



VOTING AS AN ACT OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

As Christians who are also citizens of the United States, we are once again entering that perennial time of national deliberation; we are entering election season. Soon we will be called upon to exercise our civic responsibility to vote—to choose those political leaders who will represent our interests.

We Christians have all too often dichotomized our religious faith and our political endeavors. We compartmentalize our lives into the separate realms of religion and politics, and we rationalize it with Jesus’ own words about paying taxes: “Render unto Caesar what is Caesar’s, and render unto God what is God’s” (Matthew 22:21). Too often, we have relegated voting to the sacred realm of government and politics. We have regarded our voting as part of “worldly matters” and wholly apart from “heavenly matters” (and never the twain shall meet).

But this is a false dichotomy, my Christian friends. There is no nation or kingdom that is not also under the sovereign realm of God. Yes, Jesus acknowledges that the coin for the tax belongs to Caesar; but even Caesar belongs to God.

In a parable about the final judgement, Jesus teaches that our blessings in God’s heavenly kingdom are directly conditioned upon our deeds in this earthly realm. As Christians, God has blessed us with manifold graces—graces that we are called to use to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to visit the imprisoned, to care for the sick, to welcome the stranger. When we care for the least of these in this world, we are caring for Christ, the King of Heaven (Matthew 25:34-40). Perhaps there is a distinction between our earthly lives and our heavenly lives, but clearly there is no separation. (In Christ, the twain shall always meet.)

Indeed, my Christian friends, Christ expects us to use our earthly blessings not solely for our own self-interest, but for the hungry, the poor, the homeless, the sick, the stranger, and the marginalized. And, not one of our earthly blessings is to be withheld from the least of these whom Christ has placed in our care—not even our earthly blessing to vote.

If Christ commands us to love God with all of our mind and strength, heart and soul, with all we have, with all we are, then even our vote is meant to be an act of love. We can no longer relegate our vote solely to the realm of our political self-interest. No, my Christian friends, even our vote belongs to Christ and the Kingdom of God.

Truly, neither the pastor nor the church can tell us for whom to vote, but surely our faith in Jesus Christ can tell us “how” to vote. As Christians, we cannot cast our vote for our own self-interest. We are called by Christ to care for the hungry, the poor, the homeless, the sick, the stranger, and the marginalized—those for whom our vote most matters. Christ the King calls us to vote for the interests of the least of these.

My Christian friends, as you fill out your mail-in ballot, or as you go to the polls, cast your vote for the interests of those in need. Remember, when we vote for the love of the least of these, we are voting for the love of Jesus Christ Himself.

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40).

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ONLINE GIVING 3 easy ways!
\*Click the GIVING button on our church website OR
\*Text fpcgift to 73256 OR
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 bank site or by mailing a check to:
First Presbyterian Church
P O BOX 165
Richmond, KY 40476-0165
WITH Gratitude

Table with 2 columns: Name and Class Of. Rows include Elders (Eric Everett, Lucie Nelson, Jennifer Wilke-Deaton, Philip Gump, Paul Hager, Bill Mitchell, Caroline Crump, Jim Exline, LeAnn Jones) and Deacons (Sue Reeves, Julie Stanley, Gene Wolf, Jennifer Brubaker, Kathy Shew, Rhonda Ortttenburger, Wayne Bowlin, Donna Cox, Denise Crump).

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@richmondspc.com). Each poinsettia will cost \$11.00.

Deadline for newsletter memorial recognition is Tuesday, November 19, by noon.



In order to help the Session prepare a budget and plan for 2025, 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**

- **Stewardship Dedication Sunday, November 10.** Prayerfully consider your pledges for 2025.
- **Arts & Crafts for Missions Saturday, November 16 from 9:00 - 3:00.** Invite friends and family to join us for barbeque sandwiches and activities.
- If you would be willing to lead **Curtis's Sunday School class** until he returns, please let Joel know.
- **Welcome Wednesday, The railings and lamps** at the front of the church will be repaired and replaced soon. Use caution entering and exiting the church during the repair work.

