



GOOD NEWS

LETTER

*Forest Presbyterian Church
Living God's Heart, Hands, & Voice*

Newsletter for Forest Presbyterian Church, Forest, Virginia

November 2023

The Greatest Gift

“For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that through he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.” 2 Corinthians 8:9

When we think of the Stewardship season, we are confronted not by our giving, but by a gift.

The original giver was Jesus Christ. The perfect gift was himself. The cost, to us, of the gift is free. It is grace. The cost to the giver was everything.

Knowing the generosity of our Lord, what can we possibly give in return?

There is only one thing that the Lord wants as a gift - ourselves.

Yes, we are asking one another for pledges for 2024 during the season of stewardship. But there is one pledge that you need not write down on a card, but that you should consider giving first. Give your very self over to Jesus Christ and everything you have and are in service to his Kingdom.

Christ poured himself out for us. May we pour ourselves out for him in joyous response to his grace.

Yours in the Hope of Christ,

PASTOR MORGAN



*Daylight Saving Time Ends
Sunday, November 5*



*Don't forget to set your clocks
back one hour on Saturday night.*



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College Care Packages

A Special *“THANK YOU”* to everyone who wrote notes to our college students. They really do appreciate receiving messages (and goodies) from their church family. It shows them that we are thinking of them and praying for them.

Walking Group!

We are steadily marching across and back over the US as we reach one state capitol and then another. This time we can report that we have visited two, Bismark, North Dakota and Columbus Ohio. These are numbers 34 and 35 on the alphabetical list of states. After Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, our next stop, which should take only a few weeks as it is only 852 miles, will be Organ and Pennsylvania. These states have distances of 1,489 and 2,338 miles respectively.

We would love for YOU to come and join us and help us move along faster! If you are interested in walking, please contact Ginny Lenz.

Choir Notes A Seat for YOU!

Choir meets on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary from 7 until 8 pm, and there is a seat waiting for you! Choir members have a lot of fun making music together to the Lord! We are working on Christmas music now, and have some beautiful music planned for the holiday season and for the new year. You have a special invitation to come join us - you will be welcomed with smiles and open arms!



November Birthdays

- 2 Carl Sims
- 4 Ben Harrison
- 10 Bob Langmeyer
- 17 Kurt Heideman
- 25 Bob Crie
- 26 Kathy Fraley
- 29 Holly McCray



A Word From FELLOWSHIP



EVERYONE!

On Sunday, November 19, we will be having

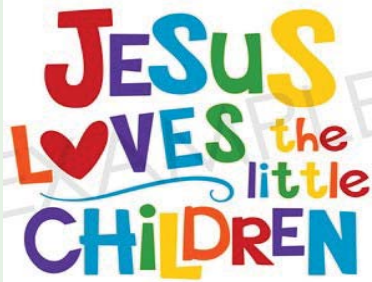
PIE DAY!

We encourage YOU to make your favorite pie or two (or maybe 3) and Share those delicious pie treats with us after morning service. Please watch for a sign-up sheet coming soon in the Commons. Start baking!



Christian Education

A Word From CE



“Jesus called the children to him and said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God

like a little child will never enter it’” -Luke 18:16-17

This past month the K-5 children enjoyed rotating each Sunday between children’s music ministry, writing cards for our college students, and learning more about communion. Our high school class studied the scriptures of the week in more detail and broke them down.

For November we will be continuing the music ministry, working on cards for homebound members for the Thanksgiving holiday, and beginning our Advent study. All are welcome and encouraged to come join us each Sunday morning for Church School 9:30-10:15 am.

Needed - We could still use an adult to assist with our high school class one Sunday a month. Please contact Denise Kennedy if you are available. There is a place for everyone and something for everyone to do! You can help!



Adult Church School

All adults are encouraged to join us each Sunday morning 9:30 am as Pastor Morgan continues his study in **The Present Word - God’s Exceptional Choice.**

The Fall quarter traces the arc of salvation history from Abraham to Jesus and on to the early church. As you seek to better understand God’s call for God’s people in a complex and troubling world, may you embrace being chosen by the Holy One for a holy calling - despite, or even because of your human frailties. **YOU** do not want to miss being a part of this amazing study on God’s Exceptional Choice!

MISSIONS

2023 Angel Tree -

Angel tree goes up in the Commons Sunday, **November 12.** This year, you can pick an angel from the tree or if you are unable to come to the church, you can contact Denise Kennedy at (540-871-0494) to request an angel. The angels will consist of Bedford County Residents that are either elderly or disabled and any children that live in those households. Please return your wrapped gifts (*with the angel attached*) under the tree by Sunday, **December 10.**



Shepard’s Table -

They need you! Can you spare 2 hours on 3rd Friday of each month to pass out box meals from 10:30-12:30. If you can contact Ginny Fiddler or Denise Kennedy. Desserts are needed on the 3rd Friday of each month to be placed in the box meals. This can be cookies, brownies, cakes or anything sweet. Your help is much appreciated!

