

First Presbyterian Church
721 Church St.
Jefferson City, TN 37760

LECTIONARY

Sixth Sunday of Easter—May 5

Acts 16:9–15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5
John 14:23–29 or John 5:1–9

Ascension of the Lord—May 9

Acts 1:1–11
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15–23
Luke 24:44–53

Seventh Sunday of Easter—May 12

Acts 16:16–34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21
John 17:20–26

Day of Pentecost—May 19

Acts 2:1–21 or Genesis 11:1–9
Psalm 104:24–34, 35b
Romans 8:14–17 or Acts 2:1–21
John 14:8–17 [25–27]

Trinity Sunday—May 26

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1–5
John 16:12–15

Meetings This Month



Mission Committee — May 1st at 4:30 p.m.
Worship Mtg. — May 1st at 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship & Evangelism Mtg.— May 8th at 5:00 p.m.
Session—May 8th at 6:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Report April 2013

April 7	\$4,817.00
April 13	\$2,786.00
April 21	\$3,776.00
April 28	\$4,922.80
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TOTAL	\$16,301.80

(We need \$18,309 to meet the monthly budget.)

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Mission Com. 4:30 p.m. Worship Committee 6:30 p.m.  Jim & Joyce Cornett	Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m.		
Communion 5 Sunday School- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45-11:45 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10	11
 Claud & Kay Gowan	 Kent & Susan Clouser	 Rich Harlan	 Sally Meredith John Ryan Scarlett 			Men's Breakfast 8 a.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. YOUTH SUNDAY MOTHER'S DAY	 Charlie & Dian Wise		Family Night Supper 6:30 p.m.  Doug Dykstra John Rinehart 		Sit n Knit Group 7:00 p.m.	Hiking Club 8 a.m. Grace Notes Flute Choir Concert 3:00 p.m.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
PENTECOST SUNDAY Service with FUMC at 9:30 a.m. Brunch on lawn 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m.			Christian Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.			
 Connie Harlan				 J Moser	 Simon Whaley	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m.	MEMORIAL DAY  OFFICE CLOSED  Jack O'Hare					

The Amen Almanac

First Presbyterian Church, 721 Church St., Jefferson City, TN 37760
 Phone/Fax: 865-475-2761 E-mail: fpcjctn@bellsouth.net Website: www.fpcjeffcity.org
 Rev. Andrew C. Whaley, Pastor

From the Pastor's Desk...

May is the season of greening golf fairways, boat waxing, high school prom nights, and for many of us, graduations. Whether you are a teacher who attends this event every year, a parent, a grandparent, or a friend, most of us have the opportunity to attend graduations, if not annually, at least frequently enough to remember the emotions and expectations of the event.

We are used to hearing the grandiose speeches that declare the student can achieve whatever they set as their goals. We hear passionate pleas to pursue your heart's desire over the extra zeroes on the paycheck. We see the hugs and tears and pleas among classmates, "I promise we will be friends forever," and we remember when we made those promises and how six months after graduation we lost touch with those folks we intended to make lifelong companions.

This is a time when young people are thinking about what they want to do with their lives while their families sit in the stands and reflect on what they have made of their own lives or what they still hope to achieve. In Christian language we call this desire for meaning in our lives, that sense of purpose, our "vocation." Frederick Buechner has been made famous for his quote topic, that vocation is "where your deep hunger and the world's deep need meet."

That is a beautiful sentiment, a calling out of the rat race and the longing for upward mobility that our capitalist, market-based society tends to idolize as the only worthwhile pursuit. Unfortunately, though, I am not sure it can really be as simple as Buechner or the graduation speakers make it out to be.

Pursuing our passion is a wonderful aspiration, but sometimes it is a circuitous route to get there. For most it takes trial and error to figure out what we really value and love. For many, we find our passion but we also hold responsibilities to spouses and children who need our support, so we temper the interest or hold down another job to make ends meet. Even for those who can work to satisfy their "deep hunger," there are still many dark days, days of monotony, days of trivial activity, where the ultimate end seems lost in the day to day.

I wonder if as Christian folk we might consider, in this season of graduations and fresh starts, how we exercise our passion and carry out our responsibilities in a way that is shaped by the waters of baptism in which we have been washed. Many of us will find ourselves "ordinary" in the standards of grand achievement, be it in the marketplace or the best of public service.

