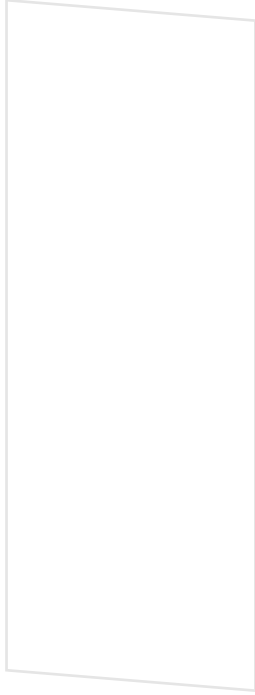


August 2024



First Presbyterian Church of Parkersburg
GATHERING. GROWING. CARING. GOING
 1341 JULIANA STREET
 PARKERSBURG, WV 26101

Phone: 304-422-5426

Fax: 304-428-0372

E-mail: office@fpcpborgwv.org

Visit us at:

www.fpcpborgwv.org

 facebook.com/fpcpborg

WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sunday Worship:
 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 livestream on Facebook - 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church
 & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.



Article Deadline: 15th of each month

If you would like to be added to either our email or postal mailing list, please contact the church office to leave your name and preferred contact information: 304-422-5426 or office@fpcpborgwv.org.



first things
FIRST
 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 2024



WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE

First Presbyterian Church of Parkersburg
GATHERING. GROWING. CARING. GOING

1341 Juliana St. ■ Parkersburg, WV 26101 ■ 304-422-5426



For many, we are in the last weeks of summer. Administration, teachers, and students will soon be heading back to school. As many are starting to prepare for a new school year, I'd like to lift them up to God using parts of a prayer by Rev. Amanda M. Rohrs:



Dear God, you are our Teacher, Creator, and Guide through life's classroom.

As we prepare for the beginning of a new school year, we ask your blessings on our students, parents, and teachers. ...

We thank you for our teachers, who fill our children's minds with knowledge, who nurture their spirits, and who protect them while in their care. We thank you for our principals, counselors, custodians, nurses, classroom aides, cafeteria workers and bus drivers who take care of our students. May they receive the support they need and the honor they deserve as they live into their calling to educate this generation. Bless our teachers in their sacred work.



We thank you for our parents, grandparents, and other childcare providers who support and encourage their students in all that they do, and who spend countless hours helping with homework, volunteering in classrooms, and driving the carpools. Bless our parents in their sacred work.

We thank you for our students, for the blessing that they are to us. Strengthen their bodies, minds and spirits throughout this school year, that their knowledge might grow and their imaginations soar with new thoughts, new achievements, and new dreams. Bless our students in all that they do, work and play, for it is all sacred work.

In the name of Jesus, the Great Teacher, we pray. Amen.

Blessings and Peace!

Pastor Annie

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

To him belongs eternal praise.

—Psalm 111:10

"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE



GATHERED IN MY NAME,
THERE AM I AMONG THEM."

MATTHEW 18:20, ESV



† "Worship is like corrective lenses for our souls, bringing God clearer into view. That's important for all of us, especially when life goes off the rails."

—Louie Giglio

† "Worship is transcendent wonder. Wonder for which there is now no limit or measure."

—Thomas Carlyle

† "I feel as if God had, by giving the Sabbath, given 52 springs in each year."

—Samuel Taylor Coleridge

August



- 4 Jess Linville
- 11 Becky McGinnis
- 18 Lloyd Cowell
- 25 Melanie Thompson

Sept. 1 Kathy Hinkley

USHERS THIS MONTH

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4th Greg Boso
Joyce Boso
Sharon Flanagan
Dave Karr | 18th Morgan James
Dave Karr
Amy Leach
Ann Leach |
| 11th Kyle Allen
Carl Gheen
Kelsey Siers
Randall Siers | 25th Justin Bosley
Mikki Bosley
Bill Niday
Susan Niday |

Communion Servers



August 4th

- Katie Buchanan
- Morgan James
- Amy Leach



Happy Birthday!

Sarah Alfred	3rd
Charlotte James	5th
Marvetta Coffman	8th
Sandra Cowell	12th
Carder Dennison	17th
Carol Sanders	19th
Greg Boso	20th
Ruth Ann Huddle	21st
Tiffany Gibson	22nd
Carol Ramsey	22nd
Randall Siers	23rd
Frances Linville	24th
Ashley Roney	25th
Valerie O'Dell	28th
Pastor Annie	31st
Amy Rogers	31st



Happy Anniversary!

