

GOOD NEWS BANNER

Newsletter of Farragut Presbyterian Church



Church office closed for
Labor Day, September 7.



Join us for Worship

We offer four ways to worship on Sunday mornings: a casual service, our traditional service, and live-streamed versions of both services posted online.

9:00 am
Casual Service
Outside

Our casual worship service at 9:00 a.m. is in our church parking lot, a relaxed atmosphere with keyboard and guitars. Bring a lawn chair and join us. If the weather is questionable, this service will move indoors to our sanctuary.

11:00 am
Traditional Service
Sanctuary

Our traditional worship service is at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary featuring our Chancel Choir, FPC Ringers, traditional organ music and other talented guest musicians.

<https://tinyurl.com/fpclivestream>

We are a diverse and welcoming community of believers, called by God to be disciples of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge God's gracious presence in the world. Our faithful response in praising God encompasses compassionate service to all, nurturing one another to grow in faith together and sending out disciples to share the Good News.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR REVEREND MATT NIEMAN

Faith as a Gift

Faith is a journey. And much of the time, we view faith as something we achieve or don't achieve. That brings pressure, guilt, and exhaustion at times.

Elizabeth Hagan, a writer and teacher, reminds us that faith is, more than anything else, a gift to us.

A gift, of course, is something we receive with no expectations, much like the grace bestowed upon us by God.

And faith is also a gift. The writer of James wrote, "Every good and perfect gift is from above."

Does that take the pressure off to some degree? When we think we should be more faithful or more certain in our faith, does it bring relief to know that our faith in any form and in any size is a gift to us—a perfect gift?

Receive the gift of faith that God provides. And as a result, live freely knowing that God provides for us the belief and faith we need at just the right time.

And say thank you.

**CONGRATULATIONS REV. MATTHEW NIEMAN ON THE 27TH
ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR ORDINATION ON AUGUST 29.**



September 27

**One Worship Service at 10am with Bluegrass Music
Tailgate Party to follow in the Fellowship Hall**

Church life committee is providing fried chicken and drinks

Wear your team colors and bring your favorite tailgate food to share!

RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/FPCTailgateParty> or use the QR code



OUTREACH

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH GIVING

We Need Your Help



The Pantry is in need of volunteers who have full-size pickup trucks w/o bed caps to pick up orders from the Second Harvest warehouse in Maryville. Product will be on a 4x8 pallet with a maximum weight of 1000 ibs. If you are able to help or have questions please contact Gerri Crutchfield at gerricrutchfield@gmail.com.

Many thanks to our August VMC volunteers!

Sharon Koch, Margo Gregory, Gayle Williams,
Joanie Scheuer, and Jean Peretz.

Sign up to serve on the sign up sheet in the Narthex.



Thank you!

Thank you so much for the special teacher supplies. This allows so many to accept this generous donation with gratitude. All your support is so appreciated.

**God Bless,
Audrey Jones
Sunset Gap**





Mason Warren
Director of Family
Ministries

Family Ministries @ FPC



Dear FPC Church Family,

Take a moment and think back to your childhood. Think back to a time when you were young and adventurous, exploring the great big world around you. I am sure we all have memories of exploration, whether it be that first time you ever ventured out beyond the bounds of your front yard, or maybe even the first time you left the country to experience God's wondrous creation in new and exciting ways.

As we grow older, the boundaries of the world we know expand. Those once firm boundaries, the end of the driveway or the end of the neighborhood, begin to fade, encouraging us to explore more and more each and every day. With each new step, we discover the world is much larger, more complex, and wonderful than we could ever imagine.

As adults, navigating the various stages of life, we have come to understand that we are never truly done exploring. Each stage of life comes with its unique set of challenges, and with each new experience comes new knowledge (alongside the occasional aches and pains!). While that new knowledge may not always be comfortable, it always presents the opportunity for God to continuously shape us into who we are called to be.

