



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

*September 7, 2025*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



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To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

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WORDS OF PREPARATION

C.S. Lewis writes, our faith is not a matter of our hearing what Christ said long ago and “*trying to carry it out.*” Rather, “*The real Son of God is at your side. He is beginning to turn you into the same kind of thing as Himself. He is beginning, so to speak, to ‘inject’ His kind of life and thought, His Zoe [life], into you; beginning to turn the tin soldier into a live man. The part of you that does not like it is the part that is still tin.*”

—C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

*Rigaudon*  
André Campra

WELCOME

INTROIT

*Festival Alleluia*  
James Chepponis

*Congregation joins on refrain.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Cantor: O Lord, open our hearts to listen to the words of your Son. **Refrain**

Cantor: Your words, O Lord, give joy to my heart; your teaching is light to my eyes. **Refrain**

Cantor: Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. **Refrain**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. John Crawford

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come; even Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

**All: Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, great and small.**

Pastor: For the LORD our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

**All: Let us praise the name of God together with song. Let us magnify him together with thanksgiving. With our mouths let us give great thanks to the LORD.**

\*OPENING HYMN 263

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*  
CORONATION

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Gage Arnold (8:30)  
Adrian Taylor (11:00)

This is the day which the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it. O praise the Lord of heav'n: praise him in the height. Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host. Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light, let them praise the Name of the Lord; for he shall give his angels charge over thee: to keep thee in all thy ways. He shall defend thee under his wings. Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart; and put thou thy trust in the Lord.

FIRST LESSON | Daniel 6:25-27 (page 744)

Will Hannon (8:30)  
Katie Wild (11:00)

<sup>25</sup> Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: "Peace be multiplied to you. <sup>26</sup> I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end. <sup>27</sup> He delivers and rescues; he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, he who has saved Daniel from the power of the lions."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. John Musgrave

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | Ambrose of Milan

**O Lord, you who are all merciful, take away my sins from me and enkindle within me the fire of your Holy Spirit. Take away this heart of stone from me and give me a heart of flesh and blood, a heart to love and adore you, a heart which may delight in you, love you, and please you, for Christ's sake. Amen.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

*Glory Be to the Father*  
GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.*

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

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‡During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.

HYMN OF PREPARATION 310

*I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*  
ST. THOMAS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Matthew 4:17-5:1 (page 809)

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

<sup>18</sup> While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup> And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. <sup>24</sup> So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup> And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan. <sup>1</sup> Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**The Gospel of the Kingdom**

Dr. Ryan Moore

*“And he went throughout...proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom...”* —Matthew 4:23

OFFERTORY

*I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me*  
C. Hubert H. Parry

I was glad when they said unto me, “We will go into the house of the Lord.” Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city, that is at unity in itself. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

*As you reflect on the Lord’s goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, or donating online at [spcnashville.org](http://spcnashville.org).*

THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

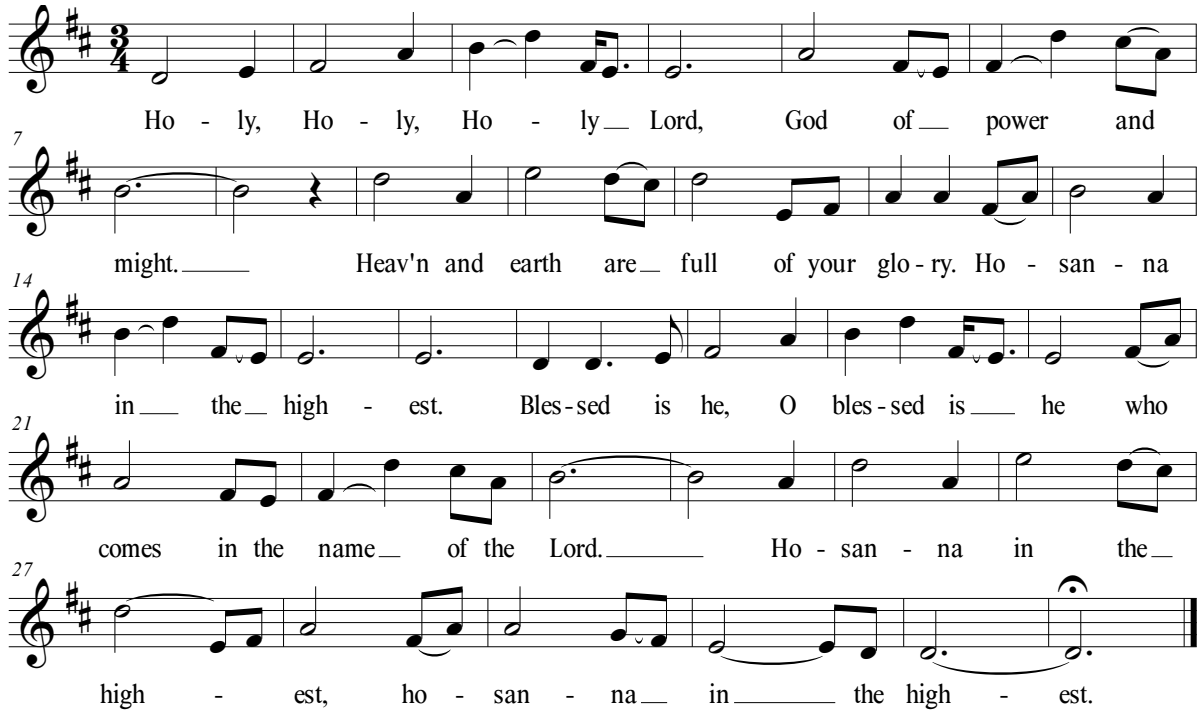
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

