



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE GIFT
OF GOD'S
PROVISION

Provision: (noun) the
providing or supplying
of something, especially
food or other
necessities

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Children are always welcome in worship! They are an important part of our church community and we would love for them to stay for the whole service. Wiggles and giggles will not bother us; tears and fears remind us we're human. There is a nursery available downstairs (just ask an usher) if you would prefer. We are so glad you are here.

Worship is at the heart of who we are as God's people. We enter this time ready to focus on God and God's word to us; offering our time and attention as a form of worship.

WELCOME

September 19, 2021

8:30 am & 11:00 am

Thank you for joining us for worship.
Please wear a mask.

****Those who are able, please stand***

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

O Gracious God

MARCEL DUPRÉ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: There is so much in our world that troubles and confounds us,

Many: **so we come to listen and seek to make sense of our world.**

One: We come to be reminded of our loving God who is with us always.

Many: **Through dark times and times of blessing, we come to worship and learn from our Creator God.**

One: Come! Let us worship God!

***OPENING PRAYER**

***OPENING HYMN 69**

I, The Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE I AM, LORD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, forgive us when we waste the gift of life. Forgive us when we forget that life is made for sharing, for talking and caring for each other. Forgive us when we misuse the gift of life, for those times when we are rude or cruel. Help us to remember that life is made for loving each other and finding ways to reconcile to each other.

Remind us of how precious each one of us is, of how important it is to treat each other as we want to be treated. Guide us through the changes that come our way, and help us to find ways to cope with them. May we strive to offer ourselves for our brothers and sisters, sacrificing our wants and desires to help bring in your kingdom here and now.

(Let us now continue our confession in silence.)

**Those who are able,
please stand*

KYRIE

HOPSON

*Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the Good News: God knows us completely and loves us still.
Know that through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Many: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*HYMN 581

Glory Be To The Father

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

JOHN 1:19-36

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing. The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water

Rocket City Lift, our podcast, is back with new episodes! Tune in to learn more about today's scripture readings. Found on iTunes, Spotify, Sound Cloud, and Google Play.

**Those who are able,
please stand*

said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANTHEM

Lamb of God
Chancel Choir

MELIUS CHRISTIANSEN

*Lamb of God most Holy! Who on the cross didst suffer,
And patient still and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer;
Our sins by thee were taken, Or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us, O Jesu!*

SECOND LESSON

GENESIS 21:1-3,22:1-14

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top

of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SERMON

"Here I Am"

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

SILENT MEDITATION

*HYMN 49

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, who loves us as a parent, searching for us when we are lost, embracing us in our hurt, always looking for any reason to throw a party. We believe in the risen Christ, who gathers all the lost and forgotten into a new community and tells them and us we are all forgiven, blessed and loved. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who empowered the new community of followers to share bread, tell stories of God's love, and turn the world upside down. We are a faith-filled, Spirit-empowered, God-blessed community. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Confessions and declarations are subordinate standards in the church, subject to the authority of Jesus Christ, the Word of God, as the Scriptures bear witness to him. No one type of confession is exclusively valid, no one statement is irrefutable. Obedience to Jesus Christ alone identifies the one universal church and supplies the continuity of its tradition. This obedience is the ground of the church's duty and freedom to reform itself in life and doctrine as new occasions, in God's providence, may demand.

**Those who are able, please stand*

**WORSHIP
LEADERSHIP:**

The Rev. Dr. Tara W.
Bulger

Dr. Patricia Hacker,
Director of Music

Kathy Gillmore,
Director of Christian
Education

Dr. Lois K. Lee,
Pianist/Organist

Anne Dillon Loflin

Chancel Choir

Liturgist:
11:00 am-Becca
Phillips

Ushers:
8:30 am- Susie and
Tom Conard, Anne
Whitfield
11:00 am- Dianne
Bowling, Beth Clapp,
Patty Conley,
Houston Matthews

Video and Sound:
Tom Stroud,
Brian Bulger, Dave
Young

**Worship Resources
Adapted From:**

*Feasting on the Word
Worship Companion
Series, the Book of
Common Worship, and
Enterthebible.org
CCLI 1345744 One
License: A-722711*

**Those who are able,
please stand*

OFFERTORY

Offertory

JOHN NESS BECK/ARR. C. COURTNEY

Anne Dillon Loflin, soprano

*With what shall I come before the Lord,
And bow myself before God on High?
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,
Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
With ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions,
The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
He has shown you, O man;
He has shown you what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you,
But to do justice and to love kindness,
And walk humbly with your God?*

***DOXOLOGY 606**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

***HYMN 838**

Standing on the Promises of God

PROMISES

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

God Be in My Head
Chancel Choir

K. LEE SCOTT

*God be in my head and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking,
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart and in my thinking;
God be in mine end, and in my departing.*

