

Lent 2023

at FPC

worship + music

FEB

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22. Imposition of Ashes service, 6 pm. Also at Children's chapel at 9:30 am, Open to all. Both in the sanctuary.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES, 5:30 pm

Thursdays February 23-March 30. in the Life Center at 5:30 pm in conjunction with Hot Dish & Hope guests.

WELCOME TO LORD'S TABLE SERVICE, February 26 at 5 pm in the sanctuary. Join our second-graders as they conclude their Communion milestone class.

MAR

COMMUNION SUNDAY, March 5, 9 am Rejoice! and 11 am sanctuary. *Congregational Meeting* to vote on slate of elders will be held before the processional for the 11 am service. Rejoice!

worshippers are encouraged to participate and may leave afterward.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, March 19, one worship service at 11 am in the sanctuary. our 8th-graders finish their confirmation journey and become full members of the church.

APR

PALM SUNDAY, April 2. Rejoice! at 9 am and Sanctuary at 11 am. Children sing in both.

MARCEL DUPRÉ'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS, April 2, 5 pm. John Alexander, organ; Jill Duffield, narrator.

NEW – MAUNDY THURSDAY service, April 6 at 6 pm in the Life Center. Rejoice! Ensemble leads music. Seated at the round tables, we will worship and take communion.

TENEBRAE SERVICE at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. Chancel Choir leads music. Child care will be provided.

EASTER VIGIL, April 8, 7:30 pm. Memorial Columbarium, moves to the sanctuary, with traditional and Rejoice! music. Child care provided.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 9. 7 am Sunrise Service in Memorial Columbarium. Identical traditional services at 9 & 11 am in the sanctuary with brass, organ and choir.

CHAMBER MUSIC TRIO, April 30 at 5 pm. Works by Schubert, Debussy, and Britten. Radha Upton on piano, Ryan Graebert on cello, and Dan Skidmore on violin.

MAY

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL, *Life of the Party!* May 17, 6-6:30 pm in the sanctuary. The Canticle, Credo and Cherub choirs share the story of Mary and Martha.

BE A WITNESS



With our songs and our confessions and our prayers and the Word proclaimed and the beauty of our space, we witness the love and grace of the One who is with us, always, even to the end of the world. He is risen, indeed.

LENTEN SUNDAY SERIES

A Witness to Temptation, February 26.
Scriptures: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 and Matthew 4:1-11

Witness New Beginnings, March 5.
Scriptures: Genesis 12:1-4a and John 3:1-17

The Witness of Living Water, March 12.
Scriptures: Exodus 17:1-7 and John 4:5-42

Unbelieved Witness, March 19.
Scriptures: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 and John 9:1-41

A Witness to Resurrection, March 26.
Scriptures: Ezekiel 37:1-14 and John 11:1-45

Being a witness to each other



JILL DUFFIELD
Senior Pastor

Noticed, named and known. These three words sum up what's required for people to have a sense of belonging.

This insight comes from research done on the epidemic of isolation and loneliness among teenagers and young adults. The Springtide Research Institute gleaned important, but sobering data, regarding how alone many youth and young adults feel. As an example, 39% agreed they had **NOBODY** to talk to.

Fuller Youth Institute did additional research in this field specifically for youth connected to a religious community and while the data revealed some positive connections between faith and mental health, there were many areas of concern. The data revealed that about a third of those surveyed felt anonymous or invisible at their place of worship. A little less than that percentage said no one spoke to them when they attended church. Couple these findings with Springtide's insight that what most contributed to a young person's sense of belonging and overall mental health was a relationship with at least one trusted adult.

The report concluded:

What emerged as we conducted our interviews was the idea that creating a sense of belonging is actually a three-step process. We call this process being Noticed, Named, and Known.

Young people told us that first they need to be seen and acknowledged, then they need to be understood and counted on, before finally being integrated into the daily life of the group. Our respondents told us that when they feel Noticed, Named, and Known a sense of belonging naturally emerges.

I would argue that this is true for all generations. We all need to be noticed, named and known in order to belong. One youth leader at Fuller Youth Institute said that being seen is equated with being loved. In other words, we need a witness, a trusted witness who sees rightly who we are, values us as we are, and is excited about being with us.

