

SEPTEMBER 2025

The Chimes

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PUYALLUP
412 W PIONEER, PUYALLUP, WA 98371

Trust in the Lord forever, for
the Lord, the Lord himself, is the
rock eternal.

ISAIAH 26:4

From Searching to Living: Joy in Action

By Katie Wolfe

At the start of this year, I felt called to make a shift—something quiet, but intentional. I deleted social media apps from my phone, set screen time limits, and cleared out content that wasn't feeding my spirit. My hope wasn't just to escape distraction, but to return more fully to the life right in front of me. I wanted to live in the moment, to notice the little things, and to make room for joy.

What began as a digital detox has turned into a deeper spiritual journey—one rooted in the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). With fewer online distractions, I began to see joy all around me.

And more than that—I began to practice it.

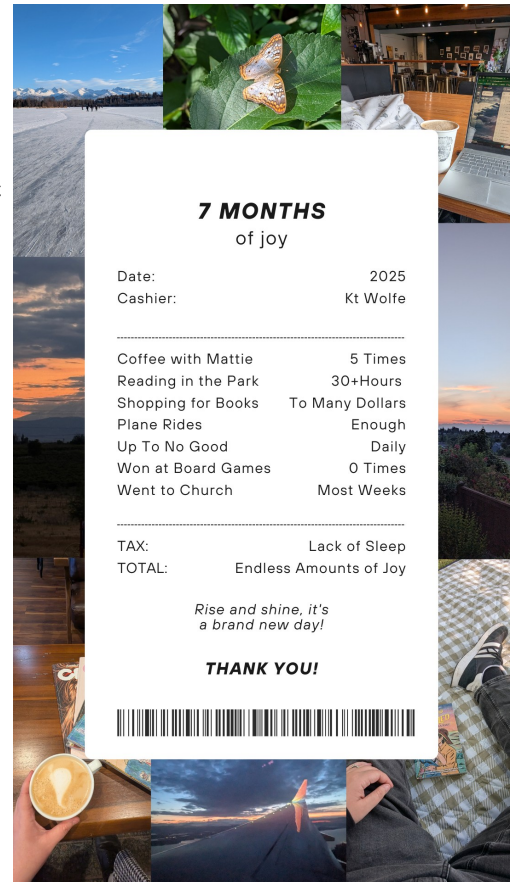
Joy, I've learned, is not just a feeling. It's an act of expression. In scripture, joy is something we share out loud: we shout for joy, sing with joy,

and rejoice in the Lord. Psalm 100 says:

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs... For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

This year, I started documenting joyful moments—small and large—as a way of practicing gratitude. Through this intentional focus on presence, I've found that joy can become a habit. It can shape your days, soften your spirit, and deepen your ability to love. The more I look for joy, the more I see the fingerprints of God—in nature, in friendships, in quiet moments, and in unexpected places.

I haven't perfected the fruits of the Spirit. But I'm learning what it means to live in them—not just to seek them, but to embody them. My prayer is that you, too, might find joy in the everyday, and feel God's presence growing in the ordinary moments of your life.



SCRIPTURE FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 7

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 1

Philemon 1:1-21

Luke 14:25-33

SEPTEMBER 14

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalms 51:1-10

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

SEPTEMBER 21

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

Amos 8:4-7

Psalms 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

SEPTEMBER 28

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:1-3a, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalms 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

Men's Breakfast

Join the men of First Pres every Third Saturday of the month for a time of fellowship. Featuring a new guest speaker each month. The next meeting is September 20th at 8 am. Our guest speaker will be Reverend Irvin Porter. The group meets at Crockett's in Puyallup. Each guest pays for their own check. See you there!

Presbyterian Women Day Circle

Join the women of First Pres every Third Thursday of the month for a time of fellowship. Together, we enjoy a lunch, sweet treats, a work through a bible study that, this year, focuses on Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ. The group meets in the Parlor at FPC at 12 pm.

Peace and Global Witness Offering

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace. The pursuit of peace in the name of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith—a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together.

Through participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God is with us... and God in Christ is with us through the Sacrament of Communion, celebrated on World Communion Sunday. We are not alone. Peace begins with each of us.

