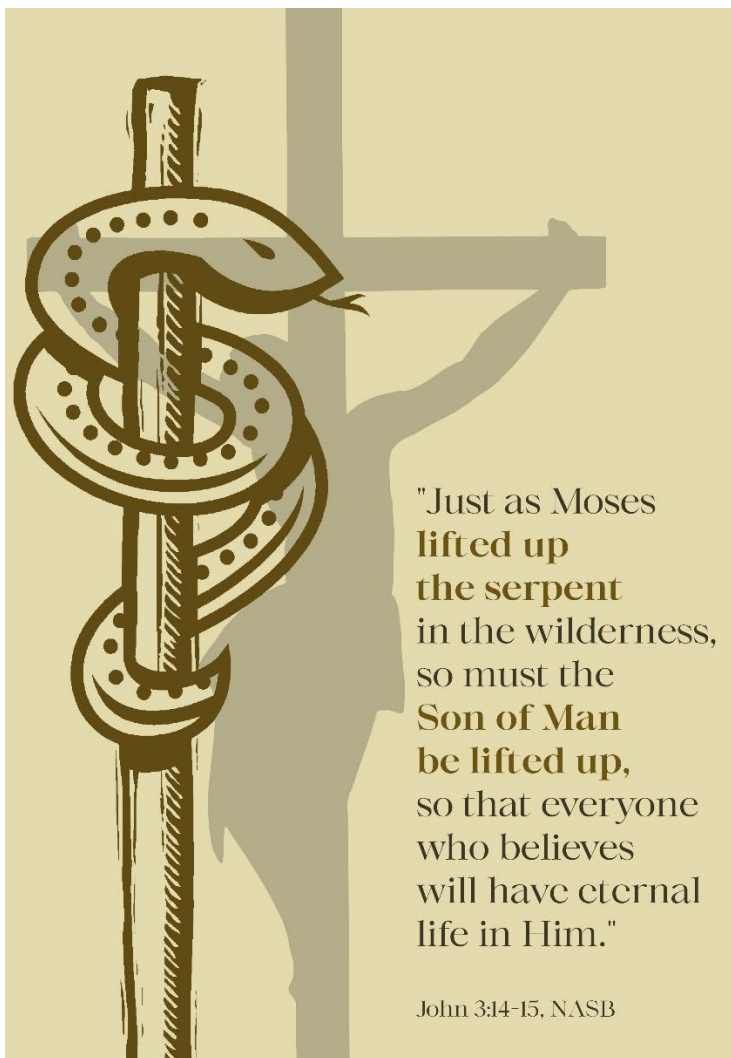




"Just as Moses
lifted up
the serpent
in the wilderness,
so must the
Son of Man
be lifted up,
so that everyone
who believes
will have eternal
life in Him."

John 3:14-15, NASB



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

16th Sunday after Pentecost | Poage Landing Days

September 28, 2025

9:00 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

John Ferguson

Prelude

Max Jackson

Andantino
(Cesar Franck)

† Call to Worship

Jimmy Hall

Leader: The long arm of the Lord reaches out to you and bids you welcome to this house of worship.

People: We are thankful for this shelter of God's love, which is always ours.

Leader: The loving heart of the Lord is open to you.

People: We open our hearts to receive God's love.

All: Let us lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving. As we are loved, so let us love.

† Hymn of Praise

#435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that like Israel in the wilderness, we grow impatient and grumble against You. We forget Your mercy, despise Your provision, and turn to our own ways. Sin's poison runs deep, and we cannot heal ourselves. So we look to Jesus, lifted up on the cross—the curse who became our cure. Forgive us, Lord. Fix our eyes on Christ, that we may look and live, surprised again by the grace of the gospel. Amen.

† Assurance of Pardon

† **Response** (tune: Amazing Grace) #444 (1,4)

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

“Forgive our sins as we forgive,” You taught us, Lord, to pray,
but You alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls,
and bid resentment cease;

Then, by Your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread Your Peace.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: Numbers 21:4–9 (NRSV)

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L: The Word of the Lord. P: **Thanks be to God.**

My Song Forever Shall Record

My song forever shall record the tender mercies of the Lord;
Your faithful love will I proclaim,
and every age shall know Your name.

I sing of mercies that endure, forever firm, forever sure,
a strong support that never dies,
established changeless in the skies.

Almighty God, Your lofty throne has justice for its cornerstone,
and shining bright before Your face are
truth and love and boundless grace.

With blessing is the nation crowned
whose people know the joyful sound;
they in the light, O Lord, shall live,
the light Your face and favor give.

