



*Shelbyville*

First Presbyterian Church

600 N. Brittain St.  
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# Anchor Links

February 2023

Volume 23 Issue 2

## From the Pastor's Pen

My friends,

February is the month we celebrated love, in particular romantic love on St. Valentine's Day, but love in general, too. I think that may be one of the differences in the relationship between God and the people of God in the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament it's an "if ... then" relationship between God and Israelites. God says, "If you obey me, then I will love you." For instance, in Deuteronomy 30:15-16, God says, "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess." In the New Testament, it's more of God's loving humanity first and humanity responding to the love of God. It is not unlike what John wrote in one of his epistles: "We love because (God) first loved us." (1 John 4:19) God is the first mover in love. Humanity responds to that divine love by loving God and neighbor.

Dr. Shirley Guthrie writes about this love in the doctrine of justification.

Dr. Guthrie says:

.... Justification by grace, as a 'gift' (Rom. 3:24), means quite simply: You do not have to buy God's love and acceptance, because you are *already* loved and accepted by God – without any qualification or prerequisites. God does not say, "I will love you *if* you are good, *if* you prove yourself worthy, *if* you do so and so, *if* you first love me." God does not even say, "I will love you *if* you first have faith in me or *if* you first humiliate yourself and grovel on the ground before me." God says simply, "I love you just as you are – *you*, not your righteousness, your humility, your faith, or your accomplishments of one kind or another.

That does not mean that God's love is blind. God sees us as we really are. Justification is a big "nevertheless." ....

Justification means that despite the fact that things are not right in our inner lives and our personal relationships, God forgives and accepts us....

How do we know this is true? Because "while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.... (W)hile we still were sinners Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:6-8) God is not for those who first do what they can to help themselves, but for those who cannot help themselves.... Christ means that God's love is not a reward for what we have done or confess that we have not done, but a *gift* given absolutely freely, with no strings attached." (319, Christian Doctrine (revised edition))

God loves us unconditionally. There is no "if you are good and obey, then I will love you." God really loves *us* just as we are. Once we know God loves us, how can we not love our Creator God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our mind, and with all our strength?

May the love of God fill you this February,

*Jim*





February 1	Tommy Anderton
February 2	Steve Conley
February 4	Alex Moran
February 4	Denise Moran
February 5	Aiden Edwards
February 10	Benjamin Turner
February 10	Janet Mullins
February 13	Roy Turner
February 15	Maddie Hittle
February 22	Charlotte Williams
February 22	Kate Marsh
February 22	Katherine Marsh
February 23	Max Beavers
February 25	Hudson cobb
February 28	Hunter Wood Wilhelm

