



First Presbyterian Church
South Charleston, West Virginia
SEPTEMBER 2023

"Everyday...is the day the Lord has made— Rejoice! and be glad in it!"

A Note from Your Pastor:

Summer has flown by, and we were just reminiscing on how the month of August, way back in the day, still meant to us "school kids"...we have another full month of summer! However, school is starting soon, and teachers will be going back around the middle of the month to begin preparing for the new school year.

Whew! Time just flew away from us and now we are back in the grind. Looking back at July, we welcomed Reverend Ravi Isaiah back to the pulpit for a few weeks; it was so good to have him back again and we were thrilled. The soloists during our worship services in the summer were fantastic! We thank each one of them for sharing their talents with us, and we thank Mary Ellen Logsdon for her leadership and her music programs during the summer.

Fellowship and Education will host a Dinner and a Movie night on Saturday, August 19 featuring "The Wizard of Oz!" The Church picnic will be coming up soon; keep your eyes open for the date...it's always lots of fun. Presbyterian women will be gearing up again in September, and our Session is returning in August. So...we're back!

We give thanks to God for protection as some of us have traveled these months past. We give thanks to Jesus Christ for all of his teachings and parables we have been learning in the month of July, and we give thanks for the Spirit that invades our Sanctuary and enlivens our faith. What wonderful gifts we have ever-present in our lives. Let us take time in the month of August to take stock in our gifts, and to share our gifts with each other, and with our community.

Have a blessed month!

Ginna Taylor

Psalmtember schedule:

I was browsing through my Facebook account when I saw this schedule posted from The Presbyterian Church PCUSA, and I thought it's a really good idea! I couldn't find the history on it and try as I might, I couldn't find the post again on Facebook! Enjoy the schedule. I challenge you to take a few minutes each day to browse through the Psalms this month. Just a few minutes...each day...to reflect on the word of God. Where does this speak to you...this day?

Blessings, Pastor Ginna

PSALMTEMBER 2023

Sep 1	Ps 31	REFUGE	Sep 16	Ps 46	RIVER
Sep 2	Ps 32	WATERS	Sep 17	Ps 47	THRONE
Sep 3	Ps 33	BREATH	Sep 18	Ps 48	CITY
Sep 4	Ps 34	RADIANT	Sep 19	Ps 49	GRAVES
Sep 5	Ps 35	NET	Sep 20	Ps 50	TEMPEST
Sep 6	Ps 36	MOUNTAINS	Sep 21	Ps 51	CLEAN
Sep 7	Ps 37	SMOKE	Sep 22	Ps 52	UPROOT
Sep 8	Ps 38	BURDEN	Sep 23	Ps 53	BONES
Sep 9	Ps 39	BURNED	Sep 24	Ps 54	UPHOLDER
Sep 10	Ps 40	BOG	Sep 25	Ps 55	DOVE
Sep 11	Ps 41	RISE	Sep 26	Ps 56	BOTTLE
Sep 12	Ps 42	DEER	Sep 27	Ps 57	SHADOW
Sep 13	Ps 43	ALTAR	Sep 28	Ps 58	SNAIL
Sep 14	Ps 44	DUST	Sep 29	Ps 59	DOGS
Sep 15	Ps 45	ROBES	Sep 30	Ps 60	CRACKS



Holy Communion

We celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on the first Sunday of each month. For those who attend our in-person worship services, we are serving communion in the traditional manner. If you are viewing our livestream worship service and are participating at home, please prepare your elements ahead of time.



News from the Pews

Our Christian Sympathy and Support to

Ryneishah Leach Swain and Family

at the loss of her mother, **Charlene Joy Johnson**

Bob & Barbara Cruickshank and Family

at the loss of Barbara's son, **Buddy Newcomer, Jr.**

Becky & Dave Smith and Family

at the loss of Becky's brother, **Bill Vannatter**

Earl Hoskins (Sarah Clemente's father) and the Clemente Family

at the loss of Earl's fiancé, **Linda Kay Price Fair**

We rejoice in the assurance of eternal life that is ours in Jesus Christ.