*Melody Mitchell, clerk*

**MISSION.....a body of people sent**

**September 2024 Love Fund Summary**

We worked with 31 unique families (included 24 children).

Rent - 15 families- \$2,375  
 Utilities - 10 families - \$1,291.71  
 Auto repair - 1 family - \$100  
 Save a lot Food bill - \$1,375.94  
 Gulf Gas bill - \$325  
 Total - \$5,467.65  
 Distributed 21 food vouchers  
 Distributed 12 gas vouchers  
 Love Fund Pantry - 9 families

**UPCOMING SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

**November 17**  
**5 Cents Per Meal Offering**

**December 22**  
**Joy Offering**

*Communion Dates*

*Sunday, Nov. 24*  
*Wednesday, Dec. 11*



**Parent's Day Out**  
**Sunday, December 1**

**Pageant Practice**  
**Sunday, December 8**

**Christmas Pageant**  
**Sunday, December 15**



*Salvation Army* The *Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary* will again be distributing 20 bags to be filled for the Christmas meals that go out with the families we serve. Lynn Shearon will be distributing the bags starting on **Sunday, November 3** in the narthex or you can find them in the Fellowship Hall.



**Food Bags!**

- 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 give Lynn or Melody a check for a \$50.00 gift card for the canned/boxed goods, meat and perishable items. There are fliers for you to pick up with the information and mailing instructions should you prefer that method.

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

Melody Mitchell  
Lynn Shearon  
Auxiliary member



### Evening Women's Circle

Women's Evening Circle Book Club  
Tuesday, November 12th @6:30 in the church parlor  
Karen Losson will bring dessert  
Book—*All the Colors of the Dark* by Chris Whitaker

### Rebecca Esther Circle

Tuesday  
October 19  
10:30 am

*I would like to thank everyone for the cards and prayers following the sudden death of my husband. My children and I appreciate your support.*

*Jeanie Pearson Smith*

### WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY

Until Curtis can come back to lead Wednesday night Bible study, we will be doing National Geographic/PBS video studies on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm in the church parlor.

*To all the saints in Jesus Christ who graciously live their faith as First Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Kentucky: Thank you so much for all of the Christ-like love that you have lavished upon me and Wendy during this challenging time of great trauma in our lives. Having fallen from a cliff while hiking, I am so grateful to God to be alive. But I am even more grateful for all of you who have held me up in your Christ-like compassion with all of your prayers, your cards, your visits, and your food. It is a most humbling gift from God when the flock cares so much for the broken shepherd. Because of your mercies and kindness, I am improving everyday. I look so much forward to being among you in person (hopefully, soon). Thank you, my Christian Friends. I love you all! Curtis*



November 3



- 1 Kevin Crump
- 3 John Harter
- 4 David Coleman
- 8 Chris Smart
- 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
- 28 Linda Adams  
John Gump
- 29 Chris Laird



- 1 Sue Reeves
- 2 Denise Crump  
Ashleigh Ortteneburger
- 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



## *Christmas Eve Marshall-Moretz Dinner*

If you have classic Christmas ornaments or Christmas decorations that you would like to donate for the Marshall Moretz Christmas tree, please contact Linda Adams or Arleita Dirne.



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](mailto:LADAMS49940@att.net)

