

ANGEL TREE UPDATE! Thank you for your generous support of the Angel Tree program benefitting Community Childcare Center! This year we provided gifts for 50 children from 40 families. In addition to individual gifts for each child, each family received a Christmas story book and a gift card, and we were also able to give a gift card to all 28 staff members at the center.



Daily Bible Reading—2024

In 2024, the daily Bible reading plan is reading the New Testament. Using the Navigators tool, take 5 minutes to read the scriptures assigned for the day and read 5 days a week. You can underline or highlight key words or phrases; write what you read in your own words; ask questions to deepen your understanding, like who, what, why, where, or how; or think about how the passage applies to your life.

January 1	Mark 1	January 21	Reflection
January 2	Mark 2	January 22	Mark 16
January 3	Mark 3	January 23	Acts 1
January 4	Mark 4	January 24	Acts 2
January 5	Mark 5	January 25	Acts 3
January 6	Reflection	January 26	Acts 4
		January 27	Reflection
January 7	Reflection	January 28	Reflection
January 8	Mark 6	January 29	Acts 5
January 9	Mark 7	January 30	Acts 6
January 10	Mark 8	January 31	Acts 7
January 11	Mark 9		
January 12	Mark 10		
January 13	Reflection		
January 14	Reflection		
January 15	Mark 11		
January 16	Mark 12		
January 17	Mark 13		
January 18	Mark 14		
January 19	Mark 15		
January 20	Reflection		





The church office will be closed on Monday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day!



Welcome New Elders



Membership

Brian Burke has been part of the church since 1998. He has lived in Middle Tennessee for 36 years. His favorite place to travel is Florida Gulf Coast and visit their son in Clermont, FL. The furthest he has traveled was their anniversary trip to Austria in 2015. His favorite hobby is model trains and home remodeling projects. He describes our church as warm and welcoming with significant community outreach ministries and Appalachia Service Project summer trips.

Serving
from the
Heart



Discipleship & Education

Sarah Ice grew up in First Presbyterian Church. She left for college in 1996. Calvin, their son, and her recently rejoined. She lived in Gallatin from 1978 through 1996. Then they moved to Nashville in 2005. Her favorite place to travel is New York and furthest destination was Ethiopia. Sarah's favorite hobbies are long walks and reading (Netflix shows and fashion are her guilty pleasures). She tells people our church is welcoming and loving.



Membership

Casey Thompson has been a member of the church for ten years. She has also lived in Middle Tennessee for ten years. She loves traveling to Lake Cumberland, KY and the furthest she has traveled is Austria. Her favorite hobby is spending time with the family at the lake. She describes the church as special with a lot of history.



Clerk of Session

Billy Dye joined the church in 2013 shortly after moving to Hendersonville. He grew up a Disciples of Christ. He attended Vanderbilt for grad school in 1995-2000, then moved back after living in Madison, WI and Memphis. He has traveled as far as Vienna and Hawaii. He does not have a favorite hobby. He highlights our church as inviting, family-like, and traditional worship style.

Adult Fellowship Event Scheduled for Saturday, January 13th



Adult members and friends of the church, please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 13th at 6:00 P.M. Kay Keck has graciously offered to host our January adult fellowship gathering at her home located at 113 Hedgelawn Drive, Hendersonville. Chili will be the featured menu item, and those attending are asked to bring an accompaniment of salad, bread, appetizer or dessert to compliment the main fare. We will have the opportunity to enjoy Kay's beautiful Christmas decorations (which she is leaving in place for our gathering), and you are invited to wear your ugliest Christmas sweater for the occasion! We kindly ask that everyone RSVP to either Kay or to Marikay Burke (text at 724-301-7484 or email at marikay091759@comcast.net). An RSVP will be most appreciated in order for Kay and helpers to plan accordingly!! This is a great opportunity to nurture our connection as a church family, and we hope that you will join us for an evening of delicious food and wonderful fellowship!

First Wednesday Coffee Talk met at 10:00 a.m. on December 6. As usual, we had a fun and informative time together. We were so impressed with the answers from Michael to questions from our question box, that we want to share it with the congregation.



Q: What advice did you give your son when he started dating?

A: Advice for Jonathan - I modeled what being a gentleman looked like with his mom. He learned about giving and how to be unselfish. I, also, explained the importance of being careful with his sexuality.

Q: What advice did you give your daughter when she started dating?

A: Gracie learned about being treated properly by my relationship with her. I took her on dates; opened doors for her.

I tried to teach them both about their value and importance to God, and God's expectations of them. However, once they become teenagers, life is complicated, and kids do not want their parents' advice. I tried to stay steady, consistent, and humble. I learned how to admit when I was wrong and ask forgiveness. Both kids have witnessed the love Pam and I share, which I think has provided some indirect teaching.

Q: Would you give the same advice to your grandchildren?

A: Grandparent advice is new to me. I think it depends on how close you are to your grandchildren. Have they asked for advice on dating or other topics? Unsolicited advice is always dangerous. I think being consistently present and loving is the most important. Keep reaching out, building relationships, and asking questions is always good.

