

This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

*We invite you to stand as able.



December 24, 2025
7:00 p.m.



What do
you fear?

GOOD NEWS IS LOUDER THAN FEAR

Christmas Eve

- The Gathering -

Greeting

Rev. Matt Nieman

Prelude

Stille Nacht

Bullard

Tami Newsom, organ

Advent Candle Lighting and Call to Worship

LisaKay Matchen

In a fearful world, where do you see the presence of God?

We see God's fingerprints all around us. We see God in the beauty of the stars.

We see God in the love of this community.

We see God in the dreams we hold for a better world.

You are right. Even in a fearful world, God is here. God is all around us. On this holy night, we light the Christ Candle as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, God's love is all around us.

(Candle is lit.)

Thanks be to God for a love like that! **Amen.**

*Hymn #41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

*Prayer of Adoration

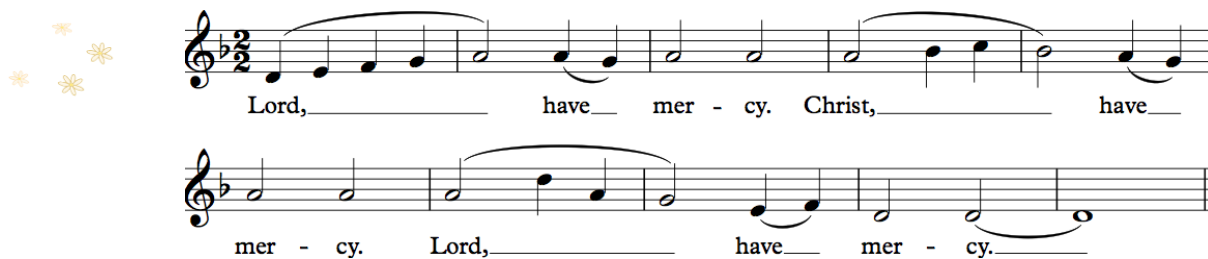
*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God of angel choruses, you hang the stars in the sky, but we do not see them. You fill the night with angelic song, but we do not hear it. You send shepherds to tell the good news, but we do not believe them. You bring love into the world, but we do not seek it. Quiet the fear in us that works to rationalize, minimize, and distract from the good news you put forth into the world. Tune our hearts back to your song. With hope we pray.

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Kyrie eleison



- The Response -

Affirmation of Faith

We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and *still* we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news. We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: *Unto us, love is born.* We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So *still*, we believe. Amen.

The Anthem

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Chancel Choir

arr. R. Leaf

The anthem text may be found in The Hymnal, #37.

Call for the Offering



You can use the QR code to give online or place your offering in the baskets located at the Sanctuary doors. Thank you for your gifts.

- The Eucharist -

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

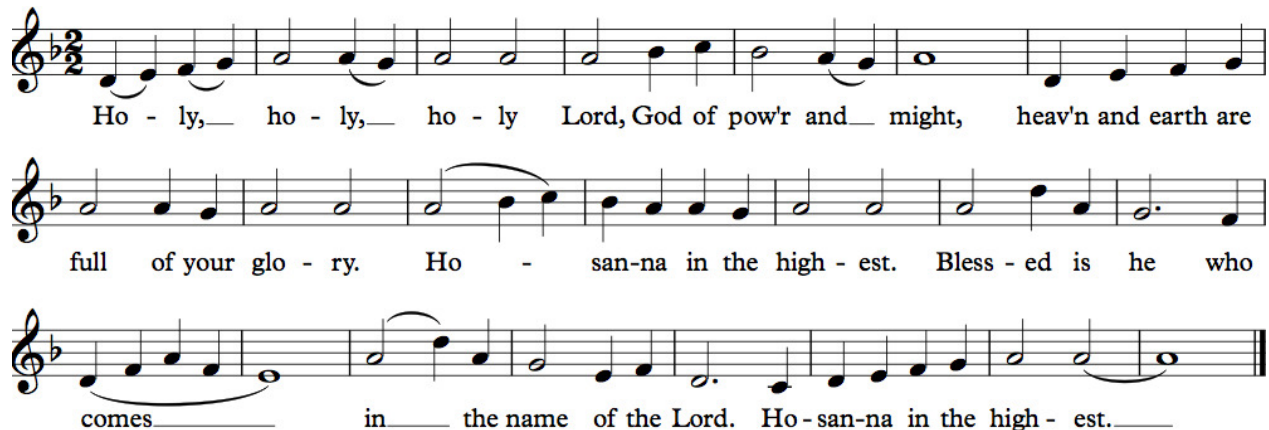
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(prayer continues)



