



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH *of*  
CHATTANOOGA

# **Church Ministries and Volunteer Opportunities**

**February 2025 Update**

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*Want to join a prayer group? Each prayer ministry is marked with a double asterisk (\*\*).*

**Camp Vesper Point:** Camp Vesper Point is a beautiful summer camp and retreat center located on 120+ acres beside the beautiful Lake Chickamauga near Soddy Daisy, TN. A Chattanooga tradition since 1954, Vesper Point became a summer home for campers and staff who love the outdoors and seek an authentic relationship with Christ. The cornerstone of each summer are counselors and staff who exemplify Christ and share their testimonies each evening during Vespers, while overlooking the lake. Activities include water skiing, swimming, bouldering, the Hoe Down, and all sorts of other adventures. These activities serve as stepping-stones for creating a Gospel centered community where campers and staff are drawn closer to Christ.

**Volunteer opportunities:** volunteer workdays, equipment donations, prayer, hosting counselors. For volunteer opportunities contact:

Forrest Walker, Camp Director, [forrest@vesperpoint.org](mailto:forrest@vesperpoint.org)

Mark Hill, Committee Chair, [hills1113@comcast.net](mailto:hills1113@comcast.net)

CVP Office at 423-332-1849

If you are interested in hosting an event at camp or have a desire to spend time at camp, contact: Camp Director Forrest Walker at [forrest@vesperpoint.org](mailto:forrest@vesperpoint.org)

### **College, Youth, and Young Professionals:**

**College Ministry:** First Pres College Ministry seeks to minister to the college students of Chattanooga (UTC, Chatt State, Covenant college) through the unique challenges that arise in college. First Pres (in conjunction with RUF and other campus ministries) longs to see students come to know the love of Christ Jesus surrounded by a community of believers. For volunteer opportunities, contact:

Gunther Griffin, College Director, [gunther@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:gunther@1stpresbyterian.com)

Frank Harrison, Committee Chair, [frank\\_harrison@bcbst.com](mailto:frank_harrison@bcbst.com)

**Youth Ministry (MS/HS):** The Youth Ministry of First Presbyterian exists to gather our students in hopes that they would know, trust in, and treasure Christ, and to disciple our students in hopes that they will grow as faithful, fruitful, followers of Christ. This is primarily accomplished through small group discussion, large group teaching, events, retreats, mission opportunities, and one-on-one mentorship. By God's grace, and for His glory, we hope to be a welcoming, authentic community who worships God in gospel-centered fellowship, and loves others in gospel-centered service.

**Youth Large Group Sunday School:** 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Student Center  
Volunteer opportunities: Sunday School teachers, weekly small group leaders, retreat & conference chaperones, event hosts, student & intern mentors, and prayer. Contact:  
Isabella Bridges, Co Youth Director, isabella@1stpresbyterian.com  
Jackson Fleming, Co Youth Director, jackson@stpresbyterian.com  
Cherie Brown, Youth Ministry Logistical Coordinator,  
cherie@1stpresbyterian.com

**Young Professionals:**  
Contact Dick Cain, Senior Assistant Pastor, dick@1stpresbyterian.com

**Congregational Care Ministries:** Volunteer opportunities abound in our Church Care Ministries. Church members interested in volunteering in any of the ministries described below may contact the leader of that ministry or:

Ron Brown, Assistant Minister of Congregational Care,  
ron@1stpresbyterian.com  
Steve Dunn, Executive Committee Chair, popojaco@gmail.com

**Congregational Care:** Congregational Care is a large umbrella of opportunities to serve our members, and especially our senior adults at First Presbyterian. Our Honor Roll lists about 100 members who are unable to attend worship or other activities regularly.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers keep in touch through phone calls, notes and visits. Annual deliveries of small cakes and poinsettias during holidays help to remind the recipients that they are remembered. A special focus on widows and widowers culminates in an annual luncheon highlighted by the choir and many helpers. Volunteers can also serve by participating in Monday morning prayer group and receiving and using the church prayer email. Contact:  
Teresa North, northh@comcast.net

**Bereavement Meals:** As an extension of Care and Concern within the church, this committee was formed for the purpose of serving a meal for the family of a deceased church member following his/her funeral or memorial service.

Volunteer opportunities: Several teams, headed by a leader and co-leader, rotate their opportunities for service. Generally, any volunteer will only be

called upon to serve a meal at every 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> funeral.  
Lynda Jackson (Bereavement meals), lyndatnjackson@gmail.com

**Funerals:** For assistance in handling all the details of a funeral/memorial service, including coordination of visitation, service, and meal or reception afterwards, contact:

Peggy Jenkins (Bereavement Coordinator), peggy.jenkins50@gmail.com

**Card-E-Ology:** The Card-E-Ology ministry makes free cards in several categories for First Presbyterian members and friends to use to encourage others. We are dedicated to sending our God's Holy Word in every card we make. We create cards and also repurpose donated cards. Cards are made for the general population, for other ministries in the church (such as, Care and Concern, the Children's Ministry, and Prison Ministry), and for visiting missionaries.

