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



PRESBYTERIAN TIDINGS

SPEAK WE MUST!

My Christian Friends: in today's heated and invective social climate, it is ever so difficult to speak the truth about the kingdom of God and about the mission and message of Jesus Christ without sounding politically partisan. And yet, speak we must! In this intense social climate, what may sound like partisan attacks is really just truth; what may sound like a political agenda is merely the gospel of God, it is the good news of Jesus Christ. Speak we must! ["Teacher, order your disciples to stop." Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." (Luke 19:39-40).]

When we Christians offer grace to the migrants, we are scolded for inviting terrorists into our homes. But it is a shameful falsehood to assume all migrants are terrorists. They are not! We simply embody the words of our Savior, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35).

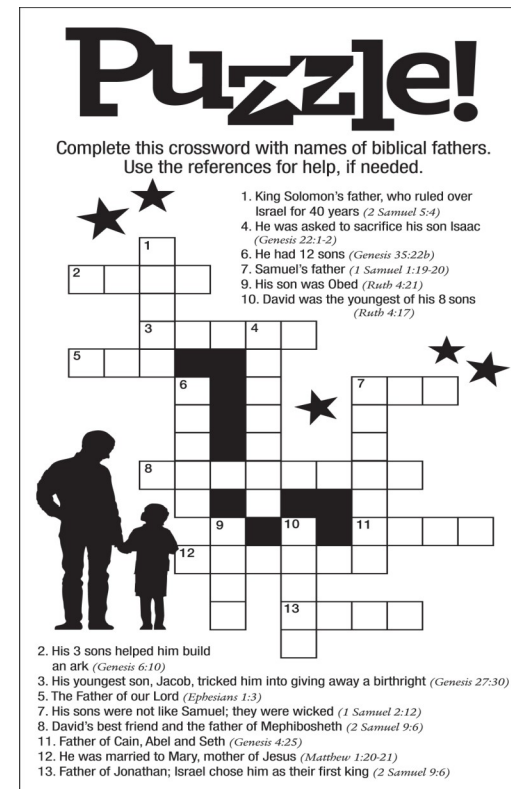
When we advocate for medicine for the impoverished sick, we are scolded for promoting a system that encourages government free-loaders. But it is a false equivocation to equate the poor with grifters. They are not! The truth is: the poor and the sick often have nothing else but God, which is why the kingdom of God favors them. We Christians simply embody the words of our Savior, "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God" (Luke 6:20).

When we advocate for feeding the hungry, we are scolded for promoting a welfare system that rewards laziness. But it is a dishonest assertion to assume all hungry and needy people are lazy. They are not! Among the five thousand hungry people (including children) whom Jesus fed, statistically speaking, a few of them might have been lazy persons; but Jesus fed them anyway, for no other reason than they were hungry. We Christians simply embody the words of our Savior, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." (Matthew 14:16).

My Christian friends, we are not suffering from some kind of political or partisan "derangement syndrome." In Jesus Christ, we are merely speaking the truth. And speak we must!

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 Orttenburger	2026
Wayne Bowlin	2028
Donna Cox	2028
Denise Crump	2028



Answer: DOWN 1. David, 4. Abraham, 6. Jacob, 7. Elkanah, 8. Jonathan, 11. Adam, 12. Joseph, 13. Saul, 9. Boaz, 10. Jesse, ACROSS 2. Noah, 3. Isaac, 5. God, 7. Eli.

ANNOUNCING: OUR WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER STUDY SERIES

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 at First Presbyterian Church 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.



**Rebecca Esther Circle
Evening Women's Circle**

Our circles will not meet this summer.



***Congratulations to
Dr. Caroline Crump!
Caroline received her
Doctorate in Occupational Therapy
from Eastern Kentucky University!***

We are proud of you!

Daisie Jewell Brubaker

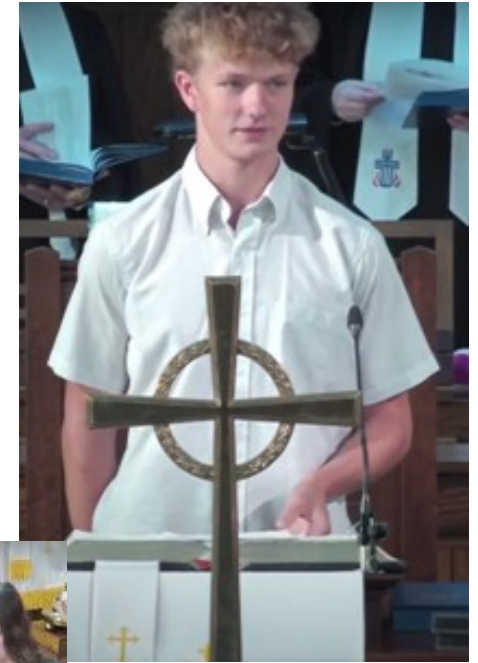
Born on May 22, 2025

7pounds 14oz

21 inches long

***Mommy (Kassie) Daddy (Kyle) and Daisie
are doing very well at home.***

***Congratulations to Jennifer Brubaker
on the birth of her first grandchild!
Congratulations to Nancy Brubaker on the
birth of her first great-grandchild!***



