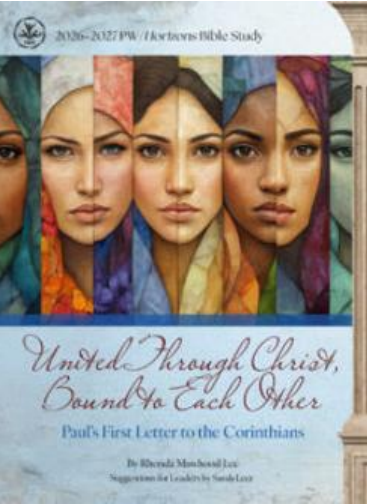




**The 2026–2027
PW/Horizons Bible
Study**

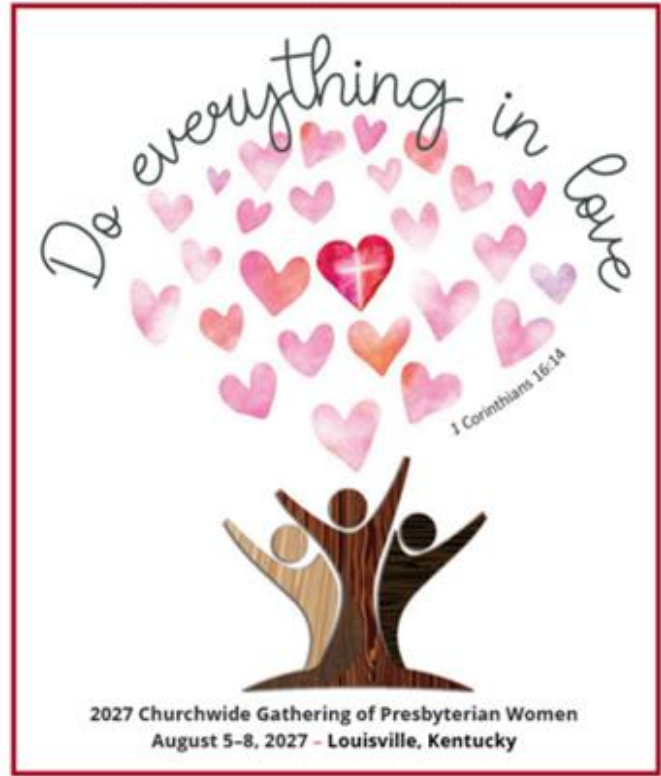
The Horizons Bible Study is looking for new members! It meets on the second Thursday of each month at **5:15 p.m.** Our sessions will begin on **August 13**. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bettie George Frye as soon as possible for more information. She will be picking up the study books on July 30. We hope you will join us!

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

The Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Transylvania Annual Fall Gathering will take place on **Saturday, September 26, 2026** at Camp Burnamwood (900 Camp Burnamwood Rd, Irvine, Kentucky.) The program **begins at 10 a.m. with coffee fellowship at 9:30 a.m.**

Theme – “Working together for Jesus: church mission partnerships”
Registration \$15, due by **Wed., Sept. 16**.
Program: The Rev. Dr. Lisa Culpepper, author of "Together is Better: How Small Membership Churches Fulfill God's Mission Call Through Partnerships." Includes ideas for churches connecting with each other for mission projects, ecumenical connections, and more.
Contact Bettie George Frye.

When and Where is the next PW Churchwide Gathering?
August 5–8, 2027, Louisville, Kentucky



Save the Date

to gather in person and
in faithful community
**at the 2027 Churchwide Gathering
of Presbyterian Women**
August 5–8, 2027

“Shall we gather at the river . . .”
**on the Ohio River that is – in
the city of Louisville, Kentucky**

presbyterianwomen.org/gathering

Held once every three years, Presbyterian Women’s Churchwide Gathering is an opportunity for Presbyterian women from across the country (and around the world!) to gather for worship, education, community-building, fun and renewal. Participants will enjoy workshops, forums, plenary sessions with inspiring speakers and worship. The PW’s triennial Business Meeting—where budget, leadership and programmatic emphases will be decided—takes place in conjunction with the Gathering.