## Meetings

Property Committee  
Monday, Feb. 13th @ 5:00pm

Mission Committee  
Monday, Feb. 13th @ 5:30pm

Pastoral Care Committee  
Tuesday, Feb. 21st @ 10:00am

Faith Development Committee  
Monday, Feb. 6th @ 6:00pm

Worship & Music Committee  
TBD

Cong. Life & Fellowship Committee  
TBD

Session  
Monday, Feb. 20th @ 5:30pm

Circle  
Tuesday, Feb. 14th @ 10:00am

## Happy Anniversary



February 14<sup>th</sup>  
Tony & Carolyn Matusek

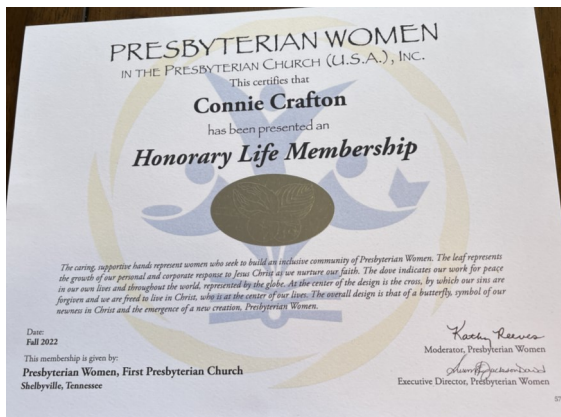


### Invite a Friend to Sunday School in February!!

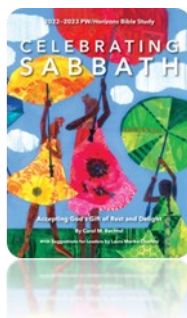
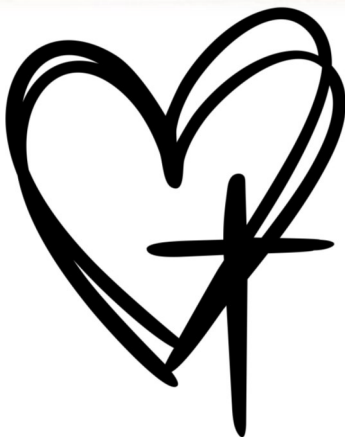
February is the month of Love....why not share your love of God with your friends and invite them to Sunday School!! If you are currently attending Sunday School, invite a member of your church family who hasn't participated in Sunday School recently to join you. Remind them that there will be free coffee and doughnuts AND the opportunity to study the word of God. And if you are not currently joining us in Sunday School, take one Sunday in February to give it a try! Invite your friends, neighbors, and/or co-workers. Share the love! Need more information about what classes we provide? Email the church at [first.pres.church600@gmail.com](mailto:first.pres.church600@gmail.com) or call the office at 684-6541.



The caring, supportive hands represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women. The leaf represents the growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith. The dove indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, represented by the globe. At the center of the design is the cross, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ, who is at the center of our lives. The overall design is that of a butterfly, symbol of our newness in Christ and the emergence of a new creation, Presbyterian Women.



Connie Crafton was awarded the Honorary Life Membership on Sunday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> for her service for FPC through the Presbyterian Women. She served as moderator for the PW for 8 years! During that time she was constantly striving to make our church a welcoming place for all. Connie exemplifies what a Presbyterian woman is, she has been a leader and diligent, faithful worker. She can always be counted on to help any way she is able. People like Connie keep FPC working, running and moving forward.



## Circle

Circle will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 10:00am. We will be studying from the PW Bible Study, Celebrating Sabbath. Hope to see you there. **Circle is open to all women in the church.**



## ATTN: SENIORS



Due to the generosity of the Greg Garner Memorial and Buchanan-Hall Funds First Presbyterian Church has been blessed to have the opportunity to award scholarships to graduating seniors planning to further their education after high school. For those youth that have actively participated in the life of First Presbyterian, applications are to be submitted to Katherine Marsh, Clerk of Session, by March 31<sup>st</sup>. The application shall consist of a letter stating the youth's intended path of study and their desire to be considered for the award."



### Sunday Youth Dinner's

are every Sunday,  
unless otherwise noted,  
from 4:00-6:00pm.

The Pendergrass' are hosting a superbowl party for the youth on Sunday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be at their house. Youth is having a family bowling night on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>.

**We are once again in need of volunteers to provide dinner on these nights. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin boards if you are able to help.**

If you have any Youth related questions contact Jennie Kate Pendergrass.



*Thank you notes/letters  
received from donations*



First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from the Boys & Girls Club of Bedford County on 12/9/2022. "On behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of Bedford County, we'd like to sincerely thank you for the recent contribution you made to our organizations "It Just Takes One" Campaign. Our organization is always appreciative of the community's generosity when it comes to providing for the youth of Bedford County. Youth today need more guidance than ever before and our programs are designed to help promote a more positive outlook for those kids. "

First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from The Outreach Foundation on 12/6/2022. "Thank you very much for your church's generous gift to The Outreach Foundation. We help our global partners train leaders, start new congregations, expand their outreach programs, and strengthen their ministries of compassion."

First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from the Tony Rice Center on 11/29/2022. "Your continued support of our program is outstanding! Your generous donation is very much appreciated. Your gift will allow us to provide needed items such as education materials, bedding, clothing, etc. for the men who are suffering from the disease of addiction.



First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from the Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen on 12/3/2022. "Well, You've done it again... blessed us at soup kitchen beyond measure! By providing your prayers, volunteers and financial support, you have once again given to us in immeasurable ways. By way of updating you on our current activities, volunteer teams of cooks and servers from several local churches, schools and businesses, plus individuals, are preparing and serving approximately 200 home-cooked meals for our soup kitchen family on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, we realized a big need for socks last winter, distributed many, many pairs for both adults and children, and have already been blessed with over 1,400 pairs to give this winter.

