

First Presbyterian Church  
775 E. Boswell  
Batesville, AR 72501

Phone: 870-793-3272  
E-mail: [firstpresbatesville@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbatesville@gmail.com)



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## Daily Reasons to Celebrate

Poor August, the only month without holidays! Still, there's lots to celebrate these final weeks of summer. Enjoy some summer flavors: August 1 is National Raspberry Cream Pie Day; August 2, National Ice Cream Sandwich Day; August 3, National Watermelon Day; August 10, National S'mores Day (have a bonfire!); and August 24 is National Peach Day.

If you share life with young kids, have a water balloon fight on — you guessed it — National Water Balloon Day, August 6! Head out for a final (National) Beach Day on August 30. Or head out for an intergenerational hike on National Trail Mix Day, August 31.

And don't forget to celebrate God's precious gifts of friends — National Friendship Day is the first Sunday in August; creation — Global Sleep Under the Stars Night is August 8 (prime time for meteor showers!); laughter — National Tell a Joke Day is August 16; and the opportunity to put God's love into action by serving others — on August 22, National Be an Angel Day, or August 28, National Thoughtful Day, and, for that matter, every day of the year — holiday or not.

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## The Pastor's Piece

Read. Watch. Go. Do.

"...faith by itself, if it is not accomplished by action, is dead. But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds."

James 2:17-18

I think we're all on the same page with James—faith without works is dead. If my actions don't match my words, then I'm not very trustworthy. If I can't actually walk the walk, then how much is my talk worth? I'd venture to say very little. We all agree on this one, but the difficult part becomes when we try to figure out what to do about it. How can I act out my faith? How can I show the world that I'm a Christian?

Let me suggest a mantra I've been using for the past year or so: Read. Watch. Go. Do. Living out your faith doesn't mean you have to wear a sandwich board on the streetcorner, but it means that you are consistently growing and stretching in your faith in ways that just seem to explode out of you because they cannot be contained. So when you ask yourself, "what could I be doing to grow my faith? How can I show my faith to others?" try using these words as a starting off point:

**-Read.** Is there a devotional book or author you've been wanting to try? Or do you wish you read your Bible more? Now's a great time to get started!

**-Watch.** There are so many great movies/documentaries/tv shows about the Bible. Sometimes the only way to know if you will learn something is by trying something new.

**-Go.** Get out there in the world and have a conversation with someone. It can be a friend, a family member, a neighbor, or a stranger—just tell them something that God has done in your life today that you are thankful for.

**-Do.** Do you see places of need in the world around you? Don't just stand there—do something! Volunteer at a non-profit organization, share your time and care with a lonely neighbor, open your pantry and donate some food to an organization that feeds the hungry. There is so much we can do right where we are.

Read. Watch. Go. Do. Four simple little things, but they can make a world of difference not only to others, but to our own lives as well. Faith without works is dead, so let's get to work.

*Elizabeth*

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- 8/3 Jim Buck Buchanan
- 8/4 Mary Elizabeth Miller
- 8/8 J.R. Baker
- 8/8 Bill Walmsley
- 8/8 Victoria Nelms
- 8/9 Janet Wood
- 8/14 Nat Zumwalt
- 8/15 David Weatherman
- 8/16 Preston Nelms
- 8/18 George Lankford
- 8/21 Hudson Weaver
- 8/23 Betty Adams
- 8/23 Lindsay Moody
- 8/25 Max McElmurry
- 8/28 Justin Angel
- 8/28 Ura Fae Kramer

## Back to School for FPC Families

So the summer is winding down already, and parents are looking at school starting up again soon! Here at FPC we are gearing up as well!

**BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY** also known as *Blessing of the Backpacks* will take place on Sunday, August 20th If you don't have kids, you are encouraged to come and pray for our kids, our teachers, and our schools as they embark on the 2023-2024 school year.



## God is Watching

In the cafeteria line one day, a seminary dean noticed a bowl of big, juicy oranges. A sign by it read, "Take only one. God is watching you!" At the other end of the lunch line sat a large plate of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies. Beside it was a hastily scrawled note, likely from a hungry student: "Take as many cookies as you want. God is back there watching the oranges."

The message behind that good-natured irreverence? If you believe that God's sight is limited to one place, then your idea of God is too small!

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

## Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir is starting up again in September! If you are interested in lending your voice to the choir, please contact Ceil Smith for information.



# Presbyterian Day School

**YOU'RE INVITED**

to

**Presbyterian Day School's**

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Wednesday, August 30th**

**6:00—7:00 p.m.**

**Come meet the teachers, see your classroom, check out playground and meet some of your new friends!**

**Parents, please remember to bring up-to-date vaccine records for your child if you have not submitted them already.**








Fellowship Lunches are on hold while construction on the kitchen is ongoing. We will resume our monthly lunches as soon as possible!

Drink from a can? Pull the tab and bring it to church! Drop your can tabs in the jar in the Narthex to help the local V.F.W. support the Ronald McDonald House and Children's Hospital! Tabs can also be dropped off in the office.



**BIBLE TRIVIA QUESTION**

Here's something to get you thinking! If you don't know the answer, try phoning a church friend! Let this be a way to start a conversation and check up on each other!

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches. Which list includes a city that is not among those seven?

