



It's A Wonderful Life!

**Senior Adult Fellowship
June, July & August – 2015**

“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Hebrews: 10:25

What joy it is for us to meet together during the year. Some of the proof of that is watching everyone linger over the meal after our program each month and just enjoy the fellowship of everyone around the table. It is an opportunity to visit, encourage, catch up on each other's lives and maybe meet someone new.

The Lord KNEW we would need to be encouraged from time to time and what better way to receive that encouragement than to spend time with friends. Without question, those of us who attend IAWL have come to see each other as friends. We share each other's joys and sorrows and mourn when we lose some of our “friends” during the year as they leave us to begin their eternal life. But each of those the Lord has taken home left their mark on our group because of the way they encouraged us through the years they were active members.

Another way our group encourages each other is by signing cards that Betty Jones puts out for us each month and that she will then send to the addressed recipient. We also pray for those in need each month. Probably each of us has been prayed for at one time or another or received one of those cards. Also, one of our wonderful callers gets in touch with you each month and hopefully along with taking your reservation, she listens to any needs you may have. Sometimes just talking to your caller is an encouragement. Many times it is one of our members who gives our devotional, which is always a blessing.

It is always hard to cease meeting together during the summer but the committee needs this time to meet and plan for the next year. How I appreciate the hard work they have put into planning and executing this year's events and know that they will be ready to work diligently again to that end for the year to come.

As we go through the summer, we will do everything possible to stay in touch with you and pray about any needs you may have. How thankful I am for Gigi Gross and her gigigrams that keep us informed of not only the needs of our group but of the needs of our whole church. She is another blessing to all of us.

Thank you, Jesus, for knowing our need for meeting together for fellowship and encouragement. How does anyone go through life without YOU and without the joy of knowing the love and encouragement of other believers. Our “IAWL family” is definitely a gift from You.

Enjoy your summer,
Carla Brown

Birthdays ...

<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>August</i>
2 Sherry Dahrling	2 Bruce Gibson	2 Dot Carter
4 Mary Benton Jesse King	4 Dot Rucker	3 Mary Gaither John Rose
5 Floyd Craig	5 Harriett Berman Debbie Smith	4 Loren Hartley Carlene Kidwell Melissa Sherrill
8 Everett Sorensen	7 Janice Bond	5 Linda McKinney
10 Jay Parsons	8 Carolyn Nichols	6 Peggy Love
12 Jack Kinser Bob St. Clair	10 Linda Austin Barbara Brewer	8 Chris Kidwell
14 Ted Franklin Bill Hartshorn Ann Short	11 Betty Ball	9 Carman Wolf
16 Virginia Marion Carolyn Hill Carolyn Holland	12 Larry Hamby	11 Edith Davis
19 Brenda Thompson	13 Jim Brewer Julie Lutz	13 Linda Neff
20 Don Holwerda	14 Larry Jones Mary Roser	15 Sandy Hartley
21 Mary Ruth Venable	17 Mary Ellen Locklear Steve Smith	18 Wilma Lockery
23 Chris Ehlers	18 Mary Coleman Larry Ryan	24 Mary Wright
25 Ruth Wolf	22 Doris Swafford	25 Margaret Harding
27 Marie Turner	26 Carolyn Davis	26 Gerry Allen
30 Bob McDowell Marilyn Hancock	28 Alan Bonderud	27 Jane Fitzpatrick
	29 Lauch McKinnon Betsy Anderson	29 Diane McKinnon
	30 Gerry Partain	30 Don Elkins

Prayer & Praise ...

Emily Adams
Anne Allen
Gerry Allen
Lee Anderson
Bob Campbell
Jay & Kathleen Craven
Donna Durand
Bashie Evans
Ted Franklin
Nancy Jones
Nancy Klein
Sherie Lane
Doris Mantooth
Jim McKinney
Mary Alice Mills

Jay Parsons
Paul & Joyce Ritch
Nancy Ryan
Fred Seepe
Curtis Smith
Wayne R Thomas
Tim Tinsley
Mary Ruth Venable
Ruth Wolf
Nancy Woodard
Mary Wright
Lenette Glass's sister Mary Ann
Kay Sullivan's mother
Therese Van Wickler's grandson Matt

In Loving Memory ...

Gene Campbell, husband of Billie
Wilma Dietzen's sister in law, Carol Anne Stein
Betty Cooper, David's mother
Mrs. Ruth Miller, Diane Taylor's mother
Family & friends of Lillian Barnett



God is in Control

by Suzy Weaver ~ 2015



*F*or God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son for you and for me, the battle is already won.

It's very simple, you just ask Christ into your heart to be your Lord and Savior. You don't have to change before, but afterwards you really want to change your behavior.

*A*s a Christian, I have made a lot of mistakes and many times I tried to go my own way. The Lord had to get my attention and lovingly whisper "Listen to what I say." It has been many years since I have totally rebelled and the Lord has blessed me beyond belief. Not with money or possessions, but with His compassionate love - what a relief.

