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ONLINE GIVING 3 easy ways!

*Click the **GIVING** button on our church website
OR

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Download the **Abundant Giving** app on your
phone. Locate our church name and select.

**Follow all prompts to give online. Of course
you can always sign up to give through your
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**First Presbyterian Church
P O BOX 165
Richmond, KY 40476-0165**



THE SUNDAYS OF LENT (NOT IN LENT)

Have you ever taken note of the way we Christians reckon time throughout the liturgical year? I dare say that many worshippers probably pay little (if any) attention to how the Sundays of the Christian year are actually named. But if you are one of those fastidious worshippers who follow the seasons and observances of the Christian calendar carefully, you might have noticed an oddity around the season of Lent.

Perhaps you have noticed that Sundays are almost always designated as a numerical Sunday *in* a season or a time. For example, we may reference a Sunday as the Fourth Sunday *in* Advent, or the first Sunday *in* Christmastide, or the third Sunday *in* Eastertide, or the eighteenth Sunday *in* Ordinary Time. However, when we enter the season of Lent, we do not reckon those Sundays as occurring *in* Lent.

Lent is a season of fasting as a sign of our penitence. It is essentially a season of forty days that are meant to symbolize the time that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness (Mark 1:12-13). It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday (the last day of Holy Week). However, if you add up the days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, there are forty-six days. So, how can this be? If Lent is a forty-day season of penitential fasting, where do the other six days come from?

The six extra days between Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday are those six Sundays that the season of Lent happens to encompass. But, liturgically, those six Sundays are not counted as part of the forty days of Lent. Rather, we designate them as the Sundays *of* Lent (e.g., the fifth Sunday *of* Lent). But, why? Why is the season of Lent an exception to the way we usually designate our Sundays?

Each Sunday (also known as the Lord's Day) is observed as the day of Resurrection; i.e., each Sunday is a little Easter. And because each Sunday is the Lord's Day, every Sunday is a feast day—a day of celebration. Thus, we distinguish the Sundays *of* Lent as a time of feasting and celebration, not a time of fasting. For this reason, our Sundays are *of* Lent and not *in* Lent.

ELDERS CLASS OF

Eric Everett	2025
Lucie Nelson	2025
Jennifer Wilke-Deaton	2025
Philip Gump	2026
Paul Hager	2026
Bill Mitchell	2026
Caroline Crump	2027
Jim Exline	2027
LeAnn Jones	2027

DEACONS CLASS OF

Sue Reeves	2025
Julie Stanley	2025
Gene Wolf	2025
Jennifer Brubaker	2026
Kathy Shew	2026
Rhonda Ortttenburger	2026
Wayne Bowlin	2028
Donna Cox	2028
Denise Crump	2028



BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

February 9, 2025

WINTER-SPRING USHER SCHEDULE

January 12	David Coleman and Rob Dirne
January 19	John and Marcia Florell
January 26	Bruce Bonar and Gene Wolf
February 2	Tracy Lamb and Mike Cummings
February 9	Wayne Bowlin and Tom Long
February 16	Gil and Kathy Shew
February 23	Sue Chenault and Martha Exline
March 2	Linda Adams and Lucie Nelson
March 9	Bruce Bonar and Gene Wolf
March 16	Donna Cox and Becky Elam
March 23	Denise and Kevin Crump
March 30	Rhonda Orttenburger and Jennifer Brubaker
April 6	Tom Long and Eric Everett
April 13	David Coleman and Rob Dirne
April 20	Linda Adams and Lucie Nelson
April 27	Donna Cox and Becky Elam
May 4	Gil and Kathy Shew
May 11	Sue Chenault and Martha Exline
May 18	John and Marcia Florell

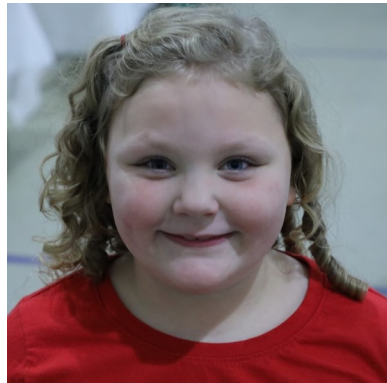
December Love Fund Summary

We assisted 74 unique families (included 53 children)
 34 families - rent - \$5,500
 24 families - utilities- \$2,836.97
 8 families- hotel - \$981
 Save a lot bill - \$1,260.22
 Gulf gas bill- \$400
 Total - 10,978.19
 Distributed 46 food vouchers
 Distributed 23 gas vouchers
 Toiletries- 8 families

 Have a blessed week! Mark

MARSHALL MORETZ DINNER





Evening Women's Circle

We will do a book club Women's Evening Circle meeting on February 11th at 6:30 pm in the church parlor. The book is *James* by Perceval Everett.

Cindy Harter will provide refreshments.

