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



ELDERS	CLASS OF
David Deaton	2024
James Exline	2024
Bonnie Gray	2024
Eric Everett	2025
Lucie Nelson	2025
Jennifer Wilke-Deaton	2025
Philip Gump	2026
Paul Hager	2025
Bill Mitchell	2025

DEACONS	CLASS OF
Linda Adams	2024
Donna Cox	2024
Lynn Shearon	2024
Sue Reeves	2025
Julie Stanley	2025
Gene Wolf	2025
Jennifer Brubaker	2026
Kathy Shew	2026
Coy Weldon	2026



MEDITATIONS ON THE APOSTLES' CREED

“CREATOR”—in Latin, accusative case, “Creatorum.” In some versions of the Apostles’ Creed, this word is translated as “Creator.” But in other versions, it is translated as “Maker.” Perhaps the most commonly quoted passage about God as Creator comes from the King James Version of the Bible: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters” (Genesis 1:1-2). This English translation of the Hebrew Scriptures does not reference any pre-existing material from which heaven and earth were created; it implies that God brought the universe into being out of nothing. Thus, according to this interpretation of Genesis chapter one, this ancient text supports an early Christian doctrine called “*creatio ex nihilo*” (i.e., “creation from nothing”).

But what if this beloved King James translation is not quite accurate? There are some Hebrew scholars who claim that Genesis 1:1 should be rendered not as a complete sentence; but as a temporal subordinate clause. According to the New Revised Standard Version, the passage reads “When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.” If this modern translation is more accurate, then the ancient Hebrew text is asserting that God makes the universe from pre-existent amorphous material, that God is Maker of heaven and earth.

This idea that God makes heaven and earth out of the primordial waters seems to be consistent with ancient Israel’s prevailing cosmology—the idea that, before God brings order and purpose to creation, the universe was but a mass of chaotic matter that presumably already existed. The doctrine of *creatio ex nihilo* would not come to prominence until the late second-century of the common era. Creation from nothing was first articulated in the Christian writings of Theophilus, Patriarch of Antioch. And by the third century, this doctrine had become the accepted teaching of Christianity.

Third-century Christians found more support for creation *ex nihilo* in the New Testament, especially in the prologue of John’s Gospel. Through the creative activity of God’s Word, “All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being” (John 1:3a). Implicitly, then, God brings everything into being without reliance on pre-existent material. So, by the time third-century Christians were affirming God, not just as the maker, but also as the creator of heaven and earth, the Apostles’ Creed was taking shape.

Now, given all the possible attributes and characteristics of God that could have been included in the Apostles’ Creed, why would it be necessary to mention “Creator?” Indeed, God as Creator of heaven and earth might seem so intuitive that it would not merit mentioning. And yet, an internal strife threatened the theological unity of the Christian community and prompted a creedal statement about God’s creatorship.

It may be difficult for modern Christians to imagine, but, at one time, there were some Christians who believed not in one God but two. These Christians (called Marcionites) followed the teachings of an early theologian, Marcion of Sinope. Marcion believed that the God portrayed in the Hebrew Scriptures, the God that created the material universe, was a jealous, punitive deity whose vengeful qualities were

Continued from page 1

inconsistent with the God whom Jesus Christ called his Heavenly Father. Indeed, Marcion proposed that the creator of the material universe and Jesus' Heavenly Father cannot be the same God, but must be two separate deities. Further, he concluded that, because Jesus was the Son of a loving, compassionate God, he could not in any way be associated with the petty God of the Old Testament, who created a corrupted, material world. Thus, Jesus could not possibly participate in the material creation without being tainted by the works of this malevolent deity; accordingly, Jesus could not have been incarnated in the flesh (John 1:14), but was actually an incorporeal spirit and only appeared to have a human body.

In order to lend credibility to his theological views, Marcion denounced the authority of the Old Testament (which most other Christians regarded as sacred scripture) and in its place, he established a New Testament. But, his new canon of sacred writings comprised ten edited letters of Paul (whom Marcion regarded as the only true apostle of Christ) and a mutilated version of Luke's Gospel. (Marcion had altered or removed passages that referenced Jesus' birth, his mortal body, Old Testament prophecies, and any connection to Judaism.)

