



THE PROCLAMATION



LIVING GENEROUSLY

REV. DR. JOHN A. HINKLE, JR., *SENIOR PASTOR*

First, let me tell you my mindset as I write this. It is Tuesday, January 20, and most of my mental energy has been spent wondering whether we are about to experience Winter-geddon this coming weekend. And yet, somehow, I must focus long enough to tell you what is happening in the life of the church in February. I could simply tell you to read The Proclamation for all the facts and figures—but where would the fun be in that?

February is best described as a season of moving pieces. For much of the month, we will be in the heart of our Stewardship Season, continuing to focus on the foundation of generosity. And yes, I realize many of you may see Steve and Karen Hickok, the chairs of this year's campaign, delivering their Minute for Stewardship on YouTube. You remember—the snow and everything. Stewardship will conclude on Transfiguration Sunday, when we dedicate our pledges toward the 2026–2027 budget. But that is only part of the story.

On Wednesday, February 18, we will gather to begin our Lenten journey, and many of us will take up a Lenten discipline. If Lent feels early this year, that's because it is—by my calculations, it is the second-earliest it can occur on the liturgical calendar. (Just FYI: next year is the earliest.) Even so, Lent remains a meaningful season as we intentionally draw closer to Jesus by faith.

But there's more. On Wednesday, February 4, we will celebrate the Second Annual Rafflepalooza—an evening of raffles, fellowship, and yes... bingo. Lots of bingo. All proceeds will support our families and youth as they participate in summer activities, including covering costs for the adult volunteers who faithfully chaperone these events.

And let's not forget Wonderful Wednesday, Men's Bible Study, Women's Morning Circle, Pickleball, Women's Luncheon, Chili Cook-Off, and plenty more happening throughout the month. So hold on to your hats—February is coming at us fast.

Follow Rev. Dr. Hinkle on X @daltonboy1986 or email him at jhinkle@mborofpc.org



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



In the event of inclement weather, The Session uses the following general rule: The church will cancel activities according to County School cancellation. An email will be sent to the congregation and information placed on the website if possible. If onsite Sunday worship is canceled, worship will be on our YouTube Channel.



FEBRUARY PREACHING SCHEDULE

February 1

"The Practice of
Generosity"

Psalms 112

Matthew 6:1-4

February 8

"The Call to Trust in
God's Generosity"

Psalms 37:1-9

Matthew 6:25-33

February 15

Dedication Sunday

**Transfiguration of the
Lord Sunday**

"The Transformation of
Generosity"

Psalms 50:1-6

Matthew 17:1-13

February 18

Ash Wednesday

"A Holy Fast"

Isaiah 58:1-12

Matthew 6:1-8

February 22

1st Sunday of Lent

"The Problem Beneath
the Problem"

Psalms 32

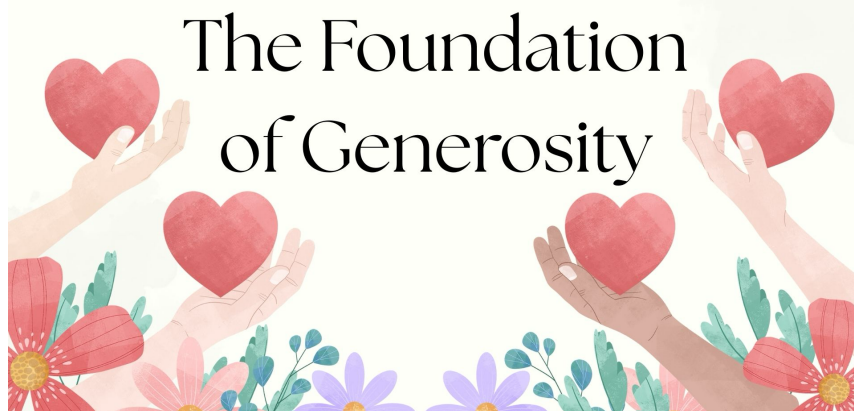
Matthew 5:21-26

WORSHIP AT FPC

PREACHING IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

First Presbyterian Church continues Stewardship season—a time set aside for reflection and renewed commitment as we consider how we care for the gifts God has placed in our hands. Our faith tells us that everything we have belongs to God. When we recognize God as the true owner of all, generosity becomes not an obligation, but a way of life. Leading us in this journey will be our Stewardship chairs, Steve and Karen Hickok. Dedication Sunday is February 15. Please prayerfully consider how God is moving you to be good stewards of what is happening on the corner of College and Spring.

