

THE WINDOW

First Presbyterian Church

Hendersonville, TN

April 2024



Dear Friends,

My best friend during elementary school was John Spencer. In our younger years, we fought battles and rescued hostages with our GI Joes. Our imaginations took us all around the world on very important assignments. John and I built models and most of the time blew them up with firecrackers. He and his dad taught me how to water ski and we even did some scuba diving. We enjoyed just hanging out with one another. It did not matter what we were doing.

Friends are there for each other. Like in the song *That's What Friends Are For*. "Keep smilin', keep shinin' – Knowing you can always count on me for sure – That's what friends are for – For good times and bad times – I'll be on your side forever more – That's what friends are for."

Jesus calls us friends. "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you (John 15:15)." Imagine that, best friends with Jesus. Whether on a secret mission with GI Joes, building models, or waterskiing, Jesus is with me as my friend. Wherever you go and whatever you are doing, Jesus is near you as your friend.

In the book, *God Has Spoken*, our friendship with God is described. "God's purpose in revelation is to make friends with us. It was to this end that He created us rational beings, bearing His image, able to think and hear and speak and love; He wanted there to be genuine personal affection and friendship, two-sided, between Himself and us. Loving friendship between two people has no ulterior motive; it is an end in itself. Communication is necessary for any friendship. Friendship without conversation is a contradiction in terms."

How do we spend time with your friend, God? How do we communicate? Reading scripture and praying build our relationship with God. Our thanksgiving and service are also connected to this friendship. Do we recognize God during our busy days? So we whisper prayers to him like texting a friend?

Last year on one of my visits to my parents, we did some cleaning out of closets. Mom found her journal from high school. With her permission, I began reading. It was a blessing to see my parents' relationship from the beginning. Lots of dates to the local diner and dances after basketball games. Mom would journal, "Enjoyed my time with Don tonight" and "Don will meet me after the game." She used an unfamiliar phrase. "Don and I enjoyed slipping together." It sounded suspicious to me. Maybe even inappropriate for their son to read. She explained that slipping meant hanging out together and not necessarily doing anything. "Your dad and I enjoyed just slipping together."

May we enjoy and appreciate Jesus's willingness to slip with us.

Love and Prayers,

Michael

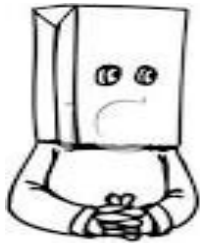


The invitation is out to all for the **First Wednesday Coffee Talk** on April 3, 2024 at 10 a.m...no reservations needed.

Our March meeting was on a rather cold morning outside (for Spring is on the cusp and is having a hard time transitioning in Tennessee - as usual), but the daffodils don't mind. They manage to muster the sweet spirit of Spring and the sweet Spirit of this old place, as we enter the side narthex of First Presbyterian. We were 10 strong that day. There was chatter in the Historical Room as we greeted each other with some excellent Holy Spirit coffee and some fresh baked cookies that had been blessed to remove the evil calories.

June Still opened us with prayer and some thoughts that made our hearts sing and lips smile (her specialty). Freda Blackwell started the conversation with thoughts on the word / subject of "journey"... when a subject is thrown into this group, it takes wings and flies. We laugh, we ponder, we learn, we temporarily digress, we return. Michael pops in briefly for his daily chuckle, and because he is curious...we never disappoint!

What a treat to have our Historian, Karen Baylor, back with us. She made it up the stairs without having to use the lift chair...and yes, we have one, if you need a ride upstairs...so no worries - if you can't climb, just ride.



The Mystery Member This Month Is ...

It's that time again. Another newsletter...another chance to figure out who this month's Mystery Member is. Did you guess who it was last month? (In case you didn't guess, and you didn't see the printed answer in the newsletter, our member was Morgan Linn! Here's your first clue for this month...it's NOT Morgan Linn!



