JOHN CALVIN Presbytery

JCP Notices

September 24, 2026

In this issue:

Disaster Bucket Items Needed!
First Presbyterian Church - Aurora, MO
Boundaries Training - Westminster REGISTER HERE!
Final Boundaries Training - FPC Joplin REGISTER HERE!
Cybersecurity Training - Zoom
Presbyterian Leadership Development and Officer Training
4th Sunday Worship - Bill Havens
Leader Formation Training
World Communion Offering Grant Program
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services Luncheon
Stewardship Spotlight -Gratitude for God's Gifts
Save the Date - November Presbytery Meeting
Save the Date - Synod Leadership Summit
Book of Order Amendments Webinar

Click HERE for last week's

notices.

Disaster Bucket Items Needed!

Hillcrest will receive disaster buckets and deliver them to Ferncliff camp in Arkansas. If your church will assemble buckets, please arrange to deliver them to Hillcrest by November 1. The list of the items for all the kits can be found below or at https://pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/how-help/act/gift-heart-kits, including cleanup buckets.

Contact Jack Cormack at Bsfarm.jc@gmail.com to arrange a time to bring your items.:
Hillcrest Presbyterian Church

818 E. Norton, Springfield, MO.

Emergency Cleanup Bucket

- One 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid (If reused, please scrub clean. Do not use a bucket that has held chemicals of any kind. No screw lid. Brand labels on the outside acceptable.)
- Five scouring pads (No stainless steel or pads with soap in them. Remove from packaging.)
- Seven sponges, including one large
- One scrub brush (With or without handle.)
- 18 reusable, lightweight multipurpose cleaning towels (Not paper towels. Remove from packaging.)
- One 16-34 oz. bottle of liquid dish soap (antibacterial preferred)
- One 12-40 oz. bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner that can be mixed with water (No spray bottles.)
- One 50-100 ft. clothesline (Cotton or plastic line.)
- Five dust masks (N95 particulate respirator dust masks preferred; No surgical masks.)
- Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free preferred. Durable for multiple-use. Remove from packaging.)
- One pair of heavy-duty, reusable work gloves (Such as Nitrile, cotton with leather palm, or all leather)
- 20-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll (Remove from packaging.)

Value: $75
Processing Fee: $3 per bucket

First Presbyterian Church - Aurora, MO

4 East College
Ash Grove, MO 65604

We ask that over the next week you pray for our fellow Presbyterians at First Presbyterian Church in Aurora, MO

Please remember Aurora and their members this week.

FINAL TWO BOUNDARIES TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES!!

Click the link below to register.

Westminster - Springfield, Sept 30th	**Final Training - FPC Joplin, Oct 6th**

Click Flyer to Register NOW

Secure Your Digital World

JOHN CALVIN Presbytery

Thomas Walters is a City Planner for the City of Joplin and an elder at FPC Joplin

No amount of added technology or security software can compensate for your organization's vulnerability created by unknowing accomplices within your organization. Know before you click, or respond by learning what to look for to identify malicious actors and messages meant to compromise your organizations information.

Please Join our Zoom Training

When: Oct 6 @ 6pm

Zoom Link TBD

4th Sunday Worship

Hello Preachers.
The "4th Sunday" worship information for September 27 is below. The video links will be sent on or before September 23.

Title: The Vashti

Scripture(s): Esther 1:2-5, 7, 9-21

Preacher: Rev. Bill Havens

Bio:
The Rev. Bill Havens attended Columbia seminary and served in Arkansas and

Texas before serving in John Calvin Presbytery, where he pastored churches, even in retirement. Bill is honorably retired and says this was his final sermon.

PC(USA) Leader Formation: Investing in Ruling Elders and Deacons

World Communion Offering Grant Program

Supporting ministries of reconciliation, justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement.

The World Communion Offering Grant program helps eligible PC(USA) councils of the church strengthen

local mission and ministry connected to the causes supported by the World Communion Offering. These grants are designed to encourage faithful, practical work that builds reconciliation, advances justice, supports peacemaking, nurtures global witness, and deepens ecumenical and interfaith relationships.