*W*hen you become a Christian, the Lord doesn't say everything will be rosy. He does promise to be right here, with His arms around us nice and cosy. In January, 2004, I prayed "Lord please use me this year in a very special way." Be careful, Ladies and Gentlemen, He hears every word that we say.

*T*he first few months, I wasn't exactly sure what the Lord had in mind for me. It didn't take long for me to realize what was happening—I really began to see. In May, I was diagnosed with cancer and had two surgeries all in the same day. Chemo started in June -21 treatments – what an experience! I will have to say.

*S*omeone mentioned maybe it was because of sin. Someone else said maybe I was experiencing God's wrath. But I know exactly what was happening. Christ was carrying me down this path.

*T*he doctors and nurses were really concerned, the chemo effects seemed to take their toll. But everyone knew, I would persevere, because the Lord was in total control. What a special time of sharing the Lord with men and women even in line at the store. Without any hair and a cap on my head, I would smile, and talk with more people than ever before.

*T*he most special person on earth to me, is my husband, truly the love of my life. He has taken such wonderful care of me, I am just so proud to be his wife. He gave up a lot of days of fun, washing, cleaning and trying to cheer me up if I ever got sad. He would serve the meals, rub my back and say "I'm praying you won't feel so bad."

I thank my church family, who offered up so many prayers especially on my behalf. Meals were prepared, many cards were sent, and sometimes we just had a good laugh. My Mom and Dad were always there. If needed my Mother would give me her right arm. What a perfect example of Christ: for your child, willing to do yourself harm.

*O*ur children have been wonderful, daily calling to show how much they care. My precious granddaughter thrilled my heart by saying, "Grammy, you're beautiful without any hair."

I finished radiation and then had surgery for a torn rotator cuff. But all in all, I can honestly say, life just hasn't been that tough. In June, 2009, after numerous tests the Lord revealed a new decree. Metastatic breast cancer in the bones – it is stage 4 you see.

*A*ugust, 2012 came a diagnosis of Lymphedema from my waist down to my right toe. I was discouraged at first and I looked to the heavens and said "God could this really be so?" The Lord makes no mistakes and gives us no more than what we can bear. So I use this for HIS glory in order for the Gospel I can share.

*A*nd now, Oh Lord, the doctor has told me I have possibly a year or a half left. Whether you choose to heal me or not I graciously ask that you provide me one last request. May my days remaining continue to be filled with rejoicing and praising my Savior. Showing those around me because of your Spirit, I remain consistent in my behavior.

*B*ut God is a mighty God, and I have such peace where I am today. He has promised to never leave me or forsake me and is with me day to day. The Lord has taken me on an adventure and I must say that I have truly been blessed. I look back on my life these past many years and conclude this has just been a little test.

*I*f you don't know Christ as your savior - you haven't invited him into your life. Won't you do that today and remember, it doesn't mean you won't have any strife. It means Christ will be right there with you, unconditionally loving you each day. As you study God's word it will be very clear, how to act and even what to say.

I pray God's blessings upon each and every one of you. May your heart be so touched by Christ's love. That you won't be ashamed to share your faith and give credit to the Lord above.



God Bless You!

Pastor's Prayer Corner

Dear Jesus,

You are the reason that we are alive and you are our only hope for now, for eternity. Really Jesus, You are too big for us to comprehend. Help us to see and worship and describe you. Thank you for your Word. You are magnificently beautiful and powerful.

Our church family needs your care today, calm our fears with the reality of your presence and power. May your past faithfulness fuel our present and future hope.

Please nurture in Spirit and truth each and every member of First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga. Dear God manifest your Kingdom in us and through us. Please receive the widows and orphans of our church and throughout our war-torn world, holding them in your gracious arms. Please, God, comfort the abused, help us to feed the hungry, to offer physical and spiritual water to the thirsty in your name. Thank you for pouring out your common grace on our world, on the believer and unbeliever alike.

Enliven our church with the gospel of Jesus, your love make manifest. Comforting the sick, encouraging the discouraged, emboldening the timid with the love of Christ.

Strengthen our city that the leaders be ethical, shrewd Christians. Provide jobs and may each child be reared in a Christian home with parents present and engaged with them. May each child in Chattanooga read on grade level. May each child hear and believe the gospel. May there be no more children in Hamilton County born out of wedlock. May all have food to eat and a safe place to sleep.

May our president and other government officials be led by your Spirit and may justice prevail over evil ... may the name of Jesus ring out throughout the streets of our country.

Father, we pray for our missionaries around the world and in strategic global cities ... Oh dear Father, pour out your love on these leaders by holding them in your strong arms. May the name of Jesus be lifted high each day and especially on the Sabbath that all people may hear, believe and worship Jesus.