Our Mystery Member this month is also a relatively new member. She and her family have been members at HFPC for just a few years, joining in 2021. They actually moved to Hendersonville from one of our northern states....she's a self-described Yankee....although I am an original Yankee, being from NJ, but I've never thought of her northern state as a Yankee state. They moved to Hendersonville in 2016, after starting out in Madison.

She's a child of the '80's, which has a big influence on one of her preferred genres of music. But she loves ALL music, and culture! She loves musical theater at TPAC, especially the Broadway series. She also loves performances at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center in Nashville, and attends as often as possible. She's also a huge sports fan. ALL sports. High school, college, pros. Basketball, baseball, football. She used to be a regular attendee of the Titan's games at Nissan Stadium, and still considers herself lucky to have been there to witness the famous "Music City Miracle" play that helped propel the local team to the Super Bowl! How awesome is that!

When she's not watching sports, our MM can usually be found reading or doing cross stitch, when she's not at her computer, working. She does not watch much tv, and claims to have a very brown thumb! Gardening is definitely not her favorite pastime! She and her husband both work from home. You can describe her job as a financial one.

She loves to travel when she has a chance. During their marriage, the family has visited the Cayman Islands and the Dominican Republic, as well as a favorite trip to Germany. But they also love traveling closer to home. They are HUGE Disney fans! They have been to DisneyWorld several times, but have not made it out to the original famous theme park, Disney Land in California. That trip is on the Bucket list!

Our MM has one child, and comes from a medium sized family, with one brother and three sisters. But she has a big group of nieces and nephews. So, have you figured out this month's Mystery Member?



APRIL ADULT FELLOWSHIP GATHERING—APRIL 13th!

All adult members and friends of FPC are invited to attend our April adult fellowship gathering to be held on **Saturday, April 13th at the home of Brenda and Hal Hubbell** located at 114 Blue Ridge Trace in Hendersonville. We will gather beginning at **6:00 PM**, and a potato bar will be the featured main course. All attendees are asked to bring either an appetizer, salad, side or dessert to share with the group. To help with planning, we kindly ask that those who plan to attend RSVP to either Brenda or to Marikay Burke. To RSVP you may text or call Marikay at 724-301-7484 or email marikay091759@comcast.net. The adult fellowship gatherings occur quarterly and are an excellent way to nurture our connection as a church family and to expand our fellowship. We hope to see you on April 13th!

Daily Bible Reading—2024

In 2024, the daily Bible reading plan is reading the New Testament. Using the Navigators tool, take 5 minutes to read the scriptures assigned for the day and read 5 days a week. You can underline or highlight key words or phrases; write what you read in your own words; ask questions to deepen your understanding, like who, what, why, where, or how; or think about how the passage applies to your life.

- | | | |
|----------|------------|---|
| April 1 | James 3 | * |
| April 2 | James 4 | * |
| April 3 | James 5 | * |
| April 4 | Matthew 1 | * |
| April 5 | Matthew 2 | * |
| April 6 | Reflection | * |
| | | * |
| April 7 | Reflection | * |
| April 8 | Matthew 3 | * |
| April 9 | Matthew 4 | * |
| April 10 | Matthew 5 | * |
| April 11 | Matthew 6 | * |
| April 12 | Matthew 7 | * |
| April 13 | Reflection | * |
| | | * |
| April 14 | Reflection | * |
| April 15 | Matthew 8 | * |
| April 16 | Matthew 9 | * |
| April 17 | Matthew 10 | * |
| April 18 | Matthew 11 | * |
| April 19 | Matthew 12 | * |
| April 20 | Reflection | * |
| | | * |
| April 21 | Reflection | * |
| April 22 | Matthew 13 | * |
| April 23 | Matthew 14 | * |
| April 24 | Matthew 15 | * |
| April 25 | Matthew 16 | * |
| April 26 | Matthew 17 | * |
| April 27 | Reflection | * |
| | | * |
| April 28 | Reflection | * |
| April 29 | Matthew 18 | * |
| April 30 | Matthew 19 | * |



Rick Bass leading Sunshine Ministry/Group



Thank You!

