

# The Lamplighter

The monthly newsletter of Franklin Presbyterian Church  
**September 2023**

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Our FPC banner on the fence at the football stadium at FSHS.

# Pastor's Pen

## ***Kicking Things Off!***

Football is in the air, and while I know that it is not everyone's favorite thing, it sure comes to mind as the calendar flips over to September.

This is also the time for many church things to kick off, including planning for next year! Our committees will be meeting this month to begin discussing what they have already done in 2023 and what they plan to do in 2024. And part of that is... BUDGETING!

This month's Lamplighter has an article on Stewardship, specifically how it relates to Pledges, Offerings, and the Operating Budget of FPC. Next month there will be one on Designated Funds and how those fund ministry and mission, and finally an article will outline what The Bold Approach is, how it was (and is) funded. Our hope is that by better understanding how FPC funds its operations, its ministry, its mission, and its vision for the future will offer new opportunities to see how our individual gifts of time, talent, and treasure further the kingdom of God through the church of Jesus Christ in this congregation and community.

Money is never a "fun" thing to discuss in church, I know, but it is important to remember that the blessings of God are a responsibility for us to share with others as we love them and seek the calling that the Holy Spirit places upon all of us.

As we kick off budget season, let us be in prayer, asking Christ's will of what we do as FPC.

*Pastor Daniel*

### ***DID YOU KNOW?***

*Our Pastor's Benevolence fund helps those who need immediate assistance with food, gas, utilities, and more. To date for 2023, we have paid out over \$5,300 to help those in our community meet basic needs.*

*Curious about how FPC helps those in our community? Talk with Pastor Daniel or if you wish to donate to this mission, please put 'Benevolence' on the memo line and place in the offering plate.*

# Our Community



As summer comes to a close, the Matthew 25 Clothes Closet continues to grow and serve our community.

About 300 items of clothing are given away weekly – on a busy week we approach 500 items! Another area of growth in Clothes Closet is in community support.

Our recent “Christmas in July Undie Sunday” brought in almost 500 pairs of new underwear. We also regularly have 10 church and 9 community volunteers. Some of our community volunteers are prior clients who feel moved to give back and have been a big blessing.

We will likely do another underwear drive in December. We have several churches who have requested to be involved and several local businesses also have agreed to help. If you know of a local business with at least 10 employees that you think would help, let Debbie Wyatt (270 223-7831) know.

Ongoing needs: men’s jeans, belts, and t-shirts; women’s bras; socks and shoes for all ages, especially for men and children; toiletry items (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, disposable razors). It seems we get stocked up on items and we turn around and tubs are empty!

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

Happy September, Church! Have you felt the energy in and around the church starting to change? The weather is still warm but summer is beginning to wane; school is back in; programs are starting. I’ll be greeting two years of work in this church this month, and I thought (which is to say, it was suggested to me) that I might start taking a little Lamplighter space to share what’s going on in my wheelhouse.

A huge joy this year is the beginning of a Sunday School, led by Chris Kessler, for the older children (9-11 years old) of the church. Chris volunteered to lead and plan this class and from the sound of it it’s going gangbusters. She is leading them through the Old Testament, so if you have one of these new youth at home or see them in the hall, ask what they’re learning! During coffee hour, they are hanging out with me in the youth room. They have christened themselves the “Chili Church Tots” and have big plans for that room. Me, I’m looking forward to apple picking with them this month.

I also want to let y’all know about a workshop I’m building, planned for a few sessions this fall and winter, on what you might call the foundations of evangelism, or even pre-evangelism. This is coming out of lots of conversations within and without FPC over the last two years, so if it rings a bell for you, take credit! If this topic seems interesting, if you have thoughts or questions or anything you’d like to work on or talk about with a group, please speak to me about it. This will be a group endeavor, not a lecture series.

Finally, if you see Aaron Talley (worship leader at FFUMC and a teacher at FSSH), tell him thanks. Our livestream has been seeing one issue after another since June—a camera died, the new one required different sound settings, we couldn’t figure out the source of background noise—and after weeks of struggle, Aaron came over and suggested a fix within an hour. The sound from August 17th’s livestream was the best we’ve had in a long time!

There’s more in the hopper, but that’s for next month. Enjoy the warm and golden days of September, and don’t say anything to me about pumpkin spice until October arrives!

GBTG,  
Bailey

# Session Highlights

## AUGUST 21, 2023:

- \* - APPROVED THE BAPTISM OF CORINNE SMITH (PARENTS WYLLIS AND TONY SMITH ATTENDED) AT AN UPCOMING SERVICE
- \* - HEARD REPORTS FROM RECENT PRESBYTERY MEETING IN BOWLING GREEN, INCLUDING NEW WELLNESS & FAMILY LEAVE PLANS
- \* - APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATION FROM CHRISTIAN SERVICE TO SEND \$1,000 TO AID WITH MAUI WILDFIRES
- \* - DISCUSSED THE BUDGETING SEASON WITH A PRESENTATION BY TREASURER BOB THOMPSON