This Lent we're exploring the theme "Be a Witness" using the lectionary texts appointed for each Sunday. We will bear witness to the painful and the beautiful, the challenging and the uplifting. In all of it we will seek to bear witness to the love of God as we notice, name and know our Savior and in so doing, see Christ in one another.

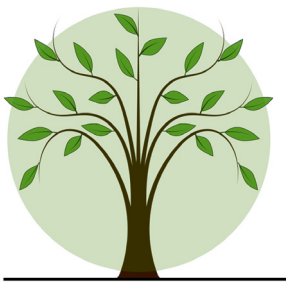
My prayer is that this Lent will be a season where we commit to noticing, naming and knowing everyone we encounter so we can be a witness to how the Spirit is moving in them, in us, and in the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill".

BE A WITNESS



To take Christ's love into the world, we must be open to seeing needs in unexpected places. A \$40,000 gift to UNCG from the Neil Dunnivant Hunger Fund is helping students, many of them the first in their families to attend college, eat in the dining hall when they are struggling financially.



Sometimes one person is the witness who carries the love of our whole faith community – to those who are exhausted from caregiving for a family member, to those who grieve for months after a memorial service, to those who just need someone to sit with them for a time.

outreach

EVENTS

HABITAT WORK DAYS. Habitat puts God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Plus you can learn skills, make friends & give back to our community. FPC is participating in a build on March 18, April 15 and April 29. Open to adults and older youth (18+). Sign-up link at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP or contact Deborah Conner, 336-478-4709 or DCONNER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

EARTH DAY EARTH CARE CELEBRATION in the Welcome Center. See displays & talk with experts on how to Refuse, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle and care for God's creation! Sponsored by FPC's Earth Care Team.



ONGOING

WEDNESDAY FOOD DRIVE-BY for Urban Ministry, 10 am-2 pm in front of Redhead Hall. Be a greeter: FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

MEALS ON WHEELS delivery to seniors, third Wednesdays. Our team currently needs 2 people to take a route. If you can share 2 hours a month contact Linda Allen, 336-549-3367 or LKWALLEN70@GMAIL.COM.

SOCK COLLECTION for Hot Dish & Hope guests. Donate new socks in the labeled box in the Welcome Center.

pastoral care

EVENTS

OVARIAN CANCER: MYTHS AND TRUTHS. Hear member Joanie Legette's compelling and faith-filled story, plus an OB/GYN specialist will share signs, symptoms and how to advocate for yourself. March 12, 10 am, Garden Room.

10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S, March 30, 1-3 pm in Redhead Hall.

ONGOING

FORK & FAITH, fellowship lunch for women. March 8, April 19, May 17 at noon, Life Center. RSVP to Debby Foster, 336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

LAMENTATIONS, bereavement care group. Wednesday, March 15, April 19, May 17 at 10 am, Myers Loyalty Room.

SPIRITUS, Support group for those providing care for a loved one, March 15, April 19, May 17 at 2 pm, Myers Loyalty Room.

VETERANS FELLOWSHIP COFFEE: March 29 at 10 am in Redhead Hall.

INFO: Doug McLeroy, 336-478-4739 or DMCLEROY@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

adult formation

BE A WITNESS

Sometimes witnessing starts small, in a children's church school class or choir. Then it grows and matures into a young adult carrying a Presbyterian voice into global discussions. Our member Victoria Alexander is serving as a Young Adult Volunteer in PCUSA's office at the United Nations. See her message below.

Hi First Pres! I am learning so much at PCUSA's Mission to the United Nations. Did you know we are one of the founding nonprofit groups at the UN? It's remarkable to see the significant but often unknown work our denomination does to make the world a better place for all of God's people. I focus on creation care and climate policy as well as migration, gender justice, peace in the Korean peninsula, and human rights in Myanmar and Cameroon.

I didn't realize how big a role our denomination plays in both New York and Washington, DC, working with Lutherans, Methodists, and Quakers and civil society groups on topics such as children and armed conflict, peacemaking, human rights, and climate justice. We gather statistics and testimony and present them to UN organizations and the offices of other nations to urge them to support resolutions in the General Assembly and on the Security Council. We also attend UN gatherings on topics such as biodiversity and the status of women.

I will be at First Pres on February 26 with Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, PCUSA's advocacy director, and hope you will join us during Church School to hear more about how Presbyterians are advocating. See y'all then!



