



April  
2026

## 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

## Weekly Schedule

- Sunday**  
 9:30 am Morning Bible Study  
 10:45 am Morning Worship
- Monday**  
 2:00 pm Systematic Theology
- Tuesday**  
 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
- Thursday**  
 9:00 am Men's Bible Study

## Upcoming Events

- 4/2 **Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 pm**
- 4/3 **Good Friday Service, 6:30 pm**
- YAH Group – see Pat Duck**  
 80+ Women, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
 4/2 Noon, Willows FFG
- TVP Women's Conference**  
 4/25 9 am-3 pm Chattanooga
- ON Group – see Bob Duck**  
 80+ Men's Group

## Newsletter Purpose

to communicate:

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

## Resurrection Prayer

Pastor Andy

Resurrection Sunday is upon us. I offer to you this prayerful meditation from *The Valley of Vision*. I hope it enlightens your minds, encourages your hearts, and energizes your hands.

O GOD OF MY EXODUS,

Great was the joy of Israel's sons, when Egypt died upon the shore,  
Far greater the joy when the Redeemer's foe lay crushed in the dust.

Jesus strides forth as the victor,  
conqueror of death, hell, and all opposing might;  
He bursts the bands of death,  
tramples the powers of darkness down, and lives forever.

He, our gracious surety,  
apprehended for payment of our debt,  
comes forth from the prison house of the grave  
free, and triumphant over sin, Satan, and death.

Show us herein the proof that His offering for us is accepted,  
that the claims of justice are satisfied,  
that the devil's scepter is shivered,  
that His wrongful throne is leveled.

Give us the assurance that in Christ we died,  
in Him we rose, in His life we live, in His victory we triumph,  
in His ascension we shall be glorified.

Majestic Redeemer,  
You who were lifted up upon a cross  
are ascended to the highest heaven.  
You, who as Man of sorrows was crowned with thorns,  
are now as Lord of life wreathed with glory.

Once, no shame more deep than Yours,  
no agony more bitter, no death more cruel.  
Now, no exaltation more high, no life more glorious,  
no advocate more effective.  
You are in the triumph chariot leading captive  
Your enemies behind You.

What more could be done than You have done!  
Your death is our life, Your resurrection our peace,  
Your ascension our hope, Your prayers our comfort.

## FPC Prayer Chain

From a website called "Got Questions" I picked up the following: "A prayer chain is a group of people, usually associated with a church, who share prayer requests and commit to pray for needs as they arise. It's called a 'prayer chain' because the individual members are 'linked' by prayer, and requests make their way from one person to another, following the 'chain.' In a prayer chain, each link represents one person committed to pray for the needs of others. The more 'links' in the chain, the more people are praying for the needs or struggles of others. The imagery of a chain also underscores the strength of God's people who are united in prayer."

In the case of FPC, prayer requests or praise for prayers answered are sent by phone call, text, or email to one point person (currently Lynn Miser) who then forwards them by email to all the other members who have asked to be on the list to receive them. This is primarily intended to be for members of FPC and their families in need of prayer for matters of urgency.

No prayer requests are sent out that have not been specifically requested by the person or family directly involved. And new members of FPC are not added to the address list automatically - **to be added, one should let the church administrator know.**

## Missions' Update

First Presbyterian Crossville brothers and sisters,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus! First and above all, I want to say thank you for your generous and vital support that you have offered to the work of planting Mercy Presbyterian Church here in the Fountain City neighborhood of Knoxville. Thank you for your prayer, for your words of encouragement, and the bond of your friendship.

We are continuing to gather on Sunday evenings, in our home, for "Launch Team" meetings. We eat dinner, spend time in prayer, and then we have a time of Bible study and discussion. This Spring, we have been discussing the *character* of the church. The church is called toward maturity in Christ, by God's grace, and that maturity is expressed in a particular way in particular contexts. For us, we have been talking about how we pray to be a church that is kingdom-focused, celebratory, hospitable, unhurried, and rooted. And on the topic of being "rooted," I mean that we pray to be a church that is distinctly Reformed and Presbyterian. We want to be blessedly unoriginal, gladly adopting ways of practicing our faith that have been tested and tried through time. While our chief aim is to glorify and enjoy God through the proclamation of the gospel here in Fountain City, we do so as a Presbyterian church, gladly asking the Spirit to use our Presbyterianism as an instrument to display the incomprehensible beauty of the Father and the Son.

Our strategic plan is to begin Sunday services this September, the Sunday after

*There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway for this event.*

## Rev. Rob Herron – Church Plant



Labor Day. As I write this, I actually had an opportunity to meet with a representative from another church today. We are asking this church to consider renting us a portion of their building for our worship services. Please be praying for this church board's decision on whether to offer us a rental agreement. I believe the space would be a great fit for us and for our witness here in Fountain City. I also know that relationships between churches in the context of shared and rented space can be complicated. Pray that the Lord would not only grant us wisdom, but that He would apply his greater wisdom in his works of providence. If it's the wrong fit, let's pray the door closes. If it's the wise path forward, may the door swing wide open!

Again, thank you, dear brothers and sisters, for your love and support! May the Lord bless you there in Crossville with his abundant mercies.

