

Adult

Bible 101: all ages, SS 212

A round-table discussion on the basic studies of Scripture following the Chalmers Center Guide. Currently studying *The Jesus Storybook Bible*.

Chapter by Chapter: ages 50+, Tower 804

Currently studying Colossians; mostly 50s+ but all ages welcome.

Fellowship Class: all ages, SS 210

Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

First Pres Forum Class: all ages, Fellowship Hall

Offering a rotating schedule of teachers and speakers. This month, Dr. Herbert Ward, the Chair of the Biblical and Theological Studies Department at Covenant College, will be teaching a series on Old Testament Covenant Theology.

The Joy of Learning: ages 30s - 70s, Tower 258

A no-pressure, discussion-based class currently studying God's Biblical responses to Screwtape/Satan in C.S. Lewis's book *The Screwtape Letters*.

Link Class: ages 60+, Tower 301

Fellowship and prayer followed by a study of Philippians. Class is mostly seniors but welcomes all.

McCallie/Anderson Class: all ages, Chapel

Class dates back to 1924 and is named after legendary Sunday School teachers J. Park McCallie and Lee Anderson. Currently studying Isaiah verse-by-verse.

Reformed by the Word: ages 50s - 80s, Tower 10th Floor

An interactive class studying the Gospel according to Mark. Lessons are followed by a time of prayer.

Rocking Chair Class: all ages, Tower 302

Focuses on discovering "what sayest the Scripture." Currently studying John MacArthur's series, "The Rapture & the Day of the Lord."

International & Adult Bible Discussion: all ages, Tower 805

Part of the First Friends Ministry, welcomes international college students. Currently studying the Kingdom of God.

Welcome All Class, all ages, Tower 403

Currently studying Paul Miller's *The Person of Jesus*.

Young Couples: ages 20s - 30s couples, SS 211

A short lesson followed by group discussion. Class is currently studying the Book of Church Order from the Presbyterian Church in America's Constitution.

Young Professionals: ages 20s - 30s, Tower 304

Aimed at connecting recent college graduates and newly-weds in their 20s and 30s; current series is "Soul Care: Spiritual Food for Hungry People," with a focus in the Psalms.

Youth & Kids

Youth Large Group: 6th - 12th grade, Student Center (across McCallie Ave.)

Kid's Sunday School: Pre K - 5th grade, ground, 1st, & 2nd level Children's Wing

Nursery: Infant - 4-years-old

NEW & UPCOMING AT 1ST PRES

Women's Bring a Lunch Fellowship - January 23

1st Pres Women are invited to bring your lunch and join us after your Tuesday Bible Study in the Nell Davis at 11:45AM. Come together and have a fun, relaxed time of getting to know each other!

Midweek - January 31

Midweek continues this week, with a meal and fellowship at 5:30pm and electives for nursery, kids, youth, and adults starting at 6:15pm. This semester's adult elective features guest experts who will examine the Biblical foundations of Western society and equip you to answer the objections raised against them. Go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Midweek for more details!

Gospel Fest - February 3

This season's Concert Series continues Saturday, February 3, at 6pm with Gospel Fest, where we will be joined by local churches to celebrate Black History Month through songs and spirituals!

Reception for Don Holwerda - February 4

Church Administrator Don Holwerda will be retiring at the end of January, after eleven faithful years on staff. To thank him for his service, we are holding a reception for him on Sunday, February 4 during the Sunday School hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Women's Progressive Brunch - February 10

Meet new friends and get to know each other better over a delicious 3-course brunch! Register by February 4 at 1stPresbyterian.com/Events. There is a \$5 charge for the meal, and childcare is available.