SANCTUS

from *St. Anne's Mass*  
James MacMillan



7 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
14 might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na  
21 in the high - est. Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who  
27 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Pastor:** Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

**All:** **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and forevermore. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Communion at First Presbyterian Church is offered to all baptized Christians and will be served today by intinction. When your row is called, come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and receive both elements together. The cup is juice and gluten-free wafers are available from the roving elders.*

COMMUNION ANTHEM

*The Call*  
Alexander Brent Smith | arr. Erik Routley

Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife: such a life as killeth death! Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in length: such a strength as makes his guest. Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy as none can move; such a love as none can part: such a heart as joys in love!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Sara Hill

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

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\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
Peter Lutkin

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Grand Chœur Dialogué*  
Eugène Gigout

\* *Those who are able, please stand.*

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate*  
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*  
John Crawford, DMin – *Honorably Retired Member of the Presbytery*  
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*  
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*  
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*  
Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*  
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*  
Ryan Bede, DMA – *Bass*  
*Acolytes* – Graham Swafford and Kennedy Swafford, Caroline Cahill and Elyse Cahill

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God and in honor and with deep gratitude to Dr. Raphael Bundage, Joseph Fala, Rhonda Swanson, Daphne Garey and the members of the choir for their glorious gift of music each Sunday.

SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org), or scan the QR code.



**Hearing Assistance App Directions**

Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select “First Pres Sanctuary.” Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

**MUSIC NOTES:** *Festival Alleluia* by James Chepponis © 1999 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP) a division of MorningStar Music Publishers All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *This is the Day* by John Rutter © 2011 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *I was glad* Charles H.H. Parry - ©1993 Jubilate Music Group All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *Sanctus and Benedictus from St. Anne's Mass* James MacMillan © 1997 Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers, Ltd. (ASCAP) CCS License #9151. | *The Call* by Alexander Brent Smith, arr. by Erik Routley © 1976, Hinshaw Music, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895 | *The Lord Bless You and Keep You. Amen* by Peter Lutkin © 1959, Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net License A-714895

**COVER IMAGE:** Guglielmi, O. Louis. *One Third of a Nation*. 1939. Oil and tempera on Masonite, 30 × 24 in. Gift of New York City WPA, 1943; object no. 43.47.10. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. — In *One Third of a Nation* (1939), O. Louis Guglielmi paints a stark row of tenements but crowns them with a bright floral wreath, tender and luminous against the shadows. Just as Jesus begins his ministry in Matthew 4, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near,” the painting reminds us that God’s reign breaks into places of darkness, transforming despair into light. As a covenant people, we are called to live as an outpost of that kingdom, bearing witness to God’s nearness and care in the neighborhood and community where he has placed us.

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## *Stay connected.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN exists as a community of believers—a faithful outpost where we worship, grow, and serve together in Christ. Your presence strengthens this community, and together we reflect God’s love and faithfulness to one another and to the world around us. We invite you to stay connected and engaged, so that together we can be our fullest expression as God’s family. Explore the following pages to discover ways you can worship, grow, serve, and connect in the weeks and months ahead.

