



The REDbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church
Mountain Home, Arkansas



AUGUST 2025

Sunday Worship Services 10:00 am

Coffee Fellowship after Worship Service

Phone: 870-425-3799 email: fpcmh@centurytel.net

Office hours: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Tuesday– Thursday

Captivity Transformed

In Jesus' first sermon in Nazareth, he read from Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to bring good news to the poor ... to proclaim release to the captives" (Luke 4:18, NRSV). Then he declared this Scripture fulfilled — in him. Ever since, in countless ways, Jesus has transformed captivity and dead ends into freedom and new beginnings.

A modern instance is a lovely new apartment complex built out of Lorton (Virginia) Reformatory, a prison that operated from 1910 to 2001. The beautifully renovated apartments — fittingly named Liberty Crest — opened in 2017. This project demonstrates wise stewardship by channeling new life into an old space, and care for people in need by reserving more than 25% of the units for low-income renters. Whether this project's developers are disciples of Jesus or not, the divine power of resurrection has been at work through them.

We're all held captive by something: illness, debt, oppression, violence, our own sin or another sort of dead end. But Jesus brings liberty where only prison was known. He transforms death into life, despair into hope, endings into bright new beginnings. May we who follow him do the same.



My goodness! We have reached the eighth month of the year already. August is also known as the last month of summer and the hottest month. Folklore says of August, “If the first week of August is unusually warm, the winter will be white and long.”

Looking at the forecast for that week, it would appear we should be buying shovels and stocking up on deicer for sidewalks before the stores run out this fall. Or perhaps you plan to wait and see and just stay home, comfy and warm this January. But then what happens when you need to leave for health reasons or family emergencies? Will you be caught unprepared?

Jesus in the Bible often spoke of being prepared. His concern was for us being ready at any time for meeting the Father, whether that be the ultimate end of our world or our individual death. We know it will come, but just not when. Have we mended our fences? Done our forgiving? Sought forgiveness? Given of our riches and blessings?

Jesus would mention the women having oil for their lamps awaiting the unknown arrival of the wedding party, and other stories of storing wealth in heaven instead of here on earth. He wants us to be prepared for the unexpected and not be satisfied that we have done the minimum of what may be required to get by. He wants us to be safe and sound at any time with no regrets or matters left undone. Can we say we are ready? Let’s be sure we’re prepared for our forever future, warm and comfortable with the Lord.

*Special Dates in **AUGUST***

Birthdays

3-Ian Ruegsegger

5-Marilyn Wheat

10-Ralph Gillespie

12-Eleanore Wheeler

18-Wana Thacker

23-Fred Ruegsegger



"Allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise, and love."

—St. Teresa of Avila

Anniversaries

3-TJ & Janeth Lawson

28-James & Nancy Priest

Serving in Worship



August Lay Readers

03-Ellen J

10-Kay K

17-Marty H

24-Nancy P

31-Doug W



August Fellowship

Don't forget to volunteer to host fellowship by signing up on the bulletin board on the way to the fellowship hall. There is a sign up sheet for August currently hanging on the board.



August Ushers

03-Marilyn W

10-Open

17-Ellen J

24-Open

31-Marty H

Church Leadership Meetings

JULY SESSION UPDATE

The Session met on 8 June 2025 with all the elders but Don Crapnell and Ruth Fine in attendance; Rev. Lila DeMoss, moderator. Session discussed and approved Nancy Priest to replace Don Crapnell as chair of Personnel & Administration Committee. A motion was approved to move the Session meetings to the 3rd Sunday every other month. The next Session meeting will be August 17, 2025.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Clerk of Session

JULY DEACONS UPDATE

The Deacons continue to stay in touch with members, friends of the church, and family, extending help if needed. Each Deacons list was reviewed and updated as needed. Requests for prayers were shared with the Prayer Group. We thank the Mission Committee and all those who shared in and enjoyed the picnic/songfest on July 13. Presbyterians are great cooks!

Marilyn Wheat, Moderator



Please remember Don Crapnell who passed on June 23 and Sherman Fine who passed on June 25.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of May 30, 2025

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Donations/Deposits | \$5,797.00 |
| Uncleared Checks/Expenses | \$7,503.96 |
| Bank Balance | \$37,860.33 |

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Treasurer



MISSIONS HEADLINES

The Mission committee will collect boxes of cereal for the month of August. All items collected will be donated to the Food Basket for distribution to local families.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, August 6 at 1:00 pm.



For more information please contact Mary Smith.

“Summer”

**'Tis summer, I know by the blue of the sky;
By the trees' deeper green, as beneath them I lie;
And more than all these, by the lovely wild rose
That now in the woodland its pink blossom shows. ...**

**I feel the warm west wind fan gently my cheek
As I sit on the grass, far too happy to speak;
And then in the twilight I see the faint spark
Of the fire-fly, flitting alone in the dark.**

**Oh! long happy days, when 'tis full of delight
To roam in the meadows from morning till night!
Oh! summer, sweet summer! glide slowly away,
For I love in your warmth and your fragrance to stay.**

—H.P. Nichols



Women of the Church

The Women of the Church did not meet in July, and will not meet in August. A sign up sheet is on the board for hostesses. The next meeting will be on September 9 and will meet at Leo's Italian Restaurant at 12:00 pm. A sign up sheet is on the board if you plan to attend. We encourage all women to come, listen, and be part of learning about Queen Esther.

See you there...

Prayer List for Congregations, Presbytery of Arkansas

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Aug. 03-Trinity, Little Rock | (Members: 355 Est:1987) |
| Spring River, Hardy | (Members: 034 Est:1960) |
| Aug. 10— First, Bentonville | (Members: 583 Est:1846) |
| Westminster, Little Rock | (Members: 016 Est:1889) |
| Aug. 17-First, Conway | (Members: 241 Est:1892) |
| First, Prairie Grove | (Members: 079 Est:1903) |
| Aug. 24-First, Morrilton | (Members: 167 Est:1887) |
| First, Springdale | (Members: 323 Est:1950) |
| Aug. 31-Wynne Church, Wynne | (Members: 098 Est:1885) |
| Church Sessions | |

"Time spent in prayer is never wasted."

—François Fénelon

SCRIPTURES FOR AUGUST 2025

Sunday August 03

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 Psalm 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21

Sunday August 10

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

Sunday August 17

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

Sunday August 24

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14 Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

Sunday August 31

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 25:6-7 Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:7-14




I bring to you, Jesus, the whole mix of emotions of my day and week. Thank you for taking me as I am. Amen.

All Scriptures are taken from the Presbyterian Planning Calendar.

(Complementary)



AUGUST 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat |
|--|---|--|---------------|----------|---------------|-----|
| |  | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | Office Closed | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|  | Office Closed | | Missions 1 pm | | Office Closed | |
| | | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Lunch at Chen's after Service. | Office Closed | | | | Office Closed | |
| | | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Session Meeting | Office Closed | | | | Office Closed | |
| | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | Office Closed | | | | Office Closed | |
| 31 | Labor Day Office Closed |  | | | | |
| | | | | | Office Closed | |

First Presbyterian Church

1106 Spring Street

Mountain Home, AR 72653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. /Tuesday -Thursday

Church Mailing Address:

1106 Spring Street

Mountain Home, AR 72653

8704253799

fpcmh@centurytel.net

Website: www.fpcmh.net

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.