First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from Good Samaritan. "We would like to thank all the caring members of The First Presbyterian Church who have donated to Good Samaritan. Your donations will help people with Utility bills, Rent, Gasoline for Doctors Appointments, Life Saving Medication, Emergency Shelter, Meals, and transportation. Our Pantry distributes food to families in need. On behalf of all the people who will be helped by your donations, we the volunteers at Good Samaritan would like to thank you for lending a Helping Hand.

First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from UKirk, at MTSU. "Thanks so much for the continued support of our ministry to college students here at MTSU. We have a house at MTSU that is open to students all the time but especially during the school day. Our campus minister uses the house as a base of operations for most of your programs and is available there for students daily."



First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from the Caregiver Relief Program of Bedford County on 12/7/2022. "Please share with your congregants my appreciation of your very generous support of the Caregiver Relief Program of Bedford County. Your contribution of \$1,000 will help us to provide monthly in-home visits and respite reimbursements to families who are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease in Bedford County."

First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from the Community Outreach Partnership of Bedford County on 11/29/2022. "We at Community Outreach Partnership of Bedford County would like to thank First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville for their generous donation of \$1,000 to help provide food for needy families. We will be doing approximately 150-200 food boxes for the needy, which will be handed out in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We at Community Outreach Partnership are privileged to be able to provide between 750-1,000 boxes to needy families annually."



First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from AccessHope. "Thank You for your financial donation it is greatly appreciated!"

First Presbyterian Church received a thank you note from Open Hands Shelter on 1/17/2023. "On behalf of Castle Ministries of TN/Open Hands Shelter, I would like to thank all of you who have partnered with us in some way to help us minister to the poor, needy, and homeless through our Open Hands Shelter Homes or our Warming Station. We have stepped out on faith again to trust the Lord to provide financially for your new women/children home that has greatly increased our budget for rent and utilities. We are believing that Lord has provided through your donation."







# Parents' Day Out

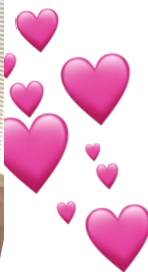
## Nutrition Day



PDO had a special visitor, Jessie Garcia, from the UT extension office to teach our kids about healthy foods and nutrition.



# Parents' Day Out Movie and Pajama Day





# February



February 1	Chancel Choir 2:00pm
February 2	AA Meeting 1:00pm
February 3	Closet clean out at Church 9:00am
February 5	Youth Dinner 4:00-6:00pm
February 6	Faith Development Meeting 5:30pm Cub Scout Meeting 6:00pm
February 7	AA & Al-Anon Meetings 7:00pm
February 8	Chancel Choir 2:00pm Wonderful Wed. Dinner 6:00pm Bible Study 6:35pm Children's Music & Mission 6:35pm
February 9	AA Meeting 7:00pm
February 10	AA Meeting 1:00pm
February 12	Pictures for the Directory Bring your Good Sam Donations Youth Super bowl Party
February 13	Property Meeting 5:00pm Mission Meeting 5:30pm Cub Scout Meeting 6:00pm
February 14	PW Circle 10:00am AA & Al-Anon Meetings 7:00pm
February 15	Chancel Choir 2:00pm Wonderful Wed. Dinner 6:00pm Bible Study 6:35pm Children's Music & Mission 6:35pm
February 16	AA Meeting 7:00pm
February 17	AA Meeting 1:00pm
February 19	Youth Family Bowling
February 20	Session 5:30pm
February 21	Pastoral Care Meeting 10:00am AA & Al-Anon Meetings 7:00pm
February 22	"Fat Ash Wednesday" Pancake Dinner 6:00pm
February 24	Book Club Meeting 9:00am AA Meeting 1:00pm
February 26	Youth Dinner 4:00-6:00pm
February 27	Cub Scout Meeting 6:00pm
February 28	AA & Al-Anon Meetings 7:00pm

**Mark your calendars...**

**It is picture time for a new church directory.**

Pictures will be taken Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

You can stop by the office 8:30-1:30 starting now till Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> to have your pictures taken.

February 12<sup>th</sup> is the last day for pictures!

**Could you use some help understanding budgeting, saving, and investing?**

Financial Peace University is a nine-week course that teaches you how to save for emergencies, pay off debt fast, spend wisely, and invest for your future.

