

FIRST NOTES

GREENSBOROUGH, N.C. FALL 2024

Church to mark 200th anniversary

—◆—
WAS ESTABLISHED
OCTOBER 3, 1824
—◆—

*Daughter of Alamance,
Buffalo Congregations*

—◆—
Details of celebration to be
found on page 8

T'was a leap year. James Monroe was in the latter half of his presidency. Greensborough had been an incorporated hamlet for sixteen years. Princeton Seminary, the first founded by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, had been operating for twelve years. The average life expectancy of an American was thirty-nine years. Women could neither vote nor hold property however did birth seven children on average. A controversial presidential election resulted in the selection of John Quincy Adams over (possible North Carolinian) Andrew Jackson. Gold was discovered in Rowan County. One dollar would be worth thirty-two dollars and forty-three cents today.

It would be another two years before the Greensboro Patriot, which inspired this First Notes cover, published. When church founder Mr. William Paisley had arrived in the town in 1820 it is said that there was only one professing Christian and he was a Baptist.

Ministries Benefitting Community to be Conducted

Saturday, September 21
Neil's Meals food box packing with Out of the Garden Project, 9-11 o'clock in the morning in Mullin Life Center. One hundred and fifty participants sought.

—◆—
Wednesday, September 25
Blood Drive with the American Red Cross, 1:30-5:45 o'clock in the afternoon in Mullin Life Center. Appointments are suggested.

—◆—
Sunday, October 6
Greater Greensboro CROP Hunger Walk, with registration and entertainment at one-thirty o'clock and walk commencing at two-thirty o'clock at Barber Park.

*Registration details to be found
on pages 4, 5, 7*

MENTAL HEALTH A PRIORITY

Study of the book *The Anxious Generation* to be held several times. Books available at the reception desk for \$20. Additionally, each month posters will offer suggestions on caregiving and mental health-related topics.

Navigating the Health Care System series

Sponsored by Pastoral Care, the series will be held on three Wednesdays in the Garden Room.

YOUTH TO FROLIC

Evening to include axe-throwing

On Sunday, September 8, from five-thirty to seven-thirty o'clock, youth will gather on the church campus to meet acquaintances, partake of pizza and ice cream, and frolic amid an inflatable obstacle course, basketball, axe throwing, yard games, and karaoke contest.

Bible 102 to be featured



WORSHIP & MUSIC

SPECIAL sundays

200TH CELEBRATION SUNDAY

October 6, *info on page 8.*

CAMP WEAVER SUNDAY

October 20, service at 11 am at Camp Weaver followed by lunch & activities.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

October 27 in both services.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 3. A Gathering to Remember All the Saints, 4 pm, Memorial Columbarium. At 5 pm, John Rutter's *Requiem* and more with Chancel Choir, chamber orchestra & soloists.



In November we will celebrate 200 years of excellence in music with brass, organ, UNGC choirs, Mel Bringle, and a *Messiah* Sing-along. *See page 8 for details.*

WEEKLY worship

REJOICE! Sundays at 9 am in Mullin Life Center. *Coffee & doughnut fellowship at 8:30.*

SANCTUARY, Sundays at 11 am.

MIDWEEK INFORMAL SERVICE

Music, prayer and a message of care with Hot Dish & Hope guests. Second & fourth Thursdays, 5-5:30 pm in Mullin Life Center.

MUSIC ensembles

CHANCEL CHOIR

Wednesdays beginning September 4, 7-8:30 pm in Smith 301. If interested, contact John Alexander, 336-478-4715 or JALEXANDER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

HANDBELL CHOIRS

Tuesdays beginning September 10. *Westminster Ringers*, 3:45-4:45 pm. *Coventry Ringers*, 4:45-6 pm. If interested, contact John Alexander, 336-478-4715 or JALEXANDER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

REJOICE! ENSEMBLE

Play an instrument or like to sing? Contact Will Edwards, WEDWARDS@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Wednesdays beginning September 11. *Cherub Choir* for ages 3-K, 5-5:30 pm, Corl 303. *Credo Choir* for grades 1 & 2, 5-5:30 pm, Smith 301. *Canticle Choir* for grades 3-12, 5:30-6:30 pm, Smith 301. Register: FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

Imagine what comes next



JILL DUFFIELD
Senior Pastor

We're almost there! Plans to mark our 200th have been in the works for over a year and soon we'll kick off a full program year of celebrations with a party at the former manse and then, a few days later, a joyous worship service. THANK YOU to all of the people who've been working tirelessly to put these events together. Their creativity, enthusiasm and dedication are contagious, and I am certain we will have a great time both on October 3 and October 6. Be sure and RSVP by September 20!

As you can see in this Fall First Notes, our October events are just the beginning. I hope you will keep a close eye on the announcements throughout the program year and participate as you are able in the many thoughtful and inspiring events planned. I pray that as we remember and give thanks for what's gone before us, we will also be open to God's planned future for us. Thanks to your generosity and the work of an incredible capital campaign leadership team, we're working on making sure our beautiful campus will stand firm for future generations. We're also seeking to be even more engaged in our community and world, addressing issues such as hunger and housing. We're caring for those inside and outside our walls, knowing what we do here is for the sake of the world God so loves.

