



**PRAISING GOD  
SERVING OTHERS  
GROWING IN FAITH**

# Good News Banner

May 2023

**Farragut Presbyterian Church**  
209 Jamestowne Blvd.  
Knoxville, TN 37934  
865-966-9547  
office@fpctn.org  
www.fpctn.org

## Office Hours

**Monday - Thursday 9-3  
Friday 9-1**

## Worship

**9:00 am**

**Casual Service**

Outside (beginning May 7)

**11:00 am**

**Traditional Service  
Sanctuary**

<https://tingurl.com/fpclivestream>

We are a diverse and welcoming 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 each other so as to grow in faith together.

# Reverend Matt Nieman

## A Message from our Pastor



Sabbatical – A Time of Renewal and Refocus

On May 15, I'll be leaving the church for a three-month time of renewal and rest. I'm very grateful to the Session for granting me this time away. It is a luxury that few workers are granted by their employers; so, I don't take it for granted and realize what a special gift this is to me.

Several of you have asked what I'll be doing during this time. Is there a big project I'll be working on? Well, no. Will I be honing a particular ministry skill to help make me a better pastor when I come back? Not specifically. Will I come back to the church a different person? Well, I hope to come back rested and renewed. But I also hope to come back at least a bit more focused.

Speaking of focus, it's easy to become distracted. And in the last couple of years, largely due to events in my personal life, I've struggled with being distracted and not being able to focus like I would've wanted.

“Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.” (Luke 10:41-42)

What are those forces that keep us from focusing on the most important things, the “better part,” as Jesus said to Mary? While Martha's activity was not unimportant (the chores that made for her gracious hospitality), it got in the way of what was ultimately important in the moment: hearing the Word of God so that it could be a guidepost for discipleship.

During this Sabbatical time, I hope to explore how personal and communal distractions get in the way of my work as a pastor and our work as the church. Some distractions are unavoidable (death, divorce, pandemics, etc.). However, can their effects be mitigated by some simple practices to keep us or get us back on track?

My summer will include some reading, some praying, some travel, and spending time with my family. And in the course of these many different moments, I hope to gain some greater insight on keeping what's most important at the center of my journey.

Please be in prayer for our church—that these three months may be a time of renewal for us as a church family and that we would be reminded of how important it is to focus on the important actions and priorities God has placed before us.

I am looking forward to this time away, and I am also looking forward to my return on August 14. Jessica Lewis, a candidate for ordination in our presbytery and director of the MAST program (Maryville Adventures in Studying Theology) at Maryville College, will fill my role while I'm away. She's fantastic! You will appreciate and enjoy her leadership. Rev. Hal Oakley and Rev. Wendy Neff will also be filling in on occasion. I'm grateful that these professionals and our terrific Session and staff will make my sabbatical worry-free.

Have a blessed summer!

*Joining Our Family of Faith  
in Prayer:  
A Sabbatical Journey*



Scripture encourages us to rejoice always, to pray without ceasing, to give thanks in all circumstances. But in today's world, that's not always easy.

In a recent newsletter, Anglican priest Tish Harrison Warren said she wants to slow down at this time every year, to hear “the heavens proclaim the glory of God,” even as she acknowledges that “heeding this tangible world has become more difficult for us.” Her solution – to pray with her eyes as open as possible – is one that we as a family of faith are making our own.

As Matt seeks focus and renewal during his sabbatical, we will be engaging in a season of reflection and renewal alongside him. We will begin to pray together on Monday, May 15, and continue through Sunday, August 13. You can join our sabbatical journey at any time. We encourage you to make your commitment to travel with our family of faith by adding your name to the list posted on the whiteboard before or after worship or by calling the church office. A guide featuring daily readings from the Psalms will be available by Sunday, May 7, to help us on our journey.

As we move through the promise of spring into the in-your-face heat and humidity of an East Tennessee summer, may we all find time each day to pray with our eyes open as we reflect on who we are as members of a family of faith and seek to be renewed and re-energized during our own sabbatical journeys.

Thank you to Martha Edington for her work on this project.



