



# HEARTBEATS

A monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church

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## STAFF

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Nursery Attendant

## SESSION MEMBERS

Mitch Hall  
President of  
Congregation

Kelly Hanni  
Secretary of  
Congregation/  
Clerk of Session

Cathy Wilson  
Treasurer

2023  
Judy Fannin  
Mitch Hall  
Ryan Whitman

2024  
Cathy Wilson\*  
J.T. Norris  
Breck Tarr

2025  
Kelly Hanni  
Kim Whitman  
Geri Willis

\*2nd term of service



By Rev. Bill Pollack

*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity."*  
[2 Peter 3:18]

It is hard for me to comprehend how quickly 2022 is proceeding. It is either because I am getting older or having fun! Based on my experience this year, I will defer to the first part— I am getting older! The reality is that we all are growing older. From the youngest, to the elder in our family, the inevitability of the passing of years is a given. So, let us celebrate the gift of God—life; as we continue our journey toward eternity.

We will celebrate our children as they head back to school for another academic year. On **Sunday, August 14**, we will observe a "Backpack Blessing" during the children's moment in worship. I hope you will make sure that your child can be present. It is a special time in the life of our congregation as we pray for them in preparation for their learning new things in school.

We are also in need of prayer as we continue our learning. We may be out of school, but we still find ourselves in the classroom of life-long learning. I pray that I (we) will never lose a de-

sire to know more. This is particularly true in regards to our faith. Peter's words of instruction will serve us well. **"But grow ..."** challenges us to never quit seeking the truth that God desires us to know. **"But grow ..."** helps us to understand that the fullness of God is available to us. **"But grow ..."** challenges us to dive deeper into the richness of God—"Father, Son and Holy Spirit and discover just how much He loves us.

We are all students. We all need to be prayed over. We all need to learn more about the richness of God's majesty. The beautiful thing is that is what He desires for you and me. He welcomes us into His classroom and invites us to ask anything so that, we may know more and more. This is an exciting time for us. We remember past lessons. We have our notes. We have been tested in many ways. We have received the affirmation of the Master Teacher. We are advancing. Yet, we still have lessons to be learned.

**"But grow ..."** I invite you to commit to the great lesson plan offered. Prepare yourselves for an exciting year as we come together through worship, Bible study, fellowship, and mission. He is here with us and ready to help us grow! Are you ready to take your seat? ✝

**Honorarium Gift Given**

An honorarium was given in honor of:

† **Pam Potter** by Bonnie Pettijohn & Barry Barbour



**Trish Hall:** August 4  
**Kelly Norris:** August 4  
**Teresa Cassity:** August 5  
**Mitch Hall:** August 21  
**Mark Riggs:** August 21



**Sunday School,** 9:30 a.m.

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

**Visioning Day,** Sunday, August 7 following Morning Worship

**Committee Meetings,** Monday, August 8, 5:30 p.m.

**Men's Lunch Bunch,** Thursday, August 11, 11:30 a.m.

**Back to School Blessing,** Sunday, August 14

**Sew Blessed,** Monday, August 15, 6 – 8 p.m.

**Finance Committee Meeting,** Tuesday, August 16, 5:30 p.m.

**Session Meeting,** Tuesday, August 23, 5:30 p.m.

**Men's Lunch Bunch,** Thursday, August 25, 11:30 a.m.

**Frye/Adams Wedding,** Saturday, August 27, 4 p.m.



Everyone is invited to gather in the Bethesda Community Hall following worship, **Sunday, August 7**, as we seek to discern God's direction for First Presbyterian Church. During this time, we will remember and celebrate even as we imagine and prepare for what lies ahead. You matter to us! Because God speaks through us all; we are needing to hear your heart. A light lunch will be served.

**Special Offerings**

Each Sunday of the month is designated for a special offering. If you would like to give to either of these ministries, please indicate on an offering envelope (back of the pew) or mark your check. You may also contribute electronically.

**1st Sunday** – The **Backpack Ministry** project serves elementary students with bags of take home food each Friday (for the weekend) and is supported by your financial contributions. You are helping to make a difference in the lives of children every day.

**2nd Sunday** – **.05 Cents a Meal Program** is a small first step in the battle against hunger and poverty. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.

**3rd Sunday** – **Clean Start Program** offers mail service for people who have no permanent address, as well as cleaning supplies and hygiene items to those who would not otherwise be able to afford them. It also offers private bathrooms where homeless individuals can shower in dignity.

**4th Sunday** – **CAReS** (Community Assistance & Referral Service, Inc.) is a community-based nonprofit agency housed in The Neighborhood building on Carter Avenue, that identifies, coordinates, and mobilizes resources for individuals and families in emergency/crisis situations.

**5th Sunday** – **FPC Carpet Fund**

member  
spotlight



Congratulations to Kaitlyn Stevens on passing USMLE Step One! We are so proud, and excited, about this recent accomplishment for Kaitlyn. As she continues to pursue her dream of becoming a Pediatrician, let us hold her up with our prayers. There are many classes, lessons and exams still before her. However, we know she will be up for the challenges. Way to go Kaitlyn! We are excited for you!

*We pray for students getting ready to go back to school or already having started. Bless their learning and growth in academics, life skills and faith.*