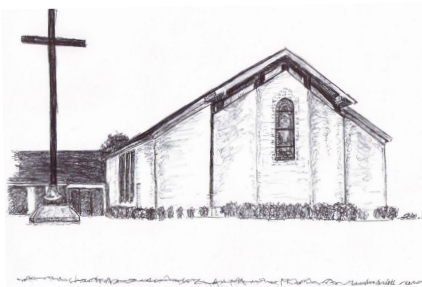


Presby News

SEPTEMBER 2023



FROM THE PASTOR . . .

I can't say life is back to normal. I'm not totally convinced "normal" exists. Still, we are seeing life get closer to normal. We are beginning to settle back into the routine of school season, Labor Day, some lower temperatures, and even some rain! Praise the Lord for rain!

September always starts with a good three-day weekend with Labor Day. While we claim to celebrate the work ethic of our citizens and our country, it pretty much sends the signal that summer is over. The weekend is good to spend time with family and get a little extra rest. But Labor Day also marks the beginning of another season: hunting season! Soon we will be seeing hunters with camo and four-wheelers in parking lots and on the highways.

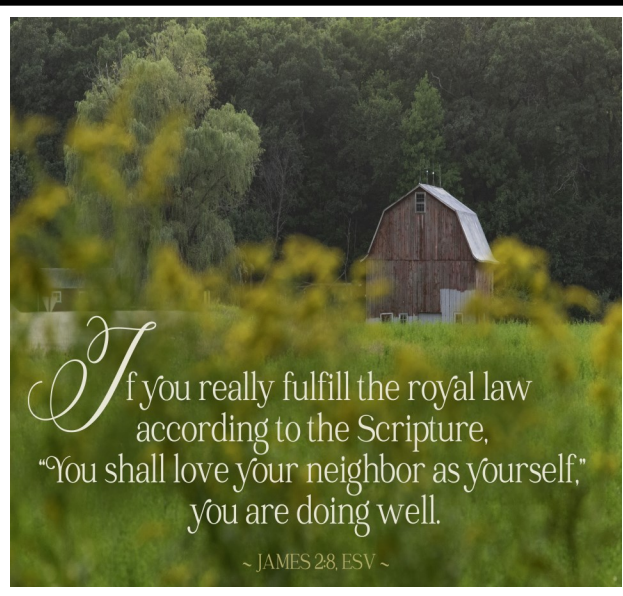
The season of school is in full swing. The sound of football games with the cheering fans and bands playing in the stands fill the air with excitement. Well, unless you are LSU after Saturday's game. I'm not sure they have started their season after hearing the score versus Florida! Students, teachers, and parents are stepping back into the routine of sports, practices, homework, and a host of other responsibilities.

Even the weather seems to be getting back into a more predictable routine! I am thankful that the temperatures have dropped. Oh, it's still hot. But at least the temperature is closer to typical fall weather than the 106 degrees we have seen. With the temperature dropping, we have seen a few raindrops doing the same! I am so very thankful that God has sent a few showers to both cool and refresh the earth. I just walked in the rain without a care as I walked into the grocery store. Let's keep praying for rain and more seasonal temperatures.

I think about the seasons of life. Certainly, we can look at our world and recognize spring, summer, fall, and winter. We can also identify the seasons of life in school, football, or hunting. The changing of our routine and patterns with new seasons reminds me that God's love never changes. The change of seasons is a promise of God's eternal care for us. Like the rainbow, God gave us the change of seasons to remind us that God's grace reaches out to us forever. Genesis 8:21-22 says, "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

Thanks be to God for his everlasting promises to us and the reminders that He loves us. He loved us first and best. It's easy for us to forget that God's love reaches out to us long before we hold our arms up to Him. May God's love fill our lives with confidence, excitement, and grace.

