www.richmondfpc.com

Curtis Christian curtischristian@richmondfpc.com

Joel Stanley Joel.christopher.stanley@gmail.com

Dana Miller danamiller@richmondfpc.com

Joyce Wolf jhwolfsong@gmail.com

Mark Johnson markjohnson@richmondfpc.com

ELDERS	CLASS O
Philip Gump	2026
Paul Hager	2026
Bill Mitchell	2026
Caroline Crump	2027
Jim Exline	2027
LeAnn Jones	2027
Arleita Dirne	2028
Eric Everett	2028
Mark Pitts	2028

DEACONS	CLASS OF
Jennifer Brubaker	2026
Kathy Shew	2026
Rhonda Orttenburger	2026
Wayne Bowlin	2027
Donna Cox	2027
Denise Crump	2027
Marti Exline	2028
Sarah Gump	2028
Amanda Tipton	2028
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ONLINE GIVING

3 easy ways!

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

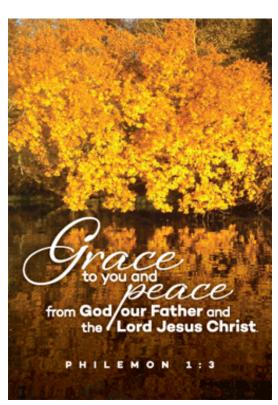
*Text **fpcgift** to **73256** OR

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

Gratitude St



PRESBYTERIAN TIDINGS



HATING THE DEVIL AS JUSTIFICATION

NOVEMBER 2025 Of late, there were many prayers, and scripture readings, and grace-affirming homilies at the sacred Christian memorial service for Charlie Kirk. And many reported that they found their own faith in Jesus Christ reaffirmed. And for those who have been spiritually moved, this is a reason to rejoice in rekindled faith.

Now, there was one speaker at that sacred service who declared, "I hate my opponents." And while it should go without saying, I want to remind my sisters and brothers in Christ, that "hate" is not a Christian virtue. Christ Himself specifically called us to love God, to love our neighbors, to love one another, and even to love our enemies.

Perhaps there are some Christians who assert the even Jesus hated the devil. Yet, while Jesus righteously opposed and compassionately worked to undo the actions of the devil, Jesus never taught us to hate—even the devil.

Jesus never said that He hates the devil, and He certainly never said that He hates His opponents. My Christian friends, I implore you in the name of all that is sacred, do not be swayed by public figures who affirm that hatred of anyone is a noble thing. There is no room for hatred in the kingdom of God. So, I entreat you, do not make any room for hatred in your own soul. To welcome hatred is to welcome the very devil whose work we oppose.

Stewardship Dedication
November 16

10¢ Per Meal Offering November 16

Communion
November 23



November 2

12

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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@gmail.com

Stewardship Dedication is Sunday, November 16.

Please join the potluck lunch following worship.

Pledge cards will be received during worship.

You may also return by mail to:

First Presbyterian Church P O BOX 165 Richmond, KY 40476



Marshall-Moretz Dinner

Be Part of the Fellowship!

Fellowship isn't just a program here at First Presbyterian—it's our church's approach to community and care.

Like Tolkien's Fellowship of the Ring, we're a group bound by a shared quest: to create spaces of unity, joy, and purpose.

We're inviting dreamers, doers, and encouragers—ages 13 to 113 to help shape our Fellowship Socials.

Whether you have one idea or twenty-five,

we'd love to hear them!

What kinds of activities could help us connect more deeply with one another?

There are many ways to be involved:

Monthly Planning Meetings:

Join us once a month to brainstorm and choose upcoming fellowship events.

Behind-the-Scenes Support: Help with shopping, cooking, or advertising.

Hands-On Hospitality: Set up, serve, and clean up during fellowship gatherings.

Whether you love logistics, menu planning, writing announcements we have a place for you. Let's create some fun together!

To share ideas or get involved, contact
Arleita Dirne at abdirne@gmail.com,
speak with her here at church,
or join us at our next Fellowship Planning Meeting after church on
Sunday, November 23, 2025

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 \$10.50.

Deadline for newsletter memorial recognition is <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>November 18</u>, by noon.





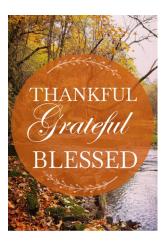
1	Kevin Crump
3	John Harter
4	David Coleman
8	Chris Smart
11	Nancy Brubaker
	John Florell
13	Dwight Barkley
17	Lindsey Glass
20	Praveena Salins
21	Hee-Young Shin
	Abby Toutant
	Ella Deaton
22	Suzanne Leung
	Nancy Carrico

Nancy Carrico 28 Linda Adams

John Gump 29 Chris Laird



Saturday, November 29 9:00 am You are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas!







10

Denise Crump Ashleigh Orttenburger Lincoln Ward Jean Boley Alicia Shackleford 11 Donna Albaugh Fred Crump Polly Seyfrit Chris Toutant David Glass 12 Wyatt Waterbury Will Gump 18 21 Richard Elam Beverly Moberly James Logue 27 Jill Hissom

Melissa Shew Toutant

Sue Reeves



Evening Women's Circle

Tuesday, November 11th will be a book club circle meeting at 6:30 pm in the Church Parlor. The book is *Good Dirt* by Charmaine Wilkerson.

Lucie Nelson will provide snacks. Come even if you have not read the book for fun and fellowship.

Rebecca Esther Circle

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

> Sunday Supper is cancelled for November and December.



