

Hallelujah

April 2024



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PASTORS & STAFF DIRECTORY

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SUNDAY IN-PERSON AND STREAMING SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.
Service for the Lord's
Day

9:40-10:30 a.m.
Sunday School
Adult Education

10:45 a.m.
Service for the
Lord's Day
Worship Service



As many of you know, I was ordained and installed at the end of February in our beautiful sanctuary. I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for this extraordinary gift. Whether you were able to witness the service or not, I have felt so supported by all of you. My family felt likewise. This was a day I had been thinking about for over a decade, and I felt so blessed to be able to share it with you.

For those of you who may not know, in addition to some wonderful FPC members and members of our Presbytery, some of the participants in the service included people who have known me for most, if not all, my life:

Rev. Guy Griffith knew my mom when she was pregnant with me. I also served as an intern for him at a large Presbyterian church in Nashville during my Senior Year of college. He did the confession and assurance in the service.

Rev. Millason Dailey was my youth pastor for a few years in Chicago. I interned at her church for a few summers during college, then served as the Children's and Youth Director at her church for a year and a half after graduating from seminary. She and I had been planning this service since I was a teenager; and despite some medical surprises on her end, she was able to serve as the preacher as we had always planned – even though it had to be via Zoom.

Judy Schlabach is a ruling elder in our Presbytery and also happens to be my mom's sister. She was present for my baptism when I was four years old, and she delivered the charge to me in my ordination service. It was a wonderful full-circle moment for us both, as well as for my mom, I'm sure.



Finally, **my amazing family** members were able to participate in the service. My parents put my robe on me. We laughed as my mom zipped it up as if I were in preschool again. Then my sisters placed on me a beautiful stole that they had purchased together as an ordination gift. My parents are some of my favorite humans, and their support means everything to me. My sisters are truly my best friends, and having them share this moment with me felt so special.

In the congregation were my incredible grandparents, without whom I would not be who or where I am.

Also present were some of my best friends – Shanty, Jack, and Deborah.

I am grateful to the Presbytery, the FPC congregation, Kyle, and the FPC staff for all their help making this service possible. The reception afterwards was just as wonderful as the service itself. I, along with my whole family, am so grateful.



FROM YOUR PASTOR



How to Watch Streaming Services



- Go to our Facebook page during streaming times at:
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCYork/>.
- You can also view live and archived services on YouTube , which is also a good resource for those without Facebook access. Search for “First Presbyterian Church of York” to find the church page on YouTube or go to the web address:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc4cd1uuqYrdN89sjzYCOSw>
- Both links are available on our www.FPCYork.org homepage.
- For those with a “smart TV” or Xfinity, you can use the built-in “YouTube” app and watch our services on your TV.

Please Note: Sundial New Number Sundial Instructions

Our Sundial Ministry is available each Sunday for both services and Adult Education. Sundial begins for the 8:30 service and continues through the end of the 10:45 service.

- 1) Dial: **1-267-807-9601**
- 2) Wait for the operator to answer and then dial the meeting ID: **301402434#**
- 3) **If you receive a busy signal**, call: 1-716-293-9726
Enter the Dial in Number: 267-807-9601
Enter Meeting ID Number: 301402434#

If the dial-in number is long distance for you, please contact Sherry in the Church Office, and she can work with you, so you are not charged long distance fees.



Remote Giving

How to transition to EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer)

Electronic Fund transfer is a way of giving on a schedule via your bank to FPC's bank. Signing up is simple. Provide the following information to Cindy Fields; account number, routing number, amount of contribution, date of withdraw (the 1st, the 16th, or both).

You may provide this information by;

- Sending in a voided check – write on your check the date of withdrawal and the amount.
- Email – only if you are comfortable with this. Please triple check your account numbers for accuracy.
- Calling in – Our voicemail is secure so you can leave all information if no one answers.

Your contributions will continue until you confirm a stop date. You may make contributions to anything through EFT including Caring Ministry.



Online Giving

Online Giving gives you the freedom to control your giving on your schedule and type of payment. Here are instructions:

- 1) Go to www.fpcyork.org and find the GIVE NOW button at the top right of the screen. Clicking on this will take you directly to the FPC giving platform.
- 2) From here you will select the category to which you would like to give and enter the amount.
- 3) Scroll down and select the donation frequency (one time, weekly, monthly, etc.)
- 4) Select a start date. Click Continue.
- 5) Enter your personal information, name, address, account info. It is suggested to create a password so you can access or edit your giving information at a later date.
- 6) Remember to tap the process button.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Pictures from our Annual Community Palm Sunday Dinner!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
SUNDAY, APRIL 21

CREATION SUNDAY PETTING ZOO

9:30 AM - 12 PM

* PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILD(REN) TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM AND NOT THE GATHERING PLACE. WE WILL TAKE THEM TO THE ANIMALS AFTER A QUICK LESSON

