

Growing in Christ

October 2025

Reverend Joy Edeker

HELLO FRIENDS!

The weather is cooling down, but our church is getting warmed up to God's loving presence!



October 5th we will be back in the sanctuary on **World Communion Sunday** with a Pitch-in after the worship service hosted by the Deacons.

World Communion Sunday will be a beautiful time where we recognize and remember all the saints around the world who also celebrate Holy Communion. There will be special music including a piece played by Judy on our magnificent organ and a processional before the service.

At the end of the month, we will have **Trunk or Treat** again! Last year was awesome! We gave away a ton of candy (literally)! This year we will have even more candy and over **1000 glow-in-the-dark-bracelets** to hand out. Consider decorating your trunk and handing out candy or simply donate at least a couple bags of candy to our event. It was super fun, and we saw many great costumes!

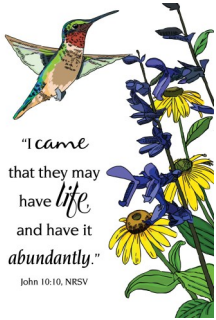


There are many people who wonder where God is today. I sometimes hear questions such as, "Why does

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Anderson Testament





God allow hunger? Why did my relative get cancer and die? What about all the violence in our world?

It's true that our world is not perfect by any means...but God is. In John 10:10, Jesus tells us that **"the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."**

Looking at the context in which this was written, Jesus is talking about being the gate to enter the kingdom of God and he also speaks of being the Good Shepherd. The thief is the devil or sinful nature of humankind. **God gave everybody free will.** Some people do not use their free will for good (as we all know). Also, one person's actions affect others so all sorts of crazy , unpleasant things happen in our lifetime.

We will someday see **"heaven on earth"** but not until the Lord Jesus Christ comes back to set things right. Until then, let's build our community through ***prayer, kindness, and having a gentle, welcoming spirit of love as Jesus has taught us.*** As your pastor, I can tell you that I see growth in our congregation. Growth in numbers coming every Sunday and spiritual growth. Trust God and Keep your faith alive because God is alive and well!

Blessings to you all, Pastor Joy



PASTOR JOY EDEKER

Jedeker@1stPresAnderson.org (515) 310-0354

STAFF

Senior Pastor Rev. Joy Edeker	
Music Coordinator Kirby Gilliam	
Pianist/Organist Judy Kimmer	
Office Administrator Julie Benagh	
Nursery Supervisor Courtney Bostic	
Director of Handbells Barbara Bowman	
Family Ministry Leaders Kirby Gilliam & April Groves	
Maintenance - Mike Schildmeier & Jim Marvell	
Financial Secretary Ken Wilkinson	

We’ve lost Ed Etchison

Long time member Edwin (Ed) Etchison passed away on Monday, September 1st. He was 96 years old!

Surviving him are his wife of nearly 75 years, Kathryn, son, John Edwin Etchison, and daughter Jill Etchison Stephenson.

The family plans a private celebration of life for him at a later date.

MEMORIALS IN HIS MEMORY

Charles & Nancy Johnson



OPERATION LOVE DESSERT EVENT



OPERATION LOVE
MINISTRIES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

5-8 PM at Freedom House Church, 6607 Providence Dr.

DINNER & PROGRAM, LIVE MUSIC, DESSERT AUCTION & SILENT AUCTIONS

GO TO OPERATIONLOVEMINISTRIES.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

WORLD COMMUNION AND ALL CHURCH PITCH-IN OCT 5th



Let us gather for **World Communion Sunday** on **Oct. 5th**. Remember, this is the Sunday to bring **non-perishable** canned or boxed food and paper products. These items will be dispersed to the needy in our community through **Operation Love**.



PLAN TO BRING A SIDE DISH AND STAY AFTER CHURCH ON SUNDAY, OCT 5TH, FOR A DELICIOUS PITCH-IN!

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES AND DEACONS WILL PROVIDE THE MAIN DISH (FRIED CHICKEN!) GREEN BEANS AND DRINKS, EVERYONE ELSE IS ASKED TO BRING A SIDE.

WE'LL BE EATING IN THE UPPER ROOM!

CHRISTIAN CENTER DONATION BOX

The Christian Center is hosting a *Come As You Are Revival*. They would like to hand out blankets, hats and gloves to members of the homeless community on Friday, October 10th.

There will be a donation box in the narthex to collect these items. Please consider bringing in blankets, hats and/or gloves for this event.



