

# Under Our Roof

First Presbyterian Church, Covington, VA

September 2024

*“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28, NRSVue)*

September 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Labor Day Holiday. For many of us it marks the end of summer. Why do we have a Labor Day Holiday? Due to the Industrial Revolution factories, mills, mines, and the like operated 7 days a week and expected workers to put in 12 hour shifts each day to eke out a living. People were weary.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's people began to recognize the weariness of the workers. Listening to Jesus' words to the people of his day who were overworked trying to live day to day; a movement began to reform working conditions.

In order to provide rest, the 40-hour work week arose. According to history.com the “workingman's holiday” was signed into law in 1894 making the first Monday in September a day to recognize the contributions of these workers. It is a day when those who are weary can find rest.

When Jesus was speaking to people, He recognized that they too were working long hard days, every day, in order to have the basics. Many were workers in the fields of another who required a large portion of what was produced to be given to them. And then there were the taxes required to be paid to Rome. All of this left the common person with little on which to live.

The people carried a heavy burden from which there was no relief. Many would have wondered just what Jesus could do to give them rest. Despite God's Word that there was to be a Sabbath day on which all were to rest, there were still things that weighed upon them.

In the centuries since Jesus proclaimed the words recorded in Matthew 11:28, we still have things that are a heavy burden. Not only are we weighed down by work, we are weighed down with our thoughts, worries, and cares. We might be weighed down by a physical condition and the treatments needed because of it. We worry about aging parents and growing children. We think that we have to solve every challenge by ourselves.

When we listen to Jesus' words here, He says that in Him we find rest. You see, we do not have to solve EVERY challenge by ourselves. Yes, there are some challenges that we are called to solve, but God is walking with us in those places.

We pray and lay our worries and cares on God. We allow the Holy Spirit to guide us as we consider how to meet our needs. As we lay our worries, our burdens, on Jesus we do find rest.

As you enjoy the Labor Day Holiday, may you remember to find rest in God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

*~ Pastor Susí*



- 7 Brenda Linkenhoker
- 8 David Rollinson
- 14 Jim Snyder
- 15 Jacob Wright
- 17 Steve Minter
- 21 Jim Howard
- 24 Jonathan Pillow
- 26 Nicholas Pillow

## Minute 4 Mission

### Peace & Global Witness Offering – October 6<sup>th</sup>

Equipping Peacemakers in Congregations  
and Around the World.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. Confronting hopelessness and thwarting division, congregations and individuals are empowered to become peacemakers themselves.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize 25% of this Offering to connect locally with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain 25% for regional ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. At First Presbyterian Church, we have given our local portion in the past to the support of Safehome Systems and are now looking at supporting Compass for Life (awaiting Session approval at their September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting).

The Peace & Global Witness Denominational Collection will occur on October 6<sup>th</sup>. A special envelope should be found in your donation box for this denomination collection. Many thanks for your generous and thoughtful gifts.

-- Mission & Service Committee

## **SOUTH COVINGTON CARE PANTRY REPORT**

<u>STATISTICS</u>	<u>Families Served</u>	<u># Of Family Members</u>
<b>June 2024</b>	153	577
<b>July 2024</b>	169	616

<b>Deposits</b>	<b>June – July 2024</b>
\$50.00	Memorial – Betty Anderson
\$50.00	In Honor of Fathers (SCUMC)
\$50.00	In Memory of William and Yolanda Salyers
\$50.00	In Memory of J. W. and Sylvia Vest
\$100.00	In Honor of Linda Black and Care Team
\$1,010.00	Donations from Individuals
\$500.00	Greenwood Evangelical P. C.
\$1,300.00	Alleghany Highlands Kiwanis Club
\$100.00	Mt. Carmel Methodist Church
<b>\$3,210.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

*We paid Feeding Southwest Virginia \$7,389.38 for food and meat during this 2-month period. We are especially grateful for the USDA meat. Otherwise, right now, we would have very little to give out. We were able to purchase 90 cases of frozen Totino Party Pizzas with meat at a very low price until they were no longer available. This helped get us through our low meat weeks. During June and July, we received 519 lbs. of meat from Food Lion, which saved us in the frozen meat department. We also appreciate the bread, pastries, and produce our team members pick up from Food Lion on Saturdays and Sundays.*

*The Pantry purchased hot dogs and buns to distribute on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of July because of the meat shortage. (The cost was \$182.) With the increase in the number of families served, the meat and other groceries go very fast.*

## **BLESSINGS**

- South Covington UMC donated 79 miscellaneous food items.
- Friends delivered and donated 28 miscellaneous food items.
- Members of Granbery Memorial UMC delivered and donated 76 food items
- The Patterson Family donated and delivered 42 items (mostly cereal).
- We are very much blessed by the addition of two new energetic team members to our Tuesday roster.
- Our team had some nasty dealings with spoiled fruit and vegetables from Feeding Southwest Virginia recently. Ugh. They were masterful and uncomplaining as they carefully and efficiently handled the situations. BTW, deer LOVE rotten peaches!
- We are still accepting adult clothing, but not in large quantities. Household items and children's clothing and toys are always needed.