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## *Worship*

### UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

**Columbarium Rededication | Today | 6:30 p.m. | Sullivan Gardens**—Join us for a special evening as we rededicate the Sullivan Gardens and Columbarium following its complete landscaping restoration. The renewed space offers a beautiful and peaceful setting for remembrance and prayer. The service will include music and moments of reflection as we give thanks for this cherished space where we remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. Light refreshments will be served.

**Ordination of Mallory Hammond | Sunday, Sept. 14 | 3:00 p.m. | Sanctuary | Reception following**—We are delighted to share that Mallory Hammond will soon be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). After her ordination, Mallory will continue as our Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families as a Parish Associate. Her ordination is the culmination of years of theological study, preparation, and discernment, and we give thanks to God for guiding her to this calling. Please join us for Mallory’s ordination service on Sunday, September 14. Reception to follow.

**Choral Vespers Dinner and Worship Service | Sept. 25 | Dinner (5:30 p.m) and Worship (6:30 p.m.) | Sanctuary**—Enjoy a delicious dinner prior to a special Choral Vesper Service in the Chapel. After the meal, join us for an evening of scripture, music, and reflection in this special choral vesper service. We will explore the Psalms through word and prayer joined by Dr. Megan Daffern of Wells Cathedral in Somerset, England. Please Register for dinner online at [fpcnashville.org/events](http://fpcnashville.org/events)

### MUSIC

Do you feel called to share your voice in song? This fall, singers of all ages and experience levels are invited to join one of our many choirs and ensembles at First Presbyterian Church. For more information or to sign up, visit [fpcnashville.org/music](http://fpcnashville.org/music).

**Sanctuary Singers (new!)** is an intergenerational choir for teens and adults that begins rehearsals September 17. This Community of Belonging (COB) meets Wednesdays from 6:45-7:45 p.m. and sings select 11:00 a.m. services throughout the year. It’s teaching-focused and friendly for amateur singers. Led by Joey Fala.

**Sanctuary Choir** is our adult choir that sings the traditional choral repertoire and includes many professional musicians and anyone is welcome to join. It rehearses on Wednesdays from 6:00–6:45 p.m. and sings weekly at both services. Led by Dr. Raphael Bundage.

**Choristers** is for students in 4th through 12th grade and meets either Mondays from 4:15–5:15 p.m. or Wednesdays from 3:00–4:00 p.m. This teaching-focused group follows the academic calendar and sings in worship 1–2 times a month. Led by Joey Fala.

**Women’s Chorale** will rehearse September 14, 21, and 28 from 9:45–10:00 a.m. and sing more advanced music on September 28 in worship. With only two rehearsals, it’s best for confident singers. Led by Dr. Raphael Bundage.

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# Discipleship OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Resumes September 14

Grow in faith and friendship through weekly classes during the 9:45 a.m. Education Hour (unless otherwise noted). Questions about finding the class that's right for you? Contact Julia Wilk at [jwilk@fpcnashville.org](mailto:jwilk@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9509.

**Bible & Coffee** | Jones Session Room

**Cornerstone** | Vance Hall

**Current Issues** | L-200

**Discipleship** | Witherspoon Room

**Fellowship** | Memorial Library | 10:00 a.m.

**Good News** | L-207

**June Ramsey** | Cheek House Living Room

**Life Together** | L-203

**Logos** | Stanford Chapel | 10:00 a.m.

**Walk Through the Bible** | L-201

**Young Adults** | Courtenay Lounge

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## COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING (COB)

### Begin mid-September

Six-week small groups designed for connection and growth. This fall COBs will study *The Call* by Adam Hamilton, following the life and witness of the Apostle Paul. Questions about finding the right COB? Contact Ellie Richmond [erichmond@fpcnashville.org](mailto:erichmond@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9509. To register, visit [fpcnashville.org/cob](http://fpcnashville.org/cob).

