The Chimes

October 2025

Calendar

Al Anon:

Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 10am

Back Row Boys:

Oct 1, 9am @ The Iron Kettle

Bible Study:

Oct 1, 8, 22, 29, 10am

Book Club:

Oct 27, 6:30 pm

Christian Education:

Oct 20, 6:30pm

Deacons:

Oct 28, 7pm

Ms. Bridget's Sprouts:

Oct 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29,

10:30am

PW Meeting:

Oct 19, 11am

Session:

Oct 6, 7pm

Women's Group:

Oct 15, 6:30pm @ Favo

Book Club's October book is "Everything Happens for a Reason" by Kate Bowler. Join us at 6:30pm on Monday, Oct 27th. All are welcome!

Halloween IS COMING!

Do you have any Halloween decorations you'd like to lend or donate to the church? Email Annie in the office or drop them off in early October. Thank you!

A Note from the Pastor

October is "Stewardship Month" here at FPCEA. We love our church and it's no surprise that it takes money to keep our doors open. Our donations cover a host of costs – building maintenance and utilities, staffing, programming, mission, Christian education resources, fellowship events, etc. But stewardship is also an integral part of our faith life. In Genesis, God names us as being stewards of creation. It's on us to care for this amazing world; it is both a tremendous privilege and a daunting responsibility.

A church is that special place where we collectively put our stewardship into practice. We bring our gifts – our special talents, our treasure and donations, and our time – so that we might join with others in building God's kingdom of love and justice here on Earth. Some of us are retired have some time to donate for a project. Others have energy to share their labor. Many share their talents – in worship, to teach, to offer care, etc. And giving financially – either through donations or even a tithe – is a way of expressing our faithfulness in God and our trust in one another. Indeed, having been so very blessed, we consider it a joy to return a portion towards the mission of the church serving as Christ's hands and feet in the world. It is through sharing our gifts that we become the change we wish to see in the world.

With each passing year and its many ups and downs, we strive to remain a beacon of hope in our community. Thankfully, God continues to raise up leaders in our midst who serve on session and the finance committee to wrangle with the many questions concerning how we best manage our resources and gifts in this era. Are there ways we can cut costs? Are there ways we can generate revenue? And what are the larger plans for our future that involve endowment funds and other "pots" of money? By sharing our pledges and offerings, with God's help, we keep our church solvent and Christ's mission of helping friends and strangers alike in our own community and around the world continues with each new day.

-Jesse

FPPS Fall Bulb Sale!

First Presbyterian Preschool is having their annual bulb sale! Orders are due by October 15th. You can click <u>here</u>, or scan the QR code below! Thank you!







Christian Education Update

- -This year we are rolling out a new curriculum in the pK-2 and 3-7 classes. It allows for more discussion based on concise versions of meaningful stories in the Bible. The lessons will encourage the children to have a greater voice in guiding the lesson.
- -Confirmation also is mixing it up. Their schedule includes a series of 10 classes and a goal of attending a minimum of 10 services prior to the May 9th. The year will end with the Confirmation of the youths ready to make this meaningful commitment.
- -Wednesday 10am Bible Study in the lounge resumed on September 10th. October classes with be held each Wednesday excluding October15th.
- -Please consider volunteering as a teacher or assistant for any of the classes. You will enjoy getting a snapshot of what the children and youth are learning in class as well as getting a chance to connect with these incredible individuals.
- -The lesson topic for each class is posted on the bulletin board outside of the CE office. Please note that the 3-7 graders will not have class on October 12th.
- -Upcoming events will include planning for the Christmas Pageant.

Children's Sermon Help Wanted!

We are currently putting together a schedule for children's sermons. On the first Sunday of the month, children spend time with Brad learning songs - so we won't offer a children's sermon so that they might have more time for the songs. Amy, our Christian Education director, will lead children sermons on the fourth Sunday. I'll offer others, but we know our children would love to hear from you! Do you have a fun lesson or story you'd like to share with our young ones? Please let me know - it's a great way for our kids to connect with more members of our church.

Ms. Bridget's Sprouts

Come each week to join Ms. Bridget and her friend Sprout this fall! Sprouts is designed to enhance your child's early growth & development and increase socialization. Get ready to learn and have fun each Tuesday & Wednesday at 10:30am! See the calendar for details. Ages 6m-5y. Please contact Bridget Pacholec to register at 716-982-2000.



Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee is currently laying out our calendar of this Fall's events for the 2026 campaign as well as our <u>Consecration Sunday kickoff on October 19th</u>. Our Stewardship theme for this year is "Serving The Lord, Rejoicing In Hope". More details will follow next month. Our church is so thankful for all your 2025 pledge payments to date which are so vital in staying current with paying our annual operating expenses.

October Birthdays! Happy Birthday Everyone!

Ken Boss Charlotte Carter Dan Castle Annie Clark Jane Clark Patricia Evans Salah Griffis Sue Gurney Nancy Heussler Josh Krieger Ken Krieger Stephanie Larson

Patricia Matthewson Scott More Sue Pagliaccio Suzanne Parkhurst Angelo Polisano Barbara Sleeper Debbie Sleeper Todd Suckow Susan Tapani Sharon Taylor Janice Wolfman