

The Bell Tower

First Presbyterian Church Happenings

Summer Edition MMXXVI



July

Doug Groover	7/1
Bobbie Russell	7/1
Clint Graham	7/5
Carol Houck	7/5
Sherry Lasch	7/6
Doug Moon	7/8
Beverly Titzel	7/9
Alex Dawson	7/10
Karen Patterson	7/10
Kim Brainard	7/11
Nita Glassman	7/11
James Loutzenhiser	7/12
Phil Oswald	7/14
Bob Barney	7/16
Matt Minner	7/16
David Fay	7/19
Fred Hofing	7/20
Paige Schamberg	7/21
Jean Heckathorn	7/22
Connor Geiger	7/22
Mimi Milheim	7/24
Dan Baker	7/26
Tim Eckhardt	7/26
Jill Jones	7/29
Altha Graham	7/29
Luck Wheaton	7/29
Chuck Klingensmith	7/31

Youth

Connor Hoffman	7/8
Riley Krepp	7/9

August

John Forbes	8/2
Josh Hittle	8/3
Chris Truby	8/6
Marcia Barney	8/9
Summer Stitt	8/10
Gaby Beil	8/11
Jamie Ickes	8/12
Joyce Thomas	8/12
Jack Hittle	8/16
Ann Coleman	8/17
Ally Barr	8/21
Tom Harpst	8/22
Rebecca Van Aken	8/22
Betty Geisel	8/25
Kerry Overfield	8/25
Sawyer Truby	8/25
Bonnie Rickert	8/31

Youth

R.J. Davis	8/14
Harper Johnson	8/13
Rachel Minner	8/21

July and August 9:00 a.m. Sunday Gathering

July 5 - Pastor Janet

July 12 - DTM , Martha, Susie and Devonne White

July 19 - none - combined service at Hillside

July 26 - Rachel Weller

August 2 - Rev. Jim Leuenberger—Sudan mission

August 9- Christylee Roose; Willow Women's

August 16 - Jess Vormelker and Ian Slippy—Thiel College student activities

August 23- Josh Lentz, Christian Fitness Ministries



Friday, July 3, the office will be closed in observance of the Fourth of July.

GOOD SHEPHERD REQUESTS

July : Personal care items School Supplies, Dessert mixes

August: Breakfast items, Canned fruit, Canned vegetables

In Loving Memory

Philip C. Godfrey

December 20, 1946 ~

June 20, 2026



REMINDER

We will join Hillside and Jamestown churches for joint worship at Hillside July 19 at 10:00 a.m.

NEW COVENANT PARTNER LUNCH & CLASS

After worship on Sunday 8/16 in Calvin Hall till 2:00 p.m.

Please register with Pastor Janet by email: janetann386@gmail.com

Growing Through Daily Time with God - - -

One of the Essential Tenets of ECO reminds us of the importance of prayer and spending time with God each day. Through prayer, reading Scripture, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we grow in faith and draw closer to God.

For those looking for a simple way to spend time in God's Word, free copies of 'These Days' are available. Each issue includes daily Bible readings, short devotional thoughts, and prayers that can help enrich your personal devotional time.

If you have difficulty reading standard print and would benefit from a large-print edition, please contact the church office. We would be happy to help.

Whether you already have a daily devotional practice or are looking for a new resource, we hope These Days will be a helpful resource in your walk with Christ.

THANK YOU

Dear CE&Y Committee,
Many thanks for your willingness to financially support my participation at TeenPact. It was encouraging and affirming to learn alongside fellow Christian youths. Thank you!
Sincerely, Henry Minner



GREENVILLE HISTORY FIELD TRIP

On Sunday 7/26 park in the church lot and walk to the railroad museum at 2:45 p.m. Carpool after to the canal museum. For a count in order for museums to schedule enough docents, please sign up sheet in the rear vestibule.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

7/5 Becky Bray & Summer Stitt
7/12 Lucy Wheaton & Ericka Dershimer
7/19 Worship at Hillside
7/26 Janice Harbison & Kaye Williams
8/2 Sue Wilson & Terri Deist
8/9 Lisa Courtney & Nancy Hoffacker
8/16 Ickes family
8/23 Davis family
8/30 Tammy Hornick & Gail Gongaware

SESSION NOTES - June, 2026

- Approved funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 as a departure gift for Pastor Ben Claypool.
- Worship Committee report received including information that Junior Church will be held every Sunday during the school year except Communion Sundays, and a dedicated bulletin board will display children's responses to regular worship and Junior Church experiences.
- Reinstated Cindy D. Strahler, from PC (USA), to active Covenant Partner status.



