FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
OF FULTON, MO

MATTHEW 25 CHURCH

Established 1875 - 718 Court Street, Fulton, Missouri - www.fpcfulton.org - 573-642-5541

Digital Newsletter Vol. 8, #39 10/9/26 through 10/15/26



Worship & Reflection This Week!

Livestream on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@fpcfulton
Sunday, October 11, 2026: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time *(Year A)*
Liturgical Color: Green
Usher Captain: Graham McCaulley
Acolyte: Emma Lamar
Greeter: Whitney McCaulley
Live Stream/Slides: Comfort Adusi

Sound: Shaun Speers
Worship Leader: Rev. Phil Olson
Liturgist: Tim Wilkerson
First Scripture Reading: Exodus 32:9-14
Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

From the Hymnal This Week

Hymn of Praise--# 32 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"
Hymn of Petition -# 469 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"
Hymn of Response--# 716 "God', Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
Hymn of Sending--# 748 "Go with Us, Lord"

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Additional Readings for The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

First Reading -Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm - Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Second Reading -Philippians 4:1-9
Gospel - Matthew 22:1-14



FPC Children and Youth Sunday School Fall Semester

Children & Youth Sunday School will be offered on the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays of the month during our regular 10:30 am worship service. September 20 through October 25, we will follow up Pastor Carol's Back to School Blessing message ***You and Me? We're Neighbors!*** with a special 5-week
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session using the PC(USA) ***Mr. Rogers Neighborhood*** curriculum. We'll follow up with a ***Follow Jesus…*** unit in November on acts of welcome and hospitality as expressions of gratitude and faith in action before moving into the Advent season during which our young disciples will use their talents to provide a dramatic telling of the Nativity Story as part of a worship service during the Season of Advent.

Please join our Sunday School teacher, Miss Alexis Reno, this week at 10:30 am as we examine our faith and how to put it into action in our community!

FALL ADULT CHRISTIAN ED OFFERINGS FOR ALL!

On Your Own....

The Mitford Series by Jan Karon...