APPLY TODAY

John Calvin Presbytery friends,

I am grateful for your continuing support of the work of PCHAS, caring for children and families among us in their time of great need. Guided by Christ's love, we endeavor to serve like Jesus, empowering children, young adults, and families while treating them with respect and compassion.

Our annual benefit luncheon is free to attend and offers a great opportunity to introduce friends to our ministry. You will hear personal stories from our Child and Family Specialist and her client's mother that will move your heart. We always conclude with an opportunity to join us in support of PCHAS that is low key. Giving is always voluntary.

Register online now using the QR code on the invitation or contact me by email or phone. Registration closes September 25th to allow time for final meal preparations. I hope to see you at Fremont Hills Country Club on October 1st!

Blessings,
Kenn Tilus
PCHAS Development Officer

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Gratitude for God's Gifts

At our house we have parented two sons. The older, named Preston, was wiry, muscular, with good nutrition, a delightful personality, and a strong work ethic, but he died unexpectedly at age 32**.**

When he was a boy, my handle for him was “Joy Boy” and he certainly lived up to it. It was a joy to parent him through each of the stages of his life. Naturally, his death brought great grief, and those Joy Boy memories became precious treasures.

Part of the joy now is also celebrating the gift of his life. And since that gift came to me, I know that I am steward. All life is gift—to be received, and participated in, and handled with gratitude. Preston ‘s life was a gift that I neither earned or deserved nor had a right to.

When I remember that the appropriate response to any gift is gratitude, then I am better able to thank God that I was ever given him in the first place. And I know that my wife and I are not the only parents that child had.

We were stewards of his life for a time, but he rested in the heavenly Father’s arms far more secretly than he ever could in mine. In focusing on the wonder that he was given at all, I can be grateful that we shared life together, even for years too short.

One of the greatest things we can do for each other is to serve as reminders that all life is gift—every particle of it, as well as all the stuff we claim to own—and the proper response to any gift is to be grateful to the giver.

We are stewards.
-Bill Havens

Click HERE to see past columns

JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 2026

Save the Date

DUE TO THE HOME FOOTBALL GAME AT PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY, LODGING IN PITTSBURG WILL BE SCARCE AND COSTLY. IF YOU PLAN TO RESERVE LODGING FOR YOURSELF CLOSER TO PITTSBURG, WE SUGGEST DOING THAT NOW. THE PRESBYTERY STAFF IS WORKING ON A GROUP BLOCK. MORE INFORMATION NEXT WEEK.

Book of Order Amendments Webinar

"How Should I Vote? This year's proposed Book of Order amendments"
October 22, 2026 at 6:00 PM via Zoom
Facilitators: Rev. Brian Ellison, Synod Stated Clerk
Rev. Dr. Deborah Boucher-Payne, Synod Executive

This webinar will review the proposed amendments to the Book of Order, providing background and context as presbyteries prepare to vote on these recommendations from the 227th General Assembly. To attend please email your name and presbytery to **office@synodma.org**.

Prayers Requested

Charles Spencer had a heart attack. Please remember him in prayer for rest and healing. Please pray for Malinda as she helps him through this time.

Our churches seeking a new pastor, to understand God's call moving forward.

First Presbyterian Church, Aurora, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Carthage, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Chanute, KS

Crane Presbyterian Church, Crane, Missouri

Federated Presbyterian Church, Erie, KS

Hampton Presbyterian Church, Everton, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Scott, KS

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church @Hideaway, Galena, Missouri

Ozark Prairie Presbyterian Church, Mt. Vernon, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Mountain View, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Nevada, MO

Ozark Presbyterian Church, Ozark, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Sarcoxie, MO

First Presbyterian Church, Scammon, MO

Willard Mt. Zion Presbyterian, Willard, MO

Willow Springs Presbyterian Church

Administrative Commissions for Pittsburg and Neosho

**Prayer submissions will remain on the prayer list for two weeks,
unless an update is received.
To submit a prayer request, please email cia@jcpresbytery.com**

IMPORTANT LINKS

Receive Special JCP Communication Emails

Financial Information: 2026 Budget, Salary, Pulpit Supply, Per Capita

2026 Reports (Minister, Session, TOC)

Archived Notices

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