

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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SEPTEMBER 2024

THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

THE ROMANS ROAD TO SALVATION

We have spent most of the past 12 months studying the apostle Paul's letter to the Romans. In this letter he declares, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (1:16 ESV). How can I come to know that good news? How can I share that good news simply and effectively? I am glad you asked. You can do so by following a path through the letter of Romans itself. Just like the early believers spread the gospel during the *Pax Romana* ("Roman Peace") by traveling the Roman roads, so we can share the gospel by traveling the Romans Road to salvation.

Who needs salvation?

(1.) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (3:23 ESV).

As the Scriptures say, "No one is righteous—not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one." ... For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard" (3:10-12, 23 NLT).

Why do we need salvation?

(2.) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (6:23 ESV).

How does God provide salvation?

(3.) But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (5:8 ESV).

But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (5:8 CSB).

How does one receive salvation?

(4.) Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved (10:9-10 ESV).

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation (10:9-10 CSB).

(5.) For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (10:13 ESV).

What are the results of salvation?

(6.) Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (5:1 ESV).

Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us (5:1 NLT).

(7.) There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (8:1 ESV).

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus (8:1 NLT).

(8.) For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (8:38-39 ESV).

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. (8:38-39 NLT).

Would you like to follow the Romans Road to salvation? If so, here is a simple prayer you can pray to God. Saying this prayer is a way to declare to God that you are relying on Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. The words themselves will not save you. Only faith in Jesus Christ can provide salvation. It is Jesus who saves!

God, I know that I have sinned against you and am deserving of punishment. But Jesus Christ took the punishment that I deserve so that through faith in Him I could be forgiven and made right with You. With your help, I place my trust in You for salvation. Thank you for your wonderful grace and forgiveness—the gift of eternal life! Amen!

SEPTEMBER 2024

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am	2 Labor Day Holiday	3 B-day: Vickie Cannon	4 Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time: 6pm Anniv: Dennis & Karen Davidson	5	6	7 B-day: William Symon
8 Deacon Meeting Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am Communion B-day: Olivia Tripp	9 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am	10 WM Bible Studies begin: 9:30am or 6:30 pm.	11 Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time: 6pm	12	13 B-day: Bernice Cork B-day: Joseph Carmichael	14
15 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am Fellowship Potluck	16 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am	17 WM Bible Studies: 9:30am or 6:30 pm. B-day: Adam Mackin	18 Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time: 6pm Session Meeting: 7pm	19 B-day: Eli Basinger	20	21 B-day: Glenn Basinger
22 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am HOP: 2pm	23 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am	24 WM Bible Studies: 9:30am or 6:30 pm.	25 CANCELLED THIS WEEK: Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time B-day: Anna Carolina Dukes	26	27	28 B-day: Emma Atkins
29 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am Deacons Fund Offering	30 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am Anniv: Josh & Betsy Carmichael					

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

DEACONS OF THE MONTH: Glenn Basinger and Mike Cork

FOOD MINISTRY LEADER OF THE MONTH: Betsy Carmichael

RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS:

- Sunday School at 9:30 am.
- Sunday Worship at 11:00 am.
- Monday Game Time at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday Fellowship, Study, and Prayer Time at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

SESSION: Dr. Josh Carmichael, Teaching Elder. Ruling Elders: Dennis Davidson, Scott Kirkpatrick, Jimmy Mackin, and Billy Symon.

DEACONS: Glenn Basinger, David Coddington, Mike Cork, and Ray Evans.

<u>2024</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>2024 YTD</u>
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 7,270.19	\$ 74,409.49
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$ 7,728.21	\$ 66,101.11
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (458.02)	\$ 8,308.38
<u>2023</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>2023 YTD</u>
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 11,573.00	\$ 68,396.14
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$ 6,951.34	\$ 58,482.82
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 4,621.66	\$ 9,913.32

JULY AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 46

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 4: Our regular Wednesday night Fellowship, Study and Prayer time resumes at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. September study will be: Tapping into our Source of Life through Prayer.

September 8:

- Deacon Meeting.
- New Sunday School class begins. See the announcement below.
- Communion.

September 15: Weekly Women's Ministry fall Bible study begin.

September 15: Monthly Fellowship Potluck Luncheon, immediately following the worship service. Setup/Cleanup Committee: Symon, Davidson, and Resto Families.

September 18: Session Meeting, 7:00 pm.

September 22: Hooked on Prayer (HOP) meeting, 2:00 pm at Eloise Harris' home. For more information on HOP please see page 4.

September 29: Deacon's Fund Offering. This offering is taken whenever there is a 5th Sunday in the month. These funds are used to provide limited financial assistance to our congregants and the community who are in need as a result when special circumstances occur.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Pastor Josh Carmichael will be teaching a six-week Sunday School class beginning Sunday, September 8: "What do Presbyterians believe?" This is available for anyone who wants a refresher course on what we believe. It is also being provided for any who are regular attendees who may be interested in joining our church. All ages are invited to attend.

