

CHURCH STAFF

Tim Leigh

Interim Pastor

Bailey Pickens

Community Connections

Director

Candice Mendoza

Office Manager

Jason Matteson, *Music Director*

Donna Houston, *Organist*

Shirley Crutcher, *Nursery*

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The Lamplighter

The monthly newsletter of Franklin Presbyterian Church
August 2025

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ANNUAL CHURCH YARD SALE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

7:00 am—1 pm

*If you would like to see what help is still needed,
or if you have items you wish to still donate,
please reach out to Linda Knight
at (270) 943-0305. Thank you!*



Pastor's Pen

Christian Love and Peace in a Violent World

*(FPC Adult Sunday School Study for the Five Sundays in August.
Thank you to Prentice Knight for penning this month's Pastor's Pen)*

Jesus said that all the law and all the prophets are summarized by two commandments: (1) love God with your heart, mind, and soul and (2) love others as you love yourself. A corollary of these love commandments is Jesus' call for his followers to be peacemakers, to love your enemies, and to reject violence.

But we live in a world where violence – by individuals and the state – is common. How should Christians who believe in Christian love, peace and nonviolence respond when confronted with violent or potentially violent situations? Is it moral for Christians to physically harm – even kill – others in defense of yourself or loved ones? If so, under what circumstances and how? Should Christians participate in war (armed conflict)? What rules (if any) should govern when and how a nation engages in war? What about the use of violence by the police; do Christian principles apply there?

Christian practitioners and theologians have struggled with these questions since the time of Jesus. During the five Sundays of August, the Adult Sunday School class will examine Christian perspectives on peace, violence and war, with the primary focus on Christian Pacifism, Just War Theory, and Christian Realism – doctrines developed by Christian theologians in response to violence and war. We will explore under what circumstances, if any, a nation, a church, or an individual Christian is morally justified in engaging in violence – and if so, how.

Study Content over the Five Weeks:

1. Christian Faith – The Challenge of Violence
2. Christian Pacifism – violence is incompatible with the Christian faith
 - a. Gospel of Jesus – peace and nonviolence scriptures. Did Jesus ever use or condone violence?
 - b. Principles and history of Christian pacifism
3. Christian Just War Theory – when is war (armed conflict) morally justified?
 - a. Morally legitimate reasons to engage in war
 - b. Morally legitimate conduct in war
 - c. Morally legitimate conduct after the war
4. Holy War – War to protect and advance Christianity in the Name of Jesus Christ (Crusades)
5. Christian Realism – Reinhold Niebuhr. War may be a necessary evil to prevent greater injustice.
6. Christianity and Jainism (often cited as the religion with the most profound commitment to nonviolence)
7. Morally Complex Challenges – Examples
 - a. US Revolutionary War, WWII; Civilian fire bombing and the use of the atomic bomb in WWII; Vietnam War; Israel-Hamas war in Gaza; US bombing of Iran
 - b. Personal violence – various violent scenarios; “Stand your Ground” laws
 - c. Church – should a church create an armed Safety Team with permission to kill to protect the congregation?

A Christian response to violence is a complex and troublesome topic with a spectrum of views. Please join us in Sunday School in August to learn about Christian doctrines related to violence and to discuss how we as Christians can frame and respond to violence – individual and state – in a way that is consistent with the gospel of Jesus.

Session Highlights

- Approved the establishment of a separate bank account for the Columbarium at FPC. All income and expenses for the Columbarium will be placed in the account. The bid price for a 36-niche columbarium is \$68,713. The agreement includes \$50,000 “up front” monies from donations, niche sales, and an interest-free loan of \$30,000, to be paid back from niche sales.
- Approved a donation of \$500 to the Literacy Center from the Christian Service local line item.
- Appointed Keith Lawrence as Commissioner to attend the August 10th Presbytery meeting in Greenville.
- Approved change of status of Pastor Tim Leigh from *Interim Pastor* to *Transitional Pastor*. The Presbyterian Book of Order distinguishes between interim pastors and transitional pastors, outlining their roles and responsibilities within the church. In case you are wondering, according to the Book of Order, the difference between interim and transitional pastors are defined. Interim pastors focus on maintaining the church’s regular functions and providing stability. They often help the congregation prepare for the search for a new pastor. Transitional pastors are specifically appointed to guide a congregation through a period of transition. They may have a more defined role in helping the church assess its needs and vision for the future. They also often engage in intentional change processes, preparing the congregation for new leadership. Interim pastors typically serve for a shorter period of time. Interim pastors maintain stability, whereas transitional pastors may actively facilitate change and growth. Pastor Tim’s term begins officially on September 1 to be renewed on January 1, 2026, and then on an annual basis as necessary. The relationship may be terminated by either party with a 30-day notice. The new position is full-time and includes an equitable pay raise.

