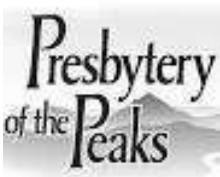




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

celebrating & inspiring



First Presbyterian Church
1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpclly.org · e-mail: info@fpclly.org
<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Video Streaming on www.fpclly.org at 9:30 a.m.
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 9:30 a.m.



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you!!! I wanted you to know how much of a joy it is to have you here this morning and I pray you know just how loved and important you are. You are loved by God unconditionally and you are a very important part of God's mission for the church in the world. Therefore; whether you are here today for the first time, a repeat visitor, or a long-time member...whether you are familiar with reformed traditions or find some of it a bit curious...whether you have grown up in the church or are finding your way back...whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged... whatever reason brought you to worship today, I pray you know you matter and are welcome here.

As God's children and Jesus' disciples here at First Presbyterian, we believe it is important to take seriously God's commandment and Jesus' teachings to love God, love one another, and love our neighbors. We don't all look alike, act alike, or think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions and carry different burdens. Still, every Sunday we are called by God to worship together as one unified community. Our worship style leans more traditional and seeks to remain true to our Reformed heritage. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives. We do our best to sing with joy and pray with honesty. Hospitality is paramount, and relationships with one another is holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade in the Narthex after worship. We hope you will join us in sharing the love, joy, and peace of Christ with one another during this time.

If you're looking for a perfect church, although there are many wonderful things happening in the life and ministries of First Presbyterian, perfect is not in the cards. We're real people. We do the very best we can, but we don't always get it right. We understand how much we all need grace in our lives. And we believe that God's love, which never gives up and never let's go, is for everyone. We truly believe this a place for all God's children to be a part of celebrating God's grace and inspiring the next generation for Christ.

Run the Race, Fight the Fight, Keep the Faith,
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

Building Hospitality

First, our Hospitality and Welcome Desk is a great source of information and all visitors, repeat visitors, and members too, are encouraged to stop and interact with the host or hostess present today. Second, our building is a wonderful resource, however, it can also feel like a labyrinth when you are learning your way around. A few key locations may be helpful to you: Accessible Restrooms can be located down the main hallway from the Foyer. The Elevator is also located down the main hallway from the Foyer. The Nursery is located on the ground floor just outside the elevator. Wayfinding signs are also posted at all intersections throughout the building. Third, there are two supports available to worship participants should they be needed: Hearing-assist devices and Large Print Hymnals can be found in the Narthex. Fourth, please ask anyone with a nametag or wearing a robe if you need assistance in finding your way or answering other questions.

Welcoming Children

Just as Jesus welcomes the little children to come, so we welcome children of all ages in worship. We believe we are better when all members of God's family are included! In order to make the worship service as welcoming for our littlest ones as possible, we provide worship carts with a variety of resources to make a worship bag. After the children's moment, 4 years to 2nd grade aged children are invited to participate in worship workshop in room 101 or stay for the remainder of worship. It is always a joy to have your children and all the wiggles, giggles, questions, noises, and insights they bring. If you have any questions about how to enhance your child's worship experience, or if you're looking to get involved with our children's ministries, please contact Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley (marcia@fpcly.org) or Catherine Adams (communications@fpcly.org).

Interested in joining?

If you'd like to be here in a more official capacity, you are invited to join First Presbyterian as a member. Everyone who is part of our community is treated the same. Joining isn't about special treatment, but rather about a commitment you make to following Jesus alongside others trying to do the same. New member gatherings take place throughout the year based on interest. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson (peter@fpcly.org) or Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org).

Service of Prayer

July 21, 2024

We respond to God's grace through the gift of prayer. The Christian life is one of constant prayer, as the challenge of everyday discipleship requires daily disciplines of faith. Prayer is a way of opening ourselves to God, who desires communication and communion with us. Prayer may take a variety of forms, such as: conscious conversation with God; attentive and expectant silence; meditation on scripture; the use of service books, devotional aids, and visual arts; and singing, dancing, labor, or physical exercise. Prayer is meant to be a gracious gift from God, not a task or obligation. It is an opportunity to draw inspiration and strength from one's relationship with God in Jesus Christ. It is a way of continually seeking the gifts and guidance of the Holy Spirit for daily living. Prayer is a practice to cultivate throughout one's life, and one that will bear much fruit.

(Director for Worship, W-5.0102)

**Those who are able, please stand.*

All are invited to join together in saying liturgy printed in bold.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving and Adoration (Text of Hymn 251: Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Your faithfulness, O Lord, is sure in all Your words, Your gracious deeds; You gently lift all burdened souls and well provide for all our needs. The eyes of all are fixed on You; by You their wants are all supplied; Your open hand is bountiful, and every soul is satisfied. Lord, You are just in all Your ways, and kind in everything You do; forever near, You stand to hear and help all those who call on You. My mouth shall speak Your praise, O Lord, my soul shall bless Your holy name; let all things living join the song of praise, from age to age the same. (Psalm 145:13-21)

Corporate Prayer of Confession

God blesses those who realize their need for him, for the kingdom of heaven is given to them.

