We are a diverse community of believers, called by God, graced by Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God through worship in the Reformed tradition, compassionate service to all, and the nurturing of one another so as to grow in faith.
What To Do When Disaster Strikes

Hurricane Harvey and its effects on southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana have been tragic and heartbreaking, but not unfamiliar. The longer we live, the more of these disasters we witness—either up close or from a distance. Whether they be hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, or earthquakes, the suffering is the same. People are injured, killed, and displaced, and property and belongings are damaged or destroyed.

Our responses to such events are predictable, too, aren’t they? Over and over again, for example, we hear this: “Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of (fill in the blank).” Our thoughts and prayers—what is their value?

On Twitter yesterday, Mike Pereira, a football rules expert on TV, said, as did many other celebrities from all walks of life in response to the devastation of Hurricane Harvey, “Please help if you can, and pray, pray, pray!” The response he received was largely supportive. However, many derided his call to prayer as being worthless and less important than other possible responses—namely the call to give money and other tangible assistance.

One man responded, “What is prayer going to do?” Another said sarcastically, “Praying instead of sending supplies. The religious way.” And a third replied, “I've never understood that, Mike. Prayer implies a deity with the power to save these people, when logically that deity chose to flood them?”

Pereira was miffed. “This is a new one for me. I get ripped for asking people to pray for those in peril in Texas. Really?”

Indeed, advocating one’s prayers for people in need has almost become a throw-away line met with insincerity or theological condemnation. The saying is true—no good deed goes unpunished.

Pereira never advocated not contributing money or supplies to the cause; he only summoned the prayers of many in addition—what we all would probably call for.

Has prayer become a hollow word? Is invoking it only part of our common courtesy, like inviting someone to “have a good day” or greeting another by “How you doin’?” Do we really believe prayer has transformative power during our lowest moments, or has it become only a way of demonstrating our concern?

God has the power to curb floods and wind, yet we are left wondering why God didn’t do just that before the rains turned much of Houston into a lake. That inability to make logical sense of this sends skeptics over the edge, while some prayer advocates who believe in God’s ability to soothe, love, and restore probably don’t employ prayer as seriously as we should.

What do we in the church believe about prayer? When we don’t get what we pray for, do we throw in the towel? Do we think it’s a good idea but lack the discipline to engage in it regularly?

Prayer is hard. But when we understand prayer primarily to be a process of connection and conversation with God that cements our relationship with the Divine rather than solely being a button on a cosmic vending machine, maybe we will see prayer’s value more and be more intent on following through.

And, in the midst of my occasional doubt about prayer or my lax treatment of it, I remember something about Jesus: He prayed. And that’s good enough for me.

The people of Houston and the surrounding area “are in my prayers.”
Welcome to new members **Fred and Cheryl Wallace**, lifelong residents of Knoxville. They have two grown daughters, one here in Knoxville and one in Bristol, VA. One grandson, Ian, is a student at Western Carolina University, studying Computer Information Science. Then there are two young ones living near them, Lily, aged 5 and Cora Lee, aged 2, who are their joy and take a lot of their energy when they are blessed to babysit.

Fred, whose career was in industrial sales involving bearings and power transmissions, is retired from Motion Industries. His territory included East TN and Eastern Kentucky. Now his hobby, which has turned into a second career, is making rustic furniture. He started with potting tables, collecting drift wood for the legs, and now is making wood slab coffee tables with metal legs, which are on sale at a local store: Back Roads, off Southerland Avenue. He also enjoys following dirt track racing.

Cheryl enjoys antiquing, genealogy, and reading, but most of all spending time with her grandchildren.

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

We often hear new members of FPC say they were attracted to our congregation because of the friendly welcome they received as visitors. Our church has much to offer and making sure the welcome mat is always out is important to encouraging visitors to stay with us long enough to appreciate the great preaching, music, community service, youth programs and more.

Here are a few suggestions on what you can do to make sure we are a "welcoming church."

*Always sign the "friendship pad." By doing so you encourage others on your pew to do the same and it allows you to see the names of those who are visiting.

*A visitor trifold is located in the pockets at the end of each pew. Please be sure to provide a trifold to the visitor(s) so that they can learn a little about our church.

*Make a point of greeting those visitors by name immediately after the service. To remind yourself of their names, jot them down on your bulletin so you won't forget.

*If you see them at a subsequent service or church event (or somewhere else), say hello and tell them how much you appreciate them visiting FPC.

