



VOICE of FAITH

A Newsletter of Faith Presbyterian Church

June 2026

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Dear Faith Family,

June is often thought of as a slower season in the life of the church. School lets out, vacations begin, and routines shift. Yet at Faith Presbyterian Church, June marks not a slowdown, but an exciting season of conversation, worship, and transition.

Beginning in June, we will launch our summer sermon and discussion series, "What the Hell?" Throughout the summer we will engage two widely discussed books, Rob Bell's *Love Wins* and Francis Chan and Preston Sprinkle's *Erasing Hell*. During June, our focus will be on *Love Wins* and the important theological questions it raises about judgment, grace, salvation, and the nature of God's love. We are also excited to welcome Dr. Nicholas Smith, Professor of Philosophy at Alabama A&M University, who self-identifies as a universalist. What does that mean? Is that what Rob Bell is advocating? These are not easy questions, but they are important ones, and Faith Presbyterian continues to be a church unafraid to engage thoughtful and honest conversation together.

June will also bring one of the most joyful weeks of our summer as we host our Kids Arts and Music Camp. This ministry immerses children in the love, creativity, joy, and welcome of Christ through the life of the church. We look forward to the children leading worship on June 28th as they share their gifts with the congregation. As a reminder, all June worship services will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

June also marks the unofficial beginning of an important transition in the worship life of our congregation. After much conversation, prayer, discernment by the Worship Committee, and approval by Session, Faith Presbyterian Church will officially move to one combined worship service beginning in August. The new worship time will be 10:00 a.m., with Sunday School beginning at 9:00 a.m.

This combined service is not about losing identity, but about worshiping together more intentionally as one church family. Over the years, both services have shaped the life of Faith Presbyterian in meaningful ways, and this new season gives us an opportunity to move forward together with a shared spirit of worship, community, and hospitality. Our hope is to create a service that feels welcoming, thoughtful, reverent, and connected to who Faith Presbyterian Church has always sought to be.

June, then, becomes a bridge month, a season where we begin living into what is ahead. Summer may change our schedules, but ministry, worship, fellowship, and faithful conversation continue. In many ways, June reminds us that the church is reformed and always being reformed.

I am grateful to serve alongside a church that continually seeks to share the love of Christ with our community and the world around us.

Engage•Nurture•Bless,

Michael

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING - APRIL 2026

	INCOME/EXPENSES			PLEDGES & NON-PLEDGED	
	APRIL	YEAR TO DATE		APRIL	YEAR TO DATE
TOTAL INCOME	\$46,142.00	\$139,725.00	ACTUAL	\$43,328.00	\$125,479.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	-\$38,893.00	-\$117,043.00	BUDGET	\$33,565.00	\$100,696.00
OVER/LOSS	\$7,249.00	\$22,682.00		\$9,763.00	\$24,783.00



Beginning next Sunday, June 7th, we will have a Faith Forum style adult Sunday School at 9:00AM in the Fellowship Hall followed by one worship service each Sunday at 10:00AM.

Regular Children's Sunday School is paused for the summer until August 9th. Childcare will be available in Room #120 at 9AM on Sundays so that adults may attend the summer adult class.

Thursday Morning Bible Studies:

Women's Bible Study at 9:00-10:00AM in the Franklin Center.

Men's Bible Study at 11:00AM-Noon in the Parlor.

Saturday, June 13th—Operation Hungry Picnic. Faith will provide desserts. They can be individually wrapped, home-made, or bought.

Summer Worship Schedule—Beginning in June we will have only one worship service each Sunday at 10:00AM.

The summer worship service schedule is:

June—Worship in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00AM

July—Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:00AM



June Anniversaries

Lockridge-Shaw, Catherine Anne	06/04
Lynn, Carol	06/09
Grant, Rick & Patty	06/19
Edlin, George & Linda	06/20
Miller, Ron & Jan	06/29
Beason, Brent & Nancy	06/30

Average Attendance in May

FITM	20
Traditional Service	70
Average Total	45

June Birthdays



Gearhart, Carla	06/02
Hamilton, Nancy	06/03
Stairhime Jr, Richard	06/03
McGhee, Brenda	06/05
Baier, Cindy	06/08
Reynolds, Bob	06/08
Buff, June	06/09
Goldman, Eloise	06/15
Bucher II, Keith	06/19
Ennis, Jean	06/19
McElhaney, Julia	06/19
Chapman, Jenny	06/26
Stokes, Cecil	06/26
Van Peursem, Rob	06/27

A Minute for Mission!

Operation Hungry Picnic



The Picnic in the Park for the homeless and hungry will be held on Saturday, June 13th. Serving times are 10AM-2PM. As usual we will be providing individually wrapped desserts. Have desserts in the Fellowship Hall kitchen on Friday, June 12th. In addition to the desserts we are asked to bring 2 tables (we will bring 3 or 4) and 10 chairs. Last year we had a downpour, so for those volunteering, keep a rain-

coat and/or an umbrella handy.

For those who do wish to volunteer, you can work as long as you want during the day. If you cannot be at Faith at 7:45 AM on the 13th to load and head over to Pavilion #9 (new location), come when you can and leave when you must.

