



The Messenger

Perseverance Christian Church Newsletter
Celebrating 198 Years of Ministry

October 2026

From the Pastor

When Jesus walked into the Temple in Matthew 21, the elders and chief priests rushed toward Him demanding to know by what authority He taught. Their question wasn't really about truth — it was about control. And that tension between God's authority and our desire to keep things just the way we like them is as old as faith itself. I'm reminded of the old story about a new pastor in Kentucky who preached boldly against drinking, gambling, and tobacco — only to have the elders pull him aside each week and say, "Pastor, you can't preach against that... it supports our families!" Finally, exasperated, he asked, "Well then, what *can* I preach on?" They answered, "Voodoo. We don't care anything about voodoo."

It's funny — but it's also familiar. We all have places in our lives and in our churches where we'd rather Jesus not rearrange anything.

Jesus faced that same resistance. The elders questioned His authority, not because He lacked it, but because His teaching disrupted their carefully arranged systems. His authority didn't come from a badge, a title, or a committee. It came from the Father — from truth — from the Spirit.

There's a scene in *The Accidental Tourist* where Rose keeps her kitchen cabinet arranged "just so." It's her safe place. Her sanctuary. And when someone moves something, she bristles. Many of us have a "Rose cabinet" in our spiritual lives — a part of our faith we keep tightly organized because it feels familiar and safe.

But Jesus loves us too much to leave our cabinets untouched. He gently says, "This needs to move. This needs to open. This needs to change." Not to control us — but to free us.

Even the Sanhedrin struggled with this. In Acts 5, Rabbi Gamaliel warned them not to fight against what God might be doing through Jesus and the apostles. "If this movement is from God," he said, "you will not be able to stop it." Deep down, they knew he was right — but fear kept their hands clenched. Sometimes we leave church thinking growth is impossible, or that people are too distracted for God to move. But Jesus asks us to look at our own hands. Are we gripping our plans, our preferences, our comfort — or are we open to God's will?

In our baptism vows, we promise to follow Jesus — not our own agendas. Micah reminds us what that looks like: **to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.** When we acknowledge Jesus' authority not just with our lips but with our decisions, our service, and our compassion, the church becomes exactly what He intended: A place where the hurting find help, the wandering find welcome, and the flailing find family.

May we be those people. May we open the cabinets of our lives — and our church — and let Jesus place everything where it belongs. May God's will be done in us and among us.

In Hope,
Rev. Webster

PRAYER LIST

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you fulfill the law of Christ." — Galatians 6:2

Virginia Matthews
Danny and Edna Moore
Curtis Craft
Kathy Pegram,
Wayne Parrish
Jane Browder
Johnny Moore
Beverly Hite
Sue Perkins
Elsie Almand
Pamela James,
John Ragsdale
Richard Maddox
Rose Jenkins
Blair Liggett
C.H. Hall
Frank Barnes
Bill Gary
Steven Lucy
Charles Hudson, Jr.
Jacob Hayer
Laura Jones
Doris Wallace, Soldiers (VA National Guard) getting deployed this month and prayers for their family, Reggie Callis, Jim Atkinson, Vicki Bridgeman, Craig Stewart. Family of Barbara Hawthorne, Sam Shaw, and Norma Berthiaume.



"I'm not real comfortable with using these as offering plates during our harvest celebration service."

October 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Board Meeting @ 7	2	3
4 SS @ 10— CYBERSECURITY Worship @11 World Communion Sunday Reconciliation Offering Choir Practice @ 6	5	6	7 Bible Study 6:30	8	9 Work Weekend at Craig Springs	10 Work Weekend at Craig Springs Ruritan Sheep Stew
11 Work Weekend at Craig Springs SS @ 10 Worship @11 Choir Practice @ 6	12 Columbus Day	13	14 Bible Study 6:30	15	16	17
18 SS @ 10 Worship @11 Choir Practice @ 6	19	20	21 Bible Study 6:30	22	23	24
25 SS @ 10 Worship @11 Choir Practice @ 6	26	27	28 Bible Study 6:30	29	30	31 Halloween



October 3-Hayley Daniel
 October 6-Connie Wilkinson
 October 10-Colin Dalton
 October 11- Normadelle Wilkinson
 October 12-Scott Hankley
 October 16-Blake Franklin
 October 17-Connie Perkins
 October 18-Alexa Thompson
 October 19-Patrick Robbins,
 Doc Smithson
 October 20-Jacob Hinkle
 October 21-Dr. John Anderson
 October 22-Betty Shell
 October 23-Vayda Tarleton
 October 26-Sonny (George) Reese
 October 27-Phil Pegram
 October 28-Tyler Parrish
 October 29-Roger Greene
 October 30-Jeff Parrish, Ricky Greene

Take the One Year Challenge!

