



The Newsletter

*First Presbyterian Church
Tullahoma, Tennessee*

October 2024
Volume 53, Issue 8

October Happenings at First Presbyterian Church

The Salon: A Rave for the Soul! on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m. This less formal worship service (approximately a half hour in length) incorporates songs, prayer, scripture, discussion, and an offering. We intend for this service to be for everyone regardless of age.

Celebration of World Communion Sunday on October 6 – Congregations around the world will celebrate World Communion Sunday. Most of us have heard about World Communion Sunday but may not know much about where the celebration originated. World Communion Sunday began in 1936 in the Presbyterian Church and was adopted by the Federal Council of Churches in 1940. Since then, the celebration has grown into an international ecumenical celebration of Christian unity.

The key word for World Communion Sunday is communion, or unity. It is a day when we mark the almost universal Christian practice of breaking bread with one another and remembering the night of Jesus' betrayal when he instituted what we now call the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion as a lasting remembrance. So accounts of the last supper feature prominently, by virtue of World Communion Sunday being a celebration of Holy Communion.

There is also a flavor of the Christian celebration of Pentecost as well, when people from around the world come together in mutual understanding and inspiration by the power of the Holy Spirit. World Communion Sunday is a time for remembering that around the globe, in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy, that Holy Communion is celebrated throughout Christendom. At its best, therefore World Communion Sunday serves two purposes: it is both a joyous and meaningful partaking in Jesus' sacred meal with his friends and a mind-opening exposure to different Christian traditions from around the world.

World Communion Sunday is on the Christian calendar for a reason: it can and should be a time of profound Christian unity, marked by our shared celebration of the Lord's Supper. Jesus instituted the first such meal, and World Communion Sunday is a helpful way in which Christ calls us back together to celebrate the liturgy "in remembrance of me."

Given all of this, we encourage you to be a participant in the worldwide celebration of Holy Communion by being in worship on October 6.

One Day of Hope on Saturday, October 26, at Coffee County Fairgrounds – There are ways that you can bring hope to our neighbors in need.

- Bringing new or gently used items to the collection boxes in the narthex (hygiene items, children's clothing, winter coats, work shoes and boots, men's work clothing). Donations accepted through October 19.
 - Volunteer to help at the Coffee County fairgrounds on the day of the event.
 - Donate funds in support of holding this annual event and serving immediate needs throughout the year.
- (More details about One Day of Hope on page 7 in the Mission Committee article)

In this issue: Group Happenings, Joys/Concerns, October birthdays, p. 2; Pastor's Column, p. 3; Minute with Mike, p. 4; Offering from the Office, p. 5; Around and About FPC, p. 6; Session Committee Reports, pp. 7,8; Good Samaritan Ministry, Fall Festival, p. 9; Back page, 10

Here's what's happening!

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday, October 9, at 10:00, in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue our Bible study *Let Justice Roll Down* by Rev. Dr. Patricia K Tull. Lesson 2 is on "Land Justice." Scripture: Genesis 2:7; Leviticus 25:23; 25; 26-27; 28; Deuteronomy 20:16-18; Joshua 6; 1 Kings 21:1-16; Psalm 24:1-2 and Isaiah 5:8. Scriptural accounts of divinely ordered conquest and laws of Jubilee that support the rights of individual landowners stand in tension but are rooted in the perception that all the earth is God's.

A light sandwich lunch (cost will be shared) will be available after the meeting.

Church Women United

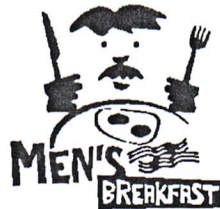
Church Women United will celebrate Human Rights Day, Tuesday, October 1, 12:00, at Shorter Chapel AME, 402 SW Atlantic, Tullahoma. Guest speaker will be Apostle Theresa Northcutt, Agape Ministries Winchester. She will speak on our theme 'Blessed are the Peacemakers'.

Our mission project this month is supporting One Day of Hope, Manchester. Please bring a coat or sundries for this project.