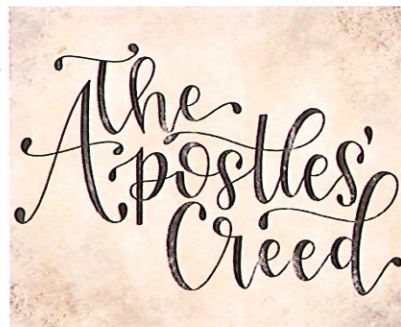
The teachings of Marcion (known as *Marcionism*) acutely threatened not only Christianity's accepted monotheism, but also its key tenet: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For, if Christ did not exist in a mortal body, then he could not have died a mortal's death. And if he did not die, then he could not have been raised from the dead. Thus, if Marcionism were to have prevailed, there would have been no incarnation, no atoning death, and no vindicating resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For this reason, Marcion was excommunicated for heresy by the church of Rome in the year 144 AD. Of course, his excommunication did not immediately end the Marcionite threat; his followers persisted in teaching Marcion's doctrines for several centuries to follow.

And this is why the Apostles' Creed emphasizes that God, the Father of Jesus Christ, is the same God of the Old Testament who created heaven and earth. By acknowledging that the Father is also the Creator of the physical universe, the Creed is affirming several theological points. First, the magnificent creation of the universe and the merciful salvation of humankind are both the work of one and the same God. Second, the creation of heaven and earth is the gracious act of a loving and merciful God; and thus, the material universe is not dreadful or corrupted, but is vibrant and good. Third, because God's creation is good, Jesus Christ was able to share bodily in the joys and sorrows of the human condition and to sanctify the physical world through his incarnation.

Christians today may take as given that God is the Creator of heaven and earth, but perhaps it is a given only because the Creed affirmed this belief while theological tumults were churning in the life of the early church. So, whenever we reaffirm our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed, may we never take for granted the creatorship of God.

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. (Isaiah 40:28)



04 November 2023 -- Meditation Fellowship Hike: Saturday Morning Spiritual Fellowship Hike at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary (Fayette County, just south of Lexington): This will be an intergenerational hike. We will hike, read scripture, pray, and afterward eat at a local restaurant. All who wish to participate in the hike are to meet at the Raven Run Nature Sanctuary Parking Lot (directions to Raven Run to be shared soon). Hiking boots or sturdy shoes, and a bottle of water are recommended. ALL ARE WELCOME!!! Invite a Friend!!! (9:30 am)



- 1 Kevin Crump
- 3 John Harter
- 4 David Coleman
- 8 Chris Smart
- 10 Taylor Losson
- 11 Nancy Brubaker
John Florell
- 13 Dwight Barkley
- 15 Ed Sigmon
- 17 Lindsey Glass
- 20 Praveena Salins
- 21 Hee-Young Shin
Abby Toutant
Ella Deaton
- 22 Suzanne Leung
Nancy Carrico
- 24 Frank Milanese
- 28 Linda Adams
John Gump
- 29 Chris Laird

- 1 Sue Reeves
- 2 Denise Crump
Ashleigh Ortttenburger
- 3 Lincoln Ward
- 7 Jean Boley
- 8 Alicia Shackelford
- 10 Un Chol Shin
- 11 Donna Albaugh
Fred Crump
Polly Seyfrit
Chris Toutant
- 12 David Glass
Wyatt Waterbury
- 18 Will Gump
- 21 Richard Elam
- 22 Beverly Moberly
James Logue
- 25 Sandy Connor
- 27 Jill Hissom
- 28 Melissa Shew Toutant
Marilyn Pace



*Stewardship Dedication Lunch
Sunday, November 5*

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck lunch, fellowship, and some special thanks as we celebrate Stewardship Dedication Sunday.

Lunch will feature sandwiches, salads and desserts.



- We give Thanks in the month of November!
- We will be learning how we can use our hands and feet to serve others and God
- We will give thanks for what God has given us
- Thanksgiving Feast will be November 20th and 21st



Salvation Army Christmas Meal

Many of you have asked about the food bags the *Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary* used to distribute. Good news! They are back this year. I will be distributing the bags starting on **Sunday, November 5** in the narthex or you can find them in the Fellowship Hall during the week.

You will have the following options to choose from:

- 1) You can pick up a food bag with the list of items to purchase for a Christmas meal plus a donation for meat & perishable items. **OR**
- 2) You may just give me a check for a \$25.00 gift card for the meat and perishable items like we have been doing the past few years.

Salvation Army

Thanks so much for your continued support of the Salvation Army as we work to help clients in the 9 counties that we serve.