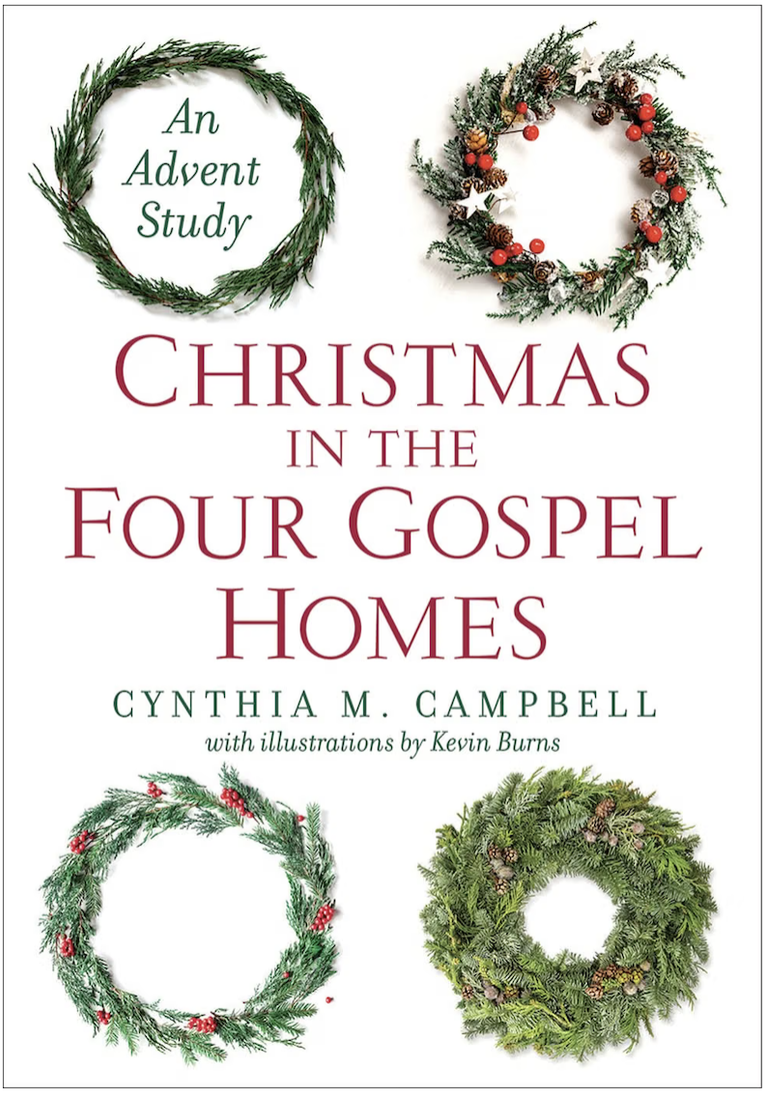


The Christian Education Committee invites all who love reading Christian-based stories of faith in action to join in the FPC Autumn Reading Challenge. Our focus this fall is on The Mitford Series by author Jan Karon. These books are available for check out at the Callaway County Public Library in e-book, audiobook, large print paperback, and traditional paperback formats. There is one copy of each book in the series available in the FPC library available for checkout as well.

Are YOU Our Next WINNER?

Those who submit a quote from the book(s) they read will be entered into weekly drawings for a small gift. Winners and their quote selection will be announced in the Friday newsletters. Write your quote, name of the book, and your own name on an index card and place in the comment jar located in the FPC Library or send your quote, book title, and name by email to: communications@fultonpresbyterian.org

For Wednesday Morning People....



Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group meets each Wednesday at 11 am.

BEGINNING OCTOBER 21ST!

October 21 through November 11 Pastor Carol will take us through ***"Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes"*** by Dr. Cynthia M. Campbell.

How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? In *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes,* beautiful illustrations from architect Kevin Burns reimagine each of the four Gospels as a house, which the church visits at Christmas. In each section, Cynthia M. Campbell reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus or the incarnation offered by each Gospel. Suitable for individual or group study, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* creatively reimagines the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent.

This book is available from Pastor Carol for $10 or you may go to amazon.com to order!

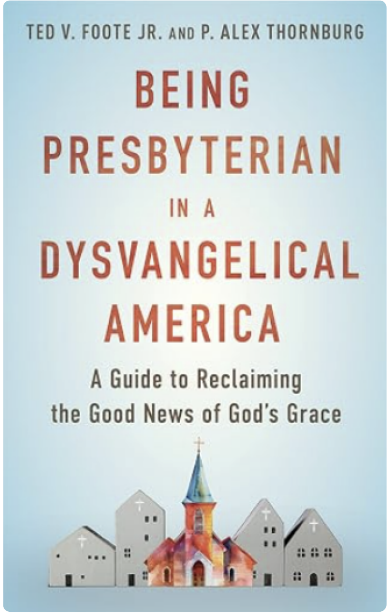
For Wednesday Evening People...

Wednesday Evening Book Study in Progress Now!

5:30-6:30 pm Each Wednesday Evening

FPC Library

Snacks provided! Bring Your Own Beverages!



"In *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America*, Ted V. Foote Jr. and P. Alex Thornburg speak directly to Presbyterians who are disillusioned and confused by how Christianity is being misused in American culture. So often, our beliefs as faithful Christians do not line up with the shouted chants and disturbing actions taken by those claiming to represent a true vision of Christianity. Twenty-five years after their best-selling book *Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt*, the authors return with fresh urgency to affirm the heart of Reformed theology and what it means to be truly evangelical in a time of theological and cultural distortion. With clarity, compassion, and a touch of humor, *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America* equips readers to name what feels wrong, rediscover what is right, and live into a gospel that is still good news for all."

This book study is taking a break until October 14 when Pastor Carol returns from vacation!



Women of Faith Resumes Meets Each Second Saturday of the Month!

Take a short break from Saturday morning chores to be with friends. This group especially for women will gather in the church library at 10:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month to enjoy an hour of fellowship, Bible study, and discussion of outreach projects.

