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Download the **Abundant Giving** app on your
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**Follow all prompts to give online. Of course
you can always sign up to give through your
bank site or by mailing a check to:**

**First Presbyterian Church
P O BOX 165
Richmond, KY 40476-0165**



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	2027
Donna Cox	2027
Denise Crump	2027



PRESBYTERIAN TIDINGS

EMBRACING THE NAME OF JESUS

As a minister of Word and Sacraments, I am occasionally criticized for making statements that cross over into the political arena. And it is true that when I speak in favor of feeding the hungry, some take offense that my statement favors government SNAP benefits. When I speak in support of welcoming the stranger, some take offense that my statement supports less austere government immigration policies. When I speak up for helping those in poverty, some take offense that my statement promotes government welfare programs. When I speak about healing the sick, some take offense that my statement advocates for Medicare and Medicaid.

Indeed, although my statements may have political consequences, they are not political statements. They are ethical statements; they are Christian statements. They are Gospel statements that adhere to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Now although my statements as a minister are not overtly political, I do try to stay in my theological lane (so to speak). But when a politician decides to make an overtly theological statement (especially one intended to advance his or her own political agenda), that politician has now stepped into my lane, and I am now morally and vocationally required to respond.

It is the hallmark of political apathy when we dismiss the plight of the poor and the sick as persons (like us all) who will inevitably die. And it is the hallmark of moral apathy when we pretend that the poor and sick have no other future but death. And it is the hallmark of spiritual apathy when we assume that we have no role to play in their future but to relegate their inevitable death into the hands of Jesus Christ.

To place the poor and sick into the hands of a Savior as our only response to their mortal plight is to wash our own Christian hands clean of Jesus Christ. The Savior who greets us and lovingly embraces us in death is the same Savior who fed the hungry and healed the sick long before they died. And that same Savior has called us to do the same.

I am distressed when my fellow Christians speak the name of Jesus as a convenient justification for ignoring the impoverished sick. I call upon my fellow Christians to speak the words of Jesus Christ, who called us to tend to the poor and sick. Moreso, I call upon all politicians who dare to call themselves Christians to do more than preach the name of Jesus, but to do as Jesus does. So, let us not refer others in their mortality to their last rites in Jesus until we ourselves are willing to practice what Jesus calls us to do, and what, in fact, He Himself does.

News Brief from Session

- Please welcome new members Amanda Tipton and Ryan and Kristin Whaley and daughter Maria.
- AC repair work is being done and sprinklers in the garage have been replaced.
- Help support our Missions project to help with the Madison Co. Back to School backpack event.
- It's not too late to join in on the Saturday VBS Excursions. Contact Joel.
- Don't forget your pledge giving over the summer.
- Thank those who have stepped up to be a deacon or elder for the Class of 2028.
- New signage to read "We Welcome and Affirm" all who enter our doors.



Clerk of Session



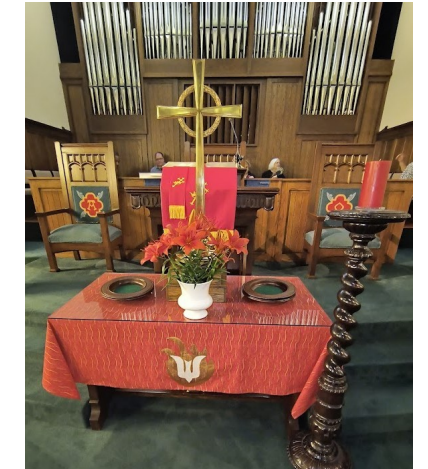
Please leave garage and close parking for those with mobility needs. Thank you!



