



November 2025

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Romans 12:1-12 (The Message)

The other day, as I was sharing plans for All Saints Sunday with my family, my son asked: Do we have saints in the Presbyterian church? Great question! The answer is, yes, we do have saints in the Presbyterian church. But, we define the term a little differently than our Catholic brothers and sisters. In the Presbyterian tradition, "saints" are all faithful believers in Jesus Christ, past and present, who are part of the "communion of saints". They are seen as examples of faith.

On All Saints Sunday, we will remember and give thanks for those saints who have gone before us and name those church members who have died in the past year. But saints include those who live on earth as well as those who have received new life through Christ our Savior. Can you think of some saints in the church right now?

This congregation is blessed with many, many saints. All of the saints here have been blessed with different gifts and different callings and serve Christ and build up his body here in different ways. Not a one of them is perfect, as none of us are perfect, but all of us together are able to take our ordinary lives, our sleeping, eating, going to work and walking around life and place it before God as an offering. Doing so, we are the faithful believers in Jesus Christ, saints.

This month, I invite us all to go around the church and say thank you to each other. Let us thank the saints who are examples of faith, who pray, lead, serve, give, and embody what it means to be a Christian community. Let us thank God for calling us all together that we might be the body of Christ in this place, witnesses for the power and love of our God. Let us continue to strive to live as saints, placing our every day ordinary lives as offerings before God.

Pastor Leigh

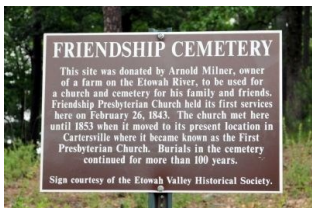
THANK YOU TO OUR LEADERS

In November, we have officers rotating off and new officers rotating in. Please take a moment to thank those who have served faithfully over the past three years: Elders: Mark Bridges, Betty Dundee, Rich Gaffoglio, Paul Green and Eliza Johnson. Deacons: Brian Purtymun, Jennifer Nebergall, Sheilah Simons, Keith Williamson, and Katherine Bowen. We also give thanks for our currently serving leaders and those who have answered the call to serve for the next three years. Elders: Elyn Olson, Joe Klingbeil, Robert Sims, and Mark Bridges. Deacons: Jessica Gardener, Carla Purdy, William Bramlett, Megan Johnson, and Ben Jones.

Inquirers Group - November 9, 2025, immediately after worship

If you would like to learn more about our congregation and opportunities to grow in your faith journey by becoming a member, you are invited to our Inquirers Group Sunday, November 9th immediately after worship in the Cornerstone Room. Please let the church office, Pastor Leigh, or Elders Kathy Farnon or Trey Gaines that you are interested in attending!

Please join us Sunday, November 9th, from 1:30–3:00 p.m. at Friendship Cemetery as we continue our restoration efforts at this historic site. We'll be cleaning headstones, raking, and tidying the grounds—all materials will be provided.



Friendship Cemetery is the original location of Friendship Church, which later became First Presbyterian Church when the congregation moved to downtown Cartersville. The cemetery holds over 100 marked and unmarked graves, including the resting place of the church's first pastor, Rev. Richard Milner.

Friendship Cemetery is located south of Cartersville along Highway 293 and Old River Road, near the Etowah River. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Watanabe at 951-733-3161.



Each November, we take time to lift up one of our ministry partners, Thornwell.

For generations, churches like ours have stood alongside Thornwell in their mission to serve children and families with Christ-centered care.

This year is especially significant as just last month, Thornwell celebrated 150 years of ministry and 150 years of answering God's call to bring hope and healing where it's needed most. Thornwell was found by a minister named Dr. William Plumer Jacobs (who also founded Presbyterian College - Go Blue Hose!) heard God's call to care for children left orphaned and alone. In Clinton, South Carolina, with few resources and only his faith to guide him, Dr. Jacobs responded to God's call. In his diary, he prayed: "Oh my God, help me about the Orphans' Asylum and show me what to do."

Just 3 years later, a legacy began. For 150 years, God has provided. Bread showed up when there was none. Donors and church families rallied when the needs were great. And, one of the most beloved traditions, the turkey coin holders, emerged to teach generations of children about giving with compassion during Emphasis Month.

Today, Thornwell continues to live out Dr. Jacobs' vision, serving as a place of healing, hope, and transformation for children and families. While it is no longer an orphanage, Thornwell has faithfully adapted, meeting the changing needs of our communities. Through the continuum of care counseling, educational support, life skills training, and parenting resources, Thornwell equips families with the tools they need to thrive while always grounded in love that reflects the heart of Christ. Your support keeps this legacy alive.

Like Dr. Jacobs, we are called to listen for God's voice and respond with faith. Whether through prayer, giving, or sharing Thornwell's story, you are part of this legacy rooted in faithfulness.

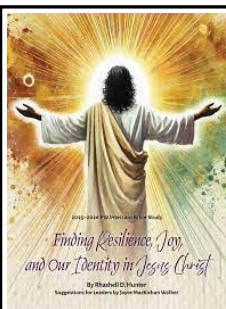
Thank you.

