

**Weekly
Announcements
8-20-23**



STEELE CREEK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
at Pleasant Hill

Mission/Vision Framework

We work together to follow Christ in joyfully serving our neighbors as compassionate, connected, contributing, everyday disciples who value praise, family, grace and mission – through daily practice, weekly community, and monthly service.

Worship August 20:

Message: Table Scraps
Scripture: Matthew 15 :21-28

The Flowers This Sunday – are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Feriba and Loy Brown, in remembrance of their marriage on August 22, 1925, by Leighton Brown and Roberta Harris.

Elder Greeters	Barry Small, Beau Byrum
Deacons	Rachel Steele, Betty Harraman, Jessica Morgan, Gene Gilleland, Randall Brunson
Coffee and Bagels	Kelly Andrus
Counters	August 22: Pam Horack, Betsy Stewart
Signers	August 24: Barry Small, David Thompson

Church Attendance July 30

Inhouse – 231	Children –28	Nursery - 5	Online – 170	Total – 401
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Note From the Session

The Session of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church at Pleasant Hill regrets to inform the church family that Rev. Dr. Elisa Ashley has submitted her resignation. In her letter, Pastor Elisa shared the following:

“While this is difficult for me to convey, I have come to the belief that this position is not a good fit for me. While there have been several aspects of the role which have been rewarding and many people at the church whom it's been a joy to serve, I must be true to myself and God by relaying that I believe my ministry call has shifted and now lies elsewhere.

I'm grateful for your vote of confidence in my calling, and I'm grateful for the love and respect that I've found. I hope that I will leave individuals and the church as a whole better for my tenure here.”

Please join with the Session in keeping Pastor Elisa in your prayers as she works with the church through a period of transition. We are grateful for Pastor Elisa's ministry in our midst, and we pray that God will bless her in her future endeavors as she seeks to serve. Her last day with us was Thursday, August 17th.

Your Co-workers in Christ, The Session

Prayer Requests– Submit via paper or through Church Center App. Paper requests may be found in the pews and may be placed in the offering plate or in the prayer box in the lobby. Digital requests can be made by [clicking here](#).

Special Events and Promotions

Mount Olive Presbyterian Church – invites you to attend their Annual Revival starting on Tuesday, August 22nd thru Thursday, August 24th at 6:30 pm. Speakers in date order will be Rev. Maurice Miller, Rev. Aaron Orr, and Rev. Arthur Canada. Choir members are encouraged to attend also. They are anticipating a high time and a blessing from the Lord through the preaching of God’s Word and gathering of God’s people.

The American Legion – and it’s auxiliary meets at 6:30 pm, the 4th Wednesday of the month at our church. A light dinner is served before the legionnaires and auxiliary split up to their respective meetings. We are looking for new people and fresh ideas. The auxiliary is open to spouses (including husbands of women, who have served), sisters, mothers and adult daughters. Please join us on August 23rd and consider being a member. If you do plan to attend, please RSVP to Bill Harraman so he has a count for dinners.

Mark Your Calendar

<u>August 20th, Sun.</u>	<u>September 10th, Sun.</u>
9:30 am – Pastor Dexter’s Class	Sunday School Kickoff
10:30 am - Worship	Blessing of the Backpacks
<u>August 22nd, Tues.</u>	September 15-17
6:30 pm – Men’s Fellowship Dinner	Family Retreat
<u>August 23rd, Wed.</u>	<u>October 7th, Sat.</u>
06:30 pm – Christian Growth: Adult Sub-Team	Scottish Heritage Golf Tournament
<u>August 24th, Thurs.</u>	<u>October 15th, Sun.</u>
6:00 pm – Faith & Family Fun Night	Scottish Heritage Sunday & lunch
	<u>October 21st, Sat.</u>
	Fall Festival

You can also find these and more on the Church Center App and the calendar on the church website. [Visit the website calendar here](#).

We Hope You Will Join Us – this week for **Fun Bunch** on August 24 at 11:30! This is open to everyone. Lunch is served at 12:00. Come enjoy some great fellowship and good food! You are also invited on the 24th to come enjoy Faith & Family Night at 6:00 pm. This will be a fun night of Bingo and basketball! The menu for Fun Bunch & Faith & Family Night will be barbecue, slaw, chips, salad, and dessert.

