

Focus on First

GROWING PAINS AND ALL...

PASTOR ANDY

Growth is change. Growth is exciting. Change can be exciting too! But for many change can be challenging. Everything in the world that is healthy grows. Trees, flowers, children, businesses, communities and churches grow when they are healthy, and growth means change.

By the time many of you read this we will have already announced a move-in day for the CEC. As I sit writing this vision for a healthy, grace-filled move, there are many changes I anticipate us navigating together.

We have a team of folks working on a communication for parking and traffic flow at the CEC, especially for days of inclement weather. So keep your eye out for that soon.

I also want to encourage you that as we make this transition to having Sunday School across the street, there will be some logistics that we will not have anticipated. If you are met with a challenge, please do not hesitate to ask for help. We are all in this together. Be reminded that in the days when we were a much smaller church, we longed and prayed for God to grow our church. He has answered our prayers. Let us now face these new days with the most gospel centered cheerfulness we can. It is a moment to be celebrated.

In my years of ministry I have often been present with people at the birth of their children or grandchildren. One thing I have heard, especially from mothers and grandmothers, is that the new babies are so precious that, "I wish they could stay this way forever." Well, I know what people mean. We would like to hold on to life's delightful moments longer. But the fact is that if children did not grow up that would mean something was terribly

(Continued on page 2)



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

9:30 am Morning Bible Study
10:45 am Morning Worship
Live Streaming also available

Monday

Women's Study Systematic Theology—
ON BREAK

Tuesday

9:30 am Women's Bible Study
Ends May 13

Thursday

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

UPCOMING EVENTS

Deacons' Meeting

Thursday, 5/15 10:30 am

Session Meeting

Tuesday, 5/20 8:00 am

Joint Worship Service

Thursday, 5/17 4:55 pm CDT
Covenant Pres Oak Ridge

ON Group (Monthly Octogenarian/
Nonagenarian-see Bobby Duck)















NEWSLETTER PURPOSE:

- Communicate church events and activities
- Communicate community events of interest to our members
- Communicate life events of our members
- Provide discipleship and teaching
- Communicate regarding missions and ministries

★★★★★★★★★★

★ A **women's book** ★
★ **study** will be ★
★ starting Thursdays, ★
★ **6-7 pm on June 12th.** ★

 We will be reading 
 “*The Good News We* 
 *Almost Forgot:* 
 Rediscovering the 
 Gospel in a 16th 
 Century Catechism?”. 

★ The cost is \$10. ★
★ A sign up sheet is ★
★ in the hallway. ★
★

So, let us fix our eyes on Jesus and delight in Him and this moment of grace He has given us. Thank you for all your prayers, encouragement, giving, and help to make this moment happen. Soli Deo Gloria!



Happy Mother's Day

"She is clothed with strength and
dignity; she can laugh at the days
to come. She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her
tongue." PROVERBS 31:25-26

longue." PROVERBS 31:25-26

Mark your calendars for a joint worship service on **May 11** at 4:55 CDT/ 5:55 EDT at Covenant Presbyterian in Oak Ridge.

presents our
2025 Annual Fundraising Event
as
The PPS Center & Warehouse
Fundraising Open House

We hope to see you there!

MISSIONS UPDATE

—PLATEAU PREGNANCY SERVICES

Plateau Pregnancy Services (PPS) is a local outreach ministry committed to providing abstinence, whole health instruction, counseling and support to women and men in crisis pregnancies and post abortion recovery.

PPS was established in 1992 by Dr. Michael Perrigan who found a need to offer more extensive services to unwed mothers than his own OB/GYN practice could provide. It began as a crisis pregnancy hotline with First Presbyterian Church members and then moved to its present location, donated by Dr. and Mrs. Perrigan, in 1993.

Sheri Nichols, an enthusiastic and dedicated ambassador for Christ, became the Executive Director in 2010. She has a special heart for helping those struggling with drug abuse to get rehab, reclaim their lives and become the best person and/or parent that they can be.

The ministry has grown considerably since its humble beginnings and now provides a variety of services under the following three operating programs.