† **The Gospel Lesson:** John 3:9–21 (NRSV)

Nicodemus said to Him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the One who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ Those who believe in Him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ! P: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

A Serpent, A Savior, and The Surprise of the Gospel

✠ **We Respond to God's Word** ✠

† Hymn of Response

#612

We Praise You, O God

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before You; we kneel and adore You;
we bless Your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide You have been.

When perils o’ertake us, You will not forsake us,
and with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.

With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.

To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

† Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

† **Doxology**

#606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

† **Prayer of Dedication**

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

† **Hymn of Sending**

#765 (2x)

May the God of Hope Go With Us

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Postlude

With All My Heart I Give You Thanks

(Johann Walther)

† **Charge & Benediction**

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Jan Holbrook*

Liturgist: *Jimmy Hall*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 80

General Offering: \$6,002.00

Memorial Fund (backpack ministry): \$125.00

Memorial Fund (organ repair): \$125.00

Youth Earth Care: \$60.00

Online Giving: \$125.00

Total Offering: \$6,437.00

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

↪ SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Morning Worship, 9 a.m.

↪ MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Sew Blessed, 6 p.m.

↪ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Tai Chi, 5 p.m. | Zumba, 5 p.m.

↪ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Open Chapel, 5:45 – 7:45 p.m.

Handbell Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

↪ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

↪ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

Zumba Class, 9:30 a.m. | Tai Chi, 11 a.m.

World Communion Sunday



Next **Sunday, October 5**, we are observing World Communion Sunday with various breads from around the world! There will be a reception in the Narthex following morning worship. Join us at the Table of the Lord as we celebrate God's love for the world!

Operation Christmas Child

You may choose to fill your own box or donate to the monthly cause each month. A schedule is provided below, and the donation box is in the Narthex. The OCC boxes will be blessed on November 9. Questions, contact Donna Jones.

October: small stuffed animals, craft kits, yo-yos, kaleidoscopes, Slinkys, balls; November: Money for postage.

Presbyterian Women Upcoming Events

Annual Fall Gathering of Transylvania Women/Camp Burnamwood

Saturday, October 11, 2025

*What's going on at Buckhorn? meet Mitch Smith,
Chief Financial Officer, guest speaker*

*All women are invited! Bring a friend! and make new friends!
(whether you are part of a women's group or not!)*

Coffee & Fellowship @ 9:30, Hymn Sing & Program @ 10,
Delicious Lunch @ noon 😊

*Reservations (+ \$15 registration) to Emily Carroll,
409 Cheyenne Trail, Georgetown, KY 40324*

Bring Your Mission Project Examples to Share

Support women in programs @ Buckhorn by bringing feminine hygiene products

Support the Presbytery HUNGER FUND by bringing used postage stamps
for PW's Stamp Out Hunger Program

Overview of Bible Study: FINDING RESILIENCE, JOY AND OUR
IDENTITY IN JESUS CHRIST, Rev. Dr. Rhashell Hunter, author
BRING YOUR MISSION PROJECT EXAMPLES TO SHARE!

For more information about the mission of PW and the Fall Gathering,
contact Karen May, Moderator, karen@the2mays.net, 859 227-8200

*Synod of South Atlantic ~ and ~ Synod of Living Waters
Presbyterian Women's Triennial Gathering*

October 17th -19th, 2025

Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia



*The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he
helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.*

Psalm 28:7

Our PW Synod Gathering, held once every three years, is an opportunity
for women to nurture faith, exchange ideas, discover mission
opportunities, strengthen relationships, and relax. Participants will enjoy
workshops, tours, plenary sessions with inspiring speakers, worship,
music, Bible study, and more.

***Please see Bettie George Frye for additional information on
Presbyterian Women events.***

Pastor & Staff Appreciation Month AND Table & Treat

FPC Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Table & Treat (CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO WEAR THEIR COSTUMES) is **Sunday, October 26** following morning worship. The menu is taco/salad bar with desserts and drinks. Appreciate our staff by gifting “a bag of BLESSINGS” with handwritten notes, small treats and gift cards. The BROWN paper packages will be available every Sunday in October.



Table & Treat

******We are collecting candy for Table & Treat.******

All Saints Sunday



All Saints' Sunday is **Nov. 2**. Please join us as we pay homage to our dearly departed saints and loved ones. If you have a loved one who has passed into the kingdom **within this last year**, please notify the Church office by **Sunday, October 26** for inclusion of his or her name in the bulletin.



