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The Beauty of Stewardship



Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship:

God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.

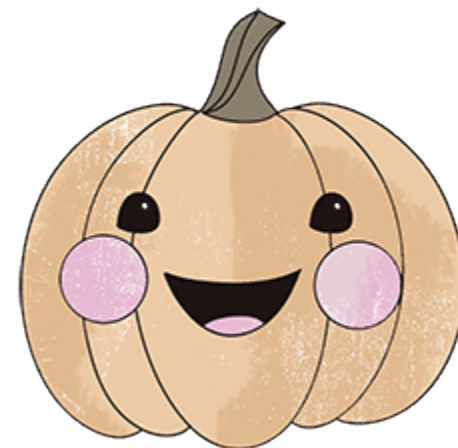
We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment. Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

Special Dates for October

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, *October 5, 2025*
- Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday, *October 12, 2025*
- Columbus Day, *October 13, 2025*
- Indigenous Peoples Day, *October 13, 2025*
- Canadian Thanksgiving, *October 13, 2025*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 26, 2025*
- Reformation Day, *October 31, 2025*





- 10/1 Wil Moore
- 10/2 Carolyn Buchanan
- 10/3 Wendel Swisher
- 10/4 Cameron Highsmith
- 10/4 Reed Pierce
- 10/4 Eileen Scroggins
- 10/6 Beth Jones
- 10/6 Payne Moser
- 10/7 Chris Bell
- 10/9 Carly Grace
- 10/11 Mary Ann Bell
- 10/12 Hannah Grace
- 10/14 Daniel Roper
- 10/21 Ryan Barton
- 10/24 Whitney Massey
- 10/24 Juliana Moser
- 10/26 Lenora Baldwin
- 10/26 Reed Beal
- 10/31 Price Holmes III
- 10/31 Robert Taylor

THE POWER OF PRAYER BOX

Create a simple and meaningful prayer box your family can use to share requests and pray together all week long.

What you need:

- Shoebox with lid
- Wrapping paper or decorative paper
- Scissors & tape
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers and other craft material (optional)
- Pens or pencils
- Index cards or small pieces of paper

What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a gift, wrapping the lid separately so it can be opened.
2. As a family, decorate the box with drawings, favorite Bible verses, photos, or stickers.
3. Place the box somewhere central, like the kitchen or living room.
4. Keep index cards and pens nearby. When someone has a prayer request, they can write or draw it and drop it in.
5. Throughout the week, take turns praying over the requests as a family, or have a parent lead prayer time.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. —Colossians 4:2, NIV

New season, New Opportunities to Serve!

From kids' ministry to greeters, lunches and dinners, now's a great time to jump in. Ask us how you can get involved! We would love to have you.



Fall Fellowship Lunch

October 12th is a great time to re-connect as a church family. Whether you're new or returning, check out our lunch and opportunities this month to worship, serve and grow together. There's a place for everyone here!



World Communion Sunday: A Time to Remember

Join us on October 5th, as we gather for Communion during morning worship. Let's come together to remember Christ's sacrifice and celebrate the grace we've

Would you like to help Slam or FPI Youth? The youth would welcome any donations in the form of dinner, snacks, supplies and money. Please check with Ms. Lorrie if you would like to donate. mcclure2825@yahoo.com or 870-613-6961.



FPI

Youth Group News: A Season of Growth & Community

As we move into the fall season, our youth group is buzzing with energy and excitement! We have had a wonderful year so far, filled with opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and service.

This year, our youth have participated in a variety of activities designed to help them build a strong foundation in their faith and connect with one another. Our weekly meetings have been a time for open discussion, prayer, and studying the Bible together. We've explored topics that are relevant to their lives, and it has been inspiring to see them engage with these discussions so thoughtfully.



Looking ahead, we are excited for our upcoming events where we will be focusing on building deeper friendships and strengthening our connection with God. This is always a beautiful and meaningful project that the youth group leads for the entire church.



We believe that our youth are not just the future of the church—they are the church of today. We are so proud of their commitment to their faith and their willingness to serve others. We invite all teens in our community to join us and become part of this vibrant and welcoming group!

The Best Gift for Your Pastor

October is Pastor Appreciation Month—a time to recognize and encourage those who faithfully shepherd our churches. But if you've ever asked a pastor how to show your gratitude, the answer probably isn't a plaque or applause. More often than not, it's simple: "Pray for me." Even the Apostle Paul didn't ask for much personally, except for the prayers of fellow believers. In his letter to the Romans, he wrote: "Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me, that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints; so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and relax in your company" (Romans 15:30–32, NASB).

This October—and every month—encourage your pastor by offering your prayers, support, and kind words. Ministry can be demanding, but knowing the church is lifting them up makes all the difference.

CURRENT ELDERS:

Class of 2025
Gerri Coleman
Price Holmes III
Carlene Lewis
Ceil Smith

Class of 2026
Wanette Baker
Lenora Baldwin
Deborah Stroud
Janet Thomas

Class of 2027
Steve Lange
Jeffrey Friert
Clint Thomas
Kathy Altom

CURRENT DEACONS:

Class of 2025
Wesley Beal
Melissa Qualls
Sam Smith
Janet Wood

Class of 2026
Clint Howard
Larry Whipple
Rachel Baker
Payne Moser

Class of 2027
Laura Geary
Mayfan Thomas
Miriam Moore
Sandy James

Heifer International

During the children’s sermon, the children are putting loose change in the jar to purchase a flock of ducks to help reduce world hunger and poverty. The flock of ducks gift donation helps families in need with eggs for nourishment and a reliable income.