News Brief from Session

- Sandy Connor's funeral is set for November 28 at church.
- An inventory of all the rooms will be taken and ideas on how to repurpose those not being used for other activities will be made.
- A yard sale will be held to sell off preschool items to other churches, etc.
- Dedication Sunday set for November 16.
- NO Sunday Supper in November and December.
- Fellowship is planning a Games and Soup Night in January or February.
- Check out the new wall paint in the Fellowship Hall!

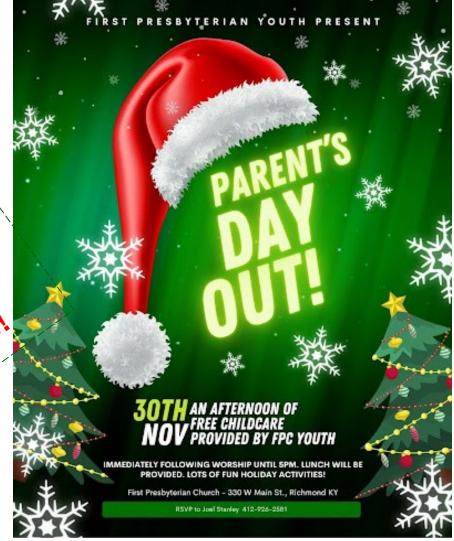
Clerk of Session, Melody Mitchell



NOVEMBER 15! 7:00 PM thru after Sunday worship

Our annual youth Lock-In is scheduled for Nov. 15th. This will be a time of fellowship building, games, Bible study and fun for our Middle and High School youth. We will meet at the church at 7 pm on Saturday and stay through worship on Sunday the next morning. Permission slips will be required to attend. Register by contacting Joel (412)-926-2581.







Our elementary youth, having some spirited discussion during their children's worship lesson.

Our Children's Choir Singing in Worship!



Save the Date

We will receive the 10¢ Per Meal Offering on Sunday, November 16.

October 2025 Love Fund Summary

<u>Category</u>	# of families served	Amount
Utilities	13	\$1,275
Rent	17	\$1,875
Hotel	0	0
Save A Lot bill (food vouchers)		\$413.49
Gulf Bill (Gas Vouchers)		\$225
Gas vouchers distributed	8	
Food Vouchers Distributed	18	
Love Fund Pantry Assistance	6	
Total		\$3,788.49

32 Unique Families served (25 children)





Tuesday, November 11

Matthew 24:14-30

Something has always kind of bugged me about the parable of the talents. If you're unfamiliar, the parable of the talents, like all of Jesus' parables, was a story told to teach a lesson. In the story, a wealthy man goes on a trip and leaves three of his servants in charge of his money. He leaves five talents to one servant, two talents to another and one talent to a third servant.

A talent, according to wikipedia, is about 33kg of gold or silver. So we aren't talking about a small amount of money here. The master has left each servant a small fortune to care for in his absence. As the story goes, the first servant is able to use his 5 talents to make 5 more talents. The second is able to turn his 2 talents into 2 more talents and the third buried the money entrusted to him and returned to his master exactly what he was given. Things don't work out so great for the third guy.

Anyway, what's always sort of bugged me about that story is that the third servant probably took the safest and (arguably) smartest course of action. Saving money is a conventionally wise thing to do. We don't get any details on how the other two servants were able to get a 100% return on their investment over the years but that sort of return is certainly a rare outcome of investing. Investing is inherently risky. You are as likely to lose money as make money. We also don't know what would have happened if one of the servants had tried to put the money to good use and failed because his investments didn't pan out. The story would leave us to believe that it wouldn't be anything good. Imagine what would have happened if the first servant had taken his 5 talents and his investments had ended up losing money. If the master was mad at the third servant for returning what he was given, what would the response be to someone who had lost money? It's all a gamble. Saving the money seems like a pretty safe bet.

Or at least, from a human perspective, that's one way to look at things. But the parables are not interested in telling us human truths. The parables are interested in telling us Godly truths wrapped up in a human context. A Godly understanding of what represents a 100% return on investment is much different than a human understanding of the same thing. It is hard to take money and turn it into more money with any sort of certainty, but taking money and turning it into God's love is not difficult at all. Food for the hungry or clothes for the naked or water for the thirsty are all easy investments to make with big returns. At least they are if we can shift our expectations of what constitutes a return to be more in line with God's own and that's my prayer for all of us as we come into this stewardship season.



6

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

POBOX 165 Richmond, KY 40476-0165 859/623-5323

7

(fax) 859/623-5329 www.richmondfpc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		We come with grateful	hearts!			1 All Saints Day Fall Back
2	3 Bible Study 10:30	4 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Mission mtg. 7:00	5 Bible Study 6:30	6	7	8
9 Deacon mtg. noon	10 Bible Study 10:30	11 OFFICE CLOSED Evening Circle 6:30	12 Bible Study 6:30	13 Needle Arts Fellowship 11:30	14	15 LOCKIN 2025!
16 10 Cents Per Meal Offering Stewardship Dedication Stewardship Potluck noon	17 Bible Study 10:30	18 Tuesday Crew 9-11 Presbyterian Women 10:30 Poinsettia deadline noon Session mtg. 6:00	19 Bible Study 6:30	20	21	22 Preschool Closeout Sale 12-5:00 pm in gym
23 Fellowship mtg. noon Holy COMMUNION	24 Bible Study 10:30	25 Tuesday Crew 9-11	26 Bible Study cancelled	27 Happy Thanksgiving	28 Memorial Service for Sandy Connor Visitation 11:00-1:00 Service 1:00	29 9:00 am Decorate the church
30 Parent's Day Out! 12-5				OFFICE CLOSED		