OCTOBER 2026 MIDWAY MESSENGER

Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

There are not words to express how much your love and support has meant to me over the past 6+ weeks. I miss every one of you and I am so looking forward to returning. You may already know, the Session has allowed me to extend my leave for a few more weeks. I return to the surgeon on October 1st and I will find out then if I can bear weight on my right leg and start Physical Therapy on my ankle. Extra prayers on the 1st will be greatly appreciated.

My original plan was to be back with you on October 4th to celebrate World Communion Sunday because it is such a special time when we gather at the table with our brothers and sisters in Christ all over the world, joined by The Great Cloud of Witnesses!

I had already prepared the service for WCS and I want to share the opening paragraph from the sermon with you. The text for the sermon is Luke 9:10-17 (The Feeding of the 5000) and it's called *Breaking Bread*.

The fact that The Feeding of the Five Thousand is the only miracle besides the resurrection to appear in all four gospels makes it obvious, at least in my humble opinion just how much of an impact it had on the people who followed and later wrote about Jesus' ministry. It still astounds many of us today. I can certainly attest to never tiring of the sermons, devotions and reminders I often encounter that feature verses from one of the gospel accounts. It seemed appropriate to use this miracle as our focus for World Communion Sunday 2026 when people from all over the world will come together in body and in spirit to break bread together at the joyful feast.

As you gather for the Joyful Feast, please know I am with you in Sprit!

With a grateful heart,

Elizabeth

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On Saturday, October 3, at 10:00 a.m. Midway will host our 9th Blessing of the Animals Service. Members and friends are invited to bring their pets to the Outdoor Worship Area, between the church sign and the tennis courts. Donations will be received for the Anderson County Humane Society.

Second Sunday Dinner

Our Second Sunday Dinner will be October 11th. This will be a soup and sandwiches lunch. Sign-up sheets will be available to sign up for soups, sandwiches, and desserts.

Bingo

Our next Bingo Day will be Wednesday, October 14th. This is a time of fun and fellowship with members of our church and community. There are lots of neat prizes, so make plans to join the fun.

Session Notes

The Session will meet on Sunday, October 18, 2026.

The Lunch Bunch

We had 11 attend our Lunch Bunch on September 23, at the Social Tap & Table. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 21, at 1:00 p.m. at The Red Tomato, 3907 Clemson Blvd. This is a good time of food and fellowship. We hope to see many of you there.

Financial Report as of September 25, 2026

Budget Needs to Date	**$124,343.98**
Budget Receipts to Date	**$ 116,304.09**
Spent to Date	**$127,249.69**
Special Offerings	**$ 5,582.81**

"It's what you sow that multiplies, not what you keep in the barn."
~~Adrian Rogers

Community Outreach & Mission

Our Jar Offering for October will go to Safe Harbor of Anderson County, which provides safe shelter and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and their children.

Our 2-Cents-a-Meal Offering for the 4th Quarter of 2026 will go to Presbytery's Cents Ability. Cents-Ability is one way that families, congregations, and presbyteries can support the battle against hunger and poverty. Every member is invited to contribute a few cents at every meal. Funds are then used to support local hunger ministries, as well as national and international projects through the Presbyterian Hunger Program. This offering supports 14 local ministries across the 5 counties in Foothills Presbytery, including South Main Chapel & Mercy Center and Anderson Interfaith Ministries.

Gratitude Notes

From: **Denise Savidge, Homeless Liaison Anderson School District #5** *"To our friends at Midway Presbyterian Church. Sincerest thanks to you for your contribution to our homeless fund. You are all wonderful people for continuing to support those least fortunate. May you be blessed as you bless others."*

SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Liturgist

Oct.	4	John Dodwell
	11	Bob Bone
	18	Ginny Keiper
	25	Linda Mylod

Ushers

Oct.	4	Kent Saunders Chrissie Saunders
	11	Terry Waddell Kathy Wilson
	18	Gail Alewine Donetta Dodwell
	25	Ray & Ginny Keiper

Sunday School Secretaries

Oct.	4	Bob Bone
	11	Amy Morris
	18	Sammy Stevenson
	25	Carol Wentzky

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October	4	Peggy Swann
	11	Marilyn Martin
		Joey Morris
	14	Bob Jones
	16	Traci Webb
	19	Linda Barnes
	24	Mark Sears

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October	9	Pete & Roz Rozakos	16th
		Bob & Elizabeth Jones	41st
		Gary & Dee Ashworth	45th

We welcome our new members Joe and Barbara Christopher

Two of our September birthday ladies, Linda & Terry, were celebrated at our Lunch Bunch gathering on Wednesday, September 23

Legacy Academy

A few of our Explorers students enjoy making observations in nature and sharing ideas with each other.