- Project CARE (Character, Advancement, Respect, Education): includes services directly related to pregnancy
- Project Hope: includes services to help facilitate healing and recovery from the hurts of bad choices and includes confidential support, bible study, and mentoring
- Project Truth: is a Whole Health Sex Education program, teaching abstinence, purity, healthy relationships and consequences of poor choices.

Baby Bottles
Change
Lives



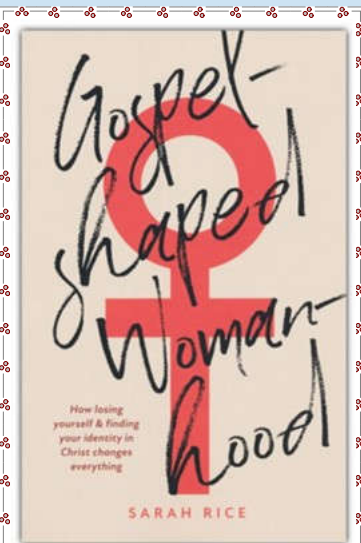
PPS is supported solely by donations from individuals, business partners, and area churches. This year's annual fundraiser is an Open House from 10 to 4 on Saturday, **May 3rd**. There will be food, music and tours of the new warehouse. We hope it is well attended by FPC. Sandy Reed and Greg Wood are on the PPS Board of Directors.

Please pray for:

- abortion minded clients to choose life, especially those who are very young
- the success of PPS community and outreach
- emotional and spiritual strength for the volunteers and the leadership.
- for the Court cases concerning the mailing of the abortion pill in various States.

FPC's annual Baby Bottle fundraiser is this month.

You will be able to pick up baby bottles for the Plateau Pregnancy Services fundraiser on Mothers Day, **May 11th**. Please take your baby bottles home and fill them with your change and dollars (*checks should be made payable to Plateau Pregnancy Services*) until Fathers Day, **June 15th** when you will return them to the table in the hall. We ask you to be generous with your giving in the baby bottles. Last year we raised \$3270.64 with the baby bottles. The Missions committee will also be giving our budgeted \$4500 donation in October. ***Remember Baby Bottles can change lives!***



Young **women**
ages 16-24 are
going to be reading
“Gospel-shaped
Womanhood” on
Sunday mornings
starting soon.
See Hope for more
information.

First Presbyterian Church

Identity and Mission

We belong to the family of the Redeemed. Transformed by the grace of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are delighting in the supremacy of God in all things as we reach up to Him in worship, reach in to one another with biblical teaching and shepherding care, and reach out to the world with Christ.

So that in everything Christ might be preeminent. —Colossians 1:18

Session:

Andy Aikens, Senior Pastor
Robert Berman, Bobby Duck
Forrest Marion, Clerk
Richard Parks, Jim Sparks

Deacons:

Dave Miser-Chair,
John Reed Secretary, Mike Tuuk

Staff:

Music Director: Matt Bundy
Finance / Admin: Holly Kisly

Ministry Support:

Treasurer: Bill Allbright
Technology Specialists: Matt Bundy
Accompanists: Matt Bundy
Library: Kathy Pipkin
Newsletter: Darlene Gendjar
Sanctuary Flowers: Sherry Hewitt

Our Missions Family—

International

Julian and Rachel Bacon, MTW
Brussels, Belgium.
Lydia Goeglein, MTW Sophia, Bulgaria.
Brian & Becky Schrader, Pioneers in Africa.
Lee Leadbetter, RUF-International at UT.

Our Missions Family—

North America

Christ Church Pres in Powell
Plateau Pregnancy Services
Good Samaritans
RUF Tennessee Tech, Ryan Angel
Rural Church Dev., Corey Pelton
Myers Park Initiative, Greg Salazar
Occom Ministries, Native American Initiative



First Presbyterian Church
15 Rock Quarry Road
Phone: (931) 484-4644
office@firstprescrossville.org
pastor@firstprescrossville.org
matt@firstprescrossville.org
www.firstprescrossville.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CENTER REMODEL