# Outreach

## BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH GIVING



As a follow-on to the information that I presented verbally to the congregation on volunteer opportunities as sponsored by the Outreach Committee, here is the information in written form. The Outreach Committee welcomes your time and talent participation in any of these mission efforts.

This is a brief description of the agencies that we support and the name of the FPC member who is the coordinator for that activity.

**Mobile Meals**-weekly delivery of prepared meals to people who are in most cases, unable to get out for meals and groceries. Deliveries are to the client homes within Knox County, one day per week. It can be a humbling reminder to witness the struggles that the clients endure when you meet them to make the deliveries to their home. But it is also a very personal interaction. FPC Program Coordinator is Irene Rice.

**Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry**- FPC partners with Faith Lutheran , Concord Methodist and First Concord Baptist. The pantry is held within the building of Faith Lutheran , our next door neighbor. It's open 2 days per month, first and third Mondays. Currently the food items are bagged before guests arrive and are handed to them in their vehicles. Volunteer opportunities exist when the pantry has food items to be bagged and also on days when the pantry is open for guests.

Volunteers help with bagging, guest checkin, traffic controls, computer input and bag delivery. FPC Program Coordinator is Betty Nicholls

**Sunset Gap**-The primary function that the Outreach Committee supports is the Back to School backpack program and the Christmas gifts giving. I think most of you are familiar with these programs but if not, FPC sponsors students at school in Sevier Country and Cooke County TN. We provide school supplies prior to school starting and Christmas gifts during the holiday season. The twice yearly volunteer opportunities include sorting through the donated gifts and supplies, confirming all are received, and transporting these supplies and gifts to Sunset Gap. This is a popular program that FPC has supported for over 25 years. FPC coordinator is Debbie Long.

**Volunteer Ministry Center**-This is another food oriented program that we support. Once per month throughout the year, we serve meals to clients of the Volunteer Ministry Center on Broadway Ave in Knoxville. The Volunteer Ministry Center emphasizes providing emergency shelter and longer term housing for people without housing. This includes providing food and medical care to those folks. The volunteer opportunities includes food purchase, preparation, transporting and serving. Cleanup from the meals is not required! The coordinator for this opportunity is Jean Peretz.



**Knoxville Area Rescue Ministry (Karm)**- An easy way to volunteer your time individually is to donate clothing and household items to one of the Knoxville Area Rescue Ministry stores. KARM provides services to people experiencing homelessness, addiction and poverty to get their lives back on track. When doing so, mention that you want the value of the items to be credited to Farragut Presbyterian Church. These credits are accumulated by KARM, and once per quarter we are provided with cards for discounts on items at the KARM store. The Outreach Committee then donates these cards to designated missions to provide assistance to those using their services. Bill Nelson is the program coordinator for this effort.

**Outreach Committee Member**—The FPC Outreach Committee is a seven person committee who make decisions about expenditure of Outreach funds and mission agencies to support. We are looking for fresh voices and perspectives from new members.

The Outreach Committee has decided to end FPC's involvement in the Family Promise family hosting program. This decision was made in consultation with Beth Loyless, the FPC Mission Coordinator for Family Promise, after the hosting church we have teamed with for the past few years, Westside Unitarian Universalist Church, ended their involvement in the Family Promise hosting program in March. A replacement hosting church within the local Family Promise network was not identified. Beth and the Outreach Committee thank all of you who have participated in this worthy program over the past several years.

Thank you for your time and attention and I trust that this exchange has provided an update to the work that your Outreach Committee is doing. And lastly a big thank you to not only the program coordinators but also the many FPC volunteers who dedicated to these programs and serving God through their efforts.