Next Meeting is Saturday, October 10th!

Snacks will be provided; please bring your own beverage. Contact Mary Powers (314-277-5440) with questions

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Missouri Union Presbytery Prayer for October!



God of Grace and Lord of Mercy, hear our prayer as we come to you with praise for the amazing things you are doing in MUP congregations here in central and northern Missouri. We thank you for the graceful movement of your Spirit as leaders begin to emerge who are the right ones in the right time to walk with us into the next several years. Continue to fill us with hope that there are more emerging leaders, continued exposure of your good gifts to our people for service to you and in service to your church. Help us to recognize and claim your abundance in all areas of our lives together. Help us to see as you see, not as the world sees. Amen.



FPC Stewardship Sunday, October 25th!

FPC Stewardship Sunday
Sunday, October 25
Worship, Gratitude & Fellowship

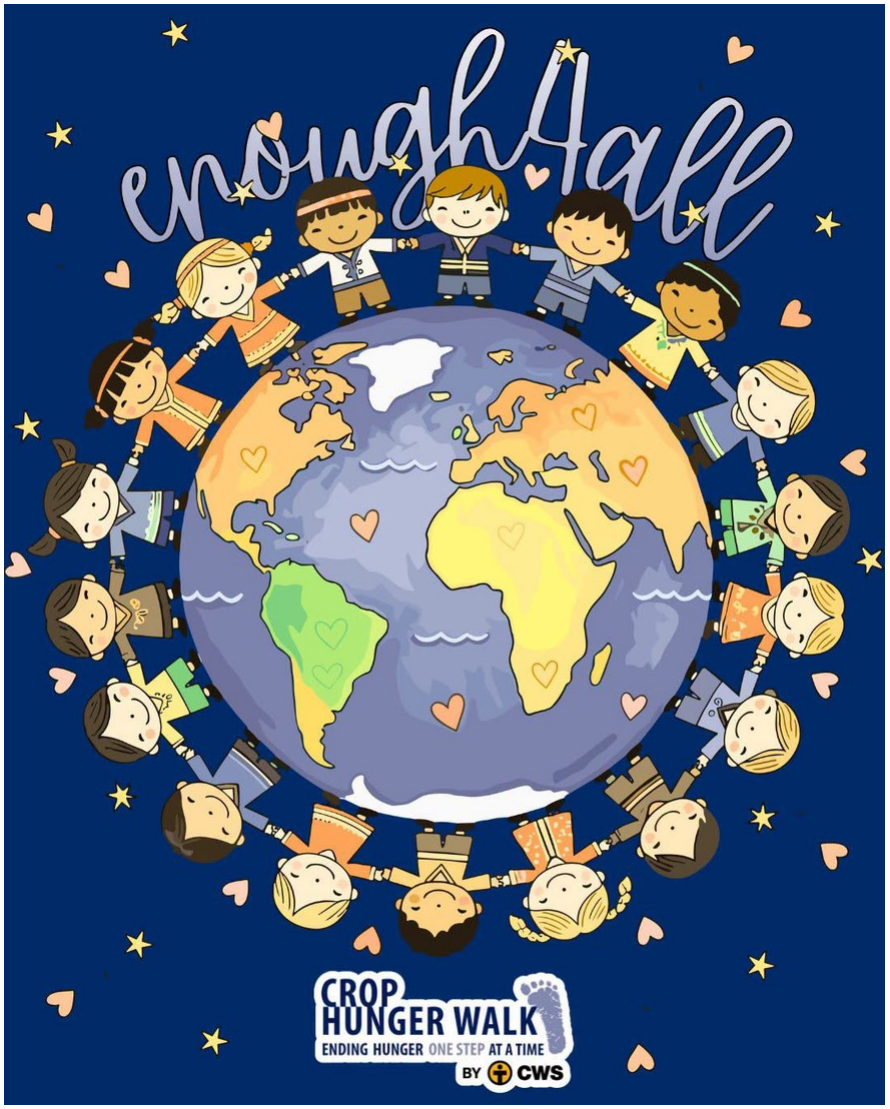
Join our First Presbyterian Church family for a special service of contributions as we gather in praise and reflect on the gifts we each share—our time, talents, resources, and care for one another.