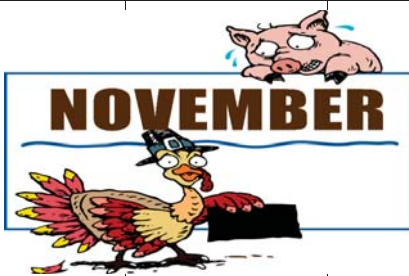









Food Pantry -

We continue to supply our food pantry for Bedford Christian Ministries - food to be distributed to those in need. Please consider donating non-perishable foods and toiletries to BCM, those items are needed now more than ever! Bring in the following food for BCM food distribution!

Food needed in preparation for the holidays:

Canned meats, vegetables, soups and fruit, breakfast foods, spaghetti noodles and sauce, instant mashed potatoes, Ramon noodles, peanut butter, jelly, cereal-hot & cold, rice, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, dried milk, cake mix, bread mix, snack foods. Thank you!

NOVEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice  Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4 
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends Communion	6	7	8 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice 	9 Newsletter Deadline 11:30a FPC Lunch Club 	10	11
12 Angel Tree	13 	14	15 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice	16	17	18 
19 11:30a Pie Day	20	21	22 NO Handbells	23 Thanksgiving Day 	24	25
26 2-Cents-A-Meal	27	28 7p Book Club 	29 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice	30 		

ABBREVIATIONS

a - am
p - pm

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 am - Church School
10:30 am - Worship Service

Worship notes

Advent is the start of the new liturgical year. Advent begins on Sunday, December 3rd and ends on Sunday, December 24th.

The Worship Committee will be decorating the church and Christmas Tree on Saturday, December 2 - at 10:00 am. You are all invited to come and help. There will be plenty for all to do. Please watch for a sign-up sheet to be in the Commons to add your name and select which job you would be interested in doing. Or you may work where needed.

Please don't be shy - this is a wonderful time for fellowship together! We will sing Christmas carols and enjoy light refreshments.

Some Jobs To Do:

- Take pictures
- Set up tree and decorate tree
- Decorate sanctuary
- Possibly put up wreaths and clean up

God Bless each one as we
prepare for celebrating the
astonishing Birth of our
Lord Jesus Christ!

Christmas Poinsettias

We will be decorating the church with poinsettias for the Advent Season. The cost of a poinsettia is \$12 and can be donated in remembrance or in honor of someone. Use the form below or look for a bulletin insert to make your donation and specify your recognition. Donations are to be made by the second Sunday of Advent, December 10, as the poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary the third Sunday of Advent, December 17. Donations can be placed in the offering plates or returned to the church office. For additional information, please contact Ginny Fiddler.



Poinsettia



Help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas by donating \$12 towards the purchase of Poinsettia Plants. Please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office by **Sunday, December 10**. Please enclose your payment with your order. If you have questions, please contact Ginny Fiddler (1-540-588-2301 or ginintheforest@gmail.com).

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given By: _____

Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Starting the first Sunday of Advent, December 3, we will need families or individuals to light the candles on the Advent Wreath. This involves reading a short message about the candle(s) to be lit - lighting the candle, reading a scripture, and closing with prayer. A total of six presenters are needed – one for each of the four Sundays of Advent plus one for each of the two Christmas Eve services. If you wish to volunteer yourself or your family, please contact Cynthia Wilkerson.



Stewardship note

A few weeks ago, our meeting about the church finances was held. As you witnessed, we need your help. In order to meet our expenses, we need to increase our giving or come up with ways to bring additional money into the church. Many have contributed some great ideas that we want to put into place (but some will only bring in short term income).

With all of us pulling together, we can do this! It is not easy with cost of living going up. But **PRAY** about what God would have you do - what does **HE** want You to contribute to Forest Presbyterian Church! (Think about \$1 day for each of us!) Pledge Cards are available in the Commons. Fill yours out on Sunday!

DEACON NOTES

Our word for this month (November) is

GENEROSITY

Generosity is giving good things to others freely and abundantly. Generous behaviors are intended to enhance the well-being of others. Generosity benefits both our physical and mental health. It can reduce stress and enhance one's sense of purpose. True generosity requires us to give to those in need. Attention is the rarest and purest form of generosity. This suggests giving someone your undivided attention. We would do well to give attention to our homes, families and acquaintances and show this generosity abundantly.

GENEROSITY
the most *natural* outward expression
of an inner attitude of *compassion*



November events

- ⊖ Adult Choir - Every Wednesday, 7 pm
- ⊖ Handbells - Every Wednesday, 6:00 pm
- ⊖ Daylight Saving Time Ends - Sunday, November 5
- ⊖ Newsletter Deadline - Thursday, November 9
- ⊖ FPC Lunch Club - November 9, 11:30 am
- ⊖ Session - November 12, 7:00 pm
- ⊖ Angel Tree Begins - November 12
- ⊖ Church Pie Social - November 19, 11:30 am
- ⊖ Thanksgiving Day - November 23
- ⊖ Two-Cents-A-Meal - Sunday, November 26
- ⊖ FPC Book Club - Tuesday, November 28, 7 pm

Happy Thanksgiving