Melody Mitchell
Auxiliary member



Food Bags!



Rebecca Esther Circle

Tuesday, November 21
10:30 a.m.
in the parlor



Looking forward to the lighting of the Advent Candles—
Candle of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.
All will be during the month of December this year.



Evening Women's Circle

Tuesday, November 14
6:30 in the parlor

This will be a book club month to discuss "The Book-woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson. Arleita Dirne will bring dessert.

*First Presbyterian Church Family,
We want to express our sincere gratitude for all of the prayers, love and support for our family. We enjoyed the delicious meals, cards, texts and phone calls to help us cope in a difficult time. We love our church family. Thank you.*

*In Christ's Love,
The Brubaker family*

Congratulations to Bradley and Amelia (Shew) Trinh on the birth of their baby boy!

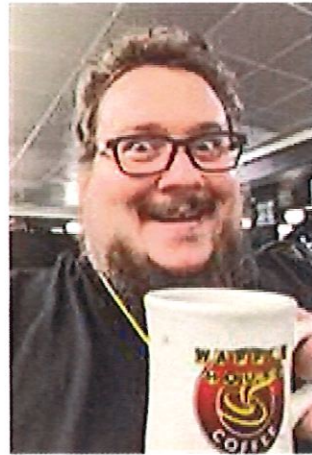


*Sonny Lawson Trinh
9 lbs. 14 oz. 21 inches long
Born Friday, October 20, 2023
Mom and baby are home and doing well!*

Sonny is the grandson of Gil and Kathy Shew and great-grandson of Kitty Shew!

LOCK-IN!!

This year's fall lock-in was a tremendous success! A big thanks to everyone who came out and participated as well as to LeAnn Jones for being our chaperone! We had a lot of fun, talked a little bit about fear, played a church wide game of clue and just generally had a blast!



We would love for every member of our church to be involved this year. Whether it is the donations of your possessions, your time, your talents, or your patronage. If you have never attended the sale or been a part of this effort, you are missing a phenomenal opportunity for food, fun & fellowship.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in any way, please contact either Jennifer or David at their contact info listed above.



Calling All Cooks!

Our church's Arts and Crafts for Missions Event is just around the corner. Please help make the bake sale a success. The following items will be needed:

- cakes
- pies
- cookies
- brownies
- breads
- bar cookies

Our guests will have the option to pick and choose any dozen cookies of their choice for one price. In order for this to work please provide three to four dozen cookies or brownies. We will place the different types of cookies and brownies on platters so people will be able to see what is available and select any combination for their dozen.

Volunteers are needed to help work the booth during the following time slots (9:00-11:00, 11:00-1:00, or 1:00-3:00). If you are willing to provide help with the bake sale, please contact Denise Crump 859-200-5756.

Items are needed by 8:00 am on Saturday morning, November 18th or any time Friday night, November 17th.





ARTS & CRAFTS FOR MISSIONS

Sat., Nov. 18 from 9 AM – 3 PM.

Should you know of crafters who might be interested, please contact Jennifer Ward (893.6335) or David Deaton at (200.4099) as soon as possible in order for an invitation to be extended to them.

Again, we are having some gently used items that we are soliciting from you. All donations are welcomed beginning **October 15**.

- **BOOKS** (please **DO NOT** donate love stories or National Geographic), **DVDs, PUZZLES, CDS, GAMES, and VIDEOS.** These are to be placed in the back of the Fellowship Hall under the clock. (*coordinator needed!*)
- **TOYS** are to be placed in the coat alcove against the left wall. (*coordinator needed!*)
- **JEWELRY** is to be placed on the square table in the parlor. (*Karen Losson, Cindy Harter*)
- **SCARVES, PURSES, GENTLY USED LUGGAGE, BACKPACKS, LAPTOP BAGS, COSMETIC CASES, AND ZIPPER POUCHES** are to be placed on the pew on the funeral home side of the Fellowship Hall. (*Sandee Bonar*)
- The **SILENT AUCTION** has been such a success in the past thanks to your generous donations, and the committee hopes that this year will be no exception. Please place your donated items neatly in the **Parlor** at end closest to the office no later than Friday morning, November 17th. Suggested items include small furniture items, gift cards/gift certificates you have received as gifts or would like to donate, collectibles, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations, house wares, table linens, silver, brass, china, pottery, ceramics, framed prints, lamps, decorative boxes and baskets, etc. Also remember your Good Works TIME/TALENTS/SERVICES! Suggestions for Good Works Donations include, but are not limited to, *putting up Christmas tree or decorations, baking services, dinner delivery services, babysitting, consulting services, yard work, etc.* If you have any questions or need an item picked up from your home, please call *Nancy Carrico (582-6286)*.
- The **SILENT AUCTION, GENERAL STORE and \$ TABLE** are all integral parts of our sale. If you are donating something of value that you would like a reserve price applied, please tell us! Placement of donations to any particular department of the sale may be moved to the silent auction to maximize charitable proceeds at the discretion of the Arts and Crafts for Mission Co-Chairpersons, Jennifer¹⁶ Ward or David Deaton.