Personnel, Stewardship, and Finance

Fall is a time of new beginnings. Vacations are over, school is beginning, the fair is opening, the weather is changing and First Presbyterian Church is moving toward calling a new pastor. It is also Stewardship Campaign time at FPC. The theme is "Our Season of Change".

Because we are calling a new pastor, it is time to look at everything we do and ask ourselves what is it we want to keep doing? What do we want to let go of? What do we want to put a new spin on? What do we want to renew within our ministry? How do you connect Stewardship to your faith and participate in Christ's mission in Puyallup? What do you have to offer in the way of time, talent, and money to the ministries of FPC? The Stewardship Campaign will begin September 28, and our pledges will be dedicated on October 26th.

Please pray about your promise/commitment to the work ahead of us. The following scriptures may help you focus your prayers during "OUR SEASON OF CHANGE".

Matthew 6:31-32, Luke 12:10-21, Philippians 4:19 and Hebrews 13:5.

Faith in Action 2025

Save the dates – Saturday, October 4 and Sunday, October 5, 2025. We will be doing service projects for the people in our community, and beyond. Plans are being made now. There are five churches participating this year: First Presbyterian, Shepherd of the Hill, Peace Lutheran, Immanuel Lutheran and United Methodist church. Some of the items being planned are: cleaning up parking lots of area non-profit organizations, making personal care kits, and making Bags of Grace. On Sunday evening we will have worship and dinner together. This will be a great time to help our community and get to know our sisters and brothers in Christ. Questions? Concerns? Ask Phyllis or Pat.



Home Communion Servers Needed

There are many church members who are unable to make it to church on Sunday mornings. We want to ensure we are still serving these community members and one way we do this is through serving home communion. We are in need of additional servers– anyone can do this and it takes less than one hour per month. Contact Robbin to sign up– bobandrobbin@yahoo.com

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is starting back up this September, and we couldn't be more excited to gather together once again for study, discussion, and fellowship. This is a wonderful opportunity to dig deeper into God's Word, ask meaningful questions, and grow in faith alongside others. Whether you've been attending for years or are brand new, all are welcome to join as we explore scripture and how it speaks into our daily lives. Come ready to learn, share, and be encouraged as we begin this new season together.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat For Humanity (HFH) is a global non-profit Christian based ministry that provides new construction or renovates existing homes for families needing affordable, safe housing. The families must apply and meet qualifications and provide "sweat equity" on their home or the home of a HFH neighbor.

HFH provides a low move-in price because construction labor is volunteered. No formal training is necessary, the site supervisor will teach skills needed! You must be 16 years old and willing to follow directions of the site leader. HFH has "Women's Build"; "Veteran's Build"; "Building with Faith" as well as corporate sponsored build dates so you can join an already existing group and meet like-minded people!!



Christian Education Director

Katie Wolfe has been hired as the new Christian Education Director.

Her new duties will include: Children's Sunday School, High School Youth Group, and developing an Young Adult program. We are all excited for her.

Medical Equipment Closet

Did you know that our church has a closet with medical equipment that can be borrowed at no cost?!? Crutches, walkers, walking canes, bathtub seats and more!!! If you have an illness or accident requiring some temporary medical equipment you might ask a Deacon to see if there might be equipment that will help you get back on your feet.



Choir Practice– September 18th

Choir practice will begin again on Thursday, September 18th, at 6:30pm and we invite anyone with a love for music to join us! The choir is a vital part of our worship life, lifting voices in praise and helping to lead the congregation in song. Whether you've sung with us before or are considering joining for the first time, this is the perfect opportunity to come and be part

Youth Mission Trip Presentation

On Sunday, September 14th, our youth and leaders will be sharing a special presentation about their summer mission trip. This is a chance to hear firsthand stories, see photos, and learn about the meaningful work they participated in, as well as the ways God was at work through their experiences. The presentation will highlight not only the projects completed, but also the relationships built and the faith lessons carried home. All are invited to come, support our youth, and be inspired by the ways our church family is making a difference beyond our own community.



AS FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST WE

REACH UP TO GOD



**REACH INTO
HIS WORD**



**REACH OUT TO
LOVE AND SERVE**

