

NEW & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES

College Lunch – Today!

College students are invited to a fellowship lunch in the Nell Davis Classroom (take the stairs down from the black & white tile foyer) following this service!

Inquirer's Class – September 7

Are you interested in learning more about 1st Pres or would you like to become a member? Join us at our next Inquirer's Class from 8:30am - 12:00pm in the Nell Davis Classroom, downstairs from the Connector. A light breakfast will be provided. Please register by Monday, September 2 at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Youth Family Fellowship – September 8

Our Youth Families are invited to lunch following the 11am worship service on September 8 in the Student Center to hear from the Youth Ministry Team about the 2024-2025 schedule. Come and find out all we are doing and how you can help! Please RSVP at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

World Missions Lunch Bunch – September 9

Please join us for our next Lunch Bunch at 12:00pm on the 10th floor of the Tower, featuring *seeJesus* Uganda Trainer Jonathan Wanyoto! Feel free to bring your own lunch, or order a \$12 sandwich box upon registration. Learn more and register by this Thursday, September 5, at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

First Cup – September 10

Please join us for our First Cup Men's Breakfast on the first Tuesday of every month starting September 10! We'll meet in the Nell Davis classroom at 7:00am for a delicious breakfast (\$5), lots of coffee, and a soul-quenching devotional!

Women's Bible Studies – starting September 10

Our fall Bible studies are starting up, and we have a variety of options for any schedule! Go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Women to learn more and register!

Midweek – starting September 11

Midweek is back for the fall semester! Please join us each Wednesday at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall for food and fellowship, followed by a variety of electives for all ages starting at 6:15pm! We're offering two adult electives this year: *Real Comfort for the Real World – A Study in 2 Corinthians* taught by Ron Brown in the Chapel, and *The Flourishing Marriage* taught by Josh Adair and Dick Cain in the Fellowship Hall. Learn more at 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek.

It's a Wonderful Life! Senior Fellowship & Program – September 12

This month, senior 60+ are invited to hear from our newest staff members: Josh Adair, Ron Brown, and Gunther Griffin! Fellowship begins at 10:30am, the program begins at 11am, and lunch (\$8) is served at noon, all in the Fellowship Hall. Please register by emailing RWrenn@Epbfi.com or Janette.Barnes@Gmail.com.

News from the Capital Campaign

Our Capital Campaign's first priority is to fulfill our stewardship responsibilities by addressing the deferred maintenance and necessary improvements to our existing facilities. The Building Committee—John Healy, Chairman, Tommy Austin, Nancy Hill, and David Mattoon—has employed structural engineers and general contractors to assess these needs and determine their costs. For more information about the Capital Campaign, please visit 1stPresbyterian.com/Build or email CapitalCampaign@1stPresbyterian.com.

Recently Bereaved

Please pray for those in our congregation who have recently lost a loved one: Barbara Murray & family in the passing of her husband, 1st Pres member Dr. Smith Murray.

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 203

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; Elder Steve Dunn on “The Person of Jesus: Imitating His Dependence on the Father” starting Sept 8.

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 10th 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: 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

SS = Sanctuary Side



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, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

11:00 AM

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

“Let all who trust in the merit of the Messiah's death be joyful at every remembrance of Him, and let their holy gratitude lead them to the fullest consecration to His cause.”

– Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Our sermon text this morning teaches us that remembering who we are and what our purpose is enables us to bear up under suffering. Paul's physical imprisonment did not hinder, but rather enhanced his role as an ambassador for Christ.

John Chrysostom comments:

“Paul, though a prisoner, was more powerful than the emperor who put him in chains. For though he was bound, his word was not bound, but it went forth with all boldness, and the chains themselves became a means of proclaiming the Gospel.”

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty and ever-living God,
in Your tender love You sent Your Son,
our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Him our nature
and to suffer death upon the cross for us.
He gave us the example of great humility.
Mercifully grant that we may walk
in the way of His suffering,
and also share in His resurrection,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRELUDE

“How Can I Keep from Singing?” arr. Mary McDonald

Sigrud Luther, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

*"O Worship the King" by J.M. Haydn
Psalm 104*

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Daniel 7:13-14 ESV

Pastor: I saw in the night visions,
and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a Son of man,
and He came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before Him.

**People: And to Him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him;
His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away, and His kingdom
one that shall not be destroyed.**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† HYMN OF PRAISE

"O Perfect Love" No. 722 (vv. 1-4)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A 36

Pastor: What are the benefits which in this life
do accompany or flow from justification, adoption,
and sanctification?

**People: The benefits which in this life
do accompany or flow from justification, adoption,
and sanctification, are, assurance of God's love,
peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit,
increase of grace, and perseverance in grace to the end.**

† HYMN OF PRAISE

"O Love of God, How Strong and True" No. 81 (vv. 1,3,4)

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Holy and gracious Father,
the highest court in the universe
has declared us completely forgiven,
totally accepted, and forever loved.
Yet today we ask Your forgiveness
for not living in the security of Your love.
We confess that too often fear and pride
drive many of our decisions and
that disappointments and difficulties
have caused us to doubt Your love and care.
Grant us renewed faith to trust Your loving heart,
for we pray in Jesus's name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Peter 1:18-19 NIV

For you know that it was not with perishable things
such as silver or gold that you were redeemed
from the empty way of life handed down to you
from your ancestors,
but with the precious blood of Christ,
a lamb without blemish or defect.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"I Will Glory in My Redeemer"

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

"O Love" by Elaine Hagenberg

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 Price of Prayer"

Ephesians 6:20 (p. 979)

"A Field Guide to Spiritual Warfare"

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

SERMON OUTLINE

1. Proclaiming the Gospel Is Costly

2. Proclaiming the Gospel Is Necessary

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 529 (vv. 1-4)

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

† BENEDICTION

2 Thessalonians 3:5 NIV

May the Lord direct your hearts
into God's love
and Christ's perseverance. Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Sarabande" by Carl Bohm

Ann Shaw, organ

Worship Leader

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*

Presiding Minister

Joshua Adair, *Pastor of Discipleship*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Senior Pastor*

Giving Update as of 8/25 – fiscal year April 1 - March 31

	Deacons (General Fund)	World Missions
<i>Annual Budget</i>	\$3,460,000	\$900,000
<i>Budgeted Giving*</i>	\$1,397,308	\$363,462
<i>Raised*</i>	\$1,315,655	\$283,873

Donations to First Presbyterian Church are tax-deductible. Unless otherwise noted, and in accordance with IRS regulations, donors agree to relinquish control of donated funds to the discretion of the church.



*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 with your
phone camera or go to
1stPresbyterian.com/Give.*

*The flowers today are given in loving memory of Linda Austin by Pete Austin III
with thanks to God for our 59+ years of marriage
before our Savior took Linda home on September 4, 2021, three years ago.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, September 2.*