

October Newsletter



First Presbyterian Church

400 Lakeview Road, Mexico, Missouri

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Volume 34, Issue 10

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STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Susan Presley

Student Ministries

Director

Micah McNeal

Organist & Handbells

Barbara Green

Choir Director

Josh Yancey

Administrative

Sandy Weber

Financial Secretary

Lori Ray

Nursery Attendant

Barb Brandt

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service

9:00 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:15 a.m.

All Together Youth

6th—12th Grade

6:00 p.m. Wednesdays

(First Christian Church)

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[www.facebook.com/
mexicoFPC](https://www.facebook.com/mexicoFPC)

Wifi: MexicoFPC-Guest

Password: #liv2srv

Around the Table, Around the World

On the first Sunday of October, Christians from all different denominations gather to celebrate World Communion Sunday. It's one of the rare days when believers everywhere—whether they worship in a soaring cathedral, a storefront church, or under the shade of a tree—are invited to remember that Christ's table stretches far beyond our own sanctuary walls.

When we say "the church around the world," it's easy to picture a few distant congregations. But the worldwide body of Christ is huge and beautifully varied. The best estimates say there are over 2.3 billion Christians on every continent. The largest numbers live in the Global South—in places like Brazil, Mexico, Nigeria, and the Philippines—where Christianity has grown rapidly over the last century. Africa alone is now home to more Christians than Europe. Meanwhile, vibrant communities continue to flourish in Asia, from rural house churches in China to thriving Christian groups in India and South Korea.

Even within the United States, our own congregation is only a tiny brushstroke in a vast mural that is US Christianity. Our worship style and favorite hymns may be different than some, but the heart of our faith—the grace of Jesus Christ—unites us with sisters and brothers we may never meet.

World Communion Sunday invites us to imagine the diversity of that great banquet. On that morning, as we share bread and cup, others will break cassava or rice cakes, lift prayers in Swahili or Spanish, sing ancient chants or new praise songs. We are different in countless ways, yet bound together by the same Spirit.

So when you come to the Lord's Table this October 5, let's pause for a moment. Picture the believers in Lagos and Lima, Seoul and Santiago, Cape Town and Cairo. Give thanks for the worldwide family God has called together. And remember: in Christ, we are never just a small congregation on the corner of Clark and Lakeview; we are part of a kingdom without borders.

Blessings,
Pastor Susan



OCTOBER WORSHIP**October 5****Scripture**—Luke 17:1-6**Sermon**—Millstones and Mustard Seeds**Preaching**—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley**October 12****Scripture**—Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 & Luke 17:11-19**Sermon**—The Surprising Outsider**Preaching**—Pastor Michael Moore**October 19****Scripture**—tba**Sermon**—tba**Preaching**—Rev. Matt Brown**October 26****Scripture**—Luke 18:9-14**Sermon**—Wholeness and Humility**Preaching**—Rev. Dr. Susan Presley**OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHEDULE****Worship 9:00 a.m.****Fellowship 10:00—10:15 a.m.****Sunday School 10:15—11:00 a.m.**

PreK-1st grade—Room 105

2nd—5th grade—Room 104

Middle & High School Youth—Room 307

Knit Wits—Room 204

Wired Word—Room 200

Young Mom's—Westminster Room

Nursery is open 8:45—11:00 a.m.**Music Sticks With Us— Especially as Kids!**

Join Barb in the sanctuary on Sunday, Oct. 19th & 26th immediately following worship for 10 or 15 minutes of music. Come Sing with Us!