A light lunch will be served.

November Newsletter

The deadline for the November issue of *The Newsletter* is **noon on Tuesday, October 15.**



The next Men's Breakfast will be October 13. Gathering time is 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast is provided. All men are welcome.



Parish Joys/Concerns

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:4-5

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Jean Carter
Mary Jane Christopher
Patra Escue
Jo Hattersley
Elaine Huffines
Sandy McKinney
Vanessa McKinney
Dennis Scharf
Drew Sterling

Please remember in your prayers the following people who are unable to attend worship regularly:

Kitty Ball (Kitty's address is Manor Lake Assisted Living, 2911 Hamilton Mill Road, Buford, GA 30519)
Patra Escue
Connie Flath (NHC)

Sue Harvey (home)
Hilde Joellenbeck (home)
Joanna Kissling (Joanna's address is 5501 Old Hixson Pike, Apt. L117, Hixson, TN 37343)

Thank you note –

We would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers, and kind expressions of sympathy for our loss of Sam's mother, Christa Hall.

Sam and Nan Hall



October 2 – Mason Sanders
October 8 – Mary Etta Ward
October 10 – Don Jones
October 12 – Ann Marie Lawson
Yevonne Yoder
October 14 – Jo Ward
October 20 – Bené Cox
October 23 – Sam Hall
October 27 – Gaye Johnson
October 30 – Dennis Scharf

If you have a birthday in October and your name is not on the list, please call the church office and let us know. We would like to add your name to the birthday calendar.



First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
P. O. Box 847
Tullahoma, TN 37388

Vision statement: Worshipping God,
growing together, serving others,
welcoming all

Sunday school – 9:00 a.m.

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Church Office: 204 E. Grundy
Phone: 931 455-9328
FAX: 931 455-9306

E-mail addresses

Stephen: sgyates1970@gmail.com
Martha: m2bradley@lighttube.net
Katie: katherineprasser@gmail.com
David: davidhiebert9@icloud.com
Bethany: bethanybsterling@gmail.com
Robert: robertwright621@gmail.com
Mike: michaelrbradley@lighttube.net

Church Web site:

www.fpctullahoma.org

Youth Website:

www.pyc-tullahoma.com

Preschool Office: 931 455-1515

Preschool Email:

learningplace@lighttube.net

Preschool Website:

www.learningplacetullahoma.org

Church Staff

Pastor: Stephen Yates
Minister to Children: Katie Prasser
Minister to Youth: Bethany Sterling
Secretary: Martha Bradley
Organist: David Hiebert
Music Director: Robert Wright
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care:
Michael Bradley
Learning Place Preschool Director:
Bethany Sterling
Custodian: Shannon Prasser

Members of Session

Charlotte Broyles
Melissa Hall
Alan Harris
Charles Harvey
Joyce Hiebert
Sydney Hoehl
Bob Huffines
J. Ray Joellenbeck
Jessica Smith
Bethany Sterling, Clerk
Brad Sturgill
Robert Wright



Dear Church Family,

So back in 2018 and 2019 a small group of us were busy writing and crafting a grant proposal for the Lilly Foundation. The grant proposal, which was eventually approved, provided funds for my sabbatical that I was eventually able to take in the summer of 2022 after assorted delays thanks to COVID.

The purpose of the sabbatical, as you might recall, was to provide all of us with the chance to reflect on our assorted baptismal journeys. With our baptisms, after all, every single one of us was set off on a sacred journey of change and renewal. Rather than baptism being an end, it is always a beginning. The grant proposal was designed to help us all think about our respective baptismal journeys and their significant moments, as well as think about what might be next for each of us as we continue those journeys.

When writing the grant proposal, some wise soul also thought it might be good for us as a community of faith to install a permanent water feature on church property post sabbatical to serve as a continual reminder of our baptisms and the journeys that were begun with each one of them. Generally, it was suggested the area be a place for reflection and contemplation.