Our faith journey, unique to each person, is one that does not simply end when we complete confirmation or attend church a certain number of Sundays. It is a journey full of exploration, trial and error, and oftentimes hard questions. And just like our exploration of the world around us, our exploration of faith is not meant to be done alone. When we say that the Church is the body of Christ, this is part of what we mean. The Church is the community where we can rejoice in the saving grace of Christ while also asking those hard questions, learning from one another, encountering new perspectives, and continuing to explore what it means to follow Christ throughout every stage of our lives. We are called to do life together, called to be salt and light for the world. In order to do so faithfully, we must embrace what it means to learn and explore, approaching each and every experience in our lives as an opportunity to be shaped by God.

As we continue into the fall season, I want to encourage each and every one of us to be mindful of ways we can be faithful followers of Christ together. Whether it be our children participating in KidsQuest, our youth gathering together, or adults engaging in one of our many faith formation opportunities, there are so many different ways for us to explore our faith together.

No matter where you find yourself in your faith journey, I pray that you continue to venture out beyond the comfortable, ask the hard questions, and remain open to all of the new and exciting ways God may be moving in your life. Most importantly, I pray you continue to be reminded that you are not alone in this journey and that we are called to do life together.

May it be so.

Peace & Blessings,

Mason Warren

Director of Family Ministries

Farragut Presbyterian Church had our "blessing of the backpacks" at this Sunday's 9 am worship service. Our Director of Family Ministries gave each adorable child a backpack tag to remind them that God is with them wherever they go - and that their church family loves and supports them.



Our KidsQuest cowpokes rode off into the sunset one last time as Faith Frontier comes to a close.



(infants-12th grade and their families)

On September 27, after enjoying a tailgate lunch, come outside for a fun back to school bash complete with a dunk tank, bouncy slide, and water games!





Music at FPC

Dr. Angela Batey, Director

Our church offers many opportunities to raise your voice in thanks and praise to God. There is a place for you, no matter what your age or ability. We are proud of our Music Ministry, and we are eager for you to become a part of our leading of worship.

Join us as we begin our new season with rehearsal on Wednesday, September 09 at 7:30 p.m. I hope you will prayerfully consider joining our Music Ministry. Our ministry is for those who want to give of their gifts. It is NOT for the "most talented" or "most experienced". Try us! You will be welcomed into a warm and loving fellowship.

Why you should join the Chancel Choir:

Why would God want us to sing, especially in church? Singing in church is a special way of praising God and this very special kind of music delights the ears of God. All through scripture, God calls on the people to sing. Psalm 96:1 - "Sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord, all the earth." Psalm 100: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord...come into his presence with singing." The emphasis in the church is on the participation of the whole congregation in singing. Sacred music is a means for the true religious and spiritual expression of the whole congregation.

Music, then, is an integral part of the liturgical worship and a prayerful response to the worship experience and certainly not entertainment. The primary role of the choir is to lead the congregation in song. In preparation for every worship service, many resources are consulted and all music is very carefully chosen to reflect the word of God as found in the scripture readings of the day. Many of you have commented on how the music in worship and spoken word seem to 'go together so well!' Thank you for noticing!

The goal, of course, is to musically lead the whole congregation to a deeper spirituality and relationship with God through the music selected for worship. What a privilege to lend your voice to be used by God for worship - praising God through song! Serving the Lord and considering all God does for us, our voices raised in song is just a little giving back to God!

Among the reasons people sometimes give for not wanting to join the church choir is they have no musical background or they are shy and can't stand people watching them sing. Music in our lives from the moment we are born. Since the time of Plato, artists and scientists alike have been intrigued by the power of music to elicit strong emotional responses in humans. Research shows babies in the womb hear and respond to the sound of music; mothers sing lullabies to their babies; music is a part of community youth and adult social groups; and music has always been a part of religious services and activities.

Research also shows that singing is at the top of the chart on how best to express deep emotions and it can also intensify joy and ease sorrow. Through singing we also experience intellectual stimulation - when you make music, you are using both sides of your brain simultaneously.

Also, people who sing regularly tend to breathe well, have good posture and resonant speaking voices with expanded lungs for free intake of oxygen and thus stay youthful longer than the average non-singer. (Who knew the Fountain of Youth was in front of you every Sunday?!)