Victoria, second from left, with the staff of the PCUSA office at the UN: L to R: Emma Johnston, also a YAV; Sue Rheem, Representative to the UN; and Ivy Lopedito, Associate for International Issues.

LENT PROGRAMS

BE A WITNESS DEVOTIONAL & STUDY GUIDE

will follow Jill's sermon series. Available

in the Welcome Center, Life Center, narthex and Tower Room. Use for personal devotions/spiritual practices, or discuss with a group:

- Sundays at 10 am with the Commitment (Blair Hagan Room) or Families Growing in Faith (back of the Life Center)
- Mondays, 9:15-10:15 am, Women's Lenten Group led by Lisa Witherspoon, Corl 306. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.
- Wednesdays, 12:15-1:15 pm, BYO lunch. FPC and StepUp Greensboro staff group led by Donna Chase, Redhead Hall. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

LENTEN LONGINGS: EXPLORE THE PATH JESUS TOOK AS HE WENT TO JERUSALEM, led by Rev. Kate Huddelson Gillespie, our member and a retired PCUSA minister, in March. Followed in April by **EASTER SIGHTINGS: WALK WITH JESUS FOLLOWING THE RESURRECTION**. Both on Sundays at 10 am in the Myers Loyalty Room, hosted by Faith Builders.

CENTERING PRAYER GROUP on Zoom led by Deborah Conner, Wednesdays at noon through March 29. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

LENTEN YOGA, led by Rev. Virginia Lee Wood. Thursdays through March 30, 4:30-5:30 pm, Virginia Gilmer Room. RSVP: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

LENT IN PLAIN SIGHT, a devotional by Jill Duffield, is available in the Welcome Center, \$10.

BEING A WITNESS, with Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, PCUSA Advocacy Director, and Victoria Alexander, Young Adult Volunteer. Hear about the work of the PCUSA Office of Public Witness and Mission to the United Nations. February 26 at 10 am, Garden Room with Zoom option. Later that day: Discussion of Jimmie's new book, *Unbroken and Unbowed: A History of Black Protest in America*, and updates from Office of Public Witness, 6:30 pm, Garden Room with Zoom option. For Zoom links contact Yolanda Baxter, YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

More adult formation, next page

adult formation

WEEKLY GROUPS

Through March.

COMMITMENT: Studying Jill's Lenten devotional, Blair Hagan Room. Contact Mary Eagle, EAGLEM0314@GMAIL.COM.

FAITH BUILDERS: March, *Lenten Longings: Explore the Path Jesus Took as He Went to Jerusalem*, and April, *Easter Sightings: Walk with Jesus Following the Resurrection*. Both led by Rev. Kate Huddelson Gillespie, our member and a retired PCUSA minister, Myers Loyalty Room. Contact Doug, DOUGKEYART@GMAIL.COM.

FAMILIES GROWING IN FAITH: For parents who seek community, support, and growth in their faith. Back of the Life Center, 10:15 am. Info: Lisa Cook, ELISAWCOOK@GMAIL.COM.

SEEKERS: *Letter to the Ephesians* continues in Main 125, with conference call option. Contact Gerard Davidson, GDAVIDSON@WARDBLACKLAW.COM.

MONTHLY GROUPS

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL, 10 AM:

• **YMBC & Agape** continue *Jeremiah: A Guide for Living in Turbulent Times*, led by Professor Sandie Gravett in Redhead Hall.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S

LUNCHEON, second Mondays at noon in Mullin Life Center. Get your ticket (\$10) by the Wednesday prior to each lunch. Go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP or

call 336-478-4799. March speaker: Rev. Maria Hanlin on her journey. No April meeting. May: Music from Anne Albert.

PW CIRCLES, studying *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*

- **MARY AND MARTHA**, second Mondays, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room. B.J. Williams, RWILLIAMS1@TRIAD.RR.COM.
- **SALLIE HUSS**, second Mondays, 10:30 am, Myers Loyalty Room. Gail Derkasch, PPOMPOM@AOL.COM.
- **HEARTS AND MINDS**, third Tuesdays, 10 am, Myers Loyalty Room. Betty Jo Forney, BJFORNEY@MINDSPRING.COM.
- **RUTH AND NAOMI**, third Tuesdays, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room. Anne Cox, ANCO7408@GMAIL.COM.

