

# NEWLETTER

## First Presbyterian Church of Croswell

Web Page: <https://Croswellpresbyterian.org>

September 2024



## THE POWER OF AN INVITATION

It was December 1975. I was one of several Asbury University students collecting donations of money for the Salvation Army in downtown Detroit. Each day, from the day after Thanksgiving through Christmas Eve, we students stood outside stores along Woodward Avenue. We rang little brass, hand-held bells. Christmas shoppers walking by dropped money in red Salvation Army buckets suspended from tripods. For every hour that we stood on the sidewalk in the cold December weather ringing the Salvation Army bells, we were given one half hour off, to go sit down inside nearby restaurants, to thaw put our frozen bodies, and enjoy something warm to drink.

Ringling a bell directly across Woodward Avenue from my location, was another Asbury University student. She was pretty, and just the right kind of conversationalist for me. Her soft voice and her beautiful eyes spoke to me in a way that, I definitely wanted to get to know her. It just happened that one day, she was scheduled to go on a break at the same time that I was scheduled to go on a break. I asked her, *"Would you like to join me at Sanders restaurant for something hot to drink?"*

She said, *"Yes!"* I felt my heart leap! Less than two years later, we married at her family's church near Clio, Michigan.

What got us started was an invitation. *"Would you like to join me at Sanders restaurant for something hot to drink?"* I asked.

My memory of how I met my wife is a powerful reminder to me of the importance of invitations. All invitations have the potential to be life-changing. When we invite someone, and they accept, we do subtly change the course of their lives. They come along with us to something that they had not anticipated being part of. When we invite someone, we are welcoming them to be part of our lives. Even if the activity is common place and mundane, we have the potential to share an adventure together. Invitations are truly marvelous.

I have noticed that some of you have invited your family members, friends and acquaintances to attend the worship services at First Presbyterian Church with you. A survey was done of people who do not regularly attend church. The majority of people who answered the survey, 63% of them, said that a personal invitation from a friend or neighbor would be very effective in getting them to attend a church one time.

We believe the gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ is life-changing. And you apparently believe as I do that, God is too good to keep to ourselves; because you have been inviting your family members, friends, acquaintances and neighbors to attend church with you. I can see that God's Holy Spirit is definitely at work at First Presbyterian Church, though you!

Gratefully,  
Pastor Bill Wright

## Prayer Requests

Safe travels for all those returning vacationers.

Children, teachers, principals and administrators as school resumes.

All those going through surgeries, tests and treatments.

Military and their families as war continues overseas.

Those suffering from natural disasters, displacement and loss from severe weather.

Prayers for linemen and first responders. Prayers for those we hold silent in our heart.



### PASTOR ON CALL

Pastor Bill Wright is available to visit church members anytime, anywhere, either for emergency situations or casual conversations. Feel free to call Bill at (810) 858-7033

## Welcome September Quotes

"By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer." -Helen Hunt Jackson

"September days have the warmth of summer in their briefer hours, but in their lengthening evenings a prophetic breath of autumn." -Rowland E. Robinson

"The old summer's-end melancholy nips at my heels. There's no school to go back to; no detail of my life will change come the onset of September; yet still, I feel the old trepidation." -Sara Baume

"There is a time in late September when the leaves are still green, and the days are still warm, but somehow you know that it is all about to end, as if summer was holding its breath, and when it let it out again, it would be autumn." -Sharyn McCrumb

"It was a lovely afternoon—such an afternoon as only September can produce when summer has stolen back for one more day of dream and glamour."  
-L.M. Montgomery

"September was a 30-days long goodbye to summer, to the season that left everybody both happy and weary of the warm, humid weather and the exhausting but thrilling adventures. It didn't feel like fresh air either, it made me suffocate. It was like the days would be dragging some kind of sickness, one that we knew wouldn't last, but made us uncomfortable anyway. The atmosphere felt dusty and stifling." -Lea Malot

"We know that in September, we will wander through the warm winds of summer's wreckage. We will welcome summer's ghost." -Henry Rollins



First Day of Fall,  
Sunday, September 22, 2024

## Good Bible Verses for Fall?

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-2**

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted."

**Isaiah 40:8**

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

**Galatians 6:9**

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season, we will reap if we do not give up."

**Genesis 8:22**

"While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

**Psalms 85:12**

"Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase."

**2 Corinthians 9:10**

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness."

**Matthew 9:37-38**

"Then he said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

**Isaiah 65:25**

"The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord."

## AUTUMN MESSAGE SERIES.

(These following scripture lessons will become the basis of Pastor Bill Wright's messages on Sundays during September.)