From the Session:

At its stated monthly meeting meeting on October 21, the Session:

- Elected Betty Dundee and Jean Gilliland to be commissioners to the Oct. 23 meeting of Cherokee Presbytery.
- Approved the creation of the position of interim handbell choir director through the end of 2025 with an offer to be made to a candidate.
- Met with several incoming officers for examination and voted to approve them for installation/ordination as appropriate.

The Session will meet with remaining officers for examination and consideration at a retreat on Nov. 1.



**2025-2026 PW/
Horizons Bible Study**
 “Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ” will meet **Thursday, November 6 at 10:30 in the Cornerstone Room.**

We will be discussing Lesson 3, “Jesus is tested”. Scripture is Luke 4:1-13. All are welcome!

Youth Fundraiser Concert: Brownlow & Sims on Sunday, November 9, 4-6 p.m. in the Gathering Space.

This event is open to our congregation and the public; all ages are invited. Nursery care is available for infants & toddlers.

Join us for the whole concert or drop-in as your schedule allows. Jerry Brownlow, along with Cindy and Robert Sims, will present a program of both sacred and secular acoustic music as a fundraising opportunity to bolster the Youth budget for causes such as Missions and Montreat participation. There is no charge for admission, but the opportunity to donate with cash, check, or via QR code will be made available during the program. Some have expressed interest in being able to hear more from Brownlow & Sims, so this will be a great occasion for all to do so while joining with Jerry, Cindy, and Robert in the support of our FPC Youth. Help spread the word within and beyond our walls and join us on the second Sunday afternoon of November.



Mark your calendar!

Next month, on **Sunday, December 7th**, at the Men’s Breakfast, Randy Davis will give a talk about Phoenix Air adventures.

Please join us on the first Sunday each month at 9:00 a.m.in the Fellowship Hall of The First Presbyterian Church of Cartersville. This breakfast is a PERFECT opportunity to get to know the other men in your church family. RSVP to dwc1945@gmail.com

Ladies Night Out Thursday, Nov. 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Come join us for good food and fellowship. We will be dining at Neena’s Pizza, located at 650 Henderson Drive, Cartersville. All ladies are welcome!




There is no FPC Book Club meeting for November and December. Our next FPC Book Club meeting will be **Thursday, January 22, 2026**, at 10:30 a.m. in the Cornerstone Room.

The book selection is Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly, which is a novel about an historical figure and her adventures in pre-WWII Europe. Available in multiple formats from the library or your favorite bookseller. Please join us and bring a friend!

November Faith Development Dates

- **Saturday-Sunday, November 1-2**
Middle School Retreat at Camp Calvin
- **Sunday, 10 a.m.**
November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Sunday School for Adults, Youth, Children
Adults: Cornerstone Room
Fellowship Hall
Youth: Youth Room, Education Building
Children: Room 114 (Grades 2-5)
Children's Library (PreK-Grade 1)
- **Monday, November 3, 7 p.m.**, Session Room
Faith Development Meeting
- **Tuesday, 12 p.m., Cornerstone Room**
November 4, 11, 18 (final study until January/
February)
Romans for Everyone Bible Study
This Bible study will take a break during the
Advent season and resume on a date TBD.
- **Tuesday, November 4, 5:45 p.m.**
Friendship Table (FD families help serve)
- **Thursday, November 6, 10:30 a.m.**,
Cornerstone Room
Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus
Christ Bible Study
- **Sunday, November 9, 4-6 p.m.**,
Youth Fundraiser Concert - Brownlow & Sims
- **Sunday, November 16, 5-6:30 p.m.**,
Nagle's Bagles
Community Youth Group
- **Tuesday, November 18, 10:30 a.m.**,
Cornerstone Room
Bad Girls of the Bible Study
- **Sunday, November 23, 5-6 p.m.**
Youth Bible Study



COLOR YOUR FALL WITH KINDNESS.

Give blood.

 American Red Cross

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of CARTERSVILLE
BLOOD DRIVE
Wednesday, November 12, 2025
2:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall**

All presenting donors will receive a \$10 E-Gift Card and your name will automatically be entered into the drawing to win a \$5,000 Gift Card (there will be 3 lucky winners who will each win a \$5,000 Gift Card).

For more information, to schedule an appointment, & to do RAPIDPASS, go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: firstprescartersville

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App
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Thank you for a wonderful
Fall Festival!!



November 2025



First Presbyterian Pre-School

Jennifer Graves ~ Director

April Paulk ~ Assistant Director

770-382-0755

jennifer@cartersvillepres.org

November Bible Verse:

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Preschool has had a busy October! We had fieldtrips to the fire department & a visit from our firefighters, Fall Break & our schoolwide fieldtrip. We finished the month with our costume parade & parties!

