

# FPC NEWSLETTER

*Responding to God's grace through worship, study, and service.*

AUGUST 2025



## Upcoming Events

August 2  
FISH PDA School Kit Assembly

August 5  
Adults 55+ Dinner at Chop House

August 8-10  
Montreat Women's Connect

August 10  
Blessing of the Backpacks

August 13  
55+ Dinner at Chop House;  
CE Leaders Training

August 17  
Rally Day; Sundaes on Sunday

August 20  
55+ Dinner at Chop House

August 24  
Inquirer Gathering;  
Confirmation Luncheon

August 27  
Youth Mission Presentation and  
Fundraiser

August 31  
No Sunday School or  
WONDER HOUR

Each Week:  
Sunday Morning Worship at  
10:15 AM and Sunday School  
& Wonder Hour at 9 AM.

## Blessing of the Backpacks



August 10  
During Worship



## Rally Day and Presentation of Bibles

Sunday, August 17

EVERYONE meets in the  
sanctuary at 9:00 AM for  
Rally Day

Bibles will be presented  
during Worship

Rally Day is August 17! All ages are invited to join us in the sanctuary at 9 AM to kickoff the Christian Education year and learn about our Sunday School offerings. In worship that day, we will present our upper elementary students with a Deep Blue Kids' Wonder Bible, so if you have a kid (rising 3rd grade through 5th grade) who hasn't received that Bible and would like to, please email [Sam Belcher](mailto:Sam.Belcher@fpcfranklin.org).

Summer Sunday School continues through August 10.  
No Sunday School or WONDER Hour August 31.

# REFLECTION TRANSITION TEAM

Greetings from your FPC Franklin Transition Team,

As your Transition Team, we have been working hard over the summer, and you will start hearing from us soon on a regular basis. The team represents a wide variety of the smaller circles of FPC and consists of myself, Emily Korab, Verna Rydlund, Bill Carver, Frankie Downey, Susan Burns, Jim Martin, and Eddie Bellis (ex-officio).

Our primary role of the Transition Team is to facilitate the creation of a document called a Mission Study that the Pastor Nominating Committee will use as a tool to develop our "Church's resume" and communicate with our candidates for our next Pastor. The Mission Study is a document that tells the story of FPC Franklin: who we are, where we have been, and where we are going. If FPC Franklin could look in a mirror, the Mission Study is what we would see. Note that I did not say we are creating the Mission Study. That is because you, the congregation, will create the Mission Study. We are listening to you, and we will compile the information you give us into the document.

The Transition Team needs you and your participation in the process. We need ALL of you. Your first opportunity will be a congregational survey that will be released on August 24 and will run for approximately three weeks. We will provide more information in the coming weeks.

In summary, two main takeaways are: first, we need your involvement, engagement, and participation with us; and second, please come talk to anyone listed above on the Transition Team. We want you to ask us questions, and to pray for us and the next pastor as we step into our future together being Christ in the Franklin area and beyond. We need your participation to fulfill God's mission for us and the congregation. If you have any questions, please reach out by using the email listed next to our names. We look forward to your active participation.

In Christ's name,

[Rich Crim](#), co-chair Transition Team

[Emily Korab](#), co-chair Transition Team

"WITHOUT VISION THE PEOPLE  
WILL PERISH..." PROVERBS 29:18



## Help Show Hospitality

The new school year often brings new guests to worship so now is a great time to start wearing your nametag at church!

It is an easy way to show hospitality to guests and fellow members. Mark the Connection Card if you need a new.



## INQUIRER GATHERING

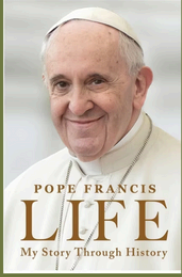
AUGUST 24, 9:00 AM IN THE PARLOR

Are you a guest wanting to learn more about FPC? Join us for our Inquirer Gathering on Sunday, August 24, at 9 AM in the Parlor to learn more about our congregation and get to know others better.