This is a volunteer ministry, and anyone who can sort, cut, fold, and/or glue and design is welcome to join us. We would love to have more workers, as we stay busy with the 3000+ cards we make each year. We meet most Fridays.

Jean Hawkins, jenetics7@hotmail.com

**Card ministries:** Individuals designated for the month take time to send notes and cards to Honor Roll / Honored Friends and Seniors who are celebrating a birthday. Volunteers also send notes to new parents, new members, those who have recently lost a loved one, family in the military, caregivers, and those who are marking the first year after the passing of a spouse, child or parent.

Volunteer opportunities: To join one of these card ministries, contact

Mary Coleman, mcoleman0718@yahoo.com

Joy Hempy, hempyr@comcast.net

Barbara Murray, Bhmurray@epbfi.com

C.C. Edwards, ccgedwards@comcast.net

Jane Fitzpatrick, janesfinejewelry@gmail.com

Marcia Christian, mjchris9@gmail.com

Cindy Lyon, cindyleelyon@gmail.com

**Care and Concern visits:** Volunteers offer encouragement to our sick, our Honor Roll / Honored Friends, and homebound members by visiting them in their homes.

Volunteer opportunities: We can always use more teams for visiting.

Don Elkins, donelkins@epbfi.com  
Kittie Stauffer, misskittie0515@gmail.com

**Pastor visits**, contact:

Ron Brown, Assistant Minister of Congregational Care,  
ron@1stpresbyterian.com

**Daily Buddy Check:** If you live alone and would like someone to check in with you each day, let Congregational Care know.

Teresa North, (423) 309-4759

**\*\*Daily Hospital/Sick/Bereaved Prayer List:** A daily email list of anyone in the hospital, prayer requests, newly bereaved, new additions, and military associated with First Pres. Contact the church office to get on the email list.  
Office@1stpresbyterian.com

**\*\*E-prayer list:** Receive up-to-the-minute prayer requests from church members, their families and friends, via email.

Gigi Gross, gggross@epbfi.com

**Flower Ministry:** The floral arrangements in the Sanctuary each Sunday during worship services are generously donated by our members. When the flowers are no longer needed in the Sanctuary, volunteers meet, take the flowers apart, and arrange them into smaller bouquets for those in the hospital, nursing homes, etc.

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers are needed to donate and to deliver flowers.

Connie Crawford, missconnie2u@epbfi.com

Gigi Gross, gggross@epbfi.com

**Honor Roll:** First Presbyterian's honor roll consists of members who are home bound or need assistance getting around (Honored Friends).

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers are needed to encourage our honor roll members by delivering Easter cakes and Christmas gifts, sending cards, making calls, and paying visits to members' homes.

Mary Coleman, mcoleman0718@yahoo.com

**\*\*Monday Morning Prayer Group:** Both men and women join together to pray for our church family and missionaries, and reach out after prayer by sending "We prayed for you today" cards. Weekly, Monday at 10:00 AM,

Session Room.

Volunteer opportunities: Monday morning pray-ers needed!

Phyllis Holwerda, pd.holwerda@epbfi.com

**New Babies Ministry:** This ministry coordinates communication of a baby's birth throughout the church so that different ministries and church personnel can do their part in ministering and serving the baby and family.

Rachel Allred, Rachel.d.dyer@gmail.com

Meredith Clark, meredithpclark@gmail.com

Teresa North, northh@comcast.net

**\*\*Phone prayer chain:** A long-time ministry for some of First Presbyterian's women is to call other women members to join them in prayer for serious medical needs of any church member. You can activate the prayer chain by calling:

Faith Cochran, (423) 894-5742

**Senior Adult Sunday:** Usually held annually after a Sunday service to honor our seniors.

Jane Fitzpatrick, janesfinejewelry@gmail.com

Teresa North, northh@comcast.net

**"Sing With the Choir" Visitations:** Members are invited to sing with a group from our choir as they periodically visit homebound members.

Peggy Jenkins, peggy.jenkins50@gmail.com

**Thanksgiving Meal Delivery.** For information and opportunities, contact:

Mary Coleman, mcoleman0718@yahoo.com

Gigi Gross, gggross@epbfi.com

Teresa North, northh@comcast.net

**TLC - Touching Lives for Christ:** Volunteer to be part of the committee in your neighborhood (zip code) which takes a meal to someone who is ill, has been hospitalized, had a baby, or experienced a death in the family. Each area has a chairman who coordinates with those in that neighborhood.

Volunteer opportunities: Join a TLC team.

Marilyn Boxell, msboxell@epbfi.com

C.C. Edwards, ccgedwards@comcast.net

Teresa North, northh@comcast.net

Sue Sawrie, suesawrie@gmail.com



**Widows/Widowers Ministry:** The widows and widowers committee serves our church community by periodically planning luncheons and outings for our widowed members. We also send cards, flowers, and make phone calls of encouragement.

Volunteer opportunities: Contact  
C.C. Edwards, ccgedwards@comcast.net

**Golf Cart Ministry:** The golf cart ministry provides transportation to attendees in need of help getting from the Douglas street church parking lot to the church entrance every Sunday from March through November. The ministry operates with Deacon oversight, having church member drivers in sufficient numbers where each volunteer is only needed from 9:45-11:00 a.m. two to three Sundays a year. We are always looking for new drivers.