News Brief from Session

- Session would like to THANK everyone who helped to make our guests welcome at the May 20 Presbytery meeting.
- Video viewing via our live-streaming on YouTube has increased by about 50%.
- Rally Day is set for Sunday, August 10.
- Some of our youth will be attending Montreat June 1 and the Triennium July 28.
- VBS "Bible Excursions" will be held on Saturdays from June 28 - July 26.
- Sprinklers will need to be replaced in the parking garage.
- The Nominating Committee is searching for members to serve as elders or deacons. Please prayerfully consider serving.
- Congregational meeting is set for June 24 after Sunday worship.



Clerk of Session



- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Marjorie Noffsinger |
| | Lucas Brinegar |
| 2 | Amanda Adams |
| 3 | Jeri Allison |
| 4 | Paul Adams |
| 7 | Morgan Wolf |
| 8 | Courtney Lawrenz |
| | Ellen Mitchell |
| 9 | Jason Smart |
| 11 | Delores Harder |
| | Davy Shew |
| 12 | Judy Young |
| | Mason Crump |
| 13 | Nancy Johnson |
| 17 | Nancy Daniel |
| 18 | John Tucker Lamb |
| 19 | Levi Toutant |
| 28 | Ben Walker |
| | Marcia Florell |
| 29 | Lane Orttenburger |
| | Isabelle White |
| 30 | Eric Calkin |



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



Montreat

Our church is sending a delegation of 3 youth and 2 adults to the Montreat youth conference this month. Ella Deaton, Ava Stanley, Eden Stanley, Amanda Tipton and Joel Stanley will all attend this conference as representatives of our church. Please keep these folks in your prayers as they travel to North Carolina and back to participate in all the wonderful things the conference has to offer!

Triennium

Our Presbytery is assembling a delegation to attend this year's Presbyterian Youth Triennium! This is an event where Presbyterian youth from across the world come together to worship, fellowship and study in creative and exciting ways. This event is open to any High School youth in the congregation (graduated 8th graders - graduated seniors) and only happens once every three years (so it's kind of a big deal). Joel is on the Presbytery planning team for this so if you have questions or would like to sign up, let him know!



Teaching With Soul—By Joel

When I was young, I was not the best at sitting still or being quiet or paying attention. If I'm being completely honest about it, I'm still not too great at these things today, but when I was under ten years old, I was utterly hopeless at them. Unfortunately being still, quiet and attentive are all skills that are needed in order to make it through your typical Presbyterian worship service. I have several vivid memories of just how tough it can be for an elementary student to behave for the duration of a whole church service. I can remember doing everything from reading to coloring to tic tac toe to help pass the time and keep myself occupied. It didn't always work and there were frequently times when I would try to amuse myself in other less appropriate more disruptive ways. I can remember my father, a Presbyterian minister, pausing in the midst of his sermon to stare at me, hold up his index finger and mouth the word "one" as a warning that I was getting too rowdy. If I didn't heed the warning, I'd get two fingers and a sternly mouthed "two" next. If I continued to misbehave, there wouldn't be a three so much as the service would just kind of stop while Dad came down from the pulpit to pull me out of the sanctuary by my ears. This meant that most Sunday's I was faced with the underwhelming choice between being bored or being in trouble. It didn't really make church my favorite place to be.

As I'm a parent myself now, I understand what a powder keg Sunday services can be to families with young children. Parents are on edge, because there is a perceived pressure for them to keep their children well behaved and perfect (Pro tip: no one really expects your children to behave perfectly in church). Children are on edge because they are not designed to be still, quiet and attentive and because they can pick up on the tense vibes given off by their parents. It's a wonder anyone wants to come to church in a situation like that. This is partially why we have the Children's church program that we do. I believe that it's good for children to learn the fundamentals of worship in an environment that is a little more geared towards their particular needs. It's a place where they can ask questions if they need to and explore the worship space in their own ways. That's what children's church is for, and it does a good job of that.