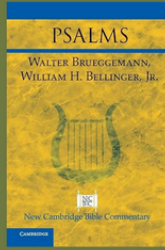
# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Sisters in Spirit



Fridays  
10:00 AM  
Church Parlor

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



SATURDAYS  
7:30 AM  
CHURCH PARLOR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13  
6:00-7:30 PM

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CE) LEADER TRAINING

Sunday School teachers, SNS and  
Children's Worship, WNL helpers,  
Covenant Partners

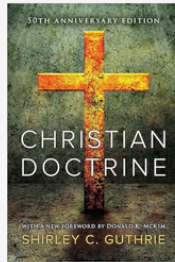


We invite all volunteers and teachers working with minors to attend this important and mandatory safety and policy training on August 13 in Wilson Hall. Those who cannot attend will need to be refreshed on this information at a later date.

**\*\*Help plan Adult 55+ events! Join a brief meeting after worship on Sunday, August 3, at 11:15 AM in the Parlor. Contact [Martha Johnson](#) for more details.\*\***

## Wednesday NIGHT LIVE

Begins September 3



The Education Committee has planned an exciting fall Wednesday Night Live program! We'll kick off on September 3 with a fellowship meal and a lively discussion led by Interim Pastor Eddie Bellis. Together, we'll explore Shirley Guthrie's *Basic Christian Doctrine* (Revised Edition), a foundational text that continues to shape the Reformed Church today. Join us!

## 50 ROAD SCHOLAR Webinars

### FREE WEBINARS on Aging Well

August 7 @ 1 PM  
Navigating Family Dynamics-  
Dr. Eichenberger

September 25 @ 2 PM  
The Power of Connections-  
Dr. Catherine Sanderson

**Watch live or on-demand.  
[Learn more and sign up here.](#)**



## DINNER AND FUNDRAISER

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

6:00-7:30 PM

WILSON HALL

SHARING EXPERIENCES FROM OUR  
SUMMER MISSION TRIPS

We invite the whole congregation to come enjoy a delicious home-cooked meal, hear about the impactful trips that FPC Youth went on this summer, and consider donating to fund our efforts for the summer of 2026. [Click here to let us know you are coming!](#)

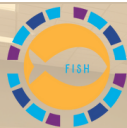
*You're  
Invited!*

August 24 following worship is the Confirmation Kickoff Luncheon. Confirmands, Parents, and Covenant Partners are invited.

2025 Women's Retreat  
NaCoMe Camp and Retreat Center  
November 14-16  
Theme: Prayerful Meditation  
Speaker: Shannon Horn Truss

# YOUTH NEWS

# MISSION & OUTREACH



## MISSION EVENT



Join us for our next intergenerational FISH mission event on Saturday, August 2, at 9 AM in Wilson Hall where we will put together School Kits. These kits support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's (PDA) Gifts from the Heart program.



LABOR DAY - SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

Come join FPC Legends running group for the annual Mercy Franklin Classic on Labor Day - Monday, September 1. The Franklin Classic is a 5k, 10k, 15k combo, and 1k kids run. It starts and finishes on the square in downtown Franklin. For registration and more details, please visit [The Franklin Classic website](#) and be sure to join our team by selecting FPC Legends during registration. If you have any questions, contact [Chris Downey](#).



## MISSION EVENT!

Sweet Potato/Apple Drop  
Mission Partner Williamson Co Lions Club

Saturday, September 27  
8 AM-12 Noon

Sensory Garden for the Blind  
(next to Grassland Elementary)

## Basic Essentials Collection



Drop off donations in the basic essentials cart in the Narthex

We've collected 279 lbs. so far for GraceWorks—let's keep it going! Throughout August, we'll continue gathering much-needed food and household items. Donations can be placed in the Basics Cart located in the Narthex. Suggested items include:

**Boxed meals, canned goods, pasta, rice, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toilet paper, and especially diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6).**

### Crossroads Mission Care



Serving & Supporting

**ALL**  
first responders!



September 6 join us as we serve Crossroads Mission Care in Dixon Springs, TN. Yard work, light carpentry - something for everyone. Bus is available for all to ride, leaving the church at 8 AM. Picnic lunch provided. [Sign up here.](#)

## All Blood Types Needed



American  
Red Cross

## Blood Drive

**First Presbyterian  
Church  
of Franklin**

Wilson Hall  
101 Legends Club Lane  
Franklin, TN 37069

Sunday, Sept 14  
9AM-1 PM



## MISSION TRIP October 23-26

Help with major home repairs or staff their fall festival.  
No experience needed.  
Contact Martha Johnson for more information.