ADULT CONFERENCES

PRESBYTERIAN MEN: A New Response to a Seasoned Faith. July 23-25 at Massanetta Springs Conference Center in Harrisonburg, Va.

WOMEN'S CONNECTION 2023 at Montreat Conference Center, August 11-13. Keynote speaker is Kate Bowler, bestselling author, podcast host & professor of American religious history at Duke University.

For both contact YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG



MONDAYS: LECTIO DIVINA, led by Rev. David Partington, 11 am-noon on Zoom. Contact David Partington, DCPSBW197@GMAIL.COM.

TUESDAYS: PEACEHAVEN FARM SMALL GROUP, 6:30-7:30 pm on Zoom. Young adults of all abilities meet for scripture reading, discussion, song, laughter & prayer. Meets: February 28, March 14 & 28, April 25. Contact Donna Chase, DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

WEDNESDAYS:

- **MEN'S LECTIONARY**, 7:30-8:30 am on Zoom. Contact Jack Harrington, JACKHARRINGTON44@GMAIL.COM.
- **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WOMEN**, 8:45-9:45 am on Zoom. Looking at and writing letters on God, love and our soul, reading Jesus' "love letters" with a nod to Bishop Michael Curry April 6 & 13. Contact Betsy Harrington, BETSYHARRINGTON@TRIAD.RR.COM.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUP**, 10-11:45 am, Garden Room. Make handcrafts such as blankets and hats for local nonprofits. Contact B.J. Williams (336-288-8601) or Hannah Britt (336-288-9289).

CURRIE LIBRARY

MONDAY BOOK CLUB: Second Mondays, 10:30 am, Garden Room. March 13, *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd, facilitated by Jill Amidon Strickland. April 17, *The Exiles* by Cristiana Kline, facilitated by Kitty Robison.

May 8, *Red Brick, Black Mountain, White Clay* by Christopher Bentley, facilitated by Jill Duffield.

TUESDAY BOOK CLUB: Second Tuesdays, 1:30 pm, Garden Room. For link contact Yolanda Baxter, YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG. March 14 *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel, facilitated by Betty K. Phipps. April 11, *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans, facilitated by Lisa Witherspoon. May 9, *Red Brick, Black Mountain, White Clay* by Christopher Bentley, facilitated by Jill Duffield.

BOOKS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF: George D. Robison, III and Virginia Redhead Bethune, *The NRSV of the Bible as a Book on CD*, given by Kitty Robison. Peter Vaughn Vanstory, *You Can't Go Wrong Doing Right: How a Child of Poverty Rose to the White House and Helped Change the World*, given by Bob and Jean Rapp. Pete Wyrick, *Wayfaring Strangers: The Musical Voyage from Scotland and Ulster to Appalachia*, given by Constance H. Wyrick. William "Bill" Thomas Linton, Jr., *The Tortured Genius of Edgar Allan Poe* (Elliot Engel CD) by Bob and Jean Rapp and *Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune: An Unusual Friendship* by Anne & Jimmy Chamblee. Betty Ray McCain (mother of Eloise McCain Hassell), *The Essential Donald Davis and Party People* (CDs) given by Anne & Jimmy Chamblee and *Just Like That*, given by Nancy and Erwin Fuller. Judson "Jud" B. Franklin, *The Gospel According to Jesus*, given by Bob & Jean Rapp. Books to be selected, George D. Robison III, given by Sue Lee. Clyde Collins, given by Bob and Jean Rapp.

BOOKS GIVEN IN HONOR OF: Kate and Jim Schlosser, *Sit-ins, Drive-ins, and Uncle Sam* given by Currie Library. Chip & Louise Bristol, *Burning Faith* given by Sudie & Bill White.

children + families

be a witness



We baptize them, love them, and teach them the stories of our faith. Our children witness the wonder of God's creation everywhere, even in the ladybug who joined them for a chapel service one day.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL & SUMMER KIDS DISCIPLE CLUB,
July 31-August 3, 9 am-noon. VBS is for ages 3-rising second-graders. KDC is for rising 3rd- 5th-graders. Register starting March 1, [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](https://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).



To learn more about children's ministry contact Lisa Witherspoon, 336-478-4726 or LWITHERSPOON@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

FEB

WELCOME TO LORD'S TABLE SERVICE, February 26 at 5 pm in the sanctuary. Join our second-graders as they conclude their Communion milestone class.