Singing greatly reduces stress, improves mood and the best benefit of all - it doesn't cost a thing to experience this joy and fellowship with other congregants!

The Chancel Choir of Farragut Presbyterian Church stands ready to introduce you to all the benefits enumerated above, but one warning: your sides will hurt from laughing so much during our rehearsals!

Join us, one and all!



FPC PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OFFICERS INSTALLATION



Coming in October

PW THANKSGIVING BRUNCH
OCTOBER 17 AT 10 AM

OPEN FOR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.
COST OF BRUNCH IS \$15.00.

OUR SPEAKER IS FROM OWL RIDGE RAPTOR RESCUE CENTER.
THEY WILL BE BRINGING 5 OWLS AND ONE KESTREL.



Fall Spiritual Retreat

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EAST TENNESSEE

One Body with Many Members

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

Saturday, October 24 | 10:00 a.m.
Coffee and registration 9:30 - 10:00

PROGRAM

Celebrating 200 years of Presbyterian Women! Rev. Cathy Meyer, Moderator of the Presbytery of East Tennessee and Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga will be our presenter. We'll also enjoy table activities and a video.

MISSION FOCUS

Celebrating 75+ years of Mission Haven with speaker Aleathea Harris-Little, TN State Representative for Mission Haven. Learn about all things Mission Haven and hear an update on their purpose and outreach. Mission Haven is supported and operated by Presbyterian Women in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Please bring monetary donations to support Mission Haven; you may write a check directly to them, scan the QR code, or make an online donation at tinyurl.com/pwpetmissionhaven (scroll down until you see the Mission Haven box).



Camp John Knox
591 W. Rockwood Ferry Road
Ten Mile, TN 37880

PARKING: Transportation will be provided from the front parking lot to the dining hall when you arrive and back to the parking lot after the meeting is over.

Registration is due by October 10.

Please use the registration form or register online at presbyteryeasttn.org/fallretreat
Lunch is \$12. Childcare available with prior arrangement.



*United
Through
Christ,
Bound to
Each
Other*

Spiritual Formation

A Messiah and His Mountain

Everything, Everywhere, All at Once is a class meeting on Sunday mornings in September through November at 10:00 am (Room A). A children's class on the Sermon on the Mount is offered at the same time in their Sunday morning space. The goal of the class is to deepen understanding and confidence in living out this central message of Christianity. Whether you are a lifelong Christian with a lot of familiarity as to what it means to "practice" Christianity, someone new to faith, or simply wanting to ask questions – this class will engage you!

What is the Sermon on the Mount?

- In 107 verses (Matthew 5, 6 & 7), Jesus both surprises and gives clarity to the essential life of faith. Among other things, he teaches us how to pray (Lord's Prayer), how to relate to others, how to relate to money, how to live a life free of anxiety, and makes sharp distinctions between happiness (temporary) and joy (forever).
- Jesus models an amazing "third way" between the religious legalism still present in our own day, and moral relativism which was a big deal both then and now.
- Jesus turns conventional wisdom upside down, and teaches us about a life worth living.
- The Sermon on the Mount is a microcosm of Jesus' mission and teaching – it's all in there!
- Three months to get familiar with three chapters that have to do with everything, everywhere, and all at once with regards to your life. See you in Room A on Sunday mornings!

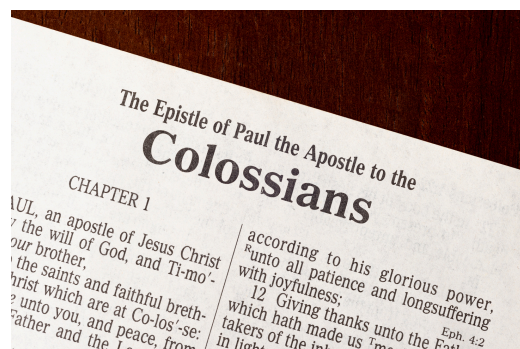
John



Pastor Matt's Class meets in the Library

In September, Pastor's Matt's class will focus on the New Testament epistle to the Colossians. In it, we will see that no part of human existence remains untouched by the loving and liberating rule of Jesus.

Come be part of the discovery.



