

GOOD NEWS

LETTER

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

Newsletter for Forest Presbyterian Church, Forest, Virginia

September 2023

Let Your Light Shine

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16

Rally Day represents a moment of celebration for our church.

First, Rally Day marks a renewal of the church year. Summer ends. School begins. On Rally Day we make a renewed commitment to our faith and learning more about the Bible, as Church School begins again. May we listen as God’s Word speaks to us.

Second, Rally Day marks an opportunity to renew our faith. We gather together to glorify God and to celebrate what God is doing in our midst. We recommit ourselves to doing good works in obedience to our faith.

Finally, Rally Day gives us the chance to put the light of our faith together so that our faith will shine brighter. The light of God’s love shines in the darkness, so that all people may see it. If we don’t share our faith, who will?

Let us gather together on September 10 to celebrate the gift of faith that God has given us and shine our light so that others may give God glory! Let Your Light Shine!

Yours in the Hope of Christ,

PASTOR MORGAN

RALLY DAY

Sunday,
September 10,
9:30 AM

Church School resumes on Sunday,
September 10, 9:30 am.

Everyone is invited to join us for Rally Day Kickoff! We will enjoy a special continental breakfast together before breaking into our church school classes.



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**Forest
Youth
Reaching
Everyone**



Attention all Middle and High School Parents and Youth!

FYRE is kicking off the 2023/24 year on Sunday, September 17, 4:00 pm. Youth and parents are asked to meet in the Commons so we can go over the year's schedule and complete paperwork.

FYRE (which stands for - *Forest Youth Reaching Everyone*) is a welcoming Christ-centered group for ALL youth (6th-12th grade) in the community. We will have regular meetings on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at the church from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm. We will also have at least one additional activity scheduled each month. Activities will include service opportunities, entertainment, fundraising, and the always popular LOCK-IN.

September FYRE Calendar:

**Sunday, September 17 - at church
4:00-5:30 Youth & Parents meet**

**Sunday, September 23 - at church
10:00-2:00 Gaga pit**

We are looking forward to a fun filled year of personal and spiritual growth together!



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Shepherds Table: Bedford Christian Ministries is in need of individual desserts for Shepherds Table. On the 3rd Friday of each month a hot meal is served to over 150 people and desserts are needed each Friday. If you can help serve contact Denise Kennedy (540-871-0494), or if you can provide desserts or a donation to buy desserts, please contact Ginny Fiddler (540-588-2301) or Laura Collier (434-660-2915).

Food Pantry: School has started and we are in need of more kid-friendly food items. Continue to bring in food for the children. Bottled juices, cereal, snacks, canned fruits, mac-n-cheese, peanut butter & jelly, all paper products. All food is appreciated and will be distributed accordingly.

Operation Pack-A-Bag: A "Special Thank You" to everyone for all the support and donated school supplies for our annual Pack-A-Bag event. 49 book bags and enough supplies to fill 61 book bags were donated by Forest Presbyterian Church alone. This year just over 200 book bags were packed and delivered to area schools. Without your generous support and donations this would not have been possible. What a blessing we could provide for them!

**Forest Presbyterian Church -
Thank You for Living out God's Heart, Hands and Voice for Missions!**

Christian Education

A Word From CE



**ARE YOU
READY TO
LET YOUR
LIGHT
SHINE?**

We welcome everyone: Nursery, pre-school, children, teens, adults, to attend a church school class. Classes will begin on *Sunday September 10 at 9:30 am* beginning with a continental breakfast before going to your class. We need you to attend and help make these classes engaging, fun, spirit-filled, and welcoming. Please join us and bring a friend. Any questions, contact Denise Kennedy.

**EVERYONE!
JOIN US FOR A
CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST
9:30 AM
SEPTEMBER
10**



Church School resumes Sunday, September 10.

Adult Church School

Beginning this fall, our adult Sunday School class will use "**Feasting on the Word**", a curriculum that follows the Biblical texts from the revised common lectionary that we use on Sunday in worship. Dive deeper into the texts as we listen for how God's Word speaks to us each week. All are invited to study with us!