First Presbyterian Church is considering offering Financial Peace University (FPU) for FREE. It will meet weekly at night and is available for adult couples and individuals. If you are interested in taking this course, please send an email to [first.pres.church600@gmail.com](mailto:first.pres.church600@gmail.com).

We will update you as to dates and times.



## **Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday**

Our church will participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday. Since this is our regular Sunday to bring food for Good Sam, we are asking that cans of soup be brought instead on Sunday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Monetary donations also can be made. You can wear your jersey to show your support for the Chiefs or the Eagles, or you can wear a jersey to support your favorite team (even if they aren't in the Super Bowl this year)! **Let's celebrate Super Bowl Sunday by giving to Souper Bowl of Caring.**



Bring your Good Samaritan Donations next month on Sun., March 12th.

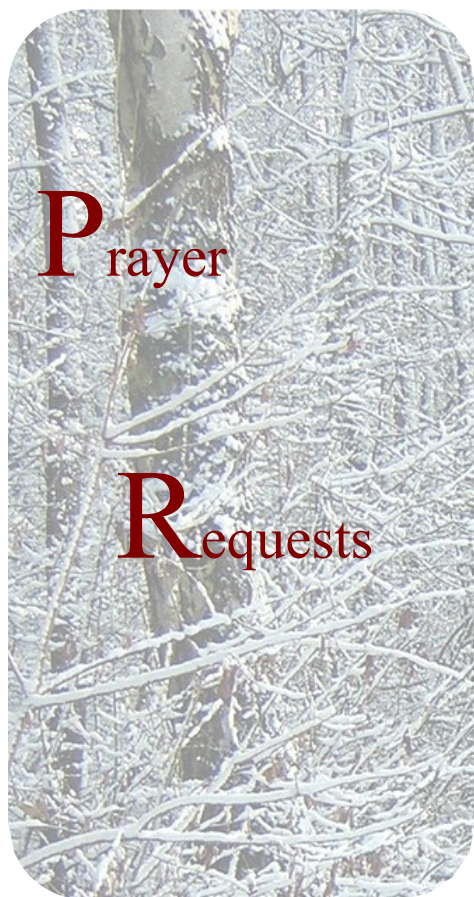
There will be no Good Samaritan collection in February because it falls on Souper Bowl Sunday.



**A member of the Pastoral Care Committee made a doll for Annie Grace.**







**Family & Friends of Ann Adamson**

**Marian Alexander** (Friend of Christy Jensen)

**Family & Friends of Mary Channell** (Linda Anderton's Mother)

**Brent Canady** (Member)

**Sandra Crowell** (Relative of Donna Sepull)

**Family & Friends of Randy Cunningham** (Friend of Mary Brown)

**Family & Friends of Evelyn Davidson** (Member)

**Cliff Garrard** (Member)

**Denise Geen** (Friend of James Smith)

**Edwin Holcombe** (Member)

**Fred Hunt** (Member)

**Carolyn Keely Latham** (Friend of Ginger Shofner)

**Carolyn Matusek** (Members)

**Jennie Schutte-Patrick** (Bea Marsh's Sister-in-law)

**Jim Patterson** (Brent & Kate Canady)

**Family & Friends of Kerri Lemmon Yarbrough** (Daughter of Pat Lemmon)

**LT Andy Canady** (Member)

**Airman Chase Blanton** (Member)

**Those in Military Service and their families**

**Those who are serving abroad and at home**



If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please call the church office at (931)684-6541 or send an email to [first.pres.church600@gmail.com](mailto:first.pres.church600@gmail.com).



**Anne Adamson**

**For Greg Garner Fund**  
Nancy June Brandon

**Mary Channell**

**For Greg Garner Fund**  
Mike & Frieda Bone  
Helen Garner

**Evelyn Davidson**

**For Greg Garner Fund**  
Nancy June Brandon  
Mike & Frieda Bone  
Helen Garner

**For Backpack Fund**  
Charlotte Williams

**For Memorial Fund**  
Mabel Burton

## Book Club



The Book Club is meeting Friday, Feb. 24th, 9:00am and the location is dependent on the weather. They will be discussing "Seabiscuit: An American Legend" by Laura Hillenbrand.