As Joe Mullin so powerfully put it in the book commemorating our 150th anniversary: "We are indeed grateful for our rich history. We stand on the shoulders of the past. Yet we know that we cannot live on our history anymore than an individual can live on his dinner from last Thanksgiving. Our church must continue to ask the provocative questions: 'What are we doing here?' What does Christ expect of us and what kind of people will He deploy from this place out into the world, His world? ...To live with integrity we must continue to answer honestly the questions: 'What are we doing in here?' and 'What are we doing out there?' "

As we celebrate, commemorate, and consider our past throughout this year, may all of the programs, events and worship services prompt us to ask and boldly answer Dr. Mullin's still very relevant questions. What, do you think, we are doing both within the walls of our church and outside of them? I am excited to see how the Spirit moves as we mark with joy this incredible milestone.

It is a gift to be a small part of the incredible story that God is continuing to write at First Presbyterian Church Greensboro.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



OUTREACH

NEIL'S MEALS

Saturday, September 21, at 9 am in Mullin Life Center. We are excited to partner with Out of the Garden Project for our fall Neil's Meals event. We are looking for 150 volunteers (ages 8 and up, children under 13 need to work alongside a parent/guardian) to pack fresh produce and other food items for 1,500 food boxes which will be distributed to our hungry neighbors. Join us for this fun, intergenerational event (see pic above!) which makes a significant impact in the life of our community. Sign up by pointing your phone camera at the QR Code on page 12 and clicking on the link that pops up, or go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

More special Outreach events, next page

Reparations and reconciliation

This fall the Racial Equity Ministry Team will host a study on repair as a pathway for racial reconciliation.

Using Robert Turner's *Creating A Culture of Repair: Taking Action on the Road to Reparations*, we will look at concrete actions we can take in the areas of individual, societal, institutional, and spiritual reparations.

We will meet 5:30-7 pm in the Garden Room on:

September 18 – Introduction and Chapter 1: Individual Reparations

October 16 – Chapter 2: Societal Reparations

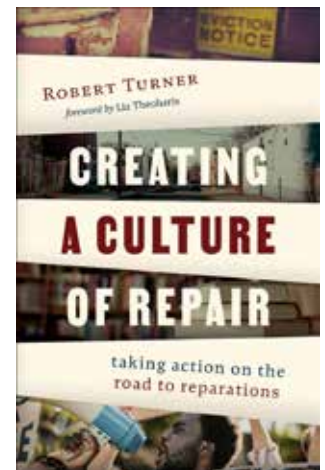
November 13 – Chapter 3: Institutional Reparations

December 11 – Chapter 4: Spiritual Reparations

Not able to read the chapters ahead of time? No problem! Please join us for this important series on concrete actions we can take for racial reconciliation.

Then on Sunday, February 2, we will welcome the Rev. Jermaine Ross-Allam (at right), director of the PC(USA)'s Center for the Repair of Historical Harm. A part of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, the Center for the Repair of Historical Harm leads the work of repair within the denomination to inspire repair and reconciliation both within and beyond the Presbyterian Church (USA.).

Contact Matt Bussell, MBUSSELL@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG, if you have any questions.



SPECIAL events

Sign up using the
QR Codes or go to

[FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/
SIGNUP](https://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP)



Neil's Meals



Blood Drive



Habitat build

SEPT

GARDEN WORKDAY

At Peacehaven Farm, 9-11 am on
September 14.

NEIL'S MEALS

Saturday, September 21. *Info on previous page.*

BLOOD DRIVE

Pastoral Care is hosting a Red Cross Blood
Drive on September 25. *Info, page 7.*

OCT

STEPUP GREENSBORO IMPACT LUNCHEON

October 1, registration at 11:30
am, event noon to 1 pm, Life
Center. StepUp, which FPC helped start and
now operates from our Shetler Building, is
a workforce development organization that
helps people build stable lives. The impact
luncheon is an important fund-raiser. For more
information, please email John Whisnant at
JWHISNANT@STEPUPGREENSBORO.ORG

CROP HUNGER WALK

Our goal is 200 walkers raising money to
benefit hunger relief efforts in our community
– Potter's House at Urban Ministries – and
around the world through Church World
Services. FPC has a strong history of CROP
Walk participation, BUT we have not been
active since COVID, and we are looking to
change that in a big way this year. We've set
a big goal of 200 walkers participating and a
fundraising goal of \$5,000 to commemorate
our church's 200th birthday! Members Stu

Johnston and Alex Harrill are leading our
team. Join our pastors and many members
in the CROP Walk. Walkers will receive a
free 200th t-shirt; donations are strongly
encouraged to offset the cost to the church.
The walk is Sunday, October 6, at Barber Park.
1:30 pm, registration & entertainment. 2:30
pm, walk. Registration starts August 25.