But my encouragement is that we do not feel inadequate simply because we feel our impact has not been deep enough or our reach far enough or our focus clear enough. Perhaps we do well in this season to lower our gaze to the needs, the hurts, and the differences

we can make in our neighborhood, our classroom, our office, or our family. Is there a lingering pain we could seek to reconcile? Is there a risk we have failed to take for fear of rejection? Is there a wrong we could forgive? Is there healing we could bring simply by taking the step to be involved in the life of another person?

Is this grand, world-changing, life-defining work? Probably not by graduation speech standards. But as Christians we are called to remember, that the saving of the world has already been accomplished on a cross. In our baptism, we have been clothed with Christ, the one whose life was poured out for the deep need of the world. Our calling, therefore, is to spread that message of reconciling love through every day acts. Our reward may not be fame or success or memorialization, but a simple welcome at the last, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

Even as we hear the call to greater achievements, let us remember in humility and gratitude our identity is given to us by God, as we are wrapped in mercy and clothed love to shape the world in small ways day -to-day.

Gratefully,
 Andrew

Announcements

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our next Women's Bible Study is on Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. at The Creek in downtown Jefferson City. Childcare will be available in the church nursery for those with small children. If you have any questions or would like further details, please speak to either Jennifer Gowan or Rebecca Whaley. We look forward to seeing you there!



GOING-ON GROUP

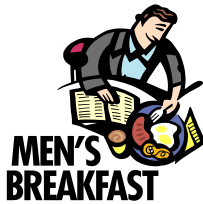
The Going On Group will meet in the parking lot of Fred's in Alpha on Thursday May 9, 2013 at 10:00 am for a trip to the General James Longstreet Museum in Russellville. This museum was used as Gen. Longstreet's headquarters during the winter of 1863-1864. We will tour the museum and then go to the Little Dutch Restaurant for lunch in downtown Morristown. For more information contact John or Debby Rinehart at 423-581-3135. Please make your reservation for lunch by Sunday, May 5th.

CHANGES TO SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Starting on Sunday, May 5th and running through the end of the renovations we will have limited packaged breakfast items and coffee available in the back hallway of the church. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Rutherford-Williams.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next breakfast for the men in our church family is scheduled for Saturday, May 11th at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The discussion will be "The Nobleman and the Pounds: Luke 19:22-36."



★ YOUTH SUNDAY PLANNING/PRACTICE ★

★ On Sunday, May 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m., our youth ★ will have a special planning session for Youth Sun- ★ day. Dinner for the youth will be provided. At ★ 6:40, parents are invited to join us for a ★ presentation about our mission trip to Char- ★ lotte, NC. Then, on Saturday, May 11th the ★ youth will be practicing for Youth Sunday from ★ 10 a.m.—12:00 p.m. at the church. If you have ★ any questions, please see Madison or Andrew. ★



YOUTH SUNDAY



Youth Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, May 12th. Please plan to attend this Service lead by the Youth of our Congregation. If you have any questions, please see Madison.

Don't forget Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th. I  Mom



SIT 'N KNIT GROUP

The Sit 'n Knit group will be meeting on Friday, May 18th, at 7 p.m. at the home of Libby Moser. If you have any questions, please see Libby.

MAY FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER

Our Family Night Supper for this month will be on Wednesday, May 15th, at 6:30 p.m. The program will be Martha Sanders, presenting her career in the Army on the anniversary of the day women were accepted into the armed forces. Please plan on joining us for good food and fellowship.



SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIKING CLUB

The Smoky Mountain Hiking Club will meet on Saturday, May 18th, at 8 a.m. We will be hiking to Kephardt Prong. This will be a first time hike for us, one on the North Carolina side of the park. We'll go to the junction with Sweat Heifer Creek Trail, for a round trip of four miles and an elevation gain of 800 feet. This trail is described as "a riverine stroll...along a branch of the Ocunulftee River." Don't forget to pack a lunch and join us.



PENTECOST SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 19th we will be having a special joint service with the United Methodist Church in the street at 9:30 a.m. Please join us following the service for a special Brunch on our lawn. Sunday school classes will begin at 11:00 a.m.



GRACE NOTES FLUTE CHOIR



We are pleased to announce that on Saturday, May 18th at 3:00 p.m. we will be hosting a *Grace Notes Flute Choir* concert. The *Grace Notes Flute Choir* is a group of professional and amateur flutists based in Maryville. This inspiring group of flutists, including our own Dr. Sue Swilley, is sure to enrich our worship experience together. If you would like more information, please contact Sue Swilley.