***GALATIANS 5:13-14 "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"***

***We are always happy to receive any donated food items! I'm suggesting the following items not currently available from Feeding Southwest Virginia: CANNED PEAS AND CORNBREAD MIX.***

*September is Hunger Action Month, a month where people all over America stand together with Feeding America and the nationwide network of food banks to fight hunger. It's a month to spread the word and take action on the hunger crisis and dedicate ourselves to a solution.*

*Words cannot express how thankful we are for the tremendous support from our churches and the community. THANK YOU, LORD!!! Please continue your prayers for our mission and for all those who dedicate their time to making it successful. God bless each of you!*

*Linda Black for Your Care Pantry Team*



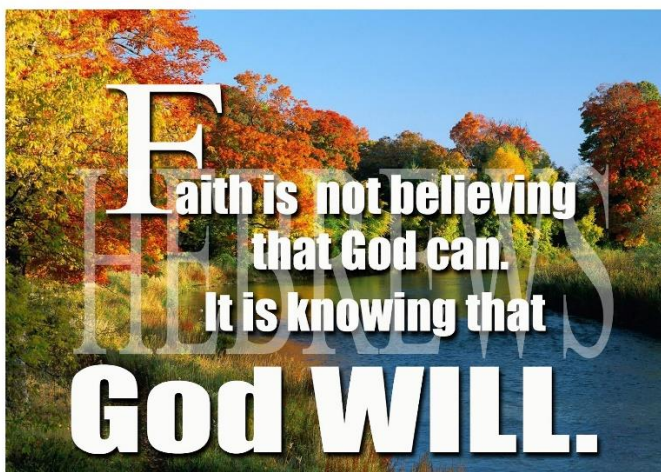
**First Presbyterian Church**

## **205<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

We celebrated the 205<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 A. M. in the Sanctuary. Over 50 guests were in attendance for this special day. General Presbyter, Carl Utley spoke and presented First Presbyterian with a certificate of recognition for this special day and milestone Anniversary in the life of the church. We enjoyed special music by the following members of Lon and Sue Rollinson's family: son, David Rollinson (euphonium), daughter-in-law, Maria Mangano (clarinet), grandson, Amos Rollinson (piano), daughter, Christy Rollinson (piano), and son, John Rollinson sang with the FPC Chancel Choir. In addition to this

wonderfully talented family, we also enjoyed the talents of our own Sandra D. Minter on the piano accompanying the Chancel Choir for an Introit Anthem. Joanne Hayslett added much to this special occasion by accompanying the congregational hymns and giving us an additional Musical offering on the piano. Pastor Susi Ennis brought forth the message on her heart to the people. A delicious catered luncheon after the service was held in the Chapel where much fun and fellowship were enjoyed. It was a great celebration!

The Anniversary Committee would like to say "Thank You" to Brenda Linkenhoker for her leadership and guidance and for Chairing this Committee. "Thank you" to Sue and Lon Rollinson for the additional lighting for the Rose Window in the Chapel. And "Thank You" to Anne Wright for the beautiful flower arrangements from her personal flower collection as the luncheon table decorations with tartan ribbon which were a nod to our Scotch-Irish Presbyterian Heritage.



**PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S  
HOME OF THE HIGHLANDS  
FOSTER CLOSET PROJECT**

**We are currently collecting clean, gently used, machine-washable clothing for all and in all sizes through October 1<sup>st</sup>. Children's and Men's clothing are currently needed more. Please leave these folded donations in the Heritage Room in the large blue tote. Brenda Linkenhoker plans to take them to Wytheville. Thank you all, in advance for your help with this project. Billy Rice is the director of PCHH and attended a past Presbyterian Women meeting and told us all about this Foster Closet project. He explained that this project helps the children learn skills of running the business and aids those in their community that have a need for clothing. For more information about the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands you can visit their website: [www.pchh.org](http://www.pchh.org) or look at their most recent newsletter on our bulletin board.**