NOV

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

FPC helped launch Habitat for
Humanity of Greater Greensboro
and has been instrumental in
supporting its work in providing affordable
housing in Greensboro since 1987. In addition
to financial support, we have participated in
countless construction projects. Join us for
our next build Saturday, November 9, 8 am to
3:30 pm. Sign up using info at left. Please let
Matt Bussell know if you are going or if you
have questions.

JAN

BACKPACK BEGINNINGS

On Monday, January 27, we will
volunteer at Backpack Beginnings:
10 am-noon for parents with
children (GCS teacher workday) and 2-4 pm
for adults only. The morning group will sort
food & assemble food bags for children and
families experiencing food insecurity. Children
5+ can participate (under 16 with an adult).
The afternoon group will likely sort donations,
hang clothes & assemble comfort backpacks.
Sign-ups will begin closer to the date.

ONGOING ministries

EARTH CARE &

BEYOND PLASTICS GREENSBORO:

First Mondays, 6:30-8 pm, Garden Room.
Because of Labor Day, in September will
meet on Tuesday, September 3, to watch
We Are ALL Plastics People documentary.
Contact Nancy Abrams, ABRAMSNE@AOL.COM.

HOT DISH & HOPE: A free meal and
a measure of hope for our neighbors,
homeless and housed, who are hungry.
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:45-6 pm. Contact
Camille Townsend, CCTOWNSEND15@GMAIL.COM
or 336-908-2088.

FOOD DRIVE-BY: Every Wednesday

drop off canned food for Urban Ministry in
front of Redhead Hall, 11 am-1 pm. Please
volunteer as a greeter! Link at [FPCGREENSBORO.
ORG/SIGNUP](https://FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP).

MEALS ON WHEELS: FPC delivers a hot
meal to those in need on third Wednesdays
of the month and fifth Mondays of the
quarter. This is the only hot meal some folks
may have that day. We need 1-2 people for
a third Wednesday route (1.5-2 hours) and
3-4 volunteers to substitute when needed.
Please prayerfully consider sharing your
time with this worthwhile cause. Contact
Linda Allen, LKWALLEN70@GMAIL.COM or 336-
549-3367.



PASTORAL CARE



KAREN AMIREHSANI
Congregational Nurse & Director of Sadye Bowles Ministry Fund

This fall, we have some exciting health-related events that I encourage you to attend.

In September, we will begin a 3-part series, **Navigating the Healthcare System**. The goal of this series is to provide you with knowledge and tips on using the hospital system, long-term care facilities, and understanding Medicare. Having more knowledge can empower you to speak up, participate in shared decision-making, and improve health outcomes. You may need this information for yourself or a loved one. Please join us for these programs. All will be held on Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 pm in the Garden Room.

**September 11:
Navigating the Hospital System**

Sally Holland, a hospital case manager, will provide information on when to use the Emergency Department (ED) vs. Urgent Care, how to be prepared for unexpected ED visits and hospital stays, understanding the differences between an inpatient vs. observational admission, knowing the roles of your healthcare team – primary care providers, hospitalists, specialists, social workers, and case managers, and understanding your rights as a patient.

September 25: Navigating Long-Term Care (LTC)

Kim Johnson, a local LTC Ombudsman with Piedmont Triad Area Agency on Aging, will discuss the admission process for rehabilitation/skilled nursing/LTC facilities, the star rating system of facilities, Medicare coverage and the “first 100 days” of LTC care stay, what a “lack of progress” indicates and the appeal process, and actions you or your family can take if there are concerns about the quality of care received, and knowing your rights.

October 9: Medicare 101

Chris Mitchell-McFadyen, the Guilford County Senior Health Insurance Information Program Coordinator, will describe the differences between Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, explain the age deadlines you need to know for applying for Medicare to avoid penalty payments, describe differences between a Medicare Supplement/Medigap plan and a Medicare Advantage plan, understanding the maximum out-of-pocket costs associated with different plans, knowing annual open-enrollment dates, and keeping letters supporting continuous insurance coverage.

CONTINUES, NEXT PAGE

FPC Fall Blood Drive September 25, 1:30-6 pm, Life Center

In June, we held our first blood drive for many, many years. As a result of this collaboration with the American Red Cross, 38 units of blood were donated to save the lives of others! Thank you to everyone who

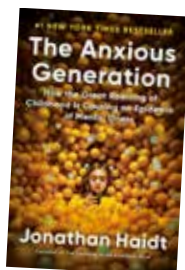


generously donated your blood and the volunteers who made the drive a success. The Blood Drive Steering Committee decided that having twice yearly blood drives at FPC is a worthy ministry

to our community. We all know someone who has needed a blood transfusion. If you can donate blood, we hope you will join us! To make your appointment, point your phone camera at the QR Code and click on the link that pops up, or go to [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP](https://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).

The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness
- September 15, 22 & 29, 10 am, Memorial 304, or
- September 29, 5-6:30 pm, or
- September 30, 9:15-10:15 am, Garden Room

The Mental Health Ministry Team has been busy planning events to provide knowledge and open conversations around mental health. The new Faithful Families Church School class will host a series in September on the book *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness* by Jonathan Haidt, with other times available as well. The Mental Health team has also set up information tables in the Welcome Center and Mullin Life Center which will have new monthly informational posters on a variety of mental health issues. Poster topics for this fall include mental health resources for youth and teens, caregiving, stress, Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), and navigating the holidays. Please stop by and look at the posters and handouts. Mental health is important to all of us.