Volunteer opportunities: Anyone interested in this ministry should contact:  
Rick Collins, recollins@epbfi.com

**Greeters for the Connection Team:** Each Sunday, before each service, volunteers stand at the Connector, the black and white foyer, and the Douglas Street doors, to greet everyone who enters the building. Working in coordination with the Deacons, Connection Team Greeters offer a bulletin or other information as well as a friendly smile and warm welcome to First Pres. These volunteers are the face of the church and make the "first impression."

Volunteer opportunities: A minimum of 4 volunteers are needed each week.  
Contact:

Jim Lyon, jimlyon1@gmail.com

**IAWL (It's A Wonderful Life):** A ministry that serves the senior adult members and friends of our church. The meetings are held the second Thursday of each month from September to May. Each gathering begins with a time of fellowship, followed by the meeting itself which includes "joke time," prayer time, devotional, special program, and a hot lunch afterwards. The cost of the lunch is \$8.00. Wonderful day trips are offered periodically. A newsletter for this group is printed 4 times a year.

Volunteer opportunities: We welcome both volunteers and participants!  
David Cooper, cannon55@epbfi.com

**New Member Orientation:** Assimilation is the process by which a person visits the church, desires to join, completes the Inquirer's Class, meets with an Elder, is

accepted into membership, and is then enfolded into the life of the church in a comprehensive way. During the process, inquirers are encouraged to use some simple assessment tools that help them identify their spiritual gifts and areas of ministry they are passionate about. They are encouraged to worship regularly, join a Sunday School class and/or a small group and get involved in a ministry.

Volunteer opportunities: Church members who volunteer to help with Assimilation can assist with the Inquirer's Class, or come alongside new members as they get "plugged in."

Dick Cain, Senior Assistant Pastor, dick@1stpresbyterian.com

Ron Brown, Assistant Minister of Congregational Care,  
ron@1stpresbyterian.com

**Stephen Ministry:** Stephen Ministers are lay members of our congregation who receive special training to provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing challenges in life—grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, disability, job loss, and many other life difficulties. To learn more about this ministry or to receive care, contact the church office at [423-267-1206](tel:423-267-1206) or contact one of the ministry leaders:

Volunteer opportunities: When a Stephen Ministry training is announced, sign up to be trained as a Stephen Minister.

Rick Collins, recollins@epbfi.com

Mary Evans, dearbashie@comcast.net

John Henegar, johnhenegarcpa@gmail.com

Leslie Cory, lesliecoriesq@gmail.com

Kay Schwieger, crazykay49@gmail.com

### **Support Groups:**

**Beatitude Living:** An anonymous and confidential Christian women's 12 step Program Committed to Recovery. Some of the needs addressed include perfectionism, control, codependency, eating disorders, or coping with the addictions of a family member or friend. Tuesdays 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM, Room 404.

Nancy Mills, nmills322@aol.com

Gail Pinchak, gailpinchak@yahoo.com

**Caregivers Encouragement:** The Caregiver's Support Ministry gives encouragement to those who are caring for loved ones.

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers are needed to call, write, and/or visit caregivers.

Marcia Christian, mjchris9@gmail.com

**Deacons:** *An elected office*

The office of deacon is set forth in the Scriptures as ordinary and perpetual in the Church. The office is one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in their helping one another in time of need. It is the duty of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress. It is their duty also to develop the grace of liberality in the members of the church, to devise effective methods of collecting the gifts of the people, and to distribute these gifts among the objects to which they are contributed. They shall have the care of the property of the congregation, both real and personal, and shall keep in proper repair the church edifice and other buildings belonging to the congregation. In matters of special importance affecting the property of the church, they cannot take final action without the approval of the Session and consent of the congregation.

(Chairman) Mitch Everhart, mitcheverhart@gmail.com

(Vice-Chair) Skip Pond, skip@pondholdings.com

(Secretary) Dale Rardin, dalearardin@outlook.com

(Interim Treasurer) David Clark, dclark@rssins.com

(Past Chairman) Jasper Reynolds, jasper@liftmediagroup.com

Deacon Committees and Teams:

**Facilities and Communications Committee:** Concerned with the state and condition of Church facilities and property, planning for ministry uses of the facilities, its maintenance and general upkeep. The Committee prioritizes and presents needs as part of the budget process and identifies any situations which require immediate action to the Diaconate. The Committee plays an important role in the development and monitoring of a facilities long term master plan, ongoing maintenance plan, and building or renovation projects. It also works to enhance the Church's communications both inside and outside the Church. The committee oversees the website, video, social media, newsletter and other forms of church communications and publicity.

Jasper Reynolds, jasper@liftmediagroup.com

**Mercy & Compassion Committee:** The Mercy and Compassion Team is in charge of benevolence to church members and nonmembers, including walk ins. Member assistance is led by the shepherds who present requests to the team on a case-by-case basis. Nonmembers, including walk-ins, are served through the Rapha Fellowship, a relationship focused ministry that seeks to walk alongside our neighbors in need through a weekly meal and Scripture based educational classes in the areas of relationships, finances, and work.