**Sheppard/Chestnut (New!)** | Sundays | 6:30 p.m. | Green Hills

**Hindman/Stringham** | Sundays | 6:30 p.m. | Brentwood/Belle Meade

**Sauer** | Thursdays 9:30 a.m. | At church + Zoom option

**Taylor (Young Adults)** | Thursdays | 6:30 p.m. | rotating homes

**Pickel (Women)** | Mondays | 1:00 p.m. | West Meade

**Davis (Women)** | Wednesdays | (bi-weekly) 6:45 p.m. | Oak Hill

## MIDWEEK LUNCH & STUDY

### Wednesdays | begins Sept. 17 | 11:30 a.m. | Session Room

All are invited to a weekly Bible study and lunch with Dr. Ryan Moore. On Wednesdays this fall, we will gather in the Session Room to study the gospel message in Ecclesiastes. Lunch is provided; donation requested. For more information, contact Lynn Elliott at [lelliott@fpcnashville.org](mailto:lelliott@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9504.

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## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLES

Morning and evening groups meet monthly (second Tuesdays) through May and will study *The Good and Beautiful Life* by James Bryan Smith. For more information, contact Moderator Jean Campbell at [jeancampbelltn@gmail.com](mailto:jeancampbelltn@gmail.com) or 615-477-7717.

**Mary (New!)** | Begins Sept. 9 | 6:00 p.m. (Dinner), 7:00 p.m. (Study) | Home of Jean Campbell

**Deborah** | Begins Oct. 14 | 9:00 a.m. | Cheek House

**Miriam** | Begins Oct. 14 | 10:00 a.m. | Cheek House

**Jo King** | Begins Sept. 9 | 2:30 p.m. | Cheek House

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## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

### Tuesdays | 7:00 a.m. | Vance Hall

Our Tuesday Men's Bible Study has been a cherished tradition for decades—a place where friendships grow, faith deepens, and meaningful conversation happens over a good cup of coffee. Questions? Contact Ron Pasquale at [ronpasquale@comcast.net](mailto:ronpasquale@comcast.net) or 615-812-6215.

*First Friends* is a dynamic ministry that caters to the needs of adults in the later stages of life, including those who are almost-retired, just-retired, and considerably retired. This fall is packed with opportunities for a wide variety of interests. Whether you have been active before or never attended a First Friends event, you are invited to join any of the activities below! For more information, contact Sally Ostheimer at [sostheimer@fpcnashville.org](mailto:sostheimer@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9551.

**Five-Week Book Review** | Thursdays through Sept. 25 | 3:00 p.m. | Vance Hall

**Luncheon & Speaker Series: Cryptocurrency** | Sept. 18 | 12:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall | \$10

**Book Club: *The Giver of Stars*** | Sept. 16 | 2:30 p.m. | Memorial Library

**Woodworking Project: Charcuterie Boards** | Sept. 22 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Julia Wilk's Workshop | \$60

**Active Adults Overnight at NaCoMe** | Oct. 3-4 | NaCoMe | \$120

**New Beginnings Widows Group Lunch** | Oct. 9 | 11:30 a.m.

**Men's Trip to Lane Auto Museum and Lunch** | Oct. 10 | 10:00 a.m.–2:15 p.m. | Museum tickets: \$10

**Day Trip to Dickson and Lyles** | Oct. 13 | 9:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

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## *Children & Families* BIRTH–6TH GRADE

This fall brings exciting changes to Children’s Ministry! Our 1st–5th grade Sunday School classes are moving into the Children’s Wing, where we can’t wait to fill the halls with joy and laughter. With a focus on loving and serving our neighbor, children will experience “Mission Moments” and kid-friendly service woven into their weekly learning. Milestones are also returning—special opportunities for each grade level to grow in faith alongside parents and caregivers.

Every part of Children’s Ministry is designed to nurture young disciples, from Sunday morning worship and Bible storytelling to hands-on service and playful fellowship.

Whether rocking babies in the nursery, acting out Scripture

in elementary classes, or gathering for big family events, our goal is to help kids know God’s love, experience Christian community, and put faith into action. We invite you to join us this year as we worship, learn, serve, and play together!

*For all the details, find the 2025–26 Children’s Ministry brochure at Kickoff Sunday to see all the ways to connect*

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**Grade-level Sunday School Classes Begin** | Sunday, Sept. 14 | 9:45 a.m. | First Sunday in New Classrooms

**Parents Night Out** | Saturday, Sept. 27 | 5:00–8:00 p.m. | Grundy Hall (registration required)

**New Baby Reception** | Sunday, Oct. 5 | 4:00–5:15 p.m. | Gathering Place

**Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat** | Sunday, Oct. 26 | 3:30–5:00 p.m.

**Christmas Pageant Tryouts** | Sunday, Nov. 2 | 12:15–1:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall (lunch provided)

