

Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known

Welcome to today's worship service. We are delighted that you are here. If you are visiting, we invite you to join by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by re-affirmation of faith, or by transfer. Please speak to the pastor after the service.

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Jude Swanson	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Music Director
Sound	David Clark
Video	Alex Walthall
Liturgist	Jackie Rochford
Greeter	Brenna Takata
Side door/Offering	Barry Cutright

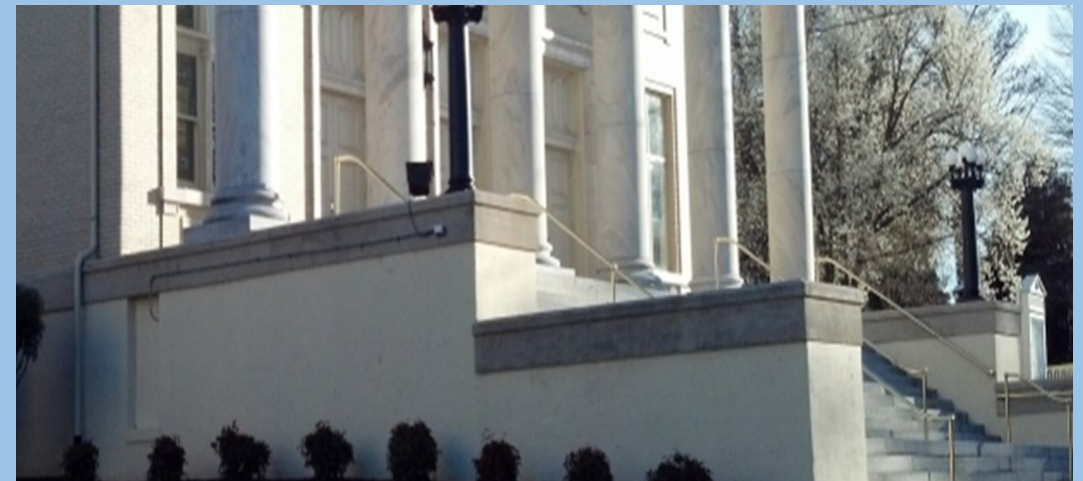
BUDGET UPDATE

	September 1 – 30	YTD
Contributions	\$34,824.15	\$270,588.37
Expenditures	\$60,930.79	\$393,289.19
Difference	(-\$26,106.64)	(-\$122,700.82)

First Presbyterian Church

October 13, 2024

11 a.m.



937 Main Street

Danville VA 24541

434-792-7822

www.fpcdanville.com

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to Noon

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

PRELUDE "Give Me Jesus" African American Spiritual,
arr. Mark Hayes

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the day God has promised: the day of the new covenant.

People: We are here, because our hearts are filled with love for our God.

Leader: No longer carved on cold stone, this covenant is engraved on our hearts.

People: Our hearts are open so God's Word can shape us.

Leader: We will reach out to our neighbors, our friends and family, even to strangers.

People: Our hearts are ready to serve God and all of God's people.

INVOCATION

O God, You yearn to be so close to us that we can know you in every breath, in every hope, in every relationship. Meet us here today and teach us to recognize the covenant of mercy, peace, and love you have written on our hearts. May your desires become our desires, your work become our work, and this community be a place where you are sought and found. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

HYMN #697

Take My Life, and Let it Be

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

October 15th	Handbells 5:00pm Ladies Dinner 6:00pm
October 16th	Wednesday Night Supper 6:00pm Rev. Paul Sydnor
October 17th	Bible Study 10:30am Choir Practice 4:30pm
October 19th	Saturday Lunch Ministry 11:30am

Please fill out green reservation forms for Wednesday Night Supper and drop them in the offering plate. Menu is BBQ, mac and cheese, green beans, salad, and dessert.

Where can indigent people in Danville get a daily hot lunch? The Salvation Army, of course, serves Monday through Friday at the Danville Corps Community Center on Henry St. And if a house burns, where can its residents immediately get clean clothes? The Salvation Army Thrift Store on Riverside Drive sells and donates clothing for income, but gives it to those in emergency situations. The local Salvation Army raises about \$100,000 annually through the kettle donations at Christmas which are used for gifts and food for at least 500 needy families in Danville and Pittsylvania County. In Danville approximately 22% of the population lives in poverty. These are some of the reasons First Presbyterian Church's Mission Committee supports the Salvation Army in Danville. The international Salvation Army's motto is "Love Serve, Disciple" as it has worked for over 150 years offering disaster relief, emotional support, and supplies not only to the suffering but also for first responders. The Army's disaster relief trucks were among the first to arrive in hurricane-stricken areas of Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas recently.

