
I
WONDER
WHAT GOD IS DOING?



first notes

lent 2024 at first presbyterian • fpcgreensboro.org



PRAY

24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL: Join us as we begin and end our Lenten season in prayer. Pray wherever you are in 30-minute slots starting at 5 am on Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday. We encourage you to pray for our church. Sign up with QR code or go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.



FPC 40 DAYS OF LENTEN PRAYER CALENDAR: With quotes, scriptures & more, created by our Capital Campaign Prayer Team. Pick up in the Welcome Center, narthex, Tower Room, and Life Center. Also available, **FPC PRAYER CARDS** created by the team, and In **JESUS' NAME DAILY PRAYERS BOOKLET**.

WEEKLY PRAYER GATHERING: In the sanctuary at noon on Wednesdays, February 21-March 27.

OPEN LABYRINTH PRAYER WALKS:



Trip and Ann Adams invite you to walk their backyard labyrinth during Lent. it takes 10 minutes

and 2-3 people can walk at a time. 4502 Starmount Drive. Bring a picnic if you like!

- Sunday, March 3, 1-3 pm.
- Tuesday, March 5, 11 am-1 pm.
- Saturday, March 9, 10 am-noon, 3-5 pm.
- Sunday, March 10, 5-7 pm.

WORSHIP



ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14: Imposition of Ashes service, 6:30 pm. *Beginning at 6:15, child care will be available for ages 7 and under, MLC 101.* Also at Preschool Chapel at 9:30 am, and at several of our retirement homes during the day.

HOLY WEEK

- **PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24:** Rejoice! at 9 am and Sanctuary at 11 am. Childrens choirs will sing at both services. At 5 pm, Marcel Dupré's *Stations of the Cross* with John Alexander on the organ.
- **MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28:** Seated at the round tables in the Life Center, we will worship and take communion with Hot Dish guests. Service at 5:30 pm.
- **TENEBRAE SERVICE, MARCH 29:** 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. Chancel Choir leads music during this service of gradual darkness in the sanctuary.
- **EASTER VIGIL, MARCH 30:** 7:30 pm. Begins with a bonfire in Memorial Columbarium, then we carry the light into the sanctuary.
- **EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31:** 7 am Sunrise Service in Memorial Columbarium. Identical traditional services at 9 & 11 am with brass, organ and Chancel Choir.

GATHER

LENTEN DINNER AND DEVOTION

From February 14 through March 27, join the FPC family for fellowship, food, and a simple Lenten devotion. Dinner will be served 5:15-6:45 pm in Mullin Life Center. Staff will lead the devotion at 6 pm. Ages 12 and up, \$10; ages 6-11, \$6; under 5, free. Household maximum, \$30. Reservations are required by 5 pm Monday each week. Use the QR code or go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.



SOCIAL WORLD OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS: How Roman society thought about religion, politics, gender, family and more, and how the New Testament interacts with those ideas. Led by Jason Myers, religion professor at Greensboro College, 6:30-7:30 pm Wednesdays in the Garden Room, February 21 through March 20.

PRACTICE

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES DURING LENT

- **Lectio Divina** enables both prayerful pondering of selected writings as well as personal reflection and prayer. Mondays, 9-10 am on Zoom. Contact David Partington, DCPSBW197@GMAIL.COM, for information and link.
- **Lenten Yoga**, led by Rev. Virginia Wood, Thursdays at 4:30 pm in the Virginia Gilmer Room.
- **Walking Group**, 5:30-6:30 pm on Wednesdays, March 13, April 10, May 8 and June 12. Meet at the sanctuary steps.
- Jill Duffield's devotional **Lent in Plain Sight** is available in the Welcome Center, \$10.

Time to take on the task



JILL DUFFIELD
Senior Pastor

A short, but thick with thought book I revisit regularly is by Hugh Heclo, *On Thinking Institutionally*. Heclo makes a strong case for the role of institutions, institutions like churches, in shaping society for good over the long haul. He argues that to “think institutionally” is to think beyond ourselves and thus to make decisions that are not solely self-serving, but instead for the benefit of a larger purpose that lasts well beyond our lifetimes. In a section I find especially resonate he writes:

“...institutional thinking understands itself to be in a position of receiving rather than of inventing or creating. The emphasis is not on thinking up things for yourself, but on thoughtfully taking delivery of and using what has been handed down to you. In taking delivery, institutionalists see themselves as debtors who owe something, not creditors to whom something is owed.”

