

September 2026

KANAPAHA TIMES

Kanapaha Presbyterian Church
Monthly Newsletter - September 2026



The Season of Peace is a time to pause, pray, and reflect on God's call for peace in our world and in our own communities. As we look around us, we are reminded that peace begins with each of us—with kindness, forgiveness, understanding, and a willingness to listen. May we pray for peace among nations, healing in our communities, and unity within our families and churches. May we be people who carry God's peace wherever we go, sharing hope and love with those around us.

Special Offerings

Beginning September 6th and culminating on October 4th with World Communion Sunday, the PCUSA special offering is one of three offerings held during the year. This offering supports the PCUSA in the cultivation of justice, peacemaking efforts, global witness nurturing ecumenical & interfaith relations.

All of God's people gather around the Table to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Part of the atonement that happens around this Table is reconciliation, which is the focus of the World Communion Offering. Experience the grace that comes from reconciling all peoples from all nations around the corner and around the globe through the ministry of this offering.

KPC has participated in all of the Special Offerings through the PCUSA and there will be information on how you can give to this worthy effort during worship.
Please give if you can.

Minute for Mission

This month, we are reminded that mission is not something we do only beyond the walls of our church.

Every time we offer food to a neighbor, provide encouragement to someone who is struggling, or reach out to someone in need, we are living out Christ's call to love and serve one another.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

Luke 10:27

**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

We are all called together to be the hands and feet of Christ in a world that so desperately needs hope, love, and compassion. Our mission is not just something we do; it is who we are as disciples.

Through the ministries we support, the lives we touch, and the communities we serve, God's love reaches places we may never see and changes lives we may never meet. From local outreach and hunger programs to global mission partners and disaster response, every act of faithfulness—no matter how small—makes a difference in God's kingdom.

Let us continue to give generously, pray faithfully, and serve joyfully, trusting that God will use our gifts to bring healing, justice, and hope to the world.

Thank you for being part of this vital mission. Together, we are making Christ's love visible.

**May God bless and strengthen you as we walk this journey of faith—together,
In Christ's service**

Family Promise

Due to the generosity of our members and friends, the Mission Committee was able to purchase much needed back to school supplies for the children in the Family Promise program. We also were able to purchase some other ongoing supply needs such as diapers. Members had also donated diapers and other household goods that were delivered to the Family Promise office. Thank you for your willingness to help those families who are homeless. This mission ministry has been a vital program that we support to assist families in our Gainesville community.

Colleen Harrell Thanksgiving Basket Ministry

KPC mission committee will once again be providing Thanksgiving food for the food insecure families at Wiles Elementary School. Stay tuned for more information in October.



Announcement:

On Sunday, September 20th after worship, there will be a Called Congregational Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to formally dissolve the pastoral relationship of Reverend Michael Wood with Kanapaha Presbyterian Church and to update and move on the sale of the front KPC property. It is important to attend this meeting to participate and ask questions. A quorum is also necessary to conduct business. Please be there if you can.

Let us pray

Holy God, accompany us as we prepare to receive the bread of life and the cup of salvation on World Communion Sunday. Embolden us to understand the wideness of your mercy and the vastness of your realm on Earth. Give us the grace to understand another's culture and show us how we might be more faithful as we proclaim your saving death through our actions, Amen.

WORLD COMMUNION DAY

We are one in Christ.



World Communion Day reminds us that we do not celebrate alone. Around the world, Christians gather at the table—different languages, different cultures, one body in Christ.

YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE
The World Communion Offering supports the Church's mission and ministries both locally and around the world. Your contribution helps build relationships, share hope, and strengthen the church we are called to be.



NURTURING LEADERS



BUILDING COMMUNITY



SERVING A BROKEN WORLD

Give generously.

Together, at Christ's table, we are sent to bring love and witness to our world.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR WORLD COMMUNION DAY
Let us give thanks and give together.

Medicare Open Enrollment Information Meeting

Please join us at Kanapaha Presbyterian Church on October 1st for an informative meeting about Medicare Open Enrollment. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about your Medicare options, ask questions, and receive helpful information as you consider your coverage for the coming year. Everyone is welcome, so bring your questions and join us for this important and informative gathering.

SERVING HEALTH INSURANCE NEEDS OF ELDERS

Medicare Open Enrollment October 15 – December 7, 2026

COME LEARN ABOUT THE 2027 CHANGES!



SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) provides free and unbiased health insurance counseling. Our mission is to empower you with the knowledge on how to become a more proactive partner in your own health insurance decisions.

SHINE Volunteers are here to answer your questions about:

- 2027 Medicare Changes – have you received your Annual Notice of Change from Medicare yet?
- 2027 Plan Options – Are you on original Medicare with a prescription drug plan; or have A Medicare Advantage Plan like an HMO/PPO?
- 2027 Need to reduce out of pocket costs?
- 2027 Do you know how to prevent, detect & why it is important to report Medicare fraud?

Kanapaha
Presbyterian Church
@ the Church Hall

6221 SW 75th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32608

October 1, 2026
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

We look forward to
answering your questions!

Call the church @
352-378-9080 for details.

ELDER HELPLINE
1-800-963-5337
FloridaShine.org



#BECOMEASHINEVOLUNTEER



David Berry
Richard Berry
Miriam Otto
Jote Thompson
Joanna Long
Gray Jrene
Bob Gehman

September 06
September 11
September 11
September 12
September 20
September 23
September 29



Quotes to Inspire You on Labor Day

"To find joy in work is to discover the fountain of youth."

— Pearl S. Buck

"The miracle is not that we do the work, but that we are happy to do it."

— Mother Teresa

"Before the reward, there must be labor. You plant before you harvest. You sow in tears before you reap joy."

— Ralph Ransom

"Though you can love what you do not master, you cannot master what you do not love."

— Mokokoma Mokhonoana

"The supreme accomplishment is to blur the lines between work and play."

— Arnold J. Toynbee

"A man is not paid for having a head and hands, but for using them."

— Elbert Hubbard

"Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration."

— Thomas Edison

"Take rest. A field that has rested gives a bountiful crop."

— Ovid

"Follow your passion, be prepared to work hard and sacrifice, and, above all, don't let anyone limit your dreams."

— Donovan Bailey

"Whatever you want to do, if you want to be great at it, you have to love it and be able to make sacrifices for it."

— Maya Angelou

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday September 7th

Labor day

**Tuesday September 8th,
15th, 22nd, 29th**

Bible Study 10am

**Sunday September 20th,
27th**

Minute for Mission

Sunday September 20th

**Pot Luck, Congregation-
al Meeting**

Sunday September 27th

Magic Penny Offering

Tuesday September 29th

Newsletter Deadline

Thursday October 1st

**Medicare Open Enroll-
ment Meeting**



September 2026

KANAPAHA TIMES

Kanapaha Presbyterian Church
Monthly Newsletter - August 2026

Kanapaha Presbyterian Church
EST. 1859

Moderator of Session Rev. Dr. Don McGarity
Clerk of Session Kim Friend (2026)

Session Members	Name / Class	Co-chair
Administration and Finance	Bill Bahlke (2027)	Kim Friend (2028)
Buildings & Grounds	Bill Bahlke (2027)	
Church History & Cemetery Management	Joanna Long (2028)	
Education & Training	Karla Ellsworth (2028)	
Missions	Kim Friend (2028)	
Nomination Committee	Bill Bahlke (2027)	
Special Projects & Promotion	Karla Ellsworth (2028)	
Worship & Nurture	Joanna Long (2028)	Karla Ellsworth (2028)