AUDIO/VIDEO Enthusiasts WANTED

If you or someone you know has an interest in and enjoys working in audio/video then there's a spot for you on our team. We are looking to add some folks to our team of broadcasters that operate the Live Stream of Worship on Sunday mornings, from the Tech Room. For more information contact Mark Lovin by email at markalovin@icloud.com or by phone at 304-543-0001.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE REQUEST

Heart & Hand has an ongoing for Food Pantry items. Each week we will be asking for specific food. We will be listing in the church bulletin each week for the food requested for the following week. This will give you time to pick up the items and hopefully increase donations. If you have any questions, you can call the church office and speak to Becky, and I will be available to assist in any way I can. If you want to give money, we can go shop for you. Please consider this request when you shop for your groceries. If everyone in the congregation would donate just one item for every member in their family, this would increase what we take over to Heart and Hand. Not much to ask really. The following list is the items we will be collecting for the month of SEPTEMBER. Help us to help Heart and Hand and children in need.

September 3rd: Canned fruits & Veggies

September 10th: Canned Soup

September 17th: Cereal

September 24th: Toilet Paper

Thank you for your support.

We can make a huge impact with just a little effort.

For the Missions Committee,
Carol Bryan



September 2	Joan Eads
September 5	Charlie Burdette Natalie Smith
September 6	Doug Calderwood
September 10	Aaron Johnson
September 14	Ryan Clemente
September 15	Ronald Bryant Debbie Fuller
September 20	Sarah Halstead
September 22	Tom Titus
September 27	Joe Clemente Ellen Bush



September 3 marks the beginning of the 2023 Season of Peace

Since 1940, World Communion Sunday is an ecumenical celebration of our oneness in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing churches together in Christian unity. This year marks the 40th anniversary of *Peacemaking: The Believers Calling* approved by the 192nd General Assembly (1980).

Sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), this season is a time of growth, encouragement, challenge, inspiration, and education to define and deepen one's calling as a peacemaker.

Through participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God is with us ... and God in Christ is with us through the Sacrament of Communion, celebrated on World Communion Sunday. We are not alone. Peace begins with each of us.

The Season of Peace concludes on October 1, World Communion Sunday. On that date, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved, and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith—a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together.

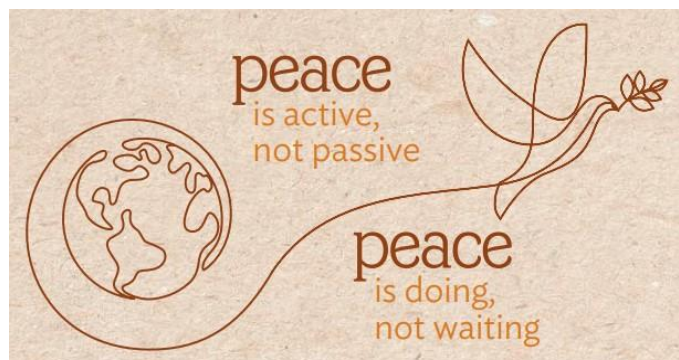
We will receive our Peace & Global Witness offering on World Communion Sunday.

- 25% of the Offering stays with local congregations, and 25% with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions.
- 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Thank you for your generous support of the Peace & Global Witness Offering!

The Missions Committee

Peace Offering Envelopes are available in the pew racks for your convenience.



**SEPTEMBER
10TH**
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

PLEASE JOIN US
FOR OUR

Hot Dog FUNDRAISER

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY!