Sanctus

Picardy



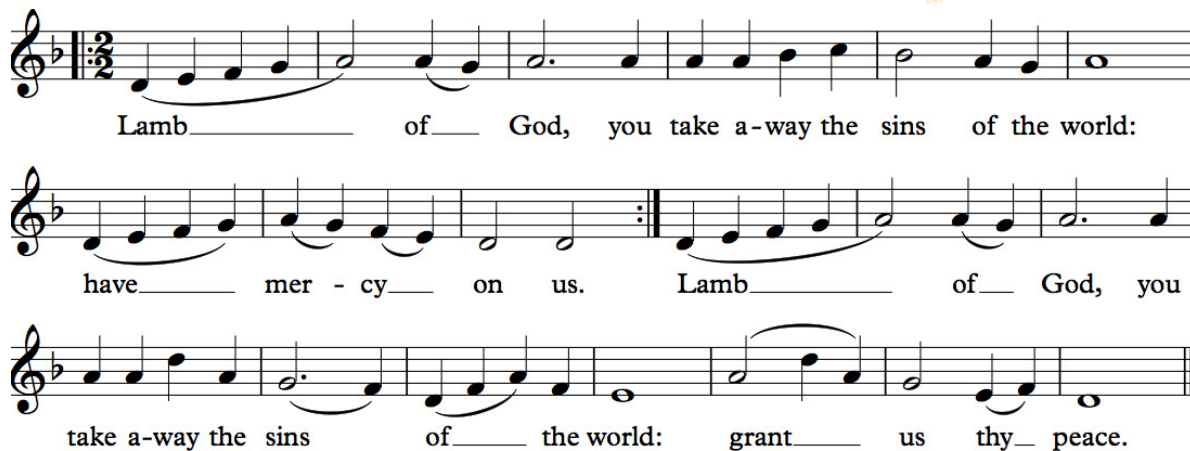
The Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Agnus Dei

Picardy



The Communion of the People

The Prayer after Communion

*Lighting of Candles



*Hymn #60

Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht

- The Sending -

*Hymn #40

Joy to the World!

Antioch

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response #23

Come to Bethlehem

Gloria

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Postlude

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Tami Newsom, organ

Biery

Communion Server ~ Emily Sweetland
A/V Team ~ Ken Ladrach, David Long, and Mason Warren



Please use one of the methods below to record your attendance with us today:



Scan this QR code and click on the generated google doc link, or

- Go to <https://tinyurl.com/record-FPC-attendance>, or
- Email the office at office@fpctn.org, or
- Sign the pew attendance pad.



Members

Pat Dail, Marilyn Felts, Dean & Lucy Fleming, Frank Guess, Beth & Jimmy Loyless, Ann McAnally, Debby McKinney, Maria Medina, Irma McGuffey, Tami Newsom, Donna Phillips, Jan Seiler

Bereaved

The Family of Bob Alexander as they celebrate Bob's life on January 2nd at 12:00pm with visitation at 11:00am here at FPC.

The Family of John Huntley as they celebrate John's life on January 3rd at 11:00am here at FPC.

Looking for ways to be involved in Worship?

Sign-up to be an usher, scripture reader, or communion server!

All ages are invited to sign up.

Please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/FPCvolunteerSignUp> and sign up in the appropriate available time slot. If you have any questions, contact Mikie Lancaster, Ken Ladrach, or the church office (865/966-9547).