SAVE THE DATES! MARK YOUR CALENDARS! APPALACHIAN OUTREACH WEEK

APPALACHIAN OUTREACH WEEK is fast approaching. Our week is Monday, July 1 - Friday, July 5, 2013. We need several VOLUNTEERS to help us cook, serve and clean-up. For Breakfast (Monday-Friday) times are 6:00 a.m. preparation and 7:00 a.m. serve and Dinner (Monday-Thursday) with a 4:30 p.m. preparation time and a 5:30 p.m. serve. Sign-up sheets for those who wish to help will be posted on one of the back hall bulletin boards soon! We will have at least 70 AO workers to feed. Thanks in advance for your help to make this Mission Project a success. If you have any questions, see JoAnne Vest at 865-475-5111 or JAV124rb@msn.



MAY 2013 — Ushers and Nursery Schedules

MAY 5

Ushers — Rodney and Delynn McCash
Nursery — Martha Sanders

MAY 12

Ushers — Youth
Nursery — Stacy Kirkpatrick

MAY 19

Ushers — Johan Koppier and Doug Dykstra
Nursery — Juanita Dykstra

MAY 26

Ushers — Ted Folsom and Rich Harlan



"I remember my mother's prayers, and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."
— Abraham Lincoln

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile."
— Albert Einstein

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

FAMILY and FRIENDS OF:

Alice Harlan, Rich's mom, that passed away on Monday, April 15th

SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Michael, Nicole, and Ericka, friends of Jennifer Cureton, who were victims in the bombing at the Boston Marathon
All members of the military and their families, especially those stationed overseas
The unemployed

ILL AND RECOVERING:

Bruce Brown, friend of JoAnne Vest, who has suffered stroke and not doing well
Sandy Jaros, who is recovering after suffering several seizures
Fred Gochey, cousin of Gail Twine, to continue cancer treatment in Mobile, Alabama
Paisley, Donna Jenkins newborn great-granddaughter, who has an infection and not doing well
Ray Middlestat, friend of Nancy Romine, who has exhausted treatment for cancer
Dr. Matthew Sellers, friend of Jennifer Bates, who has been diagnosed with rectal cancer
Bill Beebe, Frances Wolf's brother-in-law, who has been diagnosed with esophageal cancer
Franci Manis, Ted Folsom's sister, who has been diagnosed with chronic pancreatitis
Rodney Dyer, has been dealing with health issues of MS and cancer
Karen Burchfield, who is a former organist at FPC, has been diagnosed with kidney cancer
Regen Morris, 10-year-old friend of Sean and Erin Jolley, who has stage 3 brain tumors
Susan, Matt LeClerc's mother, who has been diagnosed with cancer
Janice Sutter, Jennifer Bates' mother
Ardelia Evans, Allan Evans' mother, who is in hospice and not doing well

THOSE UNABLE TO BE WITH US: Lucille Tinsley, Bonnie Young

IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

DARBY HOUSE: Betty Wolfe

CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, Ann Balch

JEFF. COUNTY NURSING HOME: Elizabeth Felknor, Frances Woodruff

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2013



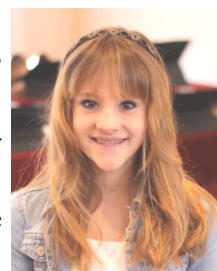
MACKENZIE RAE CURETON

I believe that there is only one true God, that it is a privilege to be baptized, because you are assured that you will be going to heaven when you pass away. Jesus died on the cross for us, so why not try to live a good and Christian life. I admit I haven't done everything perfect, but no one has, only God.

Being baptized means to me that I will always have a special bond with God, one that no one else has, because it's mine and everyone else's is different. That is what I love about Him. You will always remember that first moment when you get baptized, and I can't wait to have mine.

LAUREN ELIZABETH GREER

I believe in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe Jesus Christ suffered and died on the cross out of love for us. I believe that no matter what, God loves us for who we are. I believe in the forgiveness of sins. I know Jesus loves me or would not have died on the cross for me. God is all-knowing. He knows our lives before we have a chance to live them. I think the Lord is loving and trusting. I think Jesus died on the cross and will judge us when it is time. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the forgiveness of sins, and love and life for as long as there are people and animals on Earth.



SCOTT MICHAEL KUSTERMANN

I believe in our God the Creator and Father of all things living and nonliving. I believe in his son, our Lord Jesus, who became human to help save us from our sins. Through him we saved all people of the earth for all times, and for dying on the cross he ensured that we will have a spot in his Father's Kingdom of Heaven.