Well, at a meeting not long ago, three members of the Session agreed to get that process started for us - Bethany Sterling, Robert Wright, and Alan Harris. That said, they were also tasked with finding a few members of the congregation to also serve on this temporary committee. So if you have a desire to help them think about, organize, and see to the installation of some kind of permanent water feature to remind us of our ongoing baptismal journeys, please let one of them know.

Right now we are still very much in the dreaming stage. What should the water feature look like? Where should it be? How big should it be? There's even talk of incorporating the water feature into a memorial garden of some kind complete with a columbarium for the safekeeping of people's ashes. And those are just a few of the ideas that are being bantered around! So if you would like to be involved in such a discussion, please let Robert, Bethany, or Alan know ASAP. Thanks!

Your Pastor,

Stephen

Minute with Mike by Michael Bradley, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care

A Thinking Faith

The first Wednesday in September I visited a salon. No, not a hair salon nor a nail salon and no, not the place you are thinking of—that place is spelled with two oo's, not one. I went to an unusual church service, a time of reflection, thinking, and worship modeled on the concept of a salon. Literally, a “salon” is a periodic gathering of persons and often refers to a gathering of people of social or intellectual distinction. The purpose of a salon is to meet with like-minded people, to exchange ideas, and to engage in conversation which stimulates the mind with different points of view. In the late Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Centuries salons were important social events in the lives of the upper classes, a place to see and to be seen. In the Twentieth Century the city of Paris was home to several literary salons where well-known and aspiring writers met to discuss their work and to share insights. Look up Alice B. Toklas and Gertrude Stein. But salons are not just for the socially elite or for the artistic, creative people. Salons are places which cause you to think.

The Salon I attended at church was stimulating for me because there were a large number of young people present. From 1970 until 2006 I spent my time in the presence of young people, serving as Professor of United States History. That daily association with young people made life exciting for me—I was

able to challenge their minds and they challenged mine. We exchanged opinions and ideas and concepts. I knew what all the latest slang words and phrases meant. I knew the latest music. I passed on some old-fashioned language to a younger generation and made a few people aware that good music was written and performed two and three hundred years ago by guys with names like Beethoven and Mozart.

There were times when I was disappointed in my association with young people. These were the times when I got essays which merely regurgitated what I had said and which showed no involvement with the topic on the part of the young person who wrote the paper. They needed to develop their own ideas, and I needed to learn from them even as they, hopefully, learned from me.

At The Salon at church I was glad again to be in the presence of young people. I found the event stimulating.

This mutual learning and developing is one goal of the once-a-month Salon which our church family has initiated. We need the young people who are part of our family. We need their enthusiasm, their curiosity, their willingness to confront problems and to consider new and different conclusions. They need the insight of the older members about what has been done, how problems have been solved, and what lessons learned still have value.

On the day of Pentecost Peter quoted from the prophet Joel: “and it shall come to pass afterward that

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; your old men will dream dreams and your young men shall see visions.” The church needs to listen to its sons and daughters when they speak. The Salon service gives us who are old an opportunity to dream again as we listen to the visions God gives the young. We can have a thinking faith as we meet and share together.

This Church

We don't pretend to understand the mystery of what goes on in God's Church.

We just know we feel a pervading spirit of love that reaches into the niches of all of us and pulls us out into the open, free and alive and belonging.

We believe this spirit of love exists because God's spirit lives within this Church, this unity of persons trying to be the Good News.

We see this Church as a circle of persons holding hands . . . and dancing . . . supporting each other, accepting each other, loving each other.

Each person in this dancing circle is facing outward . . . reaching into God's world, listening for the whimpering, watching for the hurting, willing to offer a cup of cold water in His name.

Sometimes they need the water; sometimes you need the water; sometimes I need the water.

Being a part of the Church means knowing that the cup is always filled in His name.

Ann Weems
Searching for Shalom

Offering from the Office by Martha Bradley, Church Secretary

What's a Christian to do?

