New & Upcoming at 1st Pres

Reception for Don Holwerda - Today

Don Holwerda retired 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 (**NO Sunday School, except for kids**).

First Cup - February 6

1st Pres Men are invited to join us for our next monthly breakfast on Tuesday, January 9, on the 10th floor of the Tower from 7am - 8am. Come get some good food, delicious coffee, and a soul-quenching devotional!

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 <u>1stPresbyterian.com/Events</u>. There is a \$5 charge for the meal, and childcare is available.

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.

1st Pres Deacons - Who We Are, the Master Plan

Deacons are elected officers of the church, and one of the many things they are charged with is maintaining the facilities in our 113-year-old church. To meet the needs of our evolving congregation and environment, the Deacons have developed the Master Plan: an extensive project (which we are currently in the fundraising phase of) to renovate our buildings and address some crucial infrastructure issues. We want to be as open as possible about these many changes. If you have any questions regarding the Master Plan, you can direct them to MasterPlanning@1stPresbyterian.com.

Midweek - February 7

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. For more information, go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

For more information on these and other upcoming events, subscribe to our Weekly Email Announcements on our website under the "Resources" tab, or go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM EACH SUNDAY

NOTE: No Adult or Youth Sunday School today — We are having a retirement celebration for Church Administrator Don Holwerda in the Fellowship Hall.

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, FEBRUARY 4, 2024 9:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Worship Reflection

We can trust God when life hurts because God is infinite in His wisdom, absolutely sovereign in His power, and perfect in His love.

– Jerry Bridges

Let us learn to concern ourselves with the sorrows and troubles of others, and to inquire into the reason of their sadness. We should especially consider the tears of the oppressed. For it is some relief to those that are in trouble to be taken notice of.

 adapted from Matthew Henry's Commentary on Genesis 40

Prayer of Preparation

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without Whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us Your mercy; that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"Let Us Adore"

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

†Call to Worship

Isaiah 49:14-16 ESV

Pastor: But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me;

my Lord has forgotten me.

Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion

on the son of her womb?

People: Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before me."

†Prayer of Invocation

†Song of Praise

"O God Beyond All Praising"

†Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 28 Pastor: How does the knowledge

of God's creation and providence help us?

People: We can be patient when things go against us,

thankful when things go well,

and for the future we can have good confidence

in our faithful God and Father

that nothing in creation will separate us from His love.

For all creatures are so completely in God's hand that without His will they can neither move nor be moved.

COVENANT BAPTISM

John Crawford O'Shaughnessy, son of Brendan & Kristen O'Shaughnessy

†Song of Assurance

"Rock of Ages"

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

"Faith for the Long Haul"
Genesis 40:1-23 (pp. 33-34 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. Faith Serves

2. Faith Trusts God's Sovereignty

3. Faith Trusts God's Providence

†Song of Response

"Completely Done"

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

†Benediction

adapted from Psalm 121:7-8 NASB

Pastor: May the LORD protect you from all evil;

may He keep your soul.

and may He guard your going out and your coming in

from this time and forever.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

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 to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jean Adcox by the family.

Giving Update for Deacons/General Fund

Annual Budget (fiscal year ends March 31):

\$3,046,380

Raised Year-to-Date:
\$2,382,495

The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee on Monday, February 5, and delivered by volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on **Tuesday, February 6.**

Office (423) 267-1206 Office@1stPresbyterian.com <u>www.1stPresbyterian.com</u>