

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Sunday, September 1

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. – Worship

11:00 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Monday, September 2



Office Closed

Tuesday, September 3

1:00 p.m. – Praying For Children

Wednesday, September 4

11:00 a.m. – Presbyterian Women's
Coordinating Team Meeting

Thursday, September 5

Friday, September 6

Saturday, September 7

Sunday, September 8

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. – Worship

11:00 a.m. – Reception to Meet the Senior
Pastor Candidate in Fellowship Hall

Attendance Last Week (August 25):

10:00 a.m.: 129

Online Views: 45

Total Giving – \$12,223.00

2024 Per Capita to date – \$5,950.00

2024 Per Capita Budgeted – \$6,000.00

Total Due to Presbytery – \$20,774.00

(2024 Per Capita per member - \$34.00)

Follow Us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FPCMeadville>



The WINs Project is still collecting good clean plastic grocery bags (no wine and spirits bags). Please collect your bags and drop them off in their designated spot across from the church office at the end of August. Thank you!



The following dates are available if you would like to purchase flowers for our worship services: November 17, 24.



“Praying for Children”

Schools here and around the country will be opening soon to welcome our children. Please pray for teachers, administrators and other staff members, as they prepare to start the new school year. Especially lift up those that will be involved with your specific child's education this year. “Praying for Children” will resume meeting after Labor Day. All are welcome! Contact Laurel Porter at hlporter20@yahoo.com for more information.



If you would like offering envelopes for 2025, please notify the church at 814-333-2161 or drop a note in the offering plate.

We will be ordering envelopes in October.



Planning for the 2025 budget is underway. Committees, please submit your budget requests to Kris Lubomski, financial secretary, by September 27th. Your requests will be put into a spreadsheet and given to the Stewardship Committee so they can prepare for the 2024 Stewardship Campaign. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 1, 2024

Welcome to this service of prayer and praise at First Presbyterian Church. If we can be of service to you in any way, please call the church office weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at (814) 333-2161. Childcare is available in Cornerstone Child Care during the worship service.

SERVING THIS MORNING:

- **The Audio/Video Technician** today is Ryan Claspy.
- **The Greeters** today are Joy Jordan, Patti Wetherbee, Anastasia Bilka, and Leslie Hofer.
- **The Liturgist** today is Margaret Nelson.
- **The Cantor** today is Nancy Smith.

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of everyone celebrating birthdays in September by Marty and Suzie Malone.

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Howie McCall's birthday on September 5th by Carol Ann McCall and Family.

Our Sunday worship services in September will remain at 10:00 a.m. Sunday school will start on September 15. Children's Sunday school will be at 10:15 a.m. and Adult Sunday School will start after the 10:00 a.m. service. Childcare will be available during worship.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

† **Friends and members hospitalized, ill, and recovering:** Doris Edinger, Howie McCall, Marianne Woods, Bonnie Murphy, Marlene Braham, Christianne Maramba, Randy Puno, Blessie Santos, Ruth Cooper, Cathy McKinney, Erin Hart, Marilyn and John Robb, Cheri McFate, Jeremy Pruskowski, Carol Young, Ginny Burchfield.

† **The concerns of Lake Erie Presbytery this week:** Polk Presbyterian Church and Rev. Larry Myers, Temporary Supply Pastor; Sugar Grove Presbyterian Church and Commissioned Pastor, Patti Kuna.

† **Members' and Friends' Loved Ones Being Deployed:** Shawn Woolstrum.

† **Service Personnel:** Tyler Schmidt, Karalyn Adams, Ben Bartoe, Donald Albaugh, Andrew Hall, Travis Jensen, Kirk Mumau and Kloe Peterson.

† **“The work at Fairview/Fairmont Family Center.”** Staff - Rosanne Sommers, Family Center Director, Emily Seibel, Assistant, and Allegheny Bonner students Azalia and Niyah.

† **The mission work of** Ross and Mary Hunter (Ecuador), Rev. Celestin Musekura (E. Africa - ALARM), Donnie Brake (South Sudan - SEA Partners), Andrew and Amy Funka (Ingalls Creek), Medical Benevolence, Living Waters of the World, Presbytery of Redstone, (PA Wee Kirk Conferences), Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Haiti Children (Compassion International), Myoung Ho Yang and Ji Yeon Yoo (Thailand - Payap University), The Carter Foundation, Josh Heikkila (West Africa - PCUSA), Rev. Mark Adams and Miriam Escobar (U.S./Mexican Border - PCUSA), Cindy Corell (Joining Hands Against Hunger, Haiti - PCUSA), Rev. Cathy Chang and Juan Lopez Migration and Human trafficking, Philippines - PCUSA), Dr. Larry and Inge Sthreshley (Health, Hunger and Malnutrition Programs, Democratic Republic of the Congo - PCUSA).

NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE



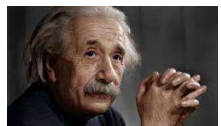
PNC Update: The PNC reported to Session that a candidate has been selected to become the next Senior Pastor of our church. The Session calls for a Special Meeting of the Congregation for September 8, 2024, following the 10:00 am worship service to act on terms of call and request for service as Minister of Word and Sacrament at First Presbyterian Church, Meadville. A reception is planned following the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. Active members have right to voice and vote at the Congregational Meeting.



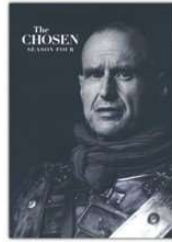
Stephen Ministry: If you have an immediate prayer need, contact the on-call Stephen Minister listed below. (Please note this is meant to supplement, not replace, the prayer line, which offers long-term, ongoing prayer.) Our goal is simply to offer the important ministry of one-on-one, confidential conversation and prayer as the immediate need arises. **For this week, the on-call Stephen Minister is Veronica Asay. She can be reached at 814-336-5408.**



The Prayer Lifeline is available to pray for your joys and concerns. Call the church office at 814-333-2161 to make your request. You can also e-mail Laurel Porter at hporter20@yahoo.com. All requests will be kept confidential.



LIBRARIAN'S PICKS FOR SEPTEMBER: "The only thing you need to know is the location of the Library!" (Albert Einstein) Our church library is at the top of the stairs - turn left. There are so many books and DVDs for all ages. Come in and Check Them Out!



Fall Adult Sunday School: This fall, Adult Sunday School will begin with the groundbreaking TV series *The Chosen*, Season 4. We will show again the first four episodes that were shown in May and then move on to the last 4 episodes. The theme of Season 4 is 'Rise Up'. The episodes show how the religious leaders become threatened by Jesus' growing influence and thus align themselves with the Roman oppressors. As the seeds of betrayal are planted and opposition to Jesus' message turns violent, the only alternative is for Jesus' followers to RISE UP. The powerful message from this Season 4 for us today is that God brings good things out of bad things despite how terrible things can look and feel. In our own troubled times, we must have faith that God uses suffering to bring about good in the lives of those he loves.



A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS!
Dear members and friends of First Presbyterian Church,
The surprise celebration after worship on August 25 was indeed a surprise! It is the best birthday celebration I have ever had! Your kind wishes and blessings are greatly appreciated. It was fun! This celebration followed the 47th wedding anniversary for Debbie and me, my 70th birthday, and the announcement to the congregation that a new senior pastor will be presented to you. What an incredible week! Let me also express my deepest gratitude to be your Interim Senior Pastor. After a mini sabbatical in September which includes a celebratory cruise, visits with family, a continuing education event, and officiating for my son's wedding, I will return in October. During October we will prepare, if the way be clear, for the welcome of the new senior pastor. Thanks for your incredible recognition of these incredible milestones.



FILL THE POOL WITH NONPERISHABLE FOOD! The Presbyterian Women's Mission Focus for the summer is the Food

Pantry. Many families in our community are going through hard times. A children's swimming pool will be upstairs in the foyer. Bring your items in and put them in the pool (which has been filled once), or you may bring items in during the week and drop them in the food pantry box in the office. Some suggested food items are canned meat, fruit, vegetables, soup, ravioli, legumes, pasta and pasta sauce, applesauce, rice and instant potatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese, cereal and oatmeal, peanut butter and saltine crackers, and small packages of instant milk. Any nonperishable food will be appreciated. **We are also in need of brown grocery bags.**



Are you looking to be a volunteer? The church has many ways you can serve: Food Pantry, Soup Kitchen, helping the office with Sunday bulletins, congregational mailings, Evangel mailings, ushering, liturgist. There are many opportunities to help. Call the church office for details 814-333-2161.



Howie and I would like to thank you for your prayers, cards, and support during his hospitalization and ongoing recovery. We are so grateful for our friends at First Presbyterian. Also, thank you to those of you who shared your culinary talents while providing meals for us. And a special thank you to Rev. Corll and Mary Zahora for their frequent visits to the ICU and phone calls. We are so grateful for you!

Howie and Carol Ann McCall



Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania, in cooperation with the WiNS Project, has announced the transition of five elementary schools in Crawford Central School District into its Backpack Program. The program discreetly places nutritious foods in participating children's backpacks on Fridays to ensure that children have what they need over the weekends and during school breaks. The Second Harvest Backpack Program will run from October to May each year. Volunteers from the WiNS Project will continue to pack the bags and deliver them to the schools each week. Suzie Malone, co-president of the WiNS project, shared, "We are delighted to be partnering with the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania. With Second Harvest taking on our child feeding program, the search for a reliable and affordable source of food for weekly bags is over. I hope that those who have financially supported WiNS in the past will continue to do so through Second Harvest, so this important program can continue." Donations can be made online at www.nwpafoodbank.org.



We have building improvements taking place at this time. New carpeting has been installed in the downstairs offices. We are still waiting for parts to arrive to finish the ongoing work in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your patience during these improvements to our facility.