*Don't be intimidated in starting a conversation because you are uncertain about the process of becoming a member or other aspects of the church. A smiling face and a warm welcome can help make a first good impression and keep them coming back!

Let's all do our part to make FPC known as a very welcoming church!
Hurricane Harvey has brought much damage and displacement to lives and property in Texas and Louisiana. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is already mobilizing efforts in the affected areas. We can help PDA by making a gift to the recovery efforts. If you’d like to donate, you can make a check out to the church and put “hurricane relief” in the memo line and we will forward your donation. Or, you can go to pda.pcusa.org and donate online.

FPC is a partner church with the KARM “Corners of Your Field” Program. This worthwhile program offers incentives for congregations to donate used items to KARM stores. Quarterly we receive KARM Cares Cards based upon our donations.

During the 1st quarter of 2017, we were given $450 in cards and 2nd quarter we were presented with $540. Thank you! These cards, valuable to the people of Family Promise and Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry, can be used to purchase needed household items or clothing at the KARM stores.

If you know friends or neighbors who routinely donate items to KARM, ask them to designate FPC as the “partner” for their donation. Thank you for support of this outreach program!

Here’s how the program works:
1. Individuals or families donate their gently used items to any KARM store in the area. Visit www.karmstores.com to locate stores. Drop off hours are Mon-Sat 9 am - 6 pm.

2. Tell the KARM store employee serving you the name of our church, or give them your name and phone number and assign FPC as your partner for donations. On future drops off, just give them your phone number, they will look you up and log credit to FPC for your donation. You can still use your donation to KARM for a personal tax donation.
The week of October 8-15 is our next opportunity to be a support host congregation for Westside UUC right down the street. If you have not been to a training session, please consider donating a part of a meal, helping to set up and breakdown at Westside, and/or doing some laundry. This behind the scenes assistance is crucial to a successful week with our guest families, and we welcome your help. The children and adults love a warm, homey casserole and a fun dessert. If you would like to become a hands on volunteer: sharing a meal with families, spending the night at the church, or doing an activity or homework with the children, please contact Beth Loyless at bethloyless@hotmail.com, or 865-657-9644.

Here is the link to the sign up for the support week at Westside UUC: https://signup.com/group/817525954025

Reminder: Family Promise Golf Tournament, Saturday, October 28. Consider forming a foursome with friends and come out to play for a wonderful cause.

Support FPC’s outreach ministry by signing up to serve lunch at Volunteer Ministry Center on Friday, September 22. It doesn’t take much of your time, plus it’s a lot of fun! Transportation downtown can be arranged. See the narthex sign up sheet or contact lunch coordinator Carol Kraft at 671-6215.

Outreach is looking for meal coordinators for VMC lunches this fall. If you are interested, please contact Dee Robinson.

Mark your calendar for the Power of the Purse fundraiser! A cocktail buffet, purse sale, and silent auction will be held on September 21 at Rothchild’s Event Center in Knoxville to benefit Knox County Mobile Meals.

Go to http://www.knoxseniors.org/purse for more information.
October 1 is World Communion Sunday and also the PC (USA) Peace & Global Witness Offering. Twenty-five percent of this offering will be retained by our congregation for local ministries of peace and witness, another 25% supports these ministries at the mid council level, and the remaining 50% supports the peacemaking and reconciliation ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Outreach Committee has selected our local Bridge Refugee Services as the recipient of our congregational portion of this offering. Bridge currently serves 400 active cases in the Knoxville and Chattanooga area, about half of whom are children under the age of eighteen years. For these individuals, Bridge is providing employment support; guidance on managing the challenges of daily life, such as navigating American culture or responding to questions about accessing emergency health services; helping clients overcome transportation problems, aid in navigating the school system, including providing orientation to public schools for parents of refugee children.

The clients leave war and persecution behind and desire to find safety, peace and opportunities to work, play and attend school so they can become self-sufficient, contributing members of the community. Our money can support Bridge so that they can walk side by side with these people on their journey, giving them the assistance they need on the path to self-sufficiency.

The remainder of the Peace & Global Witness Offering will support the ministries who are providing ongoing advocacy and aid to those working for peace in South Sudan. Nationwide famine and widespread violence with ethnic targeting in the world’s youngest country is resulting in the quiet death of South Sudan, and it is covered in very few news stories. The devastation is great and they need assistance now.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is funding large-scale emergency relief projects for South Sudanese displaced people and refugees, working through Presbyterian Relief and Development Agency, the humanitarian arms of the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS). In addition to emergency relief projects, PDA is working to support livelihood and food security, peacebuilding and education for civil society.

Giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering is one way you can follow in the way of Jesus. Your gifts express your commitment to a more just and peaceful world. There will be specially designated offering envelopes in the pew racks on Sunday, October 1 for your gift. As always, consider giving generously.
A Bible Study of the Acts of the Apostles
Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m.
Wilson home:  11720 N. Williamsburg Drive
Leader:  Elizabeth Wilson

Join us for an inspiring study of The Acts of the Apostles, a history of the founding and spread of the church from the time of Christ’s resurrection to Paul’s imprisonment in Rome. We will follow Luke’s account of how what Jesus “began to do and to teach” in his Gospel was continued and expanded by His followers in the very early church. We share our questions and insights, and listen to what various scholars have had to say. If you have questions please email Elizabeth at elizabeth@bewilson.net

NOTE:  No meeting on September 21.

Join us as we launch a whole new season of small group studies. Small groups are informal times where we

- Grow in authenticity with others and with God
- Pray, support, and encourage each other
- Read and discuss God’s word
- Have fun together

If you would like to join a small group see the Small Group Information Table located in the narthex or contact the church office. Books may be purchased in advance.
The Search for Truth About Islam by Ben Daniel
Tuesday, October 3, 10:00 am
Farragut Presbyterian Church
Leader: Andy Andrew

Are Muslims infiltrating American society? What does Islam really teach about women's roles? Does the Qur'an condone violence? Presbyterian pastor Ben Daniel tackles common stereotypes and misconceptions that tend to define Islam in the popular imagination. Daniel also looks at Christianity's own history of violence and explores what he calls "the American cult of fear," particularly as it relates to the rise of Islamophobia in the United States. Blending travel narrative, interviews, and well-crafted storytelling, Daniel helps debunk the myths and put a human face on Islam in America. Ben Daniel is Pastor of Foothill Presbyterian Church in San Jose, California. He is a regular blogger for the Huffington Post and provides commentary for KQED FM, the largest NPR affiliate in the United States.

The Query by Larry Moeller
Wednesday, October 4, 6:00 p.m.
   6 sessions at the church
Sunday, October 8, 6:00 p.m.
   6 sessions at the church
Leader: Matt Nieman

The Query is a collection of stories - stories of hope - arising from a simple question: “What is the reason for the hope that is within you?” They were gathered through chance encounters with strangers across America. Readers eavesdrop on deeply personal conversations as stories unfold. Often the stories turn to matters of faith. Some storytellers found hope through church in the middle of despair. For others, church or religion was a source of hurt. The Epilogue invites and challenges the reader to gather stories of hope, with a step-by-step guide for doing so. In becoming people who listen rather than people who preach, the author foresees a sweeping cultural course correction in America, grounded in a simple query of hope. The Query is also a journey. Interwoven with the stories is the journey of one man’s struggle to overcome fear.
Four generations of Presbyterian mission: from potted plant to garden

Mission co-worker Cobbie Palm on the blessings of a family calling
by Cobbie Palm | Mission Crossroads Magazine

If there is a revered profession in my family, it is a life given to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. In 1884, my great-grandfather J. Vernon Bell began his ministry as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Dubois, Pennsylvania, almost 100 years to the day that I entered Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

In 1915, my grandfather Ralph Waldo Lloyd boarded a train to travel west to accept a calling to serve in mission at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah, and in 1922 to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Ossian, Indiana.

In 1956, my father, James E. Palm, sailed on a ship with my mother, Louise, to the Philippines to serve for 18 years in mission through the Presbyterian Church.

In 1989, I boarded an airplane to the Philippines, where my wife, Dessa, and I continue to serve to this day. My family represents four generations and 133 years of mission and ministry with the Presbyterian Church.

I did not have the opportunity to meet my great-grandfather, but I did have the privilege of knowing my grandfather and recall moments around the dinner table at his home in Florida. The Presbyterian Church and mission were always favorite and colorful topics. We lived in different periods of Presbyterian mission and, with my father in the mix, our perspectives on mission reflected mission in the early 1900s, mid 1900s and late 1900s. We each defended our own perspective and argued with a passion.

