

## Faith's Leadership Team

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Dear Friends,

In just a few short days, our congregation will be gathering in person in the Courtyard at 7:00 am and Sanctuary at 10:00 am, as well as virtually, to rejoice in the good news of Easter, proclaiming, ***"Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"*** While the Father of Presbyterianism, John Calvin, was correct when he noted that every Sunday should be a celebration of Christ's resurrection, Easter Sunday rightly remains the most "high and holy" day of the Christian year. On Easter we journey with the women to the empty tomb and are greeted with the most wonderful news of all: ***"You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here....But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him...."*** What incredible words for those grief-stricken women to hear! What incredible words for us to hear!

Think about the impact these words would have had on the women who had travelled to the tomb at the break of day to anoint Jesus' dead body. If the words of the angel were true, if Jesus were alive, their world and their lives would be forever changed. Christ's resurrection from the dead transformed their fading memories of Jesus into a very present reality. Now, Jesus would fill their every tomorrow, not just their past. ***"He is risen and is going before you to Galilee, there you will see him."*** Think about the impact that good news would have upon their lives, upon our lives, if Jesus really were alive. If the message of the angel were true, then Jesus is and will always be a very real part of our every moment, our every thought. If Jesus has been raised from death, then he is and will be a constant source of companionship, encouragement, support and strength as we face the difficulties and dilemmas of our daily lives. If Christ has been raised, then our lives will never be void of his presence.

The true joy of the good news of Easter is not that the tomb of Jesus was empty. The true joy of Easter is that because of Christ's resurrection from the dead, we can be assured that our Living Lord will forever be in the midst of the Galilee of our daily lives. He will be with us where ever we may be, 24/7/365. The proclamation of the good news of Easter is vital to our faith. As Paul wrote to those who doubted the veracity of the angel's message, ***"If Christ has not been raised, then our faith is futile and we are still in our sins....If for this life only we had hoped in Christ, then we are, of all people, most to be pitied."*** But the fact of the matter is, as our Easter proclamation declares, ***"Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"*** and because of that grand proclamation, we know that no matter what the world may cast our way in the coming days, weeks, months, or years, the message of the angel is as true today as it was nearly 2,000 years ago, ***"He is not here, he has been raised, and is going before you to Galilee (wherever that may be for us) and there we will see him."***

I look forward to joining you on Easter and every Sunday as we rejoice in the good news of Christ's resurrection, proclaiming: ***"Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"***

Grace & Peace,

*Tom*



## Worship Themes for April

During April, we will continue to worship in-person with a single service in the Sanctuary at 10:00 am. The service will also be livestreamed on the church's Facebook page and website. As we gather, we will continue to follow COVID protocols including wearing face coverings, using hand sanitizer, and maintaining the appropriate social distance.

### April 1 Maundy Thursday Virtual Worship

Join us at your convenience as we remember and celebrate Jesus' final meal with his disciples in which he instituted the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The service will be posted on the church website, Facebook page and YouTube channel by 9:00 am. The service will include special music and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.



### April 4 Easter

7:00 am Easter Sunrise Service in the Courtyard (weather permitting)

10:00 am Traditional Worship

#### Communion Sunday

"He Lives!"

John 20:1-18

### April 11 The Second Sunday of Easter

Guest Preacher,  
the Rev. Rosemary McMahan

1 John 1: 1-7; John 20: 24-31

"Dare We be like Thomas?"

### April 18 The Third Sunday of Easter

Guest Preacher,  
the Rev. Rosemary McMahan

1 John 3: 1-5; Luke 24: 13-35

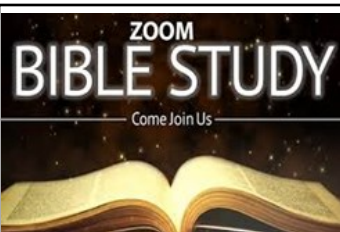
"Keep on Walking"

### April 25 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

"The Lord Is My Shepherd"

Psalm 23,

John 10:11-18; 1 John 3:16-24



The Gospel of Matthew: from Jesus' birth to the empty tomb, will conclude on Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> as we discuss Matthew's narrative of Christ's resurrection. We will gather via Zoom video conference with the link being emailed to the congregation on Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

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### Girl Scout Cookies

... are Coming to Faith!

Saturday, March 27, 11:00-3:00

Saturday, April 3, 11:00-3:00

And Saturday, April 10, 11:00-3:00

## Presbyterian Women

(all women who are Presbyterian, whether or not you are part of a PW group!) of North Alabama Presbytery

Are Invited to

### Spring Gathering 2021

Saturday, April 24, 2021

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Zoom Conferencing

(Access Information will be sent later.)





WE ARE A  
**MATTHEW 25 Church**

**ERADICATING SYSTEMIC POVERTY**



**Presbyterian Hunger Program's mission is clear: alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes.**

**There is no one size fits all solution.**

PHP complements the work of Presbyterian congregations through strategic partnership collaborations, print and web educational and worship materials, and participatory programs so that Presbyterians Go, Join, and Act to end hunger for our neighbors next door and across the planet. We approach hunger holistically with 5 tools:

- Direct Food Relief combined with Root Cause Work
- Sustainable Development
- Advocacy
- Intentional and Sustainable Living
- Education

Employing these tools alongside congregations, partners and local communities, together we can end hunger.

**Faith is honored to be a PHP Certified Hunger Congregation since 2018, providing food for the hungry in our community.**

CASA (Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound) is a non-profit agency located in Huntsville, Alabama that provides services to individuals age 60 and older and to the homebound (wheelchair and bed bound) of all ages since 1979.

