



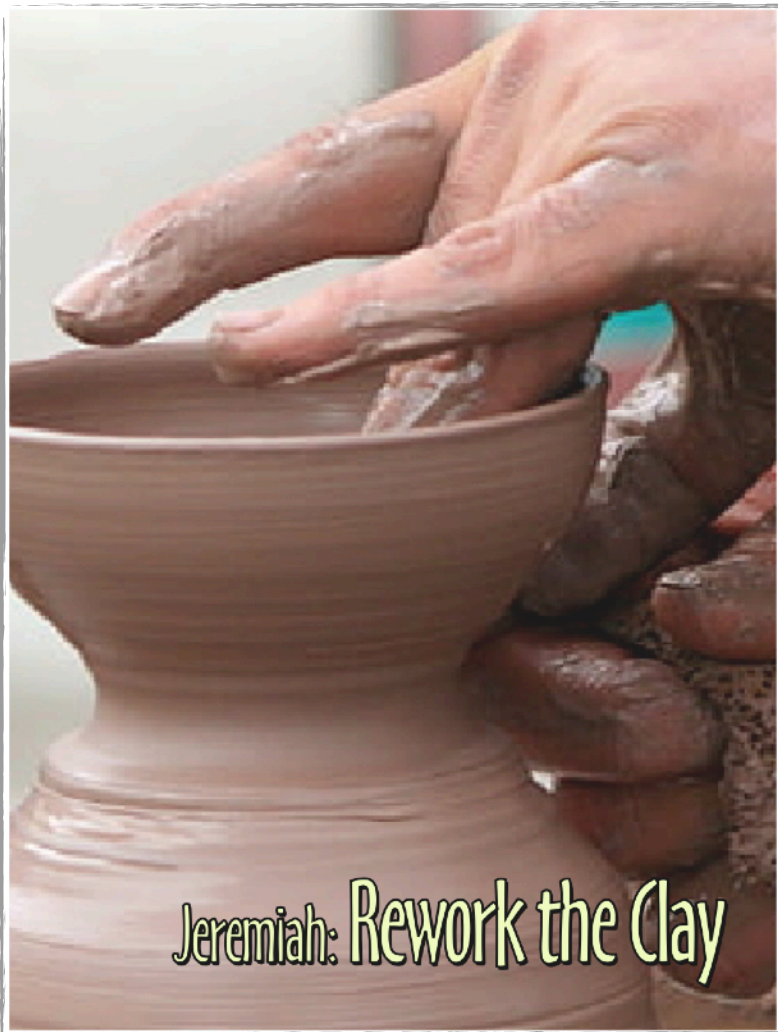
Hawfields
Presbyterian
Church

ONLINE

POSTED BY
SAT. 5PM

IN-
PERSON

SUNDAYS @
10AM & 6PM



Jeremiah: Rework the Clay

Jeremiah 18:1-11
“Rework the Clay”

God can work with our brokenness.
We should follow God’s example.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Communion • September 7, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

CEL=Celebration Hymnal
GTG=Glory to God Hymnal

INTROIT

"As We Gather"
by Mike Fay and Tom Coomes

PRELUDE

"Better Is One Day"
arr.Victor Labenske

OPENING SENTENCE

Jeremiah 18:5-6 (CEB)

Then the LORD's word came to me"...Can't I deal with you like this potter...? Like clay in the potter's hand, so are you in mine...!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF GATHERING

"Standing on the Promises" GTG #838

**Standing on the promises
of Christ my King,
Through eternal ages
let his praises ring;
Glory in the highest
we will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.**

**Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises
of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on
the promises of God.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Plans get made
The best materials are gathered
The best equipment is employed
Even passion and hope are poured in
But then things aren't quite right
Things don't go according to plan
So rather than just give up
God reworks the clay, God reworks us*

SING *"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"*
GTG #396

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us begin with silent prayer...

