



Anchor Links

Anchor Links is a publication of First Presbyterian Church, Shelbyville, Tennessee

Dear Friends,

A few Sundays ago, I included a prayer of confession from a collection of prayers I have used over the years for our corporate prayer of confession. I appreciate the prayer for its honesty in how difficult it is to pray. It ends with the same plea the disciples once made to Jesus, “Lord, teach us (me) how to pray.”

I talk a lot about the importance of praying and prayers. But it dawned on me the other day as I reflected on that closing petition to teach us how to pray, perhaps there are folks who don’t know how to pray. Or better yet, don’t know the variety of ways there are to pray and just haven’t found one that fits your style.

We talked about this in our Confirmation Class during our Wednesday morning lesson, May 26th. The lesson is based on one of the commitments we are asking of our young confirmands which is, “will you devote yourself to the prayers?” We discussed what prayer is and the different forms and ways we can pray.

Simply put, prayer is speaking with and listening to God. How we speak to God may differ from one occasion to another. I consider myself to be praying when I turn to God and ask His help in discerning what I should do or how I should act in a particular situation. “Lord, I’m going to need Your help here.”

Sometimes, I’m asking God to help me understand what it is I just learned or witnessed. “Well Lord, what am I to take away from this?”

At other times, when the mood strikes me, I practice what is known as a breath prayer. It is a way to relax mind and body and open one’s spirit to the presence of God. As I take in a deep breath I silently pray, “I am a child of God,” and as I exhale, I pray, “beloved by God.”

Sometimes when I have been reading and thinking about the scripture passages for Sunday a word, a phrase or an image will stick with me and that becomes my breath prayer.

There are also more formal and structured ways of praying. I practice this form of praying when I am preparing the Prayers of the People for worship each Sunday. The structure of the prayer I remember from my seminary days by the acronym, “ACTS in communion with the saints.”

The letter “A” stands for prayers of adoration or praise to God. “C” is a confession of our sinfulness. “T” is thanking God for the gifts He has bestowed upon us; “S” is for supplication wherein we ask for those things which we need. “IN” are our petitions of intercession on behalf of the needs of others and “communion with the saints” is a lending of our voices with those saints, past and present (including those in the pews with us) as we join our voices in praying the Lord’s Prayer. This is the pattern I follow when putting together the Prayers of the People each Sunday.

There is another form of structured prayer you can use in your prayer life known as “Lectio Divina.” Lectio Divina is Latin for Divine Reading. It is a monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God many people today have found very meaningful.

Traditionally, Lectio Divina has four separate steps: read (scripture or your daily devotional guide); meditate; pray; contemplate. First a passage of Scripture is read, then its meaning is reflected upon. This is followed by prayer and contemplating on what you learned.

The meditating upon the Word just read is important. The Hebrew word we translate as “meditate” literally means to “chew” or to “masticate.” I remember as a child being told I should chew my food 40 times before I swallowed to get the full benefits of the nutrients in the food. That’s the idea of “meditating” on the Word of God at work here. The pray is then informed by what you got out of that “bite” of scripture.

These are just a few of the many ways we can pray, i.e., talk to God. I Googled “ways to pray” the other day and came up with 30 different ways. I guess my point is, “will you devote yourself to the prayers?” There are lots of different ways you can do this.

It’s a great way to feed your soul, lift your spirits and strengthen your personal relationship with God which is a good thing. There is also the added benefit you will also strengthen the entire Body of Christ. And that’s a very good thing.

I hope you have a great summer. It certainly promises to be a much better one than last year’s. Take care and stay safe.