The Church Retreat – at Black Mountain, on September 17 – 18, will be led by Pastor Jeff. The topic will be Adam Hamilton’s “The Walk – Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life.” We hope you will join us for an exciting weekend of fellowship & study!

Looking Ahead! Hold the Date!



October 7th

[Register by clicking here!](#)

8:30 tee off

Harry L. Jones, Jr. Golf Course (formerly Renaissance Golf Course)
at the corner of Tyvola & S. Tryon.



Scottish Heritage Sunday

October 15th

Tartans and Lunch



Fall Festival

October 21st



Family Retreat Register Now

[Click here to register!](#)

YMCA Blue Ridge: Black Mountain, NC

Friday, September 15th: Optional Night

Saturday, September 16th: Programing Begins

Scholarships are available upon request in the registration.

Deadline Sept. 1st.

Friday, Sept. 15th, optional night: Check in is at 3:00pm and no meals or activities provided.

Saturday, Sept. 16th, program begins: Check in anytime, Pastor Jeff will teach this year, and special programing will be provided for ages 3 and up. Let us know in the registration if you need childcare below age 3 during adult sessions.

- Breakfast - Buffet line is open from 8:00am - 8:45am
- Session 1 - 10:15am - 11:15am
- Break
- Session 2 - 11:30am - 12:30pm
- Lunch - 12:30pm
- Free Family Time
- Dinner - 6:00pm
- Session 3 - 7:00pm - 8:00pm
- Family Programming TBD - 8:00pm - 9:00pm

Sunday, Sept. 17th, program ends.

- Breakfast - Buffet line is open from 8:00am - 8:45am
- Checkout - 10:00am
- Worship - 10:15am

Pricing:

Room per night = \$143

Meal package adult (4 meals) = \$65

Meal package ages 3-11 (4 meals) = \$25

A minimum deposit will be required and is not refundable.

A discount for families with 4 or more kids is available.

Select "Discount" and enter 4KIDSORMORE.

Forms: Once you register, these forms will be available to you through a link. Just click the bright green words and you will be taken to the forms.

Volunteer or Donate

Good Samaritan Fund – The Good Samaritan Fund is a fund authorized by the Session that functions outside of our regular budget. It is administered and distributed by the pastors to help those in need who do not meet the requirements of local agencies or when those local agencies do not have adequate funding. This fund depends entirely on the donations of our church members. Our current funds are running low, and we are asking those who might like to contribute to this ministry to please designate your gifts “Good Samaritan”. You may donate through Church Center Giving [by clicking here](#). Thank you for your support!

Family Ministries

Sunday School Kick-off and Blessing of the Backpacks – Sept. 10th

This year, we will kick-off Sunday school with parents taking their kids to their Sunday School rooms for this year!

You'll get a packet with all the great info for our new curriculum! Each class will have a set of Bibles tailored to the Bible stories covered for that year. If you'd like a that same version for at home, you'll be provided with a link in your Kick-off Packet.

How it works - each Spark Lectionary lesson follows a four-part sequence:

- **Gather:** Begin the day by gathering together and trying a warm-up activity. Suggestions are provided or you can create your own. You could bring your own music CD or use one geared for the curriculum. Explore with your creativity!
- **Open the Bible:** Open Bibles and explore the day's story. Kid's will be able to read aloud the Bible story for the day. Teacher's will have their own Teacher's Guide to prepare them and walk them through each lesson and provide craft ideas.
- **Video:** Watch about a 5 minute video supporting the lesson via DVD.
- **Activate Faith:** Get moving and become engaged in the story they just read by using their leaflets. These are a two page front-and-back leaflet that has Weekly Reader type of feel.
- **Send:** Finish with a closing activity and prayer
- **Follow-up at Home:** Each week families will get a sheet full of follow-up activities to reinforce the learning, including a prayer, crafts, service ideas – a variety of options

Here's a sneak peak:



Why choose Spark Lectionary?



Help kids learn at their level

Sunday school lessons connect kids with Bible stories heard in worship.



Focus on hands-on learning

Engage with the Bible story with lessons packed with activities, interactive games, and creative crafts.



Customize your leader content

Support and prepare your leaders and volunteers with detailed, customizable leader guides, lesson prep videos, and additional supplemental content.



Connect Sunday school to the church year

Extend worship to Sunday school with readings from the week's Revised Common Lectionary readings.