Stewardship Season 2026:



STEWARDSHIP SEASON 2026

BY: STEVE AND KAREN HICKOK

Generosity is often measured by what we give, but Scripture reminds us that it is ultimately defined by why we give. At the heart of every faithful act—whether it is service, sacrifice, or financial support—is love. As we enter our stewardship season, we are invited to reflect not only on our gifts, but on the foundation from which those gifts flow.

The first three verses of 1 Corinthians 13 speak of many gifts we can offer to God and to our community. These verses affirm that while these gifts are important, none of them is greater than love. The next five verses describe what love looks like in action. The culmination of this chapter comes in verse 13: "And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love."

In Matthew 22, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God, and that the second is just as important: to love your neighbor as yourself.

Without love, we are nothing. In the grand scheme of things, love is everything. It is the very foundation of our faith—and it is the foundation of our generosity. Our stewardship theme this year is "The Foundation of Generosity." During this season, consider why time, talents, and financial resources are given to support the church. Is it out of duty, obligation, guilt, or tradition—or is it out of love? Let it be love.

FPC EVENTS AND UPDATES



Already tired of winter? Beat the winter blahs by joining us for one of our favorite events: Our Chili Cook-Off/Brownie Bake-Off on Sunday, February 22 at 5:00! Sign up to bring your best chili, soup, or stew or your best brownie secret recipe. Come for trivia, come to eat, it's a fun night for everyone! Sign-up forms will be in the Sunday bulletins. You can also sign up by calling the church office at 615-893-3882, ext. 201, email charlotte@mborofpc.org.



All women are invited to our annual Women's Luncheon here at church on February 7, 2026 from 11am-1pm: Cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch professionally prepared by our own Chef Jessica. Reservations required by February 1. Just contact the church office: call 615-893-3882, ext. 201, email charlotte@mborofpc.org. Friends welcome!

Special Guest Read to Succeed: "Read to Succeed improves lives in Rutherford County by offering free literacy programs and events for adults and children."



FIRST FRIDAY



**Friday, February 6
9am - 12pm
College St. Drive-thru**

MONDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**5:30PM MONDAY NIGHTS
Church Parlor**

Join us for this semester of Monday Men's Bible Study! We welcome any male in the church who is in fellowship and open to God's word in his life. We WILL meet on Presidents' Day.



Morning Circle

Tuesday, February 3
10am - Church Parlor

ALL Women Welcome-
Join us for fellowship!



Everyone's Invited to
Palm Burning
FPC Youth

5:30 - 7pm

Spring St.
Feb 11th



MISSION OPPORTUNITY
SALVATION ARMY
COMMUNITY MEALS

2ND THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH
4-7PM

SCAN THE QR CODE OR CONTACT KAREN HICKOK AT:
HICKOKMUSICSTUDIO@GMAIL.COM TO VOLUNTEER

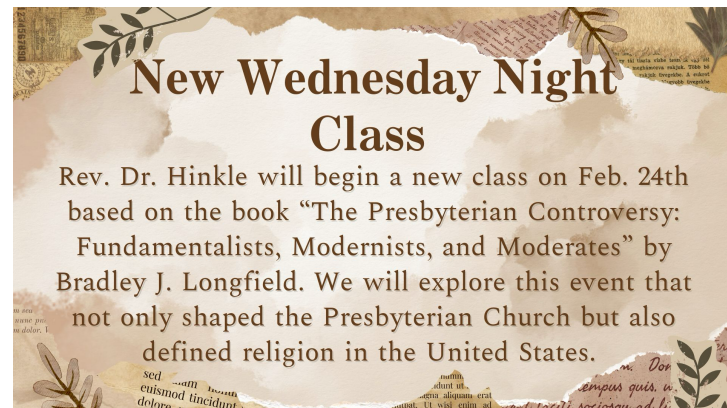
The Salvation Army serves meals to those in our community who are facing food insecurity. Our church volunteers for Community Meals at the Salvation Army once a month from 4-7pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month (next available date March 12th). Volunteers will assist with packaging, serving, table set-up, and cleanup. All volunteers MUST wear pants and closed-toe shoes. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old - those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian who always remains with them. You may scan the QR code to volunteer or contact Karen Hickok at: hickokmusicstudio@gmail.com.