Joe & Kathy Hinkley	2nd
Chad & Kristin Holliday	12th
Bob & Rita Fish	17th
Wayne & Carol Sanders	23rd
Jim & Coraletta Houck	28th
Dan & Judi White	30th
Bob & Nancy Cutlip	31st



A NOTE FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE



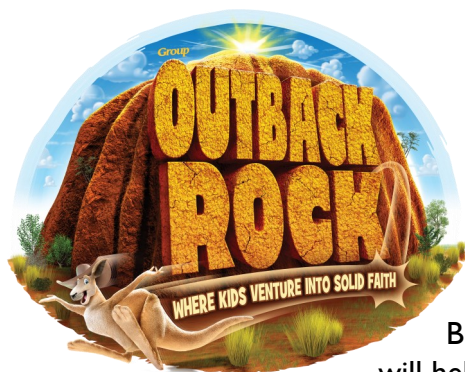
The Mission Committee would like to say a big "Thank You" to our wonderful First Presbyterian family for helping make our most recent Community Meal and *Neighbors In Need* effort a success. On June 23rd, we served about 25 people from the community and were able to send several people home with boxes of food for homebound family. We had some familiar faces and some new faces join us, including several children, and we also had lots of volunteers from the congregation. Our *Neighbors In Need* effort was able to send everyone home with a bag of healthy snacks. Your donations and support make an impact on our community, so **Thank You!**

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At our most recent meeting, we discussed a new effort that the committee would like to add to their schedule: sponsoring Kanawha Elementary School. Katie Buchanan approached us about the need for clean, gently-used clothing and new socks and underwear for the students at Kanawha. The committee unanimously agreed to help. Our next steps are to work on funding to purchase the new socks and underwear and plan a drive for gently-used kids' clothes and shoes. We will also reach out to the principle and school nurse to facilitate the efforts and make sure we are collecting what they need the most. If you would like to help with this effort, please reach out to the committee.



First Presbyterian VBS



Friday, Aug. 2, 6 - 8:30 p.m. / **Saturday, Aug. 3, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

(Following lunch on Saturday the kids will enjoy a bouncy house and waterslide.)

This VBS is filled with team-building games, cool Bible songs, and multisensory Bible adventures that will help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is

hands-on, kids may get a little messy, so be sure to send them in play clothes & sturdy shoes.) Kids will also participate in an outreach project called **Projects-With-a-Purpose**® that will let the kids in our community show God's love to others. For online REGISTRATION, visit our Facebook page [facebook.com/fpcpborg](https://www.facebook.com/fpcpborg).



The next **Community Meal** will be held on **September 22nd, from 2:00-3:30**. We will serve spaghetti with marinara sauce, meatballs, salad and garlic bread. We plan to do more advertising for this meal, so we expect a lot more people to attend. Any help with food prep, serving and cleanup will be greatly appreciated. Our *Neighbors In Need* effort will be **hygiene items**, so please start saving any small hygiene items, such as soap, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpastes, deodorants and travel size shampoos for the drive that will start August 11th. If you would like to help with our next meal, please see Pastor Annie or Katelyn Hickman for more information - keep an eye out for signups in the foyer.



Finally, we would like to invite anyone interested in the work that we do to join us for our **next meeting: August 5th at 7 p.m.**, in Room 204 downstairs. We would like to say a big "Welcome!" to Nancy Cutlip and Kelsey Siers who attended our last meeting. If you want to know more about what we are working on, offer your thoughts and advice, or just come see what the Mission Committee is all about, feel free to join us.



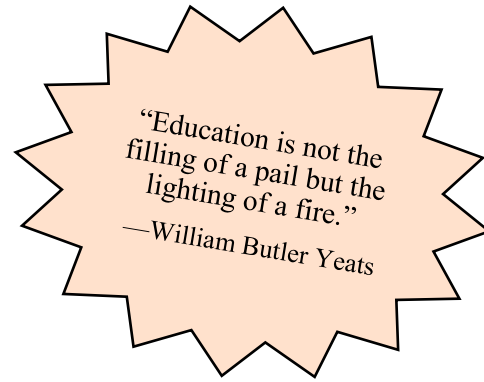
"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

—Matthew 25:40



Hey, Kids! Bring your backpacks to church on Sunday, August 18.

