



# THE PROCLAMATION

"To Know Christ and Make Christ Known"



## IT'S TIME TO CHANGE A LIGHT BULB

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

Several Sundays ago, I told that old, well-worn joke: "How many Presbyterians does it take to change a light bulb? One to actually change it – and 99 to talk about how great the old one was." Like most good jokes, it gets a laugh because there's some truth in it. Change is never easy, and for some reason, it seems even more difficult in the life of the church. We tend to love the way things have always been, who doesn't?

But the truth is this: without a willingness to change, without the courage to risk failure, and without a forward-looking mindset, any organization—including the church—is heading toward stagnation. The gospel may be eternal, but the way we live it out is not. It must breathe, adapt, and grow.

The good news? We can change, we *have* changed. Just think back to the early days of COVID. Before the pandemic, our church had no online presence. We'd talked about it for years, but nothing moved quickly. Then came the "Stay at Home" order, and suddenly, First Presbyterian Church—and churches across the country—pivoted. We learned how to livestream and record worship. We recorded videos. We emailed, used Zoom, and found ways to be the church in unfamiliar territory. It wasn't easy, but it was faithful.

After COVID, we changed again—this time with our summer worship schedule, moving to one combined service. For years, I had wanted to try it, but every time I brought it up, the response was familiar: "I don't know... people don't like change." And yet, here we are—years later—and that change has brought new energy and unity to our summer worship.

Now, we are preparing for another small but significant change.

After prayerful consideration, the Session voted in June to move the start time for Sunday School from 9:30 to 9:45 a.m. Why? Because while the 8:30 a.m. service was initially designed to last 45 minutes, in reality, it's been a full hour for as long as I've been here. And rightly so. Since my arrival, we've added weekly communion. On any given Sunday, we may also have a Minute for Mission, a baptism, or questions from curious kids during Time with the Young Church—plus Phil Purvis being, well, Phil Purvis. It's rich, full, meaningful worship... but it rarely ends exactly on time.

This new 9:45 start time will give Sunday School teachers—especially those serving our children—enough time to move from worship to the classroom without stress. It also gives the ministers a moment to breathe before shifting into teaching and conversation. This one small adjustment will ripple outward with positive impact. Change is never easy, but it can be holy. As we continue to live into our purpose—to know Christ and make Christ known—we do so with open hearts, flexible spirits, and a willingness to trust that God is always doing something new in our midst.

Let's keep dancing forward—one change at a time.

Follow Rev. Dr. Hinkle on X @daltonboy1986 or email him at [jhinkle@mborofpc.org](mailto:jhinkle@mborofpc.org)



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ♦ 210 N. SPRING STREET MURFREESBORO, TN 37130

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On August 3, we will start a new series of sermons: *Living in the Hope: Faith in Action from the Book of James*. This

5-part series explores the practical wisdom in James, focusing on the hope and transformation that come from living out our faith. Each sermon ties to a hymn that reinforces the theme of the message.

**August 3**

**Two Services Resumes**

**8:30am & 11:00am**

**New Sunday School Hour**

**9:45am**

"A Faith that Endures"

*James 1:1-12*

*Psalms 49:1-12*

**August 10**

"A Faith that Acts"

*James 2:14-26*

*Psalms 50:1-15*

**August 17**

"A Faith that Speaks Wisely"

*James 3:1-12*

*Psalms 82*

**August 24**

"A Faith of Submission"

*James 4:1-10*

*Psalms 103*

**August 31**

"A Faith that Waits"

*James 5:7-20*

*Psalms 112*

## WORSHIP & NEWS AT FPC



**Sunday August 3rd  
back to two services  
8:30am & 11:00am**



On Monday, August 4, First Presbyterian Church will be the site of a Town hall meeting for the city of Murfreesboro. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss projects that will impact the downtown Murfreesboro area. The meeting will start at 6pm in the sanctuary. While not specific to the conversation, the old Methodist block will be discussed. We hope you will attend this important meeting for the downtown community.