***POSTLUDE**

Fanfare

PAUL SPICER

THIS WEEK AT FPCHSV

September 19 - September 26

Sunday September 19, 2021

8:30 am Worship Service SAN
 9:30 - 10:30 am Peepers Sunday School Room 110/111
 9:30 - 10:30 am Godly Play K & 1st Sunday School Room 009
 9:30 - 10:30 am Spark 2nd & 3rd Sunday School Room 010
 9:30 - 10:30 am Connect 4th & 5th Sunday School Room 012
 9:30 - 10:30 am LEAD Youth GBH Youth Room
 9:30 - 10:30 am Charles Danner Seminar LIB/Zoom
 9:30 - 10:30 am Comrades Sunday School Class Room 106
 9:30 - 10:30 am Feasting on the Word Room 207
 9:30 - 10:30 am Genesis JAH
 11:00 am Worship Service SAN
 12:00 - 2:00 pm Choir Retreat FH
 12:00 - 2:00 pm PKC Youth Group 3rd-5th Graders
 5:00 - 6:30 pm PYC Tie Dye Party All Youth

Monday, September 20, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool
 5:00 - 6:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting LIB/Zoom

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool
 12:00 - 1:00 pm Learning Wisdom from a Fool Bible Study LIB/Zoom
 5:30 - 6:30 pm Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting LIB
 6:30 - 8:30 pm Huntsville Master Chorale Rehearsal JAH/CH

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

7:00 - 8:00 am Men's Bible Study FH
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool
 1:30 - 3:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry LIB
 5:00 - 7:00 pm WNL Children and Youth
 5:30 - 6:30 pm WNL Adults
 6:30 - 7:00 pm WNL Dinner
 7:00 - 8:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice CR

Thursday, September 23, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool
 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Prayer Group Zoom
 5:30 pm Worship Service JAH

Friday, September 24, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool
 5:00 - 10:00 pm PYC Fall Festival All Youth

Saturday, September 25, 2021

10:30 am - 4:30 pm PYC Lake Day

Sunday, September 26, 2021

8:30 am Worship Service SAN
 9:30 - 10:30 am Peepers Sunday School Room 110/111
 9:30 - 10:30 am Godly Play K & 1st Sunday School Room 009
 9:30 - 10:30 am Spark 2nd & 3rd Sunday School Room 010
 9:30 - 10:30 am Connect 4th & 5th Sunday School Room 012
 9:30 - 10:30 am LEAD Youth GBH Youth Room
 9:30 - 10:30 am Charles Danner Seminar Zoom & LIB
 9:30 - 10:30 am Comrades Sunday School Class Room 106
 9:30 - 10:30 am Feasting on the Word Room 207
 9:30 - 10:30 am Genesis JAH
 11:00 am Worship Service SAN
 12:00 - 1:30 pm Confirmation Lunch with Mentors FH
 5:00 - 6:00 pm PYC Middle School GBH
 6:30 - 7:30 pm PYC High School GBH

Calendar Legend:

BR - Bell Room	LIB - Library
CH - Carriage House (GBH)	SAN - Sanctuary
CER - Christian Ed Resource upstairs	SMR - Stephen Ministry Room (GBH)
CR - Choir Room	Green - Children's program
FH - Fellowship Hall	Yellow - Youth program
GBH - Gideon Blackburn House	Red - Adult program
HR - Historical Room	Blue - Music
JAH - John Allan Hall (GBH)	



First Presbyterian is a Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

We welcome you as a participant in worship today. We pray that you will find this service meaningful. Worship is but one of the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church.

FLOWER GUILD HONORS AND MEMORIALS

The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God.



Thanks to Anne Dillon Loflin for singing this morning.

After the 11:00 a.m. service the Chancel Choir will practice for the Christmas Cantata "What Sweeter Music"

Next Sunday the Sunday School Children Choir will be singing the Anthem at the 11:00 a.m. service. Please bring your child to the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. to rehearse.



Worship of the Living God is not confined to one place or time. We encourage you to take this bulletin home and use it to guide you in private moments of worship for the next week.

Discuss: When has something you needed been unexpectedly provided?

Read:

Monday- Matthew 4:1-11

Tuesday- Matthew 4:12-17

Wednesday- Matthew 4:18-25

Thursday- Matthew 5:1-10

Friday- Matthew 5:11-16

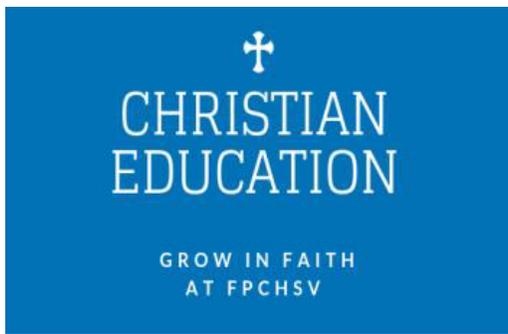
Saturday- Matthew 5:17-20

Pray: Ask God to increase your trust in God's provision.