Following worship, we'll gather for the **October Fellowship Meal**, celebrating our church family and the blessings of serving together.

Plan now to join us for a meaningful morning of worship, reflection, and a celebratory meal!



We Still Need at Least One Gallon of Chili for Sunday's CROP Walk! Can You Help?



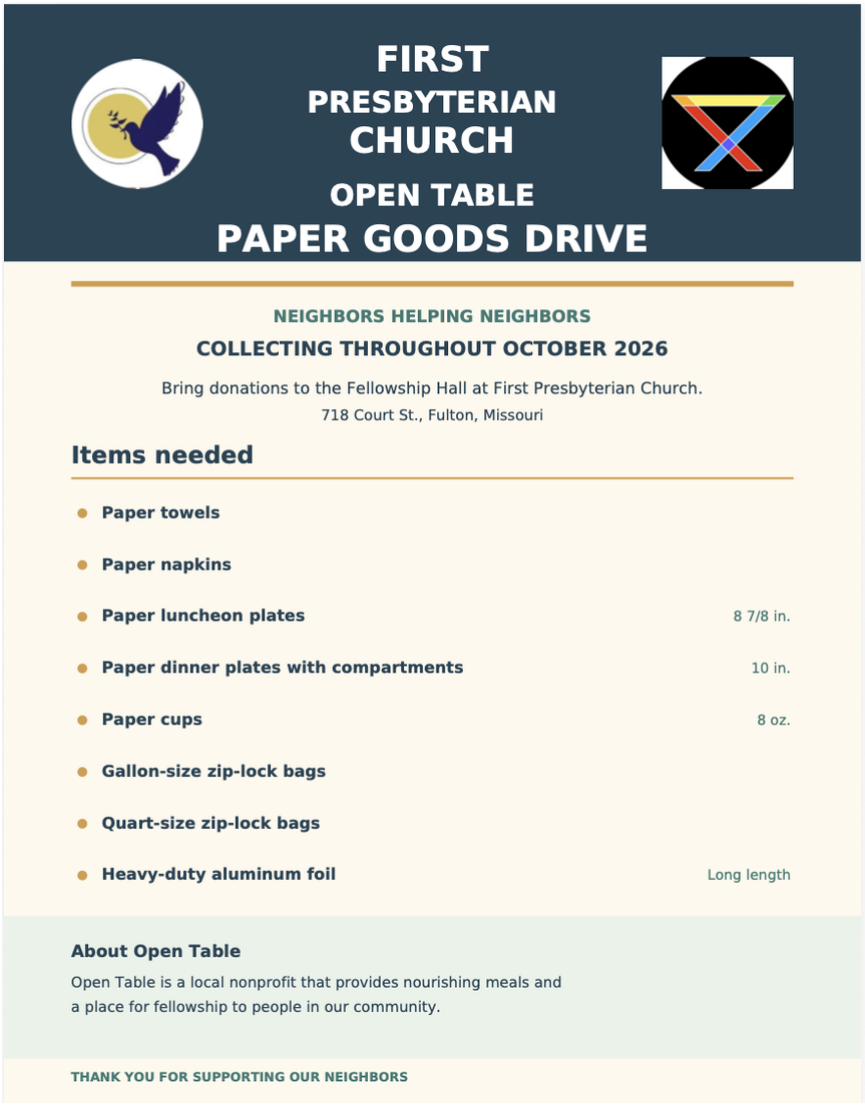
56th Annual Kingdom of Callaway Crop Walk!

The 56th annual Kingdom of Callaway CROP Hunger Walk will be held on **Sunday, Oct. 11th**. All walkers are asked to **congregate in front of Champ Auditorium** on the campus of Westminster College. **Registration begins at 1:00 p.m.** and the walk at 1:30. The distance is a little over 3 miles ending up at First Presbyterian Church soup, chili and cookies will be provided.
25% of all monetary donations remain in Callaway County, primarily benefiting the local Senior Center. The remainder goes to Church World Service (CWS), who will determine where the greatest needs lie. So, if you are young or young at heart, don't pass up this opportunity to walk for a great cause.