STREAM SUNDAY WORSHIP ON LINE @ YOU TUBEJust go to: www.youtube.comand search for: **Mexico First Presbyterian Church. Or scan this QR code.**

(We are also on Facebook)

**Sunday Morning Nursery**

Infants and children are welcome to come and play during worship and/or Sunday school.
Room 100

**CURRENT REQUESTS**

- Family of Dorris Breneman
- Bev McNeal (Micah's aunt)

LONG TERM REQUESTS

- Shirley Brauer
- Barb Atkinson
- Jo Ann Azdell
- Chayse Samuelson
- Lynn Cox
- Melissa Fayad
- Barbara Neumann
- Dan Kriewel (Peggie's husband)
- Betty Coari
- Virginia Carlson
- Julie Nance
- Adriene Lierheimer
- William Shackelford
- Candy Presley (Pastor Susan's sister-in-law)
- Bentley White (friend of the Nelson's)
- Neva Duea (Cheryl Slagle's mother)
- Michael Painter (Jody Fetterhoff's son-in-law)
- Sue Keeney (Peggie Kriewel's sister)
- Dale Robb (Kim Robb's father)
- Connie Robley
- Cathy Scholz
- Judy Lowery (Jody Fetterhoff's sister)
- Jessica Jolly
- Luke Pickett
- Denzil McNeal (Micah's uncle)
- Stan Beard Jr. (Becky Fischer's brother)
- Nancy Fischer (Scott Fischer's sister in law)
- Tom Biesemeyer (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Lydia A. Neill (Linda Sue's cousin)
- Debra Kreyling

TIME FOR CHOIR!!

We're excited to announce that our church choir has started up again—and we'd love to welcome **new voices** to join us! You don't have to be a great singer to be part of the choir. If you enjoy music and fellowship, just come as you are. We'll help you find your voice and grow together in harmony.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Rehearsal—Wednesdays at 7p.m.
Music Room—FPC



Kami Loucks	2	Abigail Chitwood	16
Glenn Phillips	3	Dawn Baumgartner	20
Cheryl Lummis	4	Nyja Mitchell	21
Susan Brown	6	Peggie Kriwiel	23
Chris Dial	6	Richard Bowen	24
Susan Atkins	8	Barbara Brandt	24
Chance Harper	8	Jordan Newman	27
Jim Atkinson	9	Grace Matich	28
Barbara Green	9	Brent Brauer	29
Sheryl Louder	9	Danielle Louder	29
Kaitlyn Thomas	9	Chase Monte	29
Willie Ogar	11	Eunice Schnarre	29
Cindy Phillips	13	Liz Schutte	29
Clarissa Cauthorn	15		



KFC– Finding the Lost Coin



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

The session met on Monday, September 15, 2025. Pastor Susan opened the meeting with prayer. Joys and concerns were shared. The consent agenda was accepted into the record, including prior minutes, financial reports, and the current meeting agenda.

Adult Fellowship: Hickory Ridge Sunday Funday will be October 5th. Discount coupons will be available.

Children's Committee: Fall Sunday School will start on August 31, and classes will be returning to Growing in Grace and Gratitude curriculum.

Local Mission: The committee is involved in the "Getting Ahead Program".

Outreach: The committee had a phenomenal turnout at Soybean Festival. They continues to welcome visitors and return visitors.

Presbyterian Women: Elaine reported that the Circles have started their meetings for the year.

Stewardship: Robby reported that our church is financially stable. We're about 3% under on income per budget, but also 3% under on expenses. The committee is working on this year's Stewardship campaign. The committee also made a motion to move \$24,012.87 from the Bequest Fund to the Property Fund bringing the Property Fund balance to \$0. The motion passed unanimously. The committee is also working to clean up the designated fund categories to make them more transparent.

Technology: Micah reported that he and the Property Committee are installing a replacement rear-facing projector in the sanctuary, and he has been addressing microphone issues as well.

Youth & Young Adult Ministry: Micah and Andrew reported that a Halloween event is being planned.

Pastor's Report: Susan reported that she will be out of town for continuing education on October 12, and Michael Moore will be preaching. On October 19, Rev. Matt Brown and Susan will lead worship together with Rev. Brown preaching.