We live in a country where the political landscape is deeply divided. Our current national division, however, is not a new phenomenon. Back in 1863 Abraham Lincoln realized that the political crisis of that time posed a threat to democracy, and he delivered the Gettysburg Address in which he urged the American people to join in "the unfinished work" of creating a nation "of the people, by the people, and for the people" that demonstrates to the world that "all [persons] are created equal."

In the political environment of today I am hearing statements that are reminiscent of Lincoln's concern – we have a "threat to our democracy." If we believe that every outcome that is a win for one side must be an offset by a loss for the other side, then win-win solutions will elude us. I want to believe that there is "a still more excellent way" (1 Corinthians 12:31) that builds on the prophetic passage in Micah 6:8 : "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

That more excellent way begins with Jesus' vision expressed at the onset of his ministry in his hometown synagogue: "to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." In Jesus' vision of the Kingdom of God, no one is left behind. Even those on the fringes of society are included. Jesus continued to say that how one treats "the least of these my brethren" (Matthew 25:40) – those who are hungry, thirsty, estranged,

naked, sick, and imprisoned – will be the basis for judging the nations of the world in the future. Again, we see in Jesus' teachings that everyone has a vital role to play in God's Kingdom. Jesus invites all to participate in this important work.

Acceptance of and care for others is essential. In Jesus' final words to his disciples, he says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34) The apostle Paul describes this love in 1 Corinthians 13: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth."

Paul wrote these words about love to a community that was plagued with factions and divisions encouraging them to "be united in the same mind and the same purpose." But unity in Paul's thinking does not mean uniformity. Paul's use of the body analogy in 1 Corinthians 12 implies that every part in a body performs a function that is needed. A body needs a diversity of its parts to function properly, and all of those parts are interdependent. All parts are equal in importance.

Today more than ever, we need what Lincoln called a "new birth of freedom," and I believe that Christians of all stripes are being called to put aside their differences and speak with a united voice that faith and truth, justice and inclusion, love and compassion are the hallmarks of the Christian faith.

As the 2024 elections approach, we as Christians need to "test the spirits" (1 John 4:1) of candidates running for office to determine whether they are "false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing" (Matthew 7:15), for "You will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16).

Candidates, who create division and distrust, who engage in heated rhetoric that promotes hatred and distrust of those with whom they disagree, who seek to win even if it means forgoing truth and promoting lies, who are unwilling to limit their freedom for the benefit of the community, may use Christian language to justify their positions, but they are not representing accurately the historic Christian faith that Jesus taught and lived.

Now is the time for Christians of all persuasions, along with persons of all faiths and no faith, to unite and elect to political office those who are upright in character, faithful in behavior, and moral in their decision-making. Those are the persons best equipped to help us finish what Lincoln called our "unfinished work."

[For many of the ideas in this article I give credit to Charles D. Myers, Presbyterian minister and Emeritus Professor of Religious Studies at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. He wrote the article which was first published by *The Seeds of Jubilee Foundation* and was later reprinted in *Presbyterian Outlook*, October 27, 2022.]



Around and About FPC

Meet our new member

We welcome into the First Presbyterian Church family **Diana Hamilton**, who was received into the membership at the Session meeting on September 1. Below is some information she shared with us.

"I grew up in Manchester, Kentucky. I met my husband Frank, and we moved to Boone, North Carolina. I have two daughters, two granddaughters, and a step granddaughter. I worked for Boone for twenty-one years. My husband passed away on October 14, 2017. I moved to Tullahoma to be near my daughter. I have been in church for 51 years. I am excited for First Presbyterian Church to be my home church. I feel welcomed here."

We are delighted to have Diana with us and look forward to the faith journey ahead.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the inaugural service of **The Salon: A Rave for the Soul**. We appreciate all the kind words and feedback as we try a new worshipping venture. As with anything new, we know this service will be tweaked as we determine what works well and what needs adjusting, but we were thrilled with the turnout and look forward to October's service.

We hope you'll join us at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2.