Heclo goes on to quote Goethe, “What you have received as heritage, take now as task and thus you will make it your own.”

It seems to me we are at a point in the life of our congregation where we are being called to task. After nearly two hundred years of serving this community those of us occupying the offices of teaching elder and ruling elder, member and, most importantly, disciple, are indebted to all the saints who came before us. We have taken delivery of our magnificent sanctuary, the excellent preschool, the life-giving ministries Hot Dish & Hope and StepUp. We’ve been entrusted with the organ, our residency program. We’ve been taught in Sunday School, seen our children mentored, and witnessed our parents visited, and celebrated. All of this, and so much more, we received. Now it is our task to steward this heritage, and in so doing, perhaps not so much make it our own, but shape it in ways that further God’s mission in our time and for future generations.

This year marks a pivotal season in our life together. As we celebrate our 200th anniversary beginning in October and continuing until May of 2025, we also embark on an over \$11 million capital campaign, and continue to explore what God is calling us to do on the corner of Fisher and Elm. I pray through the power of the Holy Spirit we will be strong and courageous, taking what we received as task, all of it God’s own, stewarding everything in ways that reveal of the life, love and character of Jesus Christ.

During this season of Lent, I invite you to wonder what God is doing with us, through us, among us, for us and, yes, to us, knowing we can never repay the debt Jesus paid on our behalf, but in joyous, grateful response, we can take up the task to which we’ve been called for such a time as this.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill". The script is fluid and cursive, with a small dot above the first letter.

PLANNING YOUR 4TH QUARTER

We all want to live our best life and to see the people we love enjoying all their days. Planning – financially, physically, personally, and emotionally – gives us the freedom to focus our 4th quarter on the things that matter most. **This series is for anyone planning for themselves or aging parents or others.** Come to all or choose what you need.

Presentations begin at 5 pm in the Garden Room.

RSVP to Debby Foster, 336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.



ESTATE PLANNING

Frank Johns, Elder Law Attorney, and Dorian Sylvester, Executive Director, Corporation of Guardianship. *March 6, RSVP by March 4.*

AGING WITH DIGNITY: HONORING YOUR MEDICAL WISHES

Karen Amirehsani & Rev. Newton Cowan. *April 10, RSVP by April 8.*

LIVING OPTIONS AS YOU AGE: PROS AND CONS

Jennifer Harriss of Age Advocate. *May 8, RSVP by May 6.*

PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL

Rev. Newton Cowan. *June 5, RSVP by June 3.*

UNFINISHED FAMILY BUSINESS

Karen Amirehsani & Rev. Doug McLeroy. *July 10, RSVP by July 8.*

SMALL GROUPS

FORK & FAITH: Monthly fellowship lunch for women, February 21, noon in Mullin Life Center. Also March 20, April 17, and May 22. RSVP five days prior to Dolly Jennings, DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM or 336-854-2663.

VETERANS' FELLOWSHIP GROUP LUNCH: March 13, noon-1:30 pm in the Life Center. RSVP by March 7 to Debby Foster, 336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG, or Doug McLeroy, 336-478-4739.

FAITH & GRIEF: We are partnering with Holy Trinity Episcopal Church to provide opportunities for comfort & hope to those who have experienced the death of a loved one. The group will be a loving and supportive community on this journey of grief. Gatherings are the second Thursday of each month, noon-1 pm at Holy Trinity (one block south on Greene Street). For information contact Newton Cowan, 336-478-4737 or NCOWAN@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG, or visit FAITHANDGRIEF.ORG.

Prayer
Request?

Send your confidential
request to

NCOWAN@

FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

OR use

the QR code.

Pastors will read and pray
these petitions.



The Spirit will lead our journey

It is an honor and privilege to share news of our 2024 Capital Campaign – Rooted and Reaching in Christ’s Love. We look forward with much enthusiasm to Sunday, February 18, when we launch our churchwide journey of prayer, gratitude and faith, and connect God-entrusted resources with God-inspired visions.

Prayer throughout the journey will bring us into a closer relationship with God and a deeper biblical understanding of stewardship. The spirituality of giving is certainly a belief that needs to be passed to new generations. Everything that we have is a gift from God and God still owns 100% of these blessings! A call to prayer invites us to bring the real owner into the decision-making process. Our prayer will be for the experience of joy in the making of our gifts, while we become Spirit-led changemakers for good as our mission statement declares.