**Presbyterian 101  
4 Week Class:  
9:45 am in Classroom C  
Starts August 3**

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

Register with the church office:  
[charlotte@mborofpc.org](mailto:charlotte@mborofpc.org) / 615-893-3882

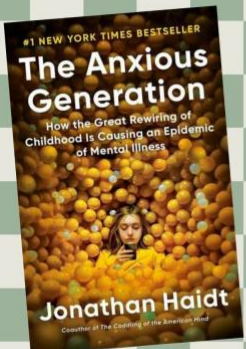
## FIRST FRIDAY



**Friday, August 1st**  
**9am - 12pm**  
**College St. Drive-thru**

**Our August Food Drive will be on Friday, August 1, from 9am-12pm in the College St. Portico.** Our Mission Ministry Team is once again partnering with the Murfreesboro City Schools Backpack Program to "provide backpacks of food to students identified in their schools as 'chronically hungry' – children who, for whatever reason, consistently have little to no access to food at home on weekends." (*Lisa Trail, Murfreesboro City Schools*). They need:


- Single serve cereal - .75 oz.
- Beef & macaroni, beef stew, beans & franks, spaghetti & meatballs, etc. (single serving, pop-top cans) 7.5 oz. size
- single serve microwavable macaroni & cheese
- Snack cracker packages
- Juice boxes/pouches – 6.75 oz.
- Granola bars, fruit gummies, goldfish, pretzels, individually wrapped
- Shelf stable milk, ex. *Horizon*. The MCS bus, MERV, will be here also so our donations will be taken directly by MCS to their destination - spread the word! Thank you for helping children in our community.



**NEW 5-WEEK PARENTING CLASS:  
THE ANXIOUS GENERATION**  
BY JONATHAN HAIDT

**Led by Rev. Dr. Harding**  
**Sundays 9:45-10:30am**  
**Aug. 10-Sept. 14**  
**Location TBD**

**Sign up by July 30<sup>th</sup>. Scan the QR code or email [charlotte@mborofpc.org](mailto:charlotte@mborofpc.org). Purchase book and begin reading before Aug. 10.**





## Women's Salad Potluck

Join us Tuesday August 5th  
 11am for a Salad Potluck  
 Bring your own drink!

All women welcome and we hope  
 you enjoy visiting with each other!



ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE INVITED TO A  
**BRIDAL SHOWER**  
 HONORING  
*Neeley Emore*  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025**  
**FROM 2PM-4PM**  
**IN THE CHURCH PARLOR**  
 RSVP TO 615-708-6964

HOSTED BY: JULIE CORCORAN, MARY WALLACE, TERESA LEWTER, AND HOPE EMORE





## Dinner For Eight

**Sign Up by August 24**  
*Forms Can be found in the Welcome Center*

### Join Dinner for Eight!

Looking to connect with others in the church? **Dinner for Eight** is a fun, casual way to build friendships over a shared meal. Groups of 6-8 adults meet once a month—either in homes, restaurants, or wherever they choose—to enjoy food and fellowship together.

Meals are usually potluck-style with rotating hosts, but each group decides what works best. Not up for hosting? No problem—just come enjoy the company! We're also offering an **alternate list** this year for those who can't

commit monthly but are willing to fill in occasionally. **Sign up by August 24.** Registration forms will be included in the bulletin and you can place it in the offering plate or at the church office. Let's grow closer as a church family—one meal at a time! Questions: Contact Karen Hickok at [hickokmusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:hickokmusicstudio@gmail.com) or 334-728-5516.

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY RETURNS AUGUST 11th IN THE PARLOR 5:30PM MONDAY NIGHTS

### Welcome to a New Season of Men's Bible Study!

All men are invited to join us for the new season of Men's Bible Study set to begin on Monday, August 11 in the church parlor. Meet us at 5:30pm for fellowship, Bible study, and discussion. This fall Rev. Dr. Hinkle will lead discussion on the book: *Galatians for You* by Timothy Keller. While the book is not required to attend, Rev. Dr. Hinkle encourages everyone who plans to attend to have a copy to refer to as an aid to discussion.

## WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY! BY: BILL PATTERSON



### LEA LEA SANDS

In keeping with (a new) tradition, we welcome former Californian Lea Lea Sands to our church family. Lea Lea moved to Murfreesboro in July of last year, having lived her whole life in the Los Angeles area. So why Murfreesboro?

After the death of her husband, Lea Lea was having a hard time. When her son's company transferred him to Murfreesboro, he said to Lea Lea, "I'm taking you with me". Once here, Lea Lea said "I just threw myself into everything," including the Woman's Club, Doors of Hope, and, First Presbyterian Church (including the prayer shawl group).

Back in Southern California, Lea Lea was an insurance broker, and later became a flight attendant for American Airlines. In making that decision, she cited her grandmother's advice: "If you don't do it now, you never will." That career move was not permanent. "I was sick all the time," she explained, so she went back into the insurance business.