Looking back on those conversations, I have come to think of Presbyterian mission as the continuing and evolving story of the “potted plant.” My grandfather saw mission from the perspective of the “empty lands,” places around the world that had not been touched by the gifts of Presbyterian mission. During his time even Salt Lake City was just being introduced to Presbyterian mission. For my grandfather, the role of mission was to be “founder,” and as founder to be “authority” merited by the responsibility of being the carrier and provider of the programs, knowledge and form. From this perspective, he understood the value of decisions over the recipient “mission field” coming from offices in New York, through the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and the “leadership” of the mission in the field to be held by the more “qualified” Presbyterian missionary.

The image that comes to mind is of a Presbyterian missionary carrying a potted plant named “Presbyterian” and placing it in empty places in the mission field determined by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in New York and ruled over by the more qualified Presbyterian missionary to ensure quality control and faithful obedience to Presbyterian norms. There was much success, and the “Presbyterian” plant began to grow in these pots set in empty lands around the world.

My father, who arrived in the Philippines in the late 1950s, saw a different situation. The “Presbyterian” plant had now been growing in the pot for over 50 years, and it was bearing fruit; but confined to the pot, it could not grow much further. The Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations (COEMAR) had now replaced the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions as the sending body for all international mission work of the Presbyterian Church, and a new paradigm for mission was emerging. This new paradigm used words like “contextual” mission and “fraternal worker,” implying an openness to the possibility that the mission
field might have something to contribute to the “Presbyterian” plant. But the plant could not touch the breadth of culture and indigenous music of the mission field because the plant’s roots were bound up by the pot. There were indigenous leaders of the mission field whose voices were not heard and their expertise not used because leadership was understood to be that of the missionary only. This was now all changing.

The image that comes to mind is that of the indigenous leaders and the “fraternal workers” of which my father was part taking a hammer together to break the pot open so that the roots of the “Presbyterian” plant could finally touch and draw nutrients from the soil of the mission field. Finally, the culture, music, symbols and language of the mission field could be drawn into the “Presbyterian” plant, nourishing it, transforming it in a way that enabled it to speak to the heart and soul of the mission field. This was “contextual” mission. Finally, the missionary would step back and make space for the indigenous leadership to hold responsibility as “fraternal workers.”

In 1989 I was sent to the Philippines by the Presbyterian Church through the Worldwide Ministries Division, now World Mission. The paradigms of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions and COEMAR were now of the past, and what I saw upon arriving in the Philippines was the image of a beautiful garden of Filipino “Presbyterian” — a plant variety that had rooted in the mission field and drawn nutrients from the colors and contours of Filipino culture and indigenous leaders who were planting, pruning and harvesting. The garden had reached self-reliance and was self-propagating, and a new paradigm of relationship in mission was needed. Filipino Presbyterians did not need a missionary leader, they did not need foreign authority for guidance, they did not need a hammer to break the pot; they needed the respect of being an equal partner in the building of God’s reign.

Sitting around the dinner table with my grandfather and father, I realized it is not easy to let go of the paradigms of our own time. We argued with passion for our understanding of mission — my grandfather for missionary authority and quality control, my father for the contextualizing and turning over leadership, and I for partnership relations where equal respect is given to the partner church to determine its own priorities and needs. However, every day that I live in mission here in the Philippines, I am reminded by the evidence all around me that the pot-bearing planter that my grandfather defends and the pot-breaking fraternal worker that my father defends were essential pieces in God’s great design that have brought us to where we are in mission today. Potted plants are now gardens, mission fields are now partners, and Presbyterian mission is alive and well.

Carlton J. “Cobbie” Palm is a mission co-worker and director of spiritual formation at Silliman University Divinity School. Dessa Palm works as artistic director for Youth Advocates Through Theater Arts. Support the work of Cobbie and Dessa Palm in the Philippines at pcusa.org/donate/E200393. This article is from the Summer 2017 issue of Mission Crossroads magazine, which is printed and mailed free to subscribers’ homes three times a year by Presbyterian World Mission.
New Music Ensemble for Middle Schoolers!

Our youth are getting older and now we have a great group of students in middle school. It is so important that our young people continue to sing and be involved in our Music Ministry as they make the transition to high school.