A. Ephesus, Thyatira, Philadelphia  
 B. Smyrna, Laodicea, Galatia  
 C. Pergamum, Thyatira, Smyrna  
 D. Sardis, Ephesus, Laodicea

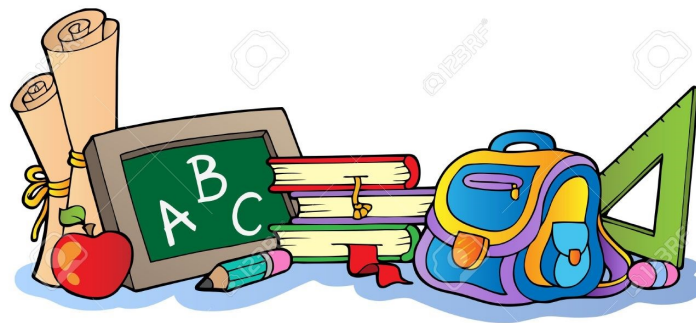
Answer: B

### Your Donation Can Spread Joy

Your Outreach Committee needs your help to be a blessing to local charities. Drop your donations off at the church and they will be delivered to an agency with a specific need for that item.

This Month's Item:

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES



## Words of Wisdom from GG

*"How to Live to be 100"*

*J—Just be Yourself*

*E—Eat Health (try)*

*S—See the Best in Others*

*U—Use Common Sense*

*S—Seek Ye the Lord*



Happy 105th Birthday Nat Zumwalt!



### CURRENT ELDERS:

#### Class of 2023

- J.R. Baker
- Jesse Friert
- Kathy Lanier
- Bob Stroud

#### Class of 2024

- Debra Bell
- Wil Moore
- Shelly Moser
- Mollie Grace

#### Class of 2025

- Gerri Coleman
- Price Holmes III
- Carlene Lewis
- Ceil Smith

### CURRENT DEACONS:

#### Class of 2023

- Fonzie Geary
- Jeremy Weaver
- Carolyn Reed
- Larry Whipple

#### Class of 2024

- Betty Adams
- James Anderson
- Justin Clark
- LeAnn Holmes

#### Class of 2025

- Wesley Beal
- Melissa Qualls
- Sam Smith
- Janet Wood



## Preaching and Worship Schedule



### August 6—10th Sunday after Pentecost

**Text:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Matthew 14:13-21

**Hymns:** How Firm a Foundation; Loaves were Broken, Words were Spoken; We Walk by Faith and not by Sight

**Liturgist:** Betty Adams

### August 13—11th Sunday after Pentecost

**Text:** Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Matthew 14:22-33

**Hymns:** God is Here!; My Hope is Built on Nothing Less; Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

**Liturgist:** Barry Gehm

### August 20—12th Sunday after Pentecost

**Text:** Psalm 133:1-3; Matthew 15:10-28

**Hymns:** Here in This Place; There's a Wideness in God's Mercy; We Are One in the Spirit

**Liturgist:** Chuck Jones

### August 27—13th Sunday after Pentecost

**Text:** Psalm 124:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

**Hymns:** Morning Has Broken; Be Thou My Vision; Take My Life

**Liturgist:** Laura Geary

Favorite hymns will be sung each week, be ready with your favorite hymn number to call out.

## Pastoral Care



**PLEASE REMEMBER** these members and friends of First Presbyterian Church in your prayers.

**MEMBERS:** Steve Lange; Jo Cudd; George Lankford; Farris and Dick Nelms; Ron Karg; Nat Zumwalt; Trish Boylan.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Al Crouch (*father of Amy Howard*); Randy Friend (*uncle of Elizabeth Brinegar*); Laurie Martin (*friend of Carlene Lewis*); Zach Miller (*son-in-law of Price and LeAnn Holmes*); Cathy Childress (*friend of Carlene Lewis*); Mark Register (*friend of Larry & Celeste Whipple*); Charlie Robuck (*grandson of Jo Cudd*); Debbie Mason (*niece of Carlene Lewis*); Paul & Susan (Critz) Guthrie (*friend of the congregation*); Marjorie Seasholtz (*friend of Kathy Whittenton*); Elbert & Stacy Lindsey (*friends of Scott & Melissa Qualls family*); Don Weatherman (*friend of the congregation*); Helen Enderland (*friend of Kathy Altom*); Kathy Duke (*niece of Kathy Altom*); Captain Christian Cummings, USAF (*nephew of Price & LeAnn Holmes*); Amanda Lawrence (*sister of Leslie Roper*); Gerald Bass (*friend of Carlene Lewis*); Roger Blackmore (*friend of James & Camille Anderson*); Todd & Nancy Phillips (*sister & nephew of Camille Anderson*); Eloise Kikkert (*granddaughter of Don & Lynn Weatherman*); Jim & Diane Campbell (*brother & sister-in-law of Lenora Baldwin*); Betty Howard (*friend of Kathy Whittenton*); Nick Slagle (*nephew of Ceil Smith*); Susan Anselm (*sister of Jo Gehm*).

**IN THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS,** we remember to pray for these ministries:

Please Pray for...		August 6	Trinity, Little Rock	Spring River, Hardy
		August 13	First, Bentonville	Westminster, Little Rock
		August 20	First, Conway	First, Prairie Grove
		August 27	First, Morrilton	First, Springdale

*Farris and I are so appreciative of the cards of support and encouragement we received from our church family. While we are unable to be with you in person, we remain connected in prayers and spirit. Our strength continues to be drawn from our faith, love, family and friends.*

*Dick and Farris Nelms*