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



Worship Music Concert

with

Jim and Melody Scofield

Sunday, May 5, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

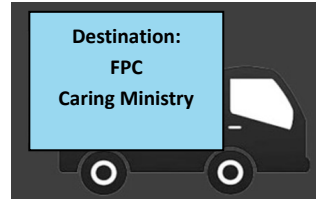
208 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA



Join us for a time of beautiful music and fellowship as we raise funds to help FPC-sponsored missionaries Ben and Emily Okello and their work in Kenya. Jim and Melody Scofield have been attending FPC since 1999. Jim has served as an elder on both Missions and the Music & Worship Committees, and over the years the Scofields have actively participated in music and worship at First Presbyterian Church in both ensemble groups and through special music. This year's FPC Easter Offering has been designated to support the Okellos and their work with orphaned children in Kenya. Jim and Melody will be traveling to Kenya this June with a small mission team from Gettysburg. For this concert, the Scofields will be performing familiar contemporary praise and worship songs, traditional hymns, and original music that speaks of their love for service and mission. *100% of the free-will offering* will be given to The Scofield School in Suna-Migori, Kenya to support the work of Ben and Emily Okello and the students at the school. Join us for an afternoon of music with a mission.

SPONSOR THE TRUCK

Every month the Caring Ministry receives between 2000 and 3000 pounds of food from the Central Penn Food Bank (CPFEB). The cost of this truck load of staples has been steadily rising, just as food costs have been increasing for all of us.



Our average cost for the truck now ranges from **\$750 to \$1000 per month.**

We are so grateful for the individuals and families who have helped with this expense by sponsoring the truck. We need that support now, more than ever, but need our donors to recognize that we must combine sponsorships each month to fully cover our expenses.

Our sponsors for April: Tom and Barb Chronister AND Kathy (Falatovich) Black and Friends from York Suburban - "In honor of Georgia Valero's Birthday" AND Blessings from an Anonymous Donor - "In honor of Chuck and Maureen Letocha"

For more information about this important ministry or to sponsor the truck, please call the church office (717-843-8041) or contact Elizabeth Lauer (elizabeth@fpcyork.org)



The Finance and Stewardship Committee seeks to give timely updates

to the congregation about the financial health of our church. To meet this goal, we are planning to have a quarterly zoom opportunity for people interested in an update on our finances. The first of these opportunities will take place in April. Watch for an email blast, announcements in the bulletin and during Sunday worship with the date, time and zoom invitation. Thank you to all for your interest and desire to know about the finances at First Presbyterian.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTDOOR BBQ

FREE | First Presbyterian Church



Free Food - Games - Worship Music

Sunday, April 28th | 225 E. Market St., York

11:00 AM

Parking Lot Behind Church

LUNCH BUNCH

April

7 - Red Lobster

14 -Shangri La

21-Olive Garden

28- Crimson Grill

Gift Cards

Weis and Giant gift cards will be available for sale in the Gathering Place from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on the first Sunday only of each month. Please bring a check or cash to pay for your cards. At no cost to you, 5% of each sale goes to the Caring Ministry.

Knitters Be Mad!

The Mad Hatters knitting group started years ago as an informal group of ladies who liked to knit. We chose the name because we were asked to knit hats for Caring Ministry clients. Since then, the group has also made prayer shawls and prayer squares for the Deacons and church members. However, the ladies in this group also work on personal projects and help each other work on more difficult projects like sweaters and socks. We are a diverse group in what we knit and who we are! If you knit or would like to learn how to knit, please consider joining us on the 4th Monday afternoon of each month in the church parlor from 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. We knit, we talk, we have a devotion; and there's always a snack to share! Members and friends of members are welcome to join us. Just contact Sandy Sykes at 717-805-6508 (cell).


*Thank you Elaine Carr and Alexis Arugunes
for your beautiful board decoration!*



DEACON HEARING FUND 2024

Have you ever had a hard time hearing and wondered if you might need hearing aids? Have you ever taken advantage of that “free” hearing test covered by Medicare, only to find out how expensive good hearing aids are? Hearing problems can be very frustrating to both you and your friends who must continually shout to be heard. Did you know that research shows hearing loss, untreated, can lead to social isolation and dementia? Would you like to do something about your hearing loss?

Well, thanks to a generous donor, a fund has been established to financially assist those of you who would like to get hearing aids, but cannot afford the total cost. The Fund, of up to \$3,000 each, is for church members and regular attenders. One person who used the fund said she was never aware of how much she did not hear. She said “it changed my life.” So if friends have been encouraging you to try Hearing Aids, don’t be shy. Applications are available in the church office. Confidentiality is respected. Char Shank, a proud user of Hearing Aids for over 16 years , and other Deacons are willing to help. Thank you, Lord, for the generous members of our church.