*There is no
charge for lunch!*

*Your donations will be
greatly appreciated!*

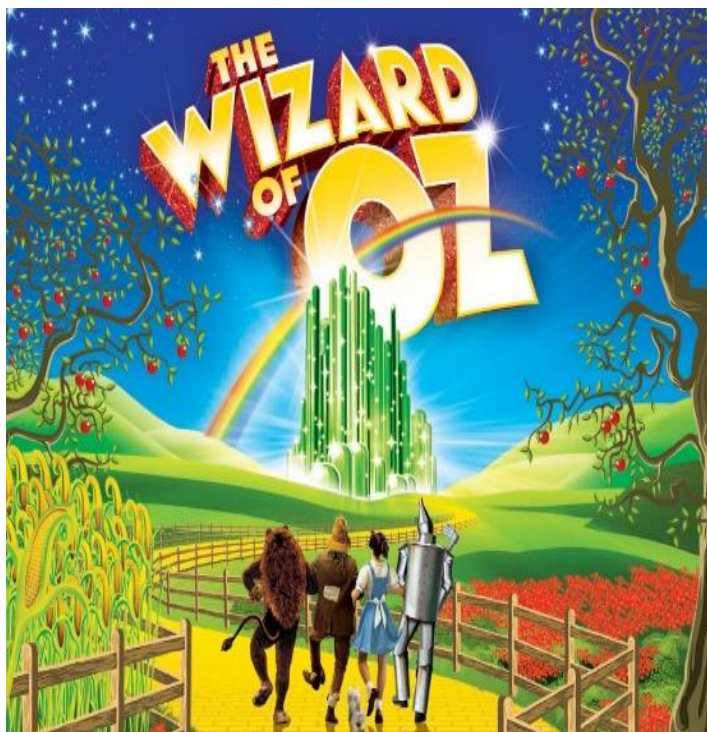
*All proceeds go to
**HABITAT
FOR HUMANITY!***

PRICE INCLUDES:
**HOT DOGS, POTATO SALAD, BAKED BEANS
DESSERT AND COFFEE, TEA, OR LEMONADE**

*Hosted by the Missions Committee
First Presbyterian Church
508 Second Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303*

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**

**SEPTEMBER
10TH**
FOLLOWING WORSHIP



RESCHEDULED!!!

**Join us for
FAMILY FUN NIGHT!**

**Saturday, October 28th
in Fellowship Hall**

**Cookout and a Movie
"The Wizard of Oz"**

**Dinner @ 6:00 pm
Movie @ 7:30 pm**



Schedule of Meetings

(Rick & Lori Smith and Amanda Fuller – Youth Leaders)

Sunday, September 24 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Regular Youth Group Meeting – Join us for Games, Food, and Fun!

Saturday, September 30 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Boat Riding (Weather Permitting). Need mom or dad to go on boat.

Friday, October 27 7:00 pm – 8:00 am

SLEEPOVER/MOVIE NIGHT at CHURCH with Pizza and Drinks
(Bring a sleeping cot or sleeping bag.)

Sunday, November 5 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Regular Youth Group Meeting – Join us for Games, Food, and Fun!



The Missions Committee would like to **THANK YOU!**
for your recent and very generous gifts to Mission Projects

PROJECTS	YTD
Buy-a-Brick Marquee Project	\$ 20,799*
Christmas Food Baskets	\$ 2,989
Haiti Medical Mission Trip	\$ 6,459
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 415
Pentecost Offering	\$ 295
Cents-Ability (Two-Cents-A-Meal)	\$ 506

(*includes \$10,000 grant from the Presbytery of WV)



Sunday, September 24th

Everyone is invited!
Little Creek Park -- Shelter #12

Fun and games begin at 1:00 pm

We eat at 2:00 pm

*Hamburgers & Hot Dogs with all the fixings
and paper products are provided.*

Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND JOIN US!