Volunteer Opportunities: Co-leader in weekly Rapha classes, ally/mentor to participants, helping with walk- in appointments, and more!

John Parkhurst, japarkhurst@gmail.com

**Finance Committee:** Oversees all financial activities of the Church to include oversight of gifts, financial policies, reports, financial documents and practices. The Committee also reviews all church audits, church receipts, disbursements, accounts that are unaudited and receives and reviews requests for money not previously approved. The Finance Committee is the first line of approval for the annual Deacons Budget.  
Brent Allred, ballred323@gmail.com

**Ministry Support Team:** All available Deacons, both active and inactive, are requested to serve on Usher Duty. A head usher is assigned for each service. The chairman and his co-chairman will arrange for all to serve on a rotation basis so that enough ushers are on duty for every worship service. Deacons will also be assigned for requested helps with church related ministry functions, funerals, musical programs and other special services at during the year.

Dale Rardin, dalearardin@outlook.com

**Leadership Development Team:** Identifying, vetting and nominating qualified candidates for election to the office of Deacon. The team also evaluates elements of the Diaconate's culture and structure to ensure healthy recruiting, retention and ongoing training, and makes proposals to the Diaconate accordingly. The committee is made up of all Diaconate committee chairs/team leaders plus 3 at-large members selected by the Diaconate Chairman.

Skip Pond, skip@pondholdings.com

**Discipleship Ministries:** Church members interested in volunteering in any of the ministries described below may contact the leader of that ministry or:

Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship, [josh@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:josh@1stpresbyterian.com)

Mike Lapihuska, Committee Chair, [mlapihuska@cbmc.com](mailto:mlapihuska@cbmc.com)

**Adult Sunday school:** Joining others in fellowship, Bible study, discussion and prayer is a great way to grow in faith but also to establish close relationships with fellow believers. There are many classes covering a range of topics and groups for all adults from college age through seniors.

Volunteer opportunities: teaching, hospitality.

Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship, [josh@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:josh@1stpresbyterian.com)

**Bible 101** – Martha Meeks and Patrick Frees, Room 212

**Chapter by Chapter** – George Clark & Brad Gruner; Room 208

**College Class** – Gunther Griffin, SS 203

**Fellowship Class** – Don Bostick; Room 210

**Foundations Class** – Ron Brown; Fellowship Hall

**Icebreakers Class** – Josh Adair; Room 211

**International & Adult Bible Discussion** – Andy Fischer, Room 405

**Joy of Learning** – Steve and Sue Sawrie; Room 258

**Link Class** – Bruce Cory; Room 209

**McCallie/Anderson/Clyatt Class** – Sam Clyatt; Chapel.

**Reformed by the Word** – Jerry Stauffer; Room 156 (Session)

**Rocking Chair Class** – Dr. Frank Eldridge; Room 302

**Young Professionals** – Dick Cain, Room 304

**\*\*Sunday School Prayer Time** – not a Sunday School class, but a time of prayer for the Sunday School program, for individuals, for the church, the community. Meets in the Diaconate Mercy Office.

For up-to date information about Adult Sunday School offering, contact the listed teacher, or Assistant Minister of Discipleship Josh Adair.

**Children's Ministries:** Children's Ministry focuses on discipling our children ages infant through 5th grade. Our vision is to help kids See Jesus, Savor Jesus, and Share Jesus to the end that God would be glorified in Chattanooga and to the ends of the earth. Children's Ministry includes regular, ongoing ministries.

### **Children's Sunday School Classes:**

**Bridge** - Ages 18 -24 months. Teacher Gail Pinchak. Location: Nursery (accessible off Douglas St.)

**Beginners** - Ages 2 – 3 years. Teacher Dale Rardin. Location: Nursery

**Explorers** - Ages 3 – 4 years. Teacher Brenda Thompson. Location: F02, Ground Floor Children's Wing, by Pre-K&K room.

**Pre-K & K** - Ages: Pre-K & K for the 2024/25 school year. Teachers Elissa Clark, Deb Gruner, Linda Richarson. Location: Ground Floor Children's Wing, by Douglas St. entrance.

**1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades** - Ages 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> for the 2024/25 school year. Teachers Roy Arick, David Griffin, Anita Killefer, Jimmy & Joann Hellman. Location: First Floor Children's Wing.

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades** - Ages 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> for the 2024/25 school year. Teachers Dale Granberry, Gabrielle Sweets. Location: Room 2004 (Second Floor Children's Wing).

### **The Nursery:**

- Open each Sunday from 8:45am-12:15pm
- Nursery care for infants –17 months

Sunday Mornings for Nursery Ministry, Children's Church, Worship Bags Ministry - resources provided to help children participate in the 9 & 11 AM Worship Services include Sunday School, KidCheck Greeters, Bible Memory Work Ministry - *for 2 years old through 5th grade*, Sunday Recap – weekly guide to what kids learned in Sunday School.