Your monthly donations will go to the UACCB food pantry. Please, consider dropping off granola or protein bars, fruit snacks, pop-top canned goods, breakfast items or anything you can think of to help these students.

Join Our Mission: Volunteers Needed to Lead Dementia Caregivers' Support Group Are you compassionate, have a non-judgmental and open-heart? Do you want to make a difference in the lives of caregivers caring for loved ones with dementia? If so, we invite you to be part of this meaningful opportunity! We are seeking dedicated volunteers to become facilitators for a new community-wide monthly Dementia Caregiver Support Group at FPC. The first meeting is October 9th at 2:00 in the parlor. As a facilitator, you'll support caregivers by guiding discussions and providing encouragement—just one to two hours of your time each month. For more details, contact Paulette Freeman at 318-617-6282 or via email at

DementiaResources2025@gmail.com.

Join us in supporting those caring for family members or friends with dementia.



Presbyterian Day School



Help With Snacks and Supplies

It's that time of year again when the sniffles and sneezes are making their rounds! We've got our snack situation covered, but we could use your help stocking up on a few other important supplies to keep our space clean and germ-free.

If you'd like to contribute, we'd greatly appreciate donations of:

- Boxes of tissues
- Lysol spray
- Cleaning wipes



A quick reminder: we prefer to stick to good old-fashioned soap and water for handwashing instead of hand sanitizer.

Breakfast With Santa is Coming!

Get ready for our annual **Breakfast With Santa!** We're kicking off preparations earlier than usual this year, and we're looking for help with our silent auction. This is a wonderful opportunity to support our event and help us make it a success.

We're currently seeking donations of services, items, or gift cards for the auction. If you have something to offer or have any questions, please contact me directly. Your generosity is what makes this event so special!

Worship Schedule

October 5th -World Communion Sunday & Peace & Global Witness Offering

Liturgist Clark Baker

Acolyte Grace Baker

October 12th -Fellowship Lunch

Liturgist Debra Bell

Acolyte Arch Baker

October 19th Kirkin' O' the Tartans, Lyon College

Liturgist Clint Howard

October 26th Reformation Sunday

Liturgist Janet Thomas

Acolyte Isabelle Geary



**Reformation Sunday:
Rooted in the Word**

On October 26, we'll mark Reformation Sunday with a special focus on our heritage of faith and God's enduring Word. Come celebrate the truth that still sets us free: salvation by grace, through faith, in Christ alone.



Don't Forget! The 44th Arkansas Scottish Festival is OCTOBER 17-19th. For more information go to arscottish-fest.com. The Kirkin' Service will be held under the tents at 11:00am on October 19th. Please note, no service will be at First Presbyterian Church on October 19th. Every year Arkansas' oldest city, **Batesville**, plays host to one of America's most popular Scottish festivals. Pipers, drummers, dancers, athletes, Scottish clans, and vendors travel from all corners of the country to attend the event.



Pastoral Care

PLEASE REMEMBER these members and friends of First Presbyterian Church in your prayers.

MEMBERS: Bob and Sandy Qualls; Kathy Whittenton; Trish Boylan.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Dana Mathis, (*friend of Sarah Jones*); Amber Lacewell (*friend of LeAnn & Price Homes*); Fin Anderson (*granddaughter of James and Camille*); Kathy Magness, (*friend of Amy & Clint Howard*); Andrew Langenbach (nephew of John Ried); The Bentley Family; Libby King (Daniel King); Sam Crawford (*friend of the congregation*); Chip Rayford (*son-in-law of Theodora Hightower*); Bill Olson (*friend Amy Crouch Howard*); Dwight Barnett & family (*brother of Carlene Lewis*); Kelli Sarrett (*niece of Celeste Whipple*); Dr. Mark Williams (*friend of Carlene Lewis*); Daniel Neal (*friend of Zack Moble*); Charlie Robuck (*grandson of Jo Cudd*); Paul & Susan (Critz) Guthrie (*friend of the congregation*); Marjorie Seasholtz (*friend of Kathy Whittenton*); Don Weatherman (*friend of the congregation*); Todd Phillips (*nephew of Camille Anderson*); Eloise Kikkert (*granddaughter of Don & Lynn Weatherman*); Betty Howard (*friend of Kathy Whittenton*); Nick Slagle (*nephew of Ceil Smith*); Susan Anselm (*sister of Jo Gehm*).

IN THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS, we remember to pray for these ministries:

Please Pray for...



- October 5 Cane Hill Church, Cane Hill Active and Retired Christian Educators
- October 12 First, Van Buren First, Batesville
- October 19 First, Benton Central, Russellville
- October 26 First, Helena West End, Arkadelphia

October Is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Let's show our love and gratitude for our pastor, Jim, this month! Drop off a note of thanks, share a favorite sermon memory or simply tell him how he has made a difference. We'll have a basket in the narthex all month long!

