

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

11:00 a.m.

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
BAPTISM SUNDAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.
Please silence your cell phone as worship begins.*

VOLUNTARY: Improvisation on "Grosser Gott" Brenda Portman (b. 1980)
Rebecca Pugh, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Jill Duffield

* CALL TO WORSHIP Newton Cowan

Leader: We come together today in awe and wonder
before the God we worship.

People: **We also come burdened down with the worries of the world
and the struggles of our individual lives.**

Leader: But in the midst of the worries and the struggles is God,
our radiant source of love and hope.

People: **We gather together today in awe and wonder,
to worship the God who transforms our lives.**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 189 – O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair SEE PAGE 2

DEO GRACIAS



O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair 189

Capo 3: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (D) (Em)
 Cm B^b Cm E^b F Gm

1 O won - drous sight, O vi - sion fair
 2 From age to age the tale de - clare,
 3 The law and proph - ets there have place,
 4 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 5 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high

(Am) (Dm) (Am) (Em) (Am)
 Cm Fm Cm Gm Cm

of glo - ry that the church shall share,
 how with the three dis - ci - ples there,
 two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,

(G) (Dm) (Em) (G) (Am)
 B^b Fm Gm B^b Cm

which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
 the Fa - ther's voice from out the cloud
 what glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 for which in joy - ful strains we raise

(Em) (Dm) (F) (G) (Am)
 Gm Fm A^b B^b Cm

where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
 pro - claims his on - ly Son a - loud.
 who joy in God with per - fect love.
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This translation of a 15th-century Latin devotional text is set here to a majestic 15th-century tune celebrating the victory of an English king; they combine to evoke the awe and wonder of that moment of revelation the three disciples experienced in Christ's Transfiguration.

* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy and forgiveness, we confess that many things keep us from trusting fully in your love. We are often distracted by our own desires and disappointments. We cling to anger and resentment. We fear for the future rather than seek signs of hope. Forgive us. Shine your love upon us so that your glory may be seen in us, and give us courage to follow Jesus wherever he leads, for we pray in his name. Amen

A brief period of silence is observed for personal confession.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* THE PEACE

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* RESPONSE TO THE PEACE: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies.....RATISBON

Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD READ: *Exodus 24:12-18* Mary Diehl

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SERVICE OF BAPTISM

FOR WEBB FLETCHER HOLDERNESS AND SUTTON ALLIE STEVENS

Jill Duffield and Newton Cowan

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

PRAYER OVER THE BAPTIZED



ANTHEM: Children of the Heavenly Father.....arranged by Paul Sjoland
Chancel Choir

Children of the Heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

Praise the Lord in joyful numbers, your protector never slumbers:
At the will of your Defender ev'ry foeman must surrender.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh,
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

– text: Carolina Sandell Berg

THE WORD READ: *Matthew 17:1-9*

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

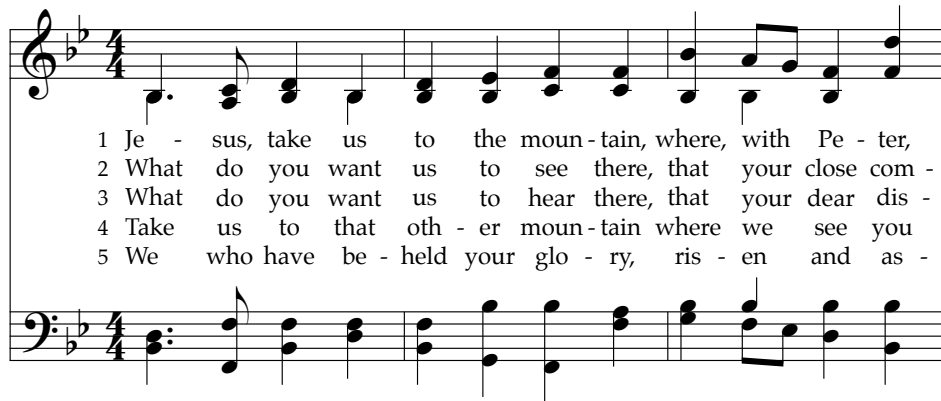
As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