Join our Quest Through the Wilderness!

This fall, the Thursday evening Bible study group will begin an in-depth look at the Book of Exodus, from baby Moses to God descending in a cloud.

We meet from 7-8pm on Zoom almost every Thursday, but it's a come-when-you-can attendance policy, so don't let a busy schedule keep you away.

If you'd like to know more, or to receive the Zoom link, please contact Elizabeth Wilson or the church office. Our first class, which will be orientation, introduction, and fellowship time, will be September 10.

We'd love to have you join us.



Save the date: Lunch and Learn on September 17 at 11:30am.



September 10 and 24 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!



**Tuesday, September 22
11:00 am**

Can you touch a prayer? Can you pull it close and feel its comfort? You can if it comes in the form of a Prayer Shawl. Prayer Shawls are simple gifts of grace from God that are prayerfully and lovingly stitched by us as a reminder that God's promise is always with us. Every day in our own individual lives, we encounter people for whom a special prayer would be of great comfort and support. This ministry would welcome your participation. If you have ever knit or crocheted it will come back to you quickly. The patterns are simple repeats. Basic instructions and yarn are available.



Chair Yoga

10 am most Mondays (taught by Jenny Trussell) and Fridays (taught by Collin Greaser) in the Narthex. The class is a 30 minute seated and standing class using the chair for balance. This is an excellent session for those with limited mobility or balance concerns.

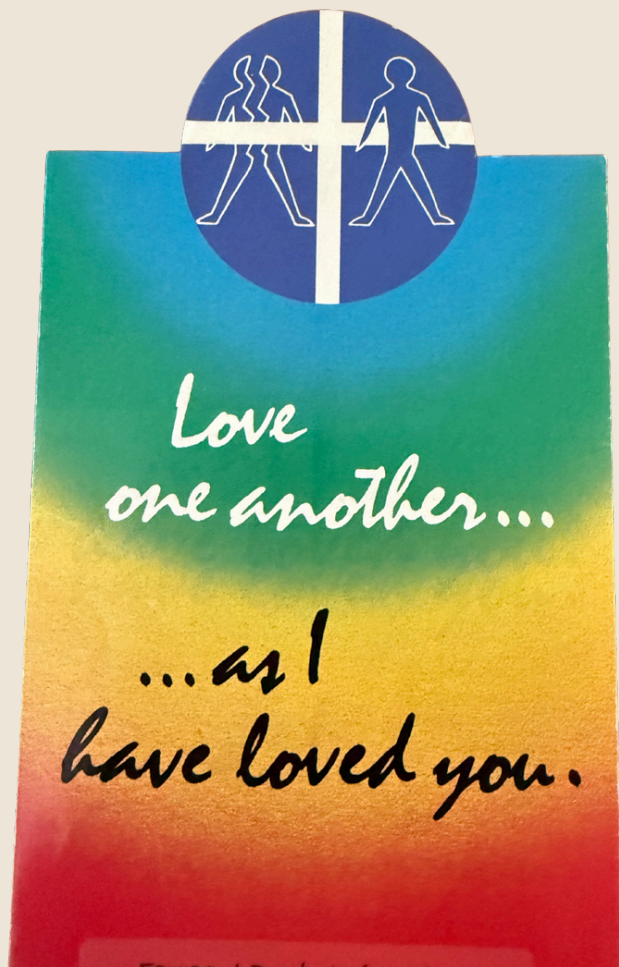
Gentle Flow

7 pm most Fridays in the Narthex
This class is a 60 minute gentle/slow flow class for beginner and experienced yogis. Bring a mat and comfortable clothing.

Jenny also teaches community yoga classes at the Farragut Community Center (239 Jamestowne Blvd) at 8:15 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and some Fridays. A minimal class fee may be charged by the community center.

All classes are taught by yoga teacher Jenny Trussell (RYT500/RCYT) and Collin Greaser (RYT-200), and offered at no cost. Contact Jenny Trussell at cedarstudios4@gmail.com for more information.





EXCITING NEWS! A NEW STEPHEN MINISTRY CLASS IS BEGINNING THIS FALL!

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry equips lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

Who is a Stephen Minister?