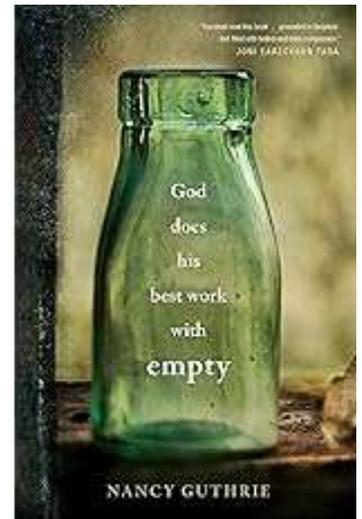
WOMEN'S MINISTRY FALL BIBLE STUDY

The ladies will begin a new book and video study series with Nancy Guthrie's, *God Does His Best Work with Empty*.

About the book: It's amazing how heavy the weight of emptiness can feel, how much room it can take up in our souls, how much pain can be caused by something that isn't even there. But while we may see the emptiness of our lives as our greatest problem, that's not how God sees it. When God looks into the empty places of our lives, He sees His greatest opportunity. God does His best work in the emptiness of our:

- Insatiable craving for things that don't satisfy
- Relational disappointments and loneliness
- Frustrated search for purpose and meaning
- Relentless desire for comfort and security
- Ongoing struggle to live with loss and unfulfilled dreams

This study will help us discover why emptiness has never been, and never will be, a problem to God. It will reveal how God does His best work with empty as He fills it with Himself.



The morning group will be led by Karen Lashley and will meet on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am beginning on **September 10th** in the Fellowship Hall.

The evening group will be led by Ann Resto and will meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm beginning on **September 10th** at Patty Kirkpatrick's house.

We hope all the ladies will join in on this new study. For more information please contact Karen Lashley or Ann Resto.

HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?

SEPTEMBER 2024

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAITH PROMISE MISSIONARIES

Robert & Lisa Stewart	Mission to the World — Japan
Andy & Bev Warren	Mission to the World — Ethiopia
Doug McNutt	Trinity Center for World Missions — Central Africa
Jimmy & Nadia Dukes	Reformed Evangelistic Fellowship — Peru
Joy Ayabe	Wycliffe Bible Translators — Papua New Guinea
Clete Hux	Apologetics Resource Center — Birmingham, AL
Jonah	Frontiers — Undisclosed Muslim Country
General Support	The Lighthouse Women's Center — Demopolis, AL
General Support	Palmer Home for Children — Hernando, MS
Chaplain Ministry	Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC)

HOOKED ON PRAYER (HOP):

Acton, Beth	Headley, David
Allinder, Kate	Hocker, Jeannie
Anderson, Kirsta	Hux, Karen
Aultman, Keegan	Johnson, Glenda
Beale, Amy	Lawrence, Lisa
Beeler, Peggy	Lessmann, Linus
Belcher, Samuel	Ligon, Brandon
Brooker, Chrissy	Mader, Rebecca
Brooker, Jan	Margo, Chrissy
Bryant, Kristie	McIntier, Jodie
Busby, Rhae	Mee, Merryn
Bynum, Linda	Morgan, Laura
Davidson, Karen	Morris, Seth
Duncan, Conner	Phillips, Ronnie
Dyer, Doug	Ramey, Carrie
Earl, Amelia (Tulipan)	Renner, Andy
Faust, Maggie	Renner, Elizabeth
Finley, Betty	Reynolds, Christy
Gardner, Greg	Sharpe, Adam
Graffeo, Anthony (A.J.)	Stewart, Lee
Hall, Heather	Townsend, Laura
Hall, Jimmy	Tulipan, Hansen
Harris, Julie	Twist, Ty
Harris, Karen	VanderMolen, Popko
Hart, Sarah Elizabeth	Wilder, Emily (Espy)
Haubert, Chloe Belle	Womble, Caleb

If you have a heart to pray for the critically, chronically or terminally ill, HOP needs you.

**Can you pray?
WE NEED YOU!**

**Can you knit or crochet?
WE NEED YOU!**

**Can you write note cards?
WE NEED YOU!**

HOP is a prayer shawl ministry. We give shawls, throws, or blankets to the critically, chronically, or terminally ill to let them know we are praying for them. You do not need to know how to knit or crochet to be involved.

Any monetary gifts or donations of supplies, yarn, note cards and/or postage is greatly appreciated.

Please contact Eloise Harris or Joy Mackin for more information on how you can get involved.



OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS

Cancer:

Luke (Jonah's son)
Scott Kirkpatrick
Rick Wilson
Jimmy Hall
Heather Hall
Adam Sharpe
Bessie Malone

Illness:

Laura Morgan
Neal Bules
David Headley
Linda Dunning

Special Needs:

The Hutton Family

Other Needs:

Christina & Danny Addison
Abigayle Kircharr
Harry Jeong
Eliza Horton

Military Personnel:

Chaplain William Broderick
Sam Brasfield
Steven Mackin
Victor Resto
Josh Tyson
Austin Griffith
Kaleb Brown
Nathan McCaskill

If you know anyone who needs to be added or taken off any of these lists, please provide Ann Resto with the information to keep the prayer lists current.