Copies of the book will be available at the reception desk in the Welcome Center for \$20.

It is a pleasure to work with you and collectively promote the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of the FPC community.

FELLOWSHIP groups

FORK & FAITH

Join other women each month for lunch and fellowship. Fall dates are Wednesdays, September 18 (RSVP by noon September 13); October 23 (RSVP by noon October 18); November 20 (RSVP by noon November 15); and December 18 (RSVP by noon December 13). Lunches begin at noon in Mullin Life Center, \$10. RSVP to Dolly Jennings, DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM or 336-854-2663.

VETERANS FELLOWSHIP

This group meets several times a year for food, fellowship & speakers. Next gathering: November 6, at noon in the Life Center. Quilts of Valor will share special recognition. \$10, RSVP by October 23 to Debby Foster, 336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG, or Doug McLeroy, 336-279-5441.

PAISLEY TRAVELERS

This group takes day trips around North Carolina and occasionally beyond several times a year. Contact Vicky or Jim Hooks, HOOKSVGM@GMAIL.COM or Dolly Jennings, DJ6871202@GMAIL.COM or 336-854-2663.

SUPPORT ministries

PASTOR ON CALL

A pastor is always available to our members for sudden illness, death, or personal crises. Call 336-908-8615, leave a message and they will respond.

PASTORAL VISIT

Pastors make hospital, home, and care center visits. ***Please let us know if you or a loved one is in the hospital or very ill at home. Contact the Pastor on Call, above.***

PRAYER REQUESTS

Send your confidential request to NCOWAN@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG or use the attendance QR code in Sunday's bulletin. Pastors will be reading and praying these petitions.

PLANNING IN ADVANCE

What better gift can you give a loved one than meeting with a pastor prior to an illness or death to plan for meaningful service? Contact Debby Foster, 336-478-4702 or DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.



Birthdays Mix & Mingle

Thursday, October 3, drop in 4:30-7 pm

Adult members are invited to enjoy catered hors d'oeuvres & beverages, and a tour of the Julian Price House & gardens at 301 Fisher Park Circle, which once served as FPC's manse.

Celebration Sunday, October 6

Celebratory Worship

One service at 10 am in the sanctuary. After worship, follow the bagpiper and parade along Fisher Park to the Julian Price House grounds (or reserve a seat on the Hoppers Trolley if you need assistance) for an ...

All-Church Birthday Picnic

with Music! Games! Box Lunches! Lots of Birthday Cakes! Then celebrate with service by joining in the ...

CROP Walk

We've set a big goal of 200 walkers and \$5,000 raised to commemorate FPC's 200th birthday! Stu Johnston and Alex Harrill are leading our team. *More info, page 5.*



RSVP by September 20

for the Mix & Mingle (\$15/adult) and the Picnic (free, all ages). Use QR Code or go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

And then ...



Brass & Organ Concert

Friday, November 22 7:30 pm

UNCG Choirs Concert

Saturday, November 23 7:30 pm

Music Celebration Sunday

November 24
Worship: One service at 11 am. Mel Bringle, editor of the Glory to God hymnal and child of FPC, will lead worship guiding us through new and well-known hymns with plenty of singing!

Messiah Sing-a-long, 5 pm. Sing the Christmas portion of the Messiah (with the Hallelujah Chorus!) with string orchestra, harpsichord & soloists.

COMING IN 2025

January, *Historic Relationship between FPC, Downtown, and the City of Greensboro.* February, *Pastoral Leadership.* March, *Outreach.* April, *The Way Forward: Children & Youth*

First Presbyterian Church • Organized October 3, 1824

Two centuries in, the mission thrives

In October FPC will mark two centuries of worship, service, learning and caring. Our roots in Greensboro are deep and strong. As the past becomes 200 years distant, what has the church and its mission meant to our members? What do they mean today?

Jean Pinckard took this question to four members, all 90+ years of age, who will also celebrate birthdays in October.

Transformative Service and tents in Chinle

Bette Dunker joined FPC as an adult in 1958 and participated as a young parent in Sunday School and youth programs. After her children had grown, she was interested in outreach within the greater community.

As a teacher she saw the New Vision Project as a way to give back. The '92 and '94 mission trips would provide low-cost housing under the auspices of Habitat for Humanity and assist members of another Presbyterian congregation in one of their ministries to a Native American community in Chinle, Ariz.

The participants reroofed the Del Muerto Chapel and conducted a vacation church school in Trinity Presbyterian Church there. Almost 30 FPC members participated. It was an outreach of love and service.

Bette was tapped to help organize the group effort both in Greensboro and in Chinle: tents, food, school supplies, etc. She was at first surprised at the number of volunteers and their generous response, but then, after all it was FPC.