Farragut
Presbyterian
FPC Church
LOVE AND LEARN

Pastor.....	Rev. Matthew Nieman
Director of Spiritual Formation.....	Rev. Dr. John Sharp
Director of Family Ministries.....	Mason Warren
Director of Music.....	Dr. Angela L. Batey
Associate Director of Music.....	Tami Newsom
Music Leader for Casual Worship and Office Administrator.....	Sandra Porter Bohlken
Bookkeeper.....	Lori Corbett
Treasurer.....	John Begovich
Financial Secretary.....	Tom Koch
Clerk of Session.....	Lisa Gary

209 Jamestowne Blvd. ~ Farragut, TN 37934
865/966-9547 ~ www.fpctn.org



<http://tinyurl.com/FPCe-giving>

Poinsettias and Decorations Donated By:

Lisa Bradney in memory of Ben Selecman

Jean & Fred Peretz in honor of Annie Peretz

Jean & Fred Peretz in memory of Luke & Charlsie Hays

Jean & Fred Peretz in memory of Ray & Ruth Peretz

Mark & Beth Allen in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Bill Leffew

Mark & Beth Allen in memory of Mr. & Mrs. George Allen

Mark & Beth Allen in honor of Matt, Sarah, Wells & Walker Kennedy

Mark & Beth Allen in honor of Patrick, Christine, William & Charles Allen

Pat & Howard Hickman in memory of their parents

Connie & John Begovich in memory of Alice & Charles Norris

Connie & John Begovich in memory of Dorothy Begovich

Connie & John Begovich in honor of their children & grandchildren

Carolyn & John Neighbors in memory of Maggie & John Neighbors

Carolyn & John Neighbors in memory of Peggy Hiett

Carolyn & John Neighbors in memory of Mary & Harry English

Kent & Joyce Williams in memory of Helen & George Soules

Kent & Joyce Williams in memory of Robert & Rita Williams

Gale B. Montgomery in memory of John Montgomery

Gale B. Montgomery in honor of Matt & Laura Nieman

Kathy & Dale Emmerson in memory of Warren & Kris Grice

Kathy & Dale Emmerson in memory of Verna Yoril

Kathy & Dale Emmerson in memory of Helen Geist

Catherine & David Manning in honor of Meredith, Tucker & Marigold Fritz

Catherine & David Manning in honor of Deacon Manning, Addison & Gus

Catherine & David Manning in honor of Kathy Manning

Catherine & David Manning in honor of our FPC family

Liz Preston & family in memory of John Preston

Becky & Phil Dangel in honor of Boomer & Abby

Debbie & David Long in memory of Margaret Knapp

Beth & Jerry Martin in memory of W. Judd Shaw

Beth & Jerry Martin in honor of Lindsey, Briton, Kaylor, Sean, Michael & Avery

Beth & Jerry Martin in honor of Harper, Hadley, Frances & Sophia

Beth & Jerry Martin in memory of Bob & Peg McQuilkin

Beth & Jerry Martin in memory of Maurice & Libby Martin

Beth & Jerry Martin in memory of Mike W. Martin

Linda & Buddy Wert in memory of Linda's parents, Elise & Jim Gillenwater

Linda & Buddy Wert in memory of Buddy's parents, Cline & Eleanor Wert

Linda & Buddy Wert in honor of their children & grandchildren



Gayle Pardue Williams in honor of Dr. Janis Pardue Hill
Gayle Pardue Williams in memory of Dr. Mark Williams
Gayle Pardue Williams in memory of JC & Demaris Pardue
Gayle Pardue Williams in memory of Marshall & Polly Williams
Gayle Pardue Williams in honor of her first grandchild, Ms. Candace Williams

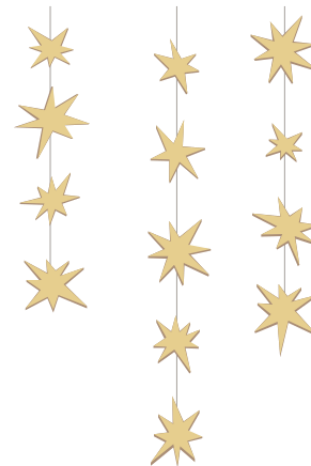
Greg & Carol Kraft in honor of their children & six grandchildren

Larry & Jane Byars in memory of Jack & Jerry Duckett
Larry & Jane Byars in memory of Jack & Helen Byars
Larry & Jane Byars in memory of Mike Whitt
Larry & Jane Byars in memory of Angela Byars

Beth White in memory of Ivan Henry & Ruby Jo White
Beth White in memory of Noel & Mary Lib Flickinger
Beth White in memory of George White