During 10:30 Worship we will pray for God's blessing and protection as you begin a new school year.



Sunday, August 18, is also Promotion Sunday for those kids moving up to a new Sunday School class.

Promotion
SUNDAY

Sunday School's Origins

Englishman Robert Raikes, born in 1735, was a Christian layman who was pained to see unschooled children working six days a week in factories or mines. On Sundays, children roamed the streets, often getting into trouble. Most didn't know how to read or write and knew nothing about Christ or the church.



As Raikes labored to reform England's prison system, he noticed that many children were imprisoned, stirring him to action on their behalf. He arranged for halls and homes to be used for educational purposes on Sundays, the one day children didn't have to work. He found volunteers to teach reading, writing and math, as well as the Bible and Christian beliefs.

The first Sunday school class was held in July 1780. Amazingly, by 1788 some 250,000 children were attending such schools. This occurred despite some people's opposition to the education of lower-class children.

Countless boys and girls have attended Sunday school classes since then, thanks to Raikes, who brought Christ's light and love to children around the world.

CONGRATULATIONS TO VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER: **KELLY BECKETT!**

We are excited to announce that **KELLY BECKETT** is the honoree for the quarter ended June 30, and want to thank her for her ministry. Kelly wears many hats at First Presbyterian -she leads our Sunday School youth programs, works with our music programs, directs the Handbell Choir, organizes Family Fun Day, established and maintains the Storybook Walk in our Prayer Garden, writes grants, and many other things big and small. She did much of this while recovering from hip surgery and wheelchair bound. She is talented, gifted and selfless in her work. May God continue to Bless You and support you, Kelly!



In their effort to better communicate with the congregation, the Session has listed below the highlights from their **JULY** meeting:



- After reviewing the nominations for Volunteer of the Quarter, Session selected Kelly Beckett as the honoree for the quarter ended June 30.
- Session has been reviewing our church's "Declaration of Trust" so that it aligns with the PCUSA Book of Order. After multiple edits and meeting with the Founders Trust Board of Governors, Session approved the final edited document. (A copy of the document will be available upon request.)
- Mid-Ohio Valley Ringers will be returning to our church for a concert on Sunday, December 1.
- Session approved Elder Chris Alfred moving to Level 2 of the Presbytery's Authorized Lay Preacher/ Commissioned Pastor Preparation Program.
- A Girl Scout Troop will begin using our building for their Wednesday meetings.

DOLLARS & SENSE

Here and on the next page is the latest update on church finances from our Treasurer. Keep in mind, reports are a month behind due to the publishing date of the newsletter. If you have any questions, you may contact Chris Alfred at finance@fpcburgwv.org

A Bountiful Life

“Life is given to you like a flat piece of land,” said actress Jeanne Moreau. “I hope that when I’m finished, my piece of land will be a beautiful garden.”

God, who put the first human in a garden to care for creation, blesses us with talents and resources to wisely manage. In gardening terms, God gives us the plot of ground, the seed, the wisdom and strength to bring forth beauty and abundance. Yet we do the work, with God’s help, to make it a reality. Like Adam, we till, but God gives the increase. God’s provisions and our labor bring the garden — and our lives of stewardship — to fulfillment.

As stewards, we ponder: When God calls us home, what will our garden be like, and what will it have produced?



Financial Statement as of June 30, 2024

2024 Budget	Budget	Actual
Income		
Sunday Offerings		
<i>Pledges</i>	\$ 126,175.00	\$ 64,590.00
<i>Contributions</i>	\$ 44,624.00	\$ 25,172.61
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 604.20
Sunday Offerings	\$ 172,299.00	\$ 90,366.81
<i>Facility Rentals</i>	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 18,458.43
<i>Other Income</i>	\$ 175.00	\$ 234.17
<i>Misc. Income</i>	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Interest from F. Trust</i>	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 263,474.00	\$ 109,059.41
Expenses		
<i>Discipleship</i>	\$ 2,048.00	\$ 629.85
<i>Mission</i>	\$ 500.00	\$ 275.74
<i>Worship & Music</i>	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 2,852.35
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 149,698.00	\$ 66,475.21
<i>Facilities</i>	\$ 81,630.00	\$ 28,664.38
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 3,273.00	\$ 510.42
<i>Communications</i>	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 227.55
<i>Office Expenses</i>	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 10,059.92
Total Expenses	\$ 263,474.00	\$ 109,695.42
Difference	\$ -	\$ (636.01)