Ending Hunger Begins With a Bold Step Into Service!
Whether you are a walker, support a walker, or help to feed a walker this week,
please know that your generous contribution is appreciated!

SPECIAL CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: *Each participating church is being asked to contribute 2 gallons of chili, and 4 dozen cookies for the Crop Walk Luncheon. Watch for a sign up sheet on the Mission Table!*

October is our Open Table Paper Goods Drive - Bring Your Contributions Any Sunday This Month!



First Presbyterian Church | Open Table

HELP SERVE MEALS AT OPEN TABLE

Join our Open Table team!

A food handler's permit + a willing heart

That's all you need to help serve meals to our neighbors.



Learn how to earn your food handler's permit:

https://bit.ly/4y1w3mn

Sign up to serve. Bring your willing heart.
For more information contact Elder Shirley Dixon.



Donations to Book Fairy are Still Needed!

Thank you to all who have donated books, bookshelves, baby hats and pajamas, and their time spent helping to prepare books for distribution throughout the community!

The Fulton Book Fairy project is taking off and with that comes a need for more donations!

Donations needed:

-BOOKS! Especially for younger readers and board books.
-Wooden crates to carry books to locations where bookshelves cannot be housed permanently.
-Bookshelves
-Bookends
-Baby items, such as handmade hats, or blankets and or pajamas
-Nothing needs to be new. All can be gently used.

To make a donation, contact: Susan Fogelsong, susanfolgelsong5@gmail.com

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October Open House is Friday, October 16th from 2-4 pm!

Baby Grace

CAPITAL CITY DIAPER BANK

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION DAY

Free diapers, wipes & baby essentials for local families in need

WHEN	TIME	WHERE
Every 3rd Friday	2:00-4:00 PM	First Presbyterian Church 718 Court St., Fulton, MO

Parents, guardians and caregivers are invited!

We are here to help keep infants and toddlers clean, dry and healthy with free essential hygiene supplies.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

- **Diapers:** Preemie through Size 6/7, plus pull-ups
- **Baby Wipes:** Packets supplied per family, subject to availability
- **Period Supplies:** Select personal care items, depending on donations
- **Clothing:** Sizes NB-6T
- **Baby Supplies:** Bibs, hats, blankets, toys and books

UPCOMING DATES

September 18, 2026 | 2:00-4:00 PM
October 16, 2026 | 2:00-4:00 PM
November 20, 2026 | 2:00-4:00 PM
December 18, 2026 | 2:00-4:00 PM

ALL FAMILIES REQUIRING ASSISTANCE ARE WELCOME

No income verification or strict residency requirements are needed.

Questions • Donations • Volunteering
573-220-7633 • mission@fpcfulton.org

HELP STOCK THE FPC Blessing Box

Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Our newly decorated Blessing Box is being used by neighbors in our area.
Your contributions help keep it stocked for those in need.

DONATE NUTRITIOUS, PORTABLE, NON-PERISHABLE FOOD

Choose easy-to-open packaging:
tear-open pouches, zip-top bags, or pull-tab cans.

Drop off your donations on the
KITCHEN COUNTER EACH SUNDAY



FILLING THE LITTLE RED WAGON ....

CANNED FOOD IS NEEDED AT THE SERVE FOOD PANTRY!

FPC has learned that there is a high need for canned foods at this time. Here are a few suggestions for giving.

High-Protein Canned Goods

- **Canned meats:** Tuna, salmon, and chicken provide essential nutrients and are often the most requested yet least donated items.
- **Canned beans:** Black, pinto, kidney, and garbanzo beans (chickpeas) offer great fiber and protein.
- **Canned meals:** Hearty stews, chili with meat or beans, and chef's stews make quick and filling meals.