### **Midweek:**

Nursery Ministry, Midweek lesson and games for PreK-5<sup>th</sup> graders, Kids Choir

### **Special Events:**

Operation Christmas Child, Mission Vision (missions conference for children during the church's missions conference) and Vacation Bible School (VBS) which is an opportunity to reach our children and their families as well as unchurched children and their families, 1<sup>st</sup> Pres Playgroup (connection for moms and kids ages 0-5).

### **For Children's Ministry contact:**

Jessica Livermore, Children's Ministry Director. *While Jessica is getting*

*settled into her position and new email address, contact her by phone at the Church number, (423) 267-1206.*

Abby Craig, Assistant Director, kidsministry@1stpresbyterian.com

**For Nursery information contact:**

Abby Craig, kidsministry@1stpresbyterian.com

**For Kids Choir information contact:**

Christine Hassevoort, christineh0306@gmail.com

**For Operation Christmas Child contact:**

Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com

**For all other Children's Ministry questions contact:**

Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship,  
josh@1stpresbyterian.com

Volunteer opportunities: We need volunteers for the nursery during all of the Sunday church services and Sunday School hours. If you can't volunteer on Sundays, you can volunteer on your own schedule by helping to re-stock the kids' worship bags.

**History and Church Archives:** The Archives for the First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga is the physical repository of the historical documents and artifacts pertaining to the church from its founding in 1840. Worship services and ministries are documented and organized chronologically. Special attention focuses on gathering weekly worship service bulletins and announcement sheets. These contain the heart of the record of occasions in our church for worship, education, fellowship and service. Special seasonal activities to record include those of Camp Vesper Point, Missions Conferences, and other special gatherings. There are numerous sources for additional contributions that are considered for inclusion.

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers meet weekly to maintain these records. Harriett Berman, bermans@epbfi.com

## **Men's Ministries**

**Becoming a Spiritual Reproducer**, a small group video-based training series for mature Christians to learn how to become a disciplemaker. There are seven sessions in the series which include a "Disciplemaker's Story", an Instructional video, and homework for

each session.

Lee Atchley, leeatchley7@gmail.com\_

Mike Lapihuska, mlapihuska@cbmc.com

**One-on-One Discipleship:** What is discipleship? What is your growth plan? Perhaps you are just getting started. We can help. Perhaps you are mature in your faith yet desire to be discipled so that you can walk with others as they journey toward spiritual maturity. We can help. This is a place of **life-on-life** discipleship. Contact the names below to discuss your desires to learn more about God and how to be the man God designed you to be. Let us know your time constraints. We will pray with you for guidance so that God will provide the specific man to journey in the scriptures with you seeking growth in wisdom in your work, your family, and relationships. Our desire is to connect in a **one-on-one** mentoring opportunity. Picture two men connecting to study God's word, pray, and then apply it to life and business. This is highly relational and provides tremendous personal growth. Contact us to ask questions or get connected:  
Mike Lapihuska, mlapihuska@cbmc.com  
Lee Atchley, leeatchley7@gmail.com

**Small Groups (for men):** Small groups promote the formation of authentic relationships with other men, studying God's Word together, growing in knowledge and love of God, and applying the truths of the gospel to our lives. If you are interested in being part of a Men's Small Group, contact:  
Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship,  
josh@1stpresbyterian.com

**1st Cup,** Monthly Men's Breakfast, 7am-8am on the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor. Free breakfast and lots of coffee provided. Be on the lookout for announcements about upcoming meeting dates.  
Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship,  
josh@1stpresbyterian.com

**Midweek Ministry:** Midweek is our large fellowship gathering on Wednesday nights intended to encourage, equip, and empower our church family to reflect the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to one another and beyond through diverse ministry opportunities and teaching for all ages.



From mercy ministry to student ministry to adult equipping seminars and more, there is something for everyone!

Volunteer opportunities: collecting money, serving line, helping with the various ministries that meet that night. Dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30; ministry opportunities begin at 6:15.

Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship, [josh@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:josh@1stpresbyterian.com)

**Small Groups**: Small Groups are about relationships: growing in our relationship with God and deepening our relationships with others. Within these small groups, men and women can experience fellowship with others as they practice applying the gospel to their lives. Composed of 5 -16 people, small groups meet in various places throughout Chattanooga. All groups are led by trained leaders from our congregation, who receive oversight and support from our pastoral staff. Each small group determines how often it will meet, but groups typically meet two to four times a month. A small group meeting generally consists of worship, Bible study, fellowship, and prayer.

Volunteer opportunities include hosting or leading a small group.

Many groups will participate in service projects or social events as well. To learn how to become involved with a small group, register online or contact: Josh Adair, Assistant Minister of Discipleship, [josh@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:josh@1stpresbyterian.com)

### **Women's Ministries:**

Marilyn Bonderud, President, [mfbonderud@gmail.com](mailto:mfbonderud@gmail.com)

Nancy Hill, President-elect, [hills1113@comcast.net](mailto:hills1113@comcast.net)

Dee Lapihuska, Past President, [dlapihuska1@gmail.com](mailto:dlapihuska1@gmail.com)

Christy Dyer-Gulton, Bible Studies Chair, [christondyer@gmail.com](mailto:christondyer@gmail.com)

Charlene Hatmaker, Communications Chair, [charmtw@hotmail.com](mailto:charmtw@hotmail.com)

**Bible Studies** – gifted women teachers of our church offer several great study options, with a variety of days and times to fit many women's schedules. Childcare is usually available upon request. Fall Bible Studies began September 12, 2023. To register or find more information, visit [1stpresbyterian.com/women](http://1stpresbyterian.com/women), or contact one of the leaders listed above.