A caring, Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports, and encourages.

As a Stephen minister, you will be very well trained and supported so that you are able to provide a high level of emotional and spiritual care.

A 2 hour weekly training Stephen Ministry class will start October 2026 through the beginning of December and start again February 2027 through March with a Stephen Ministry commissioning worship service in April. We will then combine the current Stephen Ministry team with our newly trained team for monthly supervision and continuing education.

Please let us know if you are interested or have any questions as we would love to talk with you!

All our love and prayers in Christ!

Beth Martin

Jeanie Oakley

Joanie Scheuer

Members of Farragut Presbyterian Church attend a Hands Only CPR class where they learned how to check for consciousness, call 911, and give continuous chest compressions. The session also included a Be Red Cross Ready presentation that discussed practical tips for preparing for and responding to disasters in our community. The class was taught by Jenny Trussell, a member of the church and an American Red Cross volunteer and instructor.



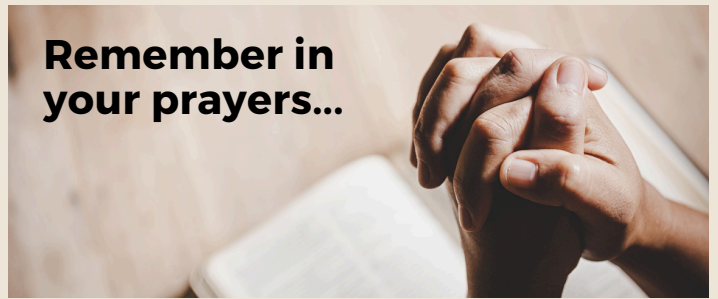
September Birthdays

9/01 Bob Mitchell
9/01 Steven Zilles
9/02 Jeremy Dick
9/02 Jack Fitzgerald
9/05 Marc Maley
9/05 Rosemary Den Uyl
9/05 Dale Emmerson
9/06 Mark Selecman
9/09 Eric Nicholls
9/11 Dawson Sweetland
9/11 Nancy Rightmyer
9/11 Lilly Hash
9/11 Bree Hash
9/13 Elizabeth Wilson
9/13 Shaler Gentry
9/14 Joel Neely
9/15 Molly Robinson
9/15 Blakely Foster
9/18 Hal Oakley
9/18 Lillian Marcum
9/17 Dave Figel
9/19 Frank Dorman
9/19 Brett Eiffert
9/20 Gilberto Medina
9/20 Matt Honey
9/21 Joey Nieman
9/22 Gary Heidinger
9/23 Jeanie Oakley
9/24 Becky Dangle
9/24 Clay Griffin
9/25 Eli Feldhausen
9/27 Gerald Miller
9/28 Jessy Rich
9/28 Bob Upchurch
9/28 Tim Hallman
9/29 Beth Loyless
9/30 Kimberly Platt

September Anniversaries

9/01 Bruce and Elizabeth Wilson
9/01 Gerald Miller and Laurie Gagne
9/06 Ciaran and Christy Fitzgerald
9/06 Bill Nelson and Helen Nalley
9/07 Wayne and Patti Davis
9/08 Mark and Beth Allen
9/14 Bob and Laura Colloredo
9/27 Brett and Amy Eiffert

**Remember in
your prayers...**



Nathan Burris, Pat Dail, Jan Darnell, Brian Davison, Frank Dorman, Dave & Megan Figel, Dean & Lucy Fleming, Shaler Gentry, Frank Guess, Thom Haig, Beth and Jimmy Loyless, Ann McNally, Irma McGuffey, Maria Medina, Kirk Morris, Shannon Needham, Tami Newsom, Linda Nunley, Donna Phillips, Alan White



Our Stephen Ministry Leaders
can help:

Beth Martin (865) 776-3132	Matt Nieman (865) 966-9547
Jeanie Oakley (256) 468-4501	Joanie Scheuer (865) 705-1571

Session Highlights

At its meeting on August 24, the Session:

- Called a special Session meeting for September 20 to receive new members.
- Approved additional expenses to the Fresh Look 2 project (approximately \$20,000) for electrical upgrades in the sanctuary and a surge suppressor to our main electrical panel.
- Heard that the Property Committee is hiring the removal of two dead trees this week on the church grounds.
- Heard of preparations for a bluegrass-themed worship service on September 27 with the annual tailgate lunch to follow.