Making Connections

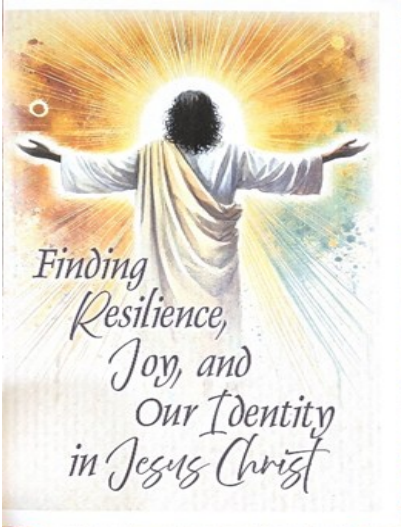
What a summer! By the time you read this, Art in the Park will be three weeks in the rear view mirror, and our Financial Literacy for Community Empowerment series will be moving into its final week. I have said before and I will say again, what a joy it is to be part of a congregation so full of willingness to help! I am grateful to every volunteer and so proud of the presence of this congregation in our community.

I hope you’ve had a chance to check out our Sunday school topics for the rest of the summer. This month, Prentice Knight will lead us in examining Christian perspectives on war and violence. Then, in September, Debby Helton will help us consider what eternal life really is, anyway.

There’s always something to do, to learn, and to thank God for in our lives together! Let’s not forget to rest, too. That’s part of the rhythm of faith.

Looking forward to what’s next,
Bailey

Extra, Extra



On August 18, 2025, all women are invited to join the Horizon's Bible Study for 2025-2026. Our first lesson will be one of the Mary's you find in the New Testament. If you need a copy of the study, contact Jan Albert so she can order more.

We will meet on the third Monday of each month starting on 8/18/25 in the Cornerstone at 11:00 AM. There will be a light lunch provided in August. We plan to lunch together in some form (brown bag, a hostess, or out to a local restaurant) each month. If you have any special dietary needs, please let Jan Albert know.

MATTHEW 25 CLOTHES CLOSET

We are having a busy summer in the Clothes Closet! Our volunteers have been extra busy with clients and processing clothes.

We are taking a short break in accepting clothing so we can get caught up. Please do not donate any clothes until August 14 . Only summer clothes until mid September.

As Pastor Tim announced last week, the Matthew 25 Clothes Closet runs a very limited pantry. We can use: beans, rice, Anne's meat, canned vegetables and fruit. Look for the basket in the Sanctuary. We will keep it out all during August.

We will be open from 10-12 during the Yard Sale on August 9. Come check us out!

Our Committee will be manning an informational table on Rally Day Sunday. (August 31). Check us out to see how you can help.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

AFTER WORSHIP





www.facebook.com/franklinpresbyterian

**AUGUST
ELDER/HELPER:
JUSTIN HENNINGER
CHRIS KESSLER**

**FRIEND OF THE MONTH:
CHRIS KESSLER**



Stewardship Corner

July Average Attendance: 49

July 6	42
July 13	52
July 20	48
July 27	53

July Weekly Offering Average: \$2,534.25

July 6	\$2,857.00
July 13	\$3,130.00
July 20	\$1,188.00
July 27	\$2,962.00

July Online Giving: \$2,219.72

Average Weekly Income Needed for Budget:
\$2,692.31

Ruling Elders Serving on Session

Barry Hain
Keith Lawrence
Caren Gibson
Bob Heidbrink
Donna Houston
Chris Kessler
Justin Henninger

DEACONS:

Linda Knight
Marcella Davis
Meredith Halcomb
Sylvia Pulliam

*Next Regularly Stated
Session Meeting:
Tuesday, August 26*



**Remember
Your Pledge
This Summer**

August 2025 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]

August

Friday, August 1

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
2 Sam. 5:1–12
Acts 17:1–15
Mark 7:24–37

Saturday, August 2

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
2 Sam. 5:22–6:11
Acts 17:16–34
Mark 8:1–10

Sunday, August 3

Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
2 Sam. 6:12–23
Rom. 14:7–12
John 1:43–51

Monday, August 4

Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
2 Sam. 7:1–17
Acts 18:1–11
Mark 8:11–21

Tuesday, August 5

Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
2 Sam. 7:18–29
Acts 18:12–28
Mark 8:22–33

Wednesday, August 6

Morning: Pss. 96;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
2 Sam. 9:1–13
Acts 19:1–10
Mark 8:34–9:1

Thursday, August 7

Morning: Pss. 116;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
2 Sam. 11:1–27
Acts 19:11–20
Mark 9:2–13

Friday, August 8

Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
2 Sam. 12:1–14
Acts 19:21–41
Mark 9:14–29

Saturday, August 9

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
2 Sam. 12:15–31
Acts 20:1–16
Mark 9:30–41

Sunday, August 10

Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
2 Sam. 13:1–22
Rom. 15:1–13
John 3:22–36

Monday, August 11

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
2 Sam. 13:23–39
Acts 20:17–38
Mark 9:42–50

Tuesday, August 12

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
2 Sam. 14:1–20
Acts 21:1–14
Mark 10:1–16