Children's Ministry

Exciting News from Sunday School! We're diving into some fantastic stories this fall in our Sunday School classes, and we can't wait to share them with all of you children (ages 3-years - 5th grade)! Join us from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. on the first Sunday of

each month in the Children's Gathering room.

October Spotlight: Samson

- When: October 6
- What's up? Join us as we explore the book of Judges and learn all about Samson, his strength and weakness, and what happens when we break our vows to God.

Looking Ahead: Ezekiel

- When: November 3
- What's Next? Join us as we discover the story of Ezekiel.

December Practice: Hanging of the Greens

- When: December 1
- Time: Arrive by 8:45 A.M.
- Details: We'll be preparing for the Hanging of the Greens service during the Sunday School hour. We'll also have a light snack after practice and before worship.

Kingdom Kids Program - Our Wednesday night Kingdom Kids program finished "The Rainbow Promise" unit in September. We will be focusing on The Christmas Story and our Christmas Program through October, November and December. We will still be using the Deep Blue Curriculum for our Christmas unit.

- **Upcoming Kingdom Kids Meetings:**
 - October 2, 5:00 – 6:00 P.M. (Dinner & Lesson)
 - October 16, 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.
 - October 23, 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.
 - November 6, 5:00 – 6:00 P.M. (Dinner & Lesson)
 - November 13, 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.
 - November 20, 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.
 - December 4, 5:00 – 6:00 P.M. (Dinner & Lesson)
 - December 11, Children's Christmas Program
 - December 18, 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Special Events

- **The Salon: A Rave for the Soul:** On **October 2, November 6 and**

December 4 at 6:00 P.M., we invite our families to join us for this new and refreshing worship service.

- **Children In Worship:** On **October 13**, our 2nd through 5th graders will stay in the worship service to assist with offering, handing out bulletins, serving as acolytes, and other roles. Meanwhile, the 3-year-olds through 1st graders will attend Children's Church following the children's sermon.
- **Fall Festival: October 30** – We will host games from 6:00 to 6:30 P.M. with Trunk or Treat starting at 6:30 P.M. The Christian Education Committee has decided to once again open the fall festival up to our community. We would love to have our church families support this activity. There are many ways to help from donating candy to volunteering to help in several different areas. Please look for the bulletin insert or feel free to talk to Katie in person.
- **Christmas Parade:** On December 6 we will have a float in the Tullahoma Christmas Parade; there will be more information to come as it is available.
- **Advent Festival and Holiday Tasting:** December 8 following worship the Christian Education and Mission Committees will be hosting a dinner with Advent activities. Watch for more information.
- **Children's Christmas Program:** The Children will be presenting a Christmas Program on December 11. More information to come.

Important Note: There will be no Wednesday night programs on **Oct. 9** Fall Break, **Nov. 27** Thanksgiving Break, **Dec. 25**, **Jan. 1** Christmas Break.

Katie Prasser

katherineprasser@gmail.com
(931) 841-8078

Session Committee Reports

Mission Committee – J. Ray Joellenbeck and Brad Sturgill

One Day of Hope of Coffee County

One Day of Hope of Coffee County is entering its 14th year. This year's event will occur on **October 26** at the Coffee County Fairgrounds. This ecumenical effort relies solely on volunteers and the financial support of churches, community organizations, and individuals.

Our neighbors in need who attend the event are able to obtain clothes, shoes, groceries and hygiene products; they receive lunch; they are able to receive

medical and dental attention; they can get haircuts and family portraits; they can obtain children's books; and they can visit representatives from various groups and organizations to discuss job support and community services.

There are three ways for you to participate in the event:

1. The Mission Committee will be collecting donations during the month of October (until October 19) in the narthex. Hygiene items, children's clothing and shoes, winter

coats, work shoes and boots, and men's work clothing are the items requested.

2. Volunteers are needed at the fairgrounds on the day of the event.
3. Donate funds in support of holding the annual event and serving immediate needs throughout the year. If interested in donating, please reach out to Brad Sturgill or Ray Joellenbeck.