May you bind the evil of our world in Iraq, Syria, Israel/Palestine, Egypt, Ukraine – wherever evil reigns unfettered, dear God pour out your grace and peace. Please replace evil with your shalom, with the righteousness of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen. Please, amen.

In His grip,
Pastor Tim



First Presbyterian Church

Invites you, your family, and your neighbors to

FPC's 175th ANNIVERSARY PARTY
Sunday, June 28, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Student Center & Parking Lot



Join us in celebrating the Lord's faithfulness to our church with a casual fellowship gathering.

Last name A – L: Please bring a side dish.

Last name M – Z: Please bring an appetizer.

Bounce Houses, Corn Hole Game, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Friends, and CAKE!!



“May Your Day Be Blessed As Special As You.”

One day a teacher asked her students to list the names of the other students in the room on two sheets of paper, leaving a space between each name. Then she told them to think of the nicest thing they could say about each of their classmates and write it down. It took the remainder of the class period to finish their assignment, and as the students left the room, each one handed in the papers.

That Saturday, the teacher wrote down the name of each student on a separate sheet of paper, and listed what everyone else had said about that individual. On Monday she gave each student his or her list. Before long, the entire class was smiling. “Really?” she heard whispered. “I never knew that I meant anything to anyone!” and, “I didn't know others liked me so much,” were most of the comments.

No one ever mentioned those papers in class again. She never knew if they discussed them after class or with their parents, but it didn't matter. The exercise had accomplished its purpose. The students were happy with themselves and one another. That group of students moved on.

Several years later, one of the students was killed in Vietnam and his teacher attended the funeral of that special student. She had never seen a serviceman in a military coffin before. He looked so handsome, so mature. The church was packed with his friends. One by one those who loved him took a last walk by the coffin. The teacher was the last one to bless the coffin. As she stood there, one of the soldiers who acted as pallbearer came up to her. “Were you Mark's math teacher?” he asked. She nodded: “yes.” Then he said: “Mark talked about you a lot.”

After the funeral, most of Mark's former classmates went together to a luncheon. Mark's mother and father were there, obviously waiting to speak with his teacher. “We want to show you something,” his father said, taking a wallet out of his pocket “They found this on Mark when he was killed. We thought you might recognize it.” Opening the billfold, he carefully removed two worn pieces of notebook paper that had obviously been taped, folded and refolded many times. The teacher knew without looking that the papers were the ones on which she had listed all the good things each of Mark's classmates had said about him. “Thank you so much for doing that,” Mark's mother said. “As you can see, Mark treasured it.”

All of Mark's former classmates started to gather around. Charlie smiled rather sheepishly and said, “I still have my list. It's in the top drawer of my desk at home.” Chuck's wife said, “Chuck asked me to put his in our wedding album.” “I have mine too,” Marilyn said. “It's in my diary.” Then Vicki, another classmate, reached into her pocketbook, took out her wallet and showed her worn and frazzled list to the group. “I carry this with me at all times,” Vicki said and without batting an eyelash, she continued: “I think we all saved our lists.” That's when the teacher finally sat down and cried. She cried for Mark and for all his friends who would never see him again.

The density of people in society is so thick that we forget that life will end one day. And we don't know when that one day will be. So please, tell the people you love and care for, that they are special and important and not by text or e-mail. Give them a call or stop by to see them. What you put into the lives of others comes back into your own.

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Senior Adult Fellowship
First Presbyterian Church
554 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402**

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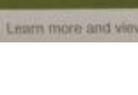


This newsletter is prayerfully prepared for:

**PCA
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
2015 · CHATTANOOGA**

All area congregations are invited to participate in the 2015 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, hosted this year in Chattanooga.

Opportunities include participating in evening worship services, attending seminars, observing business meetings, and attending an outdoor picnic and Andrew Peterson concert.

	Tuesday, June 9 7:30 p.m. Worship Service Dr. Bryan Chapell preaching Chattanooga Convention Center
	Wednesday, June 10 5:00 p.m. Worship Service Rev. Kevin Smith preaching Chattanooga Convention Center
	7:00 p.m. BBQ picnic Covenant College
	8:00 p.m. Andrew Peterson Concert Covenant College
	Thursday, June 11 7:30 p.m. Worship Service Rev. Rankin Willbourne preaching Chattanooga Convention Center

Learn more and view a more detailed schedule at pcaac.org/general-assembly.

Prayer For Our Nation

God of Justice and Truth,
we ask your blessing on our nation.
Thank you for the freedoms we enjoy,
especially those we take for granted.
Thank you for the diversity of our people
and enlarge our capacity for tolerance
and mutual respect.
As we celebrate our independence as a
sovereign nation, may we also
celebrate our interdependence.
Make us mindful of the blessings of our
rich and abundant land.
May your gracious Spirit inspire us to
work together to meet the challenges
of our times.
★ With all hope, faith, and trust in you,
we pray.
Amen.

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