**CASA's mission is to enable the aging and home-bound to live at home independently, safely, and with dignity.**

Our aging in place program is designed to enable the elderly and homebound to remain in their homes by providing volunteer services that specifically address their special physical and emotional needs.

**Faith is honored to partner with CASA by providing monthly food boxes for 16 households (33 people) and building ramps for accessibility.**



**Homelessness is about more than just housing**

A New Day at First Stop is about supporting Huntsville's development with expanded facilities, resources and programs to assist our growing number of homeless clients secure independent, sustainable housing.

We have plans to expand our **Case Management** with a new facility on campus with ample room for offices and meeting spaces. The existing Case Management area will be repurposed to support the new **Enrichment Programs** we will launch in 2021.

First Stop's new **Enrichment Program** will provide important resources and guidance to clients as they progress down the path to independent living. Through a combination of partnerships with other community organizations and programs developed and executed by First Stop staff and volunteers, clients will receive help in important areas like: Job Readiness & Workforce Training, Financial Counseling & Empowerment, Educational Advancement, Computer Skills & Training, Health & Hygiene Education, Addiction Recovery.

**Faith provides individual meal kits and toiletry kits year-round for First Stop and serves as a collection site for their cold-weather gear drive October-March.**





**Thank you  
Lynn Bucher**  
for leading our  
Baskets of Love  
collection for the  
Presbyterian Home  
for Children.

**Thank you to all who contributed!**

**Thank you  
Stan Cowan,  
Bob Captain,  
Tom Erwin, and  
Will Gaspard**  
for delivering  
the baskets to  
Talladega!



## FEBRUARY BASKETS OF LOVE

**9 ADULT BASKETS + 10 CHILDREN'S BASKETS**

# THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU



**Thank you Cobb family, Goldman family, Jones family** for packing our monthly food boxes for seniors living with food insecurity!

**Thank you Nancy Beason, Bob Captain, Tom Erwin, Will Gaspard, Meaghan Goldman, Ron & Jan Miller, Steve & Margaret Murray, Joe & Patti Powell Jim & Brenda Ray, Billy & Betty Spears, John Spears, Nancy Weaver & Liz Goldman and Wayne Whitmore** for delivering these boxes each month!

**Thank you, Anna Norton, Joel Robinson, Billy Spears, Bob Captain, Jean Sturmfels, and Mary Hooper,** for packing and delivering 350 meal kits to First Stop in the month of February. These simple bags, containing a protein, fruit, granola bar and pb crackers, provide a small "take away" meal for the homeless served by First Stop. We provide these year-round and volunteers are always needed to pack the bags.

**Thank you, Billy Spears,** for faithfully making weekly deliveries to First Stop with car loads of cold weather clothes and blankets for the homeless. Our drive runs from October-March.



**Faith is blessed  
to be a blessing**



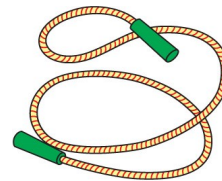
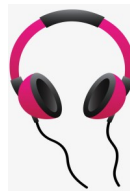
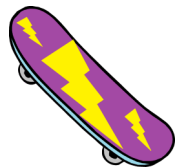




Our annual **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering will be received on **Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021**. This offering supports the work of the **Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance,** and the committee on **Self-Development of People**. Make your check payable to Faith with #2814 in the memo line.

## POP QUIZ

1. Who would be excited to get one of the items pictured below?



2. Who would enjoy getting one of the items pictured below?



3. Who would benefit most receiving one of the items pictured below?



## The Faith Mission Committee is pleased to announce a new partnership initiative with Whitesburg Elementary!

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we are able to fill some much needed "wish list" items that don't fall under the school budget or PTA budget providing Student Testing Incentives (#1), Teacher Incentives (#2), and Classroom Supplies (#3) that are usually purchased from the personal funds of teachers. To date, we have allocated \$500 for each of these three areas from our special funds in line item #2935.

**Would you like to be a part of this new ministry?** You can do so by contributing funds to "Whitesburg School—#2935" OR by donating an item from the list being curated by Principal Lisa Jones. Contact Krista Lovell or Bridgett Martin to learn more about what is on the wish list.



# Oh! The Things You Can Do!

with the Faith Online Church Directory

You can update your own information and change your picture. Your username is: firstnamelastname (no caps, no spaces)

You can always have the directory with you when you download the app

You can print your own photo directory

You can find an address, phone#, email of a member and see a picture of him/her

You can send a group email



Where is this amazing tool?  
On the Faith website ([www.presby.org](http://www.presby.org)) under the "Get Connected" tab!

## FINANCIALLY \$PEAKING

INCOME/EXPENSES		
	February	Year-To-Date
INCOME	\$49,044	\$88,561
EXPENSES	31,206	69,238
	\$17,838	\$19,323

PLEDGES & NON-PLEDGED		
	February	Year-To-Date
ACTUAL	\$42,650	\$81,926
BUDGET	36,167	72,333
	\$6,483	\$9,593

## April Birthdays

Susan Lockridge	04/01	Kathleen Shelton (13)	04/11	O.C. Armstrong Jr	04/20
Lori Beth Chapman (17)	04/02	Joel Robinson	04/12	Dicky Hightower	04/22
Bob Hamilton	04/02	Erin Whitener	04/12	Joanna Antonios	04/24
Steve Steele	04/02	Tim Gearheart	04/13	Lennon Kling (1)	04/24
Caroline Goldman (6)	04/03	Mary Hooper	04/15	Ewan McElhaney (8)	04/25
Matt Ennis	04/05	Rick Grant	04/16	Wayne Whitmore	04/26
Chase Flatau	04/06	Patrick Watson	04/16	Nancy Beason	04/27
Hank Miller	04/09	Libba Nicholson	04/18	Bailey Shelton (17)	04/28

