

First Presbyterian Church

www.fpcjacksontn.org

GROWING IN GRACE. SERVING IN LOVE.

AUGUST 2022



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DID YOU KNOW?

Where were the church's Carillon bells created?

The bells were founded and tuned in Annecy, France, at the Paccard Foundry, and in 1950 arrived in Jackson.



from the pastor

"And let us consider how we may provoke (paroxymos) one another toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:24-25

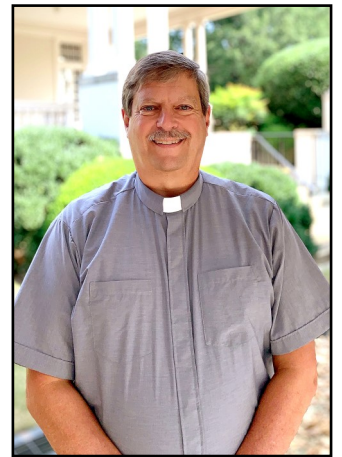
The time is here for us to provoke one another to love and good deeds! The verb "paroxymos" (provoked), is only used a few times in Scripture: once in the **17th chapter of Acts** we are told that Paul was "paroxymos," provoked, when he sees people worshipping idols. And then in the **13th chapter of I Corinthians** we are told that love does not let itself be "paroxymos" (provoked). In Acts 15, when Paul and Barnabus split up they are said to be "paroxymos," provoked, with one another.

So there's a provoking precedent, and occasionally we all need to be urgently reminded that we have certain obligations as Christians. For example, it would be easy for us to ignore the problems of our community. It would be easy for us to close our minds and our ears to those who speak and act and look differently. It

would be easy to watch live stream instead of attend worship in person...

But that's not what Jesus did, and that's not what you want, either. We know that God has called us to something better than that; something more than that. You know and I know that we are not doing all we can for the Kingdom of Heaven in our lives; We are not giving all we could give; We are not dedicating enough of our energy, our enthusiasm, our talent, our resources to the work of Jesus Christ. And we need to be challenged, even provoked, to live lives of purity and integrity; we need to be challenged to be better than we are.

So let me provoke you! We need you back in church, but more importantly, you need to be back in church. I am a shepherd, and the flock here has been scattered. We have endured Covid, we have endured a year of online worship only, we have endured the death of many of our most faithful members, we have endured multiple failures of our physical facilities, and we have endured three months of people going out of town on weekends. Some of us have been scattered, and it's time we took seriously those



words we read from Hebrews: *"And let us consider how we may provoke (paroxymos) one another toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together..."*

Edward Everett Hale, a Unitarian minister, wrote a little poem called *"Ten Times One Is Ten"*:

I'm only one, but I am one.

I can't do everything, but I can do something.

What I can do, I ought to do.

And what I ought to do, by the grace of God

I will do.

Let's get to work, folks. Let's get back in church.



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SESSION

Class of 2022

Chris Alexander
Mark Harris
Judy Herron
Shirley Nelson
Jamie Richardson
Jennifer Flanagan

Class of 2023

Marian Harbin
Benny Houston
Twyla Morgan
Robert Reeves
Lisa Spurlin
Mike Taylor

Class of 2024

Lesa Barton
Jim Campbell
Donald Carp
Jan Jones
Vivian Pauley
Eden Smith

OUR VISION

We are called to be a faithful and inclusive congregation which enthusiastically glorifies God in our worship, education, nurture and service through the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

fpcjacksontn.org

service + missions

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR
**A PLACE
TO SERVE?**

**GOD HAS LED OUR CONGREGATION
TO SERVE IN AREAS SUCH AS:**

RIFA
Working
in the
**RIFA Soup
Kitchen**

**Earth Care
Congregation**



**Meals
on Wheels
deliveries**

**NaCoMe
Service Day**



**Blessing Box
Donations**



The Read Team



Room in the Inn

**Missions
local/abroad**

**RIFA
Snack
Backpack**



**Assembling
Gratitude
Baskets**



**DCS
Christmas
Kids**

Butterfly Garden



EVERYONE HAS A PLACE TO SERVE

**Contact: Jan Jones, cadljones@yahoo.com
Mark Harris, markharris2026@hotmail.com**

sunday school + small groups

FIND THE GROUP THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU!

First Presbyterian offers several Sunday School classes and small groups.

Check out our class descriptions and find a match for your interests!

ROTATION

In the Workshop Rotation Sunday School, we teach the same Bible story for 4 to 5 weeks in a row to all our elementary students. Each week classes rotate into a new and unique workshop (art, video, game, drama, cooking, Lego, etc.).

QUEST

QUEST is offered on Wednesday evenings for children ages pre-K to 5th grade. Mrs. Laura Byrd will lead games and Bible activities for ages 1st -5th grade. Ms. Ellen McClune will lead age appropriate games and Bible activities for pre-K and K. Ms. Lindsey Patterson will share exciting movement, instruments, and music with pre-K thru 5th grade. Come find new ways to learn about scripture through activities and music!

