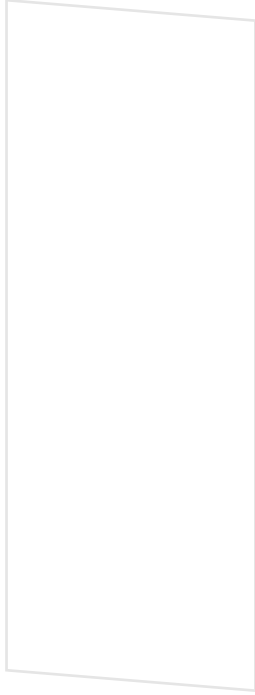


Sept. 2024



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

September 2024



Through him ALL THINGS were made.

John 1:3, NIV

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



There's a word that pops up multiple times in the New Testament: *koinonia*. For a simple definition, this Greek word means fellowship and community. The word first appears in Acts 2:42, which tells how the disciples were "continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to *koinonia*, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer." In I Corinthians, Paul says "God is faithful, through whom you were called into *koinonia* (fellowship) with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." Scripture tells us to have fellowship with God, with others, and with the Holy Spirit.



Part of being the church is sharing ourselves: we share our life stories and listen to others' stories. We share our gifts with each other, whether it's making cards or serving on committees or any number of gifts I've seen around the church. *Koinonia* means sharing what we have. In Acts 11, Barnabas, Paul, and other followers (who are soon called Christians) give the Gospel to those who have not yet heard. And the Antioch church gives financially, each according to his ability, to the Jerusalem church when famine hits.

I see the love of the church family every Sunday as we greet each other during the Ritual of Friendship at 10:30. I see it as we gather before 8:30 worship to chat and share what's happening in our lives. And I know that we all need a place where we belong. This month, please take advantage of the myriad of opportunities we have to grow in our connection as a church family:

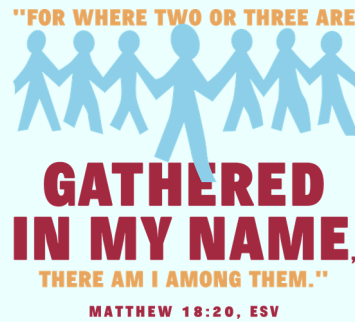


- † through fellowship on Kickoff Sunday on September 8 as we invite friends and share a meal together after worship;
- † through sharing our stories as we roast marshmallows and listen and share our own experience of September 11, 2001
- † through studying scripture together as we learn about six themes that span the entirety of scripture, starting at 6 p.m. on September 18
- † through serving the community with our Community Meal on September 22, sharing our story with those who come to the meal, and listening to their stories

This church is full of people who do indeed love the Lord and each other. Let's grow in Christ and as a church family as we experience *koinonia*.

Blessings and Peace!

Pastor Annie



The heart of worship

The worship to which we are called in our renewed state is far too important to be left to personal preferences, to whims or to marketing strategies. It is the pleasing of God that is at the heart of worship. Therefore, our worship must be informed at every point by the Word of God as we seek God's own instructions for worship that is pleasing to him

—R.C. Sproul



September



- 1 Kathy Hinkley
- 8 Greg Boso
- 15 Jess Linville
- 22 Justin Bosley
- 29 Deb Karr



- 1st Bill Niday
Susan Niday

- 8th Eric Johnson
Stacy Johnson

Ushers are still needed for:
September 15, 22 & 29.

Sign up in the foyer to volunteer!



September 1st

- Becky McGinnis
- Deb Karr
- Barbara Lucas
- Melanie Thompson



Happy Birthday!

Megan Bosley	1st
Rob Tebay	6th
Vicki Ferry	8th
Jessica Linville	8th
Becky McGinnis	8th
Andrew Fragale	18th
Dylan Holliday	21st
Deb Karr	22nd
Ann Leach	24th
Beth Oaklander	25th
Rory Essenmacher	27th
Mikki Bosley	29th



Happy Anniversary!

Don & Gail Rymer 18th
Mike & Mikki Bosley 19th

Special Dates in September

- Labor Day - 2nd
- Grandparents Day - 8th
- Patriot Day - 11th
- Autumn Begins - 22nd

Hispanic Heritage Month
Sept. 15 - Oct. 15



Young at Heart

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
Their steps are short like mine.
They don't say, "Now hurry up."

They always take their time.
I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
Their eyes see things like mine do ...

Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud,
Half-hidden drops of dew.
Most people have to hurry,

They do not stop and see.

I'm glad that God made Grandpa and Grandma
Unrushed and young like me.



AS FOR ME
AND MY
family
WE WILL SERVE
THE
Lord
JOSHUA 24:15. NLT

The principle thing
that's so simple that a
child can operate it is
a grandparent.