Grace and Peace,
Taylor

GAIL PARSONS

For Backpacks

By

Charlotte Williams

For Greg Garner Scholarship

Margaret Ann Anderson

Pat & Mary Marsh

For Memorial Fund

Ed & Elaine Holcombe

Mike & Karisa Matussek

Ruthie Shepherd

Patti Jo Bennett (Sister of Jim Sepull)

Wayne Bomar, Jr. (Stepson of Adrian Bomar)

Kate Canady (Member)

Evelyn Davidson (Member)

Bob Durio (Member)

Pat Edmiston (Friend of Christy Jensen)

Alex Hutto (Son-in-law of Sheri Emerson)

Carolyn Matussek (Member)

Buddy Wilhelm (Father of Richard Wilhelm)

NAOMI THOMPSON

For Music Dept.

Charlotte Williams

For Memorial Fund

Ruthie Shepherd

For Greg Garner Scholarship

Pat & Mary Marsh

Those in Military Service:

LT Andy Canady (Member)

Airman Chase Blanton (Member)

Those serving abroad and at home.

Pray for our Nation



CHRIS MOYERS

For Mission Fund

Doug & Ellen Treadway

MATTHEW COROSON

For Mission Fund

Doug & Ellen Treadway

MARGARET JARRELL

For Memorial Fund

Ed & Elaine Holcombe

ALICE DURIO

For Music Dept.

Mike & Karisa Matussek

For Memorial Fund

Ed & Elaine Holcombe

For Pastoral Care Committee

Linda Griffin

WALTER HIGGINS

For Memorial Fund

By

Dr. William H. Woodruff

Carey T. Hinds

Billy & Joy Caskey

Luther & Ginnie Munford

James I & Katherine D. Potts

For Greg Garner Scholarship

Nancy June Brandon

Pat & Mary Marsh



The Second Grade classes of Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Gordon from Eakin Elementary recently visited our beautiful church. Aaron Crafton met with Ann Spencer, tour guide, and the students to share a bit of the history of FPC.

The group continued their tour around the public square.

Our Confirmation Class had a BLAST at Gulf Shores.

DAY ONE: After we checked in our house, we drove to the nearest Walmart where we bought necessities (think Hot Pockets, Cookie Crisp Cereal, Milk and of course, CANDY); we settled in for the night. The next day, we started with a healthy breakfast of yogurt and fruit (the healthy part all went down hill from there); then we had morning devotion and took a spiritual gifts inventory. After that we hit the beach! We had fun in the Water, Sunning, and playing ball. That evening we tried to go to Lambert's where they throw the rolls at you, but there was an hour and 15 minute wait....we called restaurants...most of them had the same wait time. Chick-fil-a drive through won out so, we took our food back to the house. During our evening devotion we learned what our spiritual gifts were! Did you know that one of the kids has the gift of PREACHING?

DAY TWO: The BEST day of all began when the kids decided they wanted to make our breakfast. They made pancakes without a spatula! It took a little bit of practice, but they finally learned how to turn the pancakes with a wooden spoon. Now that takes practice! It is so amazing how God works because this day's lesson was about "Will You Devote Yourself to the Breaking of Bread?" We were studying about how Jesus shared many meals with his followers and how breaking bread with one another helps develop special relationships. At one point, one kid was cooking pancakes, one was setting the table, and one was cooking scrambled eggs. What a beautiful picture of our kids working together to accomplish a common goal! AND they even cleaned up the mess! After breakfast and the morning lesson, we drove to Orange Beach and went on a dolphin tour. We didn't really see any until about the end of the tour, but we sure had fun on that boat! We then met Ean's parents who treated us for dinner. Grace, Hudson and I tried oysters for the first time. (Hudson was the only one who voted thumbs up.) It was a great day!

DAY THREE: Those wonderful kids continued the Agape Love Feast idea as they once again made breakfast for us. Today's menu was cinnamon rolls and bacon. Who knew that bacon cooked in the oven would be SO GOOD??? Our lesson today was "Will You Devote Yourself to the Prayers?" We learned that prayers can be many types. You don't have to bow your head and clasp your hands. You can pray anytime, anywhere, in any fashion. Each one of the kids prayed for our meal each day. They are becoming bold and confident in the prayers that they offer to God. We spent a little more time on the beach today and in the afternoon, we went to a place called "The Track" where go carts and video games abound. Dinner was back at the house where we tried to finish up all the food we had bought. The ending lesson was "Are You Ready to Cross Over?" We learned that now, as a functioning adult in the church, that we are ready and willing to give back to the church...who has so freely and willingly given to us. These kids have come a long way. I am proud to say that they are really and truly ready to contribute to First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville.