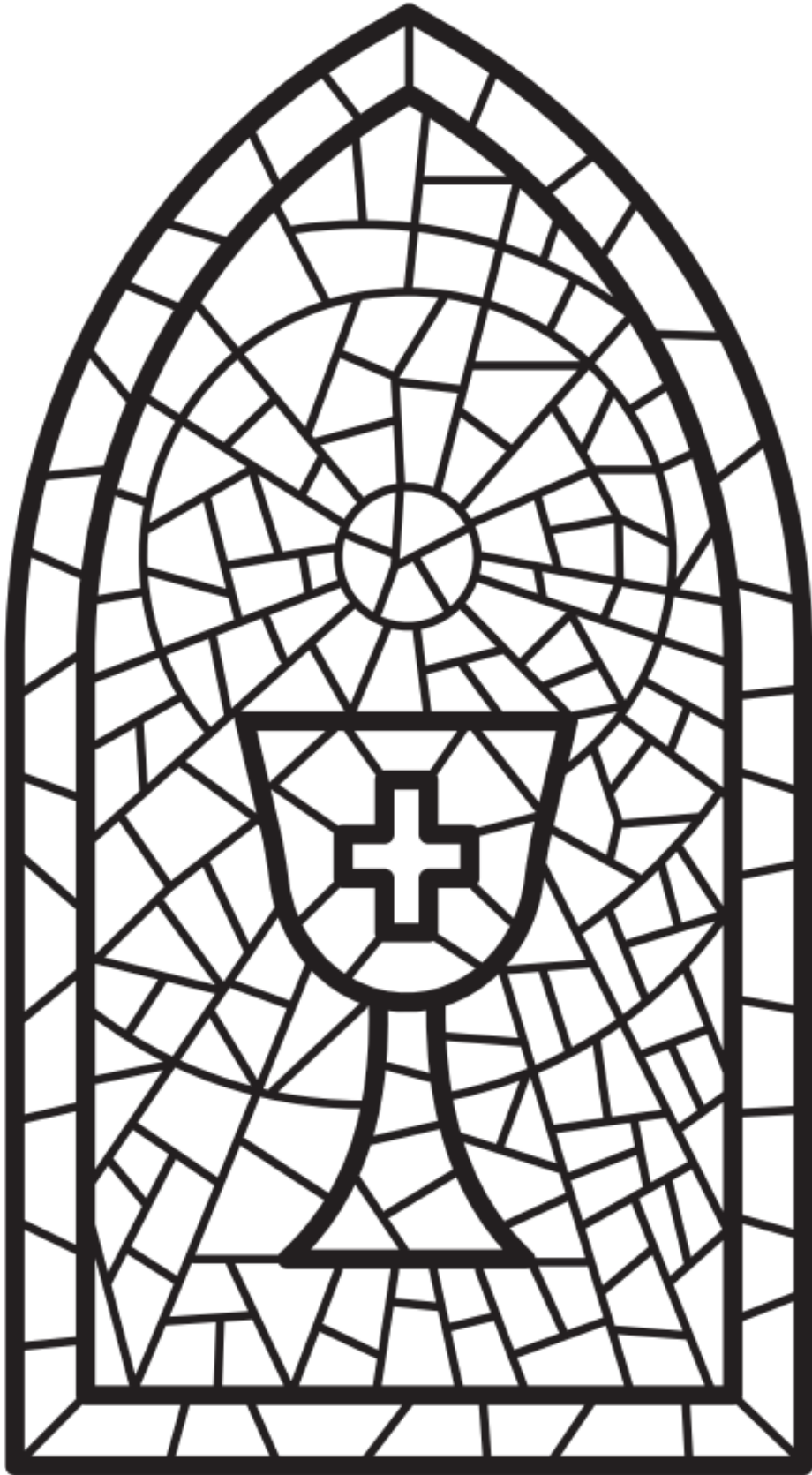
**COVINGTON MEMORY CAFÉ  
CONVERSATION & COMMUNITY  
FOR THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS  
AND THEIR CARE PARTNERS  
PLEASE JOIN US!**

*2<sup>ND</sup> Saturday of every month*

*10 a. m. to noon*

*Edgemont Presbyterian Church*

*(540) 965-3916*



# First Presbyterian Church

185 North Maple Avenue, Covington, Virginia 24426 ~ (540) 962-2195 ~ Email: fpccovingtonva@aol.com

## September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	2 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a  Labor Day Offices Closed	3 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a Coffee & Convo 8:30-10:00a  M & S 1p  NO BIBLE STUDY	4 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a Preschool First Day W & M 1p Choir Rehearsal Chancel 4:30p Handbells 5:30p	5 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	6 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	7 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a
8 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a Social Time, 9:30a Bible Study 9:45a Worship, 11:00a	9 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	10 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a NO Coffee & Convo TUESDAY NITE BIBLE STUDY 6:45 p  <u>VOUCHERS DUE, 10a</u>	11 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a  Choir Rehearsal Chancel 4:30p Handbells 5:30p	12 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a  Presbyterian Women 1p	13 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	14 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a  Covington Memory Café 10-noon Edgemont PC
15 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a Social Time, 9:30a Bible Study 9:45a Worship, 11:00a  <b>Communion SESSION</b>	16 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	17 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a Coffee & Convo 8:30-10:30a TUESDAY NITE BIBLE STUDY 6:45 p	18 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a  Choir Rehearsal Chancel 4:30p Handbells 5:30p	19 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	20 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	21 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a
22 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a Social Time, 9:30a Bible Study 9:45a Worship, 11:00a	23 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	24 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a NO Coffee & Convo <u>VOUCHERS DUE, 10a</u> Newsletter Due 10a NO BIBLE STUDY	25 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a  Choir Rehearsal Chancel 4:30p Handbells 5:30p	26 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	27 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a	28 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a
29 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a NO Bible Study Worship, 11:00a <b>WORSHIP in THE CHAPEL</b> M4M – Peace & Global Witness	30 Devotions w/ Daniel, 8a					

YouTube channel: FPCCovingtonVA ~ Website: FirstPresCovingtonVA.org

**\*\*THERE WILL BE NO STREAMING OF CHURCH SERVICES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE\*\***