I'd like to thank all of you for the prayers, cards, well-wishes and visits after my back surgery and during my rehab stay at NHC. You all were — and continue to be— real blessings to me as I continue to progress these next few months.

Thanks again - Jerry Klym

Join us in celebrating the achievements of our high

Avery Batey – Avery will graduate from Hendersonville High School. She participated in the YMCA of Tennessee Model UN Conference in November, 2021. Avery has worked as a sales associate at Kohl's Department store during most of her high school years. Hair and make-up have long been a hobby of Avery's and she plans to enter Paul Mitchell Cosmetology and Beauty School this fall with a view to making her avocation, her vocation. This summer, Avery will continue to work at Kohl's until she begins her studies at the Paul Mitchell School. Avery is the daughter of Trent and Carrie Batey and the granddaughter of Charles and Mary Lu Batey.



Sasha Dishman – Sasha is graduating from Hendersonville High School with a focus in architectural design. She also played physics. She played tuba in the Hendersonville High School marching band. She played volleyball. Sasha played on the Hendersonville High School volleyball team for the past three years and led the team, serving as team captain for the past two years. She participated in Engineering Design her junior year and won a number of art show awards. She was awarded a Gold Key in the 33rd Annual Cheekwood Frist Learning Center National Ceramic K-12 Exhibition this fall where she currently plans to continue her studies. She plans to enjoy her summer special at college, and to train with the CU volleyball team. She is the daughter of Stephen and Debbie Dishman.



Joseph Dye – Joseph is graduating from Hendersonville High School with a focus in computer science and a 4.0 GPA. During high school Joseph earned the AP Scholar with Distinction award after scoring a 5 on each of five AP exams; was recognized for the Outstanding Resolution at the YMCA of Tennessee Model UN Conference in November, 2023; was a member of the National Beta Club, the National Honor Society, and earned a number of HHS awards (Robotics Team of the Year 2023, AP Computer Science A 2023, Spanish III 2023, AP European History 2022, AP Computer Science Principles 2022). Joseph also played in the HHS marching band, symphonic orchestra, and jazz band. He was selected for the Sumner County Honor Band and Mid-State Band for multiple years and will participate in All-State Band in April 2024. His robotics team qualified for the VEX World Robotics Competition in Dallas, Texas and will compete at the end of April. This fall, he will continue his studies at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, where he earned a Presidential Scholars scholarship for all four years and plans to major in computer science. This summer, Joseph will serve as a Camp Counselor at the NaCoMe Camp and Retreat Center. Joseph is the son of Billy and Eva Dye.



High school students who will graduate in May 2024.

...ing from Hendersonville High School where her academic focus has been in art... has taken honors mathematics all four years, as well as honors biology and AP... IS concert band her freshman year, but her primary extracurricular focus was on... HS junior varsity volleyball team her freshman year and the varsity team for the... team as the primary setter. She also played club/travel volleyball for seven years,... t three years. Sasha won an award for Outstanding Achievement in Architectural... year. Her senior year, she was awarded the Commando Award along with her... s. She has been inducted into the National Art Honor Society for two years and... over her four years at HHS. Recently, for one of Sasha's sculptures, she was... annual Middle Tennessee Scholastic Art Exhibition, which was on display at the... during the month of March. Her sculpture was also selected for a show by the... Foundation, Inc. Sasha will be attending Cumberland University in Lebanon, TN... to major in art education. She has earned a scholarship to play volleyball at CU... nding time with her friends and family, to work a bit to earn some money before... volleyball team beginning in July. Sasha is the daughter of Laurie Dishman and



Brayden Elliott – Brayden will graduate from Beech High School where the focus of his studies has been Criminal Justice. Brayden is a member of the National Honor Society at Beech, where he maintained a 4.0 GPA during both middle school and high school. He played fullback on the Beech football team for four years. The team went to the State championship his junior year. During his high school career, Brayden earned a number of awards, including MyTV30 Rackley Roofing Scholar Athlete of the Week, Academic Achievement Award for having the highest GPA on the football team, and the Academic Honor Roll for 3 years for football. In the fall, Brayden will continue his higher education at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, where he has also earned a Presidential Scholars scholarship for all four years and plans to major in chemical engineering. Before entering TTU, he will work this summer for a construction company. Brayden is the son of Jason and Melinda Elliott.