Lectio prayer group

Join us for a time of meditating on God’s word by participating in a spiritual practice called “Lectio Divina.” The group meets from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the prayer room (room 209) on the fourth Wednesday of every month. This month we will meet on March 27. See Wendy Smith if you are interested in coming or would like more information.



Two special events from the Racial Justice Committee

April 13 – from 10 a.m. to 4.p.m. is the spring cleanup at Lebanon Cemetery Preservation Day. Local volunteers will be joined by members of The G.R.A.C.E. which stands for a veterans initiative dedicated to Gravestone Recovery and Community Engagement for this day of cleaning stones of veterans, resetting markers/flags, and overall cleanup of trash and debris. Before the work day begins there will be an extra special event to dedicate a Veteran’s Memorial marker for John Noble, great, great grandfather of Christian and Jennyfir Hunter.

Our group has been asked to oversee the sign-in and snack table for the day. Volunteers and/or donations for the snacks are needed to help at this event. Contact Jennyfir Hunter or Susan Dunham if you are interested.

May 5 is the date set for the Dedication of Faith Gathering Place. Warren Cooper, son of former Faith pastor, J. Jerome Cooper, will be with us and bring his wonderful voice in song for this event. The official dedication will be held immediately after the 10:45 service in Faith Gathering Place. Join us as we dedicate the room and celebrate our sister church who brought a rich history to add to the legacy of First Presbyterian.



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NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

— ★ ★ ★ —

Call to Prayer – National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2, is The National Day of Prayer, calling all who will humble themselves and seek God’s will for our nation to pray regarding seven specific areas of concern to all of us. These are Government, Military/First Responders, Media, Business, Education, Church, and Family.

Our Sanctuary will be open for prayer from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. for our members and our neighbors or anyone who might be passing by to come in to pray at any or all of the seven stations dealing with the topics listed above.

Every hour on the half hour (11:30 and 12:30) there will be an opportunity for those in the Sanctuary to join in a litany prepared for any who wish to pray with others, guided by a prayer leader.

Mark May 2 on your calendar and invite neighbors and friends to join you and the rest of God’s people in the York community, as we agree in prayer to follow the Lord in our life together.



Spring Greetings to you all! We hope as the spring season unfolds, this finds you feeling the good vibes of what is to come. As we shift to the last three months of the program year, we have many ways to engage with music.

Thanks for a great Lent, Holy Week, and Easter

We had a wonderful Lenten season. We started with a really dynamic Ash Wednesday service that kicked off our “Between the Dust” theme, followed by two great contemporary third services with dynamic music. We also had an excellent mid-week service series with amazing soup and music line-up. Thanks to Kyle Gott, Nathan Gott, Dan Brownell, Ilene Gentzler, Emily Clark, and Troy Engle. And of course, our traditional worship was augmented by bells, choirs, special music and more. We celebrated the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday, with a wonderful message from our music intern, Nate Gott. On Good Friday, our Choir took us right to the cross. Then with brass and more special music, we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord in triumphant fashion.

Join Dan Brownell in Paris, April 20, 4 p.m.

We will wrap up our 2023-2024 East Market Organ Series with two amazing concerts. Our own Dan Brownell will present an organ concert, chock full of French-themed music on April 20 at 4 p.m. Come hear some standards of the French organ world, with some surprises from French music of other genres. You might just get a sneak peak of our newly restored Zuckerman harpsichord too...

**The Anne C. Hoover Memorial Concert featuring Frank Zilinyi,
organ - June 8 at 4 p.m.**

You definitely won't want to miss our final concert of the year, when organist extraordinaire Frank Zilinyi comes down from northern Connecticut, to make our wonderful instrument sing. Frank is a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory and University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, with notable studies with James Christie, and Roberta Gary. He is currently the Director of Music at South Congregational Church in New Britain, CT, and the Artistic Director of the Mystic River Chorale. He is also on the faculty of the University of Bridgeport Music Department. He is an accomplished recitalist, having performed all over the country and is active in the Northeast. You can hear him play by searching his name on YouTube. He is a dynamic player, a close friend of Dan Brownell, and someone who Dan calls an inspiration on his own playing.

**June 2 Music Celebration
Sunday, Album Debut, and
new Website pages**

We also wanted to announce Music Celebration Sunday coming up on June 2. You'll hear more about this service as it gets closer, but you can look forward to lots of exciting music, a special message tied to a classic poem, and much more. Dan is also hoping to launch the new Music Ministry Website pages on Music Sunday, and perhaps will have a solo album recording of his concert from last March ready for distribution.





Mission Update

The Faders, Part Three

For the last 2 months, we have been sharing the story of Dr. Tim and Patti Fader, medical missionaries who have been an important part of FPC's worldwide mission outreach since the 1970s. We reported how they were called to faith in their early teens and led by the Spirit to take the gift of modern medicine and the love of Jesus to some of the most underserved people in the world.