**October is Domestic
Violence Awareness Month**

Safe Harbor Needs

During the month of October, we will be collecting diapers for Safe Harbor. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Jones.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending September 25, 2025

Grace Atwell (Trish Hall's sister)

Bryan & Anna Conley (Teresa Cassity's brother/sister-in-law)

Rebecca Ferguson (John & Kay Ferguson's daughter)

Dickie Martin (Ann Wiseman)

Jan Michel (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Mike Myers (Judy Sanders' nephew-in-law)

Skip Saunders (Greg & Geri Willis)

Week ending September 18, 2025

Cullen Creel (online request)

Family of Shirley O'Neal (Nanette)

Family of Carolyn Runyon (Kelly Hanni)

Crystal Vines (online request)

Week ending September 11, 2025

Loretta Burton (Nanette)

Christina Cumber (Greg & Geri Willis)

Darryl Eatmon (online request)

Family of Charlie Kirk

Family of David Riggs (Mark Riggs' father)

Mary Vanderhoof (John Ferguson's mother)

Ongoing: Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Charlie Holbrook; Keith McClelland; Kenny McGill; Bob Miller; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Jan Winans; Ann Wiseman

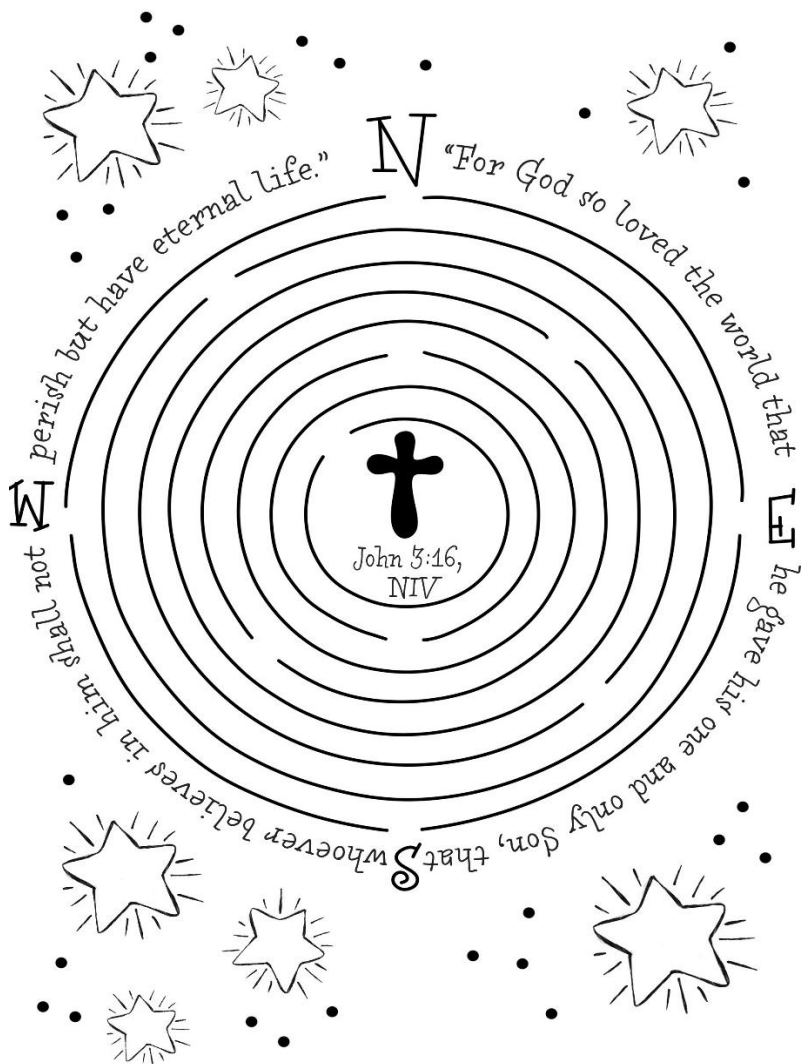
Kingsbrook Care Center: Barry Barbour

The Lantern: Carolyn Graber

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Army National Guard); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

Puzzle!

Complete the maze to help people from all directions hear the good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read John 3:16, NIV.



STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2026	2027	2028
<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>	<i>Teresa Cassity</i>
<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni *</i>
<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>	<i>Donna Jones</i>
<i>*2nd term of service</i>		

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Teresa Cassity</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Donna Jones</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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office@fpcaky.org | www.fpcaky.org | 606.324.4122
Contact Pastor Bill: 606.547.1802 or pastor@fpcaky.org