First Presbyterian Church

508 Second Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303

PHONE: 744-2333

FAX: 746-9948

Ministers:

EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION

GINNA TAYLOR, *Pastor*
MARY ELLEN LOGSDON, *Master of Music*
COLLIN NELSON, *Worship Assistant*
BECKY SMITH, *Office Manager*
DAVID SMITH, *Custodian*

Office Hours:

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Monday through Thursday
(Closed Friday)

E-Mail Addresses:

pastor.ginna.fpcscwv@gmail.com
becky@fpcscwv.org

WEB Address:

fpcscwv.org

WIFI Network:

1stPresby SC – Guest

WIFI Password:

PresbyGuest

Elders on Session:

Hersha Brown	Bob Lilly
Sarah Clemente	Mark Lovin
Bill Kimmons	Rick Smith
Chuck Knurek	Owen Walker



The value of solid relationships

"Most of life's great moments — the ones that resonate in our hearts and minds — involve other people," writes John C. Maxwell in *Today Matters*. "Rarely do we experience these times alone. And even when we do, our first inclination is to share them with others. "Maxwell then poses this challenge: "Think back to the most important experiences of your life, the highest highs, the greatest victories, the most daunting obstacles overcome. How many happened to you alone? I bet there are very few. When you understand that being connected to others is one of life's greatest joys, you realize that life's best comes when you initiate and invest in solid relationships."

Instruments of Connection

Following Jesus involves much more than attending worship, as Pastor Stan Purdum points out in a sermon titled "The Hug":

"The spiritual life, in addition to some outwardly religious and inwardly devotional acts, also includes such mundane activities as sending thank-you notes for gifts received, returning phone calls, greeting fellow worshipers Sunday after Sunday, surprising our spouse with a spontaneous act of appreciation, helping out at funeral dinners, seeking common ground during disagreements, listening to our children, working at not being a grouch, visiting friends and relatives and, perhaps, even sending an electronic hug. All those things are instruments of connection. The spiritual aspect is the intentionality behind them."

Who, me? Yes, you!

The Bible is filled with people who don't feel up to the challenge of serving God, speaking for God or leading his people. But God always knows what he's doing. Pastor Haviland Houston issues this challenge: "When you are hesitant to act, or feel a failure of nerve coming on, when courage lags, or even if laziness and the 'I don't care' blues get you down, may the words of Mordecai to Esther burn in your hearts and minds: 'And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?'" (See Esther 4:14.)

Max Lucado offers a similar reminder in *You Were Made for This Moment*. "God always has his person," he writes, also citing the book of Esther. "When we feel as though everything is falling apart, God is working in our midst, causing everything to fall into place. He is the King of quiet providence, and he invites you and me to partner with him in his work."

Lucado continues: "[God] has a Joseph for every famine and a David for every Goliath. When his people need rescuing, God calls a Rahab into service. When a baby Moses needs a mama, God prompts an Egyptian princess to have compassion. He always has his person. He had someone in the story of Esther. And in your story he has you."