Gratitude is the wellspring of generosity, and that can be very contagious in a congregation like ours that is thriving and creating an impact on our community and the world. We will be participating in a vision that will make a difference to the Kingdom – touching people’s lives, preserving a historic and beautiful sanctuary, securing a foundation for future ministry, drawing closer to God with our gifts, while doing this in community with one another.

Faith guides our journey because we believe the vision is essential, urgent and critical. Vision drives a campaign – it is a powerful means to an end, but not the end itself. The end, of course, is the purpose of the church – to grow disciples and to minister to people in the name of Christ. Will we do this perfectly? Of course not! Let’s lay aside paradigms and narratives about perfection because that is impossible.

What is very possible is transformation! Let’s expand our Presbyterian motto of “The church reformed and always reforming according to the word of God” into a new mantra – FPC, transformed and always transforming, according to the love of Christ.

Blessings for all our journeys!



Lauren & Will Martin and Becky & John Veraar, campaign co-chairs



Pledging begins with discernment

- 1 Pray, trusting God to guide me.
- 2 Meditate on scripture
- 3 Evaluate my beliefs about stewardship, giving, and generosity. What does God want to teach me?
- 4 List my blessings. Re-surrender them back to God.
- 5 Reflect on sacrifice – letting go of something I value for something I value more.
- 6 Pray again, using Philippians 4:6. Pray till I feel God’s peace.
- 7 Respond in faith.

HORIZONS STEWARDSHIP

1,000 WORDS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
Second-graders make bread
in the Communion Education
Milestone class

Kids Disciple Club decorate
placemats for Hot Dish & Hope

Our group at the Montreat
College Conference in January

Lee Atkinson leads music at the
Women's Overnight Retreat

Therapy dogs visit the
Greensboro Youth Collective
gathering

learn + act / outreach

FOOD DRIVE-BY BY THE NUMBERS

Last year our collection for Urban Ministry totaled 23,761 pounds of food! We are off to a strong start in 2024, with a January total of 1,863 pounds. Every Wednesday from 10 am to 2 pm you can drop off canned food in front of Redhead Hall, 10 am-2 pm. Thank you for putting your love of our neighbors into action! Looking for an opportunity to volunteer? Sign-up for a 2-hour shift as a greeter! Link at [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](https://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).



INTERFAITH AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE

The Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative (IAHI) is a group of faith communities who have organized to address the challenges of affordable housing in Greensboro. Currently there are 12 faith communities, including FPC, involved with IAHI. The Working Group gathers on the second Monday of each month at noon to connect, learn about what is going on in the community, and collaborate on affordable housing projects. IAHI has recently decided to form three committees to help focus their work:

Building Projects Committee – Seek opportunities for the IAHI to lead or participate in projects building additional affordable housing in our community.

Family Support Committee – Look for ways congregations can support families seeking to transition into or maintain safe and affordable housing.

Advocacy Committee – Keep participating congregations informed about opportunities to participate in advocacy efforts with the city, neighbors, or others to support efforts to increase affordable housing in our community.

If you are interested in attending the Working Group meeting or one of the new committees, please contact Matt Bussell, MBUSSELL@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

RACIAL RECONCILIATION

More than 70 people attended our viewing of the documentary “A Journey Towards Racial Healing” in January, including members from St. James and Westminster. It was a time of learning and connection. It was a time of starting some hard conversations about reconciliation and how we can live into God’s vision for the world. Recognizing that there is more work to be done, we will continue conversations around racism and housing on February 20, at 5:30 pm in the Garden Room as we watch and discuss “Our America: Lowballed,” a documentary on discrimination in property assessments.

RALEIGH RALLY IN MARCH

The Outreach Committee invites us to join with people of faith from throughout North Carolina for the Poor Peoples’ Campaign rally in Raleigh on Saturday, March 2. We march to end poverty, address climate change, support affordable housing, ensure free and fair elections, and equal rights for all. We will gather in front of the sanctuary at 8 am to make the trip to the capital together. For more information, contact Matt Bussell, MBUSSELL@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

L. RICHARDSON TRUST GRANTS

Each year the trust makes grants “for the benefit of Home and Foreign Missions and the benevolent causes of the church” per the will of Mr. Richardson. Grants have averaged in the range of \$2,000 to \$10,000. 2024 applications must be received by March 15. For application, use QR code or go to



[FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/RICHARDSON-TRUST](https://fpcgreensboro.org/richardson-trust).

