

NEW & UPCOMING AT 1st PRES

Gospel Fest - February 3

This season’s Concert Series continues Saturday, February 3, at 6pm with Gospel Fest, where we will be joined by Resurrected Baptist Church, New City Fellowship, and Thorns2Crowns Ministry to celebrate Black History Month through songs and spirituals!

Reception for Don Holwerda - February 4

Don Holwerda will be retiring at the end of January, after eleven faithful years on staff as Church Administrator. To thank him for his service, we are holding a reception for him on Sunday, February 4 at 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall (there will be no Sunday School).

It’s a Wonderful Life! Senior Fellowship - February 8

Break out of the winter doldrums with fellowship, a fascinating program, and a great lunch! Lowell Ivey, the new Director of the PCA’s prison ministry, will share his life-changing experiences as a prisoner, his calling to pastoral ministry, and his new calling to shepherd Metanoia Prison Ministries. Fellowship starts at 10:30am in the coffee lounge, and the program starts at 11 in the Fellowship Hall. To RSVP, email Janette.Barnes@gmail.com or RWrenn@epbfi.com.

Women’s Progressive Brunch - February 10

Meet new friends and get to know each other better over a delicious 3-course brunch! Register by February 4 at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events. There is a \$5 charge for the meal, and childcare is available.

High School Winter Retreat - February 16 - 19

High Schoolers, our Winter Retreat is back and is going to be over President’s Day Weekend! We will leave for our retreat on Friday afternoon and return Monday by lunchtime. The total cost is \$250 and a \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. Final payments are due by January 31. To register, go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Hearts & Hammers - February 17

Our first Hearts & Hammers service project day was a huge success, with three teams being sent out to assist Habitat for Humanity, Hope for the Inner City, and an elderly couple at 1st Pres with moving! If you’re interested in serving our community and congregation, fill out the interest form before our next service day at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Adult Summer Short-Term Mission Trips

Our World Missions ministry will be sending out several teams for short-term missions this summer, including: London July 1-8 for the London Evangelism And Prayer (LEAP) Week, and Nairobi, Kenya July 18-28 to provide basic health care services for several communities in the area. Learn more and apply by going to 1stPresbyterianWorldMissions.com/Teams/Applications.

Midweek - January 31

Midweek continues this week, with a meal and fellowship at 5:30pm and electives for nursery, kids, youth, and adults starting at 6:15pm. This semester’s adult elective features guest experts who will examine the Biblical foundations of Western society and equip you to answer the objections raised against them. Go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek for more details!

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM EACH SUNDAY

Adult

Bible 101: all ages, 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: ages 50+, Tower 804

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

Fellowship Class: all ages, SS 210

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

First Pres Forum Class: all ages, Fellowship Hall

Offering a rotating schedule of teachers and speakers. This month, Dr. Herbert Ward, the Chair of the Biblical and Theological Studies Department at Covenant College, will be teaching a series on Old Testament Covenant Theology.

The Joy of Learning: ages 30s - 70s, Tower 258

A no-pressure, discussion-based class currently studying God’s Biblical responses to Screwtape/Satan in C.S. Lewis’s book *The Screwtape Letters*.

Link Class: ages 60+, Tower 301

Fellowship and prayer followed by a study of Philippians. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

McCallie/Anderson Class: all ages, 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: ages 50s - 80s, Tower 10th Floor

An interactive class studying the Gospel according to Mark. Lessons are followed by a time of prayer.

Rocking Chair Class: all ages, 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: all ages, Tower 805

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

Welcome All Class, all ages, Tower 403

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 Couples: ages 20s - 30s couples, SS 211

A short lesson followed by group discussion. Class is currently studying the Book of Church Order from the Presbyterian Church in America’s Constitution.

Young Professionals: ages 20s - 30s, Tower 304

Aimed at connecting recent college graduates and newly-weds in their 20s-30s; current series is “Soul Care: Spiritual Food for Hungry People,” studying Psalms.

Youth & Kids

Youth Large Group: 6th - 12th grade, Student Center (across McCallie Ave.)

Kid’s Sunday School: Pre K - 5th grade, ground, 1st, & 2nd level Children’s Wing

Nursery: Infant - 4-years-old



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, JANUARY 28, 2024
9:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

THE GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

Batter my heart, three-person’d God; for You . . .
Take me to You, imprison me, for I,
Except You enthrall me, never shall be free,
Nor ever chaste, except You ravish me.
— John Donne (1572–1630)

To respond to the distorting nature of temptation and sin,
you must set your affections on the beauty and glory of God,
the loveliness of Christ, and the wonder of the gospel.
“Were our affections filled, taken up,
and possessed with these things . . .
what access could sin, with its painted pleasures,
with its sugared poisons, with its envenomed baits,
have on our souls?”
— John Owen (1616–1683)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty Father, Who gave Your only Son
to die for our sins
and to rise for our justification,
give us grace so to put away
the leaven of malice and wickedness,
that we may always serve You
in pureness of living and truth,
through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“Good Good Father”

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24:3-4,8-9 ESV

Pastor: Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?
Who may stand in His holy place?

People: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to an idol
or swear by what is false.

Pastor: Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

People: Lift up your heads, O you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

†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.

†SONG OF PRAISE

“Goodness of God”

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 26

Pastor: How does Christ execute the office of a king?

People: Christ executes the office of a king,
in subduing us to Himself,
in ruling and defending us,
and in restraining and conquering
all His and our enemies.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God our heavenly Father,
Your Son offers us a truly beautiful life when He announces:
“Blessed are the pure in heart.”
Yet our lives are cluttered with impure thoughts and actions.
“Blessed are the peacemakers.”
Yet we are slow to forgive and pursue reconciliation.
“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness.”
Yet our lives seldom challenge the ways,
priorities, and values of the world.
Forgive us for blushing to speak Your name
and to make known that we are Yours.
Have mercy upon us for Jesus’s sake. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Proverbs 20:9, 28:13 ESV

Who can say, “I have made my heart pure;
I am clean from my sin?”
Whoever conceals his transgressions
will not prosper,
but he who confesses and forsakes them
will obtain mercy.

†SONG OF ASSURANCE

“How Marvelous (I Stand Amazed)”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & OFFERING

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

“God with Us”

Genesis 39:1-23 (p. 33 in church pew Bible)

“Keeping Your Faith When Life Lets You Down: A Study of the Life of Joseph”
Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

OUTLINE

1. God is with Us in the Palace

2. God is with Us in the Prison

†SONG OF RESPONSE

“I Will Glory in My Redeemer”

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

adapted from Jude 1:24-25

Pastor: To those who have been called,
who are loved by God the Father
and kept by Jesus Christ:
He is able to keep you from falling
and to present you before His glorious presence
without fault and with great joy—
to the only God our Savior
be glory, majesty, power, and authority,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages,
now and forevermore!

People: Thanks be to God, Amen!

Giving Update	Deacons (General Fund)	World Missions
Annual Budget	\$3,046,380	\$850,000
Raised Year-to-Date	\$2,244,801	\$938,678*
*World Missions fiscal year ended as of December 2023		



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 First Pres, scan the above QR
code with your phone camera or
text GIVE to 423-888-0345.

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Barbara Mullinax by her family.

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to
our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, January 29.