

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS



Presbyterian Women are having a **“Books, Baskets and Baked Goods” Holiday Sale** on Nov 7th (9 am-3pm). These beautiful baskets are great for gift giving.

Leftover baskets and baked goods will be available for purchase Sunday, Nov. 8th after worship. Set up is Nov. 4th & 5th from 9-3 and Nov. 6th from 9-12 noon. We are asking for donations on these days of gently used Holiday decorations, dinnerware, linens, ornaments, trees, wreaths, etc. We will be making up gift baskets, if you would like to donate items for them. Your book donations should be gently used books only. **NO MAGAZINES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, RECORD ALBUMS, VHS TAPES OR CDS** can be used. Jewelry is included in this sale.

The Baked Goods donations can be cookies, nut breads or any other treats. For more information contact Linda Clark at 330-534-5060.



The First Presbyterian Church of Sharon, Pa.

E m p h a s i s

SEPTEMBER 2026

Moving: So, What Goes?

“The Great Move” is under way. Laura and I are buying a home, selling my condo, sorting through two households and 20+ years of stuff, and moving. In short, it feels overwhelming. I’ve been telling people, “Why just be busy when you can be ridiculous?”

So the decisions are coming. The baby grand piano at Laura’s goes. The twin beds in my basement? Nope. What about the mid-century modern sofa at my place? Maybe, or to storage. All the stuff in my office goes. The important family heirlooms at Laura’s go. The dining room table and chairs at my place? Storage, or sell. My mid-century dresser and chest? Maybe, or storage. Financial records? Over the last 7 years, yes. Anything older goes to the shredder. What about the art on the walls of our homes? Some yes, and some no. And I haven’t even gotten to my garage or our kitchens yet. We already have one storage unit for most of my mom’s stuff. I can see another storage unit in our future. Moving.

So what about when we move from this life to the mystery of what’s next? That’s really “the Great Move.” We know the old saying, “You can’t take it with you.” And that’s true enough. There are no storage units in heaven.

But for some time now I’ve been pondering what is carried forward through death to eternal life in the glory of God. Everything, anything, nothing? Certainly not stuff. My GR 86 sports car will be left behind, as will my collection of late 60s and 70s baseball cards. So in this “move” does anything go? Maybe something.

Presbyterians believe that we can’t earn salvation. The gift of God’s salvation through Jesus Christ is only by grace. And we share in that by faith. So the good works we may do or not do have nothing to do with that. Rather, Presbyterian theology states that we do good as an expression of gratitude for God’s grace. Doing good is a way to say “thanks.” I like that.

I also think doing good has to do with maturing in life and faith. When my children were young, I loved them as their dad. They didn’t earn it. But as they became young adults and then adults I did hope they would share that love and express love back. And they have. Likewise, I believe it works that way with Christian faith. In grace God loves us because God is love. But God also has the hope that in time we will mature as people and Christians so that we share in that love by loving God and neighbors.

But beyond that I wonder as we “move on” if the good we do isn’t somehow carried forward in the shaping of a character and soul. Maybe acts of kindness, goodness,

continued on page 3

September 2026 Preaching and Worship Schedule

- 6 Labor Day Sunday. Dr. Crooks preaching. Acts 25.
- 13 Mission Sunday. Name Tag Sunday.
- 20 Dr. Hink preaching. Acts 27.
- 27 End of Summer Sunday. Dr. Hink preaching. Acts 28.

Worship Notes

- *The summer sermon series on Acts will continue through September.
- *The Mission Team will lead worship on September 13. The worship service will include information, stories, and pictures of some of the various missions which 1st Church does and shares. This is always a special Sunday.
- *The first (and perhaps to become annual) End of Summer Sunday is September 27. Everyone attending worship is invited to wear beach/Hawaiian shirts and shorts and hats. Everyone is also invited to bring a beach chair if they have one. The idea is to have a fun, beach feel to worship. This is also the last Sunday in Fellowship Hall before we move up to the sanctuary. (No sand, please.)
- *World Communion Sunday is October 4. We will also return to our fall schedule this Sunday: 11:00AM, worship in the sanctuary, choir, and organ.



The new 1st Church website should be “up and running” by the time you read this. The old website served the church well for many years. But like all things, change happens. And as happens with many new things, there’s some adjustment and learning involved. The 1st Church web address remains the same: www.1stpcs.org. Check out the new website where you will find past sermons and newsletters, information on church ministries, 1st Church history, and much more. The 1st Church website tends to have more basic information about the church, while the Facebook page has current pics and programs and sharing of information.

continued on page 3

COMMUNITY



BLOOMS HERE.

Involved in the Community

1st Church was pleased to host a summer enrichment program for 25-30 at-risk teenagers. The program ran for six weeks over June and July. The staff who directed the program were excellent, and the kids appreciated the program. All were thankful for the use of fellowship hall, the gym and the kitchen.