Marshall-Moretz Dinner



## **NECROLOGY OF GOD'S PEOPLE 2023-2024**

**Lucille Frazier Leake**  
03 February 2023

**Marlene Waite Waller**  
06 January 2024

**George Arnott Civey**  
31 January 2024

**Karen Wood Milanesi**  
01 March 2024

**Francis "Frank" Andrew Milanesi, Jr.**  
19 April 2024

**Dale Arnold Lawrenz**  
02 May 2024

**Ralph Judson Thompson**  
30 May 2024

**Dorothy "Dot" Louise Kirkpatrick**  
27 June 2024

**Daniel Arthur Lichty**  
16 August 2024

**Jean Thompson Roberts**  
06 October 2024

**Roy Dean Acker**  
October 28, 2024

# SUNDAY MATINEE!

NOVEMBER 10 • STARTS AT 2:30PM  
FEATURING PIXAR'S INSIDE OUT  
DRINKS AND SNACKS PROVIDED  
MEET IN THE GYM



Christmas Parade

## Richmond Christmas Parade FRIDAY, Dec. 6, 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. 6, **before noon**, or prior to the parade.

We will begin set-up at 5:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed for both set-up and clean-up.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH      RSVP BY: WEDNESDAY OCT. 30

YOUTH GROUP

# LOCK IN

- LEX RAGE
- BIBLE STUDY
- WAFFLE HOUSE
- GAMES
- FELLOWSHIP
- ECT!

BRING AN OVERNIGHT BAG,  
MONEY FOR WAFFLE HOUSE  
AND CHURCH CLOTHES

NOVEMBER  
**2ND**  
STAURDAY AT  
7:00 TILL  
NOON SUNDAY

330 WEST MAIN STREET

QUESTIONS CALL:  
412 926 2581

This will be our sixth installment in a series of newsletter articles focusing on the ten commandments. For this article we will be looking into the fifth commandment according to the commandment divisions of the reformed tradition. That commandment being “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you”. As has been our practice, we will look at this commandment from a dual perspective by asking what the commandment expressly forbids or takes away from us as well as asking what the commandment gives back to us in return.

Often people approach the fifth commandment from the perspective of being the child implied by the text rather than the adult. I think that is likely because this is the perspective from which they first encounter the commandment. At least I know my own parents would quote this particular gem to me often when I was young and acting wild. The intended message being that God wanted me to mind them so badly that He wrote it down in stone and gave it to Moses in person several thousand years ago. I don’t really know if other parents did this too or not. My father was a minister so I might be an outlier in this particular experience.

The thing is, this commandment is not so much about young children being well behaved for their parents as much as it is about the interaction between grown up children and their aging parents. The promise the command makes “that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you” is our biggest clue that this is the case. In ancient times, you lived long when you had people willing to care for you into your old age. The commandment is telling Israel to do just that: care for their aging parents.

Children learn how to care for their aging parents by watching their parents care for their aging Grandparents. That’s the cycle this commandment sets up. Want to live a long time? If you do, you’d better demonstrate to your children that there is an inherent value to human life by how you treat your own parents, even as that life gets older and starts to fail physically and in productivity. That life is still worthy of honor. The commandment affirms that all life has worth. All life has value even to the last breath.

So this commandment forbids us from ignoring or abandoning our aging parents as they start to require more care and attention in the autumn of their life. That’s the take away for the commandment. That’s what the commandment prohibits. The give back of the commandment is that the care we show our parents will return to us in time through our own children who have learned from our example.

I’d even say that the commandment goes further than that though. In the reformed church tradition, we do not name specific Godparents when we baptize the children of the church. We do this because everyone in the church is a Godparent to the church’s children. So in essence, we are all part of one big church family that should make this commandment realized in the lives of our older members. Not everyone has children to care for them, but they should still be able to find family within the church. They should still be honored by the young. The example we set will come back to us in the end, but it’s also just the right thing to do.