Student Ministries Director Report: Micah reported that he has finished his Worship and Sacraments class and has started his Hebrew class.

Old Business: Ron reported on the August Presbytery meeting in Columbia. A representative from the Board of Pensions discussed insurance, and the Evelyn Bedell awards were given.

New Business: The Sexual Misconduct Policy was reviewed and approved.

Clerk's Report: Communion was served on September 7 during the service and at King's Daughters.

The meeting closed with a devotion by Steve Haag on Ephesians 2:4-5, and with prayer.

The next Session meeting will be Monday, October 20, 2025.





FAMILY FUN DAY AT HICKORY RIDGE ORCHARD

Sunday, October 5th @ 11:30 a.m.

Please join the Adult Fellowship Committee at Hickory Ridge Orchard following Sunday school. Everyone is welcome to come and join us for fellowship and have fun with one another enjoying all of the local orchard activities.



Bible Buddies attending football tailgate 9-2025



Fall Party

October 31st

6-10pm

Meet at First Christian Church
travel to the Bright's for
Games, food, hayride, and more



All Together Youth



\$15 PER PARTICIPANT



OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

MUP FALL YOUTH RETREAT

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 8, 2025
10AM-4PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MEXICO, MO



MORE DETAILS
COMING SOON

Adult Personal Support Committee

The Adult Personal Support Committee is a trained group of Christian caregivers who have been trained in confidential listening skills and caregiving. This is a one-on-one relationship for persons experiencing a difficult time in their life.

We have recently trained five new members: Jackson Lamb, Abby Chitwood, Sharon Linss, Jeanie Shellabarger and Chris Doolittle. They are joined by previously trained members: Dr. George Comfort, Elaine Mensching, Pam Miller, Mike Briggs, Sue Chitwood, Lawanah Gillette, and Brad Brett.

If you or someone you know could benefit from talking to a good listener, please contact:

- ◇ Pastor Susan at (573) 581-5689, or
- ◇ Brad Brett at (573) 582-2127, or
- ◇ Elaine Mensching at (573) 473-9435.



Join the fun:

6th grade & up
6:00–7:30 p.m.
First Christian Church



FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL

We all enjoy the beautiful floral arrangements that decorate our chancel each Sunday. Thank you to everyone who has provided those in honor of a dear loved one or special occasion!

Another option is to make a donation to a memorial fund or other area of our church in honor of your loved one or event.

When those donations are made, we will display one of our silk flower arrangements or art pieces while mentioning your tribute in the bulletin and out loud on Sunday morning as we do now.

The sign-up sheet for arrangements or memorials is on the wall near the church office.



Scouts from Troop 38 and Pack 57 had the honor of leading the Soybean Festival Parade. In addition to carrying the colors, they threw candy and recruitment items for the upcoming school year. This year Pack 57 Cub Scouts will be meeting on Monday nights. Contact Rob Cox for more information about Cub Scouts for Kindergarten through 5th grades. Contact Jason Lamb for more information about Boy Scouts for ages 11-18 and Venturing for ages 14-21.





Soybean Parade
MHS Bulldog Pride Marching Band
and Janis Strode



JESUS IS LORD

Rev. Zane, First Christian Church,
teaching about "Salt and Light"
at Kids For Christ (below)



Blessing Box

The Local Missions Committee wants to thank everyone who supports the Blessing Box. It is a great mission for our community and church and is supported by many. There is a lot of activity there every day, both those putting in supplies and those taking what they need. You may place items in the containers in the church or put them directly in the box outside. Thanks again!

All donations are welcome!

October Blessing Box
suggestions are:
soup & crackers.

Proverbs 22:9 Those who are generous
are blessed, for they share their
bread with the poor.

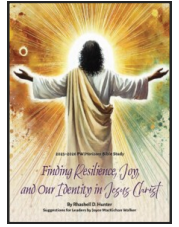


Presbyterian Women Bible Study

Bible Study: Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity In Jesus Christ

Rebekah Circle

This group will meet in room 305 on the
2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m.
and is led by Lois Runnels.
Our next meeting is October 9th.