Please, Please Register for the Family Retreat if You're Going! – In order for us to provide interesting programming and a safe environment with the proper number of workers, we need to know the number and age of children and youth attending. It is extremely important that you register as soon as possible. Plans must be made, materials ordered, childcare providers scheduled and perhaps hired.

Please help us serve you by registering as soon as possible! As of right now we have 34 people registered.

[Register Here.](#)

Adult Community Groups

September is just around the corner when groups of all kinds will gear back up!

You can see all groups and request to join one – no pressure this just lets us include you in attendance and you can remove yourself anytime – in the Church Center App. You can click this link to take you there or follow these instructions later.

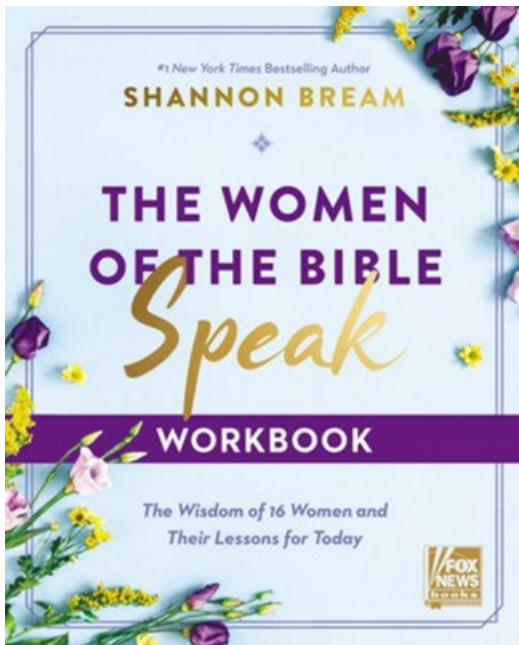
1. Open the app.
2. On your phone: Select the three dots in the bottom right.
 - a. On your computer: Select the More option in the top right.
3. Select Groups
 - a. The top groups listed are ones you have already joined.

- b. The groups listed below are ones you can join.
- c. You are welcome to vary the groups you attend, if they are offering a study that you'd enjoy. You may always add or remove yourself from a Group. Nothing personal, it's just for the sake of attendance!

Beyond the Word - Women's Bible Study, Thursdays, 10:00, Dining Room – Join now!

Lead by Grace Saylor and Becky Neely.

Starting back September 14th with a study entitled *The Women of the Bible Speak: The Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today*. Here's some more information!



Work out the practical and relational way in which each woman's story speaks for each of us today!

Based on the *New York Times* bestselling book *The Women of the Bible Speak*, learn to write your own story and journey of faith as you make the connections between God's specific attention to the female heart through a deeper, more personal connection to the women of the Bible.

In the sixteen lessons, you'll be challenged to consider the parallels between each woman's story and your own. You'll be asked to reflect on how God worked in their lives and how he's working in yours.

Each of the sixteen characters in the book will have a chapter in the workbook that will take the user through exercises such as:

- READ invites you to read key moments of each woman's life in the Bible and connect with her story.
- REFLECT provides an opportunity to identify specific character traits, responses to God, and acts of faith, as well as your similar traits, responses, and acts of faith.
- PRAY asks you to prayerfully consider how this woman's story ties into the work God is doing in your life right now.

Open Forum – Coed Adult, Sunday School, Parlor – Join now!

Lead by Grace Saylor and Clara Giles

Starting back September 10th with a 3-month series on love: Struggles with Love, Inclusive Love, and Godly Love among Believers.

(This is from the same publisher as what Pastor Dexter used this summer.)

Issues of Love, Gen. 37	Love and Devotion to Others, 1 Sam. 19	Loving by Serving, John 13
God Rewards Obedience, Gen. 41	Love Your Enemies, Luke 6	Abiding Love, John 15
Love Versus Guilt, Gen. 42	Loving Your Neighbor, Luke 10	Confident Love, 1 John 3
God's Plan Revealed, Gen. 43	Love Divine, I Cor. 12	Sharing Love

Prayer Concerns

Condolences

- To Trent Haston and all the friends and family of Reid Harley who are mourning his loss.
- To Elizabeth Hovis and all the family members and friends mourning the loss of John Hovis.
- To Natasha, Dorothy Sullivan, and family on the death of Dorothy's husband John.