In Christ,

Rev. Rob Herron

Tennessee Valley Presbytery  
**Women's Conference**  
Sat, Apr 25 - 9 am-3 pm  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
8451 E Brainerd Rd. Chattanooga, TN

Speaker: Paula Miles  
Topic: Body, Bride, & Building

**SAVE THE DATE!**

A graphic for a Women's Conference. It features a woman in a white dress standing next to a church steeple. The text includes the event name, date, time, location, speaker, and topic. There is also a 'SAVE THE DATE!' banner at the bottom.

# Session Notes

The session held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, February 17, at the church.

Pastor Andy led a devotional from Exodus 17:1-7, then opened the session meeting in prayer.

The following agenda items may be of interest:

1. **Family Ministry Director/Pastor Proposal & Candidate:** the session agreed that our greater need is for a second Teaching Elder qualified and prepared for immediate broader ministry among our flock than could have been provided by a family ministry director. We are in an active search for an appropriate candidate.
2. **Building Committee:** The committee asked for guidance from the session. Your elders are working to provide the committee with guiding principles for developing our campus over the next 10 years.
3. **New Members' Class:** began on 3/8/26 and will run for 4 weeks, to be held during the Sunday School hour in the fellowship hall. Church officers are invited to attend.

4. **New Adult Sunday School Class:** Robert Berman began a new study on Jesus' Parables. If you are interested, the book entitled The Parables of Jesus by James Boice would be a helpful supplement to this study.
5. **Fellowship Dinner:** was held on 3/22/26. The session is grateful for several sisters who took the initiative to craft helpful guidelines that will be disseminated soon.
6. **TVP Winter Stated Meeting:** the session approved RE Larson & RE Sparks as commissioners to this meeting on 2/21/26.
7. **General Assembly Meeting in Louisville, Ky., Jun. 22-26:** the session approved RE Berman & RE Marion as commissioners to GA.

**Order of the Day:** Session spent time in prayer for the Shepherding and other needs of the congregation. TE Aikens closed the meeting in prayer at 8:30pm.

**Next Stated Session Meeting:** Friday, Mar. 20, 2026, 8am.

Warmly in Christ,  
Forrest

## New Audio Option

Four wireless listening units are now available to assist with hearing the church services. They work with headphones or T-coil-enabled hearing aids.

For sanitary reasons, if you want to use the headphone option, it's best if you bring your headphones from home with the smaller connector (3.5mm), which will plug into our devices. However, we will have backups if they are needed. Ask someone in the audio booth if you would like to use one, and feel free to send any questions to Matt Bundy at [matt@firstprescrossville.org](mailto:matt@firstprescrossville.org).



## Library Cataloging Help Needed



Dear Church Family:

In the near future I could use some help with work in the children's/homeschooling library located in the main building where the old library used to be. For now the work would mainly be affixing printed labels and barcodes to the books and helping to organize the shelves.

If you have any interest in cataloging, I would be willing to train you, but this work is somewhat more intensive and can be a bit arduous at times.

Please contact Kathy Pipkin if you're interested. [katimacii@gmail.com](mailto:katimacii@gmail.com)

## Memorial Garden Brochure Available

A brochure with information regarding the FPC Memorial Garden can be found on the table **in the Narthex** between the two new black chairs.

If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Gendjar.

## First Presbyterian Church

### Session:

Andy Aikens, Senior Pastor  
Robert Berman  
Eric Larson  
Forrest Marion, Clerk  
Richard Parks  
Jim Sparks

### Deacons:

Dave Miser-Chair,  
John Reed-Secretary,  
Mike Tuuk  
Greg Wood

### Staff:

Music/Sound Director: Matt Bundy  
Finance / Admin: Holly Kisly  
School of Music Dir.: April Stewart

### Ministry Support:

Treasurer: Bill Allbright  
Newsletter: Darlene Gendjar  
Library: Kathy Pipkin  
Children's Ministry: Hope Aikens

### Missions -- International

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

### Missions -- North America

Plateau Pregnancy Services  
Good Samaritans  
RUF Tennessee Tech, Ryan Angel  
Rural Church Dev., Corey Pelton  
Myers Park Initiative, Greg Salazar  
Mercy Presbyterian, Rob Herron  
Occom Ministries, Native American Initiative

## First Presbyterian Church

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## New Member Spotlight – Cole & Robyn Mayhugh

We recently moved to Crossville in June of 2025 from Smyrna, TN. Moving here has been a big transition period for us. Cole is a Smyrna native, I (Robyn) moved there after college. We met and fell in love at a church in Smyrna while both volunteering in children's ministry.

My sister lived in Crossville for a short time working at Life Care as an Occupational Therapist. When we began looking for land to build our house we found Crossville through her.

Cole built our home from the ground up. He cut the trees, dug the footers, built the foundation, framed it, did the plumbing/electric. We got some help with the HVAC and hired out the drywall, but he did the rest of the work. My dad (a high school teacher) came and offered a hand during his school breaks.

We also had William during that time (we bought the land in February 2024, and William was born in June of 2024). Which made it more exciting, but also more chaotic. We continued to live in the Nashville area while



building, so lots of driving back and forth, especially for Cole. We moved to Crossville in early June of 2025. I transferred to a remote position with the company I was already working with, and Cole has been working construction jobs locally. We are blessed to be expecting our second child, a little girl, due April 19th.

Most of our spare time has been spent finishing our home, but we also enjoy taking walks at Cumberland Mountain State Park, going bowling, and walking around Rural King with the kiddie shopping carts and a bag of popcorn.

We were very attracted by the kindness of the people at First Pres and look forward to getting to know you all more whether chatting on a Sunday or visiting over dinner!