The first trip was not without challenges from having their fine tents flattened by the winds on their first night, to the primitive conditions so cheerfully faced by the community they came to serve. Her worldview shifted. The phrase "white privilege" took on a very real meaning.



Bette Dunker with a photo from her Chinle trip.

Meaningful Worship under Joe's nose

Goodie Braley (right) came to FPC as a teenager and continued while at Woman's College (now UNCG) via a program which bused students from the college. She was greatly influenced by the leadership of Dr. John Redhead.

With her husband, Chuck, a Naval Academy grad, she returned 22 years later from Virginia to find the same Dr. Redhead providing wonderful sermons to the FPC congregation.

When Joe Mullin became the pastor Goodie found him different but equally wonderful. She became a church member in 1968. As a family they found many friends among the couples' group, some of whom they knew from UNCG and Chapel Hill.

When Goodie and Chuck's oldest were teens and their youngest son, Bill, was about ten, the family sat together as Goodie describes it "in the pew right under Joe Mullin's nose." Today Bill is grown and lives in Italy. He treasures reading Joe Mullin's sermons as he has not found a church nearby that resonates with him as FPC did.



Lifelong Learning as young parents

Bette Dunker's good friend **Anne Jones** (left), who joined the church in 1956, was the connection which Bette says drew her and her family into the life of the church. Anne introduced them to the rich program of Christian education at FPC.



Goodie Braley remembers Sunday School classes run by Greensboro editor Bill Snider which had a good mix of people. Her husband particularly felt the Sunday School program provided a vital connection with fellow Christians. Their daughter Elizabeth Prince and husband Rick Morrow were married at FPC and their granddaughter baptized here, special moments in the life of any family.

Both women mentioned the importance of the Christian bond with other young families as they navigated the waters of parenthood and rocky parts of life. For many it has been the sustaining basis of lifelong friendships

Authentic Connection at a time of loss

For **Mary Starkey**, with years of nursing experience at Wesley Long, the FPC connection of compassion really came to the test in her personal life in 1975 when beloved daughter Margaret Colette passed unexpectedly as her parents were out of town. No parent who has lost a child can deny the sustaining power of friends at such a time. As Mary tells it, "For 2 days our home was filled with Christ's love in the form of FPC church members under the guidance of Joe Mullin ministering to our family."

Mary and her husband retired to Wilmington, and after he passed she returned to be near daughter Alice Jenkins, to live at Friends Home, and to enjoy FPC. She still loves the magic of the FPC candlelight Christmas service.

As witnessed in these compelling stories, FPC continues reaching people in deeply meaningful ways even into our third century.



ADULTS

2025 women's retreat speaker

Ellen Crawford True, Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Concord, grew up active in youth group, church sports, and choir, and has an archbishop in the family lineage. However, “there was no burning bush or bolt of lightning” that catapulted her to seminary.

BY TAMARA
SLAUGHTER
FPC member

During her English studies at Davidson College, a friend put her on the Union Seminary mailing list. The classes sounded interesting, but she didn't act. After graduation her Mom's cancer returned, and Ellen was angry with God. A backpacking trip in Europe calmed her a bit, but while her friends prayerfully lit candles in cathedrals, she reviewed the architecture.

With no romantic attachment or suitable job offers, she decided to stay home for a year and help while her Mom was ill. During this time, she attended the ordination of a friend. Hearing him preach, she realized the job of minister might be a fit for her. She enrolled at Union Seminary the following summer. She has served as an associate pastor for campus ministry, a supply and interim pastor, a parish associate, a moderator, and now, senior



Rev. Ellen
Crawford True

and her daughter, inexplicably, a UNC fan.

Davidson classmate and FPC member Andrew Spainhour says, “She has a prophetic voice from the pulpit and is a joy to listen to.”

Ellen sees the FPC Women's Retreat as a gathering that forms and strengthens vital connections among women. She cites the story of Ruth and Naomi, with the oft-quoted scripture, “Where you go, I will go.” Ellen's life has been blessed with such formative relationships. Her mother and Andrew's mother were sorority sisters and lifelong friends; a third sorority sister made sure Ellen and Andrew met at Davidson.

“These faithful, funny, loyal, and courageous women helped raise me,” she says. “As I grow older, I realize even more how the different generations sustain each other, and how each are different and important.”

pastor.

Her personal life also has blossomed. Husband David is an adjunct professor at Pfeiffer College and an interim pastor. Daughter Abigail is a senior at Davidson. Ellen says Davidson basketball is “one of the happy things about moving back.” Her husband is a Kentucky fan



January 25 & 26
at Grandover

Registration opens
October 1!

Schedule: 9 am
Saturday through
communion service
at 9 am Sunday.

Activities: Ellen's
keynote; music;
chat groups;
optional activities
such as yoga, book
discussion, and
spiritual practices;
fellowship and fun.

Cost: \$250 for shared
room, meals. Single
rooms at additional
charge.

Learn more: Use
the QR
code or
contact
Nancy
Abrams,



ABRAMSNE@AOL.COM
or 336-314-2694,
or Julie Wade,
HWADE1805@GMAIL.
COM or 336-580-6117.