To God be the glory!

Cindy Lamb



June 4

Lee Russell

June 8

Karen GraceAnne Beavers

June 9

Dwayne Frisby

June 12

Mary Brown

Addison & Ashton Riddle

June 13

Belita Reed

June 15

Eddie Wright

June 16

Aaron Crafton

Ryan Edwards

June 17

Connie Crafton

June 25

Sylvie Locke Hall

June 27

Carol Magnuson

Charleigh Turner

June 28

William Stone Craig

June 29

Brent Canady

Norma Zae Jensen

Ashlyn Knott

June 30

Ryan Turner

Happy Father's Day

A sturdy, steady hand to hold to
In times of strife and stress
A true friend we can turn to
When times are good or bad
one of our greatest gifts and
blessings,

The man that we call Dad.



Happy Anniversary best wishes

June 16

Tim & Jackie Bane
Celebrating 22 years

June 23

Allen & Toby Haynes
Celebrating 59 years

June 27

Mike & Frieda Bone
Celebrating 56 years

Richard & Kathy Smith
Celebrating 34 years

June 28

Scott & Kristin Anderton
Celebrating 11 years



Charleigh Turner



Addison & Ashton Riddle

Sylvie Locke Hall
4 years old

Karen GraceAnn
Beavers
3 years old



NOAH LOUIS SMITH

Born April 19, 2021 to Guage and Lauren Smith. Brothers Knox & Henry. Grandparents are Richard & Kathy Smith; Joe & Tanna Warren. Greatgrandmother, Margaret Smith

PARENT'S DAY OUT

It's all about
PRE-K

Pre-K
ROCKS

a day in the park



CONGRATULATIONS!



Tuesday

May 18,
2021

Left to Right~ Carter Clements, Wyatt Whitley, Hadley Leverette, Cort Ray, Paisley Winton, Knox Smith, Anna Marsh, and Wyatt Feldbruegge



Adam
Emily
Wyatt
and
Ezra
Feldbruegge
Family



Thank You

Kathy Smith

For 25 plus years of service as treasurer for Parents' Day Out

You are greatly appreciated for 'all' you have done for our program

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS Monday-Thursday- 8:30-1:30 Closed on Friday.

- ◆ **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY** –Your session has removed virtually all COVID-19 protocols previously instituted. This means masks and social distancing are no longer required in or around the church property, including worship services and indoor Fellowship meals. **HOWEVER** – those who wish to continue to wear masks and observe social distancing are encouraged to do so for your own peace of mind.
- ◆ **Sunday, June 13th** will be our regular **Good Samaritan Food Pantry** collection. You are welcome to bring you donations with you Sunday or drop them in the collection box outside Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ **Choir Practice** on Wednesday Nights at 5:30pm-Come join us! Choir will be in worship on June 6th.
- ◆ **Session Meeting-** June 14-5:30 PM-ELA Classroom.
- ◆ **VBS-**June 21st through 24th-Ages 4 years old – 5th grade. **MEGA Sports Camp VBS** will be held June 21-24 from 5:30-7:30pm. Children ages 4-5th grade will pick their favorite sport: soccer, flag football, cheerleading, or crafts/cooking. High energy rallies and relationship building small group huddles allow kids to discover how God helps them in life and in sports. Register online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/manage/events/151379715805/tickets>
- ◆ **TONY RICE CENTER** wish list fulfillment is our project for through June. There is a list of items needed in the Sunday Bulletin and on the bulletin board across from the Chapel.
- ◆ Bring your **5¢ A Meal Banks** on Sunday, June 27th. Banks are located at the back of the church, if you need one.