**Creator God, everything we admire,
everything we hope for, everything
that we hold as ours, all their start
with you. For all the ways we want
people, situations, life itself to
answer to us, help us never forget
that we answer to you, always. Help**

**us take better care of ourselves.
Help us take better care each other.
Help us take better care WITH each
other, remembering that we were, all
of us, given the gift of life by none
other than you, O God. May we
come to reflect your generosity as
enthusiastically as we receive it.
Thank you for listening, God. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*God's love can change everything, even the
power of our sins over us. And it is God's will
that we have this power:*

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
*The Peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.*

SING

"Gloria Patri"

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning.
It is now and ever shall be
world without end: Amen, amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

*The Word of God doesn't just inform: it reveals.
The Word of God doesn't just tell us the truth, it
empowers us to live our true path. The Word of
God, by God's own Spirit, teaches us to live. Let
us be open to this gift of God and ask for help
to understand. Let us pray...*

PRAY/SING

"We've Come This Far by Faith" GTG #656
**We've come this far by faith,
Leaning on the Lord,
Trusting in the holy Word;
God's never failed us yet.
O, can't turn around,
We've come this far by faith.
We've come this far by faith.**

*Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and
our ongoing place in God's story...*

READ: Jeremiah 18:1-11 (CEB)

The work of the Potter.

¹ Jeremiah received the LORD's word: ² Go down to the potter's house, and I'll give you instructions about what to do there. ³ So I went down to the potter's house; he was working on the potter's wheel. ⁴ But the piece he was making was flawed while still

in his hands, so the potter started on another; as seemed best to him.⁵ Then the LORD's word came to me:⁶ "House of Israel, can't I deal with you like this potter, declares the LORD? Like clay in the potter's hand, so are you in mine, house of Israel!⁷ At any time I may announce that I will dig up, pull down, and destroy a nation or kingdom;⁸ but if that nation I warned turns from its evil, then I'll relent and not carry out the harm I intended for it.⁹ At the same time, I may announce that I will build and plant a nation or kingdom;¹⁰ but if that nation displeases and disobeys me, then I'll relent and not carry out the good I intended for it."¹¹ Now say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem: This is what the LORD says: "I am a potter preparing a disaster for you; I'm working out a plan against you. So each one of you, turn from your evil ways; reform your ways and your actions."

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us...

All: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

"Tell the Truth"

ANTHEM

"Better Is One Day"

arr. Jay Rouse; Percussionist: Chason Alligood

SERMON

"Rework the Clay"

Rev. David Ealy

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SING

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

GTG #353

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

arr. Robert D. Vandall

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom

all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

BLESSING

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

I believe in God's hopes—

That God created us for a reason,

That God chose people for a reason

That God fought for us for a reason

That God fought against us for a reason

That God called us out on our sins for a reason

That God made us partners with God for the building of the kingdom

That God created us for a purpose: We are clay that can be remade, reshaped

prophets, priests, teachers, students, companions, travelers, historians, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and most importantly children all tilling the earth

Now by God's grace,

God's love really does

change everything

and makes us people of God

because of Jesus Christ

Who was, who is, and is to come.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

Let us pray...

"I Love You, Lord"

CEL #78

I love you, Lord,

and I lift my voice,

To worship you,

O my soul, rejoice!

Take joy, my King,

in what you hear:

May it be a sweet, sweet sound

in Your ear.

...Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. Thy

kingdom come, thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven. Give us

this day our daily bread. And forgive

us our debts as we forgive our

debtors. And lead us not into

temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the

power, and the glory forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, God, for making us your kingdom. Help us live out that thanks by being a refuge to all you call us to. Thank you for including us at your Table. Help us do the same with ours. In the great name of Jesus Christ we pray this together. Amen.

SONG OF SENDING GTG #583
"You Are My All in All"

SENDING & BENEDICTION
Let us say together the Benediction...
**God can work with our brokenness.
We should follow God's example.**

SING GTG #765
"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

**May the God of hope
go with us everyday,
Filling all our lives
with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice
speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope
to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace;
Singing, share our joy with all;
Working, for a world that's new,
Faithful, when we hear Christ's call.**

POSTLUDE
"In Christ Alone (My Hope Is Found)"
arr: Carol Tornquist

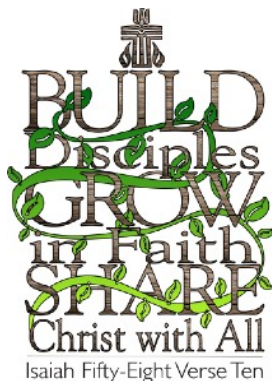
PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

The following are prayer concerns & celebrations given to us through email, Prayer Notebook at the entrance, by phone or word of mouth. Please use this list in your prayers through the week.