The Presbyterian Women

Thursday, September 14

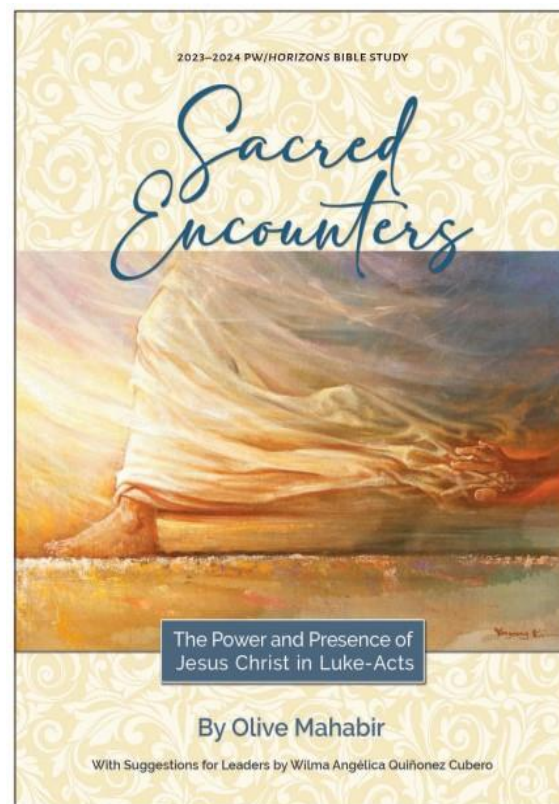
2:00 pm in the Parlor

Join us for fun, food and fellowship at our September Circle Meeting. Nancy Knurek will lead our Bible Study this month. Her study will be based on the 2023 PW/*Horizons* Bible Study, *Sacred Encounters*, authored by Olive Mahabir. *Sacred Encounters* invites us to consider Jesus and Jesus' disciples who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people.

The Gospel According to Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, or Luke-Acts "one story in two parts," demonstrate the unfolding of God's redemptive purposes in human history and present a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ. Written by Luke, a physician and traveling companion of Paul, the message to the early Christian community (and to us) is radical, inclusive, and hope-filled.

Further, this message invites the church to deeper, compassionate engagement with the world. "What are the potential implications for the church if we treat our interactions as sacred encounters that demonstrate the transformative love of Christ Jesus?"

Bring a friend and join us on Thursday, September 14th!



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These healthy chips make a yummy back-to-school snack.

What you need:

- 4 apples, cored and cut into 1/8" rings
- Large bowl
- Spoon
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Baking sheets (sprayed)

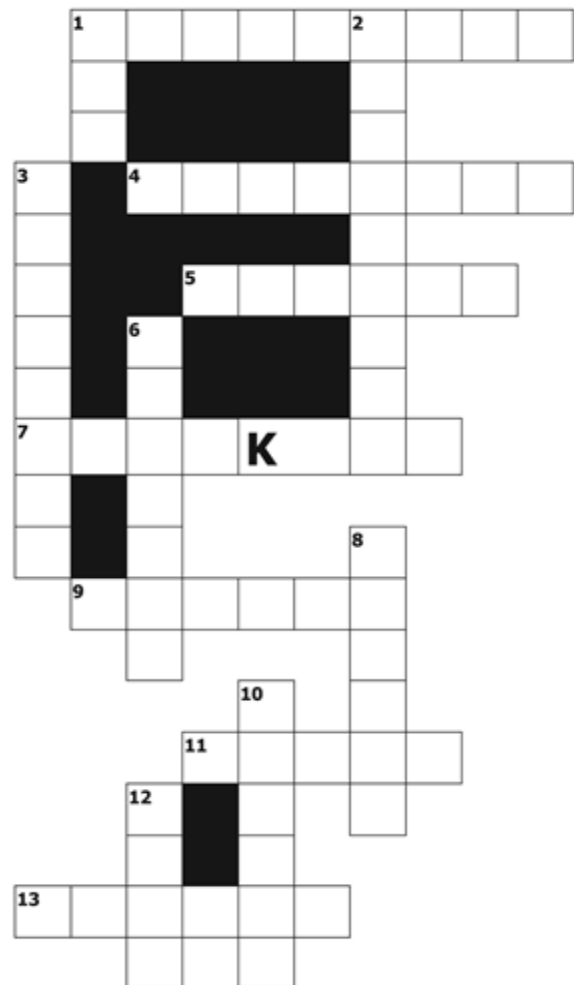
What you do:

1. Place apple slices in the bowl. Add cinnamon and sugar. Stir so apples are coated evenly with the mixture.
2. Place apple slices on the sprayed baking sheets in a single layer.
3. Bake at 200 degrees for two to three hours, until chips are dry but still slightly soft.

Kid's Page

Puzzle!

Use the clues to complete this crossword about women in the Bible.



