

THE WINDOW

First Presbyterian Church

Hendersonville, TN

May 2024



Dear Friends,

First, thank you very much for supporting me on this second sabbatical. I am blessed to be your pastor and thankful for our ministry together. I appreciate your encouragement and prayers during this time of rest, growth, and reflection. During the sabbatical, God will teach me new things, refresh my soul, and deepen my faith, slowing me down to listen to His Spirit. My listening journey will begin at the Abbey of Gethsemani for several days, providing a good dose of silence.

One of my goals on this sabbatical is learning to be more of a pilgrim and less of a tourist. Often tourists are busy visiting places and checking off their to-do list. They accumulate photographs and list locations, saying, “Look where I have been.” My goal is to live more like a pilgrim, waiting and watching for new discoveries. I will certainly take photos, but be more attentive whether at the monastery, beach, traveling, Scotland, or sitting on the back porch. I want to ask deep questions like, “What is God saying? And where do I see God?”

My second goal is reading and studying a variety of material. I will gain new insights about reading and studying the Bible. Authors like John Stott, Paul Achtemeier, George Guthrie, William Barclay, and John Burges will be my teachers. I, of course, will read on our Presbyterian history and John Knox before our wonderful trip to Scotland. My reading list will also include books on spiritual development, discernment, and the Benedictine way of living.

I will also interview several retired pastors seeking wisdom on how to finish well. My hope is to serve you until my retirement time and want these years to be my best. I have also been thinking about hospice ministry. Interviewing a hospice chaplain will deepen my understanding and ability to walk with people in grief and death.

Finally, there are some scriptures that have captivated my attention. I will think about verses like 2 Peter 3:18. *Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.* What does it mean to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ?

Someone gave me this prayer at the beginning of the last sabbatical. “Here’s hoping you get loved more, heard more, discover more, and find more from God’s influence than you ever dreamed. May you find God’s sweet spot in this new season of ministry in the power of the resurrected Savior.” All I can say is “Amen.”

Please remember to contact Linda with any questions or pastoral care concerns. We have several church members ready to make house and hospital visits. All the regular programs will continue. Please remember to remain engaged in worship and missions. Where does God want you to serve in the church and world?

(Continued on next page)

My benediction for us is from Rev. Richard Halverson when he was chaplain of the US Senate.

*You go nowhere by accident.
Wherever you go, God is sending you.
Wherever you are, God has put you there.
God has a purpose in your being there.
Christ lives in you and has something he wants to do
through you where you are.
Believe this and go in the grace and love and
power of Jesus Christ.*

Love and Prayers,

Michael

APRIL ADULT FELLOWSHIP GATHERING—APRIL 13th!



Twenty seven members of FPC enjoyed an evening of delicious food and good fellowship on Saturday, April 13th at our quarterly Adult Fellowship Gathering. Our gracious hosts, Hal and Brenda Hubbell, opened their lovely home to our group. A warm and balmy evening set the stage for a relaxed outdoor gathering on their covered porch, and it was delightful! All adult members and friends of the church are cordially invited to attend these events which are held in October, January, April and July. Please watch for announcements in upcoming newsletters and bulletin inserts regarding our summer gathering which will take place in July with date, time and place to be announced! Hope to see you there!



Mary Lou, Connie, Barb, Sprigg, Barry & Dick



Barb Brooks, Mary Lou Settle - Getting Hungry



Pastor Michael & Pam Davis

**Samaritan
Golf
Tournament**



John Allen, Tim Bish, Charles Batey, Paul Decker, David Abbott, Gary Head, Barry Ingram, Bennett Hodges, Drew Watson, and Michael Davis playing in the Samaritan Center Golf Tournament.

Introducing our M



Rick and Suzi Bass

239 Hidden Lake Road

Hendersonville, TN 37075

858-531-1704 (Suzi)

858-531-1998 (Rick)

Rick and Suzi have three children and eight grandchildren. They have been married 50 years in August. They moved to Hendersonville in November 2021 from San Diego. Rick is a retired police lieutenant and college professor in forensics. He loves spending his days with their grandchildren and new friends in Tennessee. Suzi enjoys tennis, photography, and art.



Jarrett IpoX & Elisabeth King

838 Blessings Way

Gallatin, TN 37066

704-460-7723 (Elisabeth)

828-206-3184 (Jarrett)

Jarrett grew up in Asheville, NC and moved to Tennessee when he was 19 years old. Jarrett graduated from East Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in political science with a minor in international affairs and politics. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving in the infantry. His military service took him to many places in Africa and Europe. He currently is a Metro-Nashville Police officer as a fatal crash investigator/crash reconstructionist. He is genuinely a quiet person but loves helping others.

Elisabeth moved from North Carolina to Tennessee in 2023. She graduated from Queens University in Charlotte majoring in creative writing and English. She owns a travel agency called Roses and Sindere Travel. Elisabeth works full time at the Nashville KOA Resort. Her hobbies include creative writing, reading, and music.

