



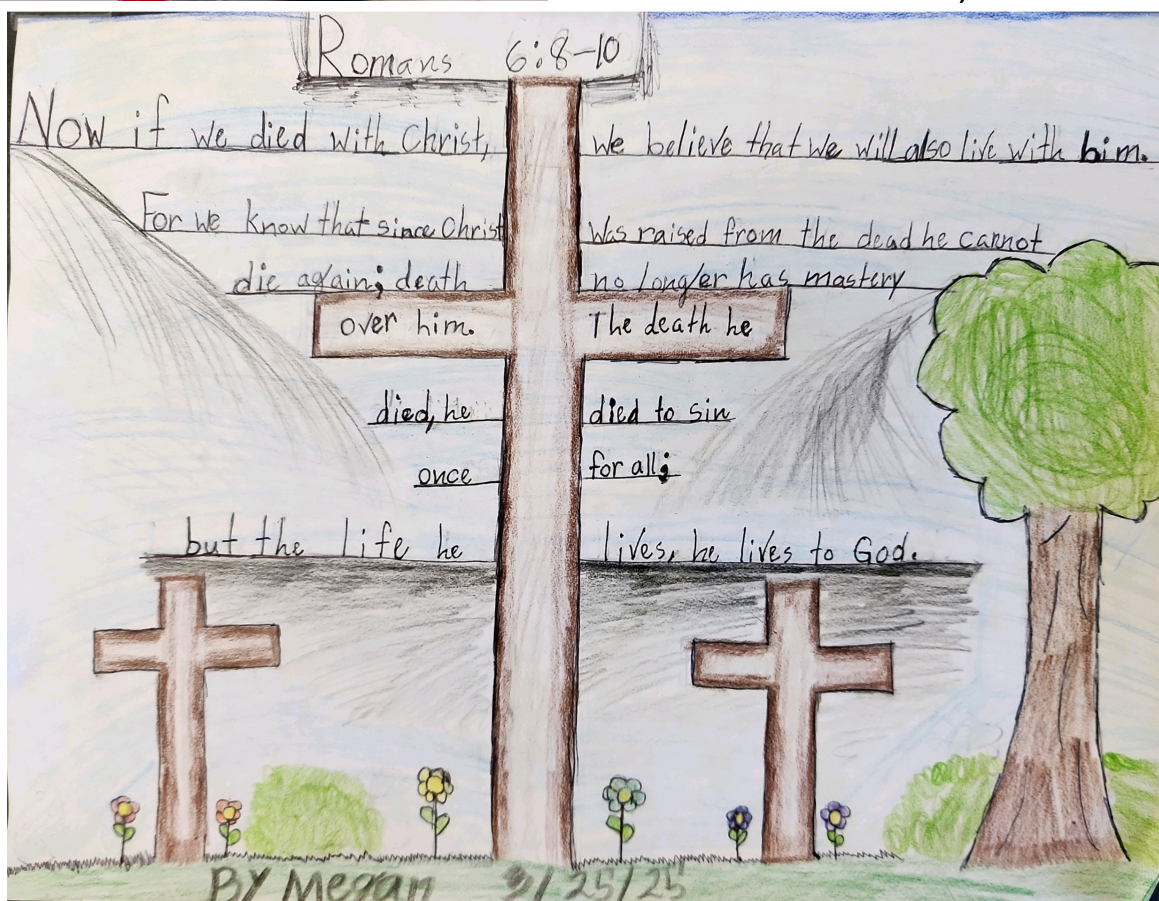
From Triumphal Entry to the Cross to the Empty Tomb

Jesus doesn't instigate his own parade. Instead, just his quiet presence alone inspires the multitude to shout out and praise God. "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Just a few days later Jesus is led to the cross as God's love for us is demonstrated through the death of our Lord and Savior.

Three days later ...

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!





Amy finished her Child Advocacy Program in December. Our church has supported and encouraged her as she went through this important preparation to help children in our state.

She is now a Certified Child Advocate and recently received her certificate. Congratulations, Amy!

Instead of Hospitality Time after the worship service on April 6, we will have a baby shower and everyone is invited! Ashton and Travis are expecting and Reims David is due on May 1. Let's all welcome this precious little one into the family of God. If you would like to get something for the baby, you can contribute to the diaper fund or give a gift card.



Report From The Session

The session met after church on Sunday, March 23. Pam was elected by the session to serve as a commissioner to Presbyterian Village. She will attend a meeting on May 1. Reports were received from the finance committee, the property and maintenance committee, the personnel committee, and the intern task force. The session approved a raise for Jennifer, our church secretary. She has performed with excellence since she was hired in January 2024. Since the next community potluck was scheduled on Easter Sunday, the session voted to move the potluck to April 13. A new Mission Initiative Grant was approved by the session. This grant is requesting \$1,500 to be used to purchase supplies for our snack bag mission. The session approved a request made by the Outreach and Property and Maintenance Committees to replace the broken window in the foyer with plexiglass and then cover all the lower windows with wood stained to match the existing wood. They also approved the purchase of a security system that would enable administrators to talk to people who gather around the church without permission. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27 after church.

Pictures



The First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville
Ukulele Band



Duke and Joanne were
married on March 24 at
Ferncliff. Congratulations,
Duke and Joanne!



Britnee and Bradley married on March 22. Congratulations!