KICK-OFF SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 8



Plan to be in church on **September 8** for "Kick-Off" Sunday as we begin our new church year. We welcome you to worship with us at 8:30 in the Chapel, or 10:30 in the Sanctuary.

Immediately following our 10:30 Worship we will hold a brief **Congregational Meeting** to elect three people to serve on the Nominating Committee. Then, all are invited to our annual Kick-Off picnic/cookout, hosted by **The Deacons**. Invite your family and friends and join us for a great time of fellowship, food and fun. It will be a good opportunity to catch up and reconnect with your church family after summer.



The Deacons will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, sauce, buns, all the condiments, chips and drinks. They are asking the congregation for **salads or desserts**. Please sign up in the foyer if you'd like to bring something.



Saturday
Oct. 12
3 - 4:30

The Mission Committee will host their third community-wide Trunk-or-Treat in our rear parking lot on October 12. They are looking for volunteers to decorate a vehicle and hand out goodies to the kids during the event. They will also need donations of individually-wrapped candy and treats. Watch your bulletins for more information. There will be signups and a collection point at the front of the church soon.



Wednesdays @6 p.m.
Harris Room
led by Pastor Annie

September 18 & 25
October 2, 16, 23 & 30

THE BIBLE
"Six Themes Everyone Should Know"
by Barry Ensign-George

Books are NOT required, but may be ordered @Amazon.com.
Sign up in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

Facilities Management News



**WE
HAVE
A
NEW
SCHEDULE**

The Facilities Management Committee and the Saturday Stewards are now meeting only once monthly, on the first Saturday of each month. They will meet at 8:30 a.m. to conduct committee business, and then begin scheduled work projects at 9:15 a.m.

We Need Your Help!!

Please join our group! We welcome *anyone* who wants to help, even if you can spend only an hour or two. Ladies, as well as men, are always welcome. It's a great opportunity for fellowship and we have a great time. If you'd like more information, please call or text Mike Beckett @304-588-6203.

Come work for the Lord. The work is hard, the hours are long, and the pay is low. But the retirement benefits are out of this world.

July Meeting Items

- ◆ Issues with cleaning and mowing services from SW Resources
- ◆ Trimming trees around Bell Tower
- ◆ Plantings near butterfly in front garden need to be rearranged

Work / Projects Completed

- ◆ Removed broken tree limb near Childcare entrance
- ◆ Replaced Insta-Heat water heater in Stevenson Hall kitchen
- ◆ Completed cleaning and sanitizing floor in Stevenson Hall
- ◆ Cleaned windows at main church entrance, rear entrance and in Stevenson Hall
- ◆ Cleaned off stage and helped set up for Vacation Bible School
- ◆ Removed weeds in front and back parking lots and treated to prevent future growth
- ◆ Conducted monthly inspection of fire extinguishers, exit signs and emergency lighting
- ◆ Fire Extinguisher specialist conducted annual inspection of fire extinguishers; one was replaced and four were sent for inspection



NOMINATE A VOLUNTEER

If you would like to nominate a special volunteer for recognition **for the quarter ending September 30**, fill out a Volunteer Nomination Form (located in the foyer) and return it to the offering plate or the church office mailbox, no later than **October 7**.

The Gathering Is Changing!

This season *The Gathering* will be held on the second Wednesday of each month, September through April, **6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** Our first *Gathering* will be on **September 11**, Patriot Day, with the theme of 9/11.

Rather than sharing a full meal, we will enjoy **desserts only**. It will instead be a more low-key time for great conversation, fellowship, and possibly singing or a short devotion (and less cleanup). Each month's *Gathering* will be hosted by a different church group or person(s). Currently we need volunteers to host *The Gathering* for the following months: *October, November, January, February and April*. If you would be interested, please contact Carl Gheen, 321-527-8859, for more information.



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

Session HIGHLIGHTS



- Those previously elected to the Nominating Committee have resigned for various reasons. Session is asking new people to serve on the committee, and will be holding a Congregational Meeting on September 8 after 10:30 worship to elect this year's Nominating Committee.
- Session is in the process of reviewing the active and inactive member rolls.
- The Gathering will be meeting monthly on the second Wednesday of the month, beginning September 11.
- Session had an in-depth conversation about the need for fellowship opportunities in the church and how to promote fellowship.

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

My Church

My church is composed of people like me. We make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

My church will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with those things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be!

