

Lord's Day Services – Mar 2, 2025

Pastor John McFarland will minister the Word in both services today.

Morning Worship

Call to Worship	1 Corinthians 1:9-13	
* Opening Psalm of Praise		133B
* Invocation		
Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:1-13	
* Psalm of Praise (Psalm of the Month)		119L
Prayer of Confession, Thanksgiving & Intercession		
Tithes and Offerings / Psalm		138B
Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:10-13	
Sermon	<i>Content in Christ in all Circumstances</i>	
Prayer of Commitment		
* Psalm of Response		131B
* Benediction	Jude 24-25	
* Psalm of Doxology		68F, stanza 20

Evening Worship

Call to Worship	Psalms 145:17-21	
* Opening Psalm of Praise		112A
Prayer of Adoration & Supplication		
* Psalm of Praise		37C
Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:14-20	
Sermon	<i>You Do Well to Share</i>	
Prayer of Commitment		
* Psalm of Response		25B
* Benediction	Numbers 6:24-26	
* Psalm of Doxology		106G

Blessed be the Lord, The God of Israel

From everlasting to everlasting.

Let all the people say, "Amen." O praise the Lord!

* Congregation stands as able.

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Point of Contact	Todd Porter & Seth Wing
Precentor	Sarah Parnell (AM) & Engela Viss (PM)
Nursery	Sandra Porter, Sydney VanHorn & Ayla Henriques (AM) Whitney Porter & Abby Massey (PM)
Nursery (Mar 9)	Anne Boyle, Anna Watson & Danielle Viss (AM) Amara Kwasiborski & Addison Watson (PM)

THIS WEEK

Lords Day Afternoon & Evening

- 5:00 PM – Outreach Committee Meeting
- 5:00 PM – CY Accountability Groups
- 7:00 PM – CY & Children's Classes will meet

Wednesday, Mar 5

- 7:00 PM – Small Group Studies

Friday, Mar 7

- 9:00 AM – Mentor Moms

Saturday, Mar 8

- 7:00 PM – Genevans Concert at the church
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UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Lord's Day

- 5:00 PM – CE Committee Meeting
- 5:00 PM – CY Accountability Groups
- 7:00 PM – Praise & Testimony

Pastor Derek will be on vacation from February 24 to March 3.

Make plans to attend the Genevans choir concert on Mar 8 at 7pm. Each family is asked to bring *2 dozen cookies* for a time of fellowship following the concert.

There are still some available slots to [sign up](#) to help provide items for meals for the upcoming Genevans visit. Thank you!

The WMF will be collecting donations for [Exodus Cry](#) over the next two weeks. This is the ministry for human trafficking victims, of which Emma Parnell is a volunteer. Please see the bulletin board for suggested items to donate by Sunday Mar 9.

If you have served as a teacher in one of our youth classes and have *Great Commission Publications* teaching manuals at home, please consider returning them to be used in future classes. Manuals can be given to Sandra Porter.

Articles that have accumulated in our lost-and-found box are on a table in the fellowship hall. Please check to see if any belong to you. Items not claimed as of March 23 will be added to the inventory for our annual rummage sale or tossed.

Session has called for congregational meeting on Wednesday, March 26, at 7pm, to gather feedback regarding the building plans presented at our last meeting.

Please sign up to host a fellowship meal along with another family! [Monthly Fellowship Meal](#)

2024-2025 Small Groups. Please sign up to volunteer in the nursery or at Covenant Kids during the small group studies. [Volunteer Sign Up](#)



REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Shawnee

Mar 2, 2025

Church School	9:45 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Evening Youth Groups	7:00 PM

Contact an Elder: elders@shawneerpc.org.

*Joe Allyn, Bill Boyle, Derek Moore, Barry VanHorn,
Harry Ward, Dennis Wing.*

Bulletin Announcements: bulletinal@gmail.com
(Please send via email before 9 AM Thursday.)