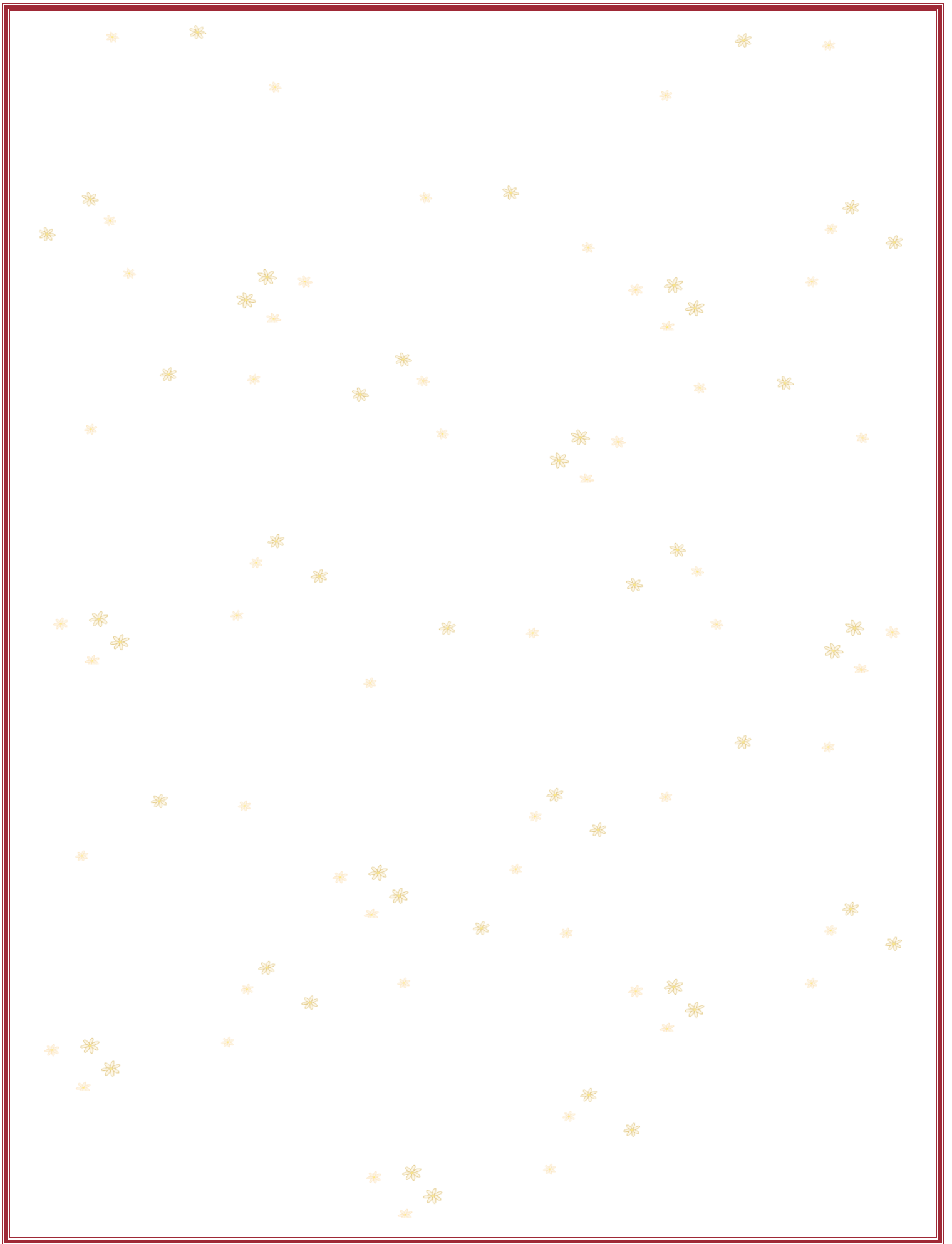
Jeff & Lisa Gary in memory of Paul Byerley & Ann Bridges Byerley
Jeff & Lisa Gary in honor of Nick & Pat Gary

Chris & Lori Patterson in honor of their sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren
Chris & Lori Patterson in honor of their parents: the Pattersons & the Rhodes



Merry Christmas





WHAT'S HAPPENING...

AT

Farragut
Presbyterian
Church

Our Advent and Christmas theme this year is provided by



What do
you fear?

