



# THE CHURCH MOUSE

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Georgetown, KY 40324

August 2023. Vol. 17 No. 8

**Bing cherries.** Love them. I wait impatiently every summer for the appearance of really good Bing cherries in the grocery, and not the light red ones, the dark, purply rich sweet goodness that looks like a glass of merlot on a stem.



My grandparents had cherry trees in their yard, 8 dwarf cherry trees, sour cherry trees. Dadpop had traveled all the way from Pennsylvania to Virginia to get the seedlings and plant them behind the house. Every summer they would bear thousands of bright blood-red cherries that made you pucker just to taste them. And we loved them. We ate as many as we picked, and they were oh, so good for Grandmom's baked cherry pudding (a coffee cake kind of confection). Neighbors up and down the road would come and get them by the quart, and the birds liked them too, as evidenced by the decorations they left on house, porch, and cars. We would pick dozens of baskets full, and some would get used immediately, and some would be seeded and packaged for the freezer, to have cherry pudding all year long.

I have wonderful memories of sitting in the side yard with one of my grandmother's bibs around my neck – she made them out of tea towel-sized linen – and seeding cherries until my fingers were stained, the quart bags were full, my belly was full, and an emergency dash for the bathroom was inevitable. The flavor was so rich. On a recent jaunt to a kitchen gadget store, I found a cherry pitter. It is such a nifty tool! You place the cherry in the base, and when you squeeze the handle, a small ramrod with teeth shoots through the cherry and voila! – a pitted cherry falls into your bowl. Miraculous! I do wonder if Grandmom would appreciate this gadget, or if she would go on pitting her cherries in the usual way, getting satisfaction out of sitting outside in God's beautiful world, enjoying the shade and conversations with grandchildren who ate more fruit than they saved.

Conversations spring up all the time with folks about tradition vs. modernizing the church, and it seems that people like to be, and force others to be, in one camp or the other. Especially about music. But the Church and our worship are anchored on a much more stable foundation: the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our eternal King. **Jesus said, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the Kingdom of Heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of His treasure what is new and what is old." (Matthew 13:52).**

People may treasure what is new, or what is old. Yet however we worship, traditional or modern, we preserve and pass on the ancient faith entrusted to us. Praise, prayer, confession, absolutions, hearing Scripture, the Word being faithfully preached, and responding to God through offerings, baptism, and communion, are the constant elements of worship that keep us tethered to our God. And although God's truth never changes, how we worship will meet the needs of many, and how others express worship in celebrating eternal truths will reach others. It's not about choosing one or the other, traditional or modern, it's about always choosing to worship. One way or the other, the fruit will always taste wonderful.

Blessings,

Pastor Elizabeth Stone

### **Report from the Session**

- approved the use of the annex for a family reunion on 09/17/2023
- approved the use of the annex by the Pastors and Priests of Georgetown/Scott County for a suicide prevention on 08/10/2023 and 09/10/2023
- approved the purchase of a projector
- discussed extending the church wi-fi service to the annex
- discussed the broadcasting of Sunday morning worship services
- approved a policy to provide support to bereaved families
- the next stated session meeting will be 08/16/2023 at 5:30 pm

#### **ATTENDANCE**

07/02/2023 : in sanctuary, 33

07/09/2023 : in sanctuary, 32

07/16/2023 : in sanctuary, 40

07/23/2023 : in sanctuary, 29

07/30/2023 : in sanctuary, 47

Traditional communion will be served on August 6 and September 3

#### **Bible Study**

Join the member led church-wide Bible Study on Thursdays at 10:30 am via Zoom. The discussion will be focusing on the book of Mark. Here's the Zoom address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82346112262>.

#### **YOU TUBE**

Our Sunday worship service is transmitted via YouTube and is listed as [First Presbyterian Church Georgetown, KY](#).

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

Choir practice will resume on Wednesday, August 9 at 6:50 pm in the sanctuary. All who would like to sing to the glory of God are welcome to participate.



### BETSY BRADLEY CIRCLE

The Betsy Bradley Circle’s annual planning meeting will be Monday, August 28 at the moderator’s home beginning at 10:30. Members may sign up to lead discussion of a lesson and host a meeting either in her home or at the church. This year’s study is *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*, by the Rev. Dr. Olive Mahabir. Following the meeting we will enjoy a salad potluck. Bring your favorite salad to share. Desserts will be provided.