After three decades of providing medical care to the people of Kenya, Afghanistan, Somaliland, and Malawi and establishing official, recognized Training Programs for national doctors-in-training in these countries, Tim and Patti have at last retired and now live in Florida. However, the "family business" of serving the Lord in places of greatest need continues on in their adult children and grandchildren. This final installment focuses on the current ministry of the Faders.

Jason Fader was an infant when he first arrived at FPC during his father's residency at York Hospital. He and his big sister Alyssa attended elementary school in Ganado, the Navaho Reservation where the family went after that Residency ended; and he was 10 when the family moved to Kenya. There he attended and graduated from Rift Valley Academy (RVA) – a school for kids from missionary families. He tells us that throughout his childhood he always wanted to be a surgeon, which he thought "sounded really cool." He also wanted to work in Africa or wherever doctors were really needed; and, like his parents, he never wavered from this goal, as God worked out the details.

Jason met Heather at College in Michigan, and they married while Jason was attending Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. Heather had a Master's Degree in education and taught at the high school level. Jason's General Surgery residency took them to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where their daughter, Anna, was born in 2005. (They would adopt their second daughter, Abigail, 4 years later and their third daughter, Keza, 8 years after that, in Africa.)

While in Ann Arbor they met two other medical families at their church, who were also feeling drawn to Africa. They began to work together to answer God’s call as a team and were joined by two more doctors just as they were zeroing in on a place to work long term.

That team of six doctors, representing a diversity of skills and specialties, found its way to Kibuye Hope Hospital in Burundi, a small country in East Africa. They had been

searching for a place where the needs were great; and they certainly found it. Burundi bears the unenviable title of “the poorest country in the world.” When they arrived at Kibuye, Jason was one of only 12 surgeons serving the entire country of 10 million people.

Jason is the Assistant Medical Director for the hospital, which was started by a Christian university, Hope African University. (HAU). Like his father, He has taken on the task of training and discipling the African doctors- in-training to provide modern medical care for the people of this greatly underserved area. His childhood dreams have been fulfilled many times over; and for his efforts, in 2016, he was named the inaugural winner of the L’Chaim Prize for Outstanding Christian Medical Missionary Service. He continues to teach and guide the young nationals who will be their country’s future source of medical care; while Heather is the Principal of the local school for the missionary kids at Kibuye.



Jason and Heath and daughters

Caleb, the youngest of Tim and Patti's children, also lives in Burundi, where he works with Jason in planning, designing, and constructing the Kibuye Hospital and its ancillary services. He also helps to maintain the hospital equipment by running a construction crew of about 110 men and women who he describes as very capable. He finds his joy in making sure that "the doctors on their team can do their jobs, because there is water in the pipes, power in the sockets, and a roof over patients' heads."

Caleb says that his call from God to serve the people of Africa was a "growing knowing" throughout his childhood and adolescence. Being raised by parents who instilled in their children from a very young age and modelled for them the joy of serving the underserved wherever they lived, made it easy for him to just "know" that he was meant to return to Africa to use his engineering knowhow.



Caleb and Krista and sons

Caleb and his wife, Krista, both graduated from Rift Valley Academy, but Krista graduated a year earlier than Caleb. They just "knew of" each other in high school. They also did not spend time together even while attending the University of Illinois where they earned their undergraduate degrees – Krista in Nursing and Caleb in Civil Engineering. Caleb went on to complete a Master's in Water Engineering and both he and Krista ended up in Chicago for work and study, but still they had not made any personal connection. It took a mutual friend's invitation to a Bible study to launch a friendship that turned to romance and marriage. They are the parents of three boys – Liam, Gavin, and Jono.

Eli and Bethany also met while students at Rift Valley Academy, but they began dating during their senior year. At that time Eli was part of an outreach team that taught Sunday school in a nearby orphanage, a ministry that he really enjoyed. At about the same time, the Lord began to speak to him about becoming a minister – a call that was confirmed and guided over the next few years, when God also placed on his heart a burden for the country of Sudan. Bethany, whose parents are missionaries in Uganda, sensed that same call.



Eli, Bethany, and family

They were married after their second year at Moody Bible College; and, once Eli had earned his Master’s Degree from seminary in 2006, they moved to Yabus in South Sudan with their two children, Isaac, age 3 and 1-year old Evan. Their first home was in a rural village where they lacked electricity and running water.

Eli began his ministry witnessing to the community and working with local Christian pastors, most of whom had very little formal training. In addition to running their household and raising their family, Bethany homeschooled their sons through the primary grades and developed an ongoing ministry with the women in the community and local churches. A few years after arriving in Sudan their third son, Joshua was born.

After a year of studying Arabic, Eli and Bethany moved to Melut in South Sudan. There Eli taught at Gideon Theological College and developed the Theological Education by Extension (TEE) program to help reach pastors in more remote places.