Canned Fruits and Vegetables

- **Canned vegetables:** Choose low-sodium or no-salt-added options like corn, green beans, carrots, and peas.
- **Canned fruits:** Select fruits packed in 100% juice or water rather than heavy syrup.
- **Tomato products:** Diced tomatoes, crushed tomatoes, and tomato sauce help families build base meals.

Soups and Sauces

- **Canned soups:** Pick vegetable, chicken noodle, or bean soups with lower sodium levels.
- **Pasta sauces:** Marinara or meat-flavored sauces pair nicely with donated pasta boxes

Special Note: *When selecting items for donation, look for pull-tabs. Pop-top cans help people who may not own a can opener or have limited kitchen access. You can also create meal kits by pairing items together, such as canned chicken with rice or pasta with tomato sauce. Please don't forget to check expiration dates to ensure items are well-shelf-stable and have not passed their printed sell-by dates.*

LET'S FILL THE WAGON EACH WEEK!

There are Many Ways to Put Your Faith into Action at FPC!

Can You Help With One of These?

Love in Action

- **You are invited to join the First Presbyterian Church Choir!** The choir rehearses regularly on Wednesdays from 7-8 pm under the direction of our church organist Kelley Head. If you would like to know more about our church choir or how you can share your special musical talents in worship, please see Kelly after church on Sunday or send an email to summerhill@att.net.
- **Baby Grace Ministries Provides Supplies for Young Parents.** Volunteers are needed to collect, organize, and display supplies such as diapers, baby wipes, and gently used and new infant clothing, and other baby-related equipment, and also to staff the monthly open house style distribution events. If you would like to help or donate, please contact Mary Osburn.

- **The Worship Committee needs Communion Workers!** On the first Sunday of each month beginning in October, FPC will need a team of helpers for Communion. Workers are needed to prepare and clean-up and Elders are requested to serve. To find out more, contact Worship Committee Elder Shirley Dixon.
- **Volunteer to Help in the Church Sound Booth.** Shaun Speers has created an easy to follow, step by step guide for anyone willing to assist with facilitating the sound for our livestream of the Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 am. *HELP US STAY CONNECTED! Contact Shaun Speers at* shaun.speers@williamwoods.edu
- **Join the FPC Open Table Serving Team!** OpenTable is a non-profit community soup kitchen providing free weekday evening meals from 5-6 pm. It operates out of the John C. Harris Community Center at 350 Sycamore Street. For more information, contact Elder Shirley Dixon for more information.
- **The Blessing Box Needs Your Donations!** Those wishing to support this ministry to our unhoused neighbors may leave donations of portable, non-perishable items such as snack crackers, small pop-top canned food, jerky, peanut butters, granola bars, etc. on the counter in the church kitchen.
- **NAACP Meetings are Held 7:00 pm on the 2nd Monday of Each Month** at the Guiding Light Baptist Church located at 1023 Westminster Ave, Fulton, Missouri. Can you attend to find our more about how our church can live into our Matthew 25 initiatives?
- **Save Egg Cartons & Plastic Grocery Bags for SERVE, Inc.** There is a continual need for plastic bags and egg cartons at the SERVE, Inc Food Pantry. We invite you to save and donate these items. Not only does this help our environment through recycling, it helps fill a need for the food pantry as larger food packages are broken down for distribution to various-sized families
- **Would you like to join the Usher Team?** Volunteers are needed to help carry out our Hospitality Mission. If you are interested in being a regular or fill-in usher, please contact Shirley Dixon to find out more!
- **Would Your Child Like to be an Acolyte?** This is a wonderful way for our young disciples to participate. To find out more about the role acolytes play in our regular Sunday morning worship services, contact Shirley Dixon, Worship Chair Elder.
- **Convert your Moser's Grocery Store Receipts and Best Choice Labels to Building Funds.** All funds raised through the redemption of Moser's Discount Food store register receipts and Best Choice product labels from either Moser's or C&R Market are being donated to the FPC Building Fund.They can be placed in the offering plates on Sunday mornings or left in the church office at other times.
- **Christian Education needs Youth Sunday School teachers.** While we are hiring college students to fill this need, we also need adults from our church who are willing to substitute. To find out more, contact Christian Education Elder Mary Van Orden.
- **Kitchen Helpers Keep Our Fellowship Meals a Reality!** If you can volunteer by assisting in the kitchen during our regular fellowship meals or bereavment meals, please contact Ramona Dobson or Arlys Kremer.
- **Christian Eduction Seeks Volunteers to Assist with Faith in Action Sunday Afternoons!** Faith in Action Sunday Afternoons is a three-event multi-congregational community event for students entering grades 2 through 9 held on a Sunday after church from noon to 2:00 pm. One event in the fall, one in winter, and one in spring. Each event emphasizes that faith is not only something we believe - is something we live. If you'd like to help, contact Christian Education Elder Mary Van Orden.
- **Are You a Book Fairy at Heart?** If matching donated books with greatful recipients is your jam, Susan Fogelsong can use your help in the FPC sorting room. Interested parties should contact Susan at: susanfoglesong5@gmail.com .