Committee Meetings

Faith & Development
Monday, June 7th 6:00pm

Gift Fund Committee
Wednesday, June 9th

Mission-Pastoral Care and Property
Will Not Meet



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

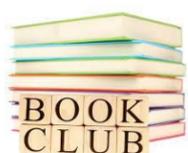
Our first attempt at hosting a Red Cross blood drive was a success. Several FPC members showed up as well as folks from the community to fill the appointments . It was a great opportunity to introduce FPC to new folks and was a great use of our Fellowship Hall. The Red Cross workers were pleased with our facility and were enthusiastic about our hosting again. Should we wish to do so, we can be a regular site every two months.

Thanks to all who gave and who helped to facilitate the process.

We humbly thank God for our faithful donors, and this community's generous support of the Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen this year. You are making a meaningful impact in your local community, and we are encouraged at what the future holds. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



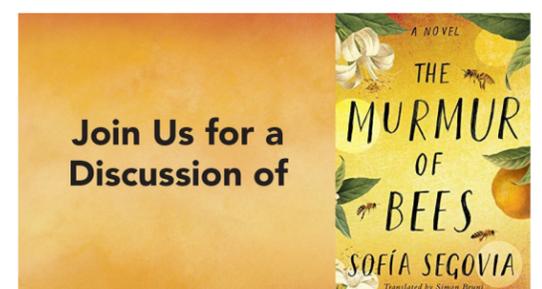
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION
Make checks payable and mail to:
Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen
c/o 122 Public Square North
Shelbyville, TN 37160-3934



"The Murmur of Bees" by Sofia Segovia
Wednesday, June 30, 9 am
Never Rest Park.

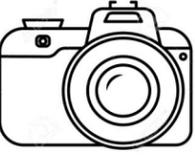


Bring along a lawn chair.



June 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Nat'l Milk Day 	2	3 Nat'l Bicycle Day 	4 Nat'l Donut Day 	5
6 Worship 10am with Holy Communion	7 Faith & Development 6:00pm	8 BEST FRIEND <i>Day</i>	9 Gift Fund Meeting 5:30pm ELA Room	10	11	12
13 Worship 10am Congregational Meeting <i>Good Sam Food Donation</i>	14 Session Meeting 5:30pm 	15	16	17	18 Nat'l Flip Flop Day 	19
20 Worship 10am <i>Father's Day</i> 	21 VBS	22	23	24	25	26
27 Worship 10am <i>5 ¢ A Meal Banks</i>	28	29 Nat'l Camera Day 	30	July 1	July 2	July 3

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STAFF

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd
 Interim Minister

Cindy Lamb
 Children & Youth Christian
 Director

Billie Crowell
 Music Director

TBD
 Church Secretary

Diane Green
 Nursery Director

SESSION

LeaAnne Windham
 Clerk of Session

Class of 2021
 Rob Marsh, Leo Skelton, Margaret
 Smith, LeaAnne Windham

Class of 2022
 Aaron Crafton, Melanie Hamilton,
 Ginger Shofner, Richard Smith

Class of 2023
 Helen Garner, Christy Jensen,
 Kristin Wilhelm, Terry Saylor

TRUSTEES

Class of 2021
 Kathy Smith

Class 2022
 Pat Thomas

Class of 2023
 Tommy Anderton



HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

June 6~ Aksel & Norma Zae Jensen

July 4~ Kristin Conley & Melanie Hamilton

SERVING in JUNE

<u>June</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>A Time for Young Christians</u>	<u>Hall Monitor</u>	<u>Nursery Help</u>
6th	Richard Smith	Connie Crafton	Aksel Jensen III	Lisa Turner
13th	Ginny Saylor	Connie Crafton	John Marsh	Pat Thomas
20th	Frieda Bone	Cindy Lamb	Roy Turner	Mary Marsh
27th	Kathy Smith	Kate Canady	Pat Marsh	Bea Marsh

“O Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.” Ps. 95:1-3