High School Winter Retreat - February 16 - 19

High Schoolers - our Winter Retreat is back and is going to be over President's Day Weekend! We will leave for our retreat on Friday afternoon and return Monday by lunchtime. The total cost is \$250 and a \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. Final payments are due by January 31. To register, go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

Youth Summer Conferences

Two Youth Ministry Summer Conferences are scheduled for our students, and registrations are open! Our Middle School students (rising 6th-rising 8th) are going to Covenant College on Lookout Mountain for The Edge Conference, June 17 - 21. Our High School students (rising 9th-completed 12th) are going to an RYM Summer Conference at Laguna Beach Christian Resort in Florida, July 1 - 5. Registrations can be found on the church events page and through our Youth Ministry Weekly emails. Contact Isabella@1stPresbyterian.com for more information.

Woman at the Well - Postponed

Due to the icy weather last week, the Women's Ministry Board decided to postpone the Woman at the Well event. Watch the announcements for the new date!



At First Presbyterian, we seek to be a healthy church exhibiting all the fullness of Christ as we disciple believers who develop spiritually, connect relationally, and engage missionally to reach Chattanooga and the world with the gospel.

The Lord's Day
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024
11:00 AM

† Please stand as you are able.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORSHIP REFLECTION

Only God in His divine grace could dare redeem such a sordid tale as Genesis 38 and turn the story to fulfill His glorious purpose. Our God is so great that He uses the sinful actions of a scoundrel to transform him and to ultimately bring the Messiah into the world. Sin creates in all of us the propensity to embrace pleasure without responsibility.
— adapted from Ligonier's "Table Talk"

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord, open the eyes of our hearts to see You and the emblems of Your costly love for us —Your broken body and shed blood. Come and banish fear from our hearts. Give us Your peace and make us glad in Who You are for us and all that You have done to rescue us. Come and breathe upon us Your Holy Spirit and transform us for Your service, for we pray in Jesus's mighty name. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision" arr. Michael Tyree

String Quartet

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more information on these and other upcoming events, subscribe to our Weekly Email Announcements on our website under the "Resources" tab, or go to 1stPresbyterian.com/Events.

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT

*"May Jesus Christ Be Praised" by Joseph Barney
"Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Richard Willis*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 27:4-5 ESV

Pastor: One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in His temple.

**People: For He will hide me in His shelter
in the day of trouble;
He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;
He will lift me high upon a rock.**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" No. 457 (vv. 1-3)

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick* and the dead;
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic** church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**living **universal*

† HYMN OF PRAISE

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain" No. 455 (vv. 1,3,4,5)

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" by Dan Forrest

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Please take your PreK-1st grade children to the check-in station
at the PreK-K department on the Fellowship Hall level.*

† GLORIA PATRI

THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

SERMON

"The Prodigal Son"

Genesis 38:1-30

"Keeping Your Faith When Life Lets You Down: A Study of the Life of Joseph"

Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

OUTLINE

1. When Faith Fails, Fear Takes Over

2. Walking by Faith, Not Fear

THE TABLE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

COMMUNION

- Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians when we recall Jesus's cross, relive His anguish, and renew our vows to live as His followers.
- We invite all to participate in this meal:
who profess faith in Jesus Christ,
who are endeavoring to live at peace with God and others,
and who seek strengthening grace to live more faithfully for Jesus.
- If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, we encourage you to spend this time considering Jesus's broken body and shed blood. Pray and ask Him to forgive your sins and to give you eternal life.

† HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

† BENEDICTION

based Romans 15:13 ESV

Pastor: May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope.

People: Thanks be to God, Amen!

POSTLUDE

"A Festal Fanfare" by J.S. Bach

Ann Shaw, organ

Giving Update	<u>Deacons (General Fund)</u>	<u>World Missions</u>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	\$3,046,380	\$850,000
<i>Raised Year-to-Date</i>	\$2,244,801	\$938,678*

**World Missions fiscal year ended as of December 2023*



*New to 1st Pres?
We'd love to connect with you!
Scan with your phone camera
to fill out a connect card.*



*To make a secure contribution
to First Pres, scan the above QR
code with your phone camera or
text GIVE to 423-888-0345.*

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of
Dave and Bashie Evans.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to
our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, January 22.*

Stay connected and informed with the 1st Pres app. Text APP to 423-888-0345.

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