**Thanksgiving Breakfast** | Sunday, Nov. 23 | 9:30 a.m. | Courtenay Hall

**Advent Wreath Dinner & Workshop** | Sunday, Nov. 23 | 5:00–6:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall (registration required)

**Parents Night Out** | Friday, Dec. 5 | 5:00–8:00 p.m. | Grundy Hall (registration required)

**Christmas Eve Journey to Bethlehem** | Wednesday, Dec. 24 | 4:00 p.m. (new time!) | Sanctuary

**Epiphany Bonfire** | Sunday, Jan. 4 | 3:30–5:00 p.m. | Tyne Blvd Lawn

**Pajama Drive Begins** | Monday, Jan. 12

## *Youth & Families* 7TH–12TH GRADE

This year, Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian continues to honor cherished traditions while introducing exciting new opportunities for 7th–12th graders. Sunday mornings remain the heartbeat of our program, with worship at 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. in The Gathering Place. Students enjoy fellowship, games, worship, and large-group lessons, with adult volunteers facilitating discussions that help them apply Scripture to their daily lives. Summer and select weeks feature all-youth gatherings, providing a welcoming on-ramp to life in our youth community.

Our new small group formats are designed to deepen faith and friendship. Each group includes fellowship, games, a short lesson, and grade- and gender-based discussions with prayer, helping students grow as disciples of Jesus. Small groups launch in the fall and relaunch in the winter, offering multiple entry points for students to connect, learn, and support one another in a fun and relational environment.

Big trips and milestone events add even more excitement. High schoolers will return to West Virginia for Appalachian Service Project in a new town, seniors will journey to Yosemite to cap off their youth ministry experience, and middle schoolers will embark on PROJECT SWEAT, a brand-

new in-town mission week. The Ski Trip also returns this winter, and beloved events like Follow Me, Prayer Partner Breakfast, and the Senior Blessing Service will continue to mark meaningful moments in students’ spiritual formation.

*For all the details, find the 2025–26 Youth brochure at Kickoff Sunday to see all the ways to connect*

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUTH

**Middle School Fall Retreat** | Oct. 25–26 | NaCoMe

**Prayer Partner Breakfast** | Sunday, Nov. 2 |

9:45 a.m. | Enrichment Center

**Church League Basketball** | Saturdays, Dec.–Feb.

**Mission Trip Stuff & Mail Lunch** | Sunday, Jan. 11 |

12:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall

**Youth Ski Retreat** | Jan. 23–25 | Beech Mountain

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# Missions

UPCOMING WAYS TO SERVE

At First Presbyterian Nashville, our commitment to the common good is rooted in Christ's call to love and serve our neighbors both here and around the world.

Over the past year, the Local Missions Committee has been hard at work shifting the focus of their efforts to building strong personal relationships between FPC and our local mission partners. Guided by Jesus's words in Matthew 25 to serve the hungry, the stranger, the needy, the sick, and the prisoner, the committee prayerfully discerned together where our efforts might be most needed and most impactful for the sake of the Gospel.

In honoring our church's legacy of community engagement, the committee also reaffirmed its dedication to long-standing partnerships and annual projects that have long been cherished by this congregation. Therefore, following months of prayer, intentional conversations, thoughtful research, and in-person visits, three distinct categories of partnership emerged.

## KINGDOM PARTNERS

These gospel-centered organizations are fully aligned with FPC's mission to make Christ known. They invite deep, ongoing relationships through hands-on participation and discipleship. Partners include: Begin Anew, Eli's House, Legacy Mission Village, Matthew 25, Men of Valor, Nueva Vida, Safe Haven Family Shelter, and Siloam Health. Meet these partners today at the Kickoff Sunday celebration.

## HERITAGE PARTNERS

These long-term relationships reflect FPC's history of working for the common good in Nashville. These relationships honor our heritage and continue to make a meaningful impact today. Partners include: Martha O'Bryan Center, Hospitality House, and Alive Hospice

## PROJECT PARTNERS

These partners invite FPC into one-time, short-term, or recurring projects that meet the needs of our community in varied ways. Partners include: Habitat for Humanity, Rise Against Hunger, Room In The Inn, and various food, clothing, and blood drives.