Let Your Light Shine!

**Hide It Under
a BUSHEL -
NO!**



Choir Notes

A New Year of Singing!



You are invited to *SING, SING, SING* with the Forest Presbyterian Choir! No experience is necessary. All you need is the desire to make a joyful noise to the Lord with other believers! The choir meets on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary from 7 until 8 pm - beginning Wednesday, September 6. Being in the choir is a *GREAT* way to become involved in the church. Please join us!!



SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion	4 Labor Day 	5	6 6p Handbells 7p Choir resumes 	7	8	9
10 9:30a Church School resumes 9:30a Rally day Continental Breakfast 	11	12 Newsletter Deadline 	13 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice 	14 11:30a FPC Lunch Club	15 	16
17 FYRE Youth 4-5:30p Youth & Parents Meeting	18 7p FYRE Leadership Team	19	20 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice	21 	22	23 10a FYRE Youth Activity Work Day - Gaga pit
24 2-Cents-A-Meal	25	26 7p Book Club 	27 6p Handbells 7p Choir practice	28 	29	30

ABBREVIATIONS

a - am
p - pm

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

SESSION NOTES

Ministry Team leadership assignments for the upcoming year were made during the July Session Meeting.

Christian Education- *Denise Kennedy*

Fellowship- *Catherine Justis*

Finance and Personnel- *Doug Brownson*

Missions- *Laura Collier*

Outreach- *Shari Bennett*

Property- *John Klingenfus*

Stewardship- *JoAnn Scott*

Worship and Music- *Cynthia Wilkerson*

Clerk of Session- *Sarah Heideman*



All of these teams are looking for new members. If you are interested in serving, please contact the Elder assigned to that particular ministry team. This is a great way to use your time and talents towards living God's heart, hands, and voice!

A Word From... Worship - **New Worship Elder**

I, Cynthia Wilkerson, am your new Elder for Worship. Your new Worship Committee is eagerly searching and waiting to see who our new volunteers will be. We are anxious to get to know more of our church family as we begin our new roles in volunteerism. Many of our church members and friends are serving routinely, and have been for many years so our Church can run smoothly and efficiently. Thank you all so very much for your continued support

We want all of our church members and friends to have the opportunity to have a lot of fun as we take care of business, make new friends, and learn more about our church and it's operation.

In October we have a day of Blessing of the Pets. This pet blessing was a very popular event for us in the community last year. Details of this will follow soon.

Although it's only August we need to round up a good team of decorators to ready the church for our advent season and Christmas Day. This is a special time and will create lasting memories.

We can't do these things without a lot of help from a lot of people, so please don't be shy. Send me (Cynthia) an email or text or tell me on Sunday morning that you want your name on the Worship Committee Volunteer List and what your talents or interests are, and you can specify what event or activity you prefer. Or just send me your name and we will find a good place that you can volunteer.

Send your information to - Cynthia Wilkerson - tennisece@icloud.com or 434-9413528 - Many thanks for your help!



Deacon notes

Exciting news from the Deacons. Starting August 6th, communion will be taken to our shut-ins! We are so excited to be starting this program again.

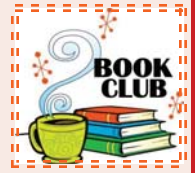
In the newsletters each month we will be covering different attributes for people to follow. This month the attribute is:

KINDNESS

Kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. People say that kindness is contagious, and they're absolutely right. Kindness is one of the best ways to spread happiness to others. Kindness is about making the world a better place - one small step at a time. Please take the time to show kindness to others today!