Then came the Sudan Civil War. The fighting caused them to evacuate from the area twice, with the loss of all their belongings in the looting that followed. They moved to Doro in South Sudan, where they worked with some of the 40,000 refugees displaced by the war. South Sudan won their independence; but hostilities soon broke out between different factions in the new country.

Major fighting broke out after worship services on Christmas Day 2016, forcing Eli and family to spend the entire day lying on the floor of their residence with gunfire all around them. Several days later they were evacuated by a small mission airplane.

Because of the continuing conflict in South Sudan, which has raged for the past 7+ years, Eli and Bethany are now living in Uganda, ministering to some of the one million refugees who have fled from South Sudan.

The good news is that the TEE program is growing, with the development of more advanced classes. They have also added to their family with the adoption of two more little boys, Carson now 3 and Judah who is 1. And this past summer Eli received his Doctorate in Theological Education after 6 years of study.



But perhaps the most exciting news of all is that Isaac, their oldest son, has begun a five-year program at Moody School of Aviation in Spokane, Washington, to become a Missionary Pilot. The third generation of Faders is literally “taking off.”

*Isaac - Future Missionary
Pilot*

This then is the account of how the Lord called and prepared all three of the Fader “boys” for serving in needy places in Africa. But what of Alyssa, Tim and Patti’s first born? Alyssa also grew up in Africa and graduated from RVA the same missionary school that her brothers call their alma mater. How did she end up in Muskegan, Michigan?

Like her brothers Alyssa came to the States for college and graduated with a BS in Nursing from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The summer after graduating, she served as Camp Nurse at Camp Geneva in Holland, Michigan. There she met a young man named Jeff DeKuiper, who had been a counselor there for several years. Friendship grew and blossomed into romance and marriage.

Alyssa and Jeff served two years in Kenya at RVA, where Alyssa was school nurse and Jeff was a teacher, but they were hearing a different kind of calling, This drew them back to the states to Jeff’s home area in Michigan, where they settled in to become parents. After giving birth to one biological son, Keegan, they were led to grow their family by adoption. Four more boys, Jordan, Bryson, Nathan, and Hudson, completed their family. They live in Muskegan, where Alyssa works in Day Surgery and Jeff is a teacher. They serve on the Mission Committee of their church, offering great insight as to how to care for the missionaries their church sends out.



Alyssa and Jeff DeKuiper and sons

It would be a mistake to assume from this description of Alyssa's life in the States that she has no part in the family mission business. Just ask her brothers what Alyssa's calling is, and they will tell you that she is their "anchor" in the U.S.A. Alyssa and Jeff's home is the permanent address for all three families working in Africa. She takes care of all of her brothers' stateside business, sending out their newsletters and tending to their correspondence. Her brothers tease her by telling her that she better not even *think* about serving in Africa, because they so desperately need the help she provides the three families right where she is.

Mission Committee has been sharing this three-part story of the Fader family is to remind us all how we, as a church, participate in the wonderful ministry God has given this family. We do this through our financial support, our prayers, and sometimes by hands-on service. When you give to the church, you are helping to make it possible for missionaries like the Faders to answer God's call to serve Him in faraway places.

During the gathering of information for writing this account, Patti said, "I feel our replies [to our questions] are absolutely inadequate to describe the rich life that God has given Tim, me, and our children. We are forever grateful for the privilege of loving the people and the work God called us to."

We, at FPC are grateful to be even a small part of that love.



Buildings and Grounds Update Corner

Our slate roof being repaired by experts to replace missing slate which had come off our beautiful buildings due to weather and age of roofs.





This spring, the children's Sunday school class has been learning about each day of Jesus' final week on earth. After learning about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the cleansing of the temple, and being questioned by the Pharisees, we finally reached His last meal with his disciples. We wanted to make this a memorable lesson so with Pastor Katie's help, the children were able to sit down to a Passover Seder.

We often talk about why Jesus was in Jerusalem that week, but not many people are lucky enough to be invited to participate in a traditional Seder. The children all got a copy of Pastor Katie's child friendly haggadah (the text which sets out the order of the Passover Seder).



We filled Pastor Katie's Passover Seder plate with traditional Seder food like parsley, bitter herbs, horseradish, an egg, and matzo. Each food on the plate represents a part of the Jewish history like the charoset, an apple and cinnamon mixture which represents the mortar that the Hebrews used to construct the Egyptian cities. Although the charoset, matzo, and eggs were enjoyed, the kids were less than happy with the parsley dipped in salt water and with the smell of horseradish!

Since sitting for an hour when you're an active child is hard, we also listened to and got to sing a Passover song called "Dayenu," which translates to "It would have been enough." They also got the chance to look for the afikomen, which is a game where a piece of matzo wrapped in a napkin is hidden and the person who finds it gets a prize.

Before we left that Sunday, we talked about how Jesus established the new covenant of communion with God's people during that last supper and what that practice means to us in the church today – even after more than a thousand years.

Hopefully, this lesson will be one that the children remember for years to come, and maybe even remember when they take communion later.



