

# FIRST PRESS



## Pastor's Ponderings

Lead Us, Lord

There's not really much we can say about the current state of affairs in our nation, is there? Election time is usually hectic, but this year it seems fraught with concerns as well as questions. As you know, I believe strongly we should have conversations with our Lord, strengthening the tie that will bring guidance as well as peace – though not always instantly. It's a good practice in times such as these.

Speaking closer to home, as I write **I do not know** if this will be my last month as the assigned Moderator for the Corona Session. Much has been accomplished since I attended my first Session here. And I have some "Thank you's" to give. I have been especially pleased as the Session trimmed the allocated Budget to better streamline the Church's expenses and co-ordinate data with the Presbytery Finance Committee. The Session came up with ideas and have worked hard!

I especially salute Terrie Burbank in her position as Treasurer. She has spent many hours getting aligned with the Presbytery's records. This included time copying a bunch of checks! (This effort was not easy, as the Presbytery's officers changed duties, *including that of Treasurer, after switching to digital only - no longer having a physical office location.*) Terrie also has maintained the usual duties of being a Treasurer, which are multiple, including close contact with Teri White, your long-time Bookkeeper. (Teri even attended one of the recent Session meetings to assist in the new changes being made.)

I also congratulate Terrie and Anne Purcell, who together recently updated the files and filing cabinets. That is a thankless job – and they moved quickly.

Sue Bain and Awu Ncha (and pianist Delia Martinez-Samojluk, too) are contributing financially in covering some of the church's ongoing needs. The Lord knows!

Last, but far from least, I want to "double-thank" the powerhouse, the Administrative Assistant who is also the Clerk of Session, Marilyn Mittlestadt. For years Marilyn has been the Silent Secret keeping the Corona church going. Also, there are many hours required in being a Clerk of Session. Only one of her duties is keeping the Minutes and ALL the Church Records as required in the PC(USA) Book of Order! Starting last month she has been preparing your documents for the annual Presbytery Audit!

One of Marilyn's other Secrets is being a Right Hand to anyone who is filling the position of Pastor at Corona (including what is required as part of Session duties.) This is especially true when the Session Moderator is one assigned by the Presbytery's Pastoral Committee! I am talking about the efforts in preparing each month's Consent Agenda and Docket for the Session (not to mention, printing each Sunday's Bulletin as well).

Not on Session but separately, ignoring long-distance difficulties, Judy Hanson is the second Administration Assistant on Corona's staff. She has been superb in working with me each week in preparing the Bulletins, and in her efforts as the "Web Servant" – even when she is not feeling well. Thank you, Judy!!

So why am I expressing these thanks in the Newsletter? I thank them all, but I want you-all to be aware of your hard-working crew here at Corona. You are blessed by their dedication and efforts.

Who knows? I may be assigned as Moderator for Corona again? However, your long-time goal should be continuing to take the necessary steps to be able, once again, having a selected new Pastor...even if only part-time. You deserve it!

Meanwhile, my temporary position as Pulpit Supply Pastor, which we have been calling "Guest Pastor," has given me much joy as I have become acquainted with each and every one. As a Congregation – you are a gem!

May the Lord be with you. Pastor Nancy



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and Hurricane Helene

“Hurricane Helene was the first Category 4 storm to hit Florida’s Big Bend region since 1851. Many deaths, and loss of homes and cars has shattered lives.

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (<https://pda.pcusa.org>) is one of the Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

PDA instantly mobilized emergency assistance to the communities and the Presbyterian churches affected. In this case, the National Response Team was sent to Western North Carolina.

The Presbytery of New Hope in the northeastern corner of the state reported a sinkhole and tornado damage in their area. A coordination meeting is scheduled for Friday Oc. 4<sup>th</sup> with Presbyterian representatives attending: Georgia, South Carolina and Presbytery of Western North Carolina.

In Rutherford County, North Carolina, water is “overtopping” Lake Lure Dam, which is southeast of our Presbyterian Montreat Conference Center. The Conference Center had some damage with repairs already started. Nearby churches are delivering foods to the lower lobby of Montreat’s Assembly Inn. Rutherford Presbyterian Church is a secondary shelter housing some of the affected residents. (There is some flooding in the town of Montreat.)

Additionally, Rev. Dr. Holly Dillon, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, reported on the damage in that area. Along with the forced closings of churches are seminaries, including the Union Presbyterian Seminary.

TO DONATE

By phone: 1- (800) 872-3283. Hurricane Helene Response Code is No. DR000169.

Online: (<https://pda.pcusa.org>)

Payment methods: Credit card or bank direct debit card.

By mail: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

REQUIRED: Designate on the memo line of the check the name of the relief effort to be supported. (PDA: Hurricane Helene; Code DR000169.)

## Peace and Global Witness Offering

The Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety, fear, discord, and division, so we can embrace God's mission of reconciliation to those around us and around the world. Through this offering, congregations are encouraged to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout our broken and sinful world.

