

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Monroe

June 2026 Epistle



Greetings Church Family,

Summer has arrived. Things slow down for our church during the summer. I think about the organic metaphors Jesus uses about the growth of his kingdom. It is easy to focus on visible results, and what we have to do to make them happen. But the growth of Jesus' kingdom in and us and through us is a mystery.

Jesus spoke in Mark 4 of how there is so much we cannot control. "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how." Do any of us really know how seeds grow? Do any of us control how the kingdom grows in our midst? No, God does. It is slow, and gradual, in ways we do not understand. Which is why I invite you to PRAY that God would do his work in our midst, by enabling us to bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Pray

that our work will be fruitful, and that people will be added to our church in God's time.

I love you all!
Pastor Bruce



Worship With Us!

Join us for worship, Sundays at 11 am. You may also join us virtually through Facebook Live by clicking **here**. You do not need a Facebook account to view the service.

Sunday, June 7 is Communion Sunday.



May Missions Offering F.I.S.H.

Please remember that the first Sunday of each month is a special offering for F.I.S.H. Checks can be made out to FPC with FISH in the memo line.

F.I.S.H. Mission

FPC is participating in the "2026 item of the year" with F.I.S.H. **Our item for 2026 is canned fruit.** Please purchase the cans with the pull tab top if you can. We will collect every month of 2026. Each month we will deliver to F.I.S.H. what has been collected. Thank you for your kind assistance in feeding the most needy in our community through the FISH food pantry.

F.I.S.H. is currently in need of clothing and household items. All proceeds from the F.I.S.H. thrift stores pay all operating costs of all aspects of F.I.S.H., FISH4Kids, and F.I.S.H. Medical and Dental. 100% of all financial donations are used to assist someone in need.

For the month of May, we collected a total of \$120 for our monthly F.I.S.H. Mission. We also collected for Calvin Center with a total of \$1950. Thanks to everyone for your generosity.

Missions Special Emphasis for June – A Child's Voice Advocacy Center

In our community, a variety of agencies work together to support child and teen victims of abuse. These include A Child's Voice Child Advocacy Center, DFCS investigators, law enforcement investigators, schools, forensic interviewers, family advocates, medical providers, mental health practitioners, prosecutors, victim witness advocates, court staff and juries. A Child's Voice, located in Social Circle, is the local child advocacy center (CAC) coordinating the response to cases of child abuse for Walton and Newton Counties. A Child's Voice provides child focused, trauma sensitive services for children and teen victims as part of the active investigation into allegations of abuse. The CAC model reduces trauma for the child and coordinates the involved partners to avoid duplication of services, streamlines family support and improves outcomes. 2026 marks 20 years of A Child's Voice Child Advocacy Center serving vulnerable children and teens in our community! We are grateful for the ways you have supported us over these years. Please connect with us on social media and through our newsletter, and share about our mission. Learn more about ways to help us continue to serve children at

<https://www.achildsvoicecac.org/donate>. Donations will be received through Sunday June 28. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and note A Child's Voice in the memo line. Thank you for your prayerful consideration in supporting A Child's Voice Advocacy Center.

FPC 2026 Mission Emphasis Calendar

July - Open

August - Project ReNeWal (Local)

September - Team Up Mentoring (Local)

October - Chogoria (Global)

November - Thornwell Homes (PCUSA)

December - Santa Express (Presbyterian Home of GA) (PCUSA)



Viticulture

Thursday, June 11 at 6:30p at the home of Tom & Susan Whitley. Couples bring a bottle of wine and an hors d'oeuvre. Individuals bring your choice of an hors d'oeuvre or a bottle of wine.



Sanctuary Sisters

Thursday, June 18 we will meet at the church at 9:30a to go to the Commerce Outlets to do some shopping. We will visit Athens Recycling – they only accept cash or checks. We will have lunch and whoever wants to continue shopping can do so. Please sign up if you plan to attend.



Saints Alive

Tuesday, June 16 @ 6:30p @ FPC fellowship hall. Man Cave will be hosting a Butt Bash. Butts & sides will be provided. \$15/person. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



Joy Circle

A potluck lunch on Monday, June 8 at 1p in the fellowship hall.
A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board.