MAR

VBS & KDC REGISTRATION opens March 1! Info at bottom right. Link at [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](https://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT, March 4, 5-8 pm; ages infant-5th grade. We'll play, eat pizza, and watch "Trolls." \$15 per child. Spaces limited; first come, first served! Use QR Code.



KIDS DISCIPLE CLUB, March 5, 3-4:30 pm. Third-fifth graders meet on the first Sunday of each month for bible study, service, and fun! Also April 2 and May 7.

APR

PALM SUNDAY, April 10 – Resurrection Egg Hunt, 10 am. Preschool-5th gather on Elm Street Playground with an adult. Egg hunts by age, then fellowship & doughnuts together!

KIDS DISCIPLE CLUB, April 2 3-4:30 pm. Third-fifth graders meet first Sunday of each month for bible study, service & fun! Also May 7.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 9 – Preschool-5th gather on Elm Street Playground at 10 am with a parent for bells, bubbles, music, parachute & fellowship.

April 9, 16 – No church school for children (nursery open)

STORYBOOK BIBLE PRESENTATION for 3-year-olds. April 23 at 10 am in Memorial Chapel.

CELEBRATE THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S COLORFUL CREATION!
April 29, 3-5 pm in front of the sanctuary. Children's ministry invites EVERYONE to come!

Kids, wear a wacky, tacky outfit!
Art stations, snow cones, face painting, decorated car trunks with candy & more!



5TH GRADE RECOGNITION, April 30 at 10 am in Corl 306. Families and 5th-graders are invited for breakfast and a blessing as we send them off from elementary church school to youth group!

MAY

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL, *Life of the Party!* May 17, 6-6:30 pm in the sanctuary. The Canticle, Credo and Cherub choirs share the story of Mary and Martha.

youth + families

BE A WITNESS

One of the most important ways we witness in youth ministry is by listening, especially as they listen to each other on Sunday nights. Youth gatherings give them a place to belong as they are becoming the young people God is calling them to be.



To learn more about youth ministry contact Donna Chase, DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

FEB

BEING A WITNESS CONVO WITH PIZZA, February 26, 12:15-1:30 in Memorial 300. Youth from local Matthew 25 churches hear about the PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer program and how PCUSA is advocating in Washington and at the United Nations. With our member and YAV Victoria Alexander, and advocacy director Jimmie Hawkins.

MAR

INTERFAITH SHABBAT SERVICE at Temple Emanuel's Greene Street location March 3, 6-7:30 pm. Confirmation event, all youth invited!

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE OPPORTUNITY, Help look after the kids at Parents' Night Out on March 4; 5-8 pm; ages infant-5th grade.

YOUTH GROUP & DINNER, Lenten focus, March 5, 6 pm. Also March 19 and April 2

MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST, March 15, 7:15 am at Chick Fil A on Pisgah Church Road.

CONFIRMATION CROSSING OVER RETREAT, March 18, and **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**, March 19, one worship service at 11 am in the sanctuary.

YOUTH GROUP, baby shower for John & Laura Alexander, March 19 at 6 pm.



ending the silence

The local chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness presents a special Church School on March 26 at 10 am.

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH:

Warning signs, facts and how to get help for yourself or a friend.

FOR PARENTS OF YOUTH: Warning signs, facts, how to talk with your child and how to work with school staff.

YOCO, Presbyterian youth from across the city gather March 26 at 5 pm at Guilford Park Presbyterian, 2100 Fernwood Drive.

CHURCH SCHOOL DURING LENT: Spiritual practices. 10 am, third floor of Memorial Building.

APR

PALM SUNDAY,
APRIL 2

YOUTH GROUP,

April 2, 6 pm.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 9

April 9, 16 – No church school (spring break)

MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST, April 19, 7:15 am at Chick Fil A on Pisgah Church Road.

YOCO, Presbyterian youth from across the city gather April 23 at 5 pm at Community In Christ, 5401 Liberty Road.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY, Party in the Park. April 29, 3-5 pm. Decorate car trunks with a spring theme and hand out candy.

MAY

END OF THE YEAR PARTY, May 7, TBA

SENIOR SUNDAY, May 21, TBA