CONNECTIONS

The Connections Class will begin each session by briefly discussing a question taken from Don McKim's book, *Presbyterian Questions – Presbyterian Answers*. Don is a member of our Presbytery and does a great job of explaining some of the things we see and hear around the church in terms we can understand. For example, "What is the Incarnation?" "Can I lose my salvation?" and "What is the Priesthood of all Believers?"

SMALL GROUPS

Don enables us to come to a basic understanding of some difficult concepts in just a few short paragraphs.

DIRECTIONS

Webb Telescope: Immense Universe and we are not its center! Church: Identified by politics—divides a nation! How did we get here? Where do we go from here?

FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship Class is an adult class made up of singles, and couples, of many varied ages. We meet in the Library immediately after Worship on Sunday Morning. We have class members and some outside guests, as leaders of this class. Our year of study is planned at the beginning of each Sunday School year right before Rally Day. We use books, DVD's, and Bible Studies for our studies for the year. Some of the topics we will be studying this year are: *God Is In Control* by Jerry Bridges, *Book of Signs* by Dr. David Jeremiah, *Miracles, Crucial Questions* by R. C. Sproul, *The Angels of Christmas* by Susan Robb, book and DVD, *The Bible Jesus Read* by Philip Yancey, *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane

Ortlund-Book and DVD, and *The Case For Faith* by Lee Strobel, book and DVD.

SEEKERS

The Seekers Class will study the Holy Spirit, exploring the Old and New Testament scriptures on the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. It is the least understood of the Trinity, even though there isn't a person anywhere who can be a Christian without the Holy Spirit. There is not a person who can follow Christ without the help of the Holy Spirit. Discover the biblical promises relating to the spirit and the life-changing impacts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Regardless of the topic, the Seekers class will focus on the Bible as our primary source of divine inspiration and revealed truth.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women have 4 Circles or groups. We have 2 day circles and 1 night circle. Each circle has their own Bible study but we all work together for the church and community. Some of the organizations we support are ARM, Dream Center, Hands Up, RIFA, Threads of Love and Women of Hope. We also support some world wide ministries. Our offerings and pledges go to support these groups as well as our time. We are faithful to our Lord and we want to be his hands and feet.

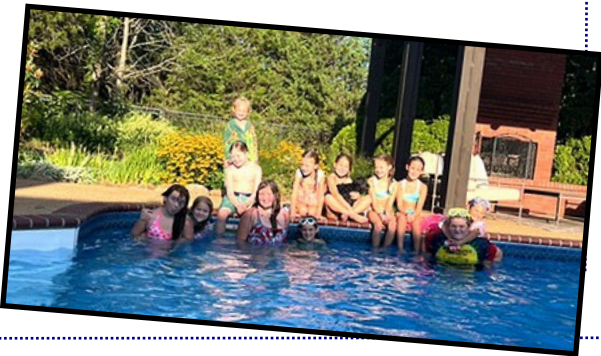
the children's corner

SUMMERTIME FUN AND THE RETURN OF OUR FALL CHILDREN’S PROGRAMMING!



OUR “MONUMENTAL” VBS IN JUNE WAS AWESOME!

WE MADE A SPLASH AT THE BACK-TO-SCHOOL SWIM PARTY HOSTED BY THE PICKENS FAMILY



COMING UP

BACK-TO-SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE

August 17 @ 6pm, following dinner

ACOLYTE TRAINING

August 21 @ 10:30 in the sanctuary (2nd grade + older)



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Midweek worship time for kids to sing, play and connect with God.

(Following Wednesday night meal)

JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR OUR ROTATION SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

ROTATION SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ROTATION STORY Mary + Martha - Finding the balance!

	AUG. 21	AUG. 28	SEPT. 4	SEPT. 11
K-2	Rally Day	cooking	games	drama
3-5	Rally Day	cooking	games	drama



REV, COURTNEY BOWEN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH
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MOLLY RICHARDSON, YOUTH DIRECTOR
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GOOD TIMES WITH OUR YOUTH!



WE HOPE ALL OUR youth members had a fantastic summer break! We enjoyed a swim party at the Thompson's home to kick-off the summer and recently we enjoyed time together at NaCoMe Family Camp (although Pastor Courtney was not a fan of watching them on the Giant Swing!).

We're looking forward to a fun Fall, full of opportunities for fellowship, learning and growing in Christ, and service and discipleship. And we want to especially welcome our rising 6th graders to our wacky group!

We are truly blessed to have a great group of kids and it is a joy to watch their faith grow and deepen. Thank you, FPC, for all you do to support the Christian formation of our young people!