Local leaders, Lieutenants Antonio and Shawnte Hodges, oversee the food pantry, Community Center, Christmas donations, and Thrift Store in Danville. Their goal is to help eligible families in need and to identify the root cause of those needs. They hope not to enable people but to see them "fully healed" and independent.

List of Session members

Class of 2024: Kathy Dolianitis, Brenna Takata*, Barbara Wilkins*, David Swann

Class of 2025: David Clark, Sam Meadema*, Eddie Blount*, Jackie Rochford*

Class of 2026: Barry Cutright, Gail Jones*, Kim Wimer

*Denotes Steering Committee Members

God of Great and God of Small
By Natalie Allyn Sleeth (1930 - 1992)

God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
Alleluia, Alleluia, praised be Thy Name.

God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,
God of never-ending pow'r, yet beside me ev'ry hour,
Alleluia, Alleluia, praised be Thy Name.

God of silence, God of sound, God in whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,

God of heav'n and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before, God who reigns forevermore,
Alleluia, Alleluia, praised be Thy Name. Praised be Thy Name.

About the Anthem:

Natalie Allyn Wakeley was born in Evanston, Illinois. She began studying piano at the age of four and went on to earn a BA in music theory from Wellesley College. Natalie married a renowned theologian and professor of homiletics, Reverend Ronald E. Sleeth. Rev. Sleeth went on to become the president of West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1977. Natalie composed an anthem for his inauguration entitled, "Joy in the Morning." The reference to Psalm 30 was unintentional at the time. She went on to compose "Hymn of Promise" (In the Bulb There is a Flower); this piece was sung at her husband's funeral shortly after its publication. Both pieces are exceedingly popular both as anthems and hymns. As a testament to its popularity, "Hymn of Promise" is planned for next week's service, to be played by the handbell choir.

"God of Great and God of Small" was composed earlier in Natalie's career, around 1972. She referenced the first line in a well-known children's hymn, "All Things Bright and Beautiful," which reads "...all creatures great and small." The Creation in Genesis is also referenced, when God created day and night. Although this song is easily singable and memorable, it contains a wealth of theology. God's omnipresence and omnipotence are affirmed many times throughout the lyrics. The phrase, "Alleluia, Alleluia, praised be Thy Name," is repeated three times. This mirrors the use of threefold repetition in many traditional Reformed hymns to praise the Triune God, as in "Holy, Holy, Holy." I hope more of Natalie's songs will become popular as congregational hymns and choral selections. She was blessed with a special gift for composing both theologically sound lyrics and beautiful music.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, You love us, but we have not loved You. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns, We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as You come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to You, and receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Hear our prayer as we continue in silence.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The truth about us is hard to receive,

People: but it is spoken with boundless love.

Leader: God's judgement is just

People: but Christ has taken our place and died for our sins.

Leader: Friends, in Christ we are forgiven.

People: Mercy abounds!

All: Thanks be to God!

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us, the children of God, stand and greet each other with God's blessings and remain standing for the "Gloria Patri".

RESPONSE

"Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be

World without end. Amen. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

In response to God's abundant grace at work in our lives, let us present with gratitude our gifts of time, talent and treasure, for the building up of God's kingdom.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the good news of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen

OFFERTORY: "Ville du Havre" P. P. Bliss/C. Callahan

DOXOLOGY *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise Him All Creatures Here Below

Praise Him Above Ye Heavenly Host

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM "Daily Grace" Odegaard/Willmington

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, illumine the sacred page, we pray, that our minds may be open to receive your Word, our hearts taught to love it, and our wills strengthened to obey it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 4:32-35

SERMON "The First Steps" Rev. Jude Swanson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy catholic church;
The communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting.
Amen.

HYMN #306 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

PASTORAL BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION "What Does the Lord Require of You?"
Jim Strathdee

POSTLUDE "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" C. E. Walz