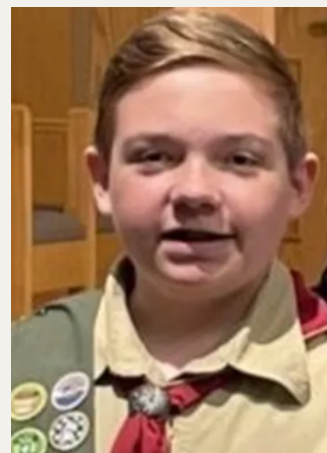
Kirk Morris

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Two of our FPC youth are currently raising funds for their Eagle Scout Projects. Graham Morrell is working to help refurbish the Boys & Girls Club of Dumplin Valley and Parker Morrell is working to restore and clean headstones in the Pleasant Forest Cemetery. To learn more about these projects and support these two, follow the links below. Thank you for your support!

Graham Morrell: <https://gofund.me/97e505ed>

Parker Morrell: <https://gofund.me/facac193>





JOIN US FOR OUR

# SPRING UKIRK WORK DAY!

THIS  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 30  
2-4pm



We have an incredible group of seniors this year, and over the next month we will be taking time to highlight each of them and how UKirk has made a difference in their lives.

We are asking you to consider donating \$20.23 in their honor to help us reach our goal of \$2,023!

Please consider donating today in honor of our amazing seniors!

Thank you for supporting UKirk and our students!



*Spring Fundraiser*

— Donate \$20.23 In —  
honor of  
the class of 2023!

[www.ukirkutk.org](http://www.ukirkutk.org)

# MINISTRIES



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

May 23  
11 am

Join this wonderful group of knitters and crocheters to make shawls for FPC members who need extra comfort during a difficult time. Patterns and yarn are provided.

WHEN YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO



*Call someone  
who cares*

FPC STEPHEN MINISTER LEADERS

BETH MARTIN | MATT NIEMAN  
JEANIE OAKLEY | ELIZABETH WILSON

865/966-9547

## Presbyterian Women

All circle meetings are held at the church

### Circle #1

2nd Tuesday, 10 am  
Leaders: Janet Tinder  
865-556-8193  
Kathy Emerson

### Circle #2

2nd Tuesday, 10 am  
Leaders: Becky Thomason  
865-607-0727  
Linda Nunley

### Circle #3

2nd Wednesday, 10 am  
Leaders: Mikie Lancaster  
865-675-0360  
Jo McElhaney  
865-966-5424

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) groups build community, affirm women's calls to leadership and spiritual growth, raise concerns and channel information to and from Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery.

Presbyterian Women is a loving community that can challenge and nurture you, and be a vehicle for making the world a better place for all of God's children. Consider joining an FPC Circle.

## Men's Bible Study

May 11 and 25  
8 a.m. / Narthex

The men of FPC gather twice a month for fellowship and a time of bible study. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month in the narthex at 8am. If you would like to join us, please contact John Neighbors or the church office to get on the contact list. Breakfast, coffee, and great fellowship provided!

## Chair Yoga

**MONDAY AND FRIDAY**  
**10:00 - 10:30 AM**  
**NARTHEX**

Class designed for those with limited mobility or balance concerns.

## TGIF Gentle Yoga

**FRIDAY 7:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Gentle, slow flow class. Bring a mat and comfortable clothing. For beginner and experienced yogis.

Contact Jenny Trussell at CEDARSTUDIOS4@GMAIL.COM for additional information or a private introductory session!





**SATURDAY, MAY 6**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF EAST TENNESSEE  
FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:30AM**

**Annual Business Meeting followed by discussion time centered around the theme "Connection."**

**Where do we need more connection?**

**How do we make that happen?**

**What's working among your communities?**

**What new ideas can we come up with to enhance our connections as Presbyterian Women?**

**We will have lunch (\$10 per person) and end the day with worship conducted by Reverend Rachel Penmore, Campus Minister, UKirk (Presbyterian Center) at UT Knoxville.**

**Contact Beth White or Becky Thomason if you would like to attend.**



**Presbyterian Women had a wonderful Birthday Offering luncheon on April 1. We had 42 ladies in attendance for lunch from Chicken Salad Chick and a wonderful presentation from Lisa Gragin from Meadowview Greenhouse. Lisa gave us many helpful hints for caring for our "Posies for the Pantry" and also hints for taking care of plants we may already have.**

**The Birthday Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the spring each year, it gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The Birthday Offering funds up to five projects each year, in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each.**