Financial Report as of July 2026

	Actual for July	YTD July	YTD July Budget
Operating Income	\$57,158	\$442,781	\$429,619
Big Fish Academy Income	\$2,000	\$14,000	\$14,000
Total Income	\$59,158	\$456,781	\$443,619
Operating Expenses	\$58,764	\$421,728	\$443,797
Total Expenses	\$58,764	\$421,728	\$443,797
Total Income less Expenses	\$394	\$35,053	(\$178)

Presbytery News

Peacemaking Committee Hosting an Indigenous Peacemaker

The Peacemaking Committee of the Presbytery of East Tennessee is excited to announce plans for hosting Indigenous Peacemaker Tim Ross this fall. Although the national Presbyterian Peacemaking Program has been discontinued, along with its annual International Peacemaker visits each fall, our committee is committed to continuing the program that has sparked so much interest in our presbytery for several decades.

The Rev. Tim Ross is a recently retired Christian Church minister living in Johnson City, a seminary teacher, a former missionary among the Masai people in Kenya, and a member of the Cherokee Nation. His ancestor John Ross was the chief who led the displaced Cherokee on the Trail of Tears in the 1830's, when President Andrew Jackson ordered their removal from this area. One debarkation point for the Cherokee was Ross's Landing in Chattanooga. John Ross operated the ferry there. In early October, Tim, his son, and several friends will be walking in the footsteps of their ancestors on a portion of the Trail of Tears in Alabama and Tennessee. Tim is also involved in a Canadian/US theological institute that is developing indigenous Christian theology.

Chances to meet Indigenous Peacemaker Tim Ross are:

Tuesday, September 8, at the Maryville College Midweek Worship Service at 1:15 pm, in the Center for Campus Ministry.

Tuesday, October 20, at the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center in Townsend for Lunch and Learn. The Heritage Center has a new exhibit about the interface of two nations (Cherokee and US) 250 years ago.

Tuesday, November 17, in Chattanooga to learn about the history of Ross's Landing and the Cherokees' future plans to make this a tourist destination showcasing indigenous art.



Join POAMN in Tennessee for Our 2026 Gathering

Mark your calendar for September 2026, and join POAMN in Knoxville, Tennessee, for our annual conference. Join us for an inspiring gathering focused on spiritual depth, resilience, and continued fruitfulness—themes that matter deeply for leaders walking alongside older adults through seasons of transition.

<https://poamn.org/conference>



STAFF

Pastor

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

Reverend Dr. John Sharp
 Director of Spiritual Formation
johnsharpsemail@gmail.com
 239-227-3999

Sandra Porter Bohlken
 Office Administrator
office@fpctn.org
 865-966-9547

Lori Corbett
 Bookkeeper
bookkeeperfpc@gmail.com

Mason Warren
 Director of Family Ministry
masonwarren@fpctn.org

Dr. Angela Batey
 Director of Music
abatey@utk.edu

Tami Newsom
 Associate Director of Music
tnewsom3@utk.edu

Sandra Porter Bohlken
 Music Director, Casual Service
singsandrab@gmail.com

SESSION

Administration
 Cheryl Cardwell
 Brett Eiffert

Christian Education
 Cheyanne Feldhausen
 Joanie Scheuer

Church Life
 Jeff Thode
 Margo Gregory

Outreach
 Jan Darnell
 Dawn Zilles

Property
 Thom Haig
 Rick Van Allen

Worship and Music
 MaryAnne Walls
 Eva Quinley Lynch

Clerk of Session
 Lisa Gary

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

Get Social!

Farragut Presbyterian is live on Facebook, Instagram, and X.
 Have something to post?
 Send to our social media coordinator, Emily Sweetland,
 at social@fpctn.org or text 865-567-7636



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



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



@FarrPres



Farragut Presbyterian Church



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.



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/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/> Our organization number is YU915.