



# THE PRESBYTERIAN NEWS



*FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*  
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Friends,

Thank you so much for the time you granted me, as Andy and I welcomed Lydia and Hannah into our family. I am so thankful for your prayers and support, for the meals and cards and kind words. I don't think we cooked dinner for over a month! We are overwhelmed by your love and excitement for our growing family, and we feel so lucky to be raising our children among you.

I started back in the office at the beginning of August, and am gradually getting caught up on visits, getting back into the routine of worship planning, and making plans for the Fall. I'm excited to start a new season of Wonderful Wednesdays, Sunday School, and service opportunities with you! This newsletter is packed with information about all the ways you can get plugged into church life. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are looking for the best way to engage with your church family, as we all strive to deepen our faith and follow Christ together.

Peace,

Melissa McNair-King

*NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN*

From Day Circle by Phyllis Vice:

Day Circle will meet on Monday, September 10th, at 11 a.m. in the Manse. We will begin our new Bible Study on *God's Promise: I Am With You* written by Amy Poling Sutherlun. "The central promise in the Bible is not 'I will forgive you.' The most frequent promise is 'I will be with you.' John Ortberg, *God Is Closer Than You Think*." Instead of focusing on the manifestations of God's presence, Sutherlun focuses the study on the actual speaking of the promise, "I will be with you", words that are spoken throughout the Old and New Testaments. We will be looking at the promise itself and how it speaks in particular circumstances and how the promise speaks into our own circumstances. We will find that not only does God promise to be with us, but he also promises to never leave or forsake us.

Books have been ordered. If you would like a copy of the study book *God's Promise: I Am With You*, whether or not you plan to study with the group, contact Phyllis Vice. The books are \$10 (large print is \$15). All are welcome to join us. Bring a sack lunch and stay for fellowship after the meeting.

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From Night Circle by Dianne Wallace:

Night Circle will begin their new study of *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. We will be using the video of presentations by the author, Melissa Bane Sevier. If you would like to have the book that goes with this study, they are available and can be ordered for \$10. Bring \$5 for pizza and bring your own drink. Also \$5 for the PW Mission Pledge annual fund will be taken at this time. We will begin our study on Monday, September 10th, meeting in the Manse at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Presbyterian Women -  
Praying, Studying, Loving, Serving



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

**COMMUNION** will be served on Sunday, September 2nd and worship time is at 10 a.m. Starting Sunday, September 9th, worship will be at 11 a.m.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed on Monday, September 3rd, in observance of Labor Day.

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** Come and make a joyful noise to God! Our music ministry plays a vital role in leading the congregation in worship each week. Our music leaders are Mardia Long, Phyllis Vice, and Brenda Williams – please speak with them if you'd like to get involved. There are many ways to participate:

- The Chime choir meets each Sunday morning from 9:45-10:15 AM, and is designed for beginners, age 4th grade and up. Ability to read music is not necessary – you will have a chance to learn! The director is Phyllis Vice, and practice begins September 16.
- The Hand-bell choir meets each Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:00 PM, and is designed for intermediate to beginner players. Anyone who can read easy rhythms/music will fit right in! The director is Phyllis Vice, and practice begins September 4.
- The First Presbyterian Choir leads us in singing each week. The church choir will resume practice this fall on Wednesday, September 5th, at 7 p.m. The next Wednesday, September 12th, and for most of the fall and winter choir practice will follow Wonderful Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The choir welcomes friends who are middle-school aged or older, and believes that everyone can sing! Come join us for some good fellowship. The director is Mardia Long.

**YOUTH GROUP:** All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us as we journey in faith together.

- **Sunday, September 9:** Meet us from 5:30-7:00 in the Fellowship Hall for pizza and ice cream, church games, and a devotional.
- **Sunday, October 7:** Save the date for a Youth Rally at Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke! We will gather with fellow Presbyterian youth from around our presbytery for an evening of music and learning. This year's guest speaker is Rev. Andy Cooke.

**GO PULASKI COUNTY:** Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 15! This is a county-wide day of service, where we unite as Christians to reach out to our neighbors in a variety of ways. If you would like to be part of this effort, you can register at <https://www.gopulaskicounty.org/>. There are several work sites to choose from. First Presbyterian will be the "host" location for making Project Linus blankets. These blankets are given by volunteers to children in traumatic situations, as a form of security and a sign of the community's love.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS** to the church office for the October newsletter no later than Monday, September 17th.



**CHECK IT OUT!**



For many of us when the calendar rolls around to a new year we think of having the opportunity of a new beginning, make resolutions, start anew. When actually life is full of new beginnings, some are connected to the calendar, like the start of a **new** school year and others not, like the start of a **new** marriage. Even the end of life can be a **new** beginning. Each of the books listed below have in common that something new was created. A new friend, a new name, a new way to live. They will be on display in the church parlor through the month of September.