CARING MINISTRY



We are almost finished, after months and years of requesting and receiving estimates, seeking city approval, and countless hours of time and hard work. The Caring Ministry front steps will soon reopen!!! I want to express my sincere gratitude to the FPC Buildings and Grounds Committee for their time and commitment to this project. I am thankful for their willingness and dedication to

ensuring that the work is completed properly and in compliance with historical and city regulations. As a building included on the National Register of Historical Places, the Billmeyer House requires extra care, and I am grateful for the number of FPC individuals who are passionate about maintaining that history! Feel free to stop by the Market Street entrance and see how the front steps and hand railings look.

When you are visiting the Billmeyer House, please do not hesitate to come in and look around or ask for a tour. Over the past few weeks, I have enjoyed the opportunity to connect with various FPC members who want to learn more about the Caring Ministry, as they are stopping by to see our work in action and/or dropping off Reverse Lenten Calendar donations. Thank you for wanting to find out more about our mission in the community and for choosing to contribute items from the Reverse Lenten Calendar. I have been blown away by the quantity of donations we have received! The Reverse Lenten calendar gifts are truly making an impact, as our shelves continue to be well stocked, despite the many households that visit our pantry each week. The 189 households or 686 individuals that we served in February were able to have a wonderful selection of shelf-stable food products as well as personal and household items thanks to the sum total of your donations in February - 1,408.1 pounds of food, toiletries, and household items. Thank you!



In addition to the contributions from FPC, we received support from two of our partners - Our Daily Bread and JLS Automation. Our Daily Bread serves breakfast and lunch to our neighbors in need, and we are grateful to be able to work with them, especially when they receive donations that they cannot immediately use. At the end of February, Our Daily Bread shared with us almost 200 pounds of personal care items and/or household supplies. At the beginning of March, we received over 150 pounds of food items - a variety of shelf stable products that could be used for individual households.

In addition to these contributions from Our Daily Bread, we want to thank JLS Automation for reaching out to us after their book collection in honor of Read Across America on Saturday, March 2. The Caring Ministry received 66 children's books along with 50 homemade, crocheted heart-shaped bookmarks to distribute to the families who visit the Caring Ministry. I am always overjoyed to have the chance to put books in the hands of children, and I appreciate JLS Automation's staff members for making that a reality for many families.

CARING MINISTRY



Finally, I would like to take a moment to reach out to the FPC community to see if there are other individuals who would like to volunteer their time to the Caring Ministry. As some of you may have seen in the bulletin announcements, a few of our faithful Caring Ministry volunteers will be unavailable due to planned trips and/or other circumstances over the next few weeks and months. If you are interested in stocking shelves, administrative work, and/or assisting our neighbors - either with Client Choice food distribution or in our Mothers and Babies Room, please contact me, Elizabeth Lauer, at elizabeth@fpcyork.org and/or leave a voicemail message at the Church Office or Caring Ministry. Thank you for continuing to ensure that The Caring Ministry will not only sustain its efforts, but will thrive and continue to serve as an outreach of hope and support to many individuals in our community!

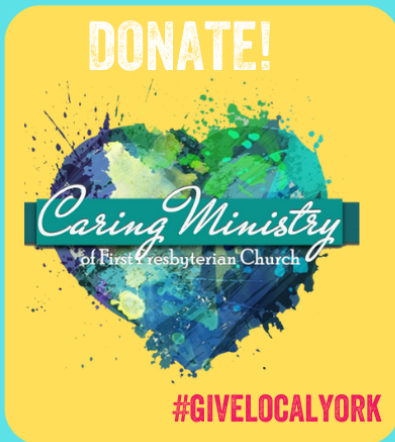
Thank You!

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! I am blessed and truly honored to have the opportunity to serve as the permanent Director of the Caring Ministry of First Presbyterian Church of York. I am truly touched by the overwhelming support that I have received over the past few weeks - including kind words, touching emails, memorable cards, and a delicious cake! I am also humbled and ready to continue my work and service to our neighbors in need. I do not take the responsibility of this position lightly, and I will strive to do my best to serve others! I appreciate the opportunity and your faith in me to lead the Caring Ministry.

Elizabeth Lauer,

Director of Caring Ministry

Support us during York County's largest day of giving!



9 PM ON THURSDAY, MAY 2ND TO 9 PM ON FRIDAY, MAY 3RD

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FPC Youth & Young Adult Ministry

**Youth & Young Adults recently attended
Destination Unknown**



Our most recent Destination Unknown held on Sunday, March 10, was to New Fairview Church, York, PA, to visit the three crosses located on the edge of their parking lot and visible from Interstate 83 North and South bound. We discussed and visually experienced the cross of the crucifixion of Jesus. We gathered to touch and observe the cross and discussed Jesus suffering for our sins. During the conversation, the wind kicked up and a large snow squall came over the hill, sending our group dashing for our vehicles. The discussion in the cars was how cold the youth were and the point was made that they suffered for less than a few minutes in the elements while Jesus suffered and died for us. It was quite the learning moment, followed by a time of fellowship at Round the Clock diner.