BEYOND PLASTICS GREENSBORO

A partner of our Earth Care team, meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Garden Room.

OFFERING OF LETTERS

Triad Bread for the World is working to pass the Farm Bill to support farmers and to ensure that all Americans have sufficient food. They are asking congregations to do an offering of letters, writing to our congressional representatives in the House and Senate. We encourage you to write a letter to one or more of your representatives and drop it off in the Welcome Center by Sunday, March 24. Talking points for the Farm Bill include: no more cuts to SNAP, food justice for US citizens in Puerto Rico by extending SNAP benefits to them, increase in fresh fruits and vegetables available through SNAP for better nutrition, Food Date Labeling Act creating less waste by using clearer and uniform dates based on science.

STEPUP GREENSBORO LUNCH & LEARN

Learn more about our ministry partner which helps people find jobs and build stable lives. April 3, noon-1 pm in Redhead Hall. Casual lunch served; please let Monica Robinson know if you plan to come, MROBINSON@STEPUPGREENSBORO.ORG or 336-676-5871, ext. 310. Also offered June 26, August 1, and October 23.

worship

Regular weekly schedule, unless otherwise noted: Rejoice! at 9 am in Mullin Life Center and traditional at 11 am in the sanctuary.

FEBRUARY 18. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

Tours of needed work at 10 and noon, meet in the Tower Room.

MARCH 3, COMMUNION SUNDAY

Congregational Meeting at the beginning of the 11 am service. The Nominating Committee will present nominees for elder and trustee. Rejoice! worshipers encouraged to attend and may leave after the meeting. *More, back cover.*

MARCH 10, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Set your clocks forward an hour that Saturday to get to worship on time!

MARCH 17, CONFIRMATION AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT

One service at 11 am in the sanctuary. Confirmands will be received as full members. We also will dedicate our commitments to the Capital Campaign.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES, SEE PAGE 2.

MIDWEEK INFORMAL SERVICE with Hot Dish & Hope guests. Music, 5:15 pm, followed by prayer and a message of care, second & fourth Thursdays, Life Center.

music

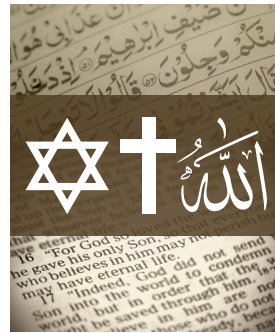
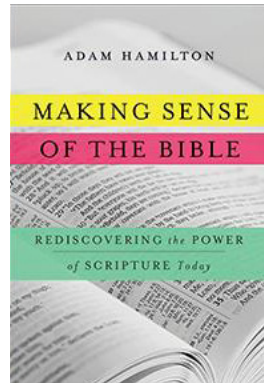
UNCG CHAMBER SINGERS AND UNIVERSITY CHORALE CONCERT, February 20 at 7:30 pm.

SHOUT FOR JOY! March 16 at 8 pm and March 18, at 7:30 pm The N.C. A&T State University Choir, Bel Canto Company, Gate City Voices, and regional high school choirs celebrate the music of underrepresented composers including Adolphus Hailstork. Info & tickets: CHORALARTSCOLLECTIVE.COM.

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL: Our children's choirs will present *Rescue in the Night*, the story of Daniel in the lion's den, on May 15 at 6:30 pm.

lent + spring / adults

SUNDAY CLASSES, 10 AM



Finding Common Ground

FAITH, POLITICS & CULTURE

- *Finding Common Ground: A Study of the Abrahamic Traditions.* This study looks at the basics of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as a way to understand the history and practice of each tradition, while stressing the things that bind these communities. Led by Professor Sandie Gravett, this study is hosted by YMBC and Agape classes. Through March in Redhead Hall.
- *Making Sense of the Bible.* Using the book by Adam Hamilton, we will deepen our understanding of scripture as we explore what the Bible is, and isn't, as well as examine its central themes. Led by Chip Bristol in the Come as You Are elective class, February 18 through March 24 in the Garden Room.
- *Faith, Politics & Culture.* Led by Neil Dunnivant. April 7: How Religion Influences Political Movements. April 14: What Causes the Decline of the Church and What is the Cause of the Rise of Secularism? April 21: The Difference in Protestantism vs. Catholicism. Come as You Are elective class, in the Garden Room.
- *The Gospel of John.* Ongoing study led by Gerard Davidson and hosted by the Seekers Class in Main 125.