ASSETS

FPC CHECKING	
Operating Fund	\$ 1,095.00
Restricted Funds	\$ 44,197.69
Deacons Fund	\$ 3,482.26
Total Checking	\$ 48,774.95
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FUNDS	
Checking	\$ 1,647.51
Savings	\$ 1,627.84
Total PW Funds	\$ 3,275.35
INVESTMENTS	
Deacons CD	\$ 6,058.01
Morgan Stanley Stocks	\$ 632.29
United Bank Founders Trust	\$ 67,906.02
Wesbanco Founders Trust	\$ 1,412,977.85
Presbyterian Women Investments	\$ 150,929.29
Total Investments	\$ 1,638,503.46
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,690,553.76

Pastoral Care

If you know of someone who would like a call or visit from Pastor Annie, please let her know by calling the church office, Monday through Thursday, 304-422-5426, or via email

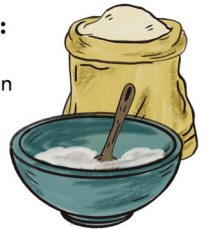
pastor@fpcburgwv.org



You don't have to visit the beach to make a sandcastle. Make fluffy "moon sand" to build fun structures.

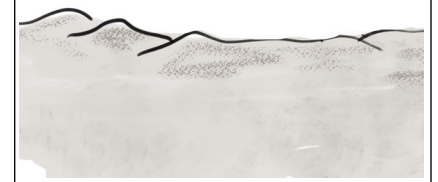
What you need:

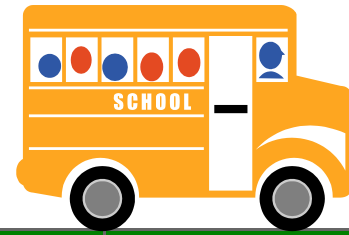
- Large bowl
- Wooden spoon
- 8 cups flour
- 1 cup baby oil



What you do:

1. Measure flour into the large bowl. Add baby oil.
2. Mix thoroughly until all the oil is combined and the texture is consistent. If needed, use your hands to knead the mixture.
3. The sand is ready when it sticks together to form a ball when pressed in your hands.
4. Use sand toys and molds to create a sandcastle. Store sand in an airtight container for up to two weeks.





BACK 2 SCHOOL



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<p>[Christians] do not live in themselves but in Christ and their neighbor, or else they are not Christian. They live in Christ through faith and in the neighbor through love. Through faith they are caught up beyond themselves into God; likewise, through love they fall down beneath themselves into the neighbor — remaining nevertheless always in God and God’s love.</p> <p>—Martin Luther, <i>The Freedom of a Christian</i></p>					<p>1 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>2 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 PM VBS</p>	<p>3 8:30 AM Facilities Mgmt. 9:00 AM VBS 9:15 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																									
<p>4 <i>Communion</i> 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>5 6:00 PM Deacons Mtg. 6:00 PM KOM Knitters 7:00 PM Mission Committee</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>9 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>10 8:30 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>11 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>12 6:00 PM Worship/ Discipleship Comm.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 6:00 PM Financial Mgmt. with Session 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>16 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>17 Presbytery Meeting Highlawn, Hungtingon 8:30 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>18 <i>Cents-Ability Offering</i> 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship Backpack Blessing & Sunday School promotions</p>	<p>19 6:00 PM Session</p>	<p>20 <i>Pastor Annie on vacation</i> thru Aug. 25</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>24 8:30 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>25 <i>Sallie Daugherty, pulpit supply</i> 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>26 <i>Pastor Annie - continuing ed.</i> thru Sept. 1 2:00 PM Henderson Hall Docents 7:00 PM Parkersburg Pride Mtg.</p>	<p>27 10:30 AM Tour Group rest stop</p>	<p>28</p> <p>September 2024</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						<p>29 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>31 8:30 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>
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