Online Church Calendar: shawneerpc.org/calendar

6835 Pflumm Road • Shawnee, KS 66216
913-631-1991 • shawneerpc.org
[facebook.com / ShawneeRP](https://facebook.com/ShawneeRP)

Mark Your Calendars

Mar 26 – Congregational Meeting

Mar 29 – Camp Curry Workday

Apr 18-20 – MWP CY Spring Retreat at Shawnee

Apr 25-26 – Midwest Women’s Fellowship Retreat

Prayer for the Larger Church:

- The persecuted church abroad: *Pakistan*
- RPCNA: *St. Lawrence Presbytery*
- Midwest Presbytery Congregations: *Morning Sun, IA (Sharon RPC); Oklahoma City, OK (OKC RPC)*

Prayer for SRPC Local Ministries:

- *Hospitality Committee*

Prayer for SRPC members & families:

- Lee & Karen Whitworth
- Carrie Wilson
- Adam Wing

Tithing: This is an important aspect of our Christian life, and we want to provide multiple ways for members to contribute. Offerings are collected as part of our morning worship service, or can also be made by one of the following mechanisms: 1) Mail a check – For security reasons please make checks payable to “The Reformed Presbyterian Church of Shawnee” and mail your check to: Matt Boyle, Deacon Chair (see directory for Matt's address). 2) Online bill-pay through your own banking institution - members can set up on their own using the church name as the payee, and Matt Boyle’s address for check delivery location. 3) Mobile Giving through Tithe.ly – <https://shawneerpc.org/give/> - this option allows you to pay with a Debit/Credit card info or with your Bank info. .

MEMORY VERSES (FighterVerses.com)

Memory Verse for this week: Ephesians 6:12-13

Memory Verse for next week: Ephesians 6:14-15

Prayer Items:



Notes for SERMON ON **Philippians 4:10-13** ~ **Content in Christ in All Circumstances**

The Philippians successfully delivered a gift to an imprisoned apostle, & Paul is *rejoicing!* In expressing his gratitude, *the teacher* expresses that, if the gift had been delayed (or ...), his foundation in God's strength would have remained intact. Paul is content ~ in Christ ~ under all circumstances; from that strong place, he can accomplish all God's assignments.

This perseverance, durability, & tenacity is best proven when we are in states of want/lack. *The planned-for necessities are not coming in, and yet the mission is being accomplished!* Common examples: our marriages/homes, ministerial prep., & testimonies of God's grace: "*We don't know HOW we made it through ... but the LORD surely proved to be faithful!*"

We do know something of **how** God provided (we're reading here a *thank-you letter*)! Yet: All this is from God, & *what can we give to Him we did not first receive?* But Paul's attitude is *contentment* ~ putting into practice all that he wrote in **4:6-9** (dealing with his anxieties obediently and then training his mind-heart how to think and what to think about). Paul is gratefully trusting God for His timely, sufficient, & sometimes *super-abundant* provisions.

❶ Yet Paul is most diligent in his work and *practicing faith*; he is opposite of slothful/lazy. He *works hard with his hands* so as not to be a burden to the churches. He is *tent-making* to pay for his upkeep, thus not *passing the basket* (especially) during gospel proclamation. How awkward for Paul to boast how **free** is God's salvation in Christ, but then urge all to pay him for proclaiming good news!? Asking *saints* to support their churches is different.

So why is Paul (*here*) gladly receiving gifts? He is in prison, so he can't provide for himself. His friends must provide, or he will perish! "*Remember those in chains*" was more than an appeal for prayers. Love the imprisoned practically (especially those enduring tribulation). Paul's encouragement of charitable kindness toward him while he could NOT care for his own needs in no way justifies "*The Welfare State*" nor capable people who will not work.

❷ George Mueller (father of *faith-missions*) resolved never to ask for help from anyone ~ voicing needs to God in prayer. He experienced many *just-in-time* & *just-enough* gifts on the doorsteps of his missions & orphanages. Some ministries today regard this as the only Biblically faithful approach (never ask, publish, inform, appeal, or beg)! Yet somehow those in position to contribute learned about needs, then gave ... and this proved most useful.

Paul needed help; it was widely known (**4:15**), and at other times Paul was the agent who delivered gifts from places of surplus to places of tragedy (example: Jerusalem's famine). Do not pass judgment on needy charities (making choices to publicize, whisper, &/or pray). Faithful ministries have shifted between these patterns under varying circumstances.