This offering is normally collected on World Communion Sunday which is October 6. However, inserts and envelopes will be available in the bulletins throughout the month of October.



God of Creation: As the hurricane season continues to unfold, we come together for those in the path of storms like Helene.

We ask for Your protection and guidance, granting safety and strength to those facing the fury of nature.

May they find solace in the support of their communities, where acts of kindness and solidarity shine brightly amidst the chaos.

Help us to stand united, ready to lend a hand and offer comfort to those in need. Amen.

From the PC(USA) Presbytery Disaster Assistance website.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW)

Headlined in October at [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](https://presbyterianwomen.org/justice)

Domestic Violence Awareness Month; [fairtradefederation.org/celebrate](https://fairtradefederation.org/celebrate);

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

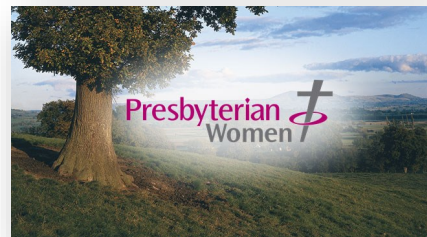
6<sup>th</sup> World Communion Sunday

11<sup>th</sup> International Day of the Girl Child; National Coming Out Day

13<sup>th</sup> Children's Sabbath: Educate a Child, Transform the World

16<sup>th</sup> World Food Day

24<sup>th</sup> United Nations Day



# *Fellowship September 22, 2024*



## From your session .....

From our September meeting:



- ◆ A renewal cell tower lease with Verizon was signed.
- ◆ Motion sensor lights will be installed at the front and back doors.
- ◆ Sue will get information re ways in which we can help youth from Inspire Life Skills ..... possibly Christmas gifts?.
- ◆ Approved a request from Breakthrough Church to hold a yard sale on the church Parking lot on November 2.
- ◆ Approved a request from Breakthrough Church to have a Christmas Eve celebration at the church on December 24.

## *Church Wide Yard Sale*

The Breakthrough Church will hold a church wide yard sale in the back parking lot of the church on Saturday, November 2, from 7 a.m. to noon. They have invited us to join them. If you have treasures that you no longer need, we invite you to donate them for the yard sale. The profits from anything we sell from our church will go to benefit FPC. Also, if you are free that morning and could help man our table, that would be a big help. Please let the church office know if you are able to help.

Donations for the yard sale can be brought to the church beforehand and will be stored in Classrooms 4 & 5 (double classroom). They can be dropped off on Tuesdays between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. or on Sunday mornings. Breakthrough plans to take anything that is not sold to the Salvation Army

Besides the monetary benefit to FPC from the sale, this will be a marvelous opportunity for our members to get to know some of the people from the Breakthrough Church.





<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>September 30, 2024</b>	<b>Year to Date Totals</b>
Income	4,324.91	63,333.56
Expenses	7,738.54	63,293.22
Net Income	-3,413.63	40.34

<b>DEACONS FUND</b>	<b>September 30, 2024</b>	<b>Year to Date Totals</b>
Income	196.00	850.00
Expenses	-0-	3,000.00
Net Income	196.00	-2,150.00

*Sunday worship service is available via livestreaming at:  
**[www.facebook.com/coronafirstpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/coronafirstpresbyterian)**  
 If you missed a Sunday Service, you are able to watch past services on  
 the Facebook site.*





## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

8.....Walt Williams  
18.....Squeak White  
23.....Silvia Thorne

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

None



## PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES

Judy & Haley Hanson  
Jaime Heller  
Elaine Lively  
Don McNeil  
Pete & Marilyn Mittelstadt  
Awu Ncha  
Glen & Kelly Nelson  
John & Qi Liu Nyeango





# October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		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		



Oct. 6



*Breakthrough Church of Corona every Sunday at 9:00am*



*Worship Sunday at 10:30am at church & via live streaming Facebook*



*Oct. 12 12pm*



*Session Oct. 19 10am*



*Vietnamese Church every Sunday at 1:30pm*



*Women's Bible Study Oct. 26 12pm*



*Last Sunday of each month is Food Donation Sunday.*



**Our mission is to live out the good news of Jesus Christ**

*Our Church Staff*

Guest Pastor _____	Nancy Richmond
Administrative Assistant _____	Judy Hanson/Marilyn Mittelstadt
Accompanist _____	Delia E. Martinez-Samojluk
Church Treasurer _____	Terrie Burbank
Bookkeeper _____	Teri White
Director of Social Media _____	Sue Bain

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**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
11:00AM Worship Service  
*First Press* deadline – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday of every month  
*Editor reserves the right to edit for content & space*



**We're on the WEB**  
<http://www.fpc-corona.org>  
[www.facebook.com/coronafirstpresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/coronafirstpresbyterian)

