



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Shelbyville, Tennessee
Sunday, January 31, 2021



Dear Friends,

I do sincerely hope this email finds you and your loved ones in good health.

As I mentioned last week, I am in Alabama this week working on curriculum for a series of confirmation classes. Harold Dawkins from First Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville, Tennessee will be leading you in worship this coming Sunday, January 31. I have always believed it is good for congregations to hear a different voice from the pulpit time to time. You're welcome.

Your Stewardship and Finance Committee will be meeting by Zoom this coming Monday, February 1st to work on our 2021 budget. You should have received a letter from your committee asking those of you who did pledge to please confirm that with Lisa Turner, our church treasurer. With all the craziness in December we want to make sure we didn't let any pledge cards slip through the cracks. Thank you for your understanding and your patience.

Your Faith and Development Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 2nd at 5:30 PM. This will also be a Zoom meeting. If you would like to be included on this meeting let me know and I'll add you to the list.

Super Bowl Sunday is February 1st. We have traditionally taken up a Souper Bowl Offering on the Sunday the Super Bowl is played. This project was begun by a Presbyterian youth group in South Carolina and has really found a place in people's hearts. Good for them.

Our dilemma this year involves COVID-19 and our Second Sunday Offering for the Good Samaritan Food Pantry since they come so close together. Your Mission Committee and your Children's and Youth director, Cindy Lamb, are looking into a way you can participate in this annual food drive without exposing yourself unnecessarily.

This year we have chosen the Cross Shelter homeless ministry to be the recipient of our Souper Bowl Offering. You will be receiving other information on how to participate in this year's Souper Bowl Offering AND support your team! So, watch for more information.

I forgot to mention during last Sunday's announcements that our February Anchor Links will be going out soon. I need to get my contribution to Shirley ASAP and so do you if you have something you would like to include in this month's addition.

I am so looking forward to the time when we can safely meet in person again to worship, fellowship and engage in mission together. I look forward to the time we can sing hymns again and lift up our voices as we sing the Gloria Patri and Doxology. I miss them. They have been a part of my life since I can remember. I know you miss them too.

And though I am discouraged and depressed by the events of this past year, I do not despair. As the sign says, "God's got this too." And while God doesn't NEED our help to bring His plan to completion, He does welcome it and encourages it. I like that. It helps me not go from depression to despair. It helps me to know that along with millions of other Christians you and I can be a part of the solution and that gives me hope and that's why I do not despair. Thank you, Jesus.

There is something else. When COVID-19 is no longer the in-your-face threat that it is today, many of the problems that surfaced this past year will remain. What I hope will have changed is us and our ability to see each other as God sees each of us and celebrate and embrace God's love of diversity.

That seems to me to be one of the ways we can be good stewards of God's creation and learn how to love one another as Christ has first loved us. It's a thought.

Take care and stay safe.

Grace and Peace,
Taylor

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY~SUNDAY, JANUARY31, 2021

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Billie Crowell

Unison Call to Worship

Come! Let us give thanks to the Lord with whole hearts. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Glory be to the One whose wonders are to be remembered. The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. The Lord feeds the righteous with truth. Come! Let us give thanks to God.

Prayer of Preparation

Loving God, You have made us so that we cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from Your mouth. Give us a hunger for Your Word, and in that food satisfy our daily need through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Call to Confession

The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens all who repent calls us to name our failings and our hopes. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. Let us pray.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, You have given us a sure Word – sealed by Your Spirit in the free gift of Your Son. In him You have set us free from bondage, bound up and healed our wounds, and led us into paths of peace. But still we listen to other voices, as though Your Word were just one among others. In mercy, forgive us, O Lord. Enable us by Your Spirit, to demonstrate our gratitude for all Your blessings, by following Jesus with undivided hearts, and by bearing his liberating good news where there is brokenness and bondage, to the glory of Your Holy name.

(A time of silent personal confession). Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Good who made you and knows your every thought hears you now and forgives you all your sin. You have been redeemed through Jesus the Christ, God's Son and our Risen Savior. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Minister: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.

Time for Children

Kate Canady

Prayer for Illumination

Holy Spirit, Your people call out for understanding. Bring to our yearning hearts and minds the truth of Your Word; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture

Mark 1:21-28

Sermon

"Astounding, Authoritative Teaching"

Ruling Elder, Harold Dawkins

Music

Billie Crowell

Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed, be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Blessed are You, God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for Your glory and for the service of Your kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

Go in peace with the knowledge that God's power is given to the church the body of Christ, for the sake of the life of the world. Amen.


Postlude


Billie Crowell

Children's & Youth Ministry

Children's Church at 9:00am via Zoom on Sundays through January.
Youth will meet at 6:00pm on Sundays through January via Zoom.

The Youth at First Presbyterian church invite you to join us for the **SOUPER** Bowl! We would like to donate cans of soup to Cross Ministry which is a ministry that assists the homeless.

 We thought we would make this a fun contest. If you are rooting for the **Kansas City Chiefs**, please donate any kind of **chicken soup**.

If you are rooting for the **Tampa Bay Buccaneers**,  donate **beef soup** of your choice.

We want to make donations easy for you. You can order a case of soup on Amazon for about \$20.00 and send it directly to Cross Shelter Project 116 Hickory Drive or you can drop soup off at the church.

Thank you for your help!

We Believe In The Power Of Prayer

Matt Coroson
Evelyn Davidson
Bob & Alice Durio
Pat Edmiston
Tommy Franks
Elaine Holcombe
Carolyn Matussek
Gail Parsons

In Military Service
LT Andy Canady
Airman Chase Blanton

*Those serving at home and
abroad.*

Let God's Word comfort,
strengthen, and energize
you to keep going.

@DAILYHOPE