



THE PROCLAMATION



RETURN TO A COMFORTABLE RHYTHM

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

At the start of August, with temperatures still high, we begin the month hoping to feel a cool breeze once again. There is something about August that feels like a fresh start. Vacations begin to wind down, school doors reopen, and after the slower pace of June and July, the familiar rhythms of church life begin to return. Summer offers us a welcome opportunity to rest, travel, and spend time with family and friends. Those moments are gifts from God. Yet there is also something deeply comforting about coming home—to familiar faces, familiar hymns, and the steady rhythms of worship, study, fellowship, and service that shape our faith week after week.

Over the next few weeks, many of the ministries that bring life to our congregation will begin again. Wonderful Wednesday returns, filling our halls with laughter, learning, and fellowship around the dinner table. Our Monday Men's Bible Study gathers once more to open God's Word together. On Sundays, we return to two worship services as our choir resumes leading us in praise. On Sunday, August 2, Meredith will lead our annual Blessing of the Backpacks as we pray for our students, teachers, administrators, and school staff at the beginning of a new academic year. Our youth ministry also returns to its regular schedule, with Middle School students gathering on Wednesday evenings and Senior High students meeting on Sunday nights. These are much more than dates on a calendar or programs on a schedule. They are opportunities to grow in Christ, deepen friendships, encourage one another, and welcome new people into the life of our church family.

As we begin this new season together, I invite you to do more than simply return to church—return with expectation. Come expecting God to speak through His Word, to strengthen you through worship, and to encourage you through Christian fellowship. Come ready to discover new ways to serve, to deepen your faith, and to build relationships that point us all toward Christ. Whether you have been away for a few weeks or have been faithfully here every Sunday, there is a place for you. I look forward to seeing you as we step together into another exciting season of ministry at First Presbyterian Church. I have a feeling God has wonderful things in store for us.

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





In August, Dr. Hinkle will focus on five attributes of the Christian faith lived out in our everyday lives: forgiveness, obedience, grace, witness, and gratitude. A faith lived out cannot be stagnant, it always moves forward. It is always on the **go**.

August 2

Two Services Resumes

8:30am & 11:00am

"Go in Peace"

Luke 7:36-50

Psalm 17:1-9

August 9

"Go and Wash"

John 9:1-7

Psalm 14

August 16

"Go and Live Differently"

John 8:1-11

Psalm 85

August 23

"Go Home and Tell"

Mark 5:1-20

Psalm 138

August 30

"Go in Order to Come Back"

Luke 17:11-19

Psalm 26

WORSHIP & NEWS AT FPC

new!
young adult Class

For those post-college age but not yet 40
Starts Aug. 2 at 9:45 parlor

Starting Sun., Aug. 2, Dr. Hinkle and Stacy Webb will begin a new young Adult Sunday School Class. This class will be geared for those out of college (age) and not yet 40. We will be using the Alpha guide, which was created to help people ponder and answer the questions of the faith.

NEW Season of
"People I Find Fascinating"
with Rev. Dr. Hinkle

Wonderful Wednesdays
starting August 12
6pm in the Parlor

August 12 Jeremy Florida - Owner of the Brass Horn
August 19 Dawn Roberts - Beasley
August 26 Randy Allen - Newly Elected Mayor

LET'S PACK the van!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOOD DRIVE

Help support **Murfreesboro City Schools**
Backpack Program by dropping off food to MERV on
Friday, August 7th from 9:00-12:00

Most Needed Items:

- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Granola Bars
- Fruit Cups
- Fruit Snack Packs
- Individual Snacks
- Small Pop-Top Entrees

Our August Food Drive will be on Friday, August 7, 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:

- Beef & macaroni, beef stew, beans & franks, spaghetti & meatballs, etc. (single serving, pop-top cans) 7.5 oz. size
- single serve microwavable macaroni & cheese
- Single serve cereal - .75 oz.
- Snack cracker packages
- Granola bars, fruit gummies, goldfish, pretzels, individually wrapped.

The MCS bus, MERV, will be here to take our donations straight to their destination – help spread the word! Thank you for helping children in our community **and** giving Dr. Hinkle the best birthday present ever by packing that van!

We Need Your Recipes!

We are putting together a church wide cookbook and would love to include your favorite dishes!

Recipe submissions and Preorders are due by September 1, 2026

Submit your recipes to Charlotte via email: charlotte@mborofpc.org or drop them in the basket by the church office door.



Please share your best recipe/s in any category, along with their story (if you have one) as soon as you can to the church office – no later than Sept. 1. You may also preorder recipe books (pricing tbd), we plan to have them available in time for Christmas gifts! Questions? Contact Judy Gritton, Tresha Gray or the office.