**Spring Youth Retreat – April 12-14, 2024 –
Refreshing Mountain, Stevens, PA**



All church youth in sixth through twelfth grade are invited to attend the spring youth retreat, April 12-14, 2024, at Refreshing Mountain Retreat Center, Stevens, PA.

The Cost is \$50 per person and includes lodging, food, and a fun filled weekend of fellowship and faith, including team building and ropes course, escape room, open gym time, youth Sunday planning, worship, and spiritual development.

For more information and the registration form, go to our website at <https://www.fpcyork.org/youth-ministries>. Deadline for registration to attend is March 24, 2024. If you have questions contact, Eric M. Chase, M.S., M.Div. Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 443-686-2448 or ermchase@comcast.net.

**Summer Mission Trip -
June 15-21, 2024 -
Gulf Coast - Louisiana**



Spanning from eastern Texas to northern Florida, the Gulf Coast region is known for its Southern hospitality, vibrant culture, grit in the face of adversity, and inviting communities. It is an area prone to hurricanes, floods, and other natural disasters; and recovery from past events is an ongoing process.

Praying Pelican Missions and FPC Youth and Young Adult Ministry is proud to partner alongside local churches, as they engage in the ongoing work of recovery in their communities - physically, spiritually, and emotionally. Twelve missionaries (Seven Youth, one Young Adult and four adult leaders/parents) from FPC will serve for one week from June 15 -21, 2024. While serving on this mission trip in the Gulf Coast region, you can be assured that the work our team is doing is feeding into genuine, healthy ministry that is locally driven. Activities will range from kid's ministry to food distribution to service projects to prayer outreach and more. Please pray for our missionaries and consider supporting our trip with a financial gift.



Calling all Youth! Fellowship is on!



SCAN ME

If you are in 6th–12th grade this school year, we want you to join us for our weekly youth fellowship on Sundays.

We meet each Sunday from 5:30-7:30pm. Bring your friends and join us weekly for the 4F's of youth group – FUN, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, & FAITH!

For more information and our fall schedule of activities and events go to our website at fpcyork.org/youth-ministries or contact Interim Director of Youth Ministry, Eric Chase at ermchase@comcast.net.

Schedule Spring 2024

April

- 7** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Meeting - FPC Youth Room
- 12-14** - TBD - Youth Retreat - Refreshing Mountain - \$50
- 21** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Service-Learning Opportunity - BBQ
Flyer Distribution
- 28** - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Service-Learning Opportunity -
Neighborhood BBQ & Worship; 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Meeting -
FPC Youth Room

May

- 5** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Meeting - FPC Youth Room
- 12** - 10:00 a.m. - Youth Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
- 19** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Service-Learning Opportunity
- 26** - Happy Memorial Day! - No Youth Group

June

- 2** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Outing - Destination Unknown - meet
at FPC parking lot.
- 9** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - End of Year Pool Party & Mission Trip
Meeting @ The Chase's, 2924 Woodshead Terrace, York, PA
17403
- 15 - 21** - Mission Trip to Gulf Coast/New Orleans, LA -
Cost: \$200 per student

Zoom Bible Study

The Book of Acts

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join online or over the telephone.

Everyone is invited to join FPC members and friends from across the country for this weekly Zoom Bible study. Conversations are friendly, rich, and interactive, and you can drop in any time!

We're currently reading and discussing the New Testament book of Acts, which tells the dramatic story of the Holy Spirit empowering the early followers of Jesus to spread the good news of God's kingdom throughout the world.

- To join Wednesday Night Bible Study from a computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to this web

address: <https://zoom.us/j/391609730> (Meeting ID = 391609730)

- To join Wednesday Night Bible Study by telephone, dial 1-929-205-6099 or 1-301-715-8592.

When asked for the meeting ID number, enter 391 609 730

Mothers Bible Study

MBS is an ecumenical group of 20-plus women of all ages with new participants welcomed at all times. Join us on Tuesday's at 9:45 a.m. in Cafe225!

Pathfinder's Bible Study

The Pathfinder's Bible study group will be exploring a video series called "24 Hours That Changed the World" for Lent. Join us on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 in the senior high classroom. All are invited! See Wendy Smith for more details.

More to Sundays at FPC

Sunday Evening Prayer & Fellowship

7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join us every Sunday, online or over the phone, for a 30-minute interactive service of Evening Prayer based on the liturgy from the Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship*, plus a brief time of fellowship and catching up. You'll have the opportunity to share your own prayer requests, and we'll reflect briefly on a passage of Scripture together--but there's no pressure to share anything if you don't want to.