**We have two Tuesday morning circles which both meet at the church on the Second Tuesday of each month, and one circle on the Second Wednesday of each month which also meets at the church. In May, the meetings will be held on the 9th and 10th of the month.**

**If you have never attended a circle and would like to join one, or you have any questions, please contact Beth White at 865-966-1121 or [bwhite6@msn.com](mailto:bwhite6@msn.com).**



# *Music at FPC*

*Dr. Angela Batey, Director*

## The Stained Glass of Farragut Presbyterian Church - Emblems of Our Faith

There is a certain mystery to glass: It captures light and glows from within. It is a jewel-like substance made from the most ordinary materials: sand transformed by fire. Before recorded history, man learned to make glass and color it by adding metallic salts and oxides. These minerals within the glass capture specific portions from the spectrum of white light allowing the human eye to see various colors. Gold produces stunning cranberry, cobalt makes blues; silver creates shades of yellow and gold while copper makes greens and brick red.

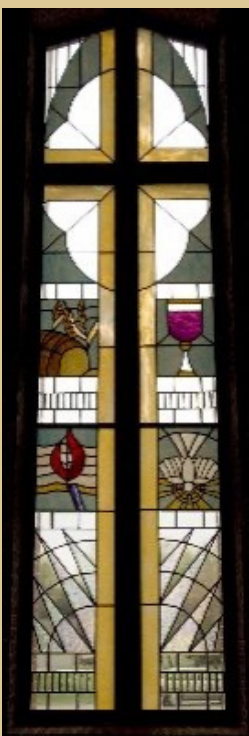
Techniques of stained-glass window construction were described by the monk Theophilus, who wrote a 'how to' for craftsmen around 1100 AD. It describes methods little changed over the next thousand years. The Gothic age produced the great cathedrals of Europe and brought a full flowering of stained-glass windows. Churches became taller and lighter, walls thinned and stained glass was used to fill the increasingly larger openings in them.

Stained-glass windows are often viewed as translucent pictures. Gothic stained-glass windows are a complex mosaic of bits of colored glass joined with

lead into an intricate pattern illustrating biblical stories and saint's lives. It made the church that special, sacred dwelling place of God.

Farragut Presbyterian Church is fortunate to have a number of beautiful windows of stained glass in our church. The four largest windows in the sanctuary is the window at the front of our church, the rear of the church and on either side at the front of the nave. These windows were installed and dedicated in December of 1999. Each window was donated by a family in our church, in memory or honor of loved ones, and created by artist Karol Smith. Pictures of Karol creating our windows can be seen hanging in the narthex, opposite the kitchen. This article is the first in a series about these beautiful gifts to our sanctuary.

Perhaps the most prominent is the window at the front of the sanctuary. It was given in loving memory and honor of Charles and Bonnie Yount and Lloyd and Louise White by Leon and Carole Yount. Predominating this window is the empty cross in gold to suggest the glory of the Resurrection. Rays of light emanate from the lower portion of the cross, reminding that Christ is the light of the world and we are to let our faith shine in the darkness. Flanking the cross are images of the bread and wine - elements of Holy Communion; the flame of Pentecost; and a white dove. The dove is seen several times in scripture: when Jesus was baptized the Holy Ghost descended in bodily shape as a dove. It was also seen as a symbol of peace, because a dove brought to Noah a bough of an olive-tree as a sign that the deluge of





wrath was at an end. In early Christian art the Apostles and the faithful were generally represented as doves because they were the instruments of the Holy Ghost, carrying peace to the world. These panels lead the eye up toward the heavens, viewed through the clear portions of the upper area.

The scriptural inspirations for this window are as follows:

Matthew 26:26-28 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Jeremiah 23:29a "Is not my word like as a fire?" said the Lord.

Acts 2:3-4a And there appeared unto them cloven tongues of fire...and it sat upon each of them, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.

John 1:32 And John bare record, saying, "I saw the spirit descending from heaven like a dove."



