

# **THE PRESBYTERIAN PRESS**

The monthly newsletter of West Point  
Presbyterian Church

July 2026



EST. 1837

*WELCOME: Grace and peace  
to you in the name of Jesus  
Christ.*

*At WPPC, we are Seeking,  
Serving, and Sharing...*

*Seeking...to Nurture  
Lifelong Christian  
Disciples.*

West Point Presbyterian  
Church 1002 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue West  
Point, Georgia 31833  
Phone 706.443.2260



*Serving...the  
Congregation, Community  
& World in the Name of  
Jesus Christ.*

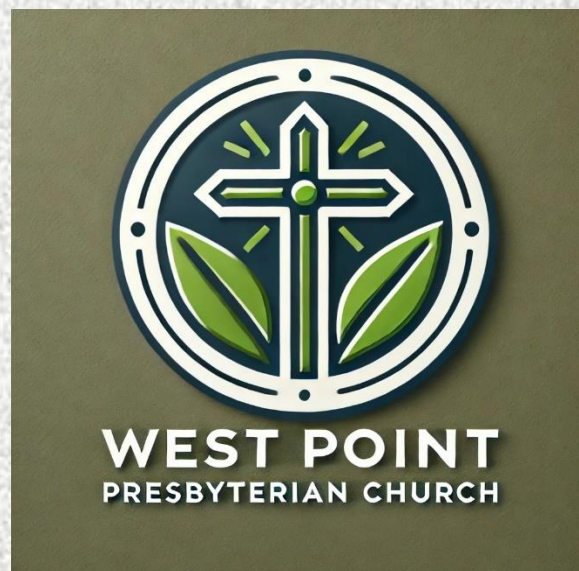
*Sharing...God's Love in the  
Reformed Tradition*

[wppc@knology.net](mailto:wppc@knology.net)

[www.westpointpresbyterian.com](http://www.westpointpresbyterian.com)

[www.facebook.com/westpointpres](https://www.facebook.com/westpointpres)

[www.twitter.com/WestPointPresb1](https://www.twitter.com/WestPointPresb1)



|                                                                      |               |               |                                     |                                                                                            |                              |                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <div> <div>July</div> <div>2026</div> </div>                         |               |               |                                     | <div>West Point Presbyterian Church</div> <div>Calendar</div>                              |                              |                                          |
| Liturgist-Tammy Ledbetter                                            |               |               |                                     | Head Usher-OPEN                                                                            |                              |                                          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Host -The Heath Family                        |               |               |                                     | Women's Ministry: <b>Ticonderoga pencils</b><br>Operation Christmas Child; School Supplies |                              |                                          |
| Sunday                                                               | Monday        | Tuesday       | Wednesday                           | Thursday                                                                                   | Friday                       | Saturday                                 |
|                                                                      |               |               | <div>1</div> <div>Lions Club</div>  | <div>2</div>                                                                               | <div>3</div> <div>LEO</div>  | <div>4</div> <div>Independence Day</div> |
| <div>5</div> <div>Unity Sunday @WPPC 10:30 am</div>                  | <div>6</div>  | <div>7</div>  | <div>8</div>                        | <div>9</div>                                                                               | <div>10</div> <div>LEO</div> | <div>11</div>                            |
|                                                                      |               |               |                                     |                                                                                            |                              |                                          |
| <div>12</div>                                                        | <div>13</div> | <div>14</div> | <div>15</div> <div>Lions Club</div> | <div>16</div>                                                                              | <div>17</div> <div>LEO</div> | <div>18</div>                            |
|                                                                      |               |               |                                     |                                                                                            |                              |                                          |
| <div>19</div>                                                        | <div>20</div> | <div>21</div> | <div>22</div>                       | <div>23</div>                                                                              | <div>24</div> <div>LEO</div> | <div>25</div>                            |
|                                                                      |               |               |                                     |                                                                                            |                              |                                          |
| <div>26</div> <div>Americans with Disabilities Act Anniversary</div> | <div>27</div> | <div>28</div> | <div>29</div>                       | <div>30</div>                                                                              | <div>31</div> <div>LEO</div> |                                          |

# Pastor's Message

By Rev Jerry Ledbetter.....

## The Freedom of Dependence

**“So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” — John 8:36 (NIV)**

Our culture celebrates independence. From an early age we are taught to stand on our own two feet, depend on no one, and make our own way. While personal responsibility is a virtue, spiritual independence is a deadly illusion.

The great paradox of the Christian life is this: **the more dependent we become on Christ, the freer we become.**

Jesus never intended His disciples to live independently of Him. He said, *“Apart from me you can do nothing”* (John 15:5). At first, those words may sound restrictive. In reality, they are liberating. Christ does not expose our weakness to shame us; He reveals it so that we will rest in His inexhaustible strength.

Sin enslaves us by convincing us that we can live without God. It whispers, “You are enough.” The gospel gently but firmly declares something better: “Christ is enough.”