INSISTING ON HOPE THIS ADVENT

A Sanctified Art

Join us Sundays as we travel through this season of hope together.

You may also use the Advent & Christmas devotional link.

Graphic design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Photography by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONAL

Our friends at A Sanctified Art have provided a special e-reader version of this year's Advent devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices:

online.flippingbook.com/view/361593675/

In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.

If you prefer a printed copy, please let the church office know, and we can print one for you.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

One worship service next Sunday, December 28 at 10:00 a.m.

JOIN US IN THE NEW YEAR

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Resuming January 4

Join us Sundays for **KidsQuest** during the 9am Worship Service

Youth Group -Sundays at 5:30pm

January 11

Bridgepoint 345-- grades 3, 4 & 5 meet on the 2nd Sunday of every month for faith and fellowship

Small & Mighty

Once a month we join other youth groups from our Presbytery to form the Small & Mighty Youth Group. Our next gathering is **January 18 4-6:30pm** for Faith & Fellowship Night

Looking Ahead

Easter Egg Hunt on April 5,

Easter Sunday, at 10am (between worship services)



Vacation Bible School (VBS)

This summer we'll travel to the Wild West on the "Faith Frontier," Sundays at 9am beginning June 7

Camp John Knox

Sign up to go to camp with friends or be on staff this summer--see Mason Warren for more details



Montreat (June 13-20)

Montreat Youth Conference is a unique gathering of young people from all over the country for a week of study, worship, and recreation.



ADULTS

SAVE THE DATE

"Lunch and Learn"

We're launching a new time of fellowship and learning on Thursday, January 15.

We're calling it "Lunch and Learn." We'll gather for lunch together at 11:30 at the church (in Room A or the narthex) and follow our meal and fellowship with a short study of some of the giants of our faith. St. Augustine, C.S. Lewis, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen, and so many other famous scholars, pastors, and writers have so much to say about faith and God's place in the world. Matt Nieman and John Sharp will lead these brief discussions on these well-known figures and their ideas that have shaped our faith. We'll limit our time to around an hour to make room for the other activities of our day, but hope you'll be able to join other members of our community in a time of relationship-strengthening and learning. The meal will be catered, and the cost is only \$10 per person at the event. You can sign up at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCLunchandLearn> or, you can sign up in the narthex on Sunday mornings.



See the Quest Menu on the next page for more Adult Spiritual Formation Opportunities





MENU FOR WINTER & SPRING 2026: For Adults

Quest Sundays: Ongoing spiritual formation opportunities situated between worship services, meeting at 10:00am with childcare provided:

- **Pastor's Class** Meeting in the Library, this class is led by Pastor Matt or, on occasion, others. You will find a great mix of Bible study and engagement on topical matters at the intersection of faith and culture.
- **Soul Café** Meeting in the new Narthex gathering space. John Sharp facilitates a lively, interactive experience around worship themes and content for the day. No lesson to prepare - come as you are!

Quest Groups: Building relationships and faith beyond Sunday mornings:

- **Small Groups**
Typically meeting in homes, with an emphasis on relationships and growing together – so they are smaller by design. We have multiple groups, with new ones being formed on an as needed basis. Contact the church office or talk to John if you're interested in a small group or want to know more.
- **Presbyterian Women**
Currently three groups meeting monthly at 10:00 am (2nd Tuesday and 2nd Wednesday), all women are invited to be a part of these mid-week opportunities for Bible study, prayer and time spent together. This year's focus is: finding resilience, joy and our identity in Jesus Christ. Contact Janet Tinder if interested.
- **Men's Bible Study**
Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 8:00 am, in the Narthex. Great discussion, exploration of scripture, prayer, time together, and Chick-fil-a biscuits!
- **Lunch & Learn**
Starting January 15 and thereafter on the third Thursday of the month at 11:30am. Come for the food, fellowship and finding deeper faith connections.

Questions Classes:

Spiritual formation should be practical, helping to address real questions, interests and needs that we encounter in life. These occasional gatherings meet at various times for a specific number of sessions.