To register: Use QR code or go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

2024 MONTREAT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FPC's women had a great gathering at Grandover in January, and here is another good one: The Women's Connection Conference, August 9-11 at Montreat Conference Center. The keynote speaker will be Becca Stevens. Stevens is an entrepreneur, priest, and survivor. She has founded 13 nonprofits and justice enterprises, mentored another 70, and raised over \$75 million to support them, and authored 12 books and sold over 300,000 copies. She has served as chaplain at St. Augustine's Chapel on Vanderbilt's campus for almost 30 years. Becca leads important conversations across the country with an inspiring message that love is the strongest force for change in the world. FPC will have a group attending. The cost will be \$500 (single room) & \$400 (double room). The cost includes both days of the conference, lodging at Assembly Inn and meals. **Registration closes February 18!**

lent + spring / adults

SMALL GROUPS

These groups have space available and welcome visitors & new members.

MONDAYS

LECTIO DIVINA, prayerful pondering of selected writings and personal reflection and prayer. Led by Rev. David Partington, 11 am-noon on Zoom each week. Contact David at DCPSBW197@GMAIL.COM.

MARY AND MARTHA women's circle, second Mondays, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room.

SALLIE HUSS women's circle, second Mondays, 10:30 am, Myers Loyalty Room.

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.

TUESDAYS

COFFEE, BISCUITS AND BIBLE: Twice a month before work join fellow FPC'ers for food, fellowship & discussing scripture. Bibles and food provided. 7:45-8:30 am, Solarium. February 27, March 12, March 26, April 9, April 23.

HEARTS AND MINDS women's circle, third Tuesdays, 10 am, Myers Loyalty Room.

RUTH AND NAOMI women's circle, third Tuesdays, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room.

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY on Zoom at 5:30 pm. Info: Walt Howell,

WHOWELL1@TRIAD.RR.COM, or Jim Hoeger, JIM.HOEGER@GMAIL.COM.

PEACEHAVEN FARM & FPC YOUNG ADULTS. Twice a month young adults of all abilities meet for scripture reading, discussion, song, laughter & prayer. 6:30 pm February 27 on Zoom, March 12 in the Solarium, March 26 on Zoom, April 9 in the Solarium, April 23 on Zoom. Info: Donna Chase, DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

WEDNESDAYS

MEN'S LECTIONARY, weekly, 7:30-8:30 am on Zoom. Contact Jack Harrington, JACKHARRINGTON44@GMAIL.COM.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WOMEN, weekly, 8:45-9:45 am. Contact Betsy Harrington, BETSYHARRINGTON@TRIAD.RR.COM.

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUP uses sewing bags to support church and local non-profit efforts, making small quilts, jackets, sweaters, blankets, hats and more. Newcomers & visitors welcome, supplies available. 10-11:45 am, Garden Room. Weekly through May 8; in summer June 19, July 17, August 20. Info: B.J. Williams (336-288-8601) or Hannah Britt (336-288-9289).

SPRING WALKING GROUP, 5:30-6:30 pm on Wednesdays, March 13, April 10, May 8 and June 12. Meet at the sanctuary steps.

WEDNESDAY COMPANIONS, second and fourth Wednesdays, 2:30-4:30 pm at Jackie Wilson's home. Info: JACKIEWILSON9544@GMAIL.COM.

THURSDAYS

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP women's circle, meets weekly, 10-11:15 am in Myers Loyalty Room. Info: Nancy Abrams, ABRAMSNE@AOL.COM, or Leigh Jones, LJONES0206@GMAIL.COM.

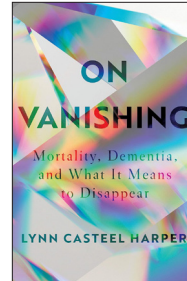
LEVEL 2 YOGA, weekly, 4:25-5:30 pm in the Virginia Gilmer Room, Smith 239. Bring water, a mat, a strap & block if you have one. Love offering accepted, not required. Info: Rev. Virginia Wood, REVIRGINIAWOOD@GMAIL.COM.

