

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 18, 2025

11:00 a.m.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
BAPTISM SUNDAY  
SENIOR SUNDAY

## WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.  
Please silence your cell phone as worship begins.*

VOLUNTARY: Praeludium in E..... Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)  
*John Alexander, organ*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Jill Duffield

\* CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Matt Bussell

**Leader:** Rejoice always, pray constantly; in everything give thanks,  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.

**People:** **Open our lips, O Lord;**  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**All:** **Alleluia! Let us worship God!**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 485 – We Know That Christ Is Raised ..... ENGELBERG



# We Know That Christ Is Raised 485

Capo 3: (D) F (Asus) (A) Csus C (A/G) C/B<sup>b</sup> (D/F<sup>#</sup>) F/A



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,  
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life  
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.  
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.  
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.  
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

TEXT: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt.  
 MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904  
 Text © 1972 John Brownlow Geyer

ENGELBERG  
 10.10.10.4  
 (this tune in a higher key, 641)

\* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you command us to love one another,  
yet we hold grudges  
and refuse to work for peace.  
You command us to care for all of creation,  
yet we neglect the earth  
and abuse nature through carelessness.  
You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus,  
yet we too often walk our own way.  
Forgive us, O God.  
Guide us as we work toward  
a new heaven here on earth.  
Lead us to reconciliation  
and a vision for your beloved community,  
as we share your love  
with your people everywhere. Amen.**

*A brief period of silence is observed for personal confession.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

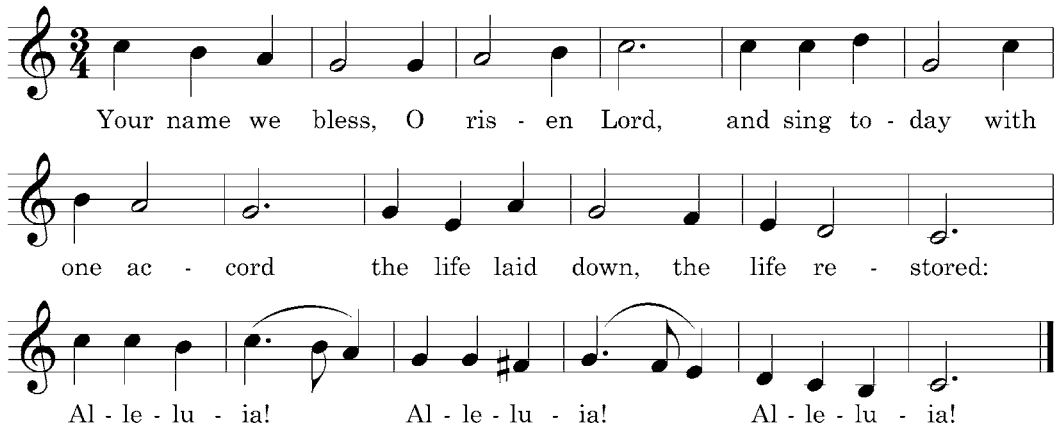
\* THE PEACE

**Leader:** Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
**People:** **And also with you.**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE



\* RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!  
GELOBT SIE GOTT



## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD READ: *Revelation 21:1-6* .....Jim Legette

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them and be their God;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

SERVICE OF BAPTISM FOR CRAWFORD DEAN MILLER, DEAN ULEY JONES,  
AND DODD MICHAEL JONES..... Jill Duffield and Matt Bussell

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

PRAYER OVER THE BAPTIZED

ANTHEM: Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks..... Herbert Howells (1892-1983)  
*Chancel Choir*

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee,  
O God, My Soul is a thirst for God, yea, even for the living God  
When shall I come to appear before God?  
My tears have been my meat day and night,  
While they daily say unto me  
Where is now thy god?  
My tears have been my meat day and night.  
Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,  
So longeth my soul after thee, O God.  
My soul is a thirst for God, Yea, for the living God.  
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

– Psalm 42: 1-3

THE WORD READ: *Acts 11:1-18*

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea,

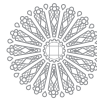
*THE WORD READ* continues, over

arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Step by Step*.....Jill Duffield



## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 374 – O Holy City, Seen of John.....MORNING SONG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE..... Newton Cowan

*concluding with the Lord's Prayer:*

**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.**

# O Holy City, Seen of John 374

1 O ho - ly cit - y, seen of John, where Christ, the  
 2 O shame to us who rest con - tent while lust and  
 3 Give us, O God, the strength to build the cit - y  
 4 Al - read - y in the mind of God that cit - y