If you have any spare hats or sunglasses, we will be handing those out as well, but this is not something you need to go out and buy. We will also be making toiletry kits at the park, so if you have some sample sizes of toiletry items, please bring them. We will also need to use a few ice chests if you can spare one for the day (with ice if possible).

We are planning to feed 300 people. If you have questions, please contact Bob Nicholson.

Joyful Blessings is an all volunteer Community Outreach striving, to make a difference in the lives of the homeless population in Huntsville, Alabama. Our mission is to provide meals and clothing to those in need, offering a glimmer of hope and comfort in their time of struggle. Through the generous support of our volunteers, donors, and strategic partners we are able to serve meals and distribute essential clothing items year round to help the homeless community. Together, we are working towards creating a more compassionate and supportive environment for those experiencing homelessness in Huntsville.



Faith's Fathers Day and Fourth of July special offerings will benefit a new mission partner - Soldier of Grace. This charity was founded by Jon Smyly, a veteran who served two tours in Afghanistan. Jon saw a need in the veteran community to provide free vehicle maintenance for those who weren't able to pay to have their vehicle repaired and didn't have anybody that they knew or family to lean on in this area who could help

them. Initially, people were skeptical that the service was truly free, but as people gradually spread the word, he now receives multiple calls daily from those who need help. Jon and his organization have set an ambitious goal for 2026 of providing over \$100,000 in free labor and it is well on this way of meeting the goal. Soldier of Grace offers a comprehensive range of mechanical services at no cost, including basic maintenance and inspections, engine swaps and rebuilds, electrical work, AC and heating systems, brake service and repair, and much more. So where do Faith and Hope Presbyterian churches fit in? The labor costs provided by Soldier of Grace are indeed free, but the cost of the parts for the repairs must be purchased. This is where we can help. All offerings for our Father's Day and the Fourth of July joint venture with Hope will go to help pay for the costs of these parts. Thank you for considering this new mission partner.



The Items of the Month for June are Cereal and Spam.

A big **Thank You** to everyone who brought breakfast and granola bars for Faith's pantry during May! You are saving mission funds for other causes when you donate items. Otherwise they are purchased to go into the Elderly Mission Project boxes which volunteers pack and deliver each month to seniors who need additional food toward the end of the month.

There are baskets for your donations in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.



A Minute for Mission!



North Alabama Presbytery

The Presbytery is a vital part of how Presbyterians understand the Church. For most of us, our local congregation is the Church for us. Being connectio-
tional is a part of what it means to be Presbyterian. Our congregations are neither autonomous nor self-sufficient. We connect with other congregations in geographical proximity to us to do things together, sometimes because those are things we cannot do on our own and sometimes simply because we can do things better together. For us, the North Alabama Presbytery is a family of twenty-six congregations scattered across the northern third of the state of Alabama. (There are two other Presbyteries in Alabama: the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley in Central Alabama and the Presbytery of South Alabama in, you guessed it, the far south of our state.)

The Presbytery has responsibilities assigned to it by the Book of Order. Those include things like care, support, and supervision of ministers, oversight of those preparing for ministry, oversight of congregations insofar as worship and government, assistance in times of conflict, and planning for and planting new congregations.

In North Alabama Presbytery, those responsibilities manifest through various agencies. The Commission on Ministry oversees all aspects of ministry in congregations including assistance with the call process, examination of candidates for pastoral work in our Presbytery, installation of pastors, and ongoing care and supervision of congregational ministry. Each congregation has a liaison or point of contact who shares information and resources. In the case of congregations without pastors, the Presbytery appoints a Moderator for the Session until a new pastor arrives. The Commission also provides pastoral care and communication with pastors, who are members of the Presbytery and not individual congregations. The Business Affairs and Personnel Team makes and administers the Presbytery's budget which provides for programs and activities to help congregations in their ministries. The Committee on Representation and Nominations nominates individuals to serve on the various agencies of Presbytery so that leadership is homegrown. Ministry groups for Presbyterian Men and Women operate under the direction of the Presbytery and provide opportunities for study, community building, and outreach. The Presbytery's Executive Commission is comprised of leaders of each of the Presbytery's agencies and meets monthly between the three annual meetings of Presbytery in February, June, and October. The Presbytery also helps to interpret decisions and resources that come from the denomination and its staff and from the General Assembly, which meets every two years. The Presbytery coordinates events for youth and young adults, inviting them to participate in conferences at Montreat Conference Center in North Carolina. The Presbytery also provides education and training for new and returning elders as they serve as members of Sessions. Presbytery also nominates and prepares commissioners to General Assembly's meetings. The Presbytery is funded by its constituent congregations, each giving proportionately.

New things you can expect in North Alabama this year include the "We Need to Talk..." series of conversations about our common life and work. The first of those events was in November, 2025 and focused on Discipleship. The second conversation on Congregational Renewal took place in February. The Presbytery is also planning to begin a Ministry Group for Senior Adults in 2026. A planning committee will begin work on that ministry soon.