Mary Circle

This group will meet in Fellowship Hall on the
4th Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and is led
by Elaine Mensching. Next meeting October 7th.

If you have ever wondered if you would enjoy attending a
Bible Study or participating in a PW activity, come by for a
meeting or event. You may enjoy it. We do!

All are welcome!

RECENT MEMORIALS

(These are monetary memorials received in the last 30 days)

Memorial

Marian Rentschler
Glennie Reeder

Columbarium Fund

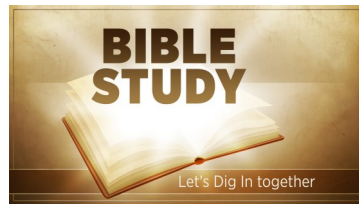
Anna Rentschler



What's On Your Mind?

This study group meets on the second and fourth
Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m. in the
Westminster Room. Topics vary from session to session.
Join us for coffee and conversation.

Next sessions:
October 11th and 25th



BUDGET REPORT As of 09.16.2025



INCOME	Actual \$	Budget for Year \$	Actual vs Budget %
Pledged Giving	198,912.49	\$294,000	67.66%
Non pledged	\$98,193.30	\$130,000	75.53%
Other Income	\$12,203.52	\$18,100	67.42%
Total all income	\$309,309.31	\$442,100	69.96%
EXPENSES			
Administration	\$1,652.47	\$6,050	27.31%
Adult Ministries	\$113.66	\$1,100	10.33%
Children's Ministry	\$1,991.06	\$4,500	44.25%
Local Mission	\$8,743.67	\$13,000	67.26%
National & Global Mission	\$1,860.00	\$7,000	26.57%
Other programs	\$29,880.09	\$40,500	73.78%
Outreach	\$1,297.54	\$2,200	58.98%
Property	\$70,387.24	\$67,961	103.57%
Personnel	\$209,746.33	\$319,924	65.56%
Technology	\$6,939.55	\$9,474	73.25%
Worship	\$3,506.08	\$5,300	66.15%
Youth & Young Adult Ministries	\$4,225.93	\$7,500	56.35%
Total all expenses	\$340,343.62	\$484,509	70.25%



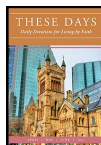
Help Center

Please bring your plastic grocery bags and egg
cartons to the barrel by the office or
drop off at the Help Center.



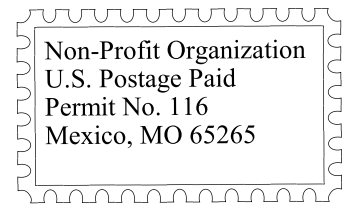
Our Daily Bread &

These Days Daily Devotions
are available near each entrance for
anyone who would like to pick one up.



First Presbyterian Church

400 Lakeview
Mexico, MO 65265



Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
Children's Message	Joanne Nelson	Teresa Carlson	Micah McNeal	Steve Haag
Flowers	Don & Sharon Linss	Donna Haerer	Peggie Kriwiel	Bob Fenlon
Ushers 	Alan Atkins Susan Atkins Carol Gallaher Larry Webber Frederick Schutte Megan Schutte	Bruce Oliver Nancy Oliver Linda Woods Bill Woods Koven Louder Kyle Louder	Jason Lamb Vanessa Lamb Pam Miller Karen Mossman Fayeth Schutte Stuart Miller	Layne Meyers Randy Meyers Lori Ray Ron Ray Jethro McNeal Elizabeth McNeal
October Open/Close Don Linss	Communion Servers Michelle Doolittle Elaine Mensching Robby Miller Ron Ray Jim Brunner	Communion Preparer Darlene Isaacs	October Session Devotional Stephanie Robinett	October Deacon of the Month Danielle Louder