



New Beginnings

As I write this, I am preparing to go on a professional and spiritual development retreat. Every year, I spend about ten days in Colorado, totally unplugged, surrounded by God's Creation. This trip is essential to my mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. It is a time of renewal for me.

We all need a way to clear out the old and start anew. A way to come to terms with the successes, failures, and shortcomings of the past so that we can move confidently into the future. For me, elk hunting is the key. Other people take a family vacation to a far-off place, or go to a retreat house, or whatever.

This is an appropriate time to reflect on the past and commit to the future. Our liturgical year ends on Christ the King Sunday, November 23, when we celebrate Christ's reign over our lives, our church, the Church Universal, and all Creation. Coincidentally, we will be electing new officers the preceding Sunday, November 16. Right after the end of the liturgical year, we Americans have a day dedicated to giving thanks—to God and to one another. Then a new liturgical year begins with the start of Advent on November 30.

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla is also moving into a new season of its life. As previously announced, I will be stepping away from leadership so that I can focus on a different ministry within the context of LGBTQ+ Rolla. If all goes well, Susan Murray will be stepping up into the role of spiritual leader. We are embarking on a joint music ministry with First United Methodist Church of Rolla, which will include a joint cantata on December 14. Presbyterian Preschool continues to change and grow in the way that it serves the children of Rolla. We have constituted a Way Forward committee to consider our future and ways to maintain viability.

May God bless each of you as you reflect on how Christ's reign has been manifested in your life and in the life of our church, and as you prepare for Christ's coming once again to be born into this life of sin and death that he WILL conquer. And may God guide us as a congregation as we seek God's will in all that we do as faithful participants in the flourishing of God's kingdom here in Rolla and throughout the world. Amen.

Jonathan Kimball, CRE

Music & Worship Committee

Welcome to fall and the time of back-to-back celebrations. Sunday October 4 we celebrated World Communion with music and liturgy emphasizing our oneness with all of Christ's Kingdom and our efforts to make peace in our community and world. November 2 we will celebrate All Saint's Day and will read the names of our members who have passed into glory since last All Saints' Day.

Pam Cottingham 11/202/24

Lucy Greig 12/27/24

Lee Malone 12/28/24

George Zobrist 02/02/25

Bob Yenzler 03/08/25

Bob Anderson 03/29/25

Ruby Malone 04/21/25

Janet Brown 08/09/25

Then we join with family to thank God for all our blessings on November 27. Advent starts on November 30th, and we spend four weeks anticipating the celebration of the Incarnation, the Birth of Jesus. The Christmas Cantata is scheduled for December 14 so make sure to join us for that special event. Rehearsal for the cantata will start in a few weeks. And thank Jeff for his work on the Cantata, all service music, and our liturgy,

Worship and Music would like your input on all aspects of worship. Our new goal will be to help create a better image for the projected images and words every Sunday.

Please contact Mary Kwantes (Chair) Ming Leu (Worship Leaders) Kristen Gutches (Production Booth) and Jonathan Kimball (CRE and technology coordinator)

Blessings to your family in the coming months.

Administrative Committee

We are still collecting the per capita cost assigned by the John Calvin Presbytery for 2025

\$42 per member:

- General Assembly: \$10.84
- Synod of Mid-America: \$3.15
- John Calvin Presbytery: \$28.01

Please include "per capita" in the memo line when contributing to ensure these funds apply to the church's per capita expenses.

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who has continued their monthly contributions during this challenging financial season. Your generosity has made a meaningful impact, and we're especially grateful to a few that were able to increase their pledges and donations.

As we look ahead, we respectfully ask each of you to consider the importance of sustaining the church through regular giving. Contributions have been lower than needed, and every donation—big or small—helps us continue the work we're called to do and maintain the spaces we all cherish. The church would like to complete the giving books by December 12th, 2025. The pledge cards for 2026 will need to be completed for 2026 Consecration Sunday December 07, 2026. Members will be receiving pledge letters soon.

Thank you for the faith, care, and prayer you bring to our church. Together, we're building something enduring.

Thank You,
The Administrative Committee

Preschool News

☀️ Big Changes and Big Thanks from Presbyterian Preschool!



As the sunshine days of summer turn into cozy fall fun, we want to say a **BIG thank you** to our wonderful church family! Because of your support, we've been able to grow even more by moving our office into the space that used to be the library.

A special **thank you** goes to **Mary Kwantes** for all her hard work sorting and moving books — you are amazing! 📚👉

This exciting change means we can open **two brand-new classrooms**, making room for about **10-12 more little learners!** Our community really needs these extra spots, and we're so happy to help more children learn, play, and grow.

We'd love for our church friends to **stop by and see** all the new things happening at Presbyterian Preschool.

Take a peek below to see some **smiley faces, silly moments, and wonderful adventures** from the past couple of months! 🌈🌟



Rolla Public Library reading to our friends!



City of Rolla Fire Dept teaching fire safety and fire truck tours!





On the walls of the building you will see some weekly artist showcased!



We proudly hosted our 3rd Annual Fall Festival in partnership with Greentree Childcare! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated, set up, served, and helped with cleanup — your support made this event a tremendous success! 🍁🎉



*Birthday
Wishes*



October

6th Judy Fox

November

Susan Bowles 10th

Jeff Sandquist 14th

Bill Neely 17th

Chuck Bennett 23rd

Janice Zanders 27th

December

Bill Morgan 6th

Prayer Request



Connie & Bob Dewitt

Bill Neely

Britt Whitaker

Mark Calvert

Polly Scott-Showalter

Please pray for those named and their families as well as their caregivers. The prayer request will start over every two months. If you have someone that needs put on or taken off the list, Please contact Katie in the office.