When we stop striving to control every circumstance, earn God’s acceptance, or secure our future through our own wisdom, we discover an extraordinary peace. The burden of self-reliance falls away. We no longer have to be our own savior because we have a perfect Savior.

The Apostle Paul learned this lesson through suffering. After pleading for the removal of his “thorn in the flesh,” Christ answered:

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Paul’s response is remarkable. Rather than lamenting his weakness, he embraced it because it drove him into deeper dependence upon Christ. What appeared to be weakness became the pathway to true strength.

Charles Spurgeon captured this truth beautifully:

“Depend upon it, God’s work done in God’s way will never lack God’s supply.”

Likewise, the Heidelberg Catechism begins by reminding believers that **our only comfort is that we are not our own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ**. There is profound freedom in belonging to Him. We are no longer captive to our performance, our fears, or our failures. We are securely held by the One who neither slumbers nor sleeps.

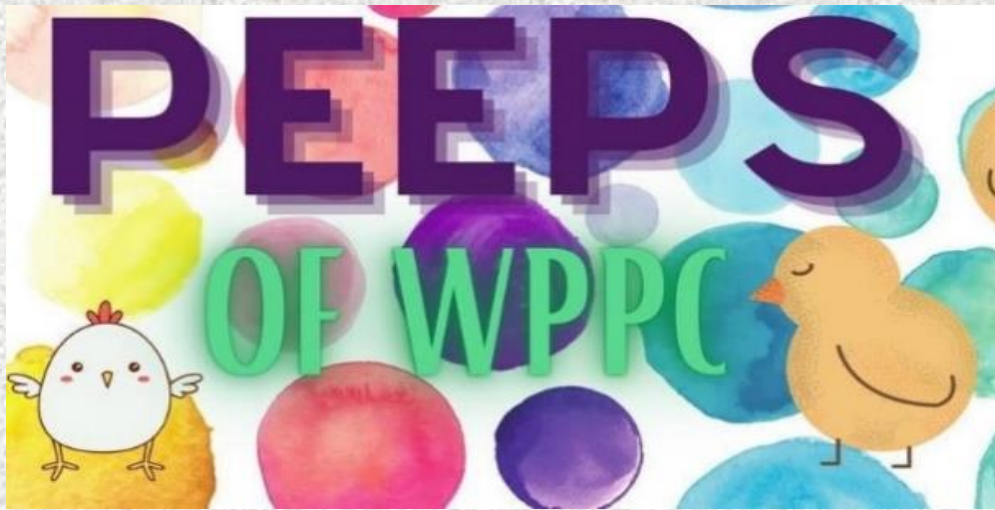
The world says freedom comes through self-sufficiency. Christ says freedom comes through abiding in Him.

Like a branch attached to the vine, we flourish not by independence but by connection. The branch is never freer than when it draws life from the vine. Cut off from the vine, it withers. United to the vine, it bears abundant fruit.

So this month, as we revel in our Independence as Americans (and rightfully so!), do not mistake dependence for weakness. Dependence upon Christ is the very essence of spiritual freedom. Every prayer whispered, every burden surrendered, every act of trust is another chain broken from the tyranny of self.

The Christian is freest not when he says, “I can handle this,” but when he says, “**Lord, I need You.**”

~Jerry

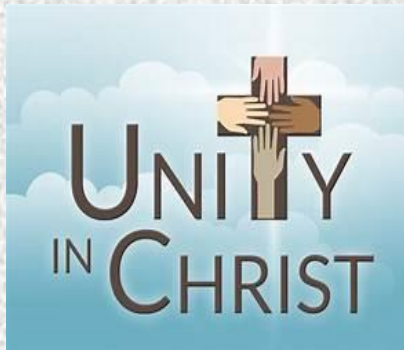


We read a children's bible story and we do bible related colorings, and crafts, and play bible games.

Sunday school 10:00 am-10:50 am

Children's Church 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

# Church Life Events



Our next unity service with First Baptist of West Point is July 5th. We will meet at WPPC @ 10:30.



July 9th is our next Session Meeting.



Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to noon, Eastern time.

706-443-2260



**West Point Presbyterian Church and First Baptist Church  
of West Point Supper Club NEWS!**

**Supper Club is now on Hiatus for the  
Summer, we will resume having Supper  
Club in the Fall.**

**Please let Lori Heath know if you have  
idea's about places we can try.**

**Until September.....:)**



## Presbyterian/Baptist Women

Open to everyone from West Point Presbyterian Church, and First Baptist Church of West Point, who wish to attend. Please come and join us as we work towards combined ministries to serve our communities.

We met at WPPC May 31<sup>st</sup> for a lite potluck dinner, and fellowship.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter mission project will be focused on providing Ticonderoga pencils (this is the preferred brand), for West Point Elementary School classrooms. This will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>. Once again Lachelle will doing the buying if

you want to give cash instead of shopping. This will run July through September.