But we have been proud in spirit, inflated with pride in our own self-sufficiency.

God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

But we have not mourned over our sins, instead we have hardened ourselves and even insulated ourselves from those around us, from their pain, needs, loneliness, and suffering.

God blesses those who are gentle and lowly, for the whole earth will be their inheritance.

But we have valued toughness over gentleness. We have too often chosen to be concerned with ourselves rather than with our brothers and sisters and neighbors.

God blesses those who are hungry and thirsty for justice, for they will receive it in full.

But we have hungered after the pleasures, prestige, and possessions of the temporal world.

God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

But we have often presided as harsh judges over the lives of others. We have been quick to place blame on anything or anyone but ourselves. We have avoided obligations to care for or to help people in need.

God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

But we have defiled our hearts with idols of our own choosing, doubting that God will keep His word and His promises. We continually compromise the truth by trying to find meaning and security in our jobs, our friends, our pleasures, our projects- but not in God. ...

Corporate Prayer of Confession- Cont'd

God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.

But we are often at war with one another. In a thousand little ways we demand to be catered to. We seldom esteem others as more important than ourselves. We often create strife by demanding our way rather than by walking in God's Spirit.

God blesses those who are persecuted because they live for God, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

But we have too often retreated from the disapproval of others. We've sought to please the world rather than risking the disapproval of those who need the Messiah. We regard rejection for righteousness as a burden to be borne, rather than an honor to be humbly received.

Lord, please show us your mercy.

Lord, have mercy upon us in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Catherine Adams

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Luke 4:16-21

(pew Bible NT, p.61)

"Live Into Hope"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

*Gracious and Eternal God... (Silence)... We pray all this in the name of Jesus the Christ, who taught his disciples of every time and place to pray together: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.***

Offertory

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Responsive Charge and Benediction** (Text of Hymn 332: Live Into Hope)

Leader: Live into hope of captives freed of sight regained, the end of greed,

All: the oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Leader: Live into hope the blind shall see with insight and with clarity,

All: removing shades of pride and fear a vision of our God brought near.

Leader: Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,

All: the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Leader: Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.

All: God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another. All are also encouraged to join in the Narthex for lemonade and cookies.



Vision: Draw Near to God

Mission: Celebrate God's Grace and Inspire the Next Generation for Christ
Worship Joyfully. Grow Spiritually. Love Boldly. Serve Faithfully.

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

For a full calendar listing and more information, please visit our website www.fpcls.org.

Sunday, July 21

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Tuesday, July 23

- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, July 24

- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Thursday, July 25

- 11:45 am Staff Lunch and Devotion at Westminster Canterbury

Saturday, July 27

- 12:00 pm Service of Remembrance for Catherine Ngo Tebit

Sunday, July 28

- 9:30 am Worship (Two Cents-a-Meal)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Prayer Cares and Concerns

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, please share it directly, write it on a blue prayer card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate (or the prayer box off the front hallway) or share your request online at fpcls.org/ministries/care-nurture.html. We are praying with and for you!

Prayer Chain

Would you like to be a part of a group that engages in on-going prayers for our community? If so, consider joining our prayer chain! Each week our staff sends an email communication with prayers and praises for that week. Contact alex@fpcls.org to be added to the list.

Traveling somewhere this summer?

We'd love to see photos of your summer adventures whether you enjoy a staycation or travel somewhere far or whether you go on a solo journey or the whole family is involved! You can share any photos by emailing communications@fpcls.org or by tagging @firstpresoflynchburg on Facebook or Instagram!

Notes for Today's Worship

Ushers and Greeters:

Susan and Ed Craighill,
Bill and Will Kittrell, and
Denise McDonald

Worship Workshop Leader:

Becky O'Brian

Sound and Video Technicians:

Lloyd Agnew & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Hosts:

Sue Thornton and Terry Zatrepaek

Pastor on Call:

Rev. Peter Thompson
(336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members

July

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpcly.org

Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg

FPC Lynchburg

Partner with God by Giving to FPCLY

1. Place your gift in the offering plate today.
2. Mail checks to FPCLY, 1215 V.E.S. Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503.
3. Use a credit card online at fpcly.org.
4. Download and use the *Vanco Mobile Faith* App on your phone.
5. Set up an automatic bank draft or bill pay.

Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

IMPACT week – August 5 – 10

This week of service and outreach in our community is designed as an intentional way for the FPCLY family to pursue change and be changed by connecting with our neighbors throughout Lynchburg. We have over 30 opportunities for you to share Christ's light and love with others. We've highlighted a few below. *Check out the full calendar or sign up using the boards in the Narthex or by scanning your phone camera over the QR code to the right.*



- Go on a tour of the *Presbyterian Cemetery* with Noël Thomas, Beth Williams, and Susan Craighill.
- Serve a meal and engage in conversation with neighbors at the *Park View Café* (new opportunity).
- Organize furniture and/or build ramps with *Interfaith Outreach Association*.
- Enjoy eating **pizza and** then participate in a variety of **service** activities in the Fellowship Hall.
- Assist with yard work at the grounds of *Miriam's House* on Magnolia Street.
- Get your creative juices flowing by signing and/or creating birthday cards for FPC members.
- Visit some of our church family at *Westminster Canterbury* or those in their own homes.

Serving others is always a special experience when shared with others. Consider inviting a friend or family member to learn and grow with you!

Looking for ways to share your time and talents with the FPCLY community? If so, consider signing up to participate in one of the leadership spots below:

- **Be a part of our usher/greeter team.** This is an important role on Sunday mornings welcoming all those who enter with a smile and warm heart and assisting them with their worship experience.
- **Step in as a Lemonade and Cookies host.** This post-worship time of community is a powerful time of connection and relationship building made possible by simple cups of lemonade and tasty treats. We are looking for hosts for Sundays throughout the rest of the year.
- **Serve as a volunteer receptionist during the week.** This team assists the staff with answering the phones, opening the doors, and other small tasks during Church Office hours. Plus, you can be the first smiling face or encouraging voice that folks connect with when contacting the church.
- **Assist with Worship Workshop.** Encourage, inspire, and teach children during this 30ish minute educational offering for 4-year-olds through 2nd graders on Sunday mornings.

Contact the church office at (434) 384-6231 if you would like to sign up to serve!

Back-to-School Season is almost upon us!

As we gaze our eyes towards the month of August, we can't help but have rumblings of the back-to-school season in our minds. Be on the lookout in the weeks ahead for when different schools in Central Virginia will return to the classroom so you can be praying with and for those communities!

You are loved! Have a great week!

FPCLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY			
JUNE 30, 2024			
2024 OPERATING BUDGET			
	Year To Date		Annual Budget
	Actual	Budgeted	
INCOME			
Covenant Giving	\$359,069	\$325,000	\$650,000
Other Income	\$52,807	\$72,550	\$142,944
Endowment Withdrawal	<u>\$87,500</u>	<u>\$87,500</u>	<u>\$175,000</u>
TOTAL =	\$499,376	\$485,050	\$967,944
<i>Income to date was 14,319 More than budgeted</i>			
EXPENSE			
Outreach	\$27,128	\$36,000	\$72,000
Worship	\$7,756	\$5,775	\$11,550
Education	\$10,891	\$9,000	\$18,000
Personnel	\$312,898	\$321,760	\$639,519
Operations	\$36,283	\$41,925	\$83,851
Facilities	\$30,270	\$43,205	\$86,410
Utilities	<u>\$25,627</u>	<u>\$26,545</u>	<u>\$53,089</u>
TOTAL =	\$450,853	\$484,210	\$964,419
Budget Surplus			\$3,525
<i>Expense to date was 33,357 Less than budgeted</i>			
2024 COVENANT GIVING			
TOTAL GOAL =		\$650,000	
Phase 1 Actual =		\$558,440	
Phase 2 Actual =		<u>\$75,180</u>	
REMAINING		\$16,380	
2024 BALANCE SHEET			
Endowment =		\$1,907,357	
All Other Funds * =		<u>\$1,705,727</u>	
* Some are restricted		\$3,613,083	

The FPCLY Finance Committee

June Memorial Gifts

We gratefully acknowledge all memorial gifts to First Presbyterian Church and are honored to recognize them in our bulletin.

In Memory of John Craddock by:

Marge Dillard, Steven Reinhardt, Mr. & Mrs. Wade Stinnette, The Nexsen family, Mr. & Mrs. Pen Clark

In Memory of Betty Jo Hamner by:

Mary Glenn Cobb, Leigh Ann Yeiloing, Dr. & Mrs. John Halpin, Frances Giles, Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Cleland, Jessica Ward, Ruth Withers, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Morrison, Mr. & Mrs. Tulane Patterson, Marge Dillard, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pettyjohn, Lou Mekanik, The Nexsen, family, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Berkley, Anne McDaniel, Mr. & Mrs. David Hartman, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Thomas, Sally Woodall

In Memory of Leta Reinhardt by:

Lou Mekanik, Frances Giles, Alice Holcomb, Mr. & Mrs. Cabell Dudley, Tom Milstead, Susan Lowder, The Nexsen family, Mr. & Mrs. Cleve McGehee, The Howton family, Mr. & Mrs. David Hartman, Mr. & Mrs. Scott Rainey, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Thomas

In Memory of Joe Clark by:

Judith Mountjoy, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Lee, Lynn Shelton, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Berkley, Anne McDaniel, Mr. & Mrs. David Hartman, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Thomas