To meet this need, Jenni Nieman will be leading an ensemble especially for them! This group will continue to build on the solid foundation of musical concepts they learned in Children's Choir with Katina Sharp. They will continue to sing, and will also learn to play hand chimes and percussion instruments. They will lead us in worship from time to time, like our other ensembles in the Music Ministry. They will also form the instrumental accompaniment for our Children’s Musical in December. Our Associate Director of Music, Tami Newsom, will add this to her portfolio of work as their accompanist.

The ensemble will rehearse on certain Wednesday nights at the same time as our Children's Choir, 6:00-7:00 p.m. We invite all our middle school students and their friends to join us! For more information, please contact Jenni at niemanjennifer@gmail.com.

Middle School Ensemble
Rehearsal Dates 2017-18

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<th>September 06 and 20</th>
<th>January 17 and 31</th>
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<td>October 04 and 18</td>
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<td>December 06 and 20</td>
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Katina Sharp  
Director

September 16-17: 4th/5th Grade retreat at  
     John Knox Center  
September 29-October 1: Middle School retreat at  
     John Knox Center  
October 27: Trunk or Treat  
November 13: Knoxville Youth Symphony Orchestra Concert  
     at Tennessee Theatre  
December 2: Children’s Choir dress rehearsal  
December 3: Children’s Choir Christmas pageant in  
     11:00 worship service
Elementary School with the Plumlee’s

Welcome Back to Sunday School

Middle School with Ms. Sweetland
Kids' Choir is back!

Be sure to mark your calendars for December 3, when the choir will share their Christmas pageant with the congregation during the 11:00 worship.
Two Knoxville mothers — one Muslim, one Christian — have begun an interfaith youth group to help young people find their common bonds. Amira Hamed and Katina Sharp co-founded Seeds of Abraham, an interfaith group for middle and high school students. Their goal is the group, with its combination of service projects and fellowship, bridges a gap and builds understanding between young people of different faiths. Some Seeds of Abraham meetings focus on community service projects, but Seeds of Abraham is also about meeting new people, making friends and understanding others.
BACK TO SCHOOL

We’re back!! The Children’s Enrichment program began on August 28. Thanks again to all who helped us get ready. Your efforts got us off to a great start. Although everyone enjoyed their summer break, we are all glad to be back.

This month we are learning about our school friends, both old and new. We are also talking about apples, space (since we just had an eclipse), and fall. September is the month that our State of Tennessee STARS evaluations take place. These are classroom observations done by UT assessors. Program participation is optional. This assessment has more standards than the state licensing rules. We are graded on room arrangement, curriculum, health and safety, and parent participation. Our report card is displayed in the CEP parent area if you want to look at all of the requirements. Please remember when using the classrooms that they are arranged to achieve the best possible score.

CEP is blessed to be part of Farragut Presbyterian, with such a wonderful congregation and church staff. We will continue to collect donations of any kind throughout the school year. Paper towels, napkins, paper plates, boxes of tissues, teddy grahams, animal crackers, and goldfish crackers are always in great demand. Please think of us when you are shopping, especially if you find a “buy 1 get 1 free.”

If you would like to be a guest reader or help the children with a special project, please let me know. We would love for you to join us.

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year.
The Presbyterian Women Fall Retreat is being held at First Presbyterian Church in Lenoir City on September 16 from 10 am - 2 pm. Registration is due by September 6. The cost is $8 for lunch. The speaker is the Reverend Doctor Laurie Kraus, Coordinator, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

Unfortunately, there has been a real need for assistance during times of flood, fire, hurricanes, etc. Currently, we are seeing the need unfolding in Texas. We are invited to put together a PDA "Gift of the Heart". There are three types of kits that they collect and keep in the warehouse, ready to be distributed as needed. These kits include a "School Kit" (value $15), "Hygiene Kit" (value $15) and "Cleanup Bucket" (value $75). Ashley Boone will be delivering our gifts on the day of the PW Retreat.

If anyone would like to attend the retreat or contribute to the "Gift of the Heart" kits, please contact Ashley Boone at wvufanabb@gmail.com or (865) 660-1962. Thank you!