***NEXT SESSION MEETING:  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 5 PM***

### AUGUST AVG. ATTENDANCE: 55

Aug. 6	56
Aug. 13	51
Aug. 20	61
Aug. 27	52



### AUGUST WEEKLY OFFERING AVG: \$2,016.54

Aug. 6	\$1,984.50
Aug. 13	\$3,094.66
Aug. 20	\$2,039.00
Aug. 27	\$948.00

**Average weekly income  
needed for budget:  
\$2,692.31**

#### **SEPTEMBER**

**ELDER/ELDER HELPER**  
Jane Rahm/Chris Kessler

**FRIEND OF THE MONTH**  
Nancy Thomas

#### **Ruling Elders Serving on Session**

Barry Hain  
John Halcomb  
Bob Thompson  
Bob Heidbrink  
Jane Rahm  
Nancy Thomas  
Chris Kessler  
Martha Hodge  
Justin Henninger

**DEACONS:**  
Linda Knight  
Marcella Davis  
Meredith Halcomb



# WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

God has given us many blessings and with those blessings we offer back to God what is God's.

*This is the first in a series of LAMPLIGHTER articles on Stewardship. Our first will be discussing the OPERATING BUDGET of Franklin Presbyterian Church. The Operating Budget consists of PLEDGES, undesignated offerings in worship, and all other gifts not set aside for a specific purpose.*

## WHO?

Jesus Christ often spoke of wealth and the responsibility to love our neighbors with what we have been given by God. The Apostle Paul echoes this in the way he instructs the church at Corinth to give generously to the church in Jerusalem in 2 Corinthians 9:7-8.

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.*

## WHY?

We are blessed by God with great resources at FPC. Using the buildings, the staff, the time and talents of members & friends shows gratitude to God for all we have been given!

## WHAT?

The Operating Budget funds the facilities, most of the personnel, as well as basic worship, education, fellowship, and other foundational ministries. As noted, this is funded primarily by Pledges & Offerings.

Clothes Closet, Christian Service, Matthew 25, and Living Waters all have Designated Funds which they use to run and support their ministries & missions.

The Bold Approach is ONLY used for Ministry & Mission programs and projects, including the additional personnel costs related to connecting, creating, and supporting them.

## HOW?

Knowing the amount of money that is pledged helps the budget be built. See below to find out more about how the past two years of Pledging has gone. If you have questions, ask Bob Thompson!



**Please prayerfully consider not only how you can give to the upcoming year's Operating Budget for FPC but also how your time and your talent can be used for God's Kingdom!**

**NEXT MONTH: Stewardship and how DESIGNATED FUNDS support ministry and mission at FPC!**

## September 2023 Daily Lectionary

*These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.*

### **[Year One]**

#### **Friday, September 1**

Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
1 Kings 5:1–6:1, 7  
Acts 28:1–16  
Mark 14:27–42

#### **Saturday, September 2**

Morning: Pss. 122; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 63  
1 Kings 7:51–8:21  
Acts 28:17–31  
Mark 14:43–52

#### **Sunday, September 3**

Morning: Pss. 108; 150  
Evening: Pss. 66; 23  
1 Kings 8:22–30 (31–40)  
1 Tim. 4:7b–16  
John 8:47–59

#### **Monday, September 4**

Morning: Pss. 62; 145  
Evening: Pss. 73; 9  
2 Chron. 6:32–7:7  
James 2:1–13  
Mark 14:53–65

#### **Tuesday, September 5**

Morning: Pss. 12; 146  
Evening: Pss. 36; 7  
1 Kings 8:65–9:9  
James 2:14–26  
Mark 14:66–72

#### **Wednesday, September 6**

Morning: Pss. 96;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
1 Kings 9:24–10:13  
James 3:1–12  
Mark 15:1–11

#### **Thursday, September 7**

Morning: Pss. 116;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 26; 130  
1 Kings 11:1–13  
James 3:13–4:12  
Mark 15:12–21

#### **Friday, September 8**

Morning: Pss. 84; 148  
Evening: Pss. 25; 40  
1 Kings 11:26–43  
James 4:13–5:6  
Mark 15:22–32

#### **Saturday, September 9**

Morning: Pss. 63; 149  
Evening: Pss. 125; 90  
1 Kings 12:1–20  
James 5:7–20  
Mark 15:33–39

#### **Sunday, September 10**

Morning: Pss. 103; 150  
Evening: Pss. 117; 139  
1 Kings 12:21–33  
Acts 4:18–31  
John 10:31–42

#### **Monday, September 11**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
1 Kings 13:1–10  
Phil. 1:1–11  
Mark 15:40–47

#### **Tuesday, September 12**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
1 Kings 16:23–34  
Phil. 1:12–30  
Mark 16:1–8 (9–20)

#### **Wednesday, September 13**

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
1 Kings 17:1–24  
Phil. 2:1–11  
Matt. 2:1–12

#### **Thursday, September 14**

Morning: Pss. 97;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
1 Kings 18:1–19  
Phil. 2:12–30  
Matt. 2:13–23

#### **Friday, September 15**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
1 Kings 18:20–40  
Phil. 3:1–16  
Matt. 3:1–12