Surgery

- Jonathan, Bruce and Sandra Doane's son, will not be able to donate part of his liver to his cousin because his cousin's failing health will require a full transplant.

Special, Congregational, and Community Concerns

- For Christians who are being persecuted around the world.
- For youth in all circumstances who are facing bullying.
- Admin and Personnel Team as they continue to lead our church.
- Agape Dental Ministry
- Kairos Prison Ministry: For those serving and the inmates, that they would know Jesus as their savior.
- Prayer for the current foster parents and pray that more foster parents come forward. There is a drastic shortage and such a strong need.

General Health Concerns:

- Paul Brenner, Gail Brenner's nephew, as he recovers from a stroke which particularly affected his eyesight. Paul is doing much better, and his eyesight is improving.
- Dan (wife Holly), who is a friend of Andrew – Steve & Gloria Smith's son. Dan has had a massive stroke and a surgeon has removed part of his skull to relieve pressure, but he is off the ventilator and is speaking softly.
- Pat McCorkle, David McCorkle's mom, has now been moved to Wellmore for rehab and is doing much better.
- Barbara Burns is improving but continues to need prayers.

Ongoing Illness

- Linda Neely is continuing to heal and can attend church more – so great to see you, Linda.
- Meg Salmon's dad has had a bump in improvement – praise the Lord.
- Cooper Freeman III has been diagnosed with kidney disease but is not scheduled for dialysis. He needs prayer for healing for his feet.
- John Williams, Mary Beth Monroe's brother-in-law, is on dialysis again and awaiting a match for a kidney transplant.

- Andy Griffith as he struggles with Cystic Fibrosis.
- Darrell Bonapart is a veteran, member of the American Legion, and friend of Bill Harraman. His wife has now been diagnosed with congestive heart failure, diabetes, nerve damage, and high blood pressure. He appreciates our prayers.
- Danita Hines, friend, and neighbor of Betty Small, who has 4 of 6 children in elementary school is back home from the hospital and is requiring extended family to come and help as her kidney and heart function decrease.
- Daniel Morris, a friend of Bruce Doane's diagnosed with Wegener's disease. There is no cure for this disease and will require lifetime treatment. Please pray also for his wife and two children.

Cancer

- Donna Garrison is doing well after her surgery and is continuing to heal.
- Dan Baird, Kate Lemond's co-worker's father, is now having more energy and will have another scan in September.
- Jim Conner, Becky Ennis' father, is coming to the end of his chemo treatment.
- Diana Hunter, pancreatic cancer, will need more chemo as the cancer has moved to other areas.
- Ruth McGaha is battling lung cancer and is really struggling; she may need to do another round of chemo.
- Terri Plotkin, Kelly Burkhart's best friend's mom, is not doing well on chemo treatment for Hodgkin Lymphoma.
- Larry Aaron, co-worker of Kate Lemond, asks for prayer for healing, a treatment plan, and understanding of the situation.
- Dave Prouty, a friend of the Morgan's, who is battling cancer. Please also pray for his wife and eleven-year-old twins.

Continuing Education Students

Parker Beachley	Sarah DeBerry	Erin Whitaker	Kelly Ferguson	Donald Horack
Leah Warnke	Connor McAliley	Melinda Moore	Regan Snyder	Andrew Tanner

Those Serving in the US Military



Lexie Simerly, U.S. Army, serving in South Korea and Brian Cox, U.S. Air Force, serving in Jordan. When we have someone serving outside of the U.S., we remember them, by lighting a candle, until they return. Please be in prayer for them.

Brian Cox – US Air Force, Jordan [Candle for Deployment]	Lexie Simerly – US Army – South Korea [Candle for Deployment]	Olivia Hommes – US Air Force Academy, Colorado
Will Warsaw – US Navy, Virginia	Gabe White – US Army – Fort Wainwright, Alaska	Bradley Lauerman, US Navy, Virginia



Joan Brown	Katharine Freeman	Louise Freeman	Hannah Mauer	Danny Martin
Joe Furr	Sammy Gatewood	Margaret Niell	Forest Nunnally	Elaine Kotraba
Mike Spratt	Margaret Wert	Gerry Roberts	Wayne Whiteside	
Lois Yandle	Joyce Carpenter	Dot Earp	Jimmy Earp	