



Beyond the Columns

First Presbyterian Church
September 2025

In this issue

- **Pg. 3 Music Department**
- **Pg. 5 Session Highlights**
- **Pg. 4 Missions**
- **Pg. 8 Day School Update**

Random thoughts from Jackson

As we welcome September, we pause to celebrate Labor Day, a time to honor the dedication and hard work that shape our lives and communities. This holiday invites us, as followers of Christ, to reflect not only on our earthly labors but also on our sacred calling as laborers for God's glory. In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus declares, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." As the body of Christ at First Presbyterian Church of Danville, we are those laborers, entrusted with the joyful task of sowing seeds of love, grace, and hope in our community and beyond.

This month, let us consider how every act of service—whether it’s serving in worship, teaching Sunday School, volunteering at our Lunch Ministry, or offering a listening ear—becomes a labor of love that glorifies our Creator. No action is too small when done for God’s kingdom because He multiplies our work in ways we may not always see. This month, let us reflect on how our efforts contribute to God’s kingdom. Every act, no matter the size, should be a labor of love that glorifies our God and points to the love that God offers us through Jesus.

As we labor together, let’s pray for strength, wisdom, and joy in the tasks God sets before us.

In Christ’s boundless love,
Jackson

Thursday Bible Study will meet each Thursday at 10:30am in the Westminster Room. We are continuing to study the Book of Hebrews.



Let your face shine on
your servant; save me in
your unfailing love.

Psalms 31:16

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

September – The Start of Autumn

Happy belated Labor Day and happy fall to everyone! This is a season of returning to routines, and that is certainly the case for all the musical ensembles in our area. I have compiled a list of fall concerts and services below so you can make plans early to attend. Several members of our church family sing and play together in these groups, and we would love to have you join us in the audience or congregation.

Saturday, October 18th , 7:30p.m. – Danville Symphony Orchestra presents, “A Halloween Spooktacular,” including classics from Mussorgsky, Duka, and Strauss as well as some movie and theatre soundtracks

Friday, October 24th , 6:00p.m. – Averett University Symphonic Band’s Fall Pops Concert at Stratford House. Please invite your friends and relatives at Stratford to enjoy this free concert (weather permitting). Family, guests, and neighbors are welcome to attend!

Sunday, October 26th , 11:00a.m. – Reformation Sunday worship and celebration in the sanctuary at First Presbyterian. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for a celebration of our theological foundations as a Reformed worshipping community. A brief reception will follow in the Dunglinson-Roberts room.

Saturday, November 1st , 7:00p.m. – Averett University Symphonic Ban’s Fall Pops Concert at Pritchett Auditorium (same program as 10/24)

Sunday, November 16th , 3:00p.m. – Danville Area Choral Arts Society (DACAS) Fall Concert featuring works by Arvo Part, John Rutter, and Virginia composer Undine Moore, as well as Bach’s famous Cantata No. 140, Sleepers Awake, with live orchestra. First Presbyterian has graciously lent this master work from our choral library to enable DACAS to perform it.

Monday, November 24th , 7:00p.m. – Community Thanksgiving Service including music from DACAS and DACAS Ringers handbell ensemble. Location to be announced.

Making Music is for Everyone!

As always, I would like to welcome you to join any of the ensembles above. Please let me know if you or anyone you know is interested in singing or playing an instrument with a group. I would be happy to get you connected with Martinsville Handbell Ensemble, DACAS, DACAS Ringers, Danville Symphony, or Averett University’s Symphonic Band.

Thank you for lifting your voices in worship each Sunday. Hearing you all singing together is refreshing to the mind and soul.

Grace and Peace,
Ashley

MISSION UPDATE



OPEN ARMS FOUNDATION, INC.

Rev. Bill & Wanda Perrow

P. O. Box 7542 Charleston, WV 25356

Ministry to Street and Refugee Children,
children for rehabilitation

“Blessed are those who mourn for they
will be comforted .”Matthew 5:4

Columbia is sinking back into the
violence which has almost destroyed the
country years ago. The militia groups have

resorted to intimidation tactics, engaging in murder and kidnapping of civilians, sexual violence, forced displacement, and forcing children to joining their ranks. In this violence many police have lost their lives. This violence has affected our community; we have a new boy who was a direct victim of the violence and a pair of siblings that were displaced because of the guerrilla warfare. Please pray that the Lord would once again restore peace in Columbia.

~submitted by David Swann

GOD’S STOREHOUSE BACKPACKS STARTING UP!

First Presbyterian Church is once again packing allergy bags for Head Start at God’s Storehouse one Thursday a month, September through May. If you’re interested in helping, please join us or contact Jackie for details.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

August Session Highlights

Session met on August 12, 2025.

MEMBERSHIP

- The committee will look into purchasing church t-shirts in the near future.
- Welcome bags will be distributed to new members when joining the church.