## SUNDAES ON SUNDAY

Mark your calendar & join us!  
**Sunday, August 17**  
After Worship

"Make your own ice cream sundaes" to celebrate the kick-off to the new school year and church ministries/classes.



## Worship Flowers



**One date left for the year- Nov. 23!**

Sign up here! Worship flowers add to our service by reminding us of God's creation and are later made into smaller arrangements delivered to members as a reminder of God's love and their church family. Pay online or by check (memo: worship flowers); the cost is \$85.

## Fall Festival

Saturday, October 18

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKLIN HARD BARGAIN ASSOCIATION

Trunk or Treat - BBQ Dinner - Outdoor Movie

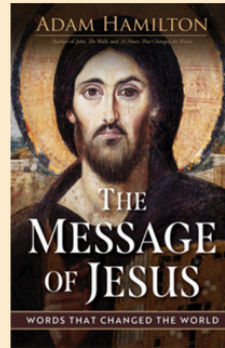
Fall Festival is October 18. Mark your calendar to join us for all or part of the annual event with Hard Bargain that includes Trunk or Treat, BBQ Dinner, and Outdoor Movie!



## Meal MINISTRY

Contact Ann Crim 615-293-2993 or Tammy Love 615-472-6634. Thank you in advance for prayerfully considering serving.

## GROWTH GROUPS



Growth Groups are small gatherings that meet in members' homes, at church, or on Zoom.

Groups will meet for 7 weeks beginning the week of September 14.



We hope you will prayerfully consider participating in a Growth Group this fall to build connections with other and discuss *Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World* by Adam Hamilton.

*This book explores six of the most important themes in Jesus's teachings, why they matter, and how they speak to us today.*

Group options coming soon.

*"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*

MATTHEW 18:20

## VISITATION MINISTRY

Contact Karen Hanson ([klh680@charter.net](mailto:klh680@charter.net)) to get involved.

Visitation Ministry- Would you enjoy visiting a FPC member once a month who doesn't worship in person and would like to stay connected to people in the congregation? You can serve ongoing or for a season like the fall months for example. A few brief orientation sessions will be scheduled in late August or early September, so come check us out. Contact Karen Hanson to learn more.

# WORSHIP & MUSIC

## Join CHANCEL CHOIR OR CARILLON HANDBELL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir returns to the loft on Sunday, August 17, while regular mid-week rehearsals resume on Wednesday, August 20. Additionally, the Carillon Handbell Choir also resumes on Wednesday, August 20. Please contact [Michael Snoddy](#) for more information.

HAPPY  
*Birthday*



Casavant Birthday – Our pipe organ, Casavant Opus 3938 (2020) will celebrate its Fifth Birthday in October. On Reformation Sunday there will be an extended postlude to honor both the donors of the instrument and its creation by Casavant Frères Limitée, St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada.



## VANDERBILT TROMBONE ENSEMBLE

FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT



Music & ARTS Series 2025-26  
Did you know that we have an arts series? Our series offers worship and arts events for both the congregation and the larger Franklin community. For our first event in the fall, we will again welcome the Vanderbilt Trombone Ensemble on Sunday, October 19 at 3:00 PM. If you are interested in more information or how you may get involved, please contact [Michael Snoddy](#) in the Music Office.

## Music Commissioning Sunday

Join us on Sunday, September 21, for our annual Music Commissioning Sunday as we seek blessing upon our musical year together. During the Common Grounds hour, the music area will provide refreshments and be available to answer any questions that you may have about joining us.