Even those who may not believe in him will still be permitted into the Kingdom. They will not be treated any different than those who have believed in Jesus their entire mortal lives. And no matter what they have done in sin they will be forgiven by the Father in time of judgment. I believe in our God, his son Jesus, and in the Holy Spirit who will protect us now and forever.

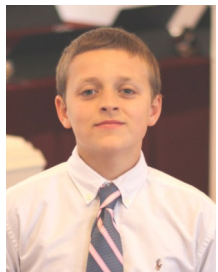
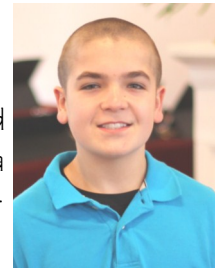


ALLISON ELAINE LECLERCQ

I believe God can work in mysterious ways. Sometimes God can do good things and bad things. I believe God is more than one person. I think of Him as a friend, parent, and a person to look up to. God has made me believe and be more confident in myself and really make me think about my actions to others. I believe that God's role is to help us be more confident in ourselves and help us believe in Him more and more each day by reading the Bible.

MAXWELL CHARLES LUPTON

I believe in the Father God Almighty. We are His, we are His children, and sheep of His pasture. God means my whole life to me. I believe that God watches over us and protects. What it means to be a member of the Church is that it is an honor to be in God's home. Another is to learn and teach others about God's love.



JACKSON DALE MOSER

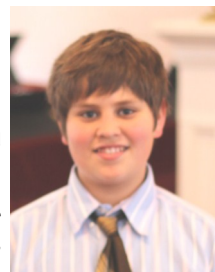
I believe in one God and the only God. I also believe in his son Jesus Christ. I believe in predestination. I believe that before we were ever thought of in man's eyes God predestined us for heaven or hell. I believe that predestination is no excuse to not be acting in a Christian way. Also it means there is no excuse to sin.

I have learned the meaning of baptism, also what it means to be a Presbyterian. I believe in the Holy Ghost. I believe all men are created equally in God's eye. I will not judge man or woman by their appearance. I believe God answers my prayers. I believe God has the right plan for me even if I don't see it. I believe in forgiveness of sin. I believe Jesus loved me and you so much he died for the forgiveness of our sins. I have learned the true meaning of being a Christian.

This is how and why I became a servant of the Lord.

DAVID JOSHUA NEEDS

Many ideas came to me when I heard this topic. Now, when I first heard the Apostles' Creed it didn't mean much to me. When I got older, I started listening to what the words meant. The first sentence means, to me, that there is only one God and He made everything from the universe to human ideas and thoughts. It also says God gave Jesus to us to teach about Him and Christianity. It is powerful because our God is the only God that is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Another reason it is powerful is because it talks about how the greed of humans, and how we would end Jesus' life for jealousy and power. Finally at the end of this story comes a new beginning, because, imagine a man between no measures put to death, then finally conquering death. Wow! As you know, that man was Jesus, God's one and only son conquering death. Once Jesus' time in human form on earth was over, on Earth, he went into heaven. He will come back; some people may think that is a bad thing. I don't, because there will be no more pain and no more suffering. I do believe in God, the church, the forgiving of sins, Jesus dying on the cross, coming back to life, and that one day we will go to heaven and will live forever.



It is hard to keep to your Christian faith in the modern world. With all the iPods and iPhones it is easy to get lost. But even if you get lost in the modern world, there are ways you can get back to God. IN my school ever Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7:30 a.m. we have F.C.A., a Christian organization they have in schools all across the country. I always try to make it so I can continue to grow closer to God. I try to invite my friends so they can grow closer to God too. The Bible is one of my favorite books because it tells so many amazing TRUE stories. I love to go to church so I can learn even more about God. It is also good to know that many of my friends are doing confirmation too. I plan to keep doing what I am doing and more to keep growing closer to God. That is what I believe about God and Jesus and how I am going to keep growing closer to God.



JOHN RYAN SCARLETT

I profess my belief in God and His son Jesus Christ. I believe in the Holy Spirit and the mercy and grace of God almighty. I believe that the Holy Spirit lives in my heart, and it is my desire to follow Jesus Christ's teachings.

I will endeavor to serve and be a servant of Christ and my church and my community. I will serve with love in my heart and contribute through my faith and talents.

I will endeavor to grow in faith and shape myself in the teachings of the Holy Bible all the days of my life.

It is my belief that Jesus can do all things, and therefore I profess my faith through Jesus Christ. Amen.