FINANCE 2025

August Receipts	\$8,093
<u>August Expenses</u>	<u>\$27, 913</u>
August Deficit	(\$19,820)
Year to date Receipts	\$38,400
<u>Year to date Expenses</u>	<u>\$73,354</u>
Year to date Deficit	(\$34,953)



This is the third month of our fiscal year. Our actual income is 3% higher than our budget and our expenses are 13% greater than what we had budgeted. On a monthly basis, we're looking much better; however, our yearly deficit is still a battle.

Blessings to all, **Dick Wohlberg, Finance Chair**

MONTHLY MEETINGS



A Bible Study group meets on **Sunday evenings**
@ 5:00 at **Ryan & Courtney Babb's home**. All are
welcome!

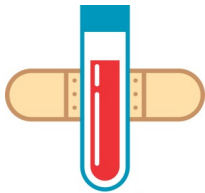
Women's Presby Chix will meet for lunch at **1925 Pub**
on Thursday, October 9th, 11:30 AM. **Note the change of location!**

Men's Presby Pride Breakfast will meet at **Frisch's** on
Saturday, October 18th, 9 AM.

A group meets in **The Quilting Room upstairs** on the first Saturday of the
month for **crafting & quilting** from 10-3! **Oct. 4th** is the day!

On Friday, Oct 17th, there will be a scissor sharpener attending the
Quilting Retreat. Price is \$10 dollars a pair.

BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE



**BLOOD
DRIVE**

Thanks to all who donated blood or tried to donate on Tuesday, September 16th. **28 people** signed up to donate and **25 units** of blood were actually received!

Thank you from the Deacons!

SAVE A LIFE - GIVE BLOOD

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

On **Sunday, November 2nd**, we will have a **Service of Remembrance** to honor and remember the First Presbyterian Saints who have passed away since last year's service.

They are: **Chuck James**
Dr. Frank Beeler
Sandra Summers
Edwin Etchison
Mary Alice Carrell

September 30th, 2024
October 30th, 2024
January 11th, 2025
September 1st, 2025
September 20th, 2025



COMMEMORATION
of the

**FAITHFUL
DEPARTED**

TRUNK-or-TREAT RETURNS

Join the fun! All are invited to pass out candy from the trunk of their cars this Halloween night. Monetary donations are also welcomed to buy candy!

Friday, October 31st

5:30 PM until ??? (when the candy runs out)

8th Street Church parking lot

Bring your kids, grandkids, friends and neighbors!

trunk **OR**
TREAT

10/2 Steve Perry

10/4 Bill Beeler

10/9 Barbara Perry, Dick Wohlberg

10/15 Dr. Bill Abell

10/17 Lauren Beeler Stapleton

10/18 Linda Cowger

10/19 Daniel Erwin

10/21 Marcia Fites

10/25 Maxine Renderos, Carol Schrope Scott

10/26 David Mishler

10/30 Nancy Ohlheiser, Ken Wilkinson

BIRTHDAYS



ANNIVERSARIES 2025



Susie and Dave Huff, 48 years, 10/8

Michael and Kay Day, 33 years, 10/10

Joy & Todd Edeker, 4 years, 10/16

Art & Lesley Henning, 23 years, 10/26

WE WISH YOU MANY MORE HAPPY YEARS!

Newsletter Guidelines

- Deadline is the **25th** of each month.
- Complete the Newsletter form and place it in the church office, directly in Julie Benagh's mailbox in the Conference Room OR -

e-mail to Julie at

1stPres@1stPresAnderson.org.



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Church Anderson

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Dates to Remember:

**10/02 OPERATION LOVE DESSERT
EVENT**

**10/4 CRAFT/QUILT DAY @ CRAFT
ROOM UPSTAIRS**

**10/5 WORLD COMMUNION/PITCH-IN
AFTER CHURCH**

**10/09 PRESBY CHIX LUNCHEON,
11:30 AM AT 1925 PUB AT GRANDVIEW**

10/18 PRESBY PRIDE @ FRISCH'S, 9 AM

10/31 TRUNK 'N TREAT @ 8TH ST LOT

MEMORIAL FOR CURTIS CARRELL

Charles & Nancy Johnson

People to Watch for in October

Serving Communion on **World Communion** Sunday, October 5th @
10 AM are **Dick Wohlberg & Rev. Joy Edeker**

Your Head Ushers are **Pam Warner & Jane Ford.**

Coffee Time at 9:30 will be hosted by **Your Deacons.**



SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**10 AM — Worship Service in the Sanctuary &
Live Streamed on YouTube**

www.youtube.com/channel/UC6pkaIwniMr5yyTQhYbuIg