Teaching With Soul

By Joel

Luke 12:6-7

As a youth director, I play a lot of get-to-know-you games and icebreakers. The first day at Montreat or Burnamwood or any church conference worth its salt is usually entirely devoted to this kind of thing. They're just light little fun games you play to help a group become acquainted with one another. Over the years, I've collected a bunch of these. Things like "Two Truths and a Lie" and "Never Have I Ever". They come in handy in my line of work.

Having played many of these games, I've become fairly adept at introducing myself to others. I know my fun facts. I know what to share with strangers to facilitate quick relationship building and how to give people a snapshot into who I am. I know what makes me me, so to speak. I am a husband. I am a father. I am a DCE. I am a singer...or I was a singer. I can't really sing very well anymore. That was kind of a big part of who I was and now it's sort of gone. So at Montreat this year when I was asked to share one of my talents with my small group and my instinct was to say that my talent was singing, it was a bit of an identity crisis for me. I knew who Joel was, but I haven't quite figured out who Joel minus singing is yet. That's what this article is going to be about. I lost a part of myself recently and I think I'm just now coming around to being able to talk about it. It's been a process.

Most of you know, but on the off chance someone is reading this who does not know, last Christmas I had an abscess tooth that tried to kill me. I wound up in the hospital for ten days. I had two surgeries. I was intubated (while awake) and that intubation, while it saved my life, took away my singing voice. I am alive and grateful to be so, but I can no longer sing the way I used to. I have some low notes still, but not a functional range by any stretch of the imagination. I can get through a verse or two of a hymn in worship on Sunday if it's range is in my sweet spot, but after that my voice starts cracking and I lose vocal control. I sound like I'm going through puberty again. It's not pleasant to hear. I have become a musician with a broken instrument.

I can't remember a time in my life when I was not singing in some way or another. I have been in too many choirs to count. I have four years of all state chorus under my belt. My singing opened doors that took me to Savannah, Orlando, Italy and loads of other places. I used my singing regularly in working with our youth and in our chancel choir here at church and now all of that is... just...gone. It is like a piece of me has died in a lot of ways and it's brought about a lot of self reflection on who exactly I am now.

In that self reflection, I've come to two realizations that I think it's important to share. Firstly, there isn't a lot in the list of things that make you who you are that can't be taken away from you in some way or another. I might be a husband now, but I am not always guaranteed to be a husband. I might be a father now, but I am not always guaranteed to be a father. I might be a DCE now, but I am not always guaranteed to be a DCE. The things that you think make up who you are, are fleeting at best and not as permanent as you might think they are.

Secondly, and this is the important part, the one thing that makes you who you are that IS permanent and CAN NOT be taken away is that you're a loved and cherished child of God. You are more than just the things you do. You are more than just titles you hold. You have worth and value beyond your talents and skills. You are a child of God. That's permanent. That's something solid. If you let that be who you are, then there isn't a lot that can shake you when you lose it.

Craft Fair Service Project

Our annual Arts and Crafts for Mission event is approaching and the youth of our church have traditionally helped out by serving lunch. This year we are asking for volunteers to help both prepare food in the morning as well as serve food to vendors at lunch time. If you think you'd be able to help in this way we'll be meeting at the church on November 18th at 8 am to help with sandwich prep and 10:30 am to help with serving lunch. This counts towards volunteer hours should you need them. Hope to see you there!

Welcome Wednesday

The youth have signed up to help with our church's Welcome Wednesday meal for the month of November. We will stay after worship on Nov. 26 to make soup and prepare food. We will meet at the church at 5pm on Nov. 29th to set up and prepare to serve. This event is open to anyone who'd like to help.



MORE LOCK-IN PICS!