FRIDAYS

FIRST FAMILY SMALL GROUP, for those with children, first Fridays, 6-8 pm in member homes. Info: Lorie Jones, LORIEJONES88@GMAIL.COM.

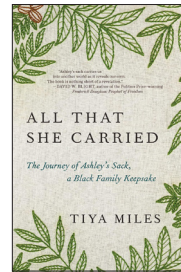
CURRIE LIBRARY

The library sponsors two book clubs. The Monday club meets second Mondays of each month at 10:30 am, and the Tuesday club meets second Tuesdays at 1:30 pm, both in the Garden Room. Info: Nancy Fuller, NFULLER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.



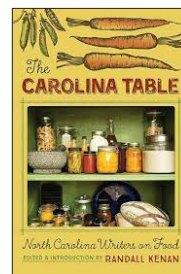
MARCH 11 & 12

On Vanishing: Mortality, Dementia and What It Means to Disappear by Lynn Casteel Harper, facilitated by Senior Pastor Jill Duffield.



APRIL 8 & 9

All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, A Black Family's Keepsake by Tiya Miles, facilitated by Donna Chase.



MAY 13 & 14

The Carolina Table: North Carolina Writers on Food, edited by Randall Kenan. A Greensboro Public Library One City, One Book selection for fall 2023.

ONLINE CATALOG:

You can search the library collection. Use the QR code to go to the search page.



MAGAZINES & SOCKS: The library collects magazines and socks for Hot Dish & Hope guests. Please drop off in the basket in the Welcome Center.

lent + spring / children + families

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

February 24, 5-8 pm, for ages infant-5th grade. We'll play, eat pizza, and watch "Toy Story." \$15 per child. Spaces limited; first come, first served! Use QR code to sign up.



KIDS DISCIPLE CLUB

Grades 3-5 gather 3-4:30 pm in the back of the Life Center

MARCH 3: We'll try some interactive prayer practices and share some special prayers for FPC staff! Games, too, of course!

APRIL 7: We'll explore the story of creation and discuss our roles in caring for God's creation. We'll clean up Fisher Park and enjoy the outdoors with a Gaga Ball tournament!

MAY 5 – End of Year Celebration!



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, March 24: Preschool-elementary families are invited to intergenerational Sunday School at 10 am!

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31: Resurrection Egg Hunt at 10 am. Gather on Elm Street Labyrinth Playground (weather permitting).

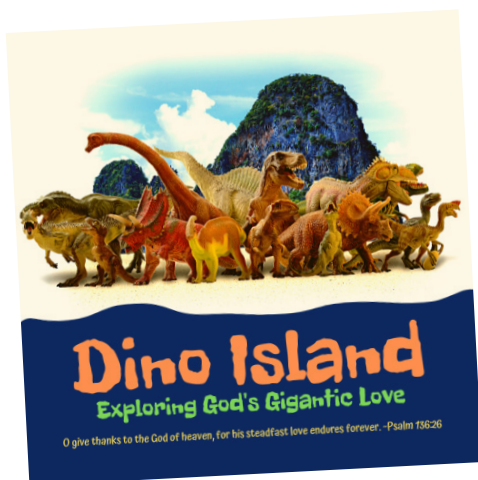


CELEBRATIONS

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE: The March 3 Rejoice! service will include communion for our second-graders as they finish their Milestone class on this sacrament.

TEDDY BEAR CLINIC: After Preschool Chapel, led by Pastoral Care. April 18, 9-11:30 am, Corl 300.

5TH GRADE RECOGNITION: April 28 at 10 am. Families and 5th-graders are invited for breakfast and a blessing as we send them off to youth group!



summer starts in March!

Registration opens March 1 for **Vacation Bible School** (ages 3-rising second-graders) and **Summer Kids Disciple Club Camp** (rising 3rd- to 5th-graders), which will be held July 29-August 1, 9 am-noon.

Keep an eye on the weekly children's email. Not receiving it? Contact Yolanda Baxter, YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

lent + spring / youth + families

Meet Phae Smith, our new Associate Director of Children's & Youth Ministry

What was your first youth mission trip or conference, and what do you remember about it?

Raleigh Youth Mission in seventh grade. I remember spending an hour sorting cucumbers for a local food bank. It amazed me how many hands were needed to provide food for the community. Even though my job seemed insignificant and tedious to my seventh-grade mind, I still remember that first love of service that was sparked in me while sorting through those veggies.