MISSIONS

- Session approved a grant to JT Minnie Maude to help with Saturday Lunch Ministry.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE - Report of August 2, 2025

- Hearing aids that are missing will need to be returned so we can inventory the amount needed so they can be replaced or change the batteries.
- A metal roof will be placed over the choir room and will also need painting. Session approved the action item and paint this roof.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- Special Services
- Reformation Sunday - Sunday, October 26,
- Community Thanksgiving Service - November 24
- Christmas Eve service - 5:30 PM

NEW BUSINESS

- Pictures of church and events need to be sent to Vickie and then will be forwarded to Alex.
Send pictures to admin@fpcdanville.com
- Camera update - A new camera system will be installed hopefully by Labor Day
- Special thanks to Tyson foods for their donation to help with Saturday Lunch Ministry.

A complete copy of the minutes can be requested by emailing admin@fpcdanville.com

CIRCLE NEWS

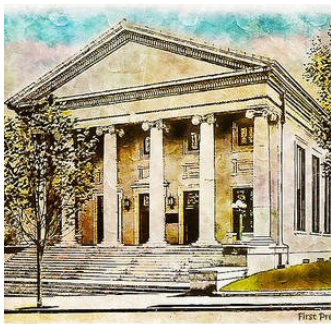


PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women's Day Circle will meet on September 8th at 12:30 p.m. in the Westminster Room. We will complete the series "Dust to Glory" with the final two DVDs, The Christ of Revelation and The Glory of God. Everyone is welcome!

The Evening Circle will meet at the home of Ava Barrett September 8th at 7pm. All women are invited to attend for the bible study with Joyce Perez and fellowship with other members. For more information you may call Bernadine Hayes at 434-799-5662.

Men's breakfast & bible study will be Saturday September 27th at 8:00am in Westminster Room. Please bring your breakfast as we join together in study.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DANVILLE

Founded in 1826, we were the first organized congregation in Danville. Our sanctuary and offices are located at 937 Main St, next door to the Sutherlin Mansion and Museum and a few blocks of west downtown.

You can reach us at (434) 792-7822 or admin@fpcdanville.com
Office hours are Monday– Thursday 9 am—1 pm



September

3 Paige Wiseman

4 Sally Clark

7 Caitlyn Crews

Susie Crews

8 Millie Hatcher

Parker Davis

9 Ocha Valentine

10 Jeff Davis

14 Anderson Miller

Sue Leggett Miller

16 Gail Jones

Sam Meadema

22 Ava Barrett

23 Rebecca Moore

24 Linda Dodson

26 Carol Strange

28 Lauren Mathena

Ashley Davis

If we've missed your special day,
please let us know!



If you are interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary, please contact Brannon Blount at 434-334-9935 or brannon_blount@yahoo.com for the dates available.

Youth

Youth Group will meet September 10, 17, and 24 at 6:00-7:30pm in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Youth Saturday Lunch Ministry will be Saturday September 27th. Please join us as we share the love of Christ by serving our community a meal.

DAY SCHOOL ROUND UP

Greetings! Nothing really exciting to report as the kids have been out of school while we prepare for their return. We've been decorating our rooms, scheduling field trips, cleaning toys, and collaborating on new ways to improve and enrich our students' experience.

Our Open House is Thursday, August 21st at 6PM. This is a time to welcome our families in, share information, and even make new friends. We answer any questions they might have and break the ice so that the first day goes a little smoother.

We are expecting 27 students this Fall, but there is still room! If you know anyone that is looking for a preschool home, please send them our way! We invite you to pray for wisdom and guidance for the leadership, dedicated and compassionate teachers, a safe and nurturing environment for students, and that this school would be a place where learning, growth, and God's love flourish.

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life". John 8:12



MISSIONS UPDATE
WE CAN HELP THE HUNGRY!

CROP Hunger Walk

October 5, 2025

3:00 p.m. – Ballou Park

The Danville Area CROP Hunger Walk raises funds to fight hunger amid rising food and housing costs, reduced benefits, and frequent natural disasters. God's Storehouse, our local food pantry, will receive about 30% of the proceeds, with the remainder supporting Church World Services' global efforts in over 80 countries. Funds go toward essentials like seeds, tools, water systems, and training communities to address their own developmental priorities. Our CROP Walk has raised almost \$300,000 since 2008.

First Presbyterian Church is once again participating in the CROP Hunger Walk on October 5 at Ballou Park. Choose between a one mile or 5K walk—or any distance you prefer. Your involvement counts!

Ways to support FPC:

- **Join our team:** Walk with us and receive a CROP Walk T-shirt (**please submit your shirt size by September 14 to Jackson, Jackie, or via the bulletin board sheet**).
- **Donate to our team:** Help us reach our \$1,500 goal by
 - Donating online at crophungerwalk.org/danvilleva (select First Presbyterian Church), OR
 - Write a check and note it's for CROP Walk.

For more details, see the bulletin board at the Sutherlin entrance.

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