WAYS TO CONNECT

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays 10:45 – 11:45

Scripture Study + Discussion

YOUTH CONNECTION

Sundays 5:00 – 6:30

Fellowship + Discipleship

WEDNESDAY SMALL GROUPS

Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:15

Devotional Time

Instagram: fpcjacksontn

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, TN



session highlights

FINANCIAL UPDATE – JULY 2022

	Actual Year-to-date	Budget Year-to-date	Actual Last Yr-to-date
2022 Pledges	\$ 460,579	\$ 415,911	\$ 446,013
Total Contributions	\$ 527,332	\$ 478,911	\$ 500,913
Total Income	\$ 565,746	\$ 575,734	\$ 519,263
Total Expenses	\$ 561,943	\$ 575,734	\$ 509,648
Net Income	\$ 3,803	\$ 0	\$ 9,615

Pledges can now be paid using ACH bank drafts on a weekly or monthly basis. If you are interested, please contact Machele Daniel-Hall at 422-1591.

For questions or more details on the financial report, contact Russell Cook (Treasurer) at 694-1991 or Machele Daniel-Hall (Financial Secretary) at 422-1591.

amazon smile

EARN FREE MONEY FOR FPC

Do you shop on Amazon & want to give free money to First Presbyterian?

If so, just go to:
smile.amazon.com and select First Presbyterian Church Jackson and then start shopping (Note: you must be on smile.amazon.com and not just amazon.com).

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .05% of your purchase price of eligible products to FPC.

Big Red
Rally Day

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21
9:30 AM

prayer concerns

PRAYER PROGRAM:

Each week we randomly select individuals or families for whom we encourage everyone to pray. During the coming weeks, please pray for:

AUGUST 7: Nora Alexander; Byron Elam; Jake, Carly + Ella Fry

AUGUST 14: David + Catherine Greene; Martha Hanserd; Joey, Lori, Mae + James Howell

AUGUST 21: Randy + Vivian Jones; Samantha Morgan
Steve + Sandra Lawson



AUGUST 28: Ann Schmidt; Diane Sklensky; Evelyn Taylor

ASSISTED LIVING + EXTENDED CARE:

Jackson Meadows

Bill + Sandra Dellastatious
#234

Brookdale Jackson Oaks

Helen Johnson, #D65
Martha Hanserd, #E85
Evelyn Taylor, #A7

Elmcroft

Bob Elam, #215



PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tom Brimm
Jimmy East
The family of Melinda Stone
upon her death (Pam Bowers' sister)
All teachers and students
Carrie Northcutt (Stacey McAdams' sister)
Steve + Sandra Lawson
Richard and Susan Hellinger
(Virginia Conger's son-in-law
and daughter)
Robert + Tammy Daugherty
Kay Motley (Friend of Benita Brown)
Rick + Nelda McCune
Debbie Shires and family upon
the death of John Shires
Sherry Cole (Courtney Hiscox's mother)
Bill Lawrence
Jimmy Stewart
Smith Pack
(Grandson of Eden + Amy Smith)
Chris Amos
(Friend of Kakky Tanner)
David and Eleanor Hooper
(Susan Reeves' parents)
Gina Sorensen
(Stephannie Williams' aunt)
Talon Haley
(Friend of Greg Abbott's |
diagnosed with cancer)
Selah Cali
(Friend of the Hiscox family | cancer)
The Lesnick Family, Ukraine
(Friends of Benny and Linda Houston)
Phillip and Ann Evans
(Carol Carnell's brother-in-law
and sister)

Charles + Ann Mayo
Paul Caudill (Friend of Susan Boutwell)
Ann Marie Kelly
(Friend of Eden Smith | bone cancer)
Willow Stump (Hannah Smith's niece)
Kay Moody
(Benita Brown's sister-in-law | cancer)
Phillip Pickens (Jody Pickens' brother)
Marilyn Swaim
(Richard Swaim's daughter-in-law |
cancer)
Suzy Benedetti
(Benita Brown's cousin | cancer)
James Hargrove
(Lori Howell's uncle)
Diane Greer
(friend of Benita Brown | cancer)
Tyler Stevenson (Sherry Taylor's son)
+ all law enforcement across the nation
Blake Stevenson
(ongoing recovery |
Sherry Taylor's grandson)
Anne Garrard
Those in nursing homes + assisted living
Victims of violence
Healthcare and service providers
The health of our nation and world
Disaster victims-all areas involved
Cancer patients on our hearts
Mission Partners in Peru
Unspoken concerns
Prayers for the health of our church
+ community
Israel + Palestine + the Middle East
The people of Ukraine + Eastern Europe
The US Military



OUR MISSION:

First Presbyterian Church seeks to provide opportunities for people to encounter the life-changing presence of Christ through: preaching, the study of scripture, engagement in worship, faithful stewardship and service to others in the church and community.

If you have an article for the newsletter, please send it to Emily Morrow, Assistant to the Pastors, at: fpcemily@eplus.net



**WE LOVED OUR TIME @
NACOME FAMILY CAMP 2022**

Mark your calendars for next year: July 28-30, 2023