

## NEW & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES

### ***First Pres Forum Sunday School Class***

Now through August 18, we're welcoming guest speaker Tony Souder, a member of 1st Pres and CEO of *One Hundred Years*, on "Helping our Children (and Grandchildren) Flourish in Faith for a Lifetime"! All are invited to explore the importance of embracing our youth as a church and integrating them into the life and relationships of the body. Join us at 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall!

### ***Adult Ministries Kick-Off - August 25***

Please join us Sunday, August 25, for our Men's and Women's Ministries kick off events at 10:15am! The men will meet on the 10th floor of the Tower and the women will be in the Fellowship Hall! Note that there will be NO Adult Sunday School.

### ***Douglas Street Parking***

Effective August 1, UTC students and staff will have access to 165 spaces in our McCallie and Douglas lots, Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm, thanks to a new agreement between First Pres and UTC. Roughly 60 clearly marked spaces in both lots plus the entire Connector lot will be reserved at all times for church use only. All lots and spaces are universally available for church parking on Sundays, weekends, evenings, funerals, and special events. **First Pres members are asked to obtain a blue First Pres parking decal from the church office and to please use either the Connector lot or any "church only" marked space in the McCallie or Douglas lot during weekday hours.**

### ***College Ministry Volunteers Needed***

We are looking for volunteers to help out with our new College Ministry! If you're interested in impacting the students of Chattanooga for Christ, please contact our Director of College Ministries Gunther Griffin at [Gunther@1stPresbyterian.com](mailto:Gunther@1stPresbyterian.com).

### ***Communications & Photography Volunteers***

We are in need of someone who enjoys taking high-quality photos and is willing to invest a few hours per month to attend various 1st Pres events, small groups, and Bible studies to take pictures! Digital editing and publishing skills are not required, but would be a welcomed additional contribution, and equipment is provided if needed. We are also looking for anyone able to offer their time, talents, and/or ideas to the Diaconate Communications & Media Sub-Committee! If you're interested in either or both of these opportunities, please contact Deacon Talon Stroud at [Talon.C.Stroud@gmail.com](mailto:Talon.C.Stroud@gmail.com).

### ***New Additions***

Rejoice and be in prayer for new parents and additions to families within our congregation: twin girls Scottie Charlotte Young & Ella James Young, born August 2 to parents Campbell & Carter Young and big sister Palmer.



New to 1st Pres?  
We'd love to connect with you!  
Scan with your phone camera  
to fill out a connect card!



To make a secure contribution  
to 1st Pres, scan the above QR code  
with your phone camera or go to  
[1stPresbyterian.com/Give](http://1stPresbyterian.com/Give).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM EACH SUNDAY

### ***Adult***

#### ***Bible 101: SS 212***

A round-table discussion on the basic studies of Scripture following the Chalmers Center Guide. Currently studying *The Jesus Storybook Bible*.

#### ***Chapter by Chapter: Tower 804***

Currently studying Colossians; mostly 50s+ but all ages welcome.

#### ***College Class: SS 204-C***

Invites rising and current college students.

#### ***Fellowship Class: SS 210***

Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

#### ***First Pres Forum Class: Fellowship Hall***

Offers a rotating schedule of speakers; currently Tony Souder from *One Hundred Years* on helping our children & grandchildren flourish for a lifetime.

#### ***Icebreakers Class: SS 211***

A short lesson followed by small group discussion, focused on understanding Reformed Theology. Currently studying the Westminster Standards.

#### ***The Joy of Learning: Tower 258***

A no-pressure, discussion-based class currently studying 1 Timothy.

#### ***Link Class: SS 209***

Fellowship and prayer followed by a study of selected Psalms for the summer. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

#### ***McCallie/Anderson Class: Chapel***

Class dates back to 1924 and is named after legendary Sunday School teachers J. Park McCallie and Lee Anderson. Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse.

#### ***Reformed by the Word: Tower 10<sup>th</sup> Floor***

An interactive class studying Hebrews. Lessons are followed by a time of prayer.

#### ***Rocking Chair Class: Tower 302***

Focuses on discovering "what sayest the Scripture." Currently studying John MacArthur's series, "The Rapture & the Day of the Lord."

#### ***International & Adult Bible Discussion: SS 204-F***

Part of the First Friends Ministry, welcomes international college students. Currently studying the Kingdom of God.

#### ***Welcome All Class, SS 202***

Currently studying how Jesus lived as a person and what it means to be fully human as God planned, using Paul Miller's *The Person of Jesus*.

#### ***Young Professionals: Tower 304***

The current series is "Psalms: Prayers of the Heart."