Grace and Peace,
Bro. Greg



SPECIAL DATES

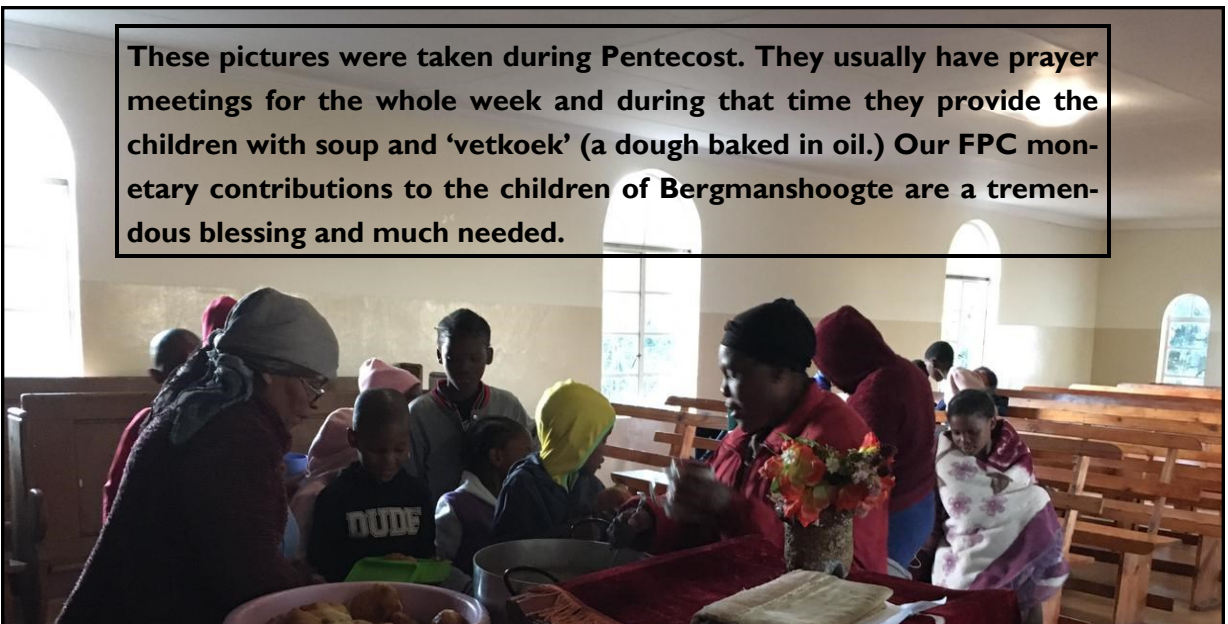
- Sept 3** 9:00 am Brookdale Worship
11:00 am Worship/Communion
- Sept 4** Labor Day (*Office Closed*)
- Sept 21** International Day of Peace



**SOUTH AFRICA MISSION (Bergmanshoogte, South Africa)
PICTURES TAKEN DURING PENTECOST**



These pictures were taken during Pentecost. They usually have prayer meetings for the whole week and during that time they provide the children with soup and 'vetkoek' (a dough baked in oil.) Our FPC monetary contributions to the children of Bergmanshoogte are a tremendous blessing and much needed.



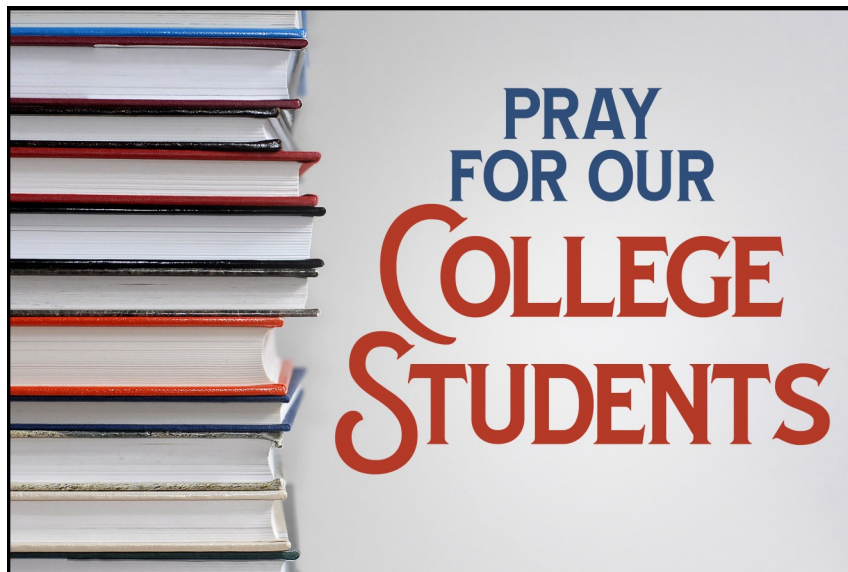
September Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
September 3	Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	Communion Team: Elizebette Kennedy & Bill Higgins
September 10	Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	
September 17	Robert Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Bill Higgins	
September 24	Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	

SEPTEMBER



Martha Higgins	9/8
Marjorie Bengé	9/22
Nancy Davis	9/25
Laurie Morris	9/26



First Presbyterian Church

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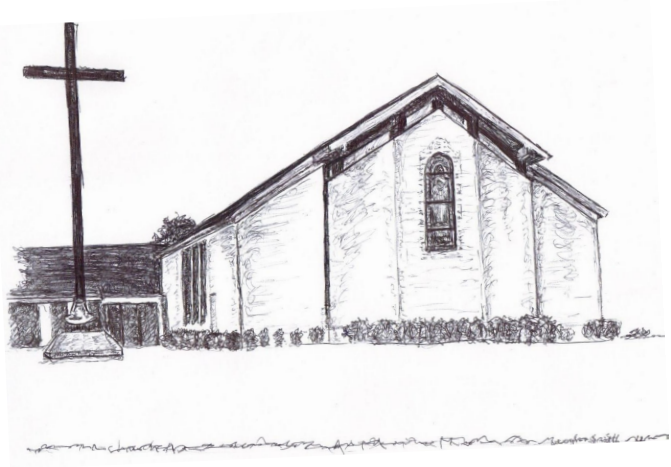
Greg Carroll *Interim Pastor*

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.