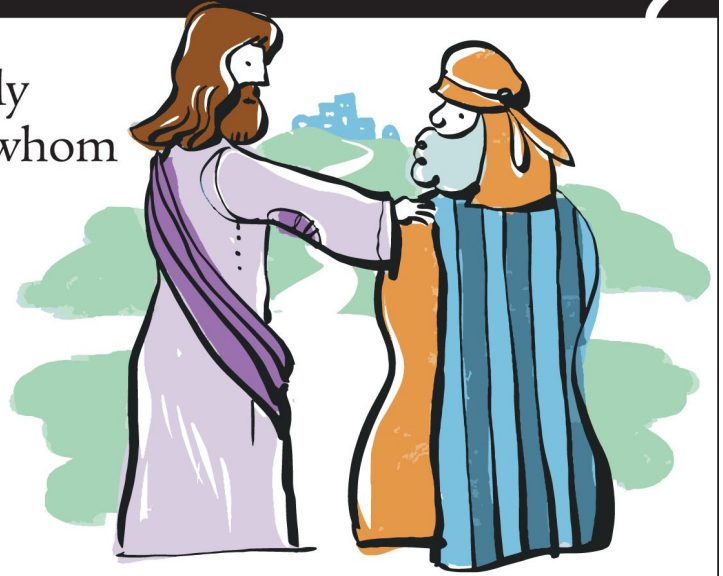


## Bible Quiz



We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

- A. John
- B. Paul of Tarsus
- C. Joseph of Arimathea
- D. Cleopas



Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)

October is

*Pastor*  
APPRECIATION MONTH

*We Appreciate You, Pastor Greg! Thank You For All You Do!*



## *October Responders Schedule*

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
<b>October 1</b>	Robert Kennedy	Elizebette Kennedy	<b>Communion Team:</b> Bill Higgins & Elizebette Kennedy
<b>October 8</b>	Robert Kennedy	Elizebette Kennedy	
<b>October 15</b>	Robert Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Elizebette Kennedy	
<b>October 22</b>	Robert Kennedy	Elizebette Kennedy	
<b>October 29</b>	Robert Kennedy	Elizebette Kennedy	



## **First Presbyterian Church**

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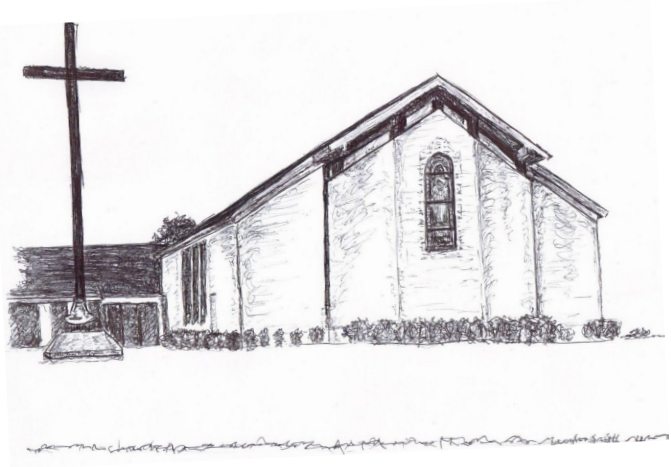
Greg Carroll, *Interim Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Music Director*

Jennifer Ciobanu, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Administrative Assistant*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

**Come experience God's love at First Presbyterian Church**

Sunday School—9:45 a.m., Worship—11:00 a.m.