## ARTS & CRAFTS FOR MISSIONS Sat., Nov. 16 from 9 AM – 3 PM.



Arts & Crafts For Missions

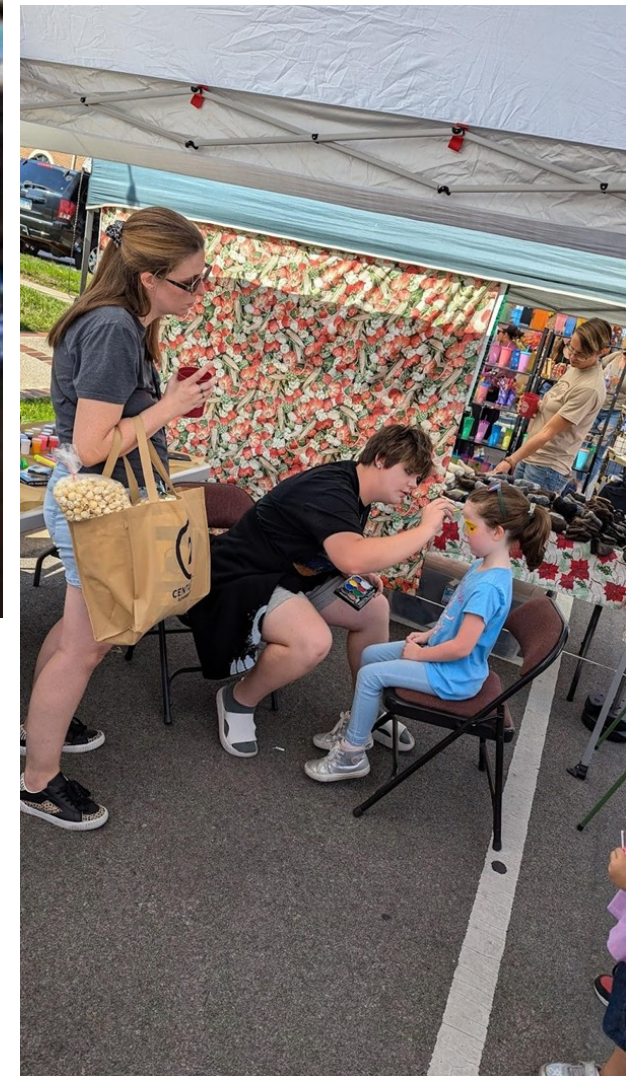
*Should you know of crafters who might be interested, please contact Jennifer Ward (893.6335) or David Deaton at (200.4099) as soon as possible in order for an invitation to be extended to them.*

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.
- **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.
- **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.
- 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 15th. 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 (*coordinator needed*).
- 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, Jennifer Ward or David Deaton.



## MORE FUN AT THE MILLSTONE FESTIVAL!



## Millstone Festival!!

We handed out so much bread and painted so many faces at the Millstone Festival this month! Thanks to everyone who came out, baked bread, set up, tore down and helped make this happen!



*Let us come  
before him with  
thanksgiving.*  
Psalm 95:2, NIV

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 on page 6.

### General Store and Toy Room still need coordinators!



### 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 (coordinator needed)


Items are needed by 8:00 am on Saturday morning, November 16th  
any time Friday night, November 15th.





**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 <b>YOUTH LOCK-IN!</b>
3 	4 Bible Study cancelled today	5 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Mission mtg. 7:00 	6 National Geographic/PBS video studies 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30	7	8	9
10 <b>Stewardship Dedication</b> Movie fellowship 2:30	11 <b>Office closed!</b> <b>REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS</b> 	12 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Evening Circle 6:30	13 National Geographic/PBS video studies 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30	14 Needle Arts Fellowship 11:30	15 <b>Arts &amp; Crafts for Missions set-up</b>	16  <b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS FOR MISSIONS</b>
17 <b>5 Cents Per Meal Offering</b>	18 Bible Study 10:30 am	19 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Presbyterian Women 10:30 am CE mtg. 4:30 pm <b>Poinsettia deadline!</b>	20 National Geographic/PBS video studies 6:30 pm Choir practice 7:30	21 Newsletter deadline 9:00	22	23
24 <b>Communion</b> 	25 Bible Study 10:30 am	26 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Session mtg. 7:00 pm	27 No events this evening.	28  Happy Thanksgiving Let us give thanks! 	29 Decorate church 9:00 am 	30
			<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>		<b>THANKSGIVING!</b>	