

# June 2026



# First Impressions

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Staunton, Virginia



June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:30am Cong. Life Comm. Mtg. (L) Heidi-off	2 10am Bible Study (L) 2pm Mission Committee Mtg. (P)	3 5:15pm Worship Comm. Mtg. (L)	4	5	6
7 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	8	9 10am Bible Study (L) 12:30pm PW Circle (L)	10	11 11:30am Trinity Lunch	12	13
14 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live 12:15pm Admin Mtg. (L) Heifetz staff arrives	15 5:15pm Session Meeting (L) Heifetz- Equip. Setup (S)	16 10am Bible Study (L)	17 10am Home Goods Pantry Pastor Jeff out- Massanetta	18 Newsletter Deadline- July Pastor Jeff out- Massanetta	19 Heifetz students arrive; start of the Institute Pastor Jeff out- Massanetta	20 Pastor Jeff out - Massanetta Middle School Conference
21 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	22	23 10am Bible Study (L)	24 8am- 4pm New Directions Director's Gathering (FH)	25	26	27
28 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	29	30 10am Bible Study (L)				

S=sanctuary; L= library; P=parlor; FH=Fellowship Hall; Ch=Chapel

## Letter from the Pastor

### The Mission Wins

*Why do we do what we do?*

With each decision that the church makes, it's helpful to ask, "How does this align with our mission?"

So...what *is* our mission, First Presbyterian?

We can look to our mission statement.

It states,

*We open our hearts and our doors to worshipping Christ in downtown Staunton as a visible witness to the Gospel.*

*We are called to be a congregation that...*

1. *Invites all people to faith in Christ.*
2. *Worships God in a vibrant community through discipleship, music, and fellowship.*
3. *Uses our resources, time, and talents in the service of the least of these.*
4. *Nurtures and strengthens those within and outside of our community.*
5. *Makes the best use of our historic downtown property to benefit others.*

Is this something that you agree with?



*(cont. on p. 2)*

**FIRST IMPRESSIONS** is a publication of First Presbyterian Church  
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Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder, Transitional Minister

## Letter from the Pastor

(cont. fr. p. 1)

### The Mission Wins

How might this mission statement play out in your personal life as a member of First Presbyterian?

One thing I have observed as a transitional pastor is that while many members claim to celebrate the mission of the congregation, very few actually allow it to inform their decisions and actions as church members.

Many church members simply want “things to stay the same as they have always been,” and by that mean they want things to stay the same as they have always been...for that person.

The reality is that change is a natural part of life as an institution, as an organization, as a church. Change will continue to happen.

But the mission must remain as a constant.

What does this mean?

Well, it begins with the idea of embracing the fact that change is, in fact, a natural part of church life.

But each and every change must also be measured against the mission of the church.

As we envision the future of First Presbyterian, how does our mission influence the decisions we make?

As we invite community organizations to become partners by sharing our property, how does this relate to the mission of this church?

As we worship, as we pray, as we get together for meals, and make decisions about our property, we must remember that the mission wins.

In Christ,



Pastor Jeff

## Church News

### Spring Flowers!



Thanks to Sue Ann McAllister for capturing such a beautiful picture of the irises outside of the Potter Building this spring!!

## Church News

### Home Goods Community Pantry Wednesday, June 17

Our Home Goods Community Pantry will be open Wednesday, June 17. Financial and product donations are always welcomed. If you wish to donate items, there is a donation basket outside of the sanctuary for your convenience. We ask that donations be limited to the following items, including: Paper towels (2-pack), toilet paper (4-pack), tissues (1 box), trash bags (10-count), dish soap (small bottle), laundry detergent (small bottle), and disinfectant wipes. Cash offerings are also welcomed.



Good news: The Home Goods Pantry received a \$5000 Community Grant from the Community Foundation. Special thanks to Megan McAllister, who was instrumental in making this happen!

Thank you to those who have already donated. Our pantry is thriving and growing, and your generosity is greatly appreciated!

## Church News

### Church Attendance for April-May 2026 (in person and online)

April 26	In person: 18	Online: 16
May 3	In person: 22	Online: 7
May 10	In person: 24	Online: 8
May 17	In person: 25	Online: 12

Average Worship Attendance for Past Month: 33

### Presbyterian Women

PW Circle will meet Tuesday, June 9, at 12:30pm in the library. Please respond to Alice Herbst if you can make it. And feel free to bring guests—all are welcome!



### First Presbyterian Church, Staunton, VA

#### Mission & Vision Statement

*Adopted on September 10, 2024*

We open our hearts and our doors to worshipping Christ in downtown Staunton as a visible witness to the Gospel.

We are called to be a congregation that...

1. Invites all people to faith in Christ.
2. Worships God in a vibrant community through discipleship, music, and fellowship.
3. Uses our resources, time, and talents in the service of the least of these.
4. Nurtures and strengthens those within and outside of our community.
5. Makes the best use of our historic downtown property to benefit others.

## Church News

### Session Meeting Monday, June 15

There will be a Session meeting on Monday, June 15, at 5:15pm in the library.

### Administration Committee Meeting

There will be an Administration Committee meeting on Sunday, June 14, immediately following worship at 12:15pm in the library.

### Congregational Life Committee Meeting

There will be a Congregational Life Committee meeting on Monday, June 1, at 10:30am in the library.

### Mission Committee Meeting

There will be a Mission Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 2, at 2:00pm in the parlor.

### Worship Committee Meeting

There will be a Worship Committee meeting on Wednesday, June 3, at 5:15pm in the library.

### Newsletter Deadline for July 2026

The deadline for submissions for the July issue of First Impressions is Friday, June 18. Please submit any info you would like to include by then. Thank you!

### Bible Study Every Tuesday at 10:00am!

Please join us for Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:00am in the library. Discussions are lively and refreshments are provided. All are welcome. Please join us!

## Church News

### Upcoming Office Schedule

Heidi will be off Monday, June 1, returning Tuesday, June 2.

Pastor Jeff will be out from Wednesday, June 17-Saturday, June 20, attending the Massanetta Middle School Conference.

### One Great Hour of Sharing

The Mission & Outreach Committee would like to thank all those who contributed to our One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. \$775.00 was collected and will be used to help vulnerable communities for disaster and hunger relief, as well as poverty reduction.

- With thanks, The Mission & Outreach Committee

### June Birthdays

- 3 Collin Caywood
- Laura Knott Cromer
- 6 June Jordan
- 9 Dr. Renee Huff
- 10 Scott Wilson
- 16 Andy Clem
- 18 Anne-Charles Dod
- 19 Melinda Avery
- 20 Evy Harmon
- 23 Chase Caywood