SUMMER JOTS FOR JESUS BY JANET

What is your favorite thing about summertime? Mine is that in summertime trees and vines bear a variety of tasty and sweet fruit. In PA we may choose between apples, berries, cherries, nectarines, pears, peaches, and plums, for example. Yum! They stock the shelves of grocery stores, make an appearance in farmer's markets, or can be handed picked from orchards and maybe even our own yards. In my childhood I plucked grapes from vines off my porch, from which grape jelly was made. A plum tree offered accessible low bearing fruit to me as child. A cherry tree was my favorite perch from which to read and enjoy fresh fruit for lunch without having to go inside! (I am glad I did not have allergies as a young child!)

This summer let us also be prepared to harvest the ripe fruit that is grown through the process of transformation by the Holy Spirit. They are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, offered on the branches of Galatians 5:22-23, written by the apostle Paul. From 7/26-9/27 the FPC garden will hopefully yield a juicy crop with a summer preaching series on the Fruit of Spirit Bring family and friends to come enjoy the bounty, as we "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

The series will also help us to make tasty choices. For like physical fruit can be visibly distinguished as being either good or bad, such is the case with spiritual fruit, too. For Paul states that contrary to the fruit of the Spirit, "the acts of the flesh are obvious" (Gal 5:19-21). The Way that good fruit grows is through Jesus, who is The Vine and The Father, who is gardener. Jesus says that if, as mere branches, we do not cling completely to him, we will wither and not bear fruit. Yet if we remain in him we "will bear much fruit" that lasts beyond a summer season. This is "fruit that will last" into all eternity (John 15:1-17). Let us enjoy, not just the temporary fruit of a summer season, but the everlasting Fruit of the Spirit. Amen.



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

To ensure the best means of communication the office is in the process of updating and confirming information. If you would please, at your earliest convenience, email or drop off in the office the following information:

Phone contact for each person in the household

Specify if the number is home or cell

Preferred means of contact; cell (call or text) or home phone

Address

Street address & P.O. Box (if used for mailing)

Email for each person in the household

Current email

Do you want contacted by email from the church regarding events, closures, etc.

Do you want to be on the email prayer chain to receive and request prayers

(fyi - prayer requests will only be posted when requested by you or a family member)

Birthdate

Month, day, plus the year (the year will only be used for confidential church records)

DEVOTIONS

Andrew Murray was born in South Africa. After receiving his education in Scotland and Holland, he returned to South Africa, spending his life there as **an author of devotional books**, a pastor and missionary. Murray attributed to Rees Howells learning how to be an intercessor. His devotion **"Living a Prayerful Life" is highly recommended, along with "Abiding in Christ" (John 15)**. These individual words may be found at Walmart or Barnes and Nobles. Or a collection including "Humility" is also available.

PRAY

"Sharing the Gospel ALWAYS Starts with Prayer"
("Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations" by Scroggins & Wright)

"Prayer is the primary way in which we prepare to evangelize by listening."
("The Dunamis Course: Listening Evangelism" based on R.A. Torrey's
"Person & Work of the Holy Spirit")

Prayer for "Sharing the Gospel" was taught from the above resources
@ Sunday School 7/11 9:00 a.m., when

All Were Urged to Pray for:
Open Doors to Proclaim the Gospel and For Protection
People to Accept the Gospel in Faith Provided by The Holy Spirit
Those in our spheres of influence to develop a "hunger and thirst" for God.

List People in the Following Circles of Your Influence & Pray Daily for Them:
Family, Close Friends & Support Systems, Familiar Acquaintance, Social Contacts, Groups in
Your Community, & People Groups or Countries