Reach Phae (sounds like Fay) at PSMITH@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG or 336-478-4723.

What are a few of your favorite things?

Throwing pottery, going on hikes, cooking and baking, playing the ukulele, and reading books. My favorite band is either Caamp or Mt. Joy. I love all things pasta and will never refuse a bowl of ice cream. While it's hard to pick a single book, my favorite this past year is probably *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult.

What is something about you that would surprise people?

I have an identical twin sister. When I was younger, it was fairly obvious since we were in the same schools and friend groups. Now that we live in different states though, it has been fun to see our friends' reactions when they find out there is another one of us out there in the world.

Tell us about your stickers.

I don't have any stickers on my laptop or water bottle, but I have a plethora in the back of my journal that I use to take notes during sermons, keynote lectures, conference worship services, etc. The stickers are from every conference or retreat I've been to since I was a freshman in high school. I recently filled up the last page of that journal and am starting fresh during this next phase of my life!

What attracted you to FPC? What are you most looking forward to?

The immediate kindness and warmth of your clergy and the members I met of the search committee. I'm sure their personability and charisma are only a glimpse of the rest of the congregation. I am most looking forward to meeting all of the children and youth I'll get to know and love through this ministry. I'm especially excited to take the youth group on trips to conferences and mission trips that formed so much of my faith growing up. I can't wait to meet all of you!

CONFIRMATION



Some confirmands visited Providence Baptist Church as part of an interfaith experience.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY: Eighth-graders finish their confirmation journey and are welcomed into full church membership. March 17, with one worship service at 11 am in the sanctuary. *Also, Capital Campaign Dedication Sunday.*

CHURCH SCHOOL

DOUGHNUTS-DIALOGUE-DEVOTION: Sundays at 10 am in Memorial 303. *March 24: Intergenerational church school for Palm Sunday. March 31: No class (spring break).*

BREAKFAST CLUBS

MIDDLE SCHOOL: 7:15-7:45 am, Chick-Fil-A on Pisgah Church Road. February 21, March 20, April 17, May 15



HIGH SCHOOL: Panera on Lawndale, 7:15-8:45 am. February 22, March 21, April 18, May 16

YOUTH GROUP

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: 5-6:30 pm, back of the Life Center. February 25, March 10 & 24, April 14 and 28.

HIGH SCHOOL CONNECTIONS: 6-7:30 pm at a member's home, February 25, March 10 & 24, April 14 and 28.

YOCO

YOCO: Greensboro Youth Collective with youth from across the city, 5:30-7:30 pm. March 3 at Alamance Presbyterian, 4000 Presbyterian Road. April 7 at Community in Christ, 5401 Liberty Road. Go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP to sign up for carpool.

SERVICE

SERVICE PROJECT AT BACK PACK BEGINNINGS: 3711 Alliance Drive, 2-3:30 pm February 18 and April 21.

SPRUCING UP THE PLAYGROUNDS with the Weekday Preschool, March 17.

First Presbyterian Church
617 N. Elm St.
Greensboro, NC 27401-2095

Non-Profit Org.
US POSTAGE PAID
Greensboro, NC
PERMIT 95



FPCGREENSBORO.ORG
Facebook.com/fpcgsonc
YouTube.com/fpcgreensboro
Instagram: 1stpresgo

Church officer nominations

The Nominating Committee has announced a slate of officers for the Class of 2027. This year begins our gradual transition toward a Session of 18 elders. As was announced last June, the current Session approved the change after several months of study and conversation about the importance of accountability, continuity, and the ability to delve deep into discernment in order to set strategy. The change will be implemented over three years. This year our slate is comprised of 6 members to be considered as Elders for a three-year term, and one nominee to serve a five-year term as Church Trustee.

Nominees are: **Nancy Abrams, Marshall Brown, Leigh Haley Jones, Graham Farless, Lorie Jones, and Andrew Spainhour** as elder, and **Tom Nelson** as trustee for the L. Richardson Trust. Learn more about them by using the QR code, going to [FPCGREENSBORO.COM/MEMBER-RESOURCES](https://fpcgreensboro.com/members-resources) or picking up a sheet in the Welcome Center, Life Center, narthex or Tower Room.



A congregational meeting will be held before the 11 am service on Sunday, March 3, to consider the slate. Rejoice! worshipers are encouraged to attend and may leave after the meeting.