Do You Have a Prayer Request to the Congregational Care Committee!

If you have a prayer concern, you have several ways to let us know. You can click on the "Prayer Concerns" tab at the top of our website and the link will email our Congregational Care Chair, after

you fill in the information. Arlys Kremer is the chair of Congregational Care. You can call Arlys or email her (preferred method). There is also a link to the Congregational Care Committee (found under contacts) on our church website.

Arlys Kremer: 573-864-6120 or
congregationalcare@fpcfulton.org





FPC is an Earth Care Congregation!

Scripture makes it clear we are to care for the earth on behalf of God:

"The Lord God put the man in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." - Genesis 2:15

Earth Care Congregations make a four-part response to the Call to Restore the Creation:

◦Our worship and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation

◦Our education will encourage and support each other in keeping and healing the creation

◦Our facilities will be managed, maintained, and upgraded to respect and cherish all creation

◦Our outreach will encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth





Cargiver Support Group Meets Every Third Thursday!

The Fulton Caregiver Support Group meets monthly on the third Tuesday from 11:00 am until noon at the First Presbyterian Church, 718 Court Street. Caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias are welcome to share concerns with each other, learn about the disease and support one another. Find comfort and reassurance about feelings of guilt, frustration, and fear. Learn more about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and make new friends. You are not alone in this journey.

Check out the Fulton Caregiver Support Group Facebook. Below is a link.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/831596668187295/?mibextid=6NoCDW

Join us at our next meeting on October 20, 2026

Facilitators are:

Rhonda Cundiff 573-826-1050 and Lois Long 573-642-3691573.476.3107

Memory Cafe Concert Reschedule!

We're excited to announce that we have been able to reschedule the Memory Cafe Concert featuring Harmony Connection Chorus. It had originally been planned for August 25 but was cancelled due to an emergency building closure.

They will be performing instead on Tuesday, October 13, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Friends Room on the first floor of the Columbia Public Library, 100 W. Broadway.

This Memory Café special event will offer a social outing in a dementia-friendly space. Harmony Connection Chorus is an award-winning a cappella chorus, specializing in the art of barbershop harmony. Women of all ages, backgrounds and professions perform in the chorus because they love singing and touching people's hearts.

We welcome those living with any form of dementia or cognitive decline (accompanied by a family member or other care partner), as well as other adult community members to attend this special performance. Please feel free to share the attached flyer.

Financial assistance for this project has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

2026 JUSTICE & PEACE calendar

OCTOBER

- Domestic Violence Awareness Month; ncadv.org/; nomore.org; presbyterianwomen.org/justice or pcusa.org/resource/domestic-violence-worship-resources
- FairTrade Month; fairtradefederation.org/celebrate-fair-trade-month
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month; dol.gov/agencies/odep/initiatives/ndeam
- 04 World Communion Sunday; pcusa.org/resource/resources-world-communion-sunday
- 11 International Day of the Girl Child; un.org/en/observances/girl-child-day
- 11 National Coming Out Day; hrc.org/resources/national-coming-out-day
- 12 Indigenous Peoples' Day; americanindian.si.edu/nk360/informational/columbus-day-myths
- 16 World Food Day; fao.org/world-food-day/home/en
- 18 Children's Sabbath: Educate a Child; pcusa.org/resource/sabbath-practices-ministry-kit-children or childrensdefense.org
- 24 United Nations Day; un.org/en/observances/un-day

DOWNLOAD A PDF OF THIS HANDY LIST OF WHO TO CALL IN THE CITY OF FULTON!