❸ **4:13** is a *pillow verse*, but often taken out of context & awkwardly twisted as a promise (business goals, get-rich-quick schemes, sports, grades, dating, careers, ...): "*I can now do everything I've longed to do since it is Jesus' duty to provide power for my personal goals!*" Context: "*I can do all of God's things, like persevering in prison and during other times of lack and want!*" Keep **4:12** with **4:13**, AND **4:19** (about all of your needs): '*God, make my desires Your desires! ... It is Your pleasure I most need! Thy will is all I want.*' In the spirit of **James 1** (as we plead for God's wisdom, we know He desires to give it to us, so we ask without doubting) ~ our sovereign God has an eternal will about blessings and provisions coming to each of His sons and daughters ... AND He has an eternal will about His *means!*

Notes for SERMON ON **Philippians 4:14-20** ~ **You Do Well to Share**

Beware the *False Dilemma* (*Logical Fallacy of the Excluded Middle, a False Dichotomy* ~ the “*Either-Or*” question that forces a false choice). “*Will God supply all of my needs OR does God want His people to be generous in response to Christians in need?*” YES, BOTH! God’s normal means of provision (for one in need) is to stir up an obedient & gracious & generous heart in others to address that need. *Who do you think sent all those warnings?!* Here is Paul, in great need as a prisoner (*Charity, or Death!*): I have learned to be content in all circumstances. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. My God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. The LORD our Provider ... **AND**: Philippian saints, I rejoice God put it on your hearts to revive and make practical your concern for me. Others should have too, but I commend your kindness & generosity. You have done well to share so sacrificially with me. This is your life-pattern. I received your gift and I am amply supplied through it. Your generosity to me is pleasing to God!

❶ These Christians didn’t have to be so generous. Many other congregations did not share this way with Paul ... and no judicial-proceedings will ensue! Our siblings in Christ who are not charitable w.r.t. earthly goods are not going to Hell. They have not lost their birthrights.

❷ “*So what is the motive for Christians being generous?!*” Such a question may reflect an immature faith, a neophyte relationship, & the vestiges of a *works-based* view of salvation. *If my salvation is truly free to me, then I will gladly take it AND will choose to keep all of my money and earthly goods to myself!* **Medieval RCC**: If every Christian takes seriously Luther’s salvation-by-grace-via-faith message ... how can we coerce/control the simple to behave morally and contribute generously for the upkeep of “*Mother Church*”? **Luther**: ‘Even if believers responded to the evangelical gospel by living as the devil himself, we will preach it anyway, for it’s true.’ Never tell *the pragmatic lie!* **God’s greater message**: The New Covenant puts God’s law into our hearts, so we are no longer driven by *terror avoidance* or *proud merits*, but by our zeal to please our Father, to know and enjoy God, as our *thank-You* response of gratitude for such a great salvation: *God is generous, and I am His child. Now I want to be generous to and for and with Him ... to participate in my Father’s greatest mission!*

❸ See the New Covenant spirit here: * God is providing. I am confident, resting, & content. He is supplying strength/resources. * Thank you (Philippians) for sharing ... & this is good. * You are learning the joy of generosity (*profit to your account* ~ blessings now and later). * Your gift has become a worship offering, an acceptable sacrifice, and a fragrant aroma ~ all of this pleasing to God (since we display, in all our relationships, His generous nature). * Not as some kind of *repayment* for Christ’s life in us! We rest in the confidence that God our Father will provide for all our needs, acc. to His riches, in (because of) Christ Jesus.

Practicals: Paul has no more needs ~ but the church he loved (its ongoing gospel mission) plus the needy poor, faithful servants in chains, nations unreached, congregations striving to maintain *lampstands* and *lighthouses* in dark places ...! In 2025 we will provide practical training and encouragement concerning our generosity, charity, tithing, and stewardship ~ plus info on many worthy missions that can benefit from our gospel-motivated charity. God provides ~ via us. *Can we spin straw into gold? If Mammon is turned into eternal Glory!*