Newest Members



Jim & Teresa Miller

**323 Tanglewood Lane
Hendersonville, TN 37075
504-259-9643 (Teresa)
504-376-5091 (Jim)**

Teresa grew up in West Virginia. They have lived in Ohio, Texas, and Louisiana. After living in New Orleans for 25 years, they moved to Hendersonville to be closer to family. They have two grown sons and two young grandsons. Jim and Teresa will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary in May. She enjoys reading, traveling, and hanging out with friends. He has played golf, softball, tennis, and pickleball. They enjoy the four seasons and no more hurricane evacuations. In Hendersonville, they have better access to vacation spots (they prefer parks and scenery to glitz and crowds).



Thomas Rouse

**578 Indian Lake Road
Hendersonville, TN 37075
615-810-3645**

Tom and Gay Lynne have one living adult child. He is a native of West Tennessee. He lived in Pinson, TN, Houston TX, and Huntsville, AL. Tom is a gentleman farmer. He has worked in the tech world for over 40 years but is leaning towards retirement soon. He likes boating, golfing, and helping folks out. He leads our bread ministry collecting bread and pastries for local stores and delivering them to the Galatin prison and other agencies. He is also an active participant in Appalachia Service Project with our church.



On most Wednesdays, you will hear voices with lots of laughter coming from the upstairs classroom. It all starts at 8:00 in the morning. These men must be morning people! They finally settle down to study and discuss passages of the Bible. The fearless leader prods and pushes with questions, causing the men to think deeply about scripture and life. Discussion is rich and personal stories shared about life, experiences, family, and even spouses. Sorry, no details leave the room – “What happens in Men’s Bible Study stays in Men’s Bible Study.” After their souls are nourished, they nourish their bodies and continue their fellowship at Cracker Barrel.

What brings these men together? It probably has something to do with Psalm 25, “Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.” They also enjoy the fellowship. Come join the fun and growth.



Graduate Reception



**Congratulations to Joseph Dye, Brayden Elliott, Avery Batey, Sasha Dishman, and Morgan Elliott
- Our High School Graduates**

SERMON SCHEDULE

- May 5** – Men’s Sunday testimonies by Tim Bish, Billy Dye, and Ched Yearout
- May 12** – Steve Martin preaching
- May 19** – Outdoor worship with picnic at the church lead by praise band
- May 26** – Steve Martin preaching



SESSION ACTION

- Prayed for congregation
- Read the session statement of faith
- Approved minutes
 - ◊ Session Meeting on March 18
 - ◊ Called Session Meeting on April 7
 - ◊ Congregational Meeting from April 14
- Discussed the article A Family Systems Approach to Parking Lot Meetings
- Approved ministry unit reports
 - ◊ Verbal report from Worship
- Heard pastor’s report
 - ◊ Including update on sabbatical
- Discussed and approved a policy asking people to leave backpacks in their cars, unless parents

We are very happy that we are able to attend worship again! It is wonderful to see all of you again! We especially want to thank all of you for remembering us in so many ways while I have been working on strengthening my ability to walk. The past six months seemed so long, but the time was made more comfortable by all of you who sent a card, made a phone call, visited, brought a meal or in some other way reminded us that you were wishing us well and keeping us in your prayers.

THANK YOU! -
Cliff and Gloria Deaner



March 2024

Revenue \$ 63,909.91
 Expenses \$ 94,938.33
 Shortfall \$ - 31,028.42



Happy Mother’s Day
May 12th



Mission of the Month

Shower the People is the Mission of the Month for May. It is an organization that provides on-site showers for those without access to permanent facilities, using a converted school bus that is equipped with showers and a restroom. They are primarily focused on the homeless community of Nashville, but they are also available for disaster relief. So many people do not have access to a simple shower, which most of us take for granted, and which is so important to a sense of well-being and dignity. This year, the most needed items are: **Mens boxer briefs sized M- 2XL, insect repellent, baby powder/foot powder, baby wipes, aloe, and hydrocortisone.** Donations can be placed in the bin at the side entry through the end of May. Thanks for your generosity.

CHURCH STAFF

Michael Davis, *Pastor*

michael@hendersonvillefpc.org

Linda Agee, *Church Administrator*

linda@hendersonvillefpc.org

Sara Webne, *Nursery Attendant*

Carolyn McCoy, *P.D.S. Director*

PDSDDirector123@gmail.com

First Presbyterian Church

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Website: www.hendersonvillefpc.org

Email: linda@hendersonvillefpc.org

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!



- 1 - Karen Baylor
Kathy Campbell
- 13 - Judy Wallis
Shirley Poole
- 14 - Tom Williams
- 20 - Palmer Watson
- 21 - Calvin Ice
- 22 - Al Ballenger
Kaitlynn Elliott
- 25 - Isaiah Brew
- 27 - Betty Ingram
Morgan Thompson
Cliff Deaner
- 30 - Casey Thompson
Joseph Ottevaere