Organizing our mission efforts around these three areas allows us to remain responsive to changing needs while staying rooted in Christ's call. The committee will regularly be evaluating these partners to assess engagement, need, and alignment of mission and values with FPC. Our hope and prayer is that FPC would be an outpost of the kingdom that joyfully participates in God's mission by making him known through service to our neighbors.

*For more information about any of the below opportunities, visit our website or contact [missions@fpcnashville.org](mailto:missions@fpcnashville.org)*

## KINGDOM PARTNER OPPORTUNITY

**Service Project with Nueva Vida | Second Tuesdays | 4:30–7:30 p.m. | Nueva Vida**—Help pack and distribute food to our neighbors in need through the Nueva Vida Food Project. Tasks include sorting, stocking shelves, and offering a friendly smile. We are looking for up to 5 volunteers for each date: Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, Dec. 9. Register at [fpcnashville.org/missions](http://fpcnashville.org/missions).

## PROJECT PARTNER OPPORTUNITIES

**Habitat for Humanity Build | Sept. 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, and Oct. 4-5**—Join us in partnership with Habitat for Humanity to build a home and strengthen our community. Over 70 volunteer spots are needed for build crews on various days, with opportunities for all skill levels. Register at [fpcnashville.org/habitat](http://fpcnashville.org/habitat).

**Room In The Inn | Wednesdays–Thursdays, Nov.–March** First Presbyterian houses men experiencing homelessness every Wednesday during the winter months. Volunteers are needed as overnight hosts, van drivers, meal donors, and laundry helpers. Serve in a meaningful way that provides warmth and safety for our neighbors in need. For details, contact Kevin Hughart at [khugart@fpcnashville.org](mailto:khugart@fpcnashville.org).

**Blood Drive | Wednesday, Nov. 12 | 11:00 a.m. | Courtenay Hall**—Someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds due to an accident, disaster, or illness. Roll up your sleeves to help save lives in your community by giving the gift of life by donating blood at our next blood drive. Sign up on our website or in person in Courtenay Hall in between services. Register at [fpcnashville.org/events](http://fpcnashville.org/events).

**Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing | Monday, Nov. 24 | 3:30 p.m. | Enrichment Center** — Package 20,000 meals in just two hours to support school feeding programs and global crisis relief. This hands-on event combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a vitamin-flavoring mix into small meal packages. Families are welcome to join for the activity and stay for the Thanksgiving dinner (5:30 p.m.) and worship service (6:30 p.m.) afterward. Register at [fpcnashville.org/events](http://fpcnashville.org/events).

**Class of 2028 Officer Nominees**—Each year, the Officer Nominating Committee faithfully and prayerfully chooses nominees to serve as Elders and Deacons at First Presbyterian Church and is proud to present the slate for the Class of 2028. We will vote to approve the nominees at a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 28, at the conclusion of both worship services. Nominations may be made from the floor. If you have any questions about the nomination process, please contact any member of the Officer Nominating Committee: Chuck Lassing (Chair), Tricia Carswell, Sally Einstman, Will Hannon, Janie Hughart, Blewett McInteer, Elizabeth Sullivan, Ryan Moore (Staff Liaison). Find full bios of the nominees at [fpcnashville.org/nominees](http://fpcnashville.org/nominees).

Deacon Candidates: Will Akin, John Atchley Jr., Charles Barrett, Jean Campbell, Amy Colton, Gretchen Ekiss, Mary Julia Hannon, Patricia Heim, Laura Hollins, Mary Frances Kerr, Blewett McInteer, Laura Morgan, Suzy Morrison, Will Overton, Katie Pickel, James Pitman, Jack Richmond, Jackson Ross III, Lamar Stanley, Brannon Taylor

Elder Candidates: Bill Akin, Sam Cook III, Nell Ann Crowe, Ben Elrod, Rick Gernert, Carrie Hininger, Warner McNeilly III, Dorothy Pace, Bobby Rolfe Sr., Hal Sauer, Jane Smith, Scott Standard

**Empty Nester Fellowship | Wednesday, September 17 | 6:30 p.m. | Tyne House**—Join us for an evening of dessert, fellowship, and encouragement for those entering the “empty nest” season of life. Pastor Ryan Moore will gather us to reflect on this new chapter, share stories, and consider ways we can support one another as households grow quieter and roles shift. Whether you have just dropped off your youngest at college or launched your post-college adult into the world, this is a space to connect, reflect, and walk this season together. RSVP at [fpcnashville.org/emptynest](http://fpcnashville.org/emptynest).