- To join **Sunday Evening Prayer** from a computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to this web address: <https://zoom.us/j/182994919> (Meeting ID = 182994919)
- To join **Sunday Evening Prayer** by telephone, dial 1-929-205-6099. When asked for the meeting ID number, enter 182 994 919.
- For the text of each week's prayer service, follow the link on the church website under "Upcoming Classes & Events."

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
31 Begin Code Blue (Tentative) Easter 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service @ Sam Lewis State Park 8:30am Traditional Easter Services- Chapel 9:40am Sunday School/Adult Education 10:45am Traditional Easter Services-Sanctuary 12:00pm Lunch Bunch 1:00pm Susquehanna Pipe & Drum 7:00pm - 7:30pm Sunday Evening Prayer on Zoom	1 5:00pm - 7:00pm Young Lives-Cafe225/CTH/Youth Room 5:30pm - 6:30pm AA Meeting- Cafe225 6:30pm - 9:30pm Adult Christian Ed Committee Meeting - Offsite	2 9:15am - 10:45am Mom's Bible Study-Cafe225 5:30pm - 9:00pm Young Lives-Club 6:30pm - 7:30pm Deacons Meeting 7:00pm Big Band CTH
7 8:30am *Service for the Lord's Day with Communion- Chapel 9:00am - 9:30am Grocery Card Sales 9:40am Sunday School/Adult Education 10:45am *Service for the Lord's Day-Sanctuary 12:00pm Lunch Bunch 12:00pm - 3:30pm Small Wonders 1:00pm Susquehanna Pipe & Drum 5:30pm - 7:30pm Youth Group Meeting 7:00pm - 7:30pm Sunday Evening Prayer on Zoom	8 8:30am - 10:30am Correctional Officers Prayer Group 5:30pm - 6:30pm AA Meeting- Cafe225	9 9:15am - 10:45am Mom's Bible Study-Cafe225 11:00am Membership Meeting 5:30pm - 9:00pm Young Lives-Campaigners 6:30pm - 7:30pm Fellowship Dream Team 6:30pm - 8:00pm Mission Committee Meeting-Senior High Room 7:00pm Big Band CTH
14 Youth Group Retreat- Refreshing Mountain 8:30am *Service for the Lord's Day with Communion- Chapel 9:40am Sunday School/Adult Education 10:45am *Service for the Lord's Day-Sanctuary 12:00pm Lunch Bunch 12:00pm - 3:30pm Small Wonders 1:00pm Susquehanna Pipe & Drum 5:30pm - 7:30pm Youth Group Meets 7:00pm - 7:30pm Sunday Evening Prayer on Zoom	15 5:30pm - 6:30pm AA Meeting- Cafe225 7:00pm - 8:00pm Personnel Resource Team 7:00pm - 8:00pm Personnel Resource Team Meeting	16 9:15am - 10:45am Mom's Bible Study-Cafe225 1:00pm - 2:00pm Finance/Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:00pm Big Band CTH

March 2024

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:45am - 10:45am Staff Devotions 1:00pm - 2:30pm Pathfinders-Senior High Room 2:00pm - 3:00pm Intercessory Prayer Group 6:00pm - 7:00pm Jubilate Ringers-Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir-Rehearsal 7:00pm - 9:00pm Stephen Ministers Meeting-In Person & Zoom 7:00pm - 8:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study-ZOOM ONLY	4 2:00pm Prayer Group 4:30pm - 7:30pm ASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group- Room 302 6:00pm - 7:00pm Third Service Band-Rehearsal 6:30pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting-Youth room 7:00pm - 9:15pm Kiltie Band-Christine Thomas Hall	5 CM Advisory Meeting	6 9:30am - 12:00pm "Work Party"- Building & Grounds Yard Clean up
10 9:45am Staff Meeting with Devotions 12:00pm - 3:00pm Sunshine Crafters - Room 301 6:00pm - 7:00pm Jubilate Ringers-Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir-Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study-ZOOM ONLY	11 4:30pm - 7:30pm ASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group- Room 302 6:00pm - 7:00pm Third Service Band-Rehearsal 6:30pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting-Youth room 6:30pm Racial Justice Committee-In Person Cafe225 7:00pm - 9:15pm Kiltie Band-Christine Thomas Hall	12 Youth Group Retreat- Refreshing Mountain	13 Youth Group Retreat- Refreshing Mountain
17 9:45am - 10:45am Staff Devotions 1:00pm - 2:30pm Pathfinders-Senior High Room 6:00pm - 7:00pm Jubilate Ringers-Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir-Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study-ZOOM ONLY	18 4:30pm - 7:30pm ASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group- Room 302 6:00pm - 7:00pm Third Service Band-Rehearsal 6:30pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting-Youth room 7:00pm - 9:15pm Kiltie Band-Christine Thomas Hall	19	20 7:00pm An American in Paris Concert with Dan Brownell on Organ

First Presbyterian Church of York
225 East Market Street
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www.fpcyork.org

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