ONLINE groups

LECTIO DIVINA

Mondays, 11 am-noon on Zoom. Contact David Partington, DCPSBW197@GMAIL.COM. This prayerful listening to Scripture enables the group to ponder, meditate, pray, and share as led by the Holy Spirit.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Isaiah: Knowing the Bible, 5:30-6:30 pm Tuesdays on Zoom, September 3-November 19, 5:30-6:30 pm. Contact Jim Hoeger, JIM.HOEGER@GMAIL.COM.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Young adults of all abilities meet 6-7 pm on the second Tuesdays in the Solarium or by Zoom, and the fourth

SUNDAY classes

YMBC AND AGAPE

Bible 102 led by Professor Sandie Gravett, September through November. Study how the Bible came to be written, edited, copied, canonized, and translated. This study will feature the story of the Bible in

English, highlighting figures like Wycliffe, Tyndale, Coverdale, and Knox, as well as famous versions such as the Great Bible, the Bishops' Bible, the King James, and more modern editions. Hosted by YMBC and Agape classes at 10 am in Redhead Hall. Contact Al Lineberry, NCCARPE@AOL.COM. See below for men's baseball night!

FAITHFUL FAMILIES YEAR-ROUND CLASS

- *THE ANXIOUS GENERATION: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. Children & Youth Ministry staff will lead this study based on the book by Jonathan Haidt. September 15, Donna Chase; September 22, Lisa Witherspoon; September 29, Phae Smith. Books at the reception desk, \$20. *Read more, page 7.*
- *The Lord's Prayer* by Adam Hamilton, October 13, 27, November 3, 10, 17.
- *Family Advent Gatherings with Children*, in December.

10 am in Memorial 304. Info: Donna Chase, DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

Tuesdays in the Solarium. Scripture reading, discussion, song, laughter, prayer and service. Led each week by a different group member. Starts September 24. Contact Donna Chase, DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG, or Evelyn McMullen, EVELYN.MCM23@GMAIL.COM.

PRAYER TEAM

Join in prayer on first Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 pm on Zoom. Also we will hold a 24-hour Prayer Vigil beginning 5 am November 4, lifting the needs of the church, its members, our nation, our leaders, and those in need. Sign-ups to come. Contact Yolanda Baxter YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

MEN'S LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

7:30 am on Zoom, meets year-round. Has one spot open. Contact Jack Harrington, JACKHARRINGTON44@GMAIL.COM.

CAYA: COME AS YOU ARE

- *Comparing & Contrasting Evangelical Churches with Mainline Protestant Churches* led by Neil Dunnivant, September 8 & 15.
- *Loving Our Enemies During an Election Year* led by Tim Hanlin, September 22.
- *Faith & Politics* led by Margaret Arbuckle & Ashton Clemmons, September 29.
- *200 Years of Worship and Music* series:
 - *How FPC Has Worshipped Over the Years*. led by Dr. Jerry Beavers, October 13.
 - *Hymnals and Hymns FPC Has Used Over the Years* led by - Dr. Jerry Beavers, October 27.
 - *History of FPC Music* led by Lane Ridenhour, in November.
- *Advent Study* led by Chip Bristol in December.

Class meets at 10 am in the Garden Room. Info: Philip Lopp, PHILIP.LOPP1988@GMAIL.COM.

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

In-depth scriptural study for singles AND couples of all ages. The Seekers class, 10 am in Main 125. Info: Gerard Davidson, GDAVIDSON@WARDBLACKLAW.COM.

COMMITMENT

Class meets at 10 am in Blair Hagan Room, Memorial 100. Info: BETSYHARRINGTON@TRIAD.RR.COM.



Our YMBC night at the First National Bank Ball Park will be Wednesday, September 4. All-you-can-eat hot dog & hamburger buffet at the News & Record Party Deck. The Grasshoppers will play the Bowling Green Hot Rods at 6:30 pm. YMBC wants to know you - and you to know us! SIGN UP TODAY! Use the QR Code or contact Yolanda Baxter at 336-365-1256.



IN PERSON

groups

BIBLE & BISCUITS: Before heading to work, join us for food, fellowship and reading & discussing scripture. Bibles and food provided. No sign-up or prep needed – just show up to meet God and your FPC community. 7:45-8:30 am in the Solarium on September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22, November 12 and December 10.

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUP: Wednesdays, 10 am-noon, Garden Room. Coordinated by Hannah Britt and B.J. Williams. Make receiving blankets, baby hats, small quilts, mittens, booties, etc. distributed through social workers and missionaries. We bring our latest creations, share patterns, pick up supplies, and have a devotional. Open to anyone regardless of church affiliation.

FIRST FAMILIES: Casual monthly gatherings for families with young children to get to know each other. Hosts rotate, dinner provided for adults & kids, small fee for onsite child care. First Fridays of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Lorie Jones, LORIEJONES88@GMAIL.COM.