October Reading Plan

October 1 — 2 Kings 24
 October 2 — 2 Kings 25
 October 3 — 1 Chronicles 1
 October 4 — 1 Chronicles 2
 October 5 — 1 Chronicles 3
 October 6 — 1 Chronicles 4
 October 7 — 1 Chronicles 5
 October 8 — 1 Chronicles 6
 October 9 — 1 Chronicles 7
 October 10 — 1 Chronicles 8
 October 11 — 1 Chronicles 9
 October 12 — 1 Chronicles 10
 October 13 — 1 Chronicles 11
 October 14 — 1 Chronicles 12
 October 15 — 1 Chronicles 13
 October 16 — 1 Chronicles 14
 October 17 — 1 Chronicles 15
 October 18 — 1 Chronicles 16
 October 19 — 1 Chronicles 17
 October 20 — 1 Chronicles 18
 October 21 — 1 Chronicles 19
 October 22 — 1 Chronicles 20
 October 23 — 1 Chronicles 21
 October 24 — 1 Chronicles 22
 October 25 — 1 Chronicles 23
 October 26 — 1 Chronicles 24
 October 27 — 1 Chronicles 25
 October 28 — 1 Chronicles 26
 October 29 — 1 Chronicles 27
 October 30 — 1 Chronicles 28
 October 31 — 1 Chronicles 29

Give Thanks with Music



Music is one way to give thanks to God. Make these simple instruments to accompany your singing!

What you need:

- 3 small coffee cans with lids
- 1/2 cup dry pinto beans
- 1/2 cup unpopped popcorn
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice
- Heavy-duty tape
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons for decorating



What you do:

1. Put the beans in one can, the popcorn in another, and the rice in the third.
2. Secure the lids and tape around the rims.
3. Cover the cans with construction paper and glue it in place.
4. Decorate the cans with markers or crayons.
5. Shake the cans to hear the different sounds, then use them to make joyful music for the Lord!



In October, pray for...

October 1 — Psalm 46:
 1 October 2 — Isaiah 26:3
 October 3 — Philippians 4:6-7
 October 4 — Psalm 90:12
 October 5 — James 1:5
 October 6 — Psalm 34:18
 October 7 — Romans 12:12
 October 8 — Micah 6:8
 October 9 — Galatians 6:9
 October 10 — Psalm 121:1-2
 October 11 — Matthew 5:16
 October 12 — Colossians 3:12
 October 13 — Psalm 19:14
 October 14 — Romans 15:13
 October 15 — 2 Corinthians 1:3-4
 October 16 — Psalm 37:5
 October 17 — John 14:27
 October 18 — Hebrews 10:24
 October 19 — Psalm 23:1-3
 October 20 — Ephesians 4:32
 October 21 — Proverbs 3:5-6
 October 22 — Romans 12:2
 October 23 — Psalm 139:23-24
 October 24 — Matthew 11:28
 October 25 — 1 Thessalonians 5:11
 October 26 — Psalm 145:18
 October 27 — Galatians 5:22-23
 October 28 — Isaiah 40:31
 October 29 — Psalm 16:11
 October 30 — Acts 4:31
 October 31 — Hebrews 6:19





The Messenger
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Perseverance Christian Church

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Ray Covington

Edward and Carole Wagaman
Ronnie and Yvonne Moore

In Memory of Edward Almand

Sharon Lyles
Emory and Kristen Hodges
Mary Balarzs

In Memory of Fred Balarzs

Mary Balarzs

If you would like to send an offering to Perseverance, please send it to Perseverance
Christian Church, P.O. Box 157, Dundas, VA 23938. or give online at
[Perseverance Christian Church's website](#)