

NEW & UPCOMING AT FIRST PRES

First Pres Forum Upcoming Schedule

Join us for the First Pres Forum class, which offers something different every week! You can join us regularly, or just come when you're interested in the week's topic. Today, we'll hear from the Stephen Ministry leadership team about their ministry providing one-on-one Christian care and how you can get involved; next Sunday, October 6, we'll hear a report about this past summer at Camp Vesper Point from Director Forrest Walker! View the full schedule and learn more about our adult Sunday School options at 1stPresbyterian.com/SundaySchool.

Woman at the Well – Tomorrow

Join us Monday, September 30, from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the Fellowship Hall for a fun evening of fellowship, dessert, and a testimony from Samantha Adair! We'll also be participating in a service project by partnering with New City Fellowship to help stock their Outreach Pantry! Go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events for a list of items, and you can deposit them in one of the donation boxes during the event.

73rd Annual World Missions Conference – October 9 - 13

Join us for this year's World Missions Conference! Our theme is "Reap the Harvest, Pray for Reapers!" from Matthew 9:37-38, and our keynote speaker is Dr. Irwyn Ince, Coordinator of Mission to North America and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology for Reformed Theological Seminary! We have a variety of events for all ages, and childcare is available for most events. **Certain events and all childcare (except Midweek childcare) require registration by October 6, including the brunch reception following the worship services on October 13.** Plan your week with us and register at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

An Evening with Keith & Kristyn Getty – October 17

1st Pres and Covenant College present an evening with Grammy-nominated hymn-writers and singers Keith & Kristyn Getty Thursday, October 17, at 7:30pm at Redemption to the Nations Church! Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Inquirer's Class – November 2

Are you interested in learning more about 1st Pres and/or becoming a member? Come hear about our church's vision for the city, what we believe, and some of our discipleship and ministry opportunities at our next Inquirer's Class on Saturday, November 2, from 8:30am - 12:00pm in the Nell Davis classroom downstairs from the Connector. A light breakfast will be provided. Please register by Tuesday, October 29 at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Children's Ministry – Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers for our Children's Ministry! We especially ask that parents whose child(ren) regularly participate in our Children's Ministry commit to volunteering with us at least once a quarter. Note that a background check may be required for you to volunteer, and we will reach out to you if necessary. **If you're interested, please fill out the interest form at 1stPresbyterian.com/Kids to indicate how often and in what areas you can volunteer!**

Midweek – continues October 2

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! 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.

College Class: SS 203

Invites rising and current college students.

Fellowship Class: SS 210

Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse.

First Pres Forum Class: Fellowship Hall

Offers a rotating schedule of speakers: today only Stephen Ministry on their upcoming training program; Oct. 6 a report on this past summer at Camp Vesper Point from Director Forrest Walker.

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.

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

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

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



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 29, 2024

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

"And they said, 'Let us rise up and build.'
So they strengthened their hands for the good work"
(Nehemiah 2:18 ESV).

Charles Haddon Spurgeon urges us to cultivate a similar zeal for God's work:

"When the hand of the Lord is with us,
it should stir up our hearts to bold action.
The people responded with courage
because Nehemiah's faith was contagious,
teaching us that true leadership inspires others
to do great things for God."

Nehemiah was a big-godder
whose confidence was not in human ability
but in God's provision and power.
The task at hand was too big for him,
and so he highlighted where his hope
for success was anchored:
"The God of heaven will make us prosper,
and we His servants will arise and build" (2:20).
As followers of Christ, we are called to rise and build,
participating in His enterprise
to make disciples of Christ and build His church.
But "unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain" (Psalm 127:1).

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,
You have built your Church
upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.
Grant us to be so joined together
in unity of spirit by their teaching,
that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to You
We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“House of the Lord”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 71:23 ESV

Pastor: My lips will shout for joy,
when I sing praises to You;

**People: My soul also,
which You have redeemed.**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† HYMN OF PRAISE

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from William Temple’s Readings in St. John’s Gospel

Pastor: What is worship?

People: We believe that true worship

**is the response of the whole person
to the greatness and goodness of God.
Therefore, to worship is to quicken the conscience
by the holiness of God,
to feed the mind with the truth of God,
to purge the imagination by the beauty of God,
to open the heart to the love of God,
and to devote the will to the purpose of God.**

† HYMN OF PRAISE

“How Great Thou Art” No. 44 (vv. 1&4)

MORNING PRAYER

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“There Is a Fountain (Your Precious Blood)”

OFFERTORY

*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness, arr. Dan Forrest
Please sing as directed.*

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

*Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station
at the 1st – 3rd grade Children’s Wing on the first floor behind the Sanctuary.*

† DOXOLOGY

THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

SERMON

“Faith Prepared”

Nehemiah 2:1-20 (pp. 398-399)

“A City That Lasts: Seeing Christ in the Book of Nehemiah”

Gabriel N.E. Fluhner

SERMON OUTLINE

1. A Trembling Request (vv. 1-8)

2. Taunting Opposition (vv. 10, 19)

3. Trusting the God of the Covenant (vv. 9, 11-18, 20)

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

“O Worship the King”

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† BENEDICTION

Jude 1-2, 24-25 ESV

To those who are called,
beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.
Now to Him Who is able to keep you from stumbling
and to present you blameless
before the presence of His glory with great joy,
to the only God, our Savior,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority,
before all time and now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Ode to Joy” arr. Matt Riley

Orchestra

Worship Leaders

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*
West Breedlove, *Assistant Director of Worship*

Presiding Liturgist

9:00 AM: Gunther Griffin, *Director of College Ministry*
11:00 AM: Joshua Adair, *Pastor of Discipleship*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhner, *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 with your
phone camera or go to
1stPresbyterian.com/Give.*

Giving Update as of 9/22 – fiscal year April 1 - March 31

	<u>Deacons (General Fund)</u>	<u>World Missions</u>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	\$3,460,000	\$900,000
<i>Budgeted Giving</i>	\$1,663,462	\$432,692
<i>Raised</i>	\$1,495,037	\$308,343

Donations to First Presbyterian Church are tax-deductible. In accordance with IRS regulations, donors agree that ultimate control over donated funds lies with the church.

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Mr. and Mrs. Walton Boxell and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers
to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, September 30.*

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