FIRST ON FRIDAY: Meets monthly in homes at 7 pm. Devotion/discussion led by church staff along with fellowship and shared hors d'oeuvres. Contact Julie Wade, HWADE1805@GMAIL.COM or 336-580-6117.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE: Kate and Tom Gillespie host a monthly couples gathering at their home. 7-8:30 pm on September 6, October 4, November 1 and December 6. To attend, contact KATEHUDELSON@ICLOUD.COM.

GRACE: Women's Bible study meets September 16, October 7, November 6, December 12, 7-8 pm in homes. Info: Lisa Barbee, LRR95@HOTMAIL.COM.

WALKING GROUP: Enjoy tranquil surroundings and connect with fellow participants as we take a refreshing stroll together. Meet at sanctuary steps September 11 and October 9. 5:30-6:30 pm.

YOGA: 4:25 - 5:30 pm, Virginia Gilmer Room ((Smith 239). For all levels, bring water, a mat, a strap, and a block (only if you have one). Love offering is accepted but not required. Led by Virginia Wood, REVVIRGINIAWOOD@GMAIL.COM.

CURRIE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

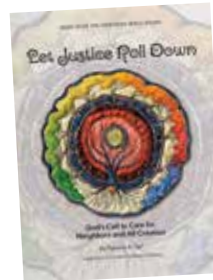
The Monday group meets second Monday of each month at 10:30 am and the Tuesday group meets second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm, both in the Garden Room.

- September 9 & 10: *The Greater Journey* by David McCullough, facilitated by Jim Llewellyn.
- October 8 & 14: *When Truth Is All You Have* by Jim McCloskey, facilitated by Penne Prigge.
- November 11 & 12: *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge, facilitated by Kitty Robison.
- December 9 & 10: Book sharing for Christmas.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Second Monday speaker lunches, noon in Mullin Life Center, \$10. Make a paid reservation by the Wednesday prior online at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP, by calling 336-478-4799, or at the Welcome Center desk. Dates and speakers:

- September 9, Gerry Chapman, Immigration Attorney: "Immigration: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."
- October 14, Karen Amirehsani, FPC Congregational Nurse, on "Blue Zones."
- November 11, Nancy Fuller, Church Librarian, "What's Happening in Currie Library."
- December 9, Weekday Preschool Christmas program.



Monthly PW circles are studying *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation* by Patricia K. Tull.

- Sallie Huss, second Mondays, 10:30 am, Myers Loyalty Room. Contact Gail Derkasch, PPOMPOM@AOL.COM.
- Mary and Martha, second Mondays, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room. Contact B.J. Williams, RWILLIAMS1@TRIAD.RR.COM.
- *Hearts and Minds*, third Tuesdays, 10 am-noon, Myers Loyalty Room. Contact Betty Jo Forney, BJFORNEY@MINDSPRING.COM.
- *Ruth and Naomi*, third Tuesdays, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room. Contact Anne Cox, ANCO7408@GMAIL.COM.
- *Faith & Fellowship*, Every Thursday starting September 12, 10-11:15 am, Garden Room. Led Contact Leigh Jones, LJONES0206@GMAIL.COM.

SCOTLAND PILGRIMAGE INFO MEETINGS

Learn more about this trip, ask questions, and meet people who have signed up. The trip is April 29-May 10, 2025. Info meetings will be held September 15 and October 13, 12:15-1:15 pm in the Garden Room. Info: Donna Chase, DCHASE@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.



YOUTH

kickoff



SEPTEMBER 8, 5:30-7:30 PM

Come hang out with friends, meet youth advisors, and have some fun as we kick off the 2024-25 year!

Inflatable obstacle course, basketball, axe throwing, yard games, karaoke contest, pizza and ice cream

sundays

AM + PM

DOUGHNUTS, DIALOGUE DEVOTION

10 am in Memorial 303 starting September 8.

YOUTH GROUP

5 - 6 pm – Middle School

6 - 6:30 – Dinner for all

6:30 - 7:30 – High School

September 15, 22 & 29

October 13, 27

November 10, 17

December 8

SUNDAY FUNDAYS

(Mostly) First Sundays, bring a friend for fellowship & fun!

September 8, October 6,

November 3, December 15.

breakfast

C L U B S

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Breakfast & devo, 7:15 am at Chick-fil-A on Pisgah Church Road. *Wednesdays, September 18, October 2, 16, November 6, 20, December 4, 18.*

HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast and prayer, 7:30 am at Panera on Lawndale. *Thursdays, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19*

confirmation

Confirmation begins in late October. All current 8th-graders are invited to participate.

Use the QR Code to sign up.

For more info, contact Lisa

Witherspoon, LWITHERSPOON@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.



parent meeting

For parents of 6th- thru 12th-graders, August 25 at 6:30 pm at the Abrahams' home. Important info about this year in youth programs!