Women's Salad Potluck

All women welcome!
Bring a salad to share -

Tuesday August 4th
11am church Common Room



MONDAY

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

RESUMES AUGUST 3rd
IN THE PARLOR

5:30PM MONDAY NIGHTS



Presbyterian 101

4 Week Class:
9:45 am in Classroom C
Starts August 30

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

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



**Dinner
for
Eight
is Back!**

Sign Up by September 13
Forms Can be found in the Welcome Center

Dinner for Eight 2026–2027
Share a Meal. Make New Friends. Build Community.

Dinner for Eight is a wonderful opportunity to get to know members of our church family in a relaxed and welcoming setting. Whether you've attended First Presbyterian for years or are newer to the congregation, this is a great way to build meaningful friendships through shared meals and conversation. Each group consists of approximately eight adults—couples, singles, and college students—and meets about once a month throughout the program year. Every group decides what works best for them: gathering in homes, meeting at local restaurants, sharing potluck meals, or trying a combination of both.

Hosts typically rotate throughout the year. When meeting in a home, the host usually provides the main dish, while others bring side dishes, salads, desserts, or beverages. If hosting isn't possible for you, don't let that keep you from participating! Every group is encouraged to find arrangements that work for everyone.

Groups will be organized after registration closes, and you will receive the contact information for the members of your group. If you enjoy organizing, please consider serving as a Group Coordinator. Coordinators simply help the group get started and assist with communication during the year. We welcome families with children. Please indicate on the registration form if children will be participating so we can form groups accordingly. **Registration Deadline:** September 13, 2026 – forms in Sunday bulletins and in the Welcome Center.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY
SALVATION ARMY
COMMUNITY MEALS

AUGUST 13TH
4–7PM



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



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY! BY: BILL PATTERSON



KIM MARSON FAMILY

Kim Marson and her sons Willoughby, 11, and Finn, 8, have been attending First Presbyterian Church for several years and finally joined last month. In fact, it was during the first hymn on Easter Sunday, 2018, when her water suddenly broke, Finn being born that day.

Kim was born in Scarborough, Ontario, where her parents were working on a house. They moved to Nashville one month later and subsequently moved to Murfreesboro in 2006.

Kim became a U.S. citizen at age 16. She entered MTSU, graduating in three and a half years, got married, and for the last 16 years, has worked for the Social Security administration in the Murfreesboro office. She specializes in disability claims. The Marsons live in Rockvale.

The boys were fans of a children's story book about a hamster named Humphry, so much so that they have a pet hamster. "He bit me on day one," Kim said. As for other activities, "I run a cub scout pack," Kim said. And it is the cub scout connection which led to the addition of another new member to our church, Tiffani Jablonski.



TIFFANI JABLONSKI FAMILY

Tiffani Jablonski and her son, Noah, 11, are making First Presbyterian their new church home, and she credits Kim Marson for bringing them here. Noah was in Cub Scouts at Rockvale Elementary with Kim Marson as the den mother.

Tiffani was born in Nashville but grew up in Hendersonville. She went to Austin Peay State University for three semesters and then transferred to MTSU, graduating in 2008. Work and marriage took her to Knoxville and North Carolina and ultimately to Murfreesboro, where her former husband was from. Tiffani currently works for Northwestern Mutual Insurance. Noah will be going to Central Magnet School for middle school.

Tiffani grew up Lutheran, and "I was yearning for a church home again." Kim Marson invited her to try FPC. "I felt comfortable here, and my son needed to have a church life," she said. We are glad to have the Jablonskis in our church family.



PAM PARKMAN

There seems to be a trend happening at First Presbyterian Church: a Californian moves to Murfreesboro to be closer to family and finds the "perfect" church. It has happened again. Pamela Parkman joined FPC in March, moving here from Fallbrook, California to be close to her daughter.

Pam was born and raised in Pomona, Calif. She married after graduating from high school, had two daughters, but divorced after five years. She went to work at General Dynamics in the budget department, married again and had another daughter. And, ultimately, another divorce.

She married a third time, and this one lasted until her husband died in 2015. Pam retired from General Dynamics when she remarried. After her husband's death, Pam moved to a senior community in Fallbrook. She moved to Murfreesboro at the urging of her oldest daughter. Things fell into place. "I found the perfect house in Kensington (subdivision)" Pam said, and "I found the exact church I wanted." Actually, Pam joined the choir before moving her membership. "I have always been in the choir." That and the welcome she received have worked out well. Pam was actually born and raised in Pilgrim Congregational Church, which, she said, is not that different from the Presbyterian church. She joined the Presbyterian Church in 2016.

