



July 2024

## ***Beyond the Bumper Sticker***

Have you ever been driving by yourself and suddenly laughed out loud? I have. It wasn't because of a funny song on the radio or a funny thought that occurred to me. It was because of a bumper sticker I read as I pulled to a stop behind a car at a red light. There are some very clever, very funny bumper stickers out there! In some ways bumper stickers are a unique kind of literature - pithy, brief, insightful, catchy, and all in literally just a few words.

There are a good number of faith based bumper stickers, too. From stickers that declare your church membership to stickers that convey all different kinds of theology or perspectives, there is a wide variety of faith based bumper stickers. But, no matter how hard we may try, these stickers can only say so much. Even if you were to put a series of stickers across your entire bumper, there is not much room for developing those short, pithy statements.

So, for the month of July I invite us all to go "Beyond the Bumper Sticker." Join us as we peer behind the catch phrases to uncover the truths meant to be conveyed. We will be worshipping at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. But all are welcome to come early and join us around 10:30 AM for a time of Fellowship. Our Worship committee and Congregational Life committee will be offering coffee and some breakfast treats so come in and sit for a bit and spend time catching up with friends and making new friends!

*Pastor Leigh*

**Summer Opportunities for growth**


- ⇒ **Coffee Shop Theology** at Noble & Main Coffee Shop on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.
- ⇒ **Thursday evening Bible/book study** weekly on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Cornerstone Room.

**Faith Development Upcoming Dates**

- **Sunday School classes will not meet in July. Adult Sunday School resumes In August.**
- **Monday, July 8 - Friday, July 12--Vacation Bible School, 9 AM - 12 pm**
- **Wednesday, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31--Coffee Shop Theology, 11 AM, Noble & Main**
- **Thursday, July 11, 18, 25--Evening Bible/Book Study of Holy Disunity: What Separates Us Can Save Us, by Layton E. Williams, 7 PM, Cornerstone Room**  
There will be no meeting on July 4.
- **Wednesday, July 17 - Sunday, July 21--Montreat Middle School Conference, Maryville College, Maryville TN**

**Fall Retreat**

In partnership with Mission, Faith Development is planning an overnight Fall Service/Spiritual Formation Retreat Weekend on October 11-13 (Fri-Sun) in Blue Ridge. Individuals, couples, and families with children elementary-age and older are welcome to spend one or both nights, and everyone is invited to join us for a day of service on Saturday. Details will be shared as they become available. Everyone interested in joining us for this fun and exciting opportunity should contact Jean Gilliland or Jenny Brannan.



**FPC Book Club**  
**July 25 at 10:30am**  
**Cornerstone Room**

This month we will be discussing Kristin Hannah's The Women, a novel about a nurse in Vietnam. Come join us. Everyone is welcome. Note this is the postponed selection originally scheduled for June.



**Please join us for summer worship in July at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall.** We will have light refreshments beginning at 10:30 for a brief time of fellowship prior to worship beginning at 11:00. **July 7** will be Communion by intinction, **July 14** we will welcome some of our local mission partners to hear about their ministries in our community and how we can work with them, and **July 28** will be "The Blessing of the Backpacks" prior to the new school year. We look forward to worshipping with you!

Brothers and Sisters!

Scott Johnson here, sometimes-Electronic Ministry Coordinator at FPC.



If you aren't already aware, we are making a transition from streaming worship on Facebook to streaming worship on YouTube this August. But we need your help! Please follow us on YouTube, hit the subscribe button @cartersvillepres

In other electronic ministry news: in case you missed it, we launched an Instagram page a few months back! Drop a follow there if that's your primary platform and be sure to send any pics you want posted to the staff. @fpccartersville (pending retrieval of @cartersvillepres from a former account)

Thanks for reading, and let me know if you have any thoughts or suggestions!

Blessings, Scott

**Friendship Table Food Drive We are in need of individual fruit cups and cookies.**



The shopping cart will be in Fellowship Hall for donations. Again, thank you as a congregation for always being supportive of this ministry.

**Help fill the Need –Donate blood! Red Cross Blood Drive - July 10 - 2:00pm—7:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: firstprescartersville

### *From the Session:*

At the congregational meeting on June 9, an Officer Nominating Committee was elected. Members are Suzanne Collins, Becky Carr, Ben Jones, Brac Panter and Katie Godfrey.