- Staff of the month: Tom Bowden
- Afghanistan earthquake
- Bennie Covington—health concerns
- Traci Faubel—recovery from hip surgery
- Hawfields Child Care Center
- Gretchen Hayes—emphysema
- HPC Nominating Committee
- Tonya McClain—diagnosed with Lupus
- The Family of Josephine Minor
- Shelby Perry—recovery from cancer surgery
- Dwayne Straughan—health concerns
- Helen Thomas—health concerns
- Jane Williamson—health concerns

Our prayers continue for:

Ron & Pat Baugus, Rose Boderck (Liberty Commons, Rm #103), Susan Loy (Alamance House), Kevin Monroe (White Oak Manor), Betty Sykes & Carol Thompson (Compass Health Room, #A-9), Danny Thompson and Pat Webster



GUEST READER PARTNERSHIP

We have a wonderful partnership opportunity with the Hawfields Childcare Center to provide guest readers for the children of the center. Check out the link below for more details on the guidelines, classroom size, and age range. This is a win-win situation for both the kids and the readers! Studies show that spending time with children and reading can have amazing benefits for adults too including a calming, shared experience that fosters well-being for both adult and child!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4FA5AC2DA3FB6-57564131-guest#>

Benefits for the Adult Reader:

Stress Reduction: Reading can lower stress levels, reduce heart rate, and ease muscle tension, leading to a more relaxed state of mind.

Improved Concentration and

Focus: Regular reading strengthens neural networks in the brain, improving memory and the ability to focus.

Enhanced Mental

Stimulation: Reading keeps your brain active, which promotes mental fitness and can be linked to longevity.

Increased Knowledge and

Vocabulary: Exposure to different topics and words expands your knowledge base and improves writing abilities.

Greater Empathy and Emotional

Connection: Sharing stories with a child fosters empathy and provides a positive focus on the child's intellectual and emotional growth.

Additionally, adults engaging in healthy behaviors with children benefit from better mood, stronger bones and muscles, a lower risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and some cancers, improved brain health, and potentially a longer life.

THE 2025 SESSION



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRED OR FREE?

One of the remarkable things about pottery is the process of creating it. You start out with a lump and water and a wheel and no guarantees. You begin with a vision and hope and no real way to predict the outcome, outside of years of experience. But as the pot takes shape and the potter does their thing, the possibility that the lump can be reworked remains until the pot is fired, that is, literally cooked into permanence. Until then the lump can be reshaped or even added to more clay in order to fulfill the dreams of the artisan. Is there room in your life for God to rework you? Is there room for God to take what didn't quite turn out right and cause it, cause you, to become more? As you move through the week, ask yourself, "Am I fire or free?" Are you still workable or should God give up on you? (hint: God's going to keep trying despite what you answer, so...)

QUESTIONS AS YOU WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- What do you do if everything you thought you knew was wrong?
- Is God in a position to change the rules? Is God allowed to do so in your mind?
- What traditions you've grown up with have had to change?

THANK YOU!

We are so grateful to everyone who helped bring Community Day to life! Thanks especially to Sean Cooper and the steering committee for putting together another successful event!

PUMPKIN PATCH IS COMING!

Starting October 4th (less than a month away!) we will unload a literal truckload of pumpkins and other gourds. Once set up, we will be selling the lots in the hopes of not just raising funds but also raising awareness of our congregation. You can help! You can help unload. You can help run the sale by taking a shift or two (or five). You can post one of signs advertising the sale in your yard. Every small effort adds up to a lot! You can

sign up using the volunteer boards or contact Mandy Ealy for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEED

The Children's Sunday School Class is in need of paper towel tubes. You may give them to Sam Beaudry or Mandy Ealy.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Children's Sunday School class starts a new curriculum season on **September 7th**. It is the perfect time to join in for the first time or the 50th time! For ages 3 through 5th grade, this class will be meeting in room 11 of the Education Building. The teachers are Sam Beaudry, Kimi Massey, Nanette Pedelty, Sandy Muller and Joanne McAdams. We will be using the Deep Blue Kids curriculum. The first few weeks are all about how God created our world and us. There is music, stories, crafts, snacks, games and more! It is the place to be at 9AM on Sunday mornings! Parents - there is coffee, snacks and conversation in the Fleming Room (behind the choir loft in the sanctuary) during this time. Come, relax and chat for a bit before worship!

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Youth Sunday School class meets in room 1 of the Education Building. They discuss how the Bible and faith intersect with our daily living. This is for those in 6th grade - 12th grade. All are welcome!