#### **Saturday, September 16**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
1 Kings 18:41–19:8  
Phil. 3:17–4:7  
Matt. 3:13–17

#### **Sunday, September 17**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
1 Kings 19:8–21  
Acts 5:34–42  
John 11:45–57

**Monday, September 18**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
1 Kings 21:1–16  
1 Cor. 1:1–19  
Matt. 4:1–11

**Tuesday, September 19**

Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
1 Kings 21:17–29  
1 Cor. 1:20–31  
Matt. 4:12–17

**Wednesday,  
September 20**

Morning: Pss. 15;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
1 Kings 22:1–28  
1 Cor. 2:1–13  
Matt. 4:18–25

**Thursday, September 21**

Morning: Pss. 36;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
1 Kings 22:29–45  
1 Cor. 2:14–3:15  
Matt. 5:1–10

**Friday, September 22**

Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
2 Kings 1:2–17  
1 Cor. 3:16–23  
Matt. 5:11–16

**Saturday, September 23**

Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
2 Kings 2:1–18  
1 Cor. 4:1–7  
Matt. 5:17–20

**Sunday, September 24**

Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
2 Kings 4:8–37  
Acts 9:10–31  
Luke 3:7–18

**Monday, September 25**

Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
2 Kings 5:1–19  
1 Cor. 4:8–21  
Matt. 5:21–26

**Tuesday, September 26**

Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
2 Kings 5:19–27  
1 Cor. 5:1–8  
Matt. 5:27–37

**Wednesday,  
September 27**

Morning: Pss. 65;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
2 Kings 6:1–23  
1 Cor. 5:9–6:11  
Matt. 5:38–48

**Thursday, September 28**

Morning: Pss. 143;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
2 Kings 9:1–16  
1 Cor. 6:12–20  
Matt. 6:1–6, 16–18

**Friday, September 29**

Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
2 Kings 9:17–37  
1 Cor. 7:1–9  
Matt. 6:7–15

**Saturday, September 30**

Morning: Pss. 122; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 63  
2 Kings 11:1–20a  
1 Cor. 7:10–24  
Matt. 6:19–24

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LECTOR/USHER  
SCHEDULE

**Elder of the Month:**

*Jane Rahm*

**Elder Helper:**

*Chris Kessler*

**Ushers:**

*Bob Heidbrink  
Everett Halcomb*

**Lector**

*Keith Lawrence*

WEEKLY EVENTS &  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **Adult Bible Study:** Tues. 5:30 pm
- **Choir:** Wed. 6:30 pm
- **Grief Group:** Sept. 14 at 5 pm

**MEETINGS**

- Fellowship:** Sept. 5 at 2 pm
- Finance:** Sept. 11 at 5 pm
- Facilities:** Sept. 13 at 4 pm
- FPC Men:** Sept. 9 & 23 at 10 am
- SESSION:** Sept. 28 at 5 pm

# SEPTEMBER 2023

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion	4 Labor Day Office Closed	5	6 <i>Marcella Davis</i>	7 <i>Julie Cropper</i>	8	9
10 <i>Charmaine Alsager</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>Melissa Cropper</i>	19	20	21 <i>Debbie Sowney</i>	22	23 <b>FAMILY GAME NIGHT</b>
24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>Stephanie Halcomb</i>	30 <i>Ron Stiles</i>

\*Birthdays in italics



# Looking Ahead...

## October

**ELDER/ELDER HELPER :**  
Martha Hodge/Bob Heidbrink

**FRIEND OF THE MONTH:**  
Nancy Thomas

- Oct. 1—Peace & Global Witness Offering  
World Communion Luncheon
- Oct. 28—Beer & Hymns followed by our  
Halloween Party.



**CONNECT WITH US!**

[www.franklinpresbyterian.org](http://www.franklinpresbyterian.org)  
[franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com)



### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday  
9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

### TELEPHONE

(270) 586-4535

### FAX

(270) 586-4592

### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Daniel Van Beek,  
*Pastor*

Rev. Bailey Pickens,  
*Community Connections Director*

Candice Mendoza,  
*Office Manager*

Jason Matteson,

*Music Director*

Donna Houston, *Organist*

Shirley Crutcher, *Nursery*

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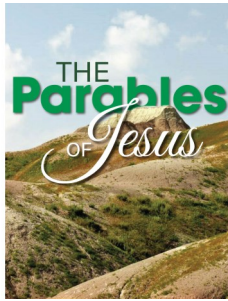
**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
9:30 am in the Cornerstone  
Studying Poverty & Wealth in the Bible

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
9:45 am with Ms. Shirley in the Nursery

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
For Grades 4-6 with Chris Kessler in the  
upstairs educational wing

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**  
TUESDAYS AT 5:30 PM  
IN THE CORNERSTONE & ON ZOOM

**KIDS' CLUB**  
Pre K-3rd Grade with Jen Van Beek  
Grades 4-6 with Pastor Bailey



Do you have something to go in the  
Lampighter? Submit it to the office by  
the last Thursday of the month.



Franklin Presbyterian Church  
201 North College Street  
Franklin, KY 42134