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. (across) Cousin of Mary (Luke 1:36) | 7. Mother of Esau (Genesis 25:21, 25) |
| 1. (down) Mother of Abel (Genesis 4:1-2) | 8. The wife Jacob loved (Genesis 29:20) |
| 2. Mother of Solomon (2 Samuel 12:24) | 9. Sister of Mary (John 11:1) |
| 3. Moses' wife (Exodus 2:21) | 10. Sewed clothes (Acts 9:39) |
| 4. Lied about her giving to the church (Acts 5:1) | 11. Hosea's wife (Hosea 1:3) |
| 5. Saved her people from destruction in Persia (also a Bible book name) | 12. Sat at Jesus' feet in conversation (Luke 10:39) |
| 6. A judge in Israel (Judges 4) | 13. Sister of Moses and Aaron (Exodus 15:20) |

Answers: 1. (across) Elizabeth, 1. (down) Eve, 2. Bathsheba, 3. Zipporah, 4. Sapphira, 5. Esther, 6. Deborah, 7. Rebekah, 8. Rachel, 9. Martha, 10. Dorcas, 11. Gomer, 12. Mary, 13. Miriam



Heart and Hand Outreach Ministries

HIKE FOR HUNGER 2023 – Register Today!

Join us to raise funds for our programs on Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 2pm.

We are able to meet basic needs for over 6,500 individuals annually thanks to your help. The Kay Hall Hike for Hunger is our annual fundraiser to support programs like the Heart+Hand Food Pantry.

Register today and receive a T-shirt to commemorate our event. Registration for individuals is \$20, and registration for dogs is \$10. All dogs registered will receive a doggy bandanna.

This event is a one-mile accessible walk in beautiful South Charleston. Groups who wish to walk off site for the event should contact Jenny, our Hike Coordinator, at volunteers@hhomwv.org

After you register, help us raise funds to help feed the need! The money raised goes to support our programs and literally helps families in our community who don't have enough to eat. We pack lunch bags each week to help children and families that don't have food when school is not in session. The need is mighty, and your help is both, needed and appreciated. Please solicit donations from family, friends, and neighbors to support your efforts in our Hike for Hunger.

Cents-Ability Offering

From the PCUSA website: "Cents-Ability" (formerly our Two-Cents-A-Meal Offering) is one way that families, congregations, and presbyteries can support the battle against hunger and poverty. Every member is invited to contribute a few cents at every meal. Funds are then used to support local hunger ministries, as well as national and international projects through the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

We thank everyone who contributed to our Cents-Ability offering this year. To date, you donated \$506.00 with 75% going to the Presbyterian Hunger Program and 25% for local hunger needs in our community. The next offering will be received Sunday, August 13.

Start collecting your 5¢ per meal each day. Please remember those who are less fortunate by donating to this monthly offering collected by our children on the second Sunday of each month. Thank you!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1:00 pm Senior Games Mizpah Room	2 <i>Furniture Pick Up Day</i>
3 10:00 am Adult Sunday School (In-Person & Teleconference) 11:00 am Worship Service (In-Service and Livestream) 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	4 LABOR DAY <i>Church Office Closed</i>	5 Committee Meetings 7:00 pm	6	7	8 1:00 pm Senior Games Mizpah Room	9
10 10:00 am Adult Sunday School (In-Person & Teleconference) 11:00 am Worship Service (In-Service and Livestream) 12:00 pm Hot Dog Luncheon for All! 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	11	12	13	14 Presbyterian Women Circle Meeting 2:00 pm / Parlor	15 1:00 pm Senior Games Mizpah Room	16 <i>Furniture Pick Up Day</i>
17 10:00 am Adult Sunday School (In-Person & Teleconference) 11:00 am Worship Service (In-Service and Livestream) 12:00 pm Church Chat 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	18	19 Session Meeting 6:00 pm	20	21	22 1:00 pm Senior Games Mizpah Room	23
24 10:00 am Adult Sunday School (In-Person & Teleconference) 11:00 am Worship Service (In-Service and Livestream) 1:00 pm Church Picnic 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	25	26	27	28	29 1:00 pm Senior Games Mizpah Room	30