Wednesday, August 13

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
2 Sam. 14:21–33
Acts 21:15–26
Mark 10:17–31

Thursday, August 14

Morning: Pss. 97;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
2 Sam. 15:1–18
Acts 21:27–36
Mark 10:32–45

Friday, August 15

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
2 Sam. 15:19–37
Acts 21:37–22:16
Mark 10:46–52

Saturday, August 16

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
 Evening: Pss. 138; 98
 2 Sam. 16:1–23
 Acts 22:17–29
 Mark 11:1–11

Sunday, August 17

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
 Evening: Pss. 81; 113
 2 Sam. 17:1–23
 Gal. 3:6–14
 John 5:30–47

Monday, August 18

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
 Evening: Pss. 97; 112
 2 Sam. 17:24–18:8
 Acts 22:30–23:11
 Mark 11:12–26

Tuesday, August 19

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
 Evening: Pss. 30; 86
 2 Sam. 18:9–18
 Acts 23:12–24
 Mark 11:27–12:12

Wednesday, August 20

Morning: Pss. 15;
 147:1–11
 Evening: Pss. 48; 4
 2 Sam. 18:19–33
 Acts 23:23–35
 Mark 12:13–27

Thursday, August 21

Morning: Pss. 36;
 147:12–20
 Evening: Pss. 80; 27
 2 Sam. 19:1–23
 Acts 24:1–23
 Mark 12:28–34

Friday, August 22

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
 Evening: Pss. 32; 139
 2 Sam. 19:24–43
 Acts 24:24–25:12
 Mark 12:35–44

Saturday, August 23

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
 Evening: Pss. 118; 111
 2 Sam. 23:1–7, 13–17
 Acts 25:13–27
 Mark 13:1–13

Sunday, August 24

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
 Evening: Pss. 46; 93
 2 Sam. 24:1–2, 10–25
 Gal. 3:23–4:7
 John 8:12–20

Monday, August 25

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
 Evening: Pss. 85; 47
 1 Kings 1:(1–4) 5–31
 Acts 26:1–23
 Mark 13:14–27

Tuesday, August 26

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
 Evening: Pss. 28; 99
 1 Kings 1:32–2:4
 (5–46a) 46b
 Acts 26:24–27:8
 Mark 13:28–37

Wednesday, August 27

Morning: Pss. 65;
 147:1–11
 Evening: Pss. 125; 91
 1 Kings 3:1–15
 Acts 27:9–26
 Mark 14:1–11

Thursday, August 28

Morning: Pss. 143;
 147:12–20
 Evening: Pss. 81; 116
 1 Kings 3:16–28
 Acts 27:27–44
 Mark 14:12–26

Friday, August 29

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

Saturday, August 30

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

Sunday, August 31

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

d365
 devotionals 365 days a year

www.d365.org

LECTOR/USHER SCHEDULE

Elder of the Month:
Justin Henninger

Elder Helper:
Chris Kessler

Ushers:
Terry Joiner
Vic Portmann

Lector
Debby Helton
Caren Gibson

WEEKLY EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **BIBLE STUDY** Wednesdays at 4:30
- **Worship:** 08/06 at 4 pm
- **Facilities:** 08/07 at 4 pm
- **GRIEF GROUP:** 08/14 at 5 PM
- **FPC Men's Group:** 08/16
- **Women's Group:** 08/18 11 am in the Cornerstone
- **SESSION** meets 08/26 at 5 pm

AUGUST 2025

FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Red Cross 12-6 Larry Gibson	6	7	8 Zipporah Bley	9
10 Caren Gibson Amy Gant	11	12 Sarah Halcomb	13	14 Gwen Stubbs	15 Terri Mitchell	16
17	18	19 Brandon Stubbs	20	21 Janet Crocker	22	23
24 31 Potluck Linda Knight	25	26	27	28 Becky Stubbs	29 Tomas Williams	30

* Birthdays in italics

Bailey is out of the office from the 24th thru the 31st.

CONNECT TO FPC!

Have you visited our website lately? (www.franklinpresbyterian.org) This is the way to find out the latest news, watch the latest worship services online, get information on upcoming events, and download copies of the monthly Lamplighter newsletter. If your information is not up to date, please contact the office so we have your correct address, phone, email, etc.

ONLINE DIRECTORY

If we have your e-mail address, you will be able to access the mobile app with your smart phone. **You can also print a copy of the directory from our website!** To access, use: fpc5864535 as the password.

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text — right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Scan this QR code:



(If you don't have a QR code scanner app, go to your device's app store and search for "Instant Church Directory.")

2. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
3. Enter the assigned password into the app to begin syncing.



CONNECT WITH US!

www.franklinpresbyterian.org
franklinpresbyterian@gmail.com



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 AM

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 AM

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE
WEDNESDAYS AT 4:30



*Anything you would like added to the
September Lamplighter, please submit it to the
office on or before Thursday, August 28.*



Franklin Presbyterian Church
201 North College Street
Franklin, KY 42134