We have another exciting month ahead! (See Events)

Events for November

♥ Food Drive for Friendship Table

November 3-21

♥ Fall Pictures November 4 and 5

♥ Thanksgiving Celebrations will take place Tuesday, November

18 and Friday, November 21

♥ Pre-K Thanksgiving Program

Friday, November 21

♥ Thanksgiving Break ~

November 24-28



Above: Our visit from the firefighters!

Below: Ms. Louisa's class is experimenting with an "apple volcano".



Thank you for a wonderful Fall Festival!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Fall Festival a huge success!

The families that came enjoyed Trunk-or-Treating, crafts, the Cake Walk, and so many more fun activities. Thank you for inviting your family, friends, and neighbors.

Thank you to all who decorated a car and handed out candy, those who volunteered their time to help out during the festival, and to all who donated baked goods for our Cake Walk!

The whole community had a wonderful time in fun and fellowship!



November Children & Youth Calendar

- **Nov. 1-2** – Middle School Retreat at Calvin Center
- **Nov. 4** – (Tues) Serve at Friendship Table (4:30-7:15 p.m.)
- **Nov. 9** – Youth Fundraiser Concert (4-6 p.m.)
- **Nov. 16** – Community Youth Group at Nagel's Bagels (5-6:30 p.m.)
- **Nov. 23** – Youth Bible Study (5-6 p.m.)

Montreat College Conference – January 2-5, 2026

For more Information, visit [Montreat College Conference 2026](https://www.montreat.org/conference)

College Conference @ Montreat invites college-aged young adults to spend three days in the mountains of Western North Carolina nurturing their faith and connecting with others as they engage in worship, recreation, and critical conversations. This conference welcomes all to know and experience God's word more fully, regardless of each person's religious affiliation, area of study, or where they might be on their spiritual journey.

- What does joy have to do with being a person of faith?
- What about the times when finding joy feels really hard?
- Join us for the 2026 College Conference at Montreat as we explore these questions and more.

If you are interested in going, or need financial assistance, please contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org.

College/Young Adult Care Packages

If you have a college student, young adult, or a child in the military please send their address to andrea@cartersvillepres.org. If an address has changed since last spring, please send Andrea an updated one. The youth are going to put together Care Packages in November.

If you would like to donate to the packages, please check out our [Amazon Wish List](https://www.amazon.com/wishlist) or drop items/gift cards off in Andrea's office by November 10.



November Birthdays

1	Debbie King	27	Jackie Thompson
1	Joe Klingbeil	28	Donna Bridges
3	Jackson Cline	29	Charlotte Whatley
4	Jim Ireland	30	Mina Harper
4	Karla Wooton		
4	Megan Gregory		
5	Scarlett Warlick		
7	Elizabeth Johnson		
8	Ross Whatley		
9	Alice Baker		
12	Ann Cummings		
14	Dale Luengen		
17	Kharis Bramlett		
19	Harris Pressley		
25	Dick Brannan		
25	Tina Clark		
26	Frank McAdoo		



In November Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Angie Hood, Carmen Mercado (Preschool), April Paulk (Preschool)

Officers: Mark Bridges (Session), William Bramlett (Diaconate)

Ministries: Faith Development Ministry

Families: November 1-7: Jim Ireland, Sean and Rhonda Ireland (Emily), Justin and Emma James (Hayden), Hayleigh James, Hunter James

November 8-14: Dalton Jenkins, Drew Johnson, AnneTatum Johnson, Drake and Grace Johnson, Frank and Faye Johnson

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

November 22-30: Ronny and Denise Kennedy, Debbie King, Joe and Catherine Klingbeil (William, Bennett), Laura Layne (Molly), Dale and Laurie Luengen

First Presbyterian Church

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120

770-382-3511 - www.cartersvillepres.org

Contact

Leigh Jones, pastor

pastorleighjones@gmail.com

Andrea Roche, children & youth director

andrea@cartersvillepres.org

Jim Stanley, choir director

music@cartersvillepres.org

Becky Ferguson, ministry assistant

becky@cartersvillepres.org

Angie Hood, church administrator

angie@cartersvillepres.org

Jennifer Graves, preschool director

jennifer@cartersvillepres.org

November Calendar

November 1

Middle School Retreat at Camp Calvin

November 2

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Middle School Retreat at Camp Calvin

9:00am - Men's Monthly Breakfast

November 3

7:00pm - Faith Development

November 4, 11, 18 (final study until Jan/Feb)

12:00pm - *Romans for Everyone* Weekly Study

November 4

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

November 6

10:30am - Women's PW Bible Study

November 9

12:00pm - Inquirers Group Meeting

1:30pm - Friendship Cemetery Work Day

4:00pm - Youth Fundraiser Brownlow & Sims

Concert

November 10

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

November 12

2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive

November 17

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

November 18

10:30am - Monthly Study - *Bad Girls of the Bible*

7:00pm - Session Meeting

November 20

6:00pm - Ladies Night Out @ Neena's Pizza

November 23

5:00pm - Youth Bible Study

November 26, 27, 28

Church office closed for Thanksgiving