Family Activities and Outreach Committee – Charlotte Broyles and Sydney Hoehl

CALLING for ALL PHOTOGRAPHS!!!

November 1, 2024, is the deadline to get your photograph in the church directory. We would really like to have as many photographs included as possible before we produce the print version for those who are not using the computer/app version. We will only print the directory one time this year. If we have not taken your photo, please contact Betty Gault (931-607-4632) to schedule a time. If you have a photo that you would like to use, you may do that by logging into the directory (your email is your user name) on a computer and not your phone, then go to your entry. Click on Edit Family then Edit Image. You will then be able to add a photo that is stored on your computer. If you have problems, please call Betty,

Charlotte or Clay Bearden for assistance. Lots of our members are enjoying the new on-line directory, so if you have not set up your password and logged in, do so today.

On-going and coming events:

Fellowship Time – This is an important activity in the life of the church. It promotes lasting friendships and being a church community. We don't have any sign-ups thus far for September. If you have thought about hosting fellowship time, now would be a good time. Get a group together to co-host. It does not have to be anything elaborate. Anything you do will be appreciated by everyone. The Family Activity and Outreach Committee provides plates, forks, cups, napkins, tea and lemonade. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

Men's Breakfast – On the second Sunday of each month at 8:00 a.m. the men of the church are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for the Men's Breakfast. All men of the church are welcome.

Easy Chair Yoga – Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Williams Family Center – Shirley Levine leads us through the practice of gentle stretches and movements that promote relaxation, reduce stress, improve mental clarity and promote a healthier lifestyle. There is no special equipment required.

Saturday, November 9 – A walk in the park at Tims Ford State Park. Look at the November newsletter and for bulletin inserts with more details.

Charlotte Broyles

Finance and Personnel Committee – Alan Harris

This month's contribution to the newsletter will focus on the status of our Phoenix Apartments since one of our committee members is also on the Phoenix Board of Directors. We generally don't include updates on our Phoenix properties in our newsletter. With this in mind, I thank Ted Elsasser for providing this update.

As we approach the 21st anniversary of the church's commitment to the purchase of the Phoenix Apartments, nee Farris Properties, it is a good time to review what we have accomplished during this time. While our specific objectives in purchasing the properties were not well defined at that time, the consensus was that the properties had a lot of potential to support our overall mission, namely, providing affordable housing to those who may not have been able to find local housing without a government subsidy. In addition, this scope expanded to help those who needed a stable residence while developing job skills that ultimately would enable them to afford housing independently.

When we purchased the properties, neither the apartment units nor the house were in good condition. Coupled with a poor market, we had difficulty in

keeping the units occupied, rents current, and the units reasonably maintained. With a lot of support from the church – including individual donations as well as Session-approved maintenance and major renovation projects – we were able to improve the physical quality of the units as well as quality of life environment.

Skipping ahead to 2024, we have completed major renovations on all units (except one that will be scheduled for 2025). In addition, a number of projects for the overall properties, such as outside walkways and landscaping, have been completed. Recently, the water main for all units was replaced, ensuring a reliable and leak-free supply of water for all 8 units. For those who may not know, our church supplies water to all units at no cost to the tenants.

Today, all units and the house are occupied, rents are current, and the property manager, Lewis and Orr (Lynda Welty) is able to maintain a waiting list of potential tenants. The property manager has taken an aggressive approach toward maintaining a clean living environment. The manager and Phoenix Board members have provided guidance on maintaining cleanliness to achieve a pest-free environment.

Financially, the mortgage has been paid off, several unplanned major repair projects, e.g., the afore-mentioned underground water leakage requiring replacement of connecting lines from the city, were funded, placing the Phoenix Properties in a sound financial position. Significantly, the apartments have achieved a positive cash flow situation in which money collected from rents exceeds operating costs. This money goes into the Phoenix maintenance fund and is used solely for that purpose.

Let us know if you would like to serve on the Board.