At its meeting on June 18, the FPC Session:

- Approved the Faith Development Committee's plan for a luncheon on Aug. 25 that will include training on the church policy on child safety and caring.
- Heard a report from the Stewardship and Finance Committee indicating that the church budget has a surplus of more than \$20,000 for the year. Committee members continue to meet with an agent to adjust requirements/expectations for leasing of the second floor of the education building.
- Heard a report from the Mission Committee about the Mission Fair planned for July 14 in the Fellowship Hall.
- Heard a report from the Worship Committee that the fundraising goal for new choir robes has been reached and that worship service livestreaming will be converted to YouTube from Facebook beginning in August. The congregation will be given notice, reminders and assistance in making the transition.

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## Montreat Music & Worship

Thank you for your prayers and support for those who attended the conference!





**VBS Setup Help Needed**  
**Sunday, July 7 after worship**

Join us after worship on Sunday after worship to help setup for VBS. Subs, chips, and drinks will be provided. Any help, all ages, all abilities are needed to transform our spaces into Camp Firelight! Let [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org) if you can help, so we can make sure we have enough food.



Our high school youth went to Montreat June 9-15. We had a great time, enjoyed being together, made new friends, and deepened our relationship with God. We had keynote and worship in Anderson Auditorium with nearly 1000 other youth and adults, went paddle boarding and kayaking in Lake Susan, and went rock hopping in the creek. On our free afternoon, we hiked Lookout Mountain, spent time in the town of Black Mountain, and of course ate dinner at My Father's Pizza.



**Backpack Blessing – Sunday, July 28**

Bring your back-packs to be blessed as we offer prayers for the new school year. And invite a friend to join you!!

## *July Birthdays*

2	Mark Bridges	29	Katie Pruitt
3	Tom Bowen	30	Janet Martin
3	William Klingbeil	30	Wyley Steed
5	Brian Purtymun	30	Trey Gaines
5	Jake Sullins	31	Rhonda Ireland
6	Pam Hughes		
7	Broderick Lumpkin		
8	Carolyn Noble		
9	Ben Jones		
10	John Cummings		
12	Katie Godfrey		
13	Frank Johnson		
13	Mary Gilreath		
14	Gary Boulier		
18	Jared Whatley		
20	Terry Purdy		
20	David Benton		
25	Neal Miller		
28	Mike Ball		



## *In July Pray for Our Church:*

**Staff:** Angie Hood, April Paulk (Preschool), Amy Prather (Preschool)

**Officers:** Peter Olson (Session), Keith Williamson (Diaconate)

**Ministries:** Mission & Service Ministry

**Families: July 1-7:** Sandy Howell, Brad and Pam Hughes, Susan and Jerry Ingram, Jim Ireland, Sean and Rhonda Ireland (Allyson, Emily)

**July 8-14:** Justin and Emma James (Hayleigh, Hunter, Hayden), Allison Jenkins (Dalton), Drew, Anne Tatum Johnson, Andy Johnson, Frank and Faye Johnson

**July 15-21:** Megan Johnson (Ellie, Eliza), Chris and Leigh Jones (Amelia, Ben), Nancy Kaufman, Kathe Keck, Courtney and Dave Keen (Gracie, Caroline)

**July 22-31:** Denise and Ron Kennedy, Debbie King, Joe and Cat Klingbeil (William, Bennett), Laura Layne (Molly), Dale and Laurie Luengen

# **First Presbyterian Church**

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## **Contact**

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***Angie Hood, church administrator***

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***Jennifer Graves, preschool director***

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## ***July Calendar***

### **July 2**

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

### **July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

11:00am - Coffee Shop Theology @ Noble & Main

### **July 4 & 5**

Church office closed for Independence Day

### **July 8 - 12**

9am - Noon Vacation Bible School Week

### **July 8**

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

### **July 10**

2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive till 7pm

### **July 11, 18, 25**

7:00pm - Thursday Bible/Book Study

### **July 14**

Mission Fair in Fellowship Hall

### **July 17 - 21**

Montreat Middle School Conference

### **July 25**

10:30am - FPC Book Club

### **July 27**

9:00am - Popsicles on FPC Playground

### **July 28**

Blessing of the Backpacks during worship

### **July 30**

7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting



**11:00 AM**

July 7 - July 28 - Fellowship Hall