HEARTBEATS

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Cathy Wilson

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2027

Lee McCloud*

J.T. Norris*

Jimmy Hall

2028

Teresa Cassidy

Kelly Hanni *

Donna Jones

2029

Jan Holbrook

Mike Lilly

Ellen Sharp

*2nd term of service



Timing Is Everything

By Rev. John Ferguson

Timing matters more than we often realize. It is the moment everyone shouts “Surprise!” just as the guest of honor walks through the door. It is the perfectly delivered punchline that turns a smile into laughter. It is the quick glance at the crosswalk timer before deciding whether to step off the curb. A timely word of encouragement, an apology offered at the right moment, or knowing when to speak and when to listen can make all the difference.

Life is filled with moments where timing shapes outcomes. Yet nowhere is timing more important than in our walk with God.

We often want answers immediately and clear direction for every step ahead. God, however, works according to His perfect timetable. Scripture reminds us that “when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son” (Galatians 4:4). Not early. Not late. Exactly according to His plan.

Esther, too, discovered that God had placed her where she was “for such a time as this” (Esther 4:14). What may have seemed like ordinary circumstances became part of God’s greater purpose.

There are seasons when God’s timing calls us to move forward, and there are seasons when it calls us to wait. In times of loss and uncertainty, waiting can be difficult. Yet faith learns to trust not only God’s plan but also His timing. It finds quiet confidence amid the noise, patience amid the rush, and peace in the pause.

We do not always understand the times in which we live, but we know the One who holds them. And that is enough.

Memorial Gifts Given

Memorial gifts were given in memory of **Rev. William “Bill” Pollack** by: Kevin Gunderson; Harry & Patty Wiley; Linda Cheverton; Bob Cruickshank; Chris & Barb Payne; John DeLaney; Stan & Treca Timberlake; Deb & Geoff Hunter; Mary Raybourn; G.M. & Z.J. Howard; Darryl & Jane Akers; Joe & Debbie Frazier; Jimmy & Ruth Anne Hall; Cathy & Larry Wilson; Jenny Noonan; Breck & Sybille Tarr; First Christian Church of Richlands NC; Jim & Jeri Ward; Sean & Charly Taylor; Christian Women’s Fellowship of First Christian Church, Richlands, NC; Andrew & Donna Jones

Memorial gifts were given in memory of **Steve Jackson** by: Max & Lois Jackson; Richard & Frances Martin; Kevin Gunderson



A Visit With Amy Crookes

During our recent drive from Salt Lake City to Ashland, Joe and I spent an evening with Amy Crookes.

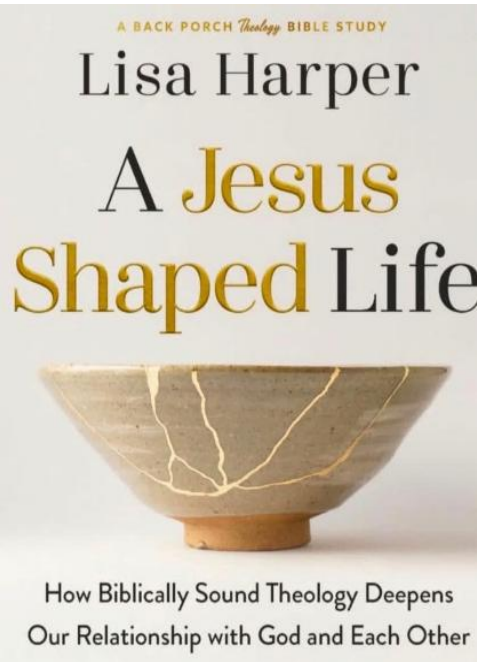
Amy and Roxie send their regards from 904 Broad St., Warrensburg, MO 64093, where Amy attends the First Presbyterian Church and sings in the choir. She mentioned how much she appreciates receiving the church newsletters, as well as notes, cards, and letters from friends. *(Bettie George Frye)*

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 220 million shoebox gifts to children in more than 170 countries and territories. You may choose to fill your own box or donate to the monthly cause each month. The donation box is in the Narthex. The OCC boxes will be blessed on November 8, 2026. Contact Donna Jones.