Ivan and the M. family

Hosting Interns from University of the Ozarks

It's getting closer! Our church will host two interns from the University of the Ozarks in June and July. They will be joining us in worship and in all of our activities. They will also provide help with the missions of our church. These young people will become a part of our church family while they are here. We will have opportunities to get to know them, and make a difference in their lives, as I'm sure they will make a difference in ours. Our Intern Task Force is preparing and planning for their arrival on June 3. They may be asking you to help in a variety of ways. Be in prayer about how you might be a part of this exciting opportunity. We will need help with transportation, providing meals, housing and just spending time with them in conversation. Your Intern Task Force is ready to hear from you!

Mary Lee, Beth, Amie, Katie, Pam

It's a Girl!

Michael and Taylor are expecting. Ava Cate is due on April 1. Steve and Pam are the eager grandparents. Congratulations!

Note from Mary Jane

Several times a year I have the privilege of gathering with a CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elder) cohort. About 10 of us meet together at the University of the Ozarks for fellowship, conversation and enrichment. We hear about suggestions and ideas to help us in our churches. One of the things we discussed at our last gathering was mission involvement. Different people shared what their churches were doing or were planning to do. I shared some of the ways we have been involved in helping our community and those who are the most vulnerable around us. Phil asked if he could share our ministries in an article for the Presbyterian Outlook magazine. Below is the link to the article he wrote. Even though we are a small congregation, we are allowing God to use us to help our neighbors. Let's continue to be faithful and search for ways to share God's love and care for everyone. <https://pres-outlook.org/2025/03/the-surprising-power-of-small-churches/#>

Ministers, Scriptures, and Themes for April

April 6	Rev. Elizabeth righteousness & mercy	Communion	Psalm 32	Luke 19:1-10
April 13	Mary Jane shouting & silence	Communion	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Luke 19:29-40	
April 20	Mary Jane grief & hope	Communion Easter		Luke 24:1-12
April 27	Mary Jane	Isaiah 25:6-9		Luke 24:13-49

Attendance for March

Mar. 2: 31

Mar. 9: 29

March 16: 26

Mar. 23: 25

Help!

There is much hunger in our neighborhood. We have been helping our neighbors in need by providing snack bags to those who come by the church during the week. Many of you have donated food to help us keep our Community Care Room stocked. We have also used money from our Outreach Fund to buy snacks. The cost for each bag is about two dollars. The Outreach Fund was opened with money we received for our community breakfast. People from outside the church have made contributions as well. The money is now dwindling and donations would be appreciated.

Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Worship Service April 17 at 6:30

Our service will include elements of a Maundy Thursday and Good Friday service. Maundy Thursday (from “mandatum,” Latin for commandment) proclaims Jesus’ new commandment to love one another as he has loved us. It celebrates Christ’s example of humble service in the Last Supper. Good Friday proclaims the good news of salvation through the paradoxical suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The service will include the seven last words of Christ. We will end the service in silence as we prepare for the coming of Easter; God’s victory over sin and death.

Announcements

The Community Care Room is in need of chicken and tuna kits, and men's and women's underwear, all sizes.

Bible Study will continue during April on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. We will not meet during Holy Week, April 16.

There will be a work day on April 12. Let's join together to help our building and grounds look great for Easter!

The women's circle will meet on April 15. All you gals are welcome!

Session will meet on April 27 after the worship service.

Schedule Changes

Our Community Potluck has been rescheduled and will be on April 13. Please join your church family and community as we enjoy food and fellowship together.

March Report from the Community Care Room

In the month of March, we gave members of our community:

- 246 snack bags
- 9 pairs of shoes
- 17 hygiene packs/individual hygiene items
- 6 bags/backpacks
- 54 pairs of pants or sweatpants and 69 t-shirts, flannel shirts, sweatshirts, or sweaters
- 14 blankets, sheets, or other bedding items
- 132 pieces of clothing such as socks or underwear
- 6 accessories such as gloves, scarves, and hats
- 4 pet items such as dog food or leashes

Thank you for giving to this ministry—your donations make a difference!

Prayer Requests from March

Ann and Greg
Barbara
Blake
Cheryl
Chris
Chris
Connie and John
Dimmit
Family of Helen
Family of Pam
Family of Robin
Family of Stephanie
George
Hoyt
Jill
Judy
Kaison
Katina
Louise
Michael
Mike
Nancy
Pope
Randy
Ryan
Shirley
Toni
Ukrainian people

Prayers of thanks and praise for

A successful knee surgery for Hoyt
A successful surgery for Michael
A new baby soon to be born within
our midst
Beauty
Mary Lee's successful eye surgery
The marriage of Britnee
Food that nourishes

*"I will give to the Lord the
thanks due to his
righteousness, and I will
sing praise to the name of
the Lord, the Most High."
Psalm 7:17*



Nothing Can Separate
Us From the Love of God
Romans 8:31-39

Contact Us
1208 West Main St.
(501) 982-2876
firstpcjax@gmail.com

[https://
www.facebook.com/fpcjax/
firstpresjax.com](https://www.facebook.com/fpcjax/)

*May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out
your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your
heart to love.
And as you leave this place, may you see the face of Christ on
everyone you meet, and may everyone you meet see the face
of Christ on you.*

First Presbyterian Church
1208 West Main Street
Jacksonville, AR 72076

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

If you are receiving this newsletter by mistake or would rather get one at the church in person, please let us know. If you know of someone who would like to receive this newsletter in the mail, please call us at 501-982-2876. God Bless You!