Sanctuary Flowers

Sanctuary Flower Calendar for 2026

June

6/7 - Harriette Griffin

6/14 - Tom & Susan Whitley

6/21 - Carole Queen

6/28 - Nan O'Kelley & Kim Smith

{ JOIN US FOR }

SUNDAY SCHOOL



FPC Sunday School Classes

Sunday School starts at 10am

9:45-10am coffee and fellowship

Hanson Sunday School Class -

Teacher - Sarah Williams

Curriculum - Presbytery Materials Quarterly

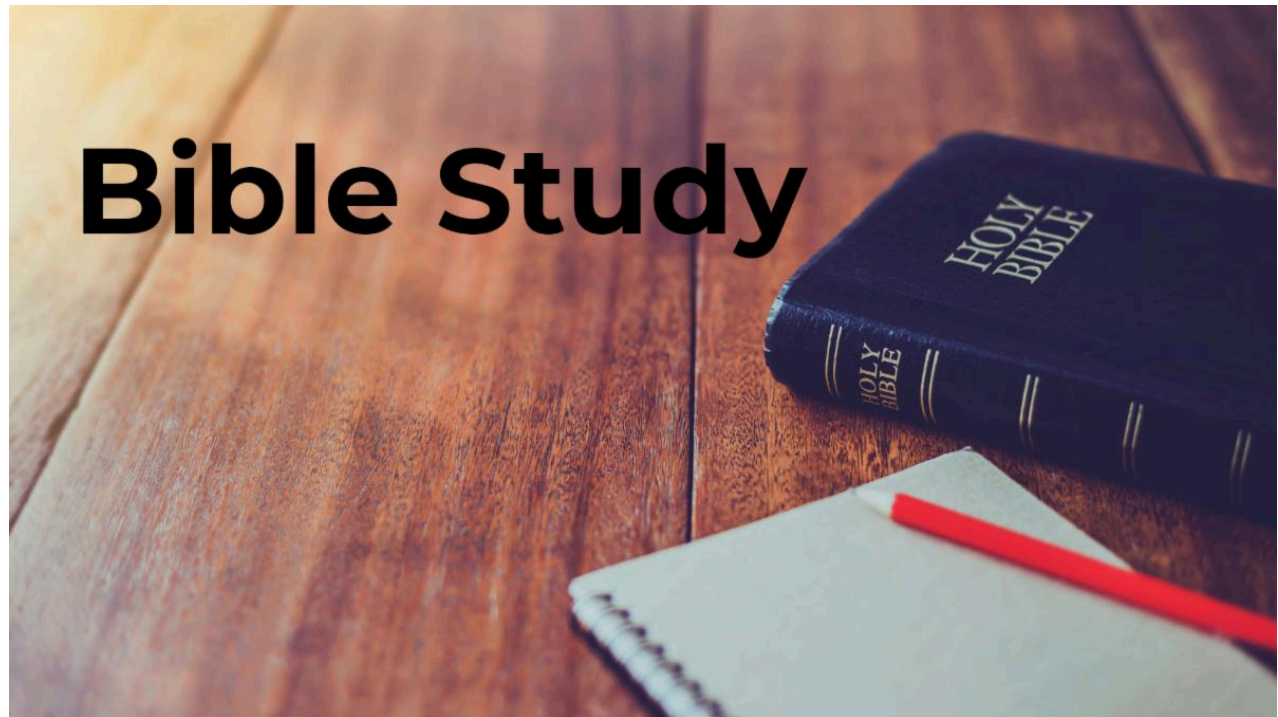
Fall Quarter we will be covering Isaiah, Jeremiah, & Ezekiel.

There is a book provided for those who like to prepare ahead and to follow along during class. Please join us for fellowship and study.

Inquirer's Sunday School Class -

Teaching/study material for the class comes from recommendations from class members, i.e. The Book of John (Bible/Commentaries); books 'Twelve Extraordinary Woman' by John MacArthur; works by Chuck Swindoll. Currently, the Inquirer's class is exploring 'Pleasing God' by R.C. Sproul.

The class format is interactive with open discussion facilitated by Kim Smith.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesday mornings at 10a.

****We will meet through Tuesday, June 30.**

****There will be no Bible Study for July and August.**



Man Cave

Man Cave meets weekly for fellowship and biscuits on Thursdays at 10am in the Fellowship Hall.



Bulletin & Epistle Announcements

If you have an announcement for inclusion in the bulletin or monthly Epistle, please email Valarie at office@fpcmonroe.com. Bulletin announcements are due by Wednesday morning weekly. Epistle announcements are due on the last Wednesday of each month.



Prayer Request

If you know of someone who needs prayer and want them to be included on our Prayer List, please send your prayer request to Valarie at office@fpcmonroe.com, and Beattie at ble1120@icloud.com.



Check Reimbursement

If you need reimbursement by check from the church, please request a reimbursement form from Valarie Malcom or Neal Howard. At that time, the request will be reviewed and a check given. Thank you for helping us as we use our gifts in service to the Lord.

Neal Howard, Treasurer



Main Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9 am - 1 pm

DIRECTORY

Please contact the church office to request a copy of the June 2026 directory.

FPC Session

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Clerk of Session
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Neal Howard
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howardnc@windstream.net



June

Jim Haralson	9
Bill Cenkner	10
Amy Snow	23
Kim Smith	23
Beattie Evans	24
Candy Hudson	27
Jane Pettus	30

First Presbyterian Church of Monroe

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Monroe, GA 30655

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