She has three grandchildren, and one, her granddaughter, is a flight attendant for Southwest. Lea Lea was raised Presbyterian, and, citing the welcoming atmosphere here, joined FPC by reaffirmation of faith. And she is here to stay. Her son is moving back to California, but Lea Lea is staying. Perhaps as a mark of her new life, she got a Yorkshire Terrier and "since we are southern now, I named her Magnolia." We are glad Lea Lea is with us.



### DAVE AND JUDITH TRIMBLE

The California exodus continues with the addition of Judith and David Trimble to our church family. Judith, born in Napa, and David, born in Monterey Park, met while teaching at Bobby Duke Middle School in Coachella, Calif. Actually, David was just beginning his teaching career as a substitute after working for Motorola. Judith taught sixth grade. They married the month after school was out.

The Trimbles lived in LaQuinta, Calif. for 32 years, and after retiring, moved to Palm Springs, 20 minutes away. When they moved to Murfreesboro five years ago, they turned their Palm Springs home over to their three children who in turn turned the house into an AirB&B. One son lives in Germany, another in San Diego, and their daughter lives in Christiana.

Judith was what may be termed a "navy brat." Her father was a naval aviator and later an intelligence officer, and the family lived all over the world. Interesting fact: Judith graduated from high school at the American Community High School in Saigon, Class of 1964. The next year all dependents were evacuated from South Viet Nam to Hong Kong.

Now comes the standard question: Why First Presbyterian Church? "We walked in on a whim," said David. "John (Rev. Dr. Hinkle) took us in, showed us around and answered all our questions." Judith added that "people have reached out to us," and made them feel at home. "We love this church." They were formerly Lutheran and joined FPC on reaffirmation of faith.

As for hobbies, Judith enjoys playing her seven-foot grand piano. David liked to golf, but mobility issues have ended that pastime. We are fortunate to have the Trimbles join our congregation.



# FPC YOUTH

## AUGUST 2025

**AUGUST 10**  
**6PM-8PM**

**High School Youth Group Launch**  
**(9th-12th grade)**

**AUGUST 13**  
**6PM-7PM**

**Middle School Small Group Launch**  
**(7th-8th grade)**

**AUGUST 16**  
**6PM-8 PM**

**Pool Party and Cookout (7th-12th Grade)**  
**Farrar House**  
**RSVP to Angela Rogers at**  
**615-488-8995 or [Angela@mborofpc.org](mailto:Angela@mborofpc.org)**

**AUGUST 17**  
**12PM**

**All Confirmation Student & Mentor Lunch**  
**FPC Common Room**  
**RSVP to Angela Rogers at 615-488-8995**  
**or [Angela@mborofpc.org](mailto:Angela@mborofpc.org)**

**SUNDAY HS YOUTH**  
**GROUP 6-8PM**

**August 10, 17, 24,**  
**and 31**

**WEDNESDAY MS SMALL**  
**GROUPS 6-7PM**

**August 13, 20,**  
**and 27**

 **SAVE THE DATE** 

**MONTHLY EVENT 7TH-12TH GRADE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, LOCATION**  
**TBD. DETAILS COMING SOON!**

**11TH GRADE CONFIRMATION MILESTONE LUNCH: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH**



- **August 3 is Blessing of the Backpacks and Transition Sunday!** Be sure to bring your backpacks to the service with you and attend Sunday School for a fun back to School Celebration!

Remember: this is the day we return to our normal 8:30 & 11am services

- We're Popping Up in Sunday School on August 4 at our NEW time of 9:45am! Join us for popcorn and Pirate's Booty for our special Transition Sunday.

- Get ready for the return of Wonderful Wednesdays on August 13<sup>th</sup>. We can't wait to see you there!



