

NEW & UPCOMING AT 1ST PRES

Announcing Our New College Director, Gunther Griffin

We are excited to announce that the Lord has called Gunther Griffin as our Director of College Ministries! Gunther and his wife Sam come to us from Bethel Presbyterian in Charlotte, SC, where Gunther has served the last four years as Director of Youth and Family Ministries. They are celebrating the birth of their first child, Barrett (Bear), born on Sunday, April 7. They plan to begin their time here this summer!

ShelbyNext Help Desk - Today & May 19

We are transitioning to our new church management software, ShelbyNext. This software is how our church members can search the directory, and how congregants receive emails, register for events, and give. We will have a help desk available in the Connector after both the 9am and 11am services today and Sunday, May 19, for anyone having trouble logging in and using the new system.

Interim Kids Ministry Team

Our Kids Ministry Director Emily Brelsford and her husband David are expecting their first child this month! While Emily is on maternity leave, the Kids Ministry will be in the capable hands of our Interim Kids Ministry Director Grace O'Dell, and our Interim Nursery Coordinator Mary Campbell Harris! Grace can be reached at Grace@1stPresbyterian.com, and Mary Campbell can be reached at MC@1stPresbyterian.com.

Ladies Fellowship Lunch - April 30

Join us for a delicious lunch in the charming, relaxed atmosphere at The Tea Cottage on Hickory Valley Road! Registrations and \$20 fee are due by April 23. Go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events to reserve your spot!

Evangelism Workshop - May 3-4

Learn how to share your faith at our next annual Evangelism Seminar on Friday March 3, from 6:30pm - 8:30pm and Saturday, May 4, from 8:00am - 12:30pm on the 10th floor of the Tower! Childcare is available for children ages 0-5. Learn more and register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Ministry Fair - May 5

Save the date for our next annual Ministry Fair! During the Sunday School hour, you are invited down to the Fellowship Hall to meet our community ministry partners and get to know the 1st Pres ministries available to you! There will be NO adult Sunday School, but youth and kids will still meet.

Five Hebrew Love Songs Concert - May 11

Please join us on the 10th floor at 7:30pm for an evening of romantic music from the Chattanooga String Quartet, comprised of 1st Pres musicians, and our own Christine & Darrin Hassevoort! Space is limited! Tickets are free and may be reserved at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Midweek - April 24

Our last Midweek of the spring semester is this Wednesday! We will share a meal and fellowship at 5:30pm, and electives for nursery, kids, youth, and adults will start at 6:15pm! Learn more at 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

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.

Fellowship Class: SS 210

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

First Pres Forum Class: Fellowship Hall

Offering a rotating schedule of teachers and speakers. Currently studying "The Joy of Generosity; how worshipping God with our resources is a big part of living a joyful life in Christ."

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 Philippians. 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 10th Floor

An interactive class studying the Gospel according to Mark. 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

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 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, APRIL 21, 2024

9:00 AM

† *Please stand as you are able.*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTIONS

In our sermon text this morning, Jacob describes his life on earth as a brief sojourn (see Genesis 47:9), "The thought of life as a pilgrimage or sojourn will inspire and cheer the heart under the storm and stress of earthly discipline. For amidst all troubles and trials, shadows and sorrows, the heart will ever be darting forward in hope and expectation of the rest that remains for the people of God." For our God will fulfill all of His promises!
- W. H. Griffith Thomas

Remember John Bunyan's defiant words: "There's no discouragement that will make me once relent my first avowed intent to be a pilgrim" on the King's Highway that leads to the Celestial City. As you prepare to worship our promise-keeping God, contemplate whether you are a sojourner or a settler. Ask the Lord to awaken in you a longing for the better, heavenly country! Remember Hebrews 11:16: "God is not ashamed to be called [your] God, for He has prepared for [you] a city."

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Faithful and loving Father,
You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards You, that we, loving You in all things and above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

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.

Find more info on our Discipleship Ministries at 1stPresbyterian.com/Discipleship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

*"Fairrest Lord Jesus (You Are Beautiful to Me)" arr. Heather Sorenson
Youth Choir*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

from Titus 3:4-5 ESV

Pastor: But when the goodness and loving kindness
of God our Savior appeared,

**People: He saved us,
not because of works done by us in righteousness,
but according to His own mercy.**

†PRAYER OF INVOCATION

†SONG OF PRAISE

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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.**

*living **universal

†SONG OF PRAISE

"Goodness of God"

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

*"Offertory" by John Ness Beck
Micah 6:6-8 Youth & Sanctuary Choirs*

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.*

†GLORIA PATRI

THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

SERMON

"The Promise-Driven Life"

Genesis 46:1-47:31 (pp. 39-41)

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

SERMON OUTLINE

1. Faith Sent with a Promise (46:1-26)
2. Faith Sustained by a Promise (47:1-31)

THE TABLE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Most merciful Father,
we are frequently driven by faithless fears and worldly anxieties.
In spite of Your great faithfulness,
we continue to struggle with unbelief.
The pain, heartaches, and disappointments of this life
cause us to doubt Your goodness and power.
Forgive us and strengthen us by
setting us free from a past that we cannot change,
opening to us a future in which we can be changed,
and granting us grace to grow more and more
in Your likeness through Jesus Christ,
Who is our only hope and Savior. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Peter 1:18-19 ESV

You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers,
not with perishable things such as silver or gold,
but with the precious blood of Christ,
like that of a Lamb without blemish or spot.

COMMUNION

- Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians when we recall Jesus's cross, relieve His anguish, and renew our vows to live as His followers.
- We invite all to participate in this meal: who profess faith in Jesus Christ, who are members of a gospel-proclaiming church, who are endeavoring to live at peace with God and others, and who seek strengthening grace to live more faithfully for Jesus.
- If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, we encourage you to spend this time considering Jesus's broken body and shed blood. Pray and ask Him to forgive your sins and to give you eternal life.

†SONG OF RESPONSE

"Before the Throne of God Above"

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 ESV

Pastor: 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.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Worship Leader

West Breedlove, *Assistant Director of Worship*

Presiding Minister

Randy Nabors, *Pastor of Missions*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*



*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.*

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Henry and Caroline Bickel by their children: Caroline, Henry, Florence, and Laura.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, April 22.*