**Spiritual Gifts Workshop | Two date options provided: Sept. 24 | 6:00–8:00 p.m. OR Oct. 5 | 12:00–2:00 p.m.** — Join us for a shared meal followed by a workshop led by Rev. Sara Hill on discovering and cultivating your spiritual gifts. Paul reminds the church in Corinth, “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.” Together, we’ll explore how God equips each of us with gifts to be used at home, at work, in the church, and in daily living. Come ready to identify your gifts and consider how they can be used to God’s glory. Hosted by Presbyterian Women—all are welcome! Registration is required; please note if you need childcare when registering. Register at [fpcnashville.org/events](http://fpcnashville.org/events).

**Congregational Care in Sandra’s Absence**—If you have a congregational care need—such as a hospitalization, surgery, or personal crisis—please contact Charlotte Schierbaum, Congregational Care Ministry Assistant, at [cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org](mailto:cschierbaum@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9527. Charlotte is coordinating all care concerns and will confidentially share them with Senior Pastor Ryan Moore and Parish Associates Dr. John Musgrave and Rev. Sara Hill to ensure you are supported with prayer and presence.

**Soccer Saints | Saturdays, Sept. 13, 20, 27**—Help us welcome soccer families as they play, cheer, and coach on the FPC campus on Saturday mornings. Volunteers serve at one of our three welcome tables, greeting families, handing out treats to players, and answering questions. Volunteer slots are open between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the following game days: September 13, 20, and 27.

GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY

YTD AT **JULY 31, 2025**

**Actual \$2,597,940**

**Budget \$2,786,500**

*Variance (\$188,560)*

As part of our commitment to transparency and to deepen our shared understanding of church finances, the Finance Committee is now providing monthly updates on giving.



WELCOME ELLIE RICHMOND

We are excited to welcome Ellie Richmond as our new Coordinator for Communities of Belonging. Ellie will help nurture Christian faith and foster community through small groups at First Presbyterian. She will support the growth of existing groups, launch new ones, and equip leaders so that small group ministry continues to be a place where people can know Christ and make him known. Ellie will focus on building the foundation and systems for our small group ministry, preparing the way for our next Associate Pastor for Discipleship. Meanwhile, Julia Wilk will continue to connect new folks, ensuring that everyone feels welcomed and connected. Ellie has been a church member since 2023 and is married to Jack, who is originally from Murfreesboro. They are the parents of Will (2) and Betsy (4 months). Growing up as a pastor’s kid in the PC(USA) in Durham, NC, Ellie brings a deep love for the church and discipleship.

## WELCOME!

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

## TALK TO A PASTOR

The pastoral staff is here for you. Call us at 615-383-1815 if you would appreciate a pastoral visit/call, have pastoral care needs, would like to be on a prayer list, or if you are in the hospital. Prayer requests can be confidential and limited to the pastors.

## FAMILY CHANGES OR CONTACT UPDATE

If you or someone in your family has a major life change (expecting a baby, marriage, loss of a loved one, etc.) or your contact information has changed, please complete a Connect Card, located in the pew rack. Whether it is joyful or sorrowful, please inform the church so we can care for you and stay in touch. Complete the Connect Card or contact us at [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org).



## STAY CONNECTED

Stay informed about FPC by:  
reading our weekly email, Parish News,  
or seasonal print newsletter, First News.

To sign up, email  
[communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org)  
or update your subscriptions at:  
[fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions](https://www.fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions).

## PASTORAL STAFF & MINISTRY LEADERS



**Dr. Ryan Moore**  
*Pastor & Head of Staff*



**Dr. Raphael Bundage**  
*Director of Music*



**Dr. Sandra Randleman**  
*Associate Pastor for  
Congregational Care & Missions*



**Frank Coyle**  
*Church Executive*



**Rev. Sara Hill**  
*Parish Associate*



**Rachel Davis**  
*Director of Communications  
& Strategic Engagement*



**Dr. John Musgrave**  
*Parish Associate*



**Jen Kutzner**  
*Director of Recreation*



**Gage Arnold**  
*Director of Youth  
Programming*



**Adrian Taylor**  
*Director of Missions Ministry*



**Mallory Hammond**  
*Director of Ministry with  
Children & Their Families*



**Julia Wilk**  
*Connections and  
Engagement Coordinator*