Sept. 1 - Colossians 3: 12-17, 23-25

Sept. 8 - 1 John 2: 20-21

Sept. 15 - Acts 16: 6-15

Sept. 22 - Philippians 3: 8-14

Sept. 29 - Philippians 2: 1-11



### The Spiritual Meaning of the Autumn Equinox

by [Julie Peters](#)

When it's too cold to be outside hunting, building, or farming, it's time to go inside and listen to your teachers. Explore the spiritual meaning of the Autumn Equinox.

The word *equinox* is a Latin word meaning *equal night*. The [Autumn](#) Equinox, usually falling around the 22nd of September, is a time when day and night are roughly equal in length. At this turning point, the fall season begins and nights become longer than the days in the Northern Hemisphere. (In the Southern Hemisphere, the Autumn Equinox falls around March 22nd.) Energetically, the Autumn Equinox is a time of balance and pause, a transitional moment between the bright half of the year and the dark half of the year.

The spiritual energies of the spring and summer season are very different from fall and winter. As we enter what could be considered Moon Season, we begin to spend more time in darkness and see the moon in the sky for longer periods of time.

This is a shift between the extroverted spring/summer period, which is all about play, pleasure, and connection, and the introverted fall/winter, which is a time for rest, intimate connection, solitude, and reflection.

### The Roots of the Autumn Equinox

Traditionally, the Autumn Equinox marks the end of the harvest season, where we take stock of what we have grown and gathered and give thanks for what we have received.

Many [modern pagans](#) celebrate this harvest season during the holiday of Mabon, a time for apple picking, feasting, and giving thanks to the gods for the harvest. Indeed, American Thanksgiving, at least according to legend, was originally a harvest celebration shared with the Indigenous Wampanoag people from what is now known as Massachusetts.

### How the Autumn Equinox Can Help Us Balance

In addition to gratitude, the Autumn Equinox is an appropriate time to consider and invite balance into your life. The idea of balance may need to be redefined as we move from the bright to the darker half of the year; what kept you balanced in the heat of summer may not work the same way on cooler days. Balance is a constantly shifting equilibrium, and our daily routines and rituals may need to shift with the transition to a new season.

During this time, you may notice yourself naturally turning your attention from the outside world and other people to yourself, your body, your spirit, and your heart. Take a moment to slow down and listen inwardly. Is there something your body is asking you for? Is there a project you have been wanting to begin that needs some deep focus? Is your spirit calling for quieter [reflection](#), or to begin a new commitment?

For many of us, the idea of September as back-to-school season is deeply imprinted. Whether or not we have any engagement with school, this month marks a time to move our attention to the proverbial classroom, encouraging us to seek out learning of all kinds. While late summer is a time for rest and enjoyment, the darker season is a time for more intellectual pursuits.

We may have less energy for physical movement outdoors (though it's always a good idea to get outside if we can), but there is often an intellectual energy that is ready for a challenge at this time. In many Indigenous cultures, the wintertime was and still is devoted to sitting around the fire while Elders teach children important lessons about life. When it's too cold to be outside hunting, building, or farming, it's time to go inside and listen to your [teachers](#).

However this energetic and spiritual shift is landing for you, mark this midpoint moment of the year and welcome the shift to a new type of energy. Happy Autumn Equinox!

# SPECIAL DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

## Sept. 1

Chicken Boy's Day  
National Burnt Ends Day  
National Pastor's Spouses Day  
National No Rhyme (Nor Reason) Day  
Pet Rock Day

## Sept. 2

Labor Day  
World Coconut Day  
Great Bathtub Race Day

## Sept. 3

Pressed Pennies Day

## Sept. 4

National Spice Blend Day

## Sept. 5

Be Late For Something Day

## Sept. 6

Bring Your Manners To Work Day  
National lazy Mom's Day  
National Dog Walker Appreciation Day

## Sept. 7

Grandma Moses Day  
Salami Day  
World Beard Day

## Sept. 8

Iguana Awareness Day  
Grandparent's Day  
National Hug Your Hound Day  
Pardon Day  
Star Trek Day

## Sept. 9

International Box Wine Day  
National Teddy Bear Day  
Opposite Day  
Wonderful Weirdoes Day

## Sept. 10

Ants On a log Day  
National Port Wine Day  
National TV Dinner Day  
Swap Ideas Day

## Sept. 11

Libraries Remember Day  
Patriot Day  
Remember Freedom Day

## Sept. 12

National Hug and High 5 Day  
National Just One Human Family Day  
Video Games Day

## Sept. 13

Hug Your Boss Day  
Kids Take Over The Kitchen Day  
National Peanut Day  
Scooby-Doo Day  
Uncle Sam Day

## Sept. 14

National Hollerin' day  
National Kreme Filled donut Day  
National Sober Day

## Sept. 15

Felt Hat Day  
International Day of Listening  
Wife Appreciation Day

## Sept. 16

National Guacamole Day  
National Stepfamily Day  
Respect for The Aged Day  
World Pay-doh Day