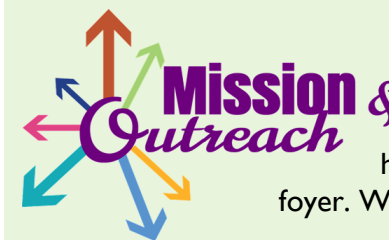
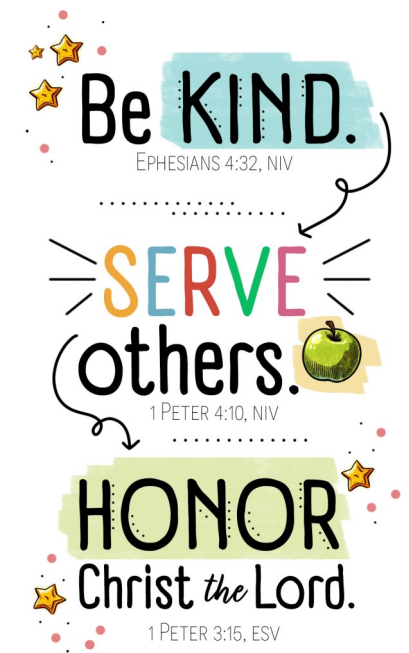


Financial Statement as of July 30, 2024

	2024 Budget	Budget	Actual
Income			
Sunday Offerings			
<i>Pledges</i>	\$ 126,175.00	\$	69,656.00
<i>Contributions</i>	\$ 44,624.00	\$	26,299.61
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 1,500.00	\$	604.20
Sunday Offerings	\$ 172,299.00	\$	95,559.81
<i>Facility Rentals</i>	\$ 41,000.00	\$	21,514.22
<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	\$	118,308.20
Expenses			
<i>Discipleship</i>	\$ 2,048.00	\$	783.28
<i>Mission</i>	\$ 500.00	\$	275.74
<i>Worship & Music</i>	\$ 7,100.00	\$	3,226.73
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 149,698.00	\$	77,447.17
<i>Facilities</i>	\$ 81,630.00	\$	30,447.73
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 3,273.00	\$	510.42
<i>Communications</i>	\$ 1,225.00	\$	266.05
<i>Office Expenses</i>	\$ 18,000.00	\$	10,869.73
Total Expenses	\$ 263,474.00	\$	123,826.85
Difference	\$ -	\$	(5,518.65)

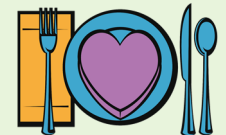
ASSETS

FPC CHECKING	
Operating Fund	\$ 4,861.33
Restricted Funds	\$ 44,635.35
Deacons Fund	\$ 3,270.09
Total Checking	\$ 52,766.77
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FUNDS	
Checking	\$ 829.25
Savings	\$ 1,627.84
Total PW Funds	\$ 2,457.09
INVESTMENTS	
Deacons CD	\$ 6,058.01
Morgan Stanley Stocks	\$ 632.29
United Bank Founders Trust	\$ 52,680.23
Wesbanco Founders Trust	\$ 1,443,717.77
Presbyterian Women Investments	\$ 154,831.54
Total Investments	\$ 1,657,919.84
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,713,143.70



The next **Community Meal** at FPC is on **September 22, from 2:00-3:30**. We will serve spaghetti with marinara sauce, meatballs, salad and garlic bread. To help with food prep, serving or cleanup please sign up in the foyer. We are also asking for donations of bags of prepared salad.

The committee will meet on **Saturday, September 21**, to prep food and set up the tables and chairs. If you can help on that day, please see **Morgan James** for details about time, etc.







Our *Neighbors In Need* effort is small **hygiene items**, such as soap, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpastes, deodorants and travel size shampoos. You may leave your donations near the table outside the church office.



2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
1 Communion Pastor away David Kaufman, Pulpit Supply 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship	2 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 	3	4 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	5 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7 8:30 AM Facilities Mgmt. 9:15 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
8 Kick-Off Sunday Fall Sermon Series begins: "Do Unto Others" 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 11:15 AM Congregational Mtg. 11:30 AM Kick-Off Picnic 	9 6:00 PM Deacons Mtg. 6:00 PM KOM Knitters	10 6:00 PM Financial Mgmt.	11 Patriot Day 6:00 PM The Gathering 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 	12 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
15 Cents-Ability Offering 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship	16 6:00 PM Session Newsletter Deadline	17	18 2:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Bible Study begins <i>Six Themes of the Bible</i> 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	19 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 Mission Committee food prep for Community Meal - Time TBA 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
22 1st Day of Autumn 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 2:00 PM Community Meal 	23 7:00 PM Parkersburg Pride	24 6:00 PM Worship & Discipleship Comm.	25 6:00 PM Bible Study <i>Six Themes of the Bible</i> 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	26 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
29 Choose-a-Hymn Sunday 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM Mission Committee	30 2:00 PM Henderson Hall Docents	<i>Work banishes those three great evils — boredom, vice and poverty.</i> 				October 2024 <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></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</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	31		
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