## SUNDAYS

**AUGUST 3**

Luke 12:13-21

*Building Barns*

EDDIE BELLIS

**AUGUST 10**

Luke 12:35-48

*Those Who Are Entrusted*

SAM BELCHER



**AUGUST 17**

Revelation 22:1-7

*Bear Has Your Back*

EDDIE BELLIS

**AUGUST 24**

Luke 13:10-17

*Let The People Rejoice*

EDDIE BELLIS

**AUGUST 31**

Luke 14:1, 7-14

*Send Us To The People*

EDDIE BELLIS



# CELEBRATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Births

*Congratulations*



**Liam Springer**, born June 5, is the son of Megan and Corey Springer and grandson of **Kevin and Pam Asa**.



**Marley Marie-Phillips Stubner**, born June 25 is the daughter of **Morgan and Jackson Stubner** and granddaughter of **Ken and Ann Zander**.



**Cooper Jeffery Wawrzyniak**, born July 13 is the son of Marti and Jake Wawrzyniak and grandson of **Jim and Karen Sumrall**.

*Click here*  
FOR  
AUGUST  
BIRTHDAYS



## Recent Deaths

The FPC family extends prayers and sympathy to all those who are grieving.

We are especially in prayer for **Randy Gottlieb** and his family upon the death of his stepfather, Tom Lindauer on July 21 and for **Joe Duarte** and his family upon the death of **Priscilla Duarte** on July 23.

## Thank You



**GraceWorks**

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news."  
Romans 10:15

Thank you to you + your congregational efforts towards in-kind donations! You gave 204 lbs worth! We value your faithfulness towards the shared mission of GraceWorks. Blessings!

In His presence is where we find joy. Ps 16

Warmly,  
Danielle Kennedy

## New Members



**Sara Adams** is originally from Lynchburg, VA, where she attended Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church Kindergarten and Pre-school in the 1950's. She worked for Progress Printing for 37 years and when new grandchildren came along, she relocated to Atlanta and Charlotte. Sara has two children, Jenni (Thompson's Station) and Spence (Oregon) and four grandchildren. Life is busy and happy keeping up with the children and scrapbooks and anything creative. With one visit to First Presbyterian, the warmth and genuine kindness resonated throughout, and Sara knew she had found a new church home.



**Jake, Jaclyn, Miles and Sean Wetzel** - Jake and Jaclyn met in Nashville and now live in Franklin with their two sons, Miles and Sean. Jaclyn, originally from northeast Illinois, and Jake, a native of Mississippi, both work in the software IT industry. Jake has a passion for music and encourages their children to explore instruments, while Jaclyn enjoys gardening and expressing her creativity through various design projects. After searching for a congregation where all four of them could grow as disciples, they found their church home after worshipping at FPC.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**101 LEGENDS CLUB LANE**  
**FRANKLIN, TN 37069**

**PHONE: (615) 794-5114**  
**[www.fpcfranklin.org](http://www.fpcfranklin.org)**

*Return Service Requested*

**SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:15 AM**  
**SUNDAY WONDER HOUR: 9:00 AM**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Monday-Thursday 9 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**Closed Fridays**

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor**  
**Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor**  
**Michael Snoddy, Director of Music & Organist**  
**Sam Belcher, Director of Youth Ministries**  
**Catherine Olson, Director of Operations**  
**Marie Hayman, Accountant**  
**Kate Lasseter, Nursery Coordinator**  
**Kelly Oldham, Nursery Coordinator**  
**Katie Oldham, Children's Worship Coordinator**

## FINANCE & ACCOUNTING



**Marie Hayman**  
**Hours: 9AM-3PM**  
**M, W, Th**

Giving Options: Mail a check to the church or give online  
at [fpcfranklin.org/giving](http://fpcfranklin.org/giving).

Thank you for all the ways your generosity, in response to  
God's grace, strengthens the ministry and mission  
of this congregation.

### Church Financial Information

|  | <b>Jun-25<br/>Actual</b> | <b>Jun-25<br/>Budget</b> | <b>Mar 2025-June2025<br/>Actual</b> | <b>March 2025 June2025<br/>Budget</b> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                                  | 102,386.72               | 82,650.00                | 385,199.14                          | 338,050.00                            |
| <b>Fixed Expenses - Admin &amp; Facilities</b> | 78,060.02                | 80,940.00                | 324,671.22                          | 326,076.00                            |
| <b>Other expenses</b>                          | 9,893.03                 | 16,350.00                | 44,068.48                           | 58,889.00                             |
| <b>Ordinary income (loss)