Lamb, does reign, with - in whose four-square walls shall come no  
 greed for gain in street and shop and ten - e - ment wring  
 that has stood too long a dream; whose laws are love, whose  
 ris - es fair. Lo, how its splen - dor chal - len - ges the

night, nor need, nor pain, and where the tears are  
 gold from hu - man pain, and bit - ter lips in  
 ways are ser - vant - hood, and where the sun that  
 souls that great - ly dare, and bids us seize the

wiped from eyes that shall not weep a - gain!  
 deep de - spair cry, "Christ has died in vain!"  
 shines be - comes your grace for hu - man good.  
 whole of life and build its glo - ry there.

Unlike texts that treat the heavenly Jerusalem as a goal for the life to come, this hymn regards John's vision as a challenge to work here and now for the accomplishment of God's purposes on earth. The shape note tune provides an effective setting for this stirring text.

## CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.*

OFFERTORY: I Will Praise You.....Marques L.A. Garrett (b. 1984)  
*Chancel Choir*

*Commissioned for the Chancel Choir at First Presbyterian Church,  
Greensboro, NC, in honor of the church's bicentennial.*

I will praise You, my God and King;  
and I bless Your name forever.  
Every day will I bless You,  
and I will praise Your name forever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
All Your works shall praise You, O Lord.  
I will praise You, yes, I will praise You, my God and King.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and of great mercy.  
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
And your dominion endures throughout all generations.  
*– from Psalm 145*





\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise  
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-  
 lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-  
 lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Newton Cowan

A BLESSING FOR OUR SENIORS.....Jill Duffield

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 373 – O Day of Peace.....JERUSALEM

VOLUNTARY: Litanies.....Jehan Alain (1911-1940)

*John Alexander, organ*



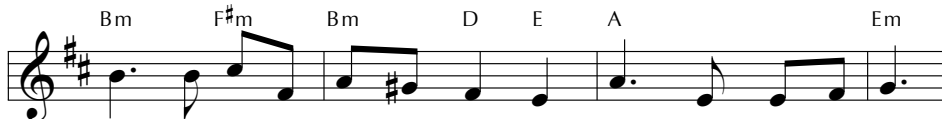
## O Day of Peace



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our  
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



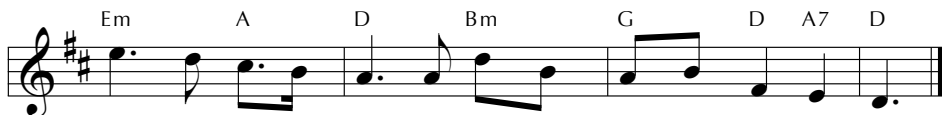
hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and  
 fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of hate  
 graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e - mies



fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re - lease, till by God's  
 shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac - cord; the hope of



grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.  
 peace shall be ful - filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on peace was created to offer non-nationalistic words for a popular British tune. The first stanza depicts *pax*, a mode of peace focused on ending conflict, and the second (based on Isaiah 11:6-9) describes *shalom*, the condition of living in harmony and mutual good will.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Jill Duffield, *Senior Pastor*

Matt Bussell, *Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission*

Newton Cowan, *Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care*

Lauren Martin, *FPC Elder*

Jim Legette, *Lay Reader*

Charlotte Freeze, *Acolyte*

John Alexander, *Director of Music and Principal Organist*

Rebecca Pugh, *Assistant Organist*

*Chancel Choir*

“We Know That Christ Is Raised” Text: John Brownlow Geyer; Music: Charles Villiers Stanford.

“Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!” Text: Cyril A. Alington; Music: Melchior Vulpus.

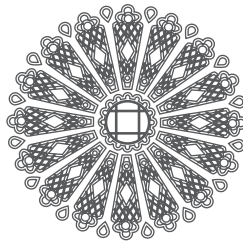
“O Holy City, Seen of John” Text: Walter Russell Bowie; Music: Wyeth’s *Repository of Sacred Music*.

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*.

“O Day of Peace” Text: Carl P. Daw; Music: C. Hubert H. Parry.

\* Let us rise in body or spirit.

Music reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net A-707283 and CCLI License 2924425.