***Women of the Covenant*** meets Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30am, Coffee Lounge. Sandy Hartley, [lorshartley@comcast.net](mailto:lorshartley@comcast.net).

**Grace and Peace** meets Tuesdays, 9:45-11:30am, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Tower. Margaret Rollins, mrollins50@gmail.com..

**Generations** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 9:45-11:30am, Tower 804. Melissa Guinn, melissamguinn@gmail.com.

**Let's Have Lunch** meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> Fridays, 11:45.am – 1pm, Nell Davis Classroom. Christy Dyer-Gultom.

**One** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:30pm, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Tower. Charlene Hatmaker, charmtw@hotmail.com..

**WORD Seekers**, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 5:30 – 6:45, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Tower. Kittie Stauffer, misskittie0515@gmail.com.

**Bonded in Fellowship** meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 5:45- 8pm, Coffee Lounge. Norma Cate, nrcate48@epbfi.com.

**Titus 2 Discipleship** – a gender-specific discipleship ministry based on Titus 2:1, 3-5, which links younger women of the church with older women ready to teach and train in sound doctrine, thinking Biblically, living covenantally, and understanding Biblical womanhood in a Word-based, relationship-driven approach with small groups (3-8 women) meeting monthly. Contact Sandy Hartley, lorshartley@comcast.net.

**Homeschool Support Group** – connects First Pres moms who homeschool. Contact: Alex Walker, alexandraalwalker@gmail.com

**Woman at the Well** – a fun, casual, relationally-driven event series in which we will have fellowship, share dessert, and hear a testimony from one of our ladies. For more information, contact: Cherie Brown, brown3rd@gmail.com.

**Special Events** – Fellowship offerings throughout the year, spring Women's Conference opportunity.

Volunteer opportunities: Join a women's Bible study and find out!

**Missions, Outreach Ministries:**

Randy Nabors, Missions Pastor, randy@1stpresbyterian.com

Mike Kramer, Committee Chair, mkramer@setrustcom.com

**Home Missions.** We are working to grow congregational involvement in spreading the Gospel.

Volunteer Opportunities: Church members interested in volunteering in any of the ministries described below may contact the leader listed below for that ministry. In addition to the many Outreach opportunities provided by ministries within the church, First Presbyterian partners with several local ministries. To learn more about how to participate in any of these listed ministries, contact:

Shad Guinn, Director of Community Outreach, shad@1stpresbyterian.com  
Lauch McKinnon, Outreach Chair, lauch-mckinnon@comcast.net

**Channels of Love** (Thanksgiving baskets): Channels of Love is a ministry to people and families affected by HIV/AIDS. First Pres members have been giving food baskets at Thanksgiving to their clients for many years now. Some of our members have led their weekly Bible studies and serve in their office.

Mark Jenkins, markjenkins50@hotmail.com

**Foster Care WRAP Team:** a group of First Presbyterian members and visitors who walk alongside foster, kinship, and adoptive families in our community, offering support through Words of Encouragement, Respite Care, Acts of Service, and Prayer.

Volunteer Opportunities: Yes. Contact  
Martha Meeks, meeksmartha300@gmail.com

**Good News Club:** The Good News Club at Orchard Knob Elementary is a ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship in which trained volunteers meet with children to present an exciting Bible lesson with songs and other fun activities. Each club includes a clear presentation of the Gospel and an opportunity for children to trust Jesus as their Savior.

Volunteer Opportunities: Members can volunteer by being on the Prayer Team, the Club Team, or the Snack Team.  
Nancy Hill, hills1113@comcast.net

**Hearts & Hammers:** A ministry to those in our church and community who are in need of practical, hands-on help. Volunteers meet one Saturday a month, go out in teams, and serve the Lord and their neighbors through acts of service. Volunteers will be assigned to projects based on the volunteers' skill sets. This is a volunteer-driven ministry. For more information, to ask for assistance, or to sign on as a volunteer, contact:  
Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com

**Kids Hope USA:** Kids Hope is a children's ministry that represents a "church/school" partnership. Volunteer mentors from 1st Pres. Church are trained and paired with underserved students at Orchard Knob Elementary School. Mentors invest one hour a week, during the school day, to encourage and help change the trajectory of a child's life. We are also seeking dedicated prayer partners to be behind-the-scenes support persons for each mentoring relationship.

Volunteer Opportunities: For information, contact:  
Cheri Partain, kidshope@1stpresbyterian.com

**Miller Park Sausage Biscuit Ministry:** Join Kathy Fidati, Shad Guinn and others in purchasing supplies, preparing the food, serving our inner city neighbors, and building gospel centered relationships. Wednesday, 11:00 – Noon. contact:

Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com

**Operation Christmas Child:**

Join the First Presbyterian family in supporting Samaritan's Purse and the Operation Christmas Child shoebox project. There are several opportunities to volunteer to make this seasonal ministry a success.