Rev. Bob Phelps

North Alabama Presbytery Staff Emails are:

Rev. Bob Phelps, Executive Presbyter – execpresbyter@napcusa.org

Rev. Jaina Glaze, LPC, Stated Clerk – statedclerk@napcusa.org

Sheila Gilliam, Administrative Assistant – adminoffice@napcusa.org



Dear Church Family,

Summer is here - schools are out, pools are open, and our green spaces, whether cultivated or not, are bursting with life.

The Sunday after Pentecost (May 31) marks the beginning of "Ordinary Time" in the church, the end of the celebratory season of Easter, and the return of the liturgical color green to our church decorations. This season can also be called the "Great, Green, Growing Season" - a long stretch of time between Pentecost and the start of Advent where we are focused on spiritual growth, discipleship, and living out our faith in our daily routines.

Traditionally, summer is a "low season" of church attendance as many travel and enjoy the warm weather. Here at Faith, our regular Sunday School classes will take a break, and Sunday worship will move to one combined service. Of course, while the rhythm of our lives may change in the summer, our relationship with and commitment to the Living God does not.

How might the summer present us with new opportunities to live and grow our faith? To give us some ideas, I have designed a **Summer Discipleship Challenge** for our church family to play together. Each "bite sized" task on the Bingo Board is intended to be accessible for all ages, and to encourage discipleship in different ways. The Bingo Boards will be available in the Fellowship Hall and the Narthex with instructions on the back (and are also included in this newsletter).

My hope is that you will enjoy this game and maybe even try something new as we continue to follow Jesus together!

Clara Reed-Lee

Director of Christian Education



Art and Music Camp this summer will be held June 22nd-26th from 9AM-Noon each day. On Sunday, June 28th, the children will lead worship at the 10:00AM service in the Fellowship Hall. Camp activities each day will include art, recreation, snack and story time, and music time with Orff instruments. There will be opportunities for solos and speaking parts. There is no cost for the camp but signup is requested. Adult volunteers are needed for this fun time with our children. Contact Beth Cape to sign up or for more info.

2026

Summer

DISCIPLESHIP BINGO

Tell a friend about your church	Experience worship in the Fellowship Hall if you usually attend the Traditional service - or the other way around!	Experience the beauty of God's creation in nature and give thanks in prayer.	Memorize a "verse": Creeds and Confessions	Donate school supplies for our back-to-school supply drive
Add food to our Little Free Pantry	Attend or volunteer at Arts and Music Camp	Visit or send a card (or picture) to someone who is sick or homebound	Volunteer to serve as usher, greeter, communion server, or liturgist	Visit a different church while traveling out of town
Care for God's creation by nurturing a plant, garden, or animal	Memorize a verse: New Testament		Borrow and read a book from our church library - or choose a different devotional book	Go to the Faith/Hope Summer Picnic
Memorize a verse: Old Testament	Write a note of appreciation to our pastor or someone else who helps our church	Bring an item of the month for the EMP boxes	Draw a picture or take notes during the sermon	Pick up litter in your neighborhood or clean something at church
Attend a Faith Forum Sunday School	Enjoy God's gift of water at the pool, lake, or ocean	Add a book to our Little Free Library	Go to a church camp or conference	Memorize all the books of the Bible (advanced) or Memorize the gospels (beginner)

How to Play

- 1) Pick up or print your own personal Summer Discipleship Bingo grid.
- 2) Complete as many challenges as you can. See how many bingos you can get!
- 3) Share your progress with your church family by marking your completed challenges on the large group game board at the back of the fellowship hall or in the Narthex.
- 4) Optional: Take photos to document what you have read, learned, given, enjoyed, shared, or thanked God for this summer. Email photos to clara@presby.org to be printed and displayed next to the group game board.

Notes and More Information

- 1) **Sunday worship** will be held at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall in June, and in the Sanctuary in July
- 2) **Memory Verses:** Suggested verses for each memorization category will be printed and placed in baskets by the large game board in the back of the Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex. Shorter/easier options will be printed on yellow paper, and more advanced on blue paper.
- 3) **Arts and Music Camp** will be held June 22 - 26. Contact Beth Cape to volunteer.
- 4) To **volunteer as liturgist**, contact Libba Nicholson (libban@mail.com).
To **volunteer as communion server**, contact Holly Wilks (holly-wilks@outlook.com)
- 5) Yes, our **church library** is back! Books and resources are available to borrow upstairs in the Education Building, in room 211.
- 6) Our annual joint service and **picnic celebration with Hope Presbyterian Church** will be held here at Faith on Sunday, July 5th.
- 7) Items for our **Elderly Mission Project food boxes** are collected in baskets in the Narthex and back of the Fellowship Hall. The items of the month for June are canned peas and green beans, and the items of the month for July are canned corn and carrots.
- 8) Pastor Michael will lead this summer's **Faith Forum Sunday school** each Sunday morning in June and July at 9AM in the Fellowship Hall.

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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28 10:00 AM Worship Service-FH	29 5:30 PMAA-Room 209 Preschool SUMMER BREAK	30 6:00 PM Basketball 60 & Over-GYM Preschool SUMMER BREAK	May 2026 <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> Jul 2026 <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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