## PROJECT TRANSFORMATION THANK YOU

Matthew 19:14 states, "But Jesus said, 'Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'"

This is what Project Transformation is all about. As the summer comes to a close with this ministry there are many thank you's to be handed out. First Presbyterian had at least 9 people there every morning to read with kids. Thank you to Hudson Webb, Sandra Hawkins, Lou Peruzzi, Jo Hood, Taylor Harrison, Charlene Baxley, Hendley Jackson, Bob Potter, Tim Pote, Rebecca Balfour, Tammy Mogul, Jacque Henry, and Julie Corcoran. In addition to this, all the Sunday School classes contributed their time and/or money. Robb McDaniell and his Friends of Job along with Jim Crumley and his Last Room on the Right bought food for the Project Transformation Family Night. Suma Clark and Bob Hunt and the Seekers of the Spirit fed the PT interns one evening as did the Hippies, Preppies, and Millennials' class. Thank you all. Teri Windham and Melanie Brogli

## August Birthdays

1	Matt Peachey
3	Melanie Brogli
4	Meredith Baughman, Oscar Harding
5	Amy Jackson, Charlie Livesay
6	Lauren Bales, Michelle Blaylock-Howser, Mary Catherine Sevier, Lynn Tisdal, Lynn Wilhoite
7	Ben Bergsieker, Bobby Harding, John Hinkle, Jr.
9	Amy Maynard
10	Lauren Flanagan
11	Cody Parker
12	Chuck Clark
14	Patsy Coleman
15	Claire Wilson
16	Tyler Callaway
17	Trudy Hulett
18	Reagan Lannom, Diana Magoon
19	Alex Panter
20	Nancy Hoffman, Susan Steen, Marty White, Wendy White
21	Rick Heckel
22	Dave Baughman, Ann Nunley, Rebecca Pond, Liz Taylor
23	Carter Pelot, Margaret Ann Pope
24	Rhonda Foley, Caelex Harris, Peggy Miller, Rae Pencek, Earl Pond
25	Matthew Callaway, Hudson Gray, Lou Peruzzi
26	Travis Lampley
28	Rochelle Willis
29	Susie Hawkins, Thomas Jennings, Sue Pond
30	Stephanie Lawson, Lyn Wilhoite
31	Lillybelle Moscato, Beverly Pearson, Curtis Vanzandt

**The Proclamation** is a monthly newsletter of  
**First Presbyterian Church**

**Have an announcement for September?**

Submit it to Charlotte at [charlotte@mborofpc.org](mailto:charlotte@mborofpc.org) or  
call 893-3882 ext. 201 by August 15, 2025

## August Anniversaries

Diarmuid & Anne O'Hara	August 1
John & Leila Hinkle	August 1
Michael & Anne Mayes	August 8
Thomas & Shelby Dias	August 9
Handani & Daniela Kam	August 16
Jeff & Jill Lanning	August 18
Steve & Kim Mitchell	August 21
Pete & Jackie Sourek	August 21
Gregory & Stephanie Lawson	August 28
Les & Tresha Gray	August 31
Richard & Anna Paddon	August 31

*thank  
you*

Dear Church Family,

It is with heartfelt thanks  
that I extend my gratitude  
to everyone at First  
Presbyterian Church. From

the cards to the hospitality and warm hugs, my  
family and I felt so supported and loved.

A special thanks to John and Charlotte, the  
great 'multi-taskers' for making every endeavor  
look easy but handled with such grace.

Thank you for joining with us in giving Jimmie a  
beautiful tribute and "good-bye."

*With appreciation and love, Jill Lancaster*

## SESSION NOTES BY GLEN EMERY, CLERK OF SESSION

- Shannon Wheeler led our devotion on Eph. 6:10-11 and how it has strengthened his faith.
- Starting August 3, Sunday School will take place from 9:45-10:30am.
- New light fixtures have been installed on the front porch, Spring St, and the portico.
- Brick maintenance and cleaning was done for the Columbarium.
- Vacation Bible School was attended by 42 children, which is a good increase from last year. We thank our 5 youth volunteers.
- Our fire alarm system has been inspected by the State Fire Marshall. Some improvements are complete and others are underway.
- Communion was taken to 3 people who don't get out much. Baby books were distributed to new grandchildren. All new members have been assigned a caregiver.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

210 NORTH SPRING STREET  
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#### PT custodian

Tammy Green



The Fellowship Ministry Team is so very excited to announce the return of Wonderful Wednesday meals! Reserve your spot for dinner by contacting Charlotte in the office at [charlotte@mborofpc.org](mailto:charlotte@mborofpc.org), calling 615-893-3882, ext. 201 or by using the bulletin insert/pew cards coming soon. You can reserve by the season, month, or week. College students are still free of charge. We can't wait to see you!

For August adult class Rev. Dr. Hinkle will be interviewing a few people he thinks have something important to say. *Stay tuned!*

Starting September 3, Women's Bible Study will be reading and discussing *Christianity and World Religions: Questions We Ask About Other Faiths* by Adam Hamilton. Books will be \$10 and available in the church office.