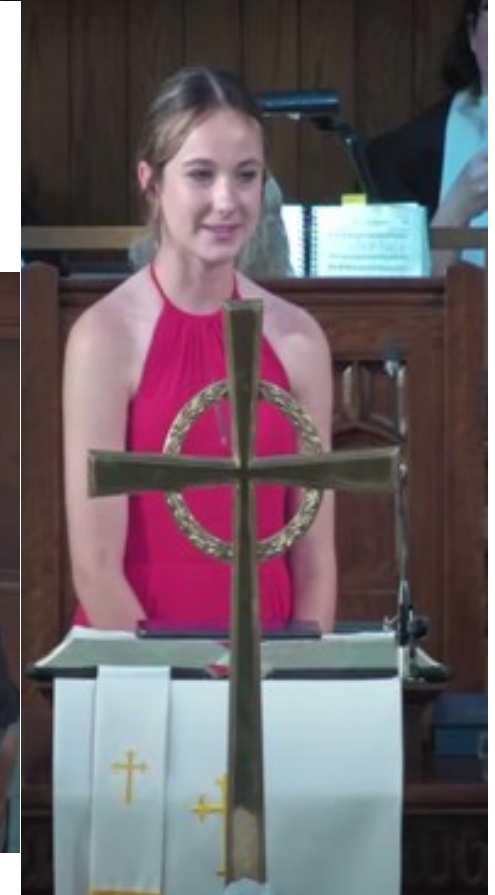
That being said, I believe it's important for children to have experience with the adult worship service too. This is why we keep the children in the service with us on communion Sundays. As bored as I was with church when I was younger, there were still times when I would look around and sense that something was happening and know that something important was going on. I could see that people were being moved by the music, touched by the scripture and challenged by the sermon. I could see adults that I knew and who I loved engaged in worship. Experiencing that kind of stuff is really no small thing for a kid. I was too young to know it when it was going on, but there were times when I would put down my coloring book and really feel the Holy Spirit at work in the church services that were often so boring to me. I think that's important for kids too.

I was reading a Blog post recently by Carolyn Brown, a pastor and Christian educator who was discussing the difficulties that often present themselves whenever children and adults worship together. Brown suggests that the first step towards cohesive multigenerational worship is a fundamental shift in the understanding of what worship is. She suggests that we should see worship as being more like a sport and less like a movie. Meaning that worship is something we actively do and not something we passively watch. When we accept this understanding, we realize that children need practice at worship to get better at it just as much as they might need to practice a sport to improve. By that analogy children's worship is like tee ball. It's a good way to learn the fundamentals to a point but some things you can only ever learn by getting out there and taking a few swings at actual pitches. Even if you miss more than you hit, the experience is still valuable.



Youth Sunday

A big thank you to all the youth and children that helped with our annual youth Sunday service! The service was excellent and all the hard work you put into it was appreciated!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRESENTS

Summer

BIBLE

ADVENTURE

EXCURSIONS



MEANINGFUL
STORIES

EXCITING
LOCATIONS

MAKING
FRIENDS

REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION AT RICHMONDFPC.COM

MISSION.....a body of people sent

April 2025 Love Fund Summary

Assisted 51 unique families (included 40 children)!

Rent - assisted 15 families \$2,075

Utilities - assisted 23 families \$1,940

Save a lot - \$1,543.77 Distributed - 25 food vouchers

Gas - \$725 Distributed - 17 gas vouchers

Stamps - \$219

Total - \$6,502.77

Pantry
8 families assisted

Recent Special Offering totals:

Madison Missions (March 9): Total collected was \$3,200

One Great Hour of Sharing (April 13): Total collected was \$3,180.08.

The second quarterly **10 Cents per Meal Offering** was collected May 4. Total collected was \$1293.00.



On behalf of the Congregational Issues Commission, thanks so much to you, the staff, session and members of First Presbyterian Church for your help in regard to the CIC's part in the May 20 Presbytery Meeting. The Sanctuary, communion ware, and Joyce's music leadership enhanced the worship experience. The fellowship hall and table set-up were just right for our scenario conversations. As always, First Church's hospitality shone through. Thanks to all involved.

*Sincerely,
Mike Ward*





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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	2 Bible Study 10:30	3 Tuesday crew 9-11 Mission mtg. 6:00	4 Bible Study 6:30	5	6	7
8 Pentecost Offering Deacon mtg. noon	9 Bible Study 10:30	10 Tuesday crew 9-11	11 Bible Study 6:30	12 Needle Arts Fellowship 11:30	13	14
15 Trinity Sunday  The Lord's Table	16 Juneteenth—office closed	17 Tuesday crew 9-11 CE mtg. 4:30	18 Bible Study 6:30	19 DANA ON VACATION!	20	21
				CURTIS ON VACATION		
22	23 Bible Study 10:30	24 Tuesday crew 9-11 Session mtg. 6:00	25 Bible Study 6:30	26	27	28 VBS
			DANA ON VACATION!			
29 Sunday Supper 6:00	30 Bible Study 10:30	1	2	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5