New Worship Service!

We have a new worship service every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in John Allen Hall. The service will be a different experience than Sunday mornings. It will be a contemplative service and will include scripture, prayers, songs, and silence. We hope this service will offer you extra time during the week where you can connect with God.

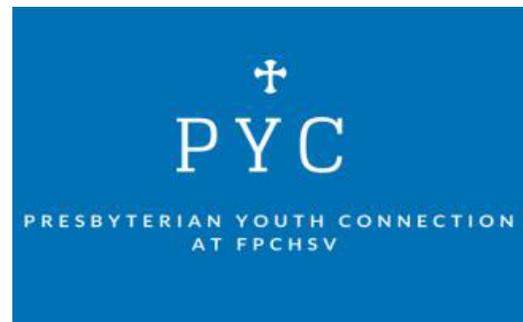


Contact Kathy at dce@fpchsv.org if your 8th or 9th grader is interested in Confirmation this year.

Needed: Secret prayer partners for our confirmation youth. Contact Kathy if you are interested!

Wednesday Night Live 5:00 - 7:00 pm for 2 years-Pre-K, K-5th, and 6th-12th, and includes dinner. Register too for adult classes 5:30 - 6:30 pm, and volunteer opportunities! Register now for WNL at fpchsv.org/registration.

Learning Wisdom From a Fool- Pastor Brett will be giving lectures and leading discussion on the wisdom books of the Old Testament on Tuesdays from 12-1 PM, September 21st-October 12th. Come and learn about Job, Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes as we learn about their authorship, form, and what we can hope to learn from them. There are three ways to participate: Come in person in the library at church, join online through Zoom, or receive an email with a link to listen to the lectures. These are stand alone classes.



Want to sponsor a meal for PYC? Visit fpchsv.org/youth to sign up! Contact Anne Dillon at youth@fpchsv.org for more information.

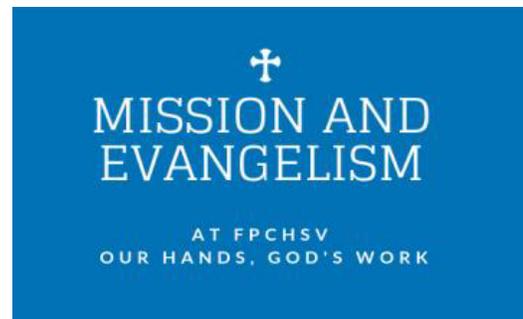
September 19, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm PYC tie dye party at GBH, all 6-12th graders

September 24, 5:00 pm-10:00 pm PYC Fall Festival/Lock-In, 6-12th graders

- Dinner, s'mores, laser tag, inflatables, and more!
- Friends welcome

September 25th, 10:30am-4:30pm PYC Lake Day at Lake Gunterville, 6-12th graders

- Tubing, paddle boarding, jet skiing, and more!
- Friends welcome
- Drop-off and pick-up at FPC



Hands on mission opportunity in September!

We will be providing 40 meals to Village of Promise Family Connections program on September 21 and 28. We need volunteers to prepare entrée, salad, or dessert at home and bring to the church. Also need volunteers to pack into sack lunches that afternoon starting about 3pm. Please email Nancy Lundy at nlundy@knology.net if interested in helping.

September Mission of the Month- Fellowship Presbyterian Church Food Distribution Program

In the month of September, we will once again be supporting our neighbors to the north, Fellowship Presbyterian Church, in their ongoing Food Distribution Program.

Fellowship ministers to families in need by organizing, collecting and distributing at least 250 food boxes on the third week of each month with distribution happening on that Wednesday.

These boxes are timed to assist 120 families who are food insecure with perishable and non-perishable groceries to help them make it through the month. Furthermore, there are 50 additional families on the church's waiting list who are awarded Special One Time Only Food Boxes during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

Elder Jackie Bennett, Convener of Fellowship's Witness and Service Ministry Team, says that Fellowship's members and the community at large have stepped up in a big way with plenty of hands-on volunteers. This cohesive team under the watchful eye of church member Dorothy Johnson, performs a myriad of duties each month to ensure that food is gathered, organized and distributed.

Fellowship obtains food from the Food Bank of North Alabama, Manna House, Commissioner District 6 and sometimes local farmers. However, especially in today's environment, there is always a challenge and need to have ample food to provide for and satisfy this community outreach ministry.

During the month of September, we will have a non-perishable food drive with the goal being to help "FILL THE FOOD PANTRY AT FELLOWSHIP". All members are asked to bring a sack (or sacks) of non-perishable food to church throughout this month. Examples of food needed are canned vegetables, fruits and meats, and pasta, rice and cereal. **Food may be left at the office entrance or in the Historic Room.** For more information contact Karen Madison at karenmadison@comcast.net.