Rebecca Esther Circle

Tuesday, February 18
10:30 a.m.
in the parlor

Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary Tea *Horses and Hats, Springtime in the Bluegrass*

The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary will hold their 29th annual Spring Tea "Horses and Hats, Springtime in the Bluegrass" on Saturday, April 12, 2025 in the Christian Life Center. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased from Lucy Nelson, Lynn Shearon or Melody Mitchell around mid February. All proceeds go to help families in the 9 counties we now serve with food, utilities, etc.



Welcome Wednesday has changed! It is now Sunday Supper! Join this potluck fellowship dinner on the last Sunday of each month at 4:30!

Dear Grace Now Donor:

Thank you for your contribution of \$2,408.11 to Grace Now during 2024. Your support made it possible for us to provide 2,811 food boxes in 2024 to 7,149 individuals in Madison and surrounding counties. We distributed about 174,000 food items and many clothing items.

Grace Now is about building community—providing sustenance, but just as important, it is about sharing God's love, mercy, and grace. We have been touched many times by the people we meet. We are grateful to everyone who donated food, money, clothes, and other items. We are grateful to Panera, Walmart, Dollar General Stores, Save A Lot, Papa John's and Little Caesar's who have provided food or other resources to the pantry. We are very grateful to the volunteers, who demonstrate God's love in a very real way.

*Warm Regards,
Betty Plowman, Director*

**Grace Now of Madison County, Inc.
110 S. Collins St. Richmond, KY 859.626.8990**

Prayer Breakfast

Our weekly youth prayer breakfast continues to meet on Thursday mornings at 6:45 at Purdy's. Prayer breakfast is open to all Middle and High School youth and is our main time for scripture, fellowship and prayer together as a group. It's a great way to start the day!



**Christmas
Eve
at FPC!!**

The Marshall Moretz Christmas Eve dinner was a huge success. We served approximately 175 visitors and served 300 meals including the carry outs. A big thank you to our Church Family and Friends for covering all the many jobs which make our Christmas Eve Mission possible.



All of our guests had plenty to eat and all of them received gifts to take home. Thank you to our kitchen crew, servers, and clean up crew. Thank you to those who came in and helped set up tables in the days before the event. Thank you drivers for transportation for guests. The games and appetizers before dinner were enjoyable for our guests thanks to the youth and adult volunteers. The new decorations that were donated for the Christian Life Center were beautiful and made the event so special.

We thank you for all the donations of food, hams and turkeys, drinks, sweet breads and cookies, gifts for the adults, toys for the children, and monetary gifts. We were able to send carry outs home with extra food for many of our guests. We also were able to donate food that we had left over to Ethan Health and Hopes Wings.

We are so thankful for all those who serve with such love and compassion.



- 1 Cleetis Noffsinger
- 4 Jeanie Crump
- 5 Thomas J. Smith
- 7 Becky Elam
- Howard Logue
- 8 John Lamb
- 9 Debbie Barkley
- Joseph Shackelford
- 11 David Losson
- 15 David Reimold
- 19 Peggy Napier
- 20 Dan Florell
- 22 Caroline Crump
- Davis Crump
- 29 Jennifer Brubaker



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY



- 2 Paula Guerra
- 4 Steven Gump
- 7 Grace Stanley
- 13 Kathy Shew
- 19 Sophie Stanley
- Randy Shew
- 20 Stephen Guerra
- 23 Lucas Glass

We've been doing a continuing series on the Ten Commandments in this space over the past several months. So far, we've managed to work our way up to the 7th commandment, which is the commandment we will be tackling in this article. In this series, we've attempted to view each of the 10 commandments from a dual perspective by asking "what does this commandment specifically forbid" as well as asking "what does this commandment encourage"? We've done this in an attempt to gain a better understanding of what the commandment is asking of us at its core.

So what is at the core of the 7th commandment, "You shall not commit adultery"? The commandment is straightforward enough, but it's simplicity can be deceiving. It begs the question, what constitutes adultery? Is it just sex outside of marriage or is it more complex than that? The second Westminster confession defines the meaning of this commandment as "being chaste in thought, word and action". That certainly covers a lot more ground than just sex outside of marriage. So, in the church at least, adultery is more than just sex. It is any number of marital infidelities and there is no hard and fast rule about what constitutes marital infidelity within the confines of all the completely unique relationship dynamics that exist in all the marriages in the world.

My favorite example of this is actually an old episode of King of Queens where Doug, the husband of the show, is secretly switching out meals made by his wife for meals made by another woman because the other woman is a better cook. While you'd be hard pressed to make the argument that eating food cooked by someone who is not a spouse is adultery, there is also something that just seems wrong about the situation. It is certainly deceptive, but it is also unfaithful, in a way. It is an odd sort of intimate betrayal. When Doug's wife, Carrie, finds out what Doug has been doing with his lunches, it becomes clear that she feels hurt and betrayed by Doug. Eating lunch made by another woman was not sex but it was a breach of trust. It was an infidelity of sorts. So it is that that the 7th commandment forbids us not just from adulterous sex, but also from any number of unfaithful behaviors be it flirting or looking or wanting or even accepting food from another person, if doing so would hurt your partner who you have committed to love.