Operation Christmas Child. This is a project that we helped FBCWP with last year, and we have been invited to join them as they collect items monthly for the boxes. In this way we can spread the expenses throughout the year. We thank everyone for their generosity.

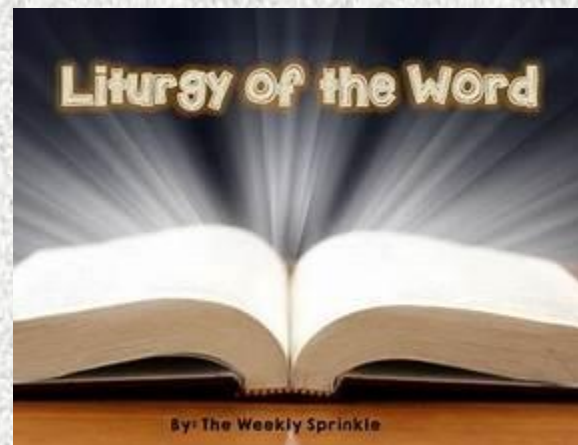
If you would like to join us in our monthly collection, the month of July is dedicated to School Supplies such as pencils, pens, solar calculators, erasers, pencil pouches, etc. There is a box in the back of the Sanctuary where you can put your donated items. If you want to give cash instead of shopping Debbie will do the shopping for you.

Please join us at our next meeting in September, date and time to be determined.



If you are hesitant about volunteering as host/hostess, please be assured it's easy. We even have a cheat sheet. Also, don't hesitate to partner with someone. Makes for ½ the work and twice the fun.

Our next Covered Dish Lunch will be on July 19th; our Hosts will be The Heath Family.



## **Liturgist**

Do you like help with the service?  
Please add your name to the Liturgist sheet in the Narthex.

Our Liturgist for the month of July is  
Tammy Ledbetter.



If you would like to bring flowers for our worship service, please let the Church office know. These flowers can be from anywhere! You are responsible for arranging the flowers and putting them in containers, and placing them in the Sanctuary on Sunday morning by 10:45 am.

*A special thank you to Phyllis White who does such an amazing job providing and arranging flowers most of the time for us.*



Do you like to talk with/greet people? Sign up to be Head Usher for a month. It's easy and a great way to serve. You can even volunteer to assist the Head Usher a time or two to learn the ropes. Head Usher for July is STILL OPEN, AS IS AUGUST.



**Session:**

Randy Workman (26),  
Building & Grounds  
Dan Bass (26), Worship &  
Music  
LaChelle Jones (27),  
Congregational Care  
Murray Bradley (27),  
Outreach/Evangelism  
Robert Heath (28), Christian  
Education, and  
Ray Gilbert (28),  
Administration & Finance

**Clerk of the Session:** Bill  
Nixon

**Treasurer:** Ray Gilbert

**Senior Pastor**

Rev. Gerald (Jerry) Ledbetter

**Organist Emeritus**

Mr. Austin P. Cook, III

**Music Director**

Michael Ledbetter

**Accompanist**

Randall Smith

**Children's Church Director**

Terri Workman

# *WE PROUDLY SUPPORT*

NEW HORIZON THEATRE



**Website: nhct.org Phone 706.643.7529 Box Office Phone 706.518.6234**

**Address: 411 West 8<sup>th</sup> St P.O. Box 131 West Point, GA 31833**



Our P.E.E.P.S. use their pennies for Jesus money to buy food for our little free pantry, won't you consider helping them?



Pastor Jerry does a weekly outreach, we call it LEO, (Law Enforcement Outreach), on Fridays at 8 am. If you would like to get involved see Jerry.

We support all Law Enforcement Agencies as well as Fire and EMS!



Thornwell began as a dream in the heart of a young Presbyterian minister, William Plumer Jacobs of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, SC.



**Building a Better World,  
One House at a Time**

"For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God." Hebrews 3:4

## **Foundational principles**

**We at the Fuller Center for Housing believe that: We are part of a God movement, and movements don't just stop. We have been called to this housing ministry; we didn't just stumble into it. We are unashamedly Christian, and enthusiastically ecumenical. We aren't a church but we are a servant of the Church. We are faith-driven, knowing that after we've done all we can do the Lord will help finish the job — something that requires us to stretch beyond our rational reach. We are a grass-roots ministry, recognizing that the real work happens on the ground in communities around the world through our covenant partners — so a large, overseeing bureaucracy isn't needed. We try to follow the teachings of the Bible and believe that it says that we shouldn't charge interest of the poor, so we don't. Government has a role in our work in helping set the stage, but that we shouldn't look to it as a means to fund the building of homes.**



A Knock at the door might not seem like a big deal to many of us. But, to a homebound senior, it could signal the arrival of the only person they might see all day or all week long. It brings hope. It brings health. It brings the nutrition and care that will completely make their day. A knock from Meals on Wheels can even save lives.

**THE POWER OF A KNOCK TRANSFORMS LIVES!**