



Friday, July 31 – Aug 2  
 Friday: 5:30 – 8 p.m. @ FPC  
 Saturday: 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. @ Norris Family Pool  
 2300 Hickory Ridge Ashland, Kentucky 41101  
 Sunday: 10:50 a.m. VBS children singing  
 Back to School Brunch following Worship



# HEARTBEATS

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**STAFF**

*Vacant*  
 Minister

*Max Jackson*  
 Choirmaster/  
 Organist

*Nanette Pollack*  
 Administrative  
 Assistant

*Glen Thomas*  
 Facilities Manager

*Kara Adkins*  
 Nursery Attendant

**SESSION MEMBERS**

*Jan Holbrook*  
 President of  
 Congregation

*Kelly Hanni*  
 Secretary of  
 Congregation/  
 Clerk of Session

*Cathy Wilson*  
 Treasurer

**2027**

*Lee McCloud\**  
*J.T. Norris\**  
*Jimmy Hall*

**2028**

*Teresa Cassity*  
*Kelly Hanni \**  
*Donna Jones*

**2029**

*Jan Holbrook*  
*Mike Lilly*  
*Ellen Sharp*

\*2nd term of service



**"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." — Psalm 33:12**

As our nation prepares to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we join millions of Americans in reflecting on a remarkable journey of freedom, sacrifice, and hope. This historic milestone invites us not only to celebrate our nation's heritage but also to give thanks to God, who has guided generations through times of triumph and challenge.

As Christians, we recognize that true freedom comes ultimately from God. The Apostle Paul reminds us, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free" (Galatians 5:1). While we celebrate our political freedoms, we are especially grateful for the spiritual freedom found through faith in Jesus Christ—a freedom that transcends all earthly circumstances.

This anniversary is also an opportunity to honor those who have served and sacrificed to preserve the liberties we enjoy today. We remember the courage of our founders, the dedication of military service members, and the countless citizens who have worked to strengthen our democracy and communities. As we gather with family and friends this Independence Day, may we take time to pray for our nation. Let us pray for wisdom for our leaders, unity among our citizens, justice for all people, and renewed commitment to serving our neighbors with love and compassion. May God continue to bless our country and guide us in the years ahead.

As a church family, we celebrate this historic 250-year milestone with hearts full of gratitude, remembering the blessings of the past while looking forward with faith and hope to the future God has prepared.

Happy Independence Day and God's blessings to you and your family!

*Pastor Bill*

## Memorial Gift Given

A Memorial Gift was given in memory of *Linda Jones* by Kevin Gunderson.

## Notes of Gratitude

► I am truly grateful for the outpouring of love and support from my FPC family during this difficult time. The cards, calls, texts, prayers, and kind words have brought me great comfort and encouragement. Your pastor would be so happy to see the love and compassion you have shown. Your kindness has been a reminder of the strength and care of our church family. Thank you for your prayers, support, and friendship. I love you all and am deeply grateful to be part of the FPC family. May God bless each of you for the comfort and encouragement you have shared with me.

Love, Nanette

► Thank you very much for your recent donation. Your giving and partnership help us to provide a meal to those in need. As you are certainly aware, the need in our community is significant and we hope we can continue this partnership with you.

TJ Torgerson, Executive Director, Ashland Community Kitchen



## 2026 Ashland Blazer Youth Service Center Back to School Drive

### July 5 – August 2

We will have a collection bin in the Narthex of the church. If you have any questions, would prefer to donate money, or need your items picked up, please contact Mission Team Chair, Donna Jones. The center needs the following items:

#### High School Daily School Life:

Underwear, all sizes, male or female, men's shoes sizes 13, 14, 15, personal hygiene, feminine products, XL-3XL clothing

#### High School Food Pantry:

Pop tarts, instant oatmeal, cereal bars, Granola bars, Mac n cheese, Knorr's fiesta sides, rice, spaghetti noodles, canned pasta sauce, peanut butter, Cheez-its, peanut butter or cheese sandwich crackers, Gripz, trail mix, canned tuna, canned chicken soup (w/beef, chicken or potatoes), Chef Boy R Dee, Ramen noodles, packaged cookies

#### High School Classroom Needs:

Loose leaf paper, pencils, pens, Post-its, graph paper, high lighters, white out, plastic folders, spiral notebooks, three-ring binders.

**Thank for supporting this important ministry!**



**Sunday Morning Study:** Sundays, 9:28 a.m.  
**Armchair Theologians:** Sundays, 9:30 a.m.  
**Harmony of the Gospels:** Sundays, 9:30 a.m.  
**Sunday Morning Worship:** 10:50 a.m.  
**Men's Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 7 a.m., Bob Evans  
**Tai Chi Classes:** Tuesdays, 5 p.m. & Saturdays, 11 a.m.  
**Paper Angels:** Thursday, July 2, 1 p.m.  
**Men's Lunch Bunch:** Thursday, July 9, 11:30 a.m.  
**5 Cents a Meal Collection:** Sunday, July 12  
**Ministry Teams Meeting:** Monday, July 13, 5:30 p.m.  
**Paper Angels:** Thursday, July 16, 1 p.m.  
**Sew Blessed:** Monday, July 20, 6 p.m.  
**Finance Ministry Team:** Tuesday, July 21, 5:30 p.m.  
**Lunch Bunch:** Thursday, July 23, 11:30 a.m.  
**Session Meeting:** Tuesday, July 28, 5:30 p.m.

*Don Lee*–July 1  
*Michael Adkins*–July 2  
*Mike Lilly*–July 4  
*Cathy Wilson*–July 11  
*Angie Lewis*–July 17  
*SophieBeth Wheeler*–July 21  
*David Murphy*–July 22  
*Chris Payne*–July 23  
*Lee Hall*–July 25  
*Ann Wiseman*–July 29



## Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday, America!

As America celebrates 250 years of independence, Christians have much to be thankful for. Throughout our nation's history, God has blessed us with freedoms, opportunities, and the ability to worship Him openly. We can thank Him for the generations who have worked, sacrificed, and prayed for our country.

This anniversary is also a time for humility. No nation is perfect, and America has faced many challenges and failures. Scripture reminds us that true hope is found not in governments or institutions, but in God alone.

As believers, we are called to pray for our nation, serve our communities, and share the love of Christ. While we celebrate our country's past, we must also look to the future with faith, asking God to guide America in wisdom, righteousness, and unity.

As Proverbs 14:34 declares, "Righteousness exalts a nation." May America's 250th anniversary inspire gratitude for God's blessings and a renewed commitment to follow Him.

God bless America!