Morgan Thompson -Morgan is graduating from Pope John Paul II Preparatory School where she excelled in mathematics. She also played varsity lacrosse during all four years and has been named MVP as well as being named to the All-Region team. Morgan is a member of the National Honor Society and is on the "All A" President's Honor Roll. She was also part of Ministry leadership her senior year and served as a leader for a number of school retreats. Morgan plans to attend Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC from which she has earned both an athletic scholarship for lacrosse as well as an academic scholarship. She plans to major in biology with the ultimate goal of attending dental school and focusing on orthodontics. This summer, before beginning her studies, Morgan will work as a lifeguard at the Indian Lake Forest Swim and Tennis Club and will also travel to Italy with her grandparents, Terry and Bobbie Ryan. Morgan is the daughter of J.T. and Casey Thompson.

Graduate Reception - April 21st

2024 College Graduates:

Kaitlynn Elliott – Kaitlynn was a 2020 high school graduate and will earn a Bachelor of Science degree in August, 2024 from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN, having majored in Supply Chain and minored in business administration. She is currently serving an internship with the National Association of Small Trucking Companies. Kaitlynn is the daughter of Jason and Melinda Elliott.

Ryan Estep – Ryan also graduated from high school in 2020 and is a senior at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga campus. He is majoring in computer science and will be conferred a Bachelor of Science degree in December of 2024. This summer, Ryan has obtained a summer internship at Vanderbilt University where he will be teaching computer science at Vandy’s summer camp for kids. Ryan is the son of Mike and Kelly Estep.

Drew Getter – Drew Getter was a 2016 high school graduate and will earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in Computer Information Technology with a concentration in programming from Pellissippi State Community College in May, 2024. Drew also earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in 2021, with a major in chemistry. Drew is currently completing an internship doing web design, working as an ACT tutor, and publishes video content for his own YouTube channel. Drew is the son of Andrew and Jean Getter.

Updates on Other Recent High School Graduates:

Jordan Suhr – Jordan graduated in 2023 and is currently finishing her freshman year at Belmont University. She is a nursing major and is enjoying living on campus and campus life. She and her group of friends have found a church home near campus and she has assisted with the children’s church and nursery. Jordan is the daughter of Kevin and Cara Suhr and the granddaughter of Margaret Suhr.

Brian Craig – Another of our 2023 graduates, Brian is completing his freshman year at Volunteer State Community College where he is majoring in business administration. In his spare time, he assists his dad with taking care of his brother, Patrick. Brian is the son of Reggie Craig.

Isaiah Brew – A 2022 graduate, Isaiah is completing his sophomore year the University of Illinois in Chicago and is majoring in electrical engineering. He works as a resident assistant on campus and is vice president of UIC’s chess club. He also teaches chess to elementary students at a local school one day a week. In addition to playing chess, in his spare time, he also enjoys rock climbing. This summer he will complete an engineering internship sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Isaiah is the son of Thaddeus Brew and Tonya Elkins.

Ben Dye – Another 2022 graduate, Ben is completing his sophomore year at Vanderbilt University, where he is majoring in physics. He continues to play piano whenever he gets a chance. Ben is the son of Billy and Eva Dye.

Lesley Parrotta – Lesley also graduated in 2022 and is currently enrolled in the cosmetology program at Tennessee Collage of Applied Technology (TCAT) in Portland, TN. The program is a 16-month program, and she will graduate with her cosmetology license in Spring, 2025. Lesley is the daughter of Jarrod and Jinnee Parrotta and the granddaughter of Cari Lou Westendorf.