CIRCLE #2 AND CIRCLE #3

- Circle #2 will meet this Monday, **Sept. 8th** at 2:00 PM in the parlor.
 - Circle #3 will meet this Tuesday, **Sept. 9th** at 7:00 PM in the parlor.
- All women are invited to join us!

THE WORK OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee works at the behest of the congregation (and they're almost done!). They are seeking

to empower and inform the right of the congregation in our system to elect its leadership. Elders Tammy Karnes, Sandy Muller and Carol Phillips are serving to provide us with a recommended slate of nominees. To aid them in their work, most principally, pray for them. Also, feel free to suggest names to them under these three conditions. First, ensure you have your suggested person's permission to submit their name. Second, make sure that they are, in fact, a member of the congregation. Third, and most important, prayerfully consider God's call on them to serve in this way.

THE STORY OF OUR CHURCH IS WRITTEN IN OUR CONNECTIONS

Whether we're talking about history or our ever-emerging present, God's goal has always been to connect us with God's Spirit and each other. A big way this happens is through our stories. Linking Lives is an opportunity for folks to share their stories and in so doing help link us together with each other. Over the next 12 months, there will be opportunities for us to learn more about and, most importantly, pray for every family in our congregation. We will feature profiles and have times for personal prayer and chatting as well as bi-monthly opportunities for a podcast featuring faith stories (1st week of the month) and/or burning faith questions or theology (3rd week of the month). Invitation letters have already started going out.

LETTING IT GO

We carry so much. We are confronted with so much. We hold on to so much. Jesus' plain advice encourages us to let it all go because we can hold on to

God instead. Rev. Emily Wilson will help facilitate our thoughts and encourage practical ways of taking on Jesus' way of living life at our churchwide retreat on September 27th, from 9am-3pm, at Caraway Conference Center. Youth and children will have a parallel retreat experience. The cost is \$28 per person or \$100 per family. The last day to sign up is **Sept. 12**. You can sign up online here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FAEAD2AA2F49-57968303-letting> or call Sandy Muller. Lunch is included. Please leave dietary preferences, if any, in the comments or with Sandy.

YOUTH GROUP MEALS FOR FALL

If you are available to help provide meals for youth group meetings through the fall, please enter the below link into your browser to sign up. A few of our favorite meals include chicken nuggets, pizza, Bojangles, taco bar & subs.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49AEA82EABFA7-58095792-fall>

SAVE THE DATE!

The next Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Saturday, **October 11th**. More details and registration information will be announced soon. Save the date and save a life!

You can give blood
every 56 days, up
to 6 times a year.



Blood can't be manufactured.
It can only come from generous donors!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

This year's Christmas Cantata, "*Mary, Did You Know?*", will be on Sunday, December 21st during the 10:00 AM worship service. This choir is scheduled to begin rehearsals on Wednesday, **September 17th**, at 7:15PM. Every Wednesday thereafter we will dive into another fantastic work of art with the intent to celebrate the birth of a King! Please join the Cantata Choir and serve God through music!

THE WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:00 AM Youth Sunday School
9:15 AM Coffee & Treats (F. Hall)
10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
6:00 PM Faith @ Night Service

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

2:00 PM PW Circle #2 Meeting (Parlor)
7:00 PM "The Chosen" Bible Study (ED15)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

10:30 AM Staff Meeting & Prayer
6:30 PM Administrative Life Committee Mtg
7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting (F. Hall)
7:00 PM PW Circle #3 Meeting (Parlor)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

10:00 AM Busy Bees Workshop
1:30 PM Hawfields Jammers
5:00 PM Linking Lives Prayer Chat
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous (Fleming)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

6:30 PM AA Meeting (Fleming Room)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:00 AM Walking Group (church track)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 AM Youth Sunday School
9:15 AM Coffee & Treats (F. Hall)
10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
11:00 AM Youth—Watercolor Workshop
1:30 PM Communion @ Compass Health
6:00 PM Faith @ Night Service

BY THE NUMBERS 8/31/25

Giving Budget 2025 \$346,202.00
Gen. Fund YTD \$149,081.18
Needed monthly \$28,850.17
G.F. Month to Date \$21,338.40
Needed weekly \$6,657.73
Gen. Fund Last Week \$5,403.00
Building Fund \$150.00
Youth \$80.00
Helping Hands Balance \$145.00

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8:00AM-3:00PM

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