Our next First Wednesday Coffee Talk meets January 3, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Join us for fellowship, coffee, tea, and, of course, cookies. Happy New Year!





Monthly Devotional

This year Pastor Michael will be taking photos around the church and will be writing devotionals each month based on those photos.

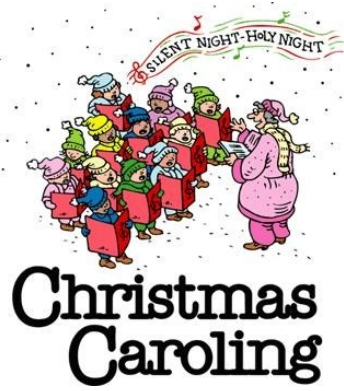
On December 10, destructive tornadoes created havoc in Middle Tennessee. Our church experienced trees down and building/property damage. People came the morning after to help clean up, worship, and affirm who we are in Jesus Christ. We interrupted our clean up to worship and pray for our community and other people impacted by the tornadoes. This is what Christians do – we affirm who we are in Jesus Christ by our prayers and service.



Lessons & Carols with St. Joseph of Arimathea



The Show Must Go On! —The Joint Choirs from St. Joseph of Arimathea and First Presbyterian Church performed Lessons & Carols with no light or heat, only candlelight and flashlights. What a show!



Nativity Sunday



Cara, Kevin & Margaret Suhr



Karen, Jackie & Sandy



Morgan, Ariana & Alyssia



Dayschool kids
looking at the
Nativity scenes



SERMON SCHEDULE

January 7 (Communion) – Mark 1:4-11, What does our baptism mean?

January 14 – 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20) – A calling for all Christians

January 21 – Jonah 3:1-5, 10 – Listening for God's leading

January 28 – Luke 2:22-35 – How's your spiritual condition?



Thru November 2023
Revenue \$ 254,380.24
Expenses \$ 303,413.62
Shortfall \$ - 49,033.38

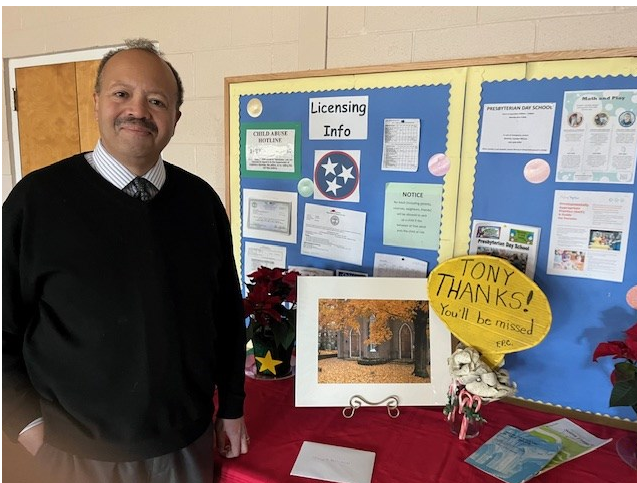
SESSION ACTION

- Prayed for congregation
- Affirmed our faith using the session statement of faith
- Approved minutes from Oct. 16, called meetings on Nov. 5 & Nov. 12
- Thanked and encouraged elders rotating off session
- Approved ministry unit reports
- Approved 2024 budget of \$399,410
 - ◊ 2023 budget was \$397,027



Thank you to Bob and Sandy Scott of Long Hollow Nursery for donating our lovely wreaths once again this Advent season. They were beautiful, as always!

The church staff would like to thank everyone for the Christmas gifts. We really appreciate your generosity, support, and love throughout the year. We are blessed to serve Jesus Christ at such a wonderful church. - The Staff



Our Prayers are with Tony & Allison



Michael thought he found Santa,
but it was David Bodkin

CHURCH STAFF

Michael Davis, *Pastor*

michael@hendersonvillefpc.org

Dr. Anthony Williams, *Organist/Choir Director*

tony@hendersonvillefpc.org

Linda Agee, *Church Administrator*

linda@hendersonvillefpc.org

Sara Webne, *Nursery Attendant*

Carolyn McCoy, *P.D.S. Director*

PDSDirector123@gmail.com



January Birthdays

- 6 - David Bodkin
- 7 - Jackie Andrews
Rosie Lewis
- 9 - Carrie Batey
- 10 - Karen Abbott
- 11 - Tim Bish
Andrew Getter
- 14 - Brenda DePriest
- 16 - David Abbott
- 17 - June Still
- 20 - Drew Covington
Ruth Faulkner
- 24 - Jonathan Davis
- 25 - Wendolyn Ebbert
Jadon Wells
- 29 - Steve Martin
- 31 - Sasha Dishman

First Presbyterian Church

172 W. Main St. | Hendersonville, TN

(615) 824-8604 ; Fax (615) 824-3631

Website: www.hendersonvillefpc.org

Email: linda@hendersonvillefpc.org

Sunday School—9:00 a.m.

Worship Service—10:00 a.m.