LYNN ROGNSVOOG, PIANO



COLLIN KASEFANG, BARITONE



SANDRA PORTER BOHLKEN, SOPRANO



LIZ ELLIOTT, SOPRANO



PAULA MORRIS, SOPRANO

# FAITH LUTHERAN PRESENTS

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

AN AFTERNOON OF EDUCATION,  
ENTERTAINMENT, AND PRAISE.

05.07.23 | 2PM

225 JAMESTOWN BLVD  
FARRAGUT, TN 37934



## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**



### **Monday Connection and Pastor Matt's Class**

seeking: honest questions for deeper faith  
a lenten devotional

#### **Room A**

This Lenten season we will read many stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking: a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. In these interactions, an unveiling often occurs—assumptions are disrupted, a new perspective is revealed, mystery grows. This Lenten season we will study a series founded on questions. Many of our weekly questions feel restorative, some feel like a charge or challenge, some are hopeful and curious. These questions won't necessarily lead to answers, but they can help us find clarity and a new perspective. Ultimately, we pray they lead to a new beginning, a restoration, a wider grace.

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Led by Elizabeth Wilson  
Parlor

This class will discuss the weekly Lectionary text. There's an optional lesson handout, but you can also join us for the conversation.

### **Youth**

Library  
Led by Mason Warren

Join us each week for a look at a different book of the Old Testament.

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHT GOLF GROUP**



Join the Wednesday Night Golf Group at 4:45pm at Avalon Golf Course. The \$30 weekly cost includes greens fees for 9 holes, cart, and practice balls. Stay afterwards for social time, drinks, and dinner with your fellow “hackers.” All ages/abilities welcome. Please contact Wayne Walls by Tuesday, of the week you would like to play, for tee times.

**Evening Rockers** will be “sailing” to the Tellico Village Yacht Club on May 20 at 6pm with dessert to follow at the Hickman’s. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Please contact Irene Rice, 865/675-4804, with any questions.



## **FOODIES**

**Foodies Dinner Saturday May 13**  
Menu: Crab Dip appetizer  
Caesar Salad  
Chicken or Beef Kabobs  
with Grilled Vegetables  
Berry Cobbler and Ice Cream  
The sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

## May Anniversaries

5/04 Chuck and Karen Brown Gonzalez  
5/04 Liam and Margo McClish  
5/18 Mitchell Adams and Laura McFee-Adams  
5/10 Tom and Sharon Koch  
5/11 Chuck and Mitzi Gentry  
5/14 Kirby and Gloria Purjet  
5/15 Jim and Jessy Rich  
5/19 Fred and Jean Peretz  
5/21 Christopher and Lori Patterson  
5/28 Alan and Melody White  
5/31 Philip and Ruth Jacobs

## May Birthdays

5/01 Janet Tinder  
5/01 Helen Nalley  
5/05 Connie Rutenber  
5/05 Pat Dail  
5/05 Bruce Wilson  
5/06 Holly Morrell  
5/06 Beth Hallman  
5/06 Brenda Selecman  
5/08 Wayne Davis  
5/08 Jason Campbell  
5/09 Hazel West  
5/09 David Long  
5/10 Rachel Hopson  
5/10 Carolyn Caldwell  
5/11 Ann McAnally  
5/15 Kathryn Robinson  
5/17 Paul Gary  
5/17 Ginger Grunke  
5/18 Jenny Trussell  
5/19 David Bolus  
5/19 Beth Ralph  
5/20 Angie Batey  
5/21 Dennis Starr  
5/22 Bill Nelson  
5/23 Liza Wright  
5/24 Jeff Gary  
5/25 Judith Bradbury  
5/26 Tim Schult  
5/27 Jaci Marks  
5/29 Norma Foriska



**Remember in  
your prayers...**

Candice Blake, Jim and Jane Brannon, Pat Dail, Denise and Kathi Damelio, Barb Emery, Billie Fain, Chuck Foriska, Mary Hoagland, Mildred Lenox, Bill Lester, Bron Lewis, Beth Loyless, Irma McGuffey, Mike Murphy, Tami Newsom, Dee and Kathryn Robinson, Linda Ross, Jerry Seiler, Les Shear, Chris Sparks, Steve Tinder, Jack Watson, Helen Weaver, Hazel West

### Military

Joshua Meador, David Sparks, Mark Wurth

### Birth

Wesson Robert Schult born on April 27, 2023 at 8:10 a.m. to members Madelyn and Tim Schult. Wesson is 7lbs., 9oz. and 21" long. Mother and baby are doing well.