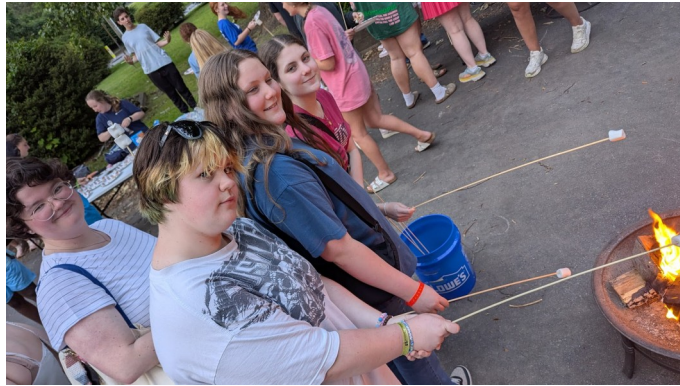
2 John Roberts
7 Dana Miller
8 Sandy Dickson
9 Kyle Brubaker
11 Lydia Coleman
12 Lacey Wolf
15 David Deaton
19 Philip Gump
23 Ryan Whaley
24 Kay Patrick
25 Brett Lawrenz
27 Eric Everett



1 Connie Reimold
4 Will Harter
5 T.J. Glass
6 Jackie Vance
7 Mary Harter
13 Abby Perry Freeman
Aiden Ortenburger
14 Gil Shew
18 Lucy Waterbury
19 Bonnie Gray
20 Jen Deaton
21 Sarah Gump
25 Coy Weldon
27 Marsha Frazier
28 Lynn Shearon
29 Kyah Brinegar
Craig Mapel



MORE MONTREAT!



Welcome, New Members

We are honored and overjoyed to receive new members to our church family. With Christ-like love, please welcome **Ryan and Kristin Whaley (and their daughter Maria)** who join us by a letter of transfer. Also, please welcome **Amanda Tipton** who joins us by profession of faith (and who will celebrate with us in the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, 13 July 2025). We are indeed blessed by God with the talents, grace, and compassion that our newest members bring to our church family.

Ryan & Kristin Whaley
Daughter, Maria
9044 Beginnings Way
Richmond

Amanda Tipton
406 Lancaster Avenue
Apt. 2
Richmond

Sunday Supper Potluck
6:00 pm
on the last Sunday of each month.
The community is invited!



The FPC Music Program thanks Bonnie Gray for her donation for the purchase of a Djembe. A djembe is a drum originating in West Africa probably in the Twelfth Century. Our djembe is in Memory of Aaron David Hall (the nephew of our Director of Music Joyce Hall Wolf) for his birthday in June and was first played in Worship on June 22. If you missed it, check out the anthem during the service on our church YouTube. Thank you very much, Bonnie!

OUR WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER STUDY SERIES

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 as we ponder and explore the depths of faith and spirituality. We will journey through a video series, "The Story of God with Morgan Freeman" as we explore humanity's ultimate questions about God, life, death, creation, evil, the Devil, sin, miracles, heaven and hell, Scripture, and other transcendent topics of faith.

Triennium

Our church is sending 2 youth delegates and one adult chaperone to our denomination's Youth Triennium Conference this month. Please keep Ava Stanley, Amara Anyanwu and Joel Stanley in your prayers as they represent Kentucky and FPC Richmond at this conference with youth from across the country. It promises to be a very formative and spiritually nourishing experience for everyone involved.

Summer Bible Adventure Excursions

We've had our first Summer Bible Adventure Excursion and it was a big success. We went to Cumberland Falls, saw actual rainbows, did a photo scavenger hunt, decorated the church van with post it notes and learned about God's covenants and that God keeps his promises. If you missed out on this first excursion, don't fret! We have 3 more awesome trips planned for the month of July and it's not too late to sign up. Scan the QR code below to register.



Montreat

Our delegates are back safely from a stellar week at the Montreat Youth Conference in North Carolina. Thanks to everyone who helped make this trip happen and to our home church for sending us. There was a lot of bonding and spiritual growth during the week as we learned how Christ is a light unto our paths and a lamp into our feet. Shout out to Amanda Tipton for being an excellent chaperone and to all the youth who helped make this trip go