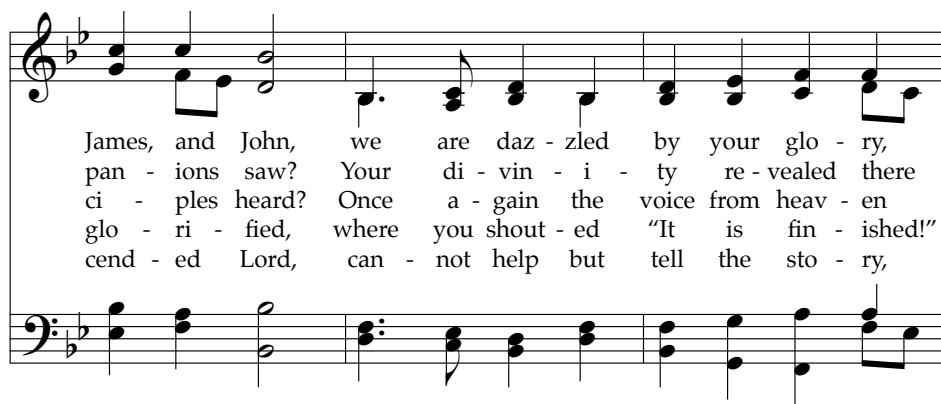
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Listen to Him*Jill Duffield

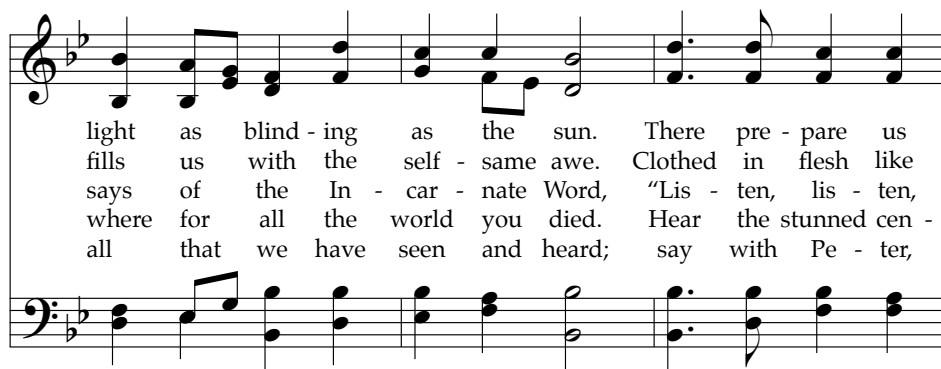
193 Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun - tain, where, with Pe - ter,
2 What do you want us to see there, that your close com -
3 What do you want us to hear there, that your dear dis -
4 Take us to that oth - er moun - tain where we see you
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as -



James, and John, we are daz - zled by your glo - ry,
pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there
ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en
glo - ri - fied, where you shout - ed "It is fin - ished!"
cend - ed Lord, can - not help but tell the sto - ry,



light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us
fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like
says of the In - car - nate Word, "Lis - ten, lis - ten,
where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -
all that we have seen and heard; say with Pe - ter,

Some version of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9/Mark 9:2-9/Luke 9:28-36) is always read on the last Sunday after the Epiphany. In this text that foretaste of Christ's glorification helps to prepare Peter, James, and John for their roles as proclaimers of "God's beloved Son."

for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.
ours you go, matched to meet our dead - liest foe.
ev - ery - one: this is my be - lov - ed Son."
tur - i - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment, primarily using chords and single notes.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 193 – Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain..... SEE PAGES 6-7

UNSER HERRSCHER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE..... Matt Bussell

concluding with 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.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.

OFFERTORY: Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee Andrew Carter (1939-2026)

Chancel Choir

Jesu, the very thought is sweet; in that dear Name all heart-joys meet;
But O than honey sweeter far the glimpses of his Presence are.

No word is sung more sweet than this; no name is heard more full of bliss;
No thought brings sweeter comfort nigh, than Jesus, Song of God most high.

Jesu, the hope of souls forlorn! How good to them for sing that mourn!
To them that seek thee, O how kind! But what art thou to them that find?

Jesu, thou sweetness, pure and blest, life's Fountain, Light of souls distress'd;
Surpassing all that heart requires, exceeding all that soul desires.

No tongue of mortal can express, no letters write its blessedness;
Alone who hath thee in his heart knows, love of Jesus, what thou art.

– Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153)

J.M. Neale (1818-1866), trans.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-
 lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-
 lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION..... Matt Bussell

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONJill Duffield

* RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 12 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise..... SEE PAGE 10
 ST. DENIO

VOLUNTARY: Praeludium in e minorNicolas Bruhns (1665-1697)
John Alexander, organ



Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

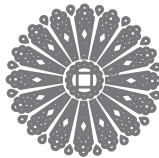
Jill Duffield, *Senior Pastor*
Newton Cowan, *Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care*
Matt Bussell, *Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission*
Allison Morrisette, *FPC Elder*
Mary Diehl, *Lay Reader*
Charlotte Freeze, *Acolyte*
John Alexander, *Director of Music and Principal Organist*
Rebecca Pugh, *Assistant Organist*
Chancel Choir

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair” Text: Latin; Music: “The Agincourt Song”.
“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” Text: Charles Wesley; Music: German folk melody.
“Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain” Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda; Music: Joachim Neander.
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*.
“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” Text: Walter Chalmers Smith; Music: Welsh folk melody.

* Let us rise in body or spirit.

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First Presbyterian Church, 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401 • 336.373.0445 • www.fpcgreensboro.org



2025-2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS, VICE CHAIRS: *Adult Formation:* John Sullivan, Lisa Ganem. *Youth Formation:* Layne King, Catherine Freeze. *Children's Formation:* Lorie Jones, Katie Rich. *Church Officer Development:* Graham Farless, Nancy Abrams. *Communications:* Ty Buckner, Jean Pinckard. *Discipleship:* Nancy Courts, Alice Moore. *Finance:* Dave Thompson, Hugh Williams. *Hospitality:* Bet Vanderwerff, Patrice Newman. *Human Resources:* Lisa Cook, Rhonda Youngdahl. *Outreach:* Rhonda Wakefield, Hoke Huss. *Pastoral Care:* Sheri Evans, Marshall Brown. *Property:* Sam Simpson, Jonathan Wade. *Stewardship:* Tom Gillespie, Sue Cole. *Technology:* Adrienne Woods, chair. *Worship:* Margaret Benjamin, Gay White. *Nominating:* Ross Harris, Andrew Spainhour. *Appointments:* Leigh Jones, Allison Cochran.

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.

Rooted and reaching in Christ's love, we seek to serve God as Spirit-led changemakers for good. Our vision is to be a caring, compassionate, and inclusive faith community welcoming those who seek an abundant relationship with Jesus Christ, meaningful worship, authentic connections, lifelong learning, and transformative service. We are continually growing and evolving, even as we remain strongly rooted in the Greensboro community and the Presbyterian tradition.

Come as you are and prepare to be transformed by God's love.






TAKING ATTENDANCE: The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone, you can pick up a physical copy of an attendance card as you enter the Life Center or Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.

NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

WHAT TO DO – UNWELLNESS AND MEDICAL

EMERGENCIES: If during the service you or someone near you begins to feel unwell, or is having a medical emergency please contact the closest usher.

FIND FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA –

Members are sharing great photos, comments and more! Follow and Like us on **Facebook**  (search "First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro"), **YouTube**  ("fpcgreensboro") and **Instagram**  ("1stpresgso") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed.

USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED: Contact Anne Albert, aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4711

FOR MORE INFO ON CHURCH SCHOOL, UPCOMING SERVICES, AND OTHER EVENTS • Check out the "Coming Up" insert in your bulletin • Subscribe to our e-news and Sunday preview emails at fpcgreensboro.org/ways-to-connect • Visit fpcgreensboro.org/event-highlights.

WAYS TO GIVE: In addition to the in-person offering, you may give by web, mail, or text. Scan the QR code (*right*) to give online. Mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401. Go to fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text for instructions for giving via text.



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered today during the 11 a.m. worship service to Webb Fletcher Holderness, son of Murphy and Ally Holderness; and to Sutton Allie Stevens, daughter of Anne Painter Stevens.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR *WHITE* seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marion Charles "Chuck" Scott by Ashley Staton Scott and his family.

FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE – Honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sunday morning Sanctuary worship service. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. Dates available for 2026: *April 5; May 3, 10, 24 and 31; July 12 and 19; August 30; September 6 and 13; October 4; and December 13.* Contact Carolyn Yow, 336-478-4768 or cyow@fpcgreensboro.org.

PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.