Because the first regular circle meeting falls on Labor Day, the Circle will meet on the second Monday, September 11, location TBA.

### Funeral Food

The Ward family was appreciative of the food provided by our Presbyterian Women for their family following the funeral.

### LIVE WIRES

Stay tuned for the fall roundup of plays and concerts. We’re always on the lookout for shows to see.

- Canned Soup



### GATHERING PLACE MISSIONS CONTINUE TO NEED OUR HELP

Second Sunday Supplies will be collected on **Sunday, August 13**. There will be containers in the Narthex for supplies for the Gathering Place Mission for Homeless Men and The Gathering Place Mission for Homeless Women and Children— both on Bourbon Street.

ONGOING NEEDS: Paper goods - large and small plates, bowls, napkins, toilet paper and paper towels (These items are the main ones that our church has approved to supply.) Also needed are hygiene goods and clothing.



**AMEN House**  
People Serving People

### Amen House Wish List Items for August

- Canned Food mainly diced tomatoes, carrots and peaches
- Personal Care Items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, soap, shampoo)
- Heavy Duty Grocery Bags (Click list bags)

Please place your items in the AMEN House box in the narthex.

Free Summer Meals for Kids 0-18, weekdays continue through August 11. Meals will be served in various locations including our church Annex from 11 am to 12 pm and snacks from 3 pm to 4 pm.

- Potato Flakes
- Canned Tomatoes
- Dessert Mixes (Brownies, Cakes, etc.)
- Diapers/Baby Wipes
- Personal hygiene items (toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish detergent, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant)

## From the Worship Committee

### Guest Preacher Line-Up

We will be hosting two guest preachers in our pulpit in the coming weeks—on August 20 and September 17.

### Save the Date for the annual Church Picnic

The Committee is currently planning a **Church Picnic for October 8, 2023**. Details are still being worked out, but you can expect an outdoor worship service and picnic lunch. Watch your email for more information as the date approaches.

### Adult Sunday School Classes

We now offer two Adult Sunday School Classes on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

**Adult I** meets in the Church library and uses current books by Christian writers to discuss how modern issues impact our faith journeys. It is currently using the book *The Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel. This book, written by a former investigative reporter and attorney, examines the available Christ. This class is also open to virtual participation via Zoom. The Zoom meeting ID is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88041635485>.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in what is always a lively discussion. New students would find it easy to jump into the study at any time.

**Adult II** meets in the downstairs classroom and is a more Bible focused class. The class is currently looking at the journey of the Israelites from captivity to establishment of a Jewish nation in the Old Testament. New students are always welcome.

### ***The Church Mouse***

Monthly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Georgetown, KY

Deadline, 28th day of the month

### **First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

**Rev. Elizabeth Stone, Pastor**

317 East Main Street

PO Box 533

Georgetown, KY 40324

502-863-3249

[www.pcgeorgetown.org](http://www.pcgeorgetown.org)

[presbyterian502@gmail.com](mailto:presbyterian502@gmail.com)

# August 2023

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

		1	2	3 10:30 Member-led Bible Study via Zoom 1 pm Worship Committee	4	5
6) 9:30 Adult and Adult II Sunday school 11 am Worship Holy Communion	7	8	9 6:50 Choir Rehearsal resumes	10 10:30 Member-led Bible Study via Zoom	11	12
13 2nd Sunday Supplies <i>9:30 Adult and Adult II Sunday school</i> <i>11 am Worship</i>	14	15	16 5:30 Session Meeting 6:50 Choir Rehearsal	17 10:30 Member-led Bible Study via Zoom	18	19
20 9:30 Adult I and Adult Sunday school 11 am, Worship guest preacher	21	22	23 6:50 Choir Rehearsal	24 10:30 Member-led Bible Study via Zoom	25	26
27 Noisy Offering 9:30 Adult and Adult II Sunday school 11 am Worship	28 10:30 Morning Circle Planning meeting	29	30 6:50 Choir Rehearsal	31 10:30 Member-led Bible Study via Zoom		