### Bereaved

Prayers for Janice Roberts in the death of her husband, Larry. A memorial service was held on Thursday, April 20 at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City.

Many thanks to my FPC family. Your support and loving care were very much appreciated during the difficult months of my mom's hospital stay and hospice care. The many cards, emails, texts, hugs, and kind words were a comfort when most needed.

Sincerely,  
Gloria & Kirby Purjet

# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At its meeting on April 24, the Session:

- Called a special Session meeting for May 7 for the purpose of welcoming new members (9 adults attended Chat with Matt!)
- Decided to have the narthex carpet cleaned—for now—following the Christmas Eve flood rather than replacing it with a new surface. More time is needed to assess what type of replacement is best for the future.
- Agreed to not meet during Matt’s sabbatical this summer, barring any urgent matter that needs to be addressed.

Financial Report as of March 2023

	Actual for March	YTD March	YTD March Budget
Operating Income	\$84,889	\$196,333	\$167,658
Big Fish Academy Income	\$1,500	\$4,500	\$4,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$86,389</b>	<b>\$200,833</b>	<b>\$172,158</b>
Operating Expenses	\$67,503	\$156,423	\$170,989
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$67,503</b>	<b>\$156,423</b>	<b>\$170,989</b>
<b>Total Income less Expenses</b>	<b>\$18,886</b>	<b>\$44,410</b>	<b>\$1,169</b>





**Get Social!**

Farragut Presbyterian is live on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Have something to post?

Send to our social media coordinator, Emily Sweetland,  
at [social@fpctn.org](mailto:social@fpctn.org) or text 865-567-7636



<https://www.instagram.com/farrgutpesbyterian>



@FarrPres



<https://www.facebook.com/FPCCKnox>

**Pastor**

Reverend Matt Nieman  
[matt@fpctn.org](mailto:matt@fpctn.org)  
402-660-2451 (call or text)

**Dawn Zilles**

Office Administrator  
[office@fpctn.org](mailto:office@fpctn.org)  
865-966-9547

**Lori Corbett**

Bookkeeper  
[bookkeeperfpc@gmail.com](mailto:bookkeeperfpc@gmail.com)

**Mason Warren**

Director of Family Ministry  
[masonwarren@fpctn.org](mailto:masonwarren@fpctn.org)

**Dr. Angela Batey**

Director of Music  
[abatey@utk.edu](mailto:abatey@utk.edu)

**Tami Newsom**

Associate Director of Music  
[tnewsom3@utk.edu](mailto:tnewsom3@utk.edu)

**Sandra Porter Bohlken**

Music Director, Casual Service  
[singsandrab@gmail.com](mailto:singsandrab@gmail.com)



**KARM STORES**  
The Thrift Store with a Mission

When donating used items to KARM tell the employee the name of the church. The church will receive gift cards to KARM Stores that can be given to someone in need.

**SESSION**

**Administration**

Kirby Purjet  
Kathy Emmerson

**Christian Education**

Denise Griffin  
Beth Honey

**Church Life**

Jeff Thode  
Gayle Williams

**Outreach**

Kirk Morris  
Bill Nelson

**Property**

Mark Allen  
Darrell Sparks

**Worship and Music**

Sharon Koch  
Catherine Manning

**Clerk of Session**

Janet Tinder



Support FPC Christian Ed with Kroger Community Rewards Program. Link your Kroger reward card to FPC.

Sign up at: Visit  
<https://www.kroger.com/account/enroll>  
CommunityRewardsNow/  
Our organization number is YU915.



Support Farragut Presbyterian Church  
Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)  
When you shop, Amazon donates.