Presbyterian 101
4 Week Class:
9:45 am in Classroom C
Starts February 8

Whether you're new or just want a refresher, all are welcome.

Register with the church office:
charlotte@mborofpc.org / 615-893-3882



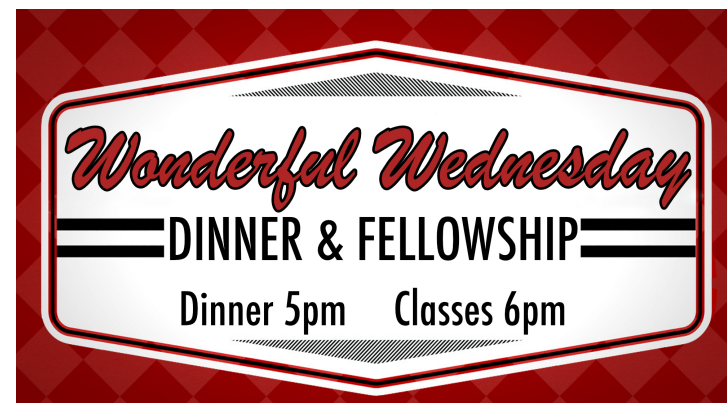
New Wednesday Night Class

Rev. Dr. Hinkle will begin a new class on Feb. 24th based on the book "The Presbyterian Controversy: Fundamentalists, Modernists, and Moderates" by Bradley J. Longfield. We will explore this event that not only shaped the Presbyterian Church but also defined religion in the United States.



Church Family Retreat

Save the Date!
May 1-3, 2026
Registration Begins on
February 27, 2026



Wonderful Wednesday
DINNER & FELLOWSHIP
Dinner 5pm Classes 6pm

FPC Youth February 2026

Wednesday, February 4th: Youth Rafflepalooza Summer Trips Fundraiser

Wednesday, February 11th: Palm Burning

Thursday, February 19th: 11th Grade Faith Milestone: Cemetery Walk

Saturday, February 21st: 7th-12th Grade Dinner and Sky Zone. *RSVP to Angela by February 13th.*

♥ Save the Date for our Church Retreat, May 1st-3rd ♥

*High School Youth Groups
on Sunday Nights,
6-8 PM*

1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd

*Middle School Group
on Wednesday Nights,
6-7 PM*

*4th, 11th - Palm Burning,
and 25th*



Fun Events Coming this Spring!

February 22 4th Grade Faith Milestone: Risk at 1:30 at Climb Murfreesboro. Meet there – complete online form before arrival

March 28 Egg Hunt at the Gray Home at 10:00am

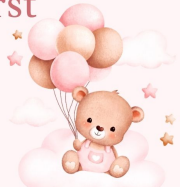
March 29 Our children will be performing a special anthem with our Adult Choir for Palm Sunday at the 11:00am service! Please be sure to attend Wonderful Wednesdays for choir practice as we work on our song. We will also process with palms at both services.



February memory verse

“We love because he first loved us”

1 John 4:19



4th Grade Faith Milestone

RISK

Climb Murfreesboro

02.22.26

1:30-3:30pm

Contact Meredith Peck



2026/2027 REGISTRATION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

We will be offering a 3 and 4 year old class AND a Kindergarten Readiness class for the upcoming semester.

Tell all of your friends and let's fill the school!