Update on our 2021 Mission of the Year

The Backpack Ministry is an ongoing mission opportunity. With the guidance of the Food Bank of N. Alabama, FPC is the sole provider of weekend food kits to disadvantaged children at The Academy of Academics and Arts (AAA). About 20 kits are taken weekly and discreetly provided to need-identified children on Friday afternoons. We are currently gearing up for back to school and resuming our weekly food deliveries.

Please remember that there is a continuing need for supplies and for volunteers. There is a link on the mission page of the church website where you can volunteer to make food kits or deliver them. The list of supplies for the kits can be found on the bulletin board at the church or on the website. Karen Madison will continue to be the contact person for The Backpack Ministry. If you have questions, contact Karen Madison at karenmadison@comcast.net.

PRAYER LIST

To add a prayer request, please visit our website

To remove a prayer request, please email communications@fpchsv.org

New prayer requests are in bold print

In case of a pastoral emergency, you may contact Dr. Bulger at 256-655-1818

Church Members:

Dr. Joe Sparks

Tim Grey
Reba Paludan
Jerry Gattis and family
Barbara Wollet and family
Tish Hammer and family
Joanne Horn and family
Mickey Childers
Linda McAllister
Mary Darsey
LaRhue Johnson
Nan McBride
Ginny Bouldin
Barbara (Bonny) Morris
Cay Lambert
Mary Lou Danner

Friends and Family:

Erika Holt- friend of Stephanie Hyatt

Willis Atwater- friend of the Howards and the Wermuths

Sam and Jean Snead- friends of Eleanor and George Harsh
Melinda Thompson- Sister of Mary Hart Brown
Mary Edith Thompson- Mother of Mary Hart Brown
Christy Martin- Friend of Mary Hart Brown
Patricia Furner- Sister of Sharon Hudson
Jeff and Sue Mazer- Friends of Tom and Sharon Hudson
Lewis Family- friends of Janice Fowler
Family of Lillian Cowart
Family of Dot Miree
Greg Gilbert- late brother of Matthew Gilbert
Cindy Howell- friend of Bruce and Janis Williams
Hugh Nicholson- Brother of Francis Byrd
Linda Edwards-Hamlett – friend of Marilyn Schild
Kristi Herbert - friend of Sharon Hudson
Friend of Lisa Stephens
Lively Family
Carol Salter- friend of Tish Hammer
Sandy Kagan - daughter of Betty Dunaway
Shirley Forbes
Josh Saliba - nephew of Donna and John Basore
Marcos Servin - brother-in-law of Patricia Hacker
Calvin Ronald Dahl - nephew of Peggy Galloway
Caitlin Greiner - granddaughter of Cay Lambert
John and Maryetta Bitzer - friends of Peggy and Dave Galloway
Family of Pat Golley

Pat Richeson - friend of Glen Adams
Stella Fair - sister of David Galloway
Beverlee Leo - mother of Lori Smith
Scott Sedlitz - stepson of Annwhite Fuller
Leigh Vincent - friend of Linda and Woodward Howard
Paige Olmo -daughter of Paula Weider
Sean Larkin - friend of Linda Howard and Bryce Connor
Dylan Greiner - son of Cay Lambert
Dale Brown - brother of Doug Brown
Nell Pike - mother of Charlie Pike
Rachel Beard - friend of Tam Bevel

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care:

Kathleen Perry (Valley View)
Dolly Shuey (WBC @ Magnolia Trace)
Jean Walker (Regency)

The Church:

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger and her family
The Rev. Brett Gudeman and his family
First Presbyterian Church, the Session, the Board of Deacons, the North Alabama Presbytery, and for all the church staff
NAP seminary student Joe Lundy (First, Huntsville).

Military & International:

All those serving in the armed forces; particularly ENS Connor Howard, U.S. Navy Flight School

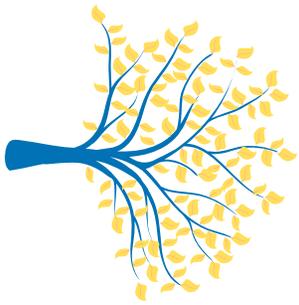
Our Nation: President Biden, Vice President Harris, and all who govern our nation

First Presbyterian Missions & Ministries:

Appalachia Service Project (ASP)
Good Samaritans
International Missionary Fellowship (HaitiHospital.org)
The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center
The Presbyterian Home for Children
Second Mile Preschool
The CUP program
Camp Maranatha
Mission Aviation Fellowship

Other Prayers:

Let us pray for all those struggling with health and economic hardship during this pandemic. Let us also pray for communities as they express the deep hurt they feel, as well as for safety and peace for all.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Church

307 Gates Ave SE

Huntsville, AL 35801