In addition to the summer enrichment program, Sharon Head Start is coming to 1st Church. The program will use #206 as a classroom, the restrooms by the nursery and the gym for recreation. The program will have 15+ children 3, 4 and 5 years. Sharon Head Start runs on the Sharon Schools calendar, M-F, 8AM-4PM. Head Start has repeatedly demonstrated that it makes significant difference in the lives of children and their outcomes in school. We are pleased to partner with the Head Start program.

To make room for Head Start the Bell Choir bells and tables were moved to room #311 on the third floor. The tables and chairs for various team and committee meetings were also moved to #311. An a/c unit has been installed as the 3rd floor tends to get warmer than the rest of the church facility.

Puzzle!



BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, NIV.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

ACROSS

2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.

6. Blessed are those who _____ and thirst after righteousness.

7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.

8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.

9. Blessed are those who hunger and _____, for they will be filled.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.

4. Great is your _____ in heaven.

7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.

Answer key: 2 Across: Rejoice, 5 Across: pure in heart, 6 Across: hunger
7 Across: merciful, 8 Across: thirst, 1 Down: poor in spirit
3 Down: persecuted, 4 Down: reward, 7 Down: mourn



Dirt cups

A sweet reminder that God is always growing something new, no matter the season. As summer winds down and a new school year begins, remember He is at work in your life, helping you grow in faith, kindness and courage. With His help, you can grow in wisdom, build friendships and shine His love wherever you go.

What you need:

- 2 cups milk
- 1 (4-serving) box chocolate instant pudding mix
- 1 (8 oz.) tub whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (16 oz.) package Oreo cookies, crushed
- 8 (9 oz.) clear plastic cups
- Gummy worms or frogs (optional)



What you do:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Let stand for 5 minutes until thickened.
2. Gently fold in the whipped topping.
3. Add a layer of crushed cookies to the bottom of each cup.
4. Spoon pudding mixture on top, filling the cups about ¾ full.
5. Sprinkle more crushed cookies on top to look like "dirt."
6. Add gummy worms or frogs for fun.
7. Chill until ready to serve, or enjoy right away.

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not
perceive it? — Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)



continued from page 1

patience, and love overtime make a difference in who we are, and that gets carried forward. And maybe those acts also impact others in ways that are carried forward in their hearts. It's a type of "ripple effect" that makes a difference now and into the distant future.

Moving; so what goes? Stuff? Nope. The character of a soul? I believe so. Discussions on the mystery of resurrection and eternal life by theologians seem to indicate it is personal and particular; we will be who we are now in some way. So that seems to mean to me that the soul makes the move. Maybe that's why Paul writes at the conclusion of his discussion of resurrection and eternal life in I Corinthians 15: "Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." (I Cor. 15:58)

Moving, Glenn

continued from page 2

Speaking of the 1st Church Facebook page check, you can still find it at www.facebook.com/1stpcs.org. This is a very active site where you can find the most up to date information on the mission and ministry of 1st Church.

As many people already know, 1st Church has a very professional online worship service. In many ways it is like the production of a television show. Worship services can be watched live or recorded at a later time. Each week 75-100 people share in worship through the online service. We are thankful for our "digital techs" who do such a good job with the online service.



Church Attendance for July 2026

2025		2026		Online
6th	81	5th	85	111 views
13th	85	12th	69	91 views
20th	90	19th	90	68 views
27th	<u>62</u>	26th	<u>81</u>	68 views
318		30%	325	34%

Financial Giving News July 2026

Operations Budget		Mission Budget	
1st Sunday	3,878.75	1st Sunday	330.25
2nd Sunday	1,851.25	2nd Sunday	277.75
3rd Sunday	2,816.25	3rd Sunday	152.75
4th Sunday	3,009.25	4th Sunday	292.75
Total for July		Total for July	1,053.50
Budget for July	15,718.42	Budget for July	1,333.33
Balance for July	(4,162.92)	Balance for July	(279.83)
Total for Year to Date		Total for Year to Date	10,206.50
Budget for Year to Date	110,028.92	Budget for Year to Date	9,333.33
Balance for Yr to Date	(6,360.05)	Balance for Yr to Date	873.17



Remember Our Shut-Ins

Ridgewood 724-347-0998
One Elston Way,
Hermitage, PA 16148
Gail Hink, 206
Bill and Dory O'Donnell, 505

308 W. Warren St., Rm. 108
Cadiz, OH 43907
Betty Hudson

Market Street, New Wilmington, PA
239S
Mary Lou Sample

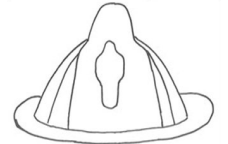


SEPTEMBER *birthdays*

1 McClelland Pyle, Jr.	18 Mackenzie Pyle
2 Jason Oman	19 Hayley Rose-Inman
6 Trudy Carlson	19 Lori Seinar-Roknick
7 Mark Arp	20 Brandy Getway
8 Holly Ray	21 Bill Shuttleworth
10 John Pyle	21 Ed Watson
10 Lisa Chavara	22 Wendy Donner
11 Al Kelly	23 Joyce Hawk
13 Mitzi Kuster	26 Christopher Esper
16 James Elder	30 Miranda Woge
17 Julie Bridge	



Inge Amundsen
July 10, 2026



[MISSION TEAM](#)
[PRAYER PROGRAM](#)

Sharon Police Department
September Adopt-a-Cop
SRO Andrew O'Shall

Sharon Fire Department
September Adopt-a-Firefighter
Joseph Miller, Jr.