February 1 – 14 Preschool Family Priority

February 15 – 28 Church Member Priority

March 1 – Open Registration





February Birthdays



- 2- Ragen White Davenport, Bob Potter, Jennifer Willoughby
- 3- Sam Farrar, Andrew Willoughby
- 4- Reno Collier, Rory Sourek
- 6- Campbell Peck, Katie Turner
- 7- Trey Randolph
- 8- Jim Cross, Michael Daniel, Kris Montagano, Adam Parsons
- 9- Lisa Lugos
- 11- Kevin Heusinkveld, Andrea Swenson
- 12- Sloane Ratliff
- 13- Trey Gwinn, Henry Peck
- 14- Reed Peachey
- 15- Beth Brasch, Mark Follis
- 16- Young Moore
- 17- Cynthia Creque, Janet Logan
- 18- Caroline Follis, Lewis Greer
- 19- Rogers Harrison, Susan Waldrop
- 20- Jill Lanning, Melanie Shipp
- 22- David Sevier
- 24- Bill Bullock, Evans Gritton
- 25- Katherine Layman
- 26- Gregory Lawson, Donald Parente
- 27- Eve Jones, Mary Ashley Manahan
- 28- Hunter Foley

The Proclamation is a monthly newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church
www.mborofpc.org
Have an announcement for February?
 Submit it to Charlotte at
charlotte@mborofpc.org by February 18th.



February Anniversaries



Al & Brenda Sellers	February 7
Darrell Elwell & Susie Mocarski	February 13
Rick & Reba Heckel	February 15
Will & Abbey Logan	February 16
Dan & Paula Stow	February 25
Kevin & Sandra Wheeler	February 26
Jonathan & Christy Swenson	February 26

Thank you so much for giving!

Thanks to your generosity, we raised:

- Cake Auction to benefit Nourish Food Bank and Greenhouse Ministries: **\$7,743.75**
- Joy Gift Offering to benefit the Board of Pensions: **\$2,944**
- Christmas Eve Offering for Still Waters Family Ministries: **\$4,655.25**

Big News from Officer Jay!

Many of you have met our most frequent Sunday and Wednesday Officer, Jay Radzinski. In a new, additional venture helping people, Jay has launched his own non-profit with his therapy dog, Ellie, called WAGS4WELLNESS. Jay and Ellie make personal visits to people who can't get out much, need safe dog-exposure, or just need a little pick-me-up. You can contact Jay and Ellie at wags4wellness@yahoo.com or visit wags4wellness.com



Uplifting visits from Ellie the therapy dog

Bringing love and happiness to individuals and organizations

615-956-8655

wags4wellness.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

210 NORTH SPRING STREET
MURFREESBORO, TN 37130



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
MURFREESBORO, TN 37129
PERMIT #198

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The Youth Dinner and Rafflepalooza Fundraiser is back with fun and giving for a great cause where everyone goes home a winner. A few changes this year: Parlor doors will open at 5 pm to purchase as many raffle tickets (\$10 each) & bingo cards (\$5 each) that your heart desires. We'll have FOUR games of bingo! Common Room doors open at 5:30 pm, where you will drop your tickets into the buckets for anything you hope to win.

Save money and time with our **pre-sale bundles**. The "Fun Bundle" includes 4 bingo cards and 4 raffle tickets, a \$60 value for only \$50! The "Super Bundle" includes 8 bingo cards and 8 raffle tickets, a \$120 value for only \$100! And the "Epic Bundle" includes 12 bingo cards and 18 raffle tickets, a \$240 value for only \$200! Pre-sold bundles will be ready when you arrive, saving you time, but they will also be for sale the night of the event.

Our Goal is to raise \$8,000!

Funds raised will help offset costs for our summer youth trips. Our middle schoolers are returning to The Great Escape Smokies, while our high school group travels to Johnson City for a week with Appalachia Service Project.

Everyone wins a tasty dinner, and reservations are REQUIRED. Don't miss this incredible night of support and celebration! **Contact the office as soon as possible:** charlotte@mborofpc.org