Wearing Your Nametag = Wearing Your Welcome!

At **First Presbyterian Church of Fulton**, we believe in creating a space where everyone feels known, seen, and loved. One small way to do that? **Wearing your nametag!**

💬 It helps visitors feel more at ease.

🤝 It fosters connection and conversation.

❤️ It reminds us we're all part of God's family—by name!

So this Sunday, grab your nametag and help make our church a little warmer, one name at a time. See you at 10:30 a.m.!

#FPCFulton #NameByName #ChurchFamily #Matthew25Church #WelcomeOneAnother #FPCMo



Giving & Contact Information-Pastor's Office Hours!

NOTICE OF PASTOR VACATION

PASTOR PIERSON WILL BE ON VACATION FROM OCTOBER 5 THROUGH OCTOBER 12. PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE ELDERS LISTED BELOW SHOULD THE NEED ARISE.

The Church Office May Be Contacted in the Following Ways...

Street Address: 718 Court St, Fulton, MO, United States, Missouri
USPS Address: PO Box 6037, Fulton, MO, 65251
Telephone: +1 573-642-5541
E-mail: communications@fultonpresbyterian.org
Instagram: fpc_fulton
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@FPCFulton
Website: fpcfulton.org

Rev. Carol Pierson's Regular Office Hours Are:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to Noon

Contact Pastor Carol by phone at: *573- 273-8738 (if no answer, please leave call-back information)*

Contact Pastor Carol by e-mail at: *pastorcarol@fultonpresbyterian.org*

Please Join Us for Worship Each Sunday Morning at 10:30 am.

Contagious Disease Safety Protocols by the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Fulton.

The wearing of masks when entering the church building is optional. All other COVID-19 Safety Protocols remain in place. This includes the observance of social distance, using disposable Communion elements, and no contact collection of the offering. Our church COVID-19 Safety Protocols extend to all church activities.

How Can I Give?

Checks for pledges and offerings, and documents are normally hand-delivered on Sunday mornings by dropping them in the collection plate located at each door of the Sanctuary. Otherwise, if you are unavailable to attend church, any of these items can be mailed to:

First Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 6037, Fulton, MO 65251

If you prefer online giving, use our new GIVE+ Online giving system through the website or the GIVE+ Mobile app.

How to Contact Our Committees!

Our committees Gmail accounts that can be used to email them suggestions, concerns, and thanks. The addresses are:

- Session Clerk, Elder Ramona Dobson, "clerk@fpcfulton.org"
- Administration Committee, Elder Graham McCaulley, "administration@fpcfulton.org"
- Christian Education Committee, Elder Mary Van Orden, "communications@fpcfulton.org"
- Mission Committee, Elder Tim Wilkerson, "mission@fpcfulton.org"
- Congregational Care Committee, Elder Arlys Kremer, "pastoralcare@fpcfulton.org"
- Property Committee, Elder Shaun Speers, "property@fpcfulton.org"
- Worship Committee, Elder Shirley Dixon, "worship@fpcfulton.org"
- Communications, Elder Mary Van Orden, "communications@fpcfulton.org"



Welcome to Our Church!

First Presbyterian Church is located at 718 Court Street in historic downtown Fulton, Missouri. Worship services are held each Sunday morning. For more information, go to: www.fpcfulton.org or find us on Facebook or on Twitter @FPCFulton.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel:

youtube.com/@fpcfulton

Email: communications@fpcfulton.org

Website: fpcfulton.org

Location: 718 Court Street, Fulton, MO, USA

Phone: 573-642-5541

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FPCFulton

Twitter: @FPCFulton

Mary Van Orden
Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