That's what's forbidden by this commandment but what's the other perspective? What does the commandment encourage in us rather than prohibit? I'd say that the answer to that question is trust. The fruit of fidelity in marriage is a strengthening of trust between partners. It's having a partner that you can count on. It's having a partner with whom you can be open and vulnerable. The safety provided by adherence to the seventh commandment only serves to cultivate trust both within and without of a marriage. So the seventh commandment, at its core, forbids infidelity and encourages trust.

MISSION.....a body of people sent

Your Love Fund at Work: Summary for 2024

Month	Families	Children	Amount
January	27	22	\$ 5,779.14
February	30	22	\$ 4,198.69
March	56	44	\$ 8,890.30
April	45	31	\$ 5,846.36
May	55	28	\$ 7,910.52
June	61	52	\$ 9,970.10
July	37	31	\$ 7,105.55
August	51	31	\$ 7,670.43
September	31	24	\$ 5,467.65
October	31	22	\$ 4,811.49
November	49	31	\$ 6,476.95
December	74	53	\$ 10,978.19
TOTAL	547	391	\$ 85,105.37

10 Cents Per Meal Offering

Sunday, February 2



10 Cents Per Meal

Arts and Crafts for Missions

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 2024 fair a success. We raised a total of \$3,713.25 that was disbursed as follows:

Galilean Home	1,000.00
God's Outreach	1,000.00
Grace Now	1,000.00
Ethan Health	500.00
First Pres. Love Fund	213.25

Ethan Health is very grateful for the financial donation from the fair which helped them buy gloves and hats for all of the clients in treatment (20 sets).

Additional clothing donations have been distributed to Ethan Health and folks sheltering at warming centers such as Madison Home.

News Brief from Session



- Our church was ranked 5th with per capita giving to the Presbytery.
- Recital of Sacred Music performed by our own Choral Scholars is scheduled for February 12 at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary.
- Scout Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, February 9.
- Administration was able to cut the cost of our various insurance policies by \$36,000 for 2025.
- The next Presbytery meeting will be March 1 from 10-2:00 at the Cynthiana Presbyterian Church. If you are an elder and interested in going contact Curtis.
- There is a need for individuals to serve as Sunday School teachers for our younger youth classes. If you are interested in participating as a rotating Sunday School teacher for either of these two classes, please contact Joel, Jennifer Deaton or Paul Hager.



Melody Mitchell
Clerk of Session

MARSHALL—MORETZ DINNER





You can help!!!



February Food Drive!!

February 1-28

Drop off needed donations of non-perishable food items at the special donation stations in

Richmond City Hall Lobby Richmond Mall Main Entrances

Suggested food items: canned vegetables/fruits/meats/soup, cereal, instant potatoes, rice, peanut butter and boxed pasta.



Special donation stations will be available at EKU's home basketball games during February: February 1, February 13, February 15 and February 18. Look for the special donation station near the main entrance.

Help make a difference!!!



26th Madison County Empty Bowls Project

Friday, March 28, 2025

First Baptist Church

425 Eastern By-Pass

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

(eat in or to go)

2-3 p.m.

(to go only)

Minimum Donation: \$20

Cash or Check (payable to "Empty Bowls")

Donation includes a handmade pottery bowl, vegetable soup, hoecake & drink

Also Available:

Quart container of Vegetable Soup to go – \$10

Help fight hunger in Madison County!

100% of proceeds go to:

- God's Outreach Madison Co. Food Bank
- New Liberty Family Shelter and Food Bank
- Home Meals Delivery
- Salvation Army of Madison County

To volunteer, make a donation, or to request more information, contact Lora Danley (859) 200-9361



FEBRUARY 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 P O BOX 165 Richmond, KY 40476-0165
 859/623-5323 (fax) 859/623-5329
 www.richmondpc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>10 Cents Per Meal Offering</i>	3 <i>Bible Study 10:30</i>	4 <i>Tuesday Crew 9-11</i> <i>Mission mtg. 7:00</i>	5 <i>Bible Study 6:30</i>	6	7	8
9 <i>Deacon mtg., noon</i>  BOY SCOUT SUNDAY	10 <i>Bible Study 10:30</i>	11 <i>Tuesday Crew 9-11</i> <i>Evening Circle 6:30</i>	12 <i>Bible Study 6:30</i>	13 <i>Needle Arts Fellowship 11:30</i>	14 	15
16	17 <i>Office Closed</i>  PRESIDENTS DAY	18 <i>Tuesday Crew 9-11</i> <i>Presbyterian Women 10:30</i> <i>CE mtg. 4:30</i>	19 <i>Bible Study 6:30</i>	20	21	22
23 SUNDAY SUPPER POTLUCK 4:30 pm	24 <i>Bible Study 10:30</i>	25 <i>Tuesday Crew 9-11</i> <i>Session mtg. 7:00</i>	26 <i>Bible Study 6:30</i>	27	28	MARCH 2 IS A COMMUNION SUNDAY