### ***Youth & Kids***

***Youth Large Group:*** 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Student Center (across McCallie Ave.)

***Kid's Sunday School:*** Pre K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, ground & 1<sup>st</sup> level Children's Wing

***Nursery:*** Infant – 4-years-old

SS = Sanctuary Side

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*At First Presbyterian, we seek to be a healthy church exhibiting all the fullness of Christ as we disciple believers who develop spiritually, connect relationally, and engage missionally to reach Chattanooga and the world with the gospel.*

## **The Lord's Day**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

11:00 AM

### **THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

#### **WORSHIP REFLECTION**

Today we turn to the issue of prayer in spiritual warfare. Prayer is the means by which we use all the other six pieces of spiritual armor. As the hymn writer says, "Put on the Gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer." Why prayer? Prayer can change reality, heal the sick, and control the forces of nature. Prayer keeps us spiritually alert. It guards us against temptation and releases us from our fears and frustrations. Prayer can hurt our enemy, restrict his activity, and rescue hostages from his camp.

John Piper highlights a danger we face: "Prayer is primarily a wartime walkie-talkie for the mission of the church as it advances against the powers of darkness and unbelief. It malfunctions when we try to make it a domestic intercom to call upstairs for more comforts in the den."

#### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Almighty and merciful God,  
keep us in your goodness, we pray,  
from all things that may hurt us,  
that we, being ready both in mind and body,  
may accomplish with free hearts  
those things which belong to your purpose.  
We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **PRELUDE**

"Sheep May Safely Graze" by J.S. Bach

Patrick Rice, organ

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE**

CHORAL INTROIT

*“To God Be the Glory”  
Please sing as directed.*

† Please stand as you are able.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 145:3-4,7 ESV*

Pastor: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
and His greatness is unsearchable.  
One generation shall commend Your works to another,  
and shall declare Your mighty acts.

**People: They shall pour forth the fame  
of Your abundant goodness  
and shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

† HYMN OF PRAISE

*“I Sing the Almighty Power of God” No. 119 (vv. 1-3)*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 98*

Pastor: What is prayer?

**People: Prayer is an offering up of our desires to God,  
for things agreeable to His will,  
in the name of Christ,  
with confession of our sins,  
and thankful acknowledgment of His mercies.**

† HYMN OF PRAISE

*“Great King of Nations, Hear Our Prayer” No. 713 (vv. 1-6)*

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Gracious Heavenly Father, we come before You  
seeking Your mercy and forgiveness.  
We acknowledge that we have neglected  
the power of prayer in our lives.  
Too often, busyness, distractions, and complacency  
keep us from constant and fervent communication with You.  
Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness.  
We have allowed other voices to drown out Yours.  
Forgive our prayerlessness.  
Empower us to seek You in believing prayer,  
with a renewed resolve to do Your will in all things.  
Strengthen us to live as the original disciples  
who devoted themselves to prayer.  
In Jesus’s name, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*1 John 1:9 ESV*

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just  
to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us  
from all unrighteousness..

† HYMN OF HEALING

*“Sweet Hour of Prayer” No. 634 (vv. 1-3)*

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

OFFERTORY

*“Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace” by Mary McDonald*

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

*Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station  
at the PreK-K department on the Fellowship Hall level.*

† DOXOLOGY

**THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE**

SERMON

*“The Problem of Prayer”  
Ephesians 6:18 (p. 979)  
“A Field Guide to Spiritual Warfare”  
Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer*

SERMON OUTLINE

- 1. Prayer Is a Lifestyle
- 2. Prayer Is a Journey

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

*“Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat” Bulletin*

**THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE**

† BENEDICTION

*2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 ESV*

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself,  
and God our Father, Who loved us  
and gave us eternal comfort  
and good hope through grace,  
comfort your hearts and establish them  
in every good work and word. Amen.

POSTLUDE

*“I Will Arise and Go to Jesus” arr. Michael Card & Craig Duncan  
Celtic Ensemble*

THE GOSPEL OF GOD

419 Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

1. Ap - proach, my soul, the mer - cy seat where Je - sus an - swers prayer;  
2. Thy prom - ise is my on - ly plea; with this I ven - ture nigh:  
3. Bowed down be - neath a load of sin, by Sa - tan sore - ly pressed,  
4. Be thou my shield and hid - ing place, that, shel - tered near thy side,  
5. O won - drous love! to bleed and die, to bear the cross and shame,

there hum - bly fall be - fore his feet, for none can per - ish there.  
thou call - est bur - dened souls to thee, and such, O Lord, am I.  
by war with - out and fears with - in, I come to thee for rest.  
I may my fierce ac - cus - er face, and tell him thou hast died.  
that guilt - y sin - ners, such as I, might plead thy gra - cious name!

WORDS: John Newton, 1779  
MUSIC: Jessie Seymour Irvine, 1871; harm. T. C. L. Pritchard, 1929; alt.

CRIMOND  
CM  
Hebrews 4:14, 16

**Worship Leader**

David Luther

**Presiding Minister**

Ron Brown, *Pastor of Congregational Care*

**Minister of the Word**

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*

Giving Update – fiscal year April 1 through March 31		
	Deacons (General Fund)	World Missions
Annual Budget	\$3,460,000	\$900,000
Budgeted Giving*	\$1,197,692	\$311,538
Raised*	\$992,384	\$264,192
*as of 8/4		

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory  
of David Merton Killeffer by Dr. and Mrs. John J. Killeffer.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers  
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, August 12.*