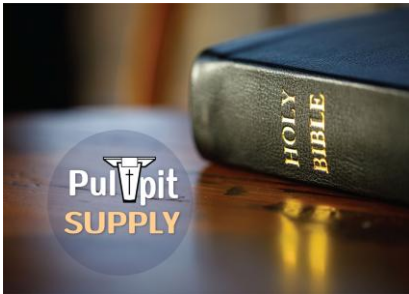


August: Coloring books, stickers, playdough, jump ropes, and pencil cases.



Dames & Dinner Bible Study

We are excited to begin a new Dames & Dinner Bible study! We will study "A Jesus Shaped Life" by Lisa Harper. The study will begin on **Thursday, August 27**, and will continue the third Thursday of each month from **5:30 to 7 p.m.** Dinner will be provided, though a \$10 donation is welcome. Books are free of charge. Please feel free to invite a friend or two to join us!



August Pulpit Supply:
Aug. 2: Rev. Jennifer Johnson
Aug. 9: Rev. Dr. Tom Hall
Aug. 16: Rev. John Ferguson
Aug. 23: Rev. Jimm Smedley
Aug. 30: Kalin Folden



Sunday Morning Study: Sundays, 9:28 a.m. (on break - resumes 9/13)
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.
Back to School Brunch: Sunday, August 2
Paper Angels: Thursday, August 6, 1 p.m.
Bereavement Support Group: Wednesday, August 5
5 Cents a Meal Collection: Sunday, August 9
Ministry Teams Meeting: Monday, August 10, 5:30 p.m.
Men’s Lunch Bunch: Thursday, August 13, 11:30 a.m.
Horizon’s Bible Study: Thursday, August 13, 5:15 p.m.
Church Reserved/Wedding: Friday & Saturday, August 14 & 15
Sew Blessed: Monday, August 17, 6 p.m.
Finance Ministry Team: Tuesday, August 18, 5:30 p.m.
Paper Angels: Thursday, August 20, 1 p.m.
Empty Nesters: Monday, August 24, 5:30 p.m.
Session Meeting: Tuesday, August 25, 5:30 p.m.
Men’s Lunch Bunch: Thursday, August 27, 11:30 a.m.
Dames & Dinner Bible Study: Thursday, August 27, 11:30 a.m.



Grace Marie (Frye) Adams–August 1
John DeLaney–August 3
Kelly Norris–August 4
Trish Hall–August 4
Teresa Cassity–August 5
Ransom Gehringer–August 20
Mark Riggs–August 21
Mitch Hall–August 21
Estelle Wilson–August 26
Ariana McGill–August 27
Ish Stevens–August 28
Stacy Wilson–August 28

Anniversaries

Lee & Mitch Hall–August 7
Ellen & Pat Sharp–August 10
Kelly & JT Norris–August 13
Bettie George & Joe Frye–August 17
Lura & Adrian Adams–August 27
Heather & Kevin Shay–August 31



The children who participated in Vacation Bible School will share several of the songs they learned during Worship on **Sunday, August 2**. Their joyful presentation is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what they experienced and learned throughout VBS, and everyone is encouraged to come and support them.

Following the worship service, all are warmly invited to stay for our **Back-to-School Brunch**. Join us for good food, fellowship, and a time to connect as we celebrate the start of a new school year. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Notes of Gratitude

→ *To the ladies of First Presbyterian Church – Your incredible generosity to our family during our recent stay in Ashland was such a blessing to us! Thank you for the many delicious meals and snacks. You made a difficult time easier for us, and more importantly, for my mom. Thank you! (Pastor Ike & Shauna Nicholson)*

→ *Presbyterian Women – On behalf the staff and Board of Directors of Safe Harbor, we wish to thank you for your generous support of our work and specifically for the donation in the amount of \$2,000. We are so grateful for your generosity on behalf of our families! (Ann Perkins, Executive Director)*