COMING UP

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

FEBRUARY 15-22, 2026 | *Full calendar at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG*

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

MAHJONG MONDAY, 10 am to noon in the solarium, for those who pre-registered.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

BREAKFAST CLUB: Middle School & High School youth meet at Chick-fil-A on Pisgah Church Road. Come at 7:15 am or if you go to school later come at 8 am. One of the pastors will join us to place a cross of ashes on our foreheads as we begin the season of Lent.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES at 9:30 am (preschool chapel) and in the sanctuary at 6 pm. Erin Kesterson Bowers will be the preacher at the evening service.

FORK & FAITH luncheon for women, noon in the Life Center.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF MARK: Rev. Erin Bowers will lead a Lenten exploration of Jesus' life and ministry, Thursdays at noon, through March 26, in the Garden Room. Erin will send materials in advance, so let her know if you're planning to attend.

THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB, *The Jackal's Mistress* by Chris Bohjalian. 6:30-7:30 pm in Myers Loyalty Room.



LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

- at MS/HS Breakfast Club
- 9:30 am preschool chapel
- 6 pm sanctuary service

More info, left

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

WORSHIP: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9 am Rejoice! and 11 am sanctuary services, Newton Cowan preaching.

CHURCH SCHOOL, 10 AM

- **JOURNEYS FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY:** *New series!* members will share their faith journeys and the experiences that shaped them. Preston Young is the first speaker. Come as You Are class, Garden Room.
- **WHAT IS THE WORLD LIKE:** *New series!* Based on the scripture passages and hymn we will use during worship in Lent, join us for a 5-week class of readings, videos, activities, and discussion. Led by Erin Bowers through March 22. Hosted by Faithful Families, Memorial 304.
- **CHRISTIANS WHO INFLUENCED AMERICA'S HISTORY,** led by Sandie Gravett, continues in YMBC and Agape, Redhead Hall.
- **CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY:** Led by Gerard Davidson, continues in Seekers class, Main 125.
- **YOUTH,** connect and engage Scripture together, Memorial 303 | **CONFIRMANDS,** Memorial 300 | **CHILDREN,** Corl Building.

LATER: YOUTH COHORT DINNERS, in homes. Middle School, 5-6 pm. High School, 6-7 pm.

LOOKING AHEAD

To RSVP for programs and events use the QR Code or go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGN-UPS.



INTERFAITH HOUSING INITIATIVE PROJECT:

February 26, 5:30-7:30 pm at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. RSVP to learn how we can make a difference in the housing crisis. We'll hear testimonials, see construction plans, and get educational resources to put our faith into action. Contact Matt Bussell (MBUSSELL@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG) with questions.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION Opens March 1 for Vacation Bible School, being held July 20-23. Look for our theme reveal soon!

BLOOD DRIVE, Thursday, March 11. The American Red Cross will be on campus 1:30 to 6 pm. Walk-ins welcome; you'll finish faster if you make a reservation.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to vote on the next class of elders, FPC church trustee responsible for the L. Richardson Trust, at-large members of the 2026 Nominating Committee, and change of call for the pastors. Sunday, March 1, just before the 11 am worship service. More info at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/MEMBER-RESOURCES.

ALSO MARCH 1: Registration opens for VBS, being held July 20-23.

L. RICHARDSON TRUST GRANTS: *Each year, the trustees elected by the congregation award grants from the L. Richardson Trust. Last year, 17 applicants requested over \$180,000 and we awarded 8 grants totaling \$59,500. If you know of great organizations working to make a difference in our community and world, please share the application with them and encourage them to submit it by March 15. More info at FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/OUTREACH.*

MARCH 10, 1:30 pm in the Garden Room: The **Monday-Tuesday clubs** will meet together to welcome author Diane Flynt, author of *Wild, Tamed, Lost, Revived: The Surprising Story of Apples in the South*. The author is orchardist and founder of Foggy Ridge Cider in the Blue Ridge Mountains.



March 14, 5-8 pm, \$25/child. Kids play, have pizza and watch *Inside Out 2*. For ages infant through fifth grade. *Register by March 9.*

PICK UP A LENTEN DEVOTIONAL IN THE WELCOME CENTER.

A Way Other Than Our Own by Walter Brueggemann is free (one per household, please.)



Lent in Plain Sight, by Senior Pastor Jill Duffield, takes on a journey through ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem. (\$10)