Several of our High School students are currently taking an American Government Class

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4 WAYS TO KEEP YOUR BRAIN YOUNG

1. **Do crossword or jigsaw puzzles**

Puzzles are more than just fun. They challenge your brain to think in new ways and remember information. And they improve your memory and help you solve problems. This may lead to a stronger and sharper mind.

2. **Learn something new**

When you learn, your brain makes new connections. This can help your memory and thinking, even if you already have memory problems.

You can try knitting, painting by numbers, learning a new language or taking up a new hobby like dancing. One study found that older adults who learned to play an instrument had better memory after just 10 weeks.

3. **Play board games**

Invite loved ones over and play games like chess, Scrabble and Monopoly. These games make you think, remember and problem-solve. They are also a great way to stay socially connected—another way to keep you brain healthy and happy.

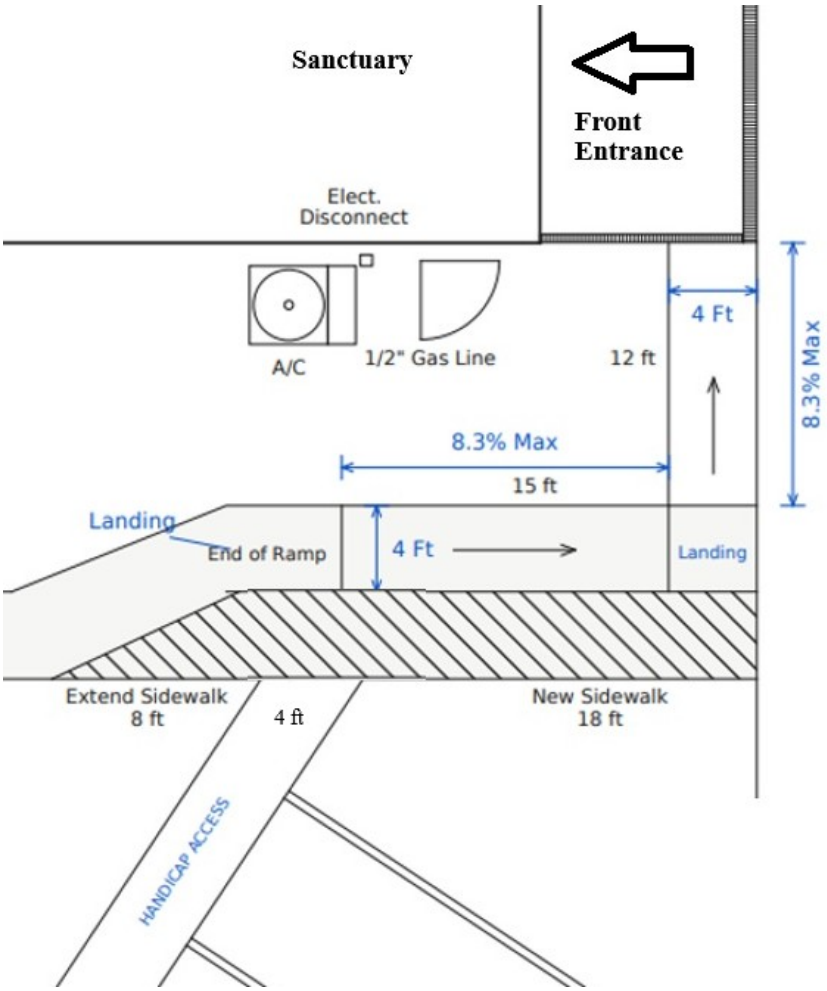
4. **Switch up your routing**

Try taking a different route to the store, walking in a new park or shopping at a different place. These small changes can challenge your brain and keep it engaged.

Building & Grounds Update: The saga of the soon-to-be-created wheelchair ramp

December 2025-January 2026: Multiple quotes were gathered from multiple contractors to build a wheelchair ramp at the front entrance of the church.

February 2026: The building and grounds committee recommended the bid from Frank Halmon's Tri-City Concrete, LLC for the creation of a 90-degree concrete ramp and sidewalk extension. The session approved the proposal at the February meeting, the contract was signed, and a deposit of $4,700 was paid for work beginning March 1, 2026.



March 2026-August 2026: For a variety of reasons (e.g., it rained, it is raining, it is going to rain, the concrete truck didn't show up, the forms were at the wrong angle, vacation, …), the quality of the limited amount of work completed was substandard, leaving the front entrance to the church as a construction zone.

September 2026: At the September 6th building and grounds committee meeting, the committee discussed that it is unlikely that we will get a refund for the work completed, we will have to pay to have the current concrete work demolished, and we will need to get the appropriate permits for the ramp and start over. Also, the committee discussed the deterioration of the brick chip surface at the front of the sanctuary. The committee voted in favor of firing the current ramp contractor and starting over with the ramp & removing the brick chip surface at the front of the sanctuary and replacing it with cement. At the September 20th session meeting, the session approved the recommendations of the building and grounds committee. On September 20th, Tri-City Concrete was fired and the ramp permitting process began.