Church member Terry Olberding is again leading a team for the Susan Komen Race For The Cure. To raise donations, she is hosting the 5th annual wine-tasting fundraiser at the Campbell Station Jazzercise Center on September 29 from 7 - 9 pm. A $20 donation per person is requested, as well as an appetizer. Bring 2 bottles of the same wine, each $20 or less. One bottle will be placed in a bag for "blind" test tasting, and one will go in a "kitty." Sample as many wines as you want, and vote for your favorite(s). At the end of the evening, the wine with the most votes will be declared the winner. Whoever brought the winning wine will win either the red or white "kitty". A silent auction will also be a part of the evening. Jazzercise Campbell Station Center is located at 707 Campbell Station Road, directly behind the Campbell Station Wine and Spirits. If you would like to donate an auction item, or have questions, please contact Terry at 865-661-4282 or robterryo@yahoo.com. Also, the Jazzercise 2017 Race for the Cure Team is looking for members to walk/run with us on Race Day, October 21. If you would like to join our team, or make a donation, please go to http://knoxville.info-komen.org/goto/Jazzercise2017. Donations can also be made to help Terry make her goal at http://knoxville.infodomen.org/goto/TerryB0lberding.

Fun, Food and Fellowship for Fifty and older!

Daytime: Thursday, September 7, 11:30 am
Outback Steakhouse, N. Peters Rd.

Evening: Saturday, September 9, 6:00 pm
Parkside Tavern, N. Peters Road

ROCKERS
ALL MEN ARE INVITED... COME JOIN US!!!

September 14 and 28
8:00 a.m. in the Narthex

Contact John Neighbors for more info
748-6707 or cjneighbors64@gmail.com

CIRCLE #1
2nd Tuesday
10:00 a.m.

CIRCLE #2
2nd Tuesday
10:00 a.m.

CIRCLE #3
2nd Wednesday
10:00 a.m.

CIRCLE #4
1st Tuesday
7:00 p.m.

Check website for more information
9:00 a.m. (Monday - Friday)
3:45 p.m. (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday)
All classes held in the Fellowship Hall
Instructor Michelle Henry
shakeyourrumba@gmail.com

Line Dancing Classes
Intermediate Step
Mondays at 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
For questions contact Chuck Stuewe at 966-8295 or stuewechuck@gmail.com

TGIF Gentle Yoga Class
Fridays at 7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall
One-hour class offering Vinyasa-flow style appropriate for beginner and intermediate. Dress in proper fitness attire and bring a yoga mat and prop (block or strap.)
If you have questions contact Jenny Trussell at jtrussell4@verizon.net
Prayers for Our Church Family
Mike Agee, Judith and Phill Bradbury, Carolyn Caldwell, Jewell Countiss, Stuart Daw, Billie Fain, Tyrone Gregory, Marge and Ron Griffith, Frank and Margo Guess, Ron and Jeanette Mann, Bea Manske, Dale Rogers, Marge Spear, Betsy Starr, Melody White, Jim Wilbanks

For a complete prayer list that includes friends and family, or to join our prayer group, please contact the church office.

Military
Joshua Meador, Stephen Peterson, Kevin Shelton, David Sparks, Chase Sterling, Mark Wurth

Mission Workers
Mark Hare and Jenny Bent – Haiti
Carlton “Cobbie” and Dessa Palm – Philippines

I would like to thank the folks of the church for their comfort and support. They have taught me the truest meaning of my church family.
In Christ, Lew Linhart

Dear Friends at Farragut,

Our family was so touched by your gift to Joy of Music in memory of Mark. He loved playing and composing music, so it is some comfort in our grief to imagine other young people receiving that same gift.

I want to tell you a story about Mark. This past March for my birthday, my children organized a “story corps” CD, in which friends and family members recorded stories about me. It was terribly embarrassing! Mark engineered the project and made the final mix, adding in his own story at the end. And the one he chose was less a story and more a remembrance of our years at Farragut. We came when he was 3 and left when he was 10, and he described the joy of feeling so at home in the church, hiding in my robes, playing in my office, and being part of the life of the church. Thank you for helping form a kind, loving boy who was a fine young man. And thank you for caring for us at this awful time.
Love, Anne McKee and Mark Hulsether

Please join us with your crocheting and knitting skills for a meaningful ministry and good fellowship!

Tuesday, September 26
2 pm in the Parlor

We have patterns for both crochet and knitting for full size shawls and pocket prayer squares.
Children and Youth
Meet in the Educational Wing

Pre-K and Elementary classes use *Whirl*, where children practice reading the Bible and discerning what God is saying to them thru a fun DVD enhanced curriculum.

Youth use *Connect*, a quirky DVD series that launches students into discussions of reading the Bible from a Reformed perspective.