Volunteer opportunities: It's a big job and we need volunteers! Contact:  
Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com

**Patten Towers Bible Study initiative:**

For information, contact:

Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com

Steve Dowis, sadakj56@yahoo.com

**Prison Ministry Committee:** The Prison Ministry is a Christ-centered ministry where volunteers walk alongside individuals who are incarcerated. Volunteers are needed to help address the spiritual needs of prisoners by caring for and discipling them, and facilitating their return to families, the Christian community, and society.

Volunteer opportunities: This is a volunteer led ministry. For information, contact

Steve Schwieger, stephen.schwieger@gmail.com

Bruce Cory, b\_cory@hotmail.com

**Metanoia Prison Ministries Correspondence Bible Studies:** The PCA's prison ministry is headquartered here at First Presbyterian. One thing it offers is correspondence courses to prisoners by matching them with church members as graders and encouragers. Join other 1st Pres members doing this good work!

Volunteer opportunities: To become a grader / correspondent, contact Raylene Casson, [metanoiacorrespondence@pcanet.org](mailto:metanoiacorrespondence@pcanet.org)

**Prison Ministries (Walker State Prison):** 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian raises and trains male mentors for ministry at Walker State Prison. More than 100 mentors from local churches disciple twice monthly in two-hour one-on-one sessions. Mentors are needed for the 80-90 prisoners on the waiting list.

Volunteer opportunities: To become a mentor, contact Mark Casson, [mcasson@pcanet.org](mailto:mcasson@pcanet.org)  
Steve Schwieger, [stephen.schwieger@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.schwieger@gmail.com)

**Women's Prison Ministry at The Next Door:** 1<sup>st</sup> Pres serves women being released from prison through residence at The Next Door in Chattanooga, a halfway house-like facility for women leaving State Prison.

Volunteer opportunities: Opportunities are available to women in our congregation to mentor residents and to join in select group activities there. To learn more, contact Leslie Cory, [lesliecoriesq@gmail.com](mailto:lesliecoriesq@gmail.com)

**Rapha** is ministry of the Deacons at First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga that seeks to build relationships with our neighbors in need. While conventional mercy ministry relies on financial handouts, Rapha invites our neighbors in need into healing relationships with a loving church family. For more information contact:  
Shad Guinn, [shad@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:shad@1stpresbyterian.com)  
David Hempy, [dhempy@sphereone.net](mailto:dhempy@sphereone.net)

Wednesday nights:

Fellowship Dinner: 5:30-6:15

Classes: 6:15-7:30

Rapha offers three different educational courses. Note: If you are interested in attending, please contact

Pam Adams at [Pam@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:Pam@1stpresbyterian.com)

**Faith & Works** - focuses on the gifts that God has given and why He created work. Participants will create a resume, create and present a life map, create a 60 second commercial for potential employers, and so much more.

**Faith and Finances**- focuses on discussions about how we spend, manage, and save our money in a way that honors God, guards us against emergencies, and allows us to provide for our families. Participants will role play, set short-term and long-term savings goals, and create a custom monthly spending plan.

**Faith and Relationships**- Discussion focuses on our relationships with God and interpersonal relationships with each other, for example marriage and childrearing.

Volunteer opportunities: With a dedicated team of classroom facilitators, prayer warriors and lay mentors, Rapha is equipping the congregation to grow as a more welcoming church home for our neighbors in need.

**Friday Morning at Salvation Army** meets on Fridays at First Pres (connector building) for prayer at 9:00 and then drive as a group to the Salvation Army on McCallie Avenue. We provide music, devotion, and breakfast for approximately 25 individuals. Salvation Army's case worker also sends us screened referrals for our consideration of financial assistance. Ministry includes sharing our faith in Jesus Christ, encouragement, friendship, counseling, and prayer.

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers are warmly invited.  
Hugh Huffaker, hhuffaker@mcgriff.com 423 605-4815  
Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com (423) 309-0997

**Volunteers in Medicine:** VIM Chattanooga is a faith based free health clinic for qualified adults. Our employees coordinate more than 100 volunteers monthly including doctors, nurses, lab techs and clerical such as registration, and computer and phone work.

Volunteer opportunities: To learn more, contact  
Ron Jobe, rjobe55@gmail.com

Our Outreach team continues to develop relationships with other ministries in the Chattanooga area. If you are interested in working through our church with **Hope for the Inner City, CHATT Foundation / Maclellan Family Shelter, Vision of Mercy and Family Impact, Howard School, Isaiah 117 House, MOMentum Network Taco Tuesdays, Choices, Home to Home**, contact:  
Shad Guinn, shad@1stpresbyterian.com

### **World Missions:**

World Missions is the foreign missions arm of First Presbyterian Church tasked with making disciples in the world—facilitated through the targeted selection and funding of missionaries, indigenous church planters, short-term teams, and projects that promote the establishment, growth, and maturation of indigenous-led churches and movements in strategic global cities.