- **The 5th Gospel**
People who live in Palestine and Israel often call the land of the Bible, "The 5th Gospel," as it tells the story of our faith in unique and unforgettable ways. Want fresh perspective and deeper understanding of a faith rooted in another place, time, language and culture? John Sharp has spent time in the Middle East, and wants to share a very experiential approach to Christianity's birthplace. This will be a pilgrimage for the mind and heart that provides vivid, lasting images and understanding that permanently enriches faith. Starting February 9, the class meets on Mondays from 5:30-6:30pm until Holy Week.
- **Elemental: Conversations in Science and Faith**
Launches Thursday, February 12 at 7:00pm. A majority of Americans believe science and faith are in direct conflict, leading to mistrust and misunderstanding of one another. How can faith and science better understand and inform each other? How can faith flourish in an age of science and technology? Bring a friend and join the conversation!
- **Coming in 2027:** Trip to Israel and Palestine - February 8-17, 2027. Cost will be approximately \$4,300 per person, all-inclusive. See John Sharp for more details.

A LOOK BACK AT 2025



VMC

Thank you to all who served at the Volunteer Ministry Center throughout 2025! Pictured are our December volunteers from the Men's Bible Study.

L to R: Scott McKinney, Matt Nieman, Wayne Walls, Thom Haig, Kirk Morris

Sunset Gap

Delivery crew pictured from L to R:

Steve & Jan Darnell, Carol & Greg Kraft, Kathy Emmerson, Kimberly & Earl Platt, MaryAnne Walls, David & Debbie Long, Kelly Schueler

Thank you to all who joined in Presbyterian women's drive for warm hats, mittens, and scarves for the residents in the Sunset Gap community. Your generosity will be appreciated in the gift of warmth this winter.

A big thank you to all who participated in this year's Christmas drive for 40 children in Cocke Co. You have truly made a difference and will bring so much joy to them this year. This congregation's generosity is amazing! Thank you also to all of the volunteers who have helped in the drive, sorting/bagging and delivering to Sunset Gap. The gift of your time is truly appreciated.



Wrapping gifts for Santa Elves are Denise Griffin, Margo Gregory, Sharon Koch, co-founder Sarah Booher, Joanie Scheuer, Jeanie Oakley. A big thank you to our church family who gave contributions to support The Santa Elves gift giving to over 50 children from Holston Children's Home.



2025 Year-End Giving Reminders

1. To be counted as a 2025 contribution:

- Checks or cash must be received at FPC or mailed items postmarked by 12/31/25.
- Donations by credit card are deductible in the year the donor makes the charge (transaction posting date).
- ACH, EFT, stock transfers or other online donations are deductible in the year the bank transfers the stock or funds to FPC. Please make sure your online giving is initiated by Friday, Dec. 26th in time for the transaction to post on Wed., Dec. 31, 2025. The donation confirmation page on our website will confirm the date your account is debited for online giving transactions.

2. Don't file your 2025 tax return before receiving your FPC 2025 year-end giving statement, so that you have IRS-compliant documentation of any gifts of cash or checks to FPC that are \$250 or more.

3. Year-end donation statements will be mailed and emailed by Jan 31st, 2026.

Join us in the New Year.

Sunday Worship

9am Casual Worship Service with KidsQuest program during worship and Nursery available

10am Spiritual Formation Classes for all ages

11am Traditional Worship Service
with Nursery available

Ash Wednesday

February 18 at 7pm

Palm Sunday

10am Blended Worship Service

11am Palm Sunday Brunch

Holy Week

Maunder Thursday

Worship at 7pm

Good Friday

Noon worship

Easter Sunday

9am Casual Worship Service with Communion

11am Traditional Worship Service
with Brass and Communion

This Week at FPC

Sun, Dec 28

10am Traditional Worship Service/Sanctuary
11am Nibbles in the Narthex

Wed, Dec 31

OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON
12pm Parlor Reserved

Thurs, Jan 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
OFFICE CLOSED

Fri, Jan 2

10am Chair Yoga/Room A
11am Bob Alexander Visitation/Sanctuary
12pm Bob Alexander Memorial Service/Sanctuary

Sat, Jan 3

11am John Huntley Memorial Service/Sanctuary

Sun, Jan 4

9am Casual Worship Service/Sanctuary
10am Soul Cafe/Narthex
Pastor Matt's Class/Library
KidStart/Room D
YouthQuest/Youth Rm
11am Traditional Worship Service/Sanctuary
12pm Nibbles in the Narthex