Mason Thompson – Mason is another 2022 graduate and is finishing his sophomore year at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He plans to continue his studies at UT in the fall, majoring in Finance, and working at the bike shop in the UT recreation center. Mason is the son of J.T. and Casey Thompson.

00:03	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Tot.
JO	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	278
	30	60	90	120	149	169	189	219	249	278	
DA	5	3	5	-	7	X	-	18	-	8	76
	8	13	20	31	32	40	48	67	76		
AR	6	-	9	/	-	3	8	16	29	-	77
	6	16	19	28	36	45	52	69	77		
KA	7	/	7	-	6	2	9	-	X	8	84
	17	24	32	41	59	67	75	84			
Player DAMION mph. 16.08											

**Notice the top score.
Josh Reeves bowled a 278
on our last youth outing.**



SERMON SCHEDULE

April's sermons will be based on Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation

- April 7** –Radical Hospitality, 1 John 3:16-24 (Communion)
- April 14** – Passionate Worship, Psalm 100
- April 21** – Intentional Faith Development, Psalm 25:4-5
- April 28** – Extravagant Generosity, Acts 4:32-35



February 2024

Revenue	\$ 44,752.91
Expenses	<u>\$ 49,904.14</u>
Shortfall	\$ - 5,151.23

SESSION ACTION

- Prayed for congregation
- Read the session statement of faith
- Approved minutes from February 19
- Discussed chapter from *Lessons in Leadership*
- Approved ministry unit reports
 - ◊ Verbal report from Membership
- Heard pastor's report
 - ◊ Including update on sabbatical
- Called Congregational Meeting to elect Tim Bish and Janna Willis to the Elder Nominating Committee
- Approved Amy and Tim serving communion at the last Wednesday class
- Approved Richard Bass and Tom Rouse's request for baptism on April 7



SABBATICAL UPDATE

As my sabbatical approaches quickly (starting May 1), I want to share some more of my plans. We will have a meeting after church on April 14 to hand out information and answer any questions. Along with the travel plans, I will also be reading several books on spiritual development and the Bible (history, inspiration, and understanding). I will interview several retired pastors and hospice chaplains. I also hope to take a class on photography and woodworking.

GREAT NEWS!!!

Our Mystery Member is back by popular demand. Try to see if you can identify our featured member for April!

Answer: Cara Suhr!



Lent came early this year. It all begins with ashes and a reminder we are from dust and to dust we shall return. We travel 40 days reflecting on our need for God's intervention. Palm Sunday arrives before we know it. We combine Palm Sunday with Passion Sunday. The service begins with hosannas and palm branches; then, ends with the sudden shock of a cross being dragged in and covering the symbols of God's presence in black. Easter morning begins with a visit

to the cemetery expecting death, but an angel interrupts our grief with a joyous announcement that he has risen! Everything changes and nothing is the same anymore!

The good news of death and life are captured in our floral cross displayed outside the sanctuary. A reminder that we need to walk through Good Friday and death before we get to Easter. Easter has the last word. Alleluia!



CHURCH STAFF

Michael Davis, *Pastor*

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Sara Webne, *Nursery Attendant*

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Sunday School—9:00 a.m.

Worship Service—10:00 a.m.

National Day of Prayer is on May 2 at First Baptist Church.

Hendersonville churches and all denominations

will gather at 7:00 A.M. to pray together.

Everyone is welcome.

Enjoy a chicken biscuit and the fellowship.

What a great demonstration of the churches unity in Jesus Christ!



- 9 - Paulette Farnham
Lance Dary
- 14 - Cathy Young
- 20 - Cara Suhr
- 21 - Charles Batey
Dick Brooks
Phyllis Klym
- 23 - Lee Carrier
- 24 - Jordan Suhr
- 25 - Linda Agee
- 26 - Charlie Pickerel
- 27 - Alida Williams
- 30 - Sheryl Trickel