Randy Nabors, Missions Pastor

randy@1stpresbyterian.com

Mike Kramer, World Missions Executive Committee Chair,

mkramer@setrustcom.com

Elinor Espinosa, Assistant Director, World Missions,

elinor@1stpresbyterian.com

Volunteer opportunities: World Missions offers a variety of ways to volunteer one's time and talents. Start by asking to join the **World Missions Committee**. From there, you can consider involvement in one of several subcommittees: **First Friends, World Relief and Development, Candidate Selection, Candidate Evaluation for Missionaries, Church plant Evaluations, Conference Planning Team**, and **\*\*Prayer Team**. Additional ways to serve include **providing hospitality to visiting missionaries, participating on a short-term mission trip**, and **volunteering for events and jobs during the annual World Missions Conference held in October**.

**First Friends:** A team of caring First Pres. Friends of all ages who unconditionally befriend and love international college students and scholars while they study locally. We offer Bible studies, conversational English classes, recreational activities, parties, concerts, sports/games, shared meals, and a listening ear. Join us to serve our Lord by taking care of His young "strangers in a strange land." If you can smile and be a friend, you're totally qualified to volunteer. Join First Friends to serve Our Lord and stay for the love and fun.

Ashton Freeman, ashtonjfreeman@gmail.com  
Charlene Hatmaker, charmtw@hotmail.com

**Missions Closet:** This long-term blessing to our missionaries is taking a hiatus while the building is being restored.

**\*\*World Missions Prayer Team:** The Prayer Team meets Wednesday afternoons, from 4:30-5:30 in Room 209 of the Sunday School Building, to pray for our missionaries and ministries. You are invited! If you can only attend by Zoom, we have a Zoom alternative. For more information, or to get the Zoom link, contact  
Leslie Cory, lesliecoriesq@gmail.com.

**Session (the Church's governing body of Elders; Church Elder is an *elected office*)**

Standing Sessions committees: Camp Vesper Point (CVP); College, Youth, and Young Professionals; Congregational Care; Discipleship; Personnel and Administration; World and Home Missions; Worship and Music and Sacraments. Other committees and commission are: Nominating Committee, Pastoral Care Committee, Senior Pastor's Advisory Committee, and Standing Judicial Commission.

Jerry Stauffer, Clerk of Session, jstauffer50@epbfi.com

**\*\*Congregational Prayer Meetings,** Tuesday and Thursday evenings on Zoom. If you would like to join with others in prayer on either Tuesday evening at 6:30 or Thursday evening at 7:30, contact Elder Rodger Jenkins and he will send you the Zoom link.

Pete Snyder, peterfsnyder@gmail.com

**Music and Worship Ministry:**

Music and Worship Ministry Team:

Gabe, Fluhrer, Senior Pastor

Dick Cain, Senior Assistant Pastor

Darrin Hasservoort, Director of Music & Worship

Susan Whitacre, Music Assistant, Instrumental Coordinator

Kate Dowlen, Member



Steve Hawkins, Elder  
Meg Kramer, Member  
Joan Nabors, Member  
Kittie Stauffer, Member

**Music Staff:**

Darrin Hasservoort, Director of Music and Worship, [darrin@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:darrin@1stpresbyterian.com)  
West Breedlove, Assistant Director of Worship  
Susan Whitacre, Music Assistant, Instrumental Coordinator  
Sigrid Luther, Pianist  
Patrick Rice, Organist

**Music Ministry –**

Our mission: As a ministry of music, our goal is God: to delight in him and help others do the same through the great hymns of the faith and the fresh, doctrinally rich songs of our day (Col 3:16, Eph 5:19). As a ministry our aim is to help the Church extol the greatness, wonder, beauty, and perfections of our God, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Volunteer Opportunities: Adult choir, Instrumental Ensemble, audio techs, vocalists, worship band musicians (guitar, bass, keyboard, percussion), handbells, music filing volunteers.

**Note on Communications, Media, and Technology:**

For questions about church communications contact  
Communications Coordinator Virginia Campbell, [virginia@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:virginia@1stpresbyterian.com).

For questions about the Media & Technology ministries contact

Dylan Thomas, [dylan@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:dylan@1stpresbyterian.com)  
Jasper Reynolds, [jasper@liftmediagroup.com](mailto:jasper@liftmediagroup.com)

The Media & Technology ministries provide First Pres members with the following:

- Access to Sermon Audio and/or Video anytime at [1stpresbyterian.com](http://1stpresbyterian.com), *Click on Sermons*.
- CDs and DVDs contact Dylan Thomas, [dylan@1stpresbyterian.com](mailto:dylan@1stpresbyterian.com)
- Assistance in operation of church equipment such as soundboards, slideshows, or cameras
- Help with technology relevant to accessing church services such as laptops, mobile phones, wifi, etc.

**Note to readers:** Although we update this directory twice a year, that does not guarantee totally up-to-date information. The most current information will be available from each ministry's contact person, as listed in this directory. If you have trouble connecting with a ministry leader, contact Leslie Cory, [lesliecoriesq@gmail.com](mailto:lesliecoriesq@gmail.com) .