## Sept. 17

Constitution Day  
International Country Music Day  
Time's Up Day

## Sept. 18

National Respect Day

## Sept. 19

International Day of Listening  
National PawPaw Day  
Talk Like A Pirate Day

## Sept. 20

National Bakery Day  
National Care for Kids Day  
National String Cheese Day

## Sept. 21

Batman Day  
Big Whopper Liar Day  
International Eat An Apple Day  
Locate An Old Friend Day

## Sept. 22

Dear Diary Day  
Elephant Appreciation Day  
Ice Cream Cone Day  
National White Chocolate Day

## Sept. 23

Family Day

## Sept. 24

Punctuation Day

## Sept. 25

National Daughters Day  
National Quesadilla Day  
National Lobster Day

## Sept. 26

Forget-Me-Not Day  
World Body Painting Day

## Sept. 27

Crush A Can Day  
Hug A Vegan Day  
National Bakery Day  
National Day of Forgiveness  
National Doodle Day  
National Scarf Day

## Sept. 28

Confusius Day  
International Right To Know Day  
National Drink Beer Day

## Sept. 29

National Coffee Day  
National Biscotti Day  
World Heart Day

## Sept. 30

Ask A Stupid Question Day  
National Love People Day  
Orange Shirt Day

## WEEK EVENTS

- Wk.1 National Days of Prayer & Remembrance Wk  
Wk 2 Celebrate Community Wk  
Line Dance Wk  
National Chef Appreciation Wk  
Wk 3 Be a Mench Wk  
Build A Better Image Wk  
National Indoor Plant Wk  
Body Painting Wk  
Wk 4 National Ballroom Dance Wk  
National Keep Kids Creative Wk  
National Fall Foliage Wk

## MONTHLY EVENTS

- Children's Good Manners Month  
National Chicken Month  
National Save A Tiger Month  
National Shake Month (Ice Cream)  
World Beach Month  
One on One Month  
International Speak Out Month  
Library Card Sign-up Month  
Happy Healthy Cat Month  
Classical Music Month



## From your little Library in the corner....

This inspiring story is based on the true story of William Wilberforce who follows his courageous quest to end the British slave trade. Along the way, he meets with intense opposition, but his minister, John Newton, a reformed slave ship captain who just happened to write the beloved hymn “Amazing Grace”, urges him to see the cause through. (DVD) *Amazing Grace*. (Light Orange Dot - DVDs)

“As I lay on the ground, my tormentors swarming around me, a voice emerged from my chest. It sounded like my voice, but it wasn’t a thought of mine. I didn’t say it. The voice that sounded like my voice but wasn’t said, ‘Pray to God’. I remember thinking, ‘Why? What a stupid idea. That doesn’t work. What a cop-out....’”

From *My Descent Into Death: A Second Chance at Life*, by Howard Storm.

(Orange Dot – Young Adults)

“He shot the bearded barbary goat, as it sat looking wise, And, creeping into Eden, shot the Bird of Paradise.” From *Tucky the Hunter*, by James Dickey. (Yellow Dot – Children)



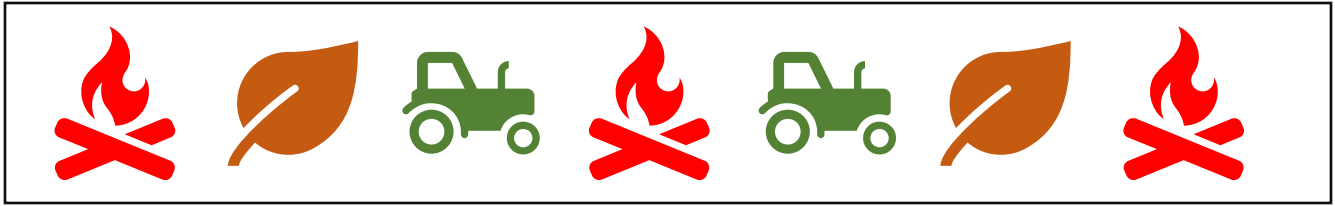
Happy  
Birthday



23rd Alexander Repp  
24th Sally Pomeroy  
26th Jim Weller  
29th Amy Repp

9th Keely & Jayson Berry

# Dates to Remember



SEPTEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 <b>LABOR DAY</b> 	3 PW Team Mtg. 10:00 a.m.	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Deacon's Mtg. 6:00 pm Sessions Mtg. 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Food Truck Valiant Ministries 12-2 p.m.	20	21
22 First Day of Fall, y'all	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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# KIDS CORNOR

## HAPPY AUTUMN

### WORD SEARCH

F K H Y N O V E M B E R J E F  
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Thanksgiving  
Harvest  
Autumn  
Fall

September  
October  
Leaves  
Pumpkins

November  
August  
Acorn  
Trees

Football  
Apples  
Rake  
Hay

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