Finally, our committee approved Stephen's proposal to take advantage of Audrey's healthcare options through her employer to cover her and Luke. We are still required to provide coverage for Stephen through the Presbyterian Board of Pensions (BOP), but the combined coverage will be significantly less. Therefore, we will add the equivalent of Audrey's premium to Stephen's base salary in his next terms of call. As a reminder, the open enrollment will begin in October.

If you have any questions or recommendations/concerns, please see me, call me, or text me.

Alan Harris

Property Committee – Bob Huffines

Our painting project was completed on Saturday, August 24. Clay Bearden and Jim Watson painted the Williams Center kitchen egress door and the double Lincoln Street entrance doors. Bob Huffines painted the Playground egress door. Stacy Slabaugh and Elaine Huffines painted two walls in Bethany's office and touched up in Martha's office. Stephen Yates

trimmed shrubbery and trimmed sidewalks. Bob and Elaine Huffines painted 22 of the 24 Annex outer window sills. Thank you Clay, Jim, Stephen and Stacy for your participation!

You may have noticed the decorative panels added around the new Clavinova by Clay Bearden and Alan Harris. Thank you!

Betty Gault and Stacy Slabaugh continue to investigate upgrading of the Fellowship Hall kitchen.

Session approved moving forward with the Memorial Water feature. Robert Wright, Alan Harris and Bethany Sterling are initiating this project. Stay tuned for the next exciting update!

Bob Huffines, Chairman

Good Samaritan Ministry – Cindy Kinney, Director

During the month August the Ministry office was open for 21 days.

Health:

Food Pantry & Dignity Campaign
- We provided Food for 97 families (154A/70C).

Essentials:

We provided Financial Assistance
- Utilities/Rent. Utility Assistance
- 26 families (38A/21C).
Rental Assistance – 8 families (12A/7C).

*14 Families failed to appear for their Financial Assistance Appointment *

Other:

Homeless – 6 families (9A/0C)
Project Baby Boom – We assisted 4 families (7A/6C).
Gifts – 6 families were given *clothes*, coats, shoes, household goods or furniture (8A/6C).
Pet Food – 43 families were given dog/cat food.

Regular food requests: canned fruits, canned vegetables, dry spaghetti, pasta sauce, soup, soda crackers, cereal, peanut butter, canned tuna, and canned chicken.

Special Requests for October:**Food Requests:**

Soup, Ramen Noodles, Crackers

Hygiene Requests:

Deodorant, Bar Soap

FALL FESTIVAL

Join us October 30 at 6:00 p.m. for festivities, fellowship and fun!
We will have games set up from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Trunk-or-treat starting at 6:30 p.m.

There are many ways that you can help!



Vehicles participating in trunk-or-treat should arrive no later than 6:15 p.m. Please sign up your vehicle in the narthex.

It is also a fun time for participants to decorate their cars and also dress in a costume. Neither is necessary, but either is a good way to get into the spirit of the festival. Also, it is really fun to see the adorable costumes of the young spooks and goblins!



Other ways you can help!

- Provide item for the Bake Walk (It can be cakes, cookies, cupcakes, brownies, etc. – store-bought or homemade. NO NUTS, please, and keep cakes to 9x9 or smaller)
- Help run a game station
- Provide candy (Please have candy to Katie by October 23.)
- Help decorate and set-up for the event.

Common Ground



“Christianity was never intended to be a solo walk with God,” says pastor Jeremy Basset. “A conversion to Christianity is also incorporation in the body of Christ, the church.”

That’s a fitting reminder as we observe World Communion Sunday in October. Christians don’t take Holy Communion alone; the very name of this sacrament refers to unity with God and others. We don’t baptize ourselves. We don’t learn Scripture or Christian theology and history alone. We can’t have Christian fellowship by ourselves.

The New Testament is clear that one cannot be a solitary Christian. We are members of Christ’s body (Ephesians 5:30) and “belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:10, NIV). As you gather for worship and receive Holy Communion, thank God for “our common salvation” (Jude 3, ESV) granted to all followers of Jesus.