CONNECT

FPCYouth
Insta



Middle School
GroupMe



High School
GroupMe





CHILDREN

Family Fellowship & Breakfast

SEPTEMBER 8 AT 10 AM As we get ready to go back to Sunday School, preschool-5th grade families are invited to gather at Elm Street Playground for fun!

regular SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 15, 22, 29
 October 6, 13, 27
 November 3, 10
 Preschool (3 & 4)
 in Corl 304
 K-2 in Corl 301
 3-5 in Corl 306

special SUNDAY SCHOOL

October 20
 Camp Weaver Sunday
 November 17
 Intergenerational
 November 24
 Advent Wreaths
 December 1
 Pajama & Movie Day
 December 15
 Birthday Party for Jesus

nursery

Care is provided for infants-age 6 during worship and Sunday School. Room 100, Mullin Life Center.

kids DISCIPLE CLUB

Fellowship, fun & bible study for grades 3-5, meets monthly, 3-4:30 pm, Life Center

KICKOFF PARTY!

September 8 – Inflatable obstacle course, axe throwing, basketball, games & ice cream sundaes!

Also October 13, November 3 & December 8 (Christmas Party)

SPECIAL events

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 27, 4-6 pm. Sign up to decorate your car ▶



PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

November 16, 5- 8 pm. Pizza, play & Aladdin! Registration in October.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24, 10 am.

CHILDRENS choirs

Choirs are offered for ages 3-grade 12. See page 2 for info.

for parents

FIRST FAMILIES

Casual gathering for young families. Dinner provided, small fee for onsite child care. First Fridays of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Lorie Jones, LORIEJONES88@GMAIL.COM.

FAITHFUL FAMILIES SUNDAY CLASS

September study – *THE ANXIOUS GENERATION: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. September 25, 22, 29, 10 am in Memorial 304.

CONNECT



GroupMe, use QR Code
 First Pres Parents, on Facebook

Weekly email, contact YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.



STEWARDSHIP

A passage from the lectionary caught my eye. *2 Kings 4:42-44* tells of the use of first fruits given to the prophet Elisha. It brought to mind our Capital Campaign First Fruits celebration in March.

In this story of direction, obedience and grace abundant, Elisha teaches us that we are worthy enough to give and that no gift is insignificant.

The scripture left me thinking, would I put Elisha in charge of deciding how much food is needed for a potluck, or what we can afford to do as a congregation?!

Yet, Elisha recognizes the presence and will of God as a resource upon which we can draw to respond to the needs of God’s people. Watching for God’s movement in our midst, we may witness a burst of abundant blessings – grace from the One who provides, sustains, and surprises us still today.

Let me share with you some of this holy movement at FPC as our campaign progresses:

Campaign leaders, asked to evaluate our work, lifted up the priority of a spiritual attitude, contagious enthusiasm, abundant generosity, and a deep commitment to the church’s future – holy movement



in the individual lives of a dedicated group.

Pledges and one-time gifts continue to arrive. Almost 400 families have given more than \$10,487,000. There is no expiration date for giving, and our three-year process is in its early stages. Response to a June letter to potential donors was very encouraging, and our hope is new members will offer their support.

Our first project is complete – the Smith Building elevator update! Habitat Greensboro has received \$112,000 and the Family Success Centers (GED graduate, above) has received \$48,000, the first installments from our \$1 million campaign tithe, and a drone recently flew over the sanctuary gathering images ahead of tuck-pointing in the spring. All tangible evidence of holy movement in our midst.

Join this holy movement with us – use the QR Code or go to [FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/CAPITAL-CAMPAIGN/SUPPORT-THE-CAMPAIGN](https://fpcgreensboro.org/capital-campaign/support-the-campaign).

– *Becky Veraar, Campaign Co-chair*



God began a good work in you and will carry it on.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

Our next 200 years of worship, nurture, and service begin this fall with our campaign for 2025 ministry.

First Presbyterian Church
617 N. Elm St.
Greensboro, NC 27401-2095
www.fpcgreensboro.org

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NOMINATE OUR LEADERS

FPC members influence the direction of our church through nominating and electing our leaders each spring. The Nominating Committee prepares a slate of six elders and one trustee as we move to a Session of 18 active elders. Please suggest members whose leadership will strengthen the church and its mission for Jesus Christ.

Deadline for nominations is September 17. Please:

MAIL this form to Debby Foster's attention at First Presbyterian Church, 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, 27401 "Confidential: Nominating Committee", or

DROP OFF (in a sealed envelope marked "Attn: Debby Foster") at the Welcome Center, or

PLACE it in the offering plate (sealed in envelope)

EMAIL Nancy Moore, Nominating Committee chair, MOORENANCY952@GMAIL.COM; Ross Harris, Nominating vice-chair, RHARRIS31@TRIAD.RR.COM; Debby Foster at DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

I RECOMMEND:

(Why do you think they would be a good leader?)

PLEASE NOTE **E** FOR ELDER, **T** FOR TRUSTEE

Nominating Committee: Nancy Moore, chair; Ross Harris, vice-chair; John Atkinson, Larry Bowden, Ty Buckner, Nicole Chandler, Stephanie Farabow, Jack Harrington, Jeff Hatcher, Griffin Jones, Ashley Mills, Mindy Oakley, Emily Scott, Jonathan Wade, Brantley White, Elizabeth Wilson

2024-2025 Committee Chairs, Vice chairs

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