### Up and coming...

March "The Beekeeper of Aleppo" Christy Lefteri

April "Moloka'i" Alan Brennert

May "The Nurse's Secret" Amanda Skenandore



*Thank You!!!!*



**The first blood donation opportunity at FPC in 2023 occurred on Jan. 18th in our fellowship hall with 23 donors yielding 21 units of blood.**

This is our second year for providing space for Red Cross to collect much needed blood and will be continuing once a quarter during 2023. Since beginning this joint effort with Red Cross, we have seen an increase in donor numbers from the teens to the 20's, averaging 25 to 30 scheduled appointments each time. Much appreciation goes to the members of our congregation who donate blood and those who donate time to assist with registration and managing the refreshments which are important to those who have just donated a pint of their blood. Thanks to PDO teachers who helped take down tables and move chairs in preparation for the equipment Red Cross workers moved in for the day and to the church volunteers who helped restore the room for Wednesday night activities. Thanks to our church secretary who does much of the behind the scene work that is always necessary for a program to succeed.

It takes many hands to bring off a successful blood drive and thankfully we are blessed in this.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday April 26, 2023. Please consider signing up for an appointment and always keep this project in your prayers.



**Did you know...**

a single blood donation can save up to 3 lives?



**American  
Red Cross**

**Blood  
Services**

**April 26th 10:00am- 4:00pm**

Our next blood drive will be here before we know it. It's not too early to go online and register. Please join us in giving a pint.

For an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767.





# Servers

## Sunday, February 5, 2023

Welcome Guest Preacher, Rev. Candice Klein-Howell

Ushers/Greeters

**Helen Garner**

**Pat Marsh**

**Roy & Lisa Turner**

Communion Prep: **Adrian Bomar & Pat Thomas**

Communion Servers: **Helen Garner, Jim Ikard, Katherine Marsh, Lori Sain-Smith, LeaAnne Windham**

A Time for Young Christians

**Kate Canady**

Hall Monitor

**Christy Jensen**

Children's Church

**Bea Marsh**

Nursery

**Lisa & Maddie Hittle**

## Sunday, February 12, 2023

Ushers/Greeters

**Brent Canady**

**Charlotte Williams**

**Bailey & Trena Little**

A Time for Young Christians

**Pastor Jim**

Hall Monitor

**James Smith**

Children's Church

**Katherine Marsh**

Nursery

**Jennie Kate Pendergrass**

## Sunday, February 19, 2023

Ushers/Greeters

**Rob Marsh**

**Brent Canady**

**Evan & JK Pendergrass**

A Time for Young Christians

**Marylyn Caperton**

Hall Monitor

**Frieda Bone**

Children's Church

**Lisa & Maddie Hittle**

Nursery

**Lisa Turner**

## Sunday, February 26, 2023

Ushers/Greeters

**Frieda Bone**

**Melanie Hamilton**

**James & Lori Smith**

A Time for Young Christians

**Kate Canady**

Hall Monitor

**Jim Caperton**

Children's Church

**Lauren Smith**

Nursery

**Katherine Marsh**



## "Fat Ash Wednesday"

Pancake supper will be held prior to the  
Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Dinner will be served from 6:00pm-6:45pm.

**Mardi Gras Theme** - bring your beads and an empty  
belly as we celebrate the beginning of the Lenten season.



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## FPC Staff

**Rev. Dr. Jim Moran**  
Pastor  
pastorjimmoran@gmail.com

**Chenel Gervais**  
Church Secretary

**Jennie Kate Pendergrass**  
Youth Director

**Billie Crowell**  
Music Director

**Diane Green**  
Nursery Director

**Teresa Phillips**  
Parents' Day Out Director

## SESSION

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

Class of 2024  
Brent Canady,  
**Katherine Marsh (Clerk of Session),**  
Lori Sain-Smith, Drew Turner

Class of 2025  
Mary Brown, Jim Ikard  
John Marsh, LeaAnne Windham

## TRUSTEES

Class of 2023  
Tommy Anderton

Class of 2024  
Bailey Little

Class of 2025  
Lisa Turner

### REMINDER

Our next collection date  
for 5 cents-a-meal  
is March 19<sup>th</sup>



*Session minutes are available in the church office for any member of the congregation to review.*

We have a variety of options for tithing and offerings. They can be made by Venmo, Vanco, Check or Cash.

## View Our Church Directory on your Mobile Device!!!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*, Download the FREE app to begin. You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