**2024-2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS, VICE CHAIRS:** *Adult Formation:* Margee Jones, John Sullivan. *Youth Formation:* Leigh Abraham, Layne King. *Children's Formation:* Sally King, Lorie Jones. *Church Officer Development:* Tim Cook, Graham Farless. *Communications:* Rich Prigge, John Vanderwerff. *Discipleship:* Lauren Martin, Nancy Courts. *Finance:* Rob Peddrick, Dave Thompson. *Hospitality:* Caroline Showers, Bet Vanderwerff. *Human Resources:* Ralph Davison, Lisa Cook. *Outreach:* Margaret Arbuckle, Rhonda Wakefield. *Pastoral Care:* Tamara Slaughter, Sheri Evans. *Property:* Brian Pierce, Sam Simpson. *Stewardship:* Dan Goley, Tom Gillespie. *Technology:* Sam Bostian. *Worship:* Chip Bristol, Morgan Hood. *Nominating:* Nancy Moore, Ross Harris. *Appointments:* Randy Jackson, Leigh Jones.

## **SENIOR CLASS OF 2025**

*Congratulations! to our graduating high school seniors*

Anna Barnett

Maddy Chandler

Henry Chase

Mary Katherine Faucher

Connor Frick

Elliott Keys

Elizabeth "Elle" Lackey

Davis "Wade" Legette

Wyatt McHenry

Summer Oakley

Brian "Turner" Pierce

Sally Rose

William "Thomas" Shaw

Sam Sherrill

Isabelle Simpson

Rachael Skipper

Walker Stanley

John Stroud

Henry Supple

Andrew "Bo" Vanore

William Wakefield

Brantley White

Charlie White

Emily Witherspoon

Robert "Bobby" Young

***WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.***

Rooted and reaching in Christ's love, we seek to serve God as Spirit-led changemakers for good. Our vision is to be a caring, compassionate, and inclusive faith community welcoming those who seek an abundant relationship with Jesus Christ, meaningful worship, authentic connections, lifelong learning, and transformative service. We are continually growing and evolving, even as we remain strongly rooted in the Greensboro community and the Presbyterian tradition.

*Come as you are and prepare to be transformed by God's love.*



**TAKING ATTENDANCE:** The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone, you can pick up a physical copy of an attendance card as you enter the Life

Center or Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.

**NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED** for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.



**WHAT TO DO – UNWELLNESS AND MEDICAL**

**EMERGENCIES:** If during the service you or someone near you begins to feel unwell, or is having a medical emergency please contact the closest usher.

**INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY READER FOR THE 2025-2026 PROGRAM YEAR?** If so, please contact Lay Reader Ministry Team Chair Catherine Freeze, [catherinefreeze@gmail.com](mailto:catherinefreeze@gmail.com), or Director of Worship Anne Albert, [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org).

**USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED:** Contact Anne Albert, [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336.478.4711.

**PARKING MINISTRY:** This ministry helps members with mobility issues get from their cars to the sanctuary for the 11 am service on Sundays. Two volunteers work on Greene Street 10:30-11:15 am. Passengers may be dropped off at the Greene Street door and will be escorted into the sanctuary. Drivers will be directed to a reserved space as needed. One volunteer is needed after the service until 12:15 pm. *Want to help?* Choose a Sunday at [fpcgreensboro.org/signup](http://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).

**WAYS TO GIVE:** In addition to the in-person offering, you may give by mail, web, app, or text. Scan the QR code (right) to give online. Go to [fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text](http://fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text) to download the FellowshipOne Giving mobile app (Apple  or Android ) and for instructions for giving via text. Mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401.



**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered today during the 11 a.m. Sanctuary service to Crawford Dean "Ford" Miller, son of Crawford and Daniell Miller; and Dean Uley Jones and Dodd Michael Jones, sons of Elliott and Stephanie Jones.

**THE LITURGICAL COLOR *WHITE*** seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

**ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS:** The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my daughter, Cynthia "Cindy" Warren Weaver; and my husband, Jesse "Skip" Warren, by Nancy Warren.

**FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE** – Honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sanctuary service. Flowers are accompanied by a bulletin note explaining their significance. *Dates available: July 13; August 3 & 31; and September 14.* Contact Carolyn Yow, [cyow@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:cyow@fpcgreensboro.org) or 336-478-4768.

**PASTOR ON CALL:** When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.



# COMING UP

## AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

WEEK OF MAY 18 -25 *See our full calendar at* **FPCGREENSBORO.ORG**

**SPRING CLEAN YOUR CONTACT INFO:** Members from the Discipleship Committee can help you check and update your info in Fellowship One, our member database. *Find them in the Welcome Center during Church School today.* Or to do it on your own, go to the home page and click on "Members" in the top bar.