Besides her daughter in Murfreesboro, she has one in the Chicago area and another in Denver. She also has five grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. And two cats. We are glad Pam has united with FPC.



FPC Youth August 2026

Welcome Back!

Saturday, August 15th, 6pm-8pm **Monthly Youth Event (7th-12th Grade): Pool Party and Cookout at the Farrars' House. RSVP to Angela Rogers at 615-488-8995 by August 6th. Cost - Free**

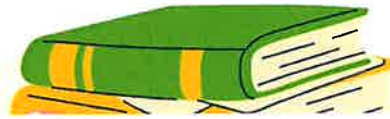
**High School Youth Group on
Sunday, Nights 6-8pm**

16th, 23rd, and 30th

**Middle School Youth Group on
Wednesday, Nights 6-7pm**

12th, 19th, and 26th

★ **Save the Date: Fall Festival October 28, 2026** ★



Fall Festival

A free party for the whole community

October 28, 2026 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Concessions | Inflatables | Games | Carnival Rides

We need you -Scan the QR Code to volunteer! →

Fall Festival Time! October 28 from 5-7pm

Concessions will include popcorn, hotdogs, nachos, drinks, and popsicles for free! We have lots of activities for everyone, including inflatables, carnival rides and games!

As you know, it takes a lot of volunteers to make this great night a success so feel free to scan the QR code in the above graphic to sign up – there's something everyone can do. Like signing up in person? Paper sign-up sheets will be in the Common Room starting August 12.

Please spread the word for our FREE party for the whole community!



- August 2 is Blessing of the Backpacks and Transition Sunday! Be sure to bring your backpacks to the service with you AND attend Sunday School at 9:45 for a fun back to School Celebration – we're Popping Up on Transition Sunday with popcorn and Pirate's Booty!! Remember: this is the day we return to our normal 8:30 & 11am services
- Get ready for the return of Wonderful Wednesdays on August 12th. We can't wait to see you there!



AUGUST MEMORY VERSE

'DO TO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD
HAVE THEM DO TO YOU'
LUKE 6:31



Everyone
is invited to
**Second Sunday
Social Hour**
4:30-6:00pm

★ Aug 9th Corn Dogs and Corn Hole ★

Sept 13th Nachos and Nerf Wars

Join us for our **FREE** monthly events full of fun and fellowship!
These events are open to our entire church family. Friends are
always welcome, the more the merrier!



2026/2027 PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



We're so excited to start our new school year on
August 10th! We've still got a few spots available
for ages 3-5, so let all your friends know!
preschool@mborofpc.org



August Birthdays

1	Matt Peachey
3	Walt Baxley, 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.
8	Bennett Hudson
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, Wyatt Powell
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**. If you have an announcement, contact Charlotte at charlotte@mborofpc.org or call 893-3882 ext. 201 by August 18, 2026

August Anniversaries

John & Leila Hinkle	August 1
Michael & Anne Mayes	August 8
Thomas & Shelby Dias	August 9
Tom & Kay Wolohon	August 12
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,

I would like to thank you for all the support during my recent hospitalizations. The cards, calls, prayers, and flowers meant so much. *God Bless, Laura Harbour*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your care, concern and love shown to us during Rick's health issues and passing. Your thoughts and prayers, cards, many prayergrams, calls and texts, flowers, food, hospital and home visits, pastor visits, Communion, and ongoing support have meant so much to us during a difficult time. *In Christ's Love, Cindy Prescher and Family*

Dear Church Family,

How grateful I am for each of you for ALL of the many prayers, beautiful cards, flowers, and my WONDERFUL prayer shawl that you bestowed on me when I had surgery and enjoyed during my recovery. God is good and I feel truly blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring Church!! *Many thanks and much love, Kathy Jones*

Dear Church members and friends,

I want to thank you for all the love and support you have given me and my family over the past year. Things for the past year haven't been the easiest for sure but, with my family & church family by my side I can definitely say that it has given me strength to power through. And I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart! Thank you for all the love and prayers, too! *Love, the Callaways – Rachel, Matt, & Tyler*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

210 NORTH SPRING STREET
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID

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PERMIT #198



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The Fellowship Ministry Team is so very excited to announce the return of Wonderful Wednesday meals on Wednesday, August 12! Reserve your spot for dinner by contacting Charlotte in the office at 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.

Our first week back we will have a great cookout theme - We can't wait to see you!