Circle of Friends Book Club



All members and friends of Forest Presbyterian Church are invited to join the Book Club that meets at the church on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm. This group is open to anyone in the Forest/Lynchburg community who enjoys reading, discussing books, and having fun! We LOVE new members, so please consider joining us! If you have any questions, contact Sarah Heideman (434-238-7794 or skhei5va@gmail.com). Upcoming books for discussion include:

- September 26, 2023- **Central Places**- by Delia Cai
- October 24, 2023- **American Spy**- by Lauren Wilkinson
- January 23, 2024- **The Boys**- Ron and Clint Howard
- February 27, 2024- **House of Sand and Fog**- Andre Dubus III
- March 26, 2024 – **Pineapple Street**- Jenny Jackson
- April 23, 2024- **Our Missing Hearts**- Celest Ng
- May 28, 2024- **Demon Copperhead**- Barbara Kingsolver



A NEW SEASON FOR ALL DING-A-LINGS CURRENT & FUTURE!

We are kicking off the new year of ringing on Wednesday, September 6th! The Ding-A-Lings meet weekly from 6 pm to 7 pm. We are a 3-octave handbell choir that plays music from intermediate to advanced handbell music. We need a few experienced ringers for both regular ringers and substitute ringers. COME join us for music, fun & fellowship!

Contact Laurie Brownson (434-221-8038 or email vacubfan5@gmail.com) if you have questions about being a part of the handbell choir.

**Come experience the joy of our motto:
In Jesus' name we play!**

September Birthdays

- 2 Biz Klingenfus
- 12 Terri Cornwell
- 17 Josh Willoughby
- 19 Patrick Smith
- 19 Rob Theisen
- 25 Mark Buchanan
- 27 Gloria Langmeyer
- 30 Eva Francis



FPC and KROGER

KROGER CARES REWARDS PROGRAM

Forest Presbyterian Church is part of the Kroger Rewards Program! The Rewards program is Kroger's way of giving back to non-profit organizations in the community. We started with about 12 households. FPC earned \$75 in three months from these families just by shopping at Kroger. Imagine what we can do in a year with 50 or more folks participating in the program! To sign up just go to krogercommunityrewards.com and follow the instructions to link your Kroger Card to FPC. Family members and friends can also link their cards for more rewards. Just use your Kroger card at the checkout as usual and help us grow our reward! This is just another way of helping to supply funds for our church. Any questions - please see Jeni Willoughby!



Walking Group!



This summer we have been crisscrossing the US. After visiting Trenton, NJ in late spring, we headed to Santa Fe, NM, a trip of 1,718 miles. We reached there in July and then headed back east arriving in Albany NY in early August after another 1,778 miles. These capitals are numbers 30, 31 and 32 respectively on our list. We still have far to go to complete our journey and invite anyone who might be interested to join us. All that is involved is calculating how far one has walked during the week and an email to (Ginny Lenz at rvlenz@aol.com) for any other details. We would love for YOU to join us on our journey!

In The church family...



New Phone Number:

◆ Cynthia Wilkerson
434-941-3528
Gary Wilkerson
434-229-1338

Forest Presbyterian Church,

Thank you very much for the beautiful aftghan, I really do appreciate the time you have put into make this. Additionally, thank you for the tool set and other neat gifts that you gave to us. I've always felt loved by this church community and your gifts are very meaningful.

Thank you so much.

Noelle Ganser

September events

- ☉ Communion - Sunday, September 3
- ☉ Labor Day - Monday, September 4
- ☉ Handbells - Every Wednesday beginning September 6, 6pm
- ☉ Adult Choir - Every Wednesday beginning September 6, 7pm
- ☉ Rally Day Kick-Off - Church School resumes - Sunday, September 10, 9:30am
- ☉ Newsletter Deadline - Tuesday, September 12
- ☉ FPC Lunch Club - Thursday, September 14, 11:30am
- ☉ FYRE Youth & Parents Meeting - Sunday, September 17, 4-5:30pm
- ☉ FYRE - Saturday, September 23, 10am - church playground maintenance (Gaga pit)
- ☉ Two-Cents-A-Meal - Sunday, September 24
- ☉ Book Club - Tuesday, September 26, 7pm