What do Presbyterians give? Tithing (the giving of one tenth of one's gifts) is a primary expression of the Christian discipline of stewardship. Presbyterians believe that those who enjoy tithing do so, not out of a legalist Biblical interpretation, but out of gratitude to God for God's grace given to us in Jesus Christ.

But tithing is a discipline which applies to more than just financial resources. When we give only our money, we give very little; it is when we give of ourselves that we truly give. Presbyterians believe that stewardship is a spiritual matter. Tithing, therefore, is not just giving our money. Tithing of our time and talents (as well as our treasures) is an integral part of our faithful response to the grace of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

The Christian life is an offering of one's self to God. As it says in one of our hymns, "Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

How is stewardship related to faith? Presbyterians believe that God created us to love God—to find our greatest happiness and fulfillment in a relationship with God. We believe that we were created by God for God—that we properly belong to God and not to ourselves.

Of course, we sinful human beings often seek happiness and fulfillment by substituting our love for God with any and all other objects of desire—wealth, popularity, social or political power. In the end, all other desires are really nothing more than our own efforts to meet our love for God with other less valuable desires—none of which can take the place of the One for Whom we were truly created. We mistakenly assume that such possessions will insure happiness, but the more we own our possessions, the less satisfying they prove to be. Faith in our possessions is ultimately unfulfilling, because it supplants our faith in the One in Whom we have true purpose. We may think that we own our possessions, but all too often they end up possessing us.

Presbyterians believe that our very existence is an act of God's grace. We believe that all that we have, all that we do, and all that we desire—all that we are—are also acts of God's grace. God sees us and our time, talent, and treasures as inseparable. All belong to God.

Stewardship, then, is really our faith in action. When we claim to have faith in God, we are actually returning to God. We are giving to God what is already His and has always been His. Stewardship is our affirmation of God's full ownership of ourselves and of everything entrusted to us by His grace.

As Augustine, one of the church's great theologians, once said in a prayer:

To praise You is the desire of humankind, a little part of Your creation. You stir humanity to take pleasure in praising You, because You have created us for Yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in You. (Confessions, 1.1)

WHAT PRESBYTERIANS BELIEVE ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

What is stewardship? One of the basic misconceptions about stewardship is that it is fundraising. It is mistakenly thought of as how Christians pay for the church's budget. Some have erroneously treated "stewardship" as an awful code word used by church leaders for "money."

The prophets of the Old Testament warn us against offering material goods as a substitute for offering ourselves to God. Presbyterians believe that stewardship is an essential aspect of a life lived in and for Jesus Christ—a life of simplicity, generosity, honesty, hospitality, compassion, receptivity, and concern for God's creation. Stewardship is certainly more than offering material goods. Stewardship is not about meeting the needs of the church—which is God's purview. Rather, stewardship is about the gratitude of God's people.

How is stewardship related to gratitude? Because we human beings are often preoccupied with ourselves, we tend to focus on the problems which fill our lives and on the blessings of others which we lack. Routinely, we assume that we deserve better and that God owes us better. But when we become aware of the arrogance and selfishness behind such assumptions, one inescapable truth comes to the fore: the truth that God does not owe us anything!

Now, if God does not owe us anything, then anything—any crumb of grace—any tidbit of blessing—which we have and which God has given us is pure grace. It is an undeserved gift from God—a gift which is in no way owed to us; and yet, God has given it to us anyway. This means that the purpose of our lives is realized when we live lives of unqualified gratitude to God.

Gratitude, like unconditional love, is a choice. Gratitude makes every day sacred. Expressing our gratitude is a gift to the giver. Gratitude for small things makes every day a gift. Gratitude is the realization that we have everything we need, at least in this moment. And, this moment is really all we have.

Stewardship is the journey of discovering gratitude in our everyday lives. Stewardship is our growing in awareness of the blessings of our daily lives. Presbyterians believe that our gratitude to and for Jesus Christ naturally results in stewardship—in an outpouring of our time, our talents and treasures for Christ's service.

We believe that stewardship is the offering of ourselves in gratitude to God.

Why do Presbyterians give? Presbyterians believe that stewardship has to do with how we live—it has to do with our daily commitments to Jesus Christ as Lord. In worship, we are presented with the costly self-offering of Jesus Christ. We are claimed and set free by Him, and we are led to respond by offering to God our lives, our particular gifts and abilities, and our material goods.