Special Dates in September

- Labor Day, *September 7*
- Patriot Day, *September 11*
- Grandparents Day, *September 13*
- Hispanic National Heritage Month, *September 15-October 15*
- First day of autumn, *September 22*

Mission Corner

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters, you did for me.” Mathew 25:40



THE MISSION COMMITTEE invites you to attend THE MISSION SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE in Fellowship Hall or online on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026, at 10:00am.

You most likely have noticed that the bulletin for each service at 1st Church ends with these familiar words:

“The conclusion of worship, and the beginning of service.”

Come learn about the many mission projects that are sponsored by 1st Church and perhaps find opportunities where we can serve others in need. 1st Church supports the Mission Committee in providing a worship service dedicated to mission each year and this year's theme is *“The Backside of Mission.”* It is our hope that this service will inspire each of us to follow the example of *“The Man in the Purple House.”* (The Mission Committee trusts that this will become clear during the service!)

Following worship, please join our fellow members for a time of fellowship and a light meal. The Mission Committee will provide Sloppy Joes and chips. In the spirit of service to each other, we invite you to bring a desire to be together—and a side dish if you are so inclined and able.

Thank you for supporting mission at 1st Church!



Sharon Schools Pantry Program

1st Church members will once again be asked to help lead the Sharon Schools Pantry Program which gets food to Sharon kids and their families. Working in partnership with the Mercer County Food Bank and Sharon Schools, each of the 3 elementary schools and the middle/high school have a pantry. With the help of an adult, kids are able to pick up particular food items that best fit their needs and the need of their family. The pantry program has proven to be much more efficient and effective than the old backpack program.

In Mercer County Feed America reports that over 16% of people are “food insecure.” That means they do not know when or how they will get their next meal. The numbers break down to 1 in 7 adults and 1 in 5 children. The numbers in Sharon are higher.

Over the years, schools have responded to the hunger need and have become a primary source of nutrition through free breakfast and lunch programs. The pantry program helps with dinners and weekends. For the past 2025-2026 school year, of the 2000 kids in Sharon Schools, between 400-800 kids used the pantries at least once a month.

With less government assistance, increased costs for food and increased transportation costs the cost of the program has gone up. For the 2026-2027 school year costs are capped at \$1000/pantry/month. That means \$4,000/month for the 4 pantries and \$36,000 total for the school year. Costs for the old backpack program were \$60,000+.

The goal for 1st Church is to once again raise \$8,000. In early September a mailing will go out to 1st members to consider supporting the Sharon Schools Pantry Program. We are asking that pledge cards be returned by Sunday, September 27. Donations to the Panty can be made as a one-time gift or given monthly. Special envelopes for donations are available. All checks should be made out to “1st Presbyterian Church of Sharon” with “Pantry Program” in the memo line. Please contact Dr. Hink, chair of the Sharon Schools Pantry Program, with any questions.



SEPTEMBER

2026



September Sillies!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:00 Men's Fellowship-Panera 1:00 Staff Meeting-Rm. 106	3	4	5 8-2 Scouts Rummage Sale-Gym
6	7  Church closed	8	9 1:00 Program Staff-CR 5:00 Safety Team-CR	10	11 	12
14 Mission Sunday 9:00 Choir Rehearsal-303	14 7:00 SVC Rehearsal-FH	15 11:30 Memorial Committee-Rm. 106	16 7:00 Men's Fellowship-Panera	17	18	19 10:00 SVC Board-Rm. 206
20 9:00 Choir Rehearsal-303 5:00 Pre-Session Mtg. 6:00 Session-Rm. 311	21 6:00 Scouts-Scout Rm, Gym, Rm. 106 7:00 SVC Rehearsal-FH	22 Presbytery Meeting-Sanctuary, FH	23	24	25	26
27 Last Sunday at 10:00 AM in FH 9:00 Choir Rehearsal-303	28 6:00 Scouts-Scout Rm, Gym, Rm. 106 7:00 SVC Rehearsal-FH	29 6:00 Radio Club-FH	30 7:00 Men's Fellowship-Panera	Sunday Worship @ 1st 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall Fellowship time after worship FH—Fellowship Hall CR—Conference Room		