### MONDAY, MAY 19

- **MAHJONG MONDAY** for FPC women who play Mahjong, 9:30-11:30 am, Garden Room. Be sure to bring your NMJL card. Info: Sheri Evans, [SMEVANSNC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SMEVANSNC@GMAIL.COM).

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

- **FORK & FAITH** monthly luncheon for women who've RSVP'd, noon in the Life Center. *Join us for our next luncheon, June 18: RSVP by June 13 to Dolly Jennings, [DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM) or 336-854-2663.*
- **DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR MISSION TRIP TO BLACK MOUNTAIN** to assist in flood recovery, August 10-15. *Interested? Use the QR code (below) to register.*



**HUNGER ACTION:** Look for tables around campus where you can write letters to Congress calling for passage of the Farm Bill, which supports farmers and hunger programs. More resources at [BREAD.ORG/OFFERING-LETTERS](http://BREAD.ORG/OFFERING-LETTERS). *Leave your letters at the church by next Sunday!*

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**JUNE 4**  
1:30 am - 6 pm  
*Life Center*

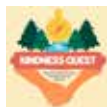


Donors will receive a \$15 Amazon.com gift card by email and be entered for a chance to win a \$7,000 gift card. *Use the QR code to make your appointment. Walk-ins also welcome!*

### REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMPS



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Some spots still open! For ages 3 (by August 31) thru rising second-graders, August 4-7.



**KDC CAMP:** Bible study, games & off-campus activities for rising 3rd-5th graders, August 4-7.



**WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS:** For ages 12 months through 6 years, choose days or weeks.

**GO TO [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](http://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP)**



## ROOTED & REACHING IN CHRIST'S LOVE

### MEANINGFUL WORSHIP

**SUNDAY, JUNE 1** is Communion Sunday, both worship services.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8** is Pentecost Sunday, wear red as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**THE SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE** begins June 15, one service in the sanctuary at 10 am with various musical styles; and will continue through August 17.

**INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY READER FOR THE 2025-2026 PROGRAM YEAR?** If so, please contact Lay Reader Ministry Team Chair Catherine Freeze, [catherinefreeze@gmail.com](mailto:catherinefreeze@gmail.com), or Director of Worship Anne Albert, [aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org).

### AUTHENTIC CONNECTION

Applications are open for **NEXT YEAR'S YOUTH COUNCIL**. The council meets 4-5 times during the year to offer feedback and ideas for our youth programming. Interested students can access the form using the QR code. The deadline is June 20.



**BIBLE & BISCUITS** – Tuesday, May 27, 7:45-8:30 am: Before heading to work, join us in the Solarium for food and fellowship followed by reading and discussing scripture. Bibles and food provided.

### TRANSFORMATIVE SERVICE

**DONATE FABRIC & YARN:** The Community Service Group handcrafts blankets, hats, playmats, lap robes and more, which are distributed to nonprofits in our community. In 2024 they donated 2,428 items! Support their work by donating fabric and yarn. *Drop off in the red wagons around campus, and be sure to mark your donations "Community Service."*

**DONATE CANNED GOODS FOR URBAN MINISTRY**  
Drop off in the red wagons around campus on Sunday mornings, or on Wednesdays at the Food Drive-By, 11 am to 1 pm in the Elm Street circle, in front of Redhead Hall. *Hunger doesn't take a summer break!*

### LIFELONG LEARNING

**"THE CARE OF SOULS"** – Next Sunday, Rev. Doug McLeroy concludes a personal account drawn from his new book, *On My Believing Days: A Story of Life and Faith* (available on Amazon or at your favorite bookseller). Hosted by YMBC & Agape classes in Redhead Hall, 10 am.

**ADVOCACY AND THE CHURCH**, June 1 at 10 am. Led by Rev. Matt Bussell in the Come as You Are Class, Garden Room.

**SCOTLAND PILGRIMAGE REVISITED** – Sunday, June 8, 10 am. Members who went on the Scotland pilgrimage will share their experiences. Come as You Are Class, Garden Room. *More member experiences on June 29.*

**CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD** – series begins Sunday, June 8, 10 am. Explore what the Lord's prayer teaches about being in regular conversation with God. Led by Professor Sandie Gravett in Redhead Hall, hosted by YMBC and Agape classes.

### WHAT ELSE?

**MONDAY, MAY 26** – Campus closed for Memorial Day.



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN at  
**FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP**

Sign up for the activities above and more, including summer children's camps.