Giving has always been a mark of Christian commitment and discipleship. The ways in which Christians use God's gifts of material goods, personal abilities, and time should reflect a faithful response to God's self-giving in Jesus Christ and Christ's call to minister to others and to share with others in the world.

YOUTH GROUP!

Nov. 18 Craft Fair Service Project
Nov. 29 Welcome Wednesday Meal
Dec. 3 Parent's Day Out
Dec. 10 Christmas Pageant Practice
Dec. 17 Christmas Pageant
Dec. 17 Christmas Scavenger Hunt
Feb. 10 Souper Bowl of Caring Cook Day
Feb. 11 Souper Bowl of Caring Serve Day
March 24 Easter Egg Hunt
May 12 Youth Sunday
June 11-14 Elementary Burnamwood
June 18-21 Middle/High School Burnamwood
July 17-21 Middle School Montreat

Prayer Breakfast

Our weekly prayer breakfast continues to meet on Tuesday mornings at 6:45 at Purdy's on Big Hill! We share a scripture, enjoy some fellowship, eat a meal and have a time of prayer. Prayer breakfast is open to any Middle or High School youth who'd like to attend.



REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

Saturday, November 11, 2023

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill in a form found in the Narthex or contact Dana (623-5323 ext. 0 or danamiller@richmondfpc.com). Each poinsettia will cost \$10.00.

Deadline for newsletter memorial recognition is Friday, November 17, by noon.



Please remember to lock doors! Some of our doors are being left unlocked following activities.



In order to help the Session prepare a budget and plan for 2024 please return your pledge cards as soon as possible.

First Presbyterian Church
P O BOX 165
Richmond, KY 40476

Thank you!

News Brief from Session

- A new church security system will be installed in the next couple of months.
- All Saints Day and Stewardship Dedication set for Sunday, November 5.
- Arts & Crafts for Missions on Saturday, November 18 still needs someone to cover Toys. Tickets for the lunch will be ready soon.
- If you know someone with 3-5 year old children, encourage them to enroll in FPC Preschool.
- New landscaping is being planted around the church.
- Anyone interested in helping redesign the church's website contact Missions.
- Dr. Christian has been selected to be one of the delegates for the Transylvania Presbytery to the 226 General Assembly in Salt Lake City next June/ July. Congratulations!

Clerk of Session
Melody Mitchell

September 2023 Love Fund Summary

Category	# of families served	Amount
Utilities	14	\$1,545.10
Rent	12	\$1,800
Hotel	0	0
Save A Lot bill (food vouchers)	11	\$711.77
Gas	10	\$250
Love Cupboard Pantry assisted	7	
Total		\$4,306.87

31 Unique Families served (includes 23 children)

NECROLOGY OF GOD'S PEOPLE 2022-2023

Ella Louise Seale Park
December 24, 2022

Ronald Dean Napier
January 16, 2023

James Larry Brussell
March 30, 2023

C. Michael Weldon
April 28, 2023

Paul David Jett
June 24, 2023

Jeffrey Lee Brubaker
September 6, 2023

MISSION.....a body of people sent

UPDATES AND REQUESTS FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Several important events which fall under the responsibility of the Missions Committee will be happening soon. Please mark them on your calendar:

Saturday, November 18: Arts and Crafts for Missions will be set up at the church and we need your help and your attendance. Perhaps you could make some cookies or other baked goods. Maybe you would like to help serve lunch. Or perhaps helping with the silent auction or selling toys or books is your thing. Please contact David Deaton or Jennifer Ward and they will sign you up in the appropriate area. And by all means come by and shop for unique and homemade gifts for that hard to buy for person on your Christmas list.

Sunday, December 3 (the 1st Sunday in Advent) **the Giving Trees** will be set up in the Narthex and in the Old Fellowship Hall. For those who do not recognize this title of "Giving Trees", it is a ministry we have done for years now where we adopt the six families who are currently living at the New Liberty Family Shelter and provide them with Christmas gifts. Pat Ballard, the manager at the shelter, will meet with each family, and make a list of items they really need, such as warm clothing, shoes, household items, and even toys and books for the children. Their lists will be written item by item on ornaments and placed on the branches of the trees for you to look over and select one or more to shop for. More details will be provided later but this is a ministry that many members of the congregation love and support. What is more in the spirit of the birth of Jesus than helping those in need, just as He was on that night he was born.