**226.09 VIO** The Day I met Jesus: The revealing diaries of five women from the Gospels by Frank Viola - You will go on a fascinating journey back in time as the authors retell the dramatic accounts of five women who met Jesus.

**234.1 CAR** Prison to Praise by Merlin Carothers

**242 POW** Footprints: Scripture with reflections inspired by the best-loved poem by Margaret Fishback Powers - In this book each line from the poem "Footprints" has been paired with Scripture verses from the NIV Bible.

**265 EVA** Searching for Sunday: loving, leaving and finding the church by Rachel Held Evans - In this book Evans exposes her own thorny relationship with the church, articulating the concerns, frustrations, and hopes of many of her peers.

**270.8 HUD** Coffee, tea, and holy water: one woman's journey to experience Christianity around the globe by Amanda Hudson - Somewhere between making cinnamon cappuccinos, coffee frappes, and chai smoothies, barista Amanda Hudson started pondering the great diversity of caffeine - and the even greater diversity in life, in the church, and in faith.

**301.42 CHA** You and me forever: marriage in light of eternity by Francis and Lisa Chan - Marriage is great, but it's not forever. Jesus was right. We have it all backwards. The way to have a great marriage is by not focusing on marriage.

**CH FIC CHO** The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi - After Unhei moves from Korea to the United States, her new classmates help her decide what her name should be.

**CH FIC MAH** Making Friends by Margaret Mahy - Small Mrs. DeVere's large dog Titania and large Mr. Derry's small dog Oberon serve as instruments that bring their masters together in an unexpected but quite successful friendship.

**CH FIC YEO** Jubilee by Ellen Yeomans - Depicts a warm view of heaven as families and friends gather to celebrate the Jubilee.

**YA 248.83 BAX** Following Jesus into college and beyond by Jeff Baxter - As soon as you turn 18, you are officially an adult - with all the responsibilities and privileges that come with that all-important birthday. Are you ready for the "real world"?

**YA FIC LEW** The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis - Four English school children find their way into the land of Narnia and assist Aslan to triumph over the White Witch.

These books will be on display in the church parlor for the month of September. Check them out!

# Rally Day!

Let's kick off another great year of Sunday School and Wonderful Wednesdays!

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, September 9!** We will start off with donuts and coffee in the **Fellowship Hall at 9:45**. After a brief devotion to start our year, the Sunday School and Wednesday night teachers will be introduced. Children will have a chance to visit their Sunday School room for the year. Plan to join one of these wonderful classes:

Class	Teacher(s)	Focus
Nursery (birth-2)	Allie Phillips	God loves you!
Preschool-Kindergarten	Robbie Roberson, Ron Walters, & Jordan Phillips	Bible studies follow the lectionary passages for each Sunday
1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	Lynn King & Bernice Brown	Bible studies follow the lectionary passages for each Sunday
4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Kathy Weddle & Janice Holt	Bible studies follow the lectionary passages for each Sunday
Middle & High School	Chasity Stevens & Melissa McNair-King	Confirmation: Exploring our faith
Parlor Gang (Adult)	Ashley Hale	<u>Love An Other</u> : the Bible's call to Unity, Justice, & Equality (video-based series)
Fellowship Class (Adult)	Joe Zagrapan	<u>Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers</u> , by Donald McKim (book discussion)

## *Join us for Wonderful Wednesdays!*

6:00-7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Plan to make Wednesday church nights a part of your regular routine! It is a special time of learning and growing together as a church family. The suggested "offering" for dinner is \$4/person or \$15/family. This is anonymous, and give-as-you-can. Everyone is welcome regardless of your ability to give.

In the Fall: youth and adults will be studying the parables of Jesus, and the children will enjoy preparing a Christmas play and program.

In the Spring: youth and adults will be studying Religions of the World, and the children will have Bible study and music.

Thank you to those who are serving in September:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cooking Team</b>	<b>Clean-Up Team</b>	<b>Program</b>
September 12	Dianne, Phyllis, Anne	Phyllis, Joe, Bernice	Icebreakers & Get-to-know-you (All ages together)
September 19	Dianne, Phyllis, Anne	Phyllis, Anne, Mary Catherine	Bible Pictionary (All ages together)
September 26	Ron, KD, Pam	KD, Nana, Jessie	Adults: Intro to Parables Children: Music

### **Sign Up for Text Reminders!**

Melissa will occasionally send text message alerts in the event of schedule changes, weather-related cancelations, or important announcements regarding Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings.

If you would like to receive these alerts, you can sign up by texting:

@melissamk to the number 81010

Or – let Melissa know if you'd like her to add you! If you have been on the list in the past, there is no need to re-subscribe.



**DATE:**

**9/2/18**

**9/9/18**

**9/16/18**

**9/23/18**

**9/30/18**

**LAY READERS:**

Bonnie Spivey

Ernie Wallace

Chasity Stevens

Aubrey Vaughan

Phyllis Vice

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:**

Ashley Hale

Kathy Hale

Lynn King

Doreen Latimer

Violet Nash