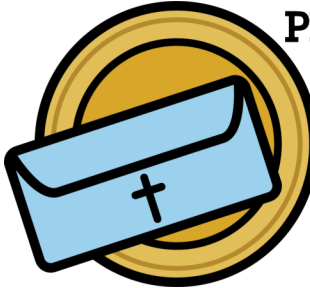


May 2025 Love Fund Summary

<u>Category</u>	<u># of families served</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Utilities	23	\$2,172
Rent	33	\$4,650
Storage—Assisted with another church	1	\$40
Save A Lot bill (food vouchers)	22	\$994.76
Gulf Bill (Gas Vouchers)	18	\$525
Love Fund Pantry Assistance	12	
Total		\$8,381.76
67 Unique Families served (includes 68 children)		

June 2025 Love Fund Summary

<u>Category</u>	<u># of families served</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Utilities	6	\$392
Rent	11	\$1525
Save A Lot bill (food vouchers)	8	\$705
Gulf Bill (Gas Vouchers)	9	\$500
Love Fund Pantry Assistance	6	
Total		\$3,122
23 Unique Families served (includes 7 children)		



Please
Remember
Your Pledge
This Summer

“How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!”
- Psalm 139:17

I promise this is going somewhere. About 11 years ago a computer programmer who goes by the name Orteil, set out to create a game that, by his own words, “no one would ever want to play”. The game Orteil created in that endeavor is “Cookie Clicker” and it is the gaming equivalent of repeatedly adding one on a calculator over and over and over and over and over again. The gameplay consists of clicking a big, stationary cookie and that is it. You receive one cookie every time you click the big cookie and a counter keeps track of how many cookies you have. As the game progresses, you can use your cookies to buy upgrades and multipliers so that you make cookies faster and more efficiently. You can buy things like a factory that produces so many cookies a second or a wizard’s tower that conjures up so many cookies out of thin air or a multiplier that makes it so that you get twice as many cookies each time you click. This is all just window dressing though for a game that is essentially: make this number go up as fast as possible. Playing cookie clicker is an enormous waste of time, so naturally there are pockets of the Internet completely obsessed with it.

I wouldn’t say I’m obsessed, but I keep Cookie Clicker running in the background of my work station most days. I’ve been on this particular run for about 2 years now and I’m making around 762 quintillion cookies each second, but that’s nowhere near the record. There are accounts of people making nono-decillion and even duo-decillion cookies per second on Cookie Clicker and that’s without cheating. Because there are ways to cheat at the game.

If you know what you’re doing, you can open a Java window and just type in how many cookies you’d like to have. The game will let you type in however many cookies you’d like and then just give them to you. That seems like a good deal at first, but, because numbers are infinite, the realization soon sets in that even typing a number into a Java console doesn’t get you any closer to the end of the game. You’d be no nearer to the end of things by typing a bunch of zeros into the Java console then you would be by clicking the cookie over and over again. The game has just tricked you into pushing a different button repeatedly and given you the illusion that you’re getting somewhere by doing so because the infinite is largely incomprehensible to us.

When I first realized this, it kind of gave me a better understanding of what infinity is and it helped me to understand God in a new way too (I told you I was going somewhere with this!). Cookie clicker helped me see the vastness of the infinite, but cookie clicker just plays around with the concept of the infinite where numbers are concerned. God is infinite in power and infinite in time and infinite in presence and infinite in love and infinite in grace. What could that possibly look like to mortals who are so finite in all of these ways? Could we ever hope to understand something so incomprehensible? I don’t think it’s possible but I’m still clicking away at it, inching closer and closer nonetheless.



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Mission mtg. 6:00	2 Video Series 6:30	3	4  Independence Day	5
6  198th Anniversary First Presbyterian Church!	7 Bible Study 10:30 <div>Dana on vacation</div>	8 Tuesday Crew 9-11	9 Video Series 6:30	10 Needle Arts Fellowship 11:30	11	12 VBS
13 Deacon mtg. noon	14 Bible Study 10:30	15 Tuesday Crew 9-11	16 Video Series 6:30	17	18	19 VBS
20	21 Bible Study 10:30	22 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Session mtg. 6:00	23 Video Series 6:30	24	25	26 VBS
27 Sunday Supper 6:00	28 Bible Study 10:30 <div>YOUTH TRIENNium</div>	29 Tuesday Crew 9-11	30 Video Series 6:30	31		