Two more special offerings will be collected on Sunday, November 12 (**the 5 cents a Meal offering**) and on Sunday, December 24 (**the Christmas Joy Offering**). Although familiar to many, more details will be given about these offerings in the Moment for Missions on those very Sundays.

On Sunday, October 1, we received the special offering called "Peace and Global Witness" in the amount of \$1575.00. This offering is divided three ways with 50% going to the PCUSA, 25% going to our Transylvania Presbytery, and 25% staying locally to benefit the mission work of our shelter for abused women and children.

The planning for the **Marshall/Moretz Dinner** and Christmas celebration for families in need of fellowship, food, and Christmas joy will soon be underway. Watch for the details from Linda Adams who will be once again organizing this important event.

Other Welcome Wednesday opportunities will soon be upon us. Welcome Wednesdays are the last Wednesday of each month when we provide food and fellowship for those who are food insecure. And it is a time for our congregation to enjoy a meal with one another and with our guests. The Presbyterian Women's Groups hosted this event on October 25 and now we are looking for other groups to host the meal on December 27 and January 31. If you are a member of a church group which would like to provide one of these meals, please tell Dana, Bonnie Gray, or Philip Gump and we will get you on the schedule. Perhaps December 27 sounds like a silly date to host a meal since it is so close to Christmas. However, we had the same concern last year and decided to go ahead and host a meal and had a good turnout of hungry folks from our community. So we want to try it again this year.

The Missions Committee thanks our congregation for supporting these and many other such events as we serve others in the manner in which our Lord, the Good Shepherd, serves his flock.

It's not too early to think about the Christmas Eve Marshall-Moretz Dinner. The Marshall-Moretz Dinner is for those in our community who are less fortunate or lonely at this time of year.

If you are out Black Friday shopping, and come across small gifts such as: crayons, coloring books, balls, small puzzles, brush, comb, stickers, hair items, school supplies, small games, small cars, card games, small stuffed animals, bubbles, yo-yos, etc—they will be greatly appreciated.

As Christmas approaches we are asking for help from our church family. We will need baked goodies, especially sweet breads and cookies. They need to be wrapped in foil or Christmas wrap. We will need cooked turkeys and hams and cupcakes are needed for dessert. All items need to be brought to the church by Dec. 24th at 2:00 PM.

We will also need volunteer drivers, kitchen help, servers, reception help, plus other helpers.

If you would like to participate in this very special Christmas mission contact:

Linda Adams
call or text 859-200-0762 or email LADAMS49940@att.net



**GINNY MORETZ
MEMORIAL SERVICE**
*Monday, November 20th at 7:00 pm
Hampton Inn in Richmond*

You are invited to join the Moretz girls as they gather with Debbie and Don Bellairs and their other KY friends to celebrate their mother's long and full life on Monday, November 20th at 7:00pm at the Hampton Inn on Barnes Mill Rd. Nothing was more important to Ginny than her friends. Come armed with your Ginny stories ready to share in the fun and fellowship. RSVP – Margaret Morgan 859-200-3663.



Christmas Parade

Richmond Christmas Parade
FRIDAY, Dec. 1, 7:00 p.m.

Donations of cookies (both homemade and bought) are needed for our Hospitality Tent. Please bring donations to the original kitchen on Friday, Dec. 1, **before noon**, or prior to the parade.

We will begin set-up at 5:30 p.m.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Sun

Mon







Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Bible Study 6:00 pm	2	3	4 Raven Run Hike 9:30 am
5 Stewardship Lunch 	6 Bible Study 10:30 am	7 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Youth b'fast 6:45 am	8 Bible Study 6:00 pm	9 Needle Arts Fellowship 11:30	10	11  VETERANS DAY
12 5 Cents Per Meal Offering	13 Bible Study 10:30 am	14 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Youth b'fast 6:45 am	15 Bible Study 6:00 pm	16	17	18 Arts & Crafts for Missions  Arts & Crafts For Missions
19	20 Bible Study 10:30 am Poinsettia deadline! Ginny Moretz Memorial Svc 7:00 pm at Hampton Inn	21 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Youth b'fast 6:45 am	22 Bible Study cancelled <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Office closed</div>	23  Happy Thanksgiving	24 9:00 am  DECORATE the Church	25
26 Christ the King 	27 Bible Study 10:30 am	28 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Youth b'fast 6:45 am	29 Welcome Wednesday 6:00 pm	30	1 Christmas Parade Tent 7:00 Set-up 5:30	2