Adult Bible Study
Meet in Room A

This quarter offers studies on the theme “Covenant with God.” It considers the major covenants that God makes with people on behalf of the earth and the human community. Beginning with Noah, God promises benevolence toward creation. Similar commitments are made with Abram, Phinehas, and Ezekiel. Ultimately, the covenant forms the foundation for the coming Messiah and salvation for the world.

Monday Connection
Meets in the Parlor
*The Great Courses: The Old Testament By Professor Amy-Jill Levine*

The Old Testament, or Tanakh, was written in ancient Israel over 1,000 years by many authors. What does our faith find in new scholarly understanding? As scripture or as the most influential piece of literature ever written, this book is a source of constant wonder, inspiration, and intrigue. Through these lectures, we will probe the content of the biblical books, explore debates over their meaning, the historical and cultural situations they reflect and address and the critical method of interpretation to the Bible.

Pastor Matt’s Class
Meets in the library

An examination of the worldwide problem of poverty. Based on the video series *Poverty Cure*, we will not only ask how poverty around the world can be alleviated but, rather, how people in the developing world create prosperity for their families and their communities.

Moving Meditation Chair Yoga
Meets in Room 3

Incorporating prayer and spiritual meditation, this class takes you through a series of gentle yoga poses while seated or standing behind a chair for balance. Certified yoga instructor Jenny Trussell teaches this yoga class appropriate for beginners and those with physical limitations.
Happy Birthday

9/02  Jack Fitzgerald
9/04  Becca Ratledge
9/05  Justin Lomax
9/06  Mark Selecman
9/06  EI Sharp
9/07  Shelly Lomax
9/08  Jim Gillenwater
9/09  Eric Nicholls
9/11  Dusty Ratledge
9/11  Dawson Sweetland
9/13  Elizabeth Wilson
9/14  Joel Neely
9/14  Camilla Thurman
9/15  Molly Robinson
9/19  Pam Bradshaw
9/19  Frank Dorman
9/20  Deb Akins
9/21  Joey Nieman
9/22  Gary Heidinger
9/23  Donna Plumlee
9/24  Molly Henderson
9/24  Clay Griffin
9/24  Suzanne Weil
9/26  Katina Sharp
9/28  Jessy Rich
9/28  Bob Upchurch
9/28  Tim Hallman
9/29  Jim Wilbanks
9/29  Beth Loyless
9/30  Abigail Begovich
9/30  Steve Tinder

Happy Anniversary

9/01  Bruce and Elizabeth Wilson
9/03  Charlie and Sandra Feast
9/04  John and Nancy Huntley
9/05  Jason and Rachel Campbell
9/06  Ciaran and Christy Fitzgerald
9/07  Wayne and Patti Davis
9/08  Mark and Beth Allen
9/09  Jim Rooney and Beth Ralph
9/14  Bob and Laura Colloredo
9/23  Jon and Carolyn DeGroot
Building Improvement Project

At its meeting on Monday, August 28, the Session made an additional decision about the upcoming building improvements we hope to embark upon in the next year. In addition to the remodeling of the kitchen, fellowship hall, classrooms, and bathrooms in the older part of the building, the Session has also decided to give a facelift to the old sanctuary area, including Room A, the choir room, the youth room, and the library. This will allow for a more hospitable look to these spaces, along with added size to the choir room and youth room. More details, including costs, will be revealed in the coming months once more concrete plans are made. Again, we hope to garner the congregation’s support of this project with a capital campaign next spring. Renovations will hopefully begin early next summer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual for July</th>
<th>YTD July</th>
<th>YTD July Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Income</td>
<td>$54,808</td>
<td>$347,991</td>
<td>$345,009</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEP Income</td>
<td>$485</td>
<td>$79,968</td>
<td>$80,034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>$55,293</td>
<td>$427,959</td>
<td>$425,043</td>
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<td>Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$40,919</td>
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<td>$345,145</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEP Expenses</td>
<td>$224</td>
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<td>$63,339</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$41,143</td>
<td>$405,087</td>
<td>$408,484</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income less Expenses</td>
<td>$14,150</td>
<td>$22,872</td>
<td>$16,559</td>
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Betsy Henderson
Susan Harbin

New Member Development
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Terry Olberding

Outreach
Kirk Morris
Betty Nicholls

Pastoral Care
Joanie Scheuer
Trish Turner

Property
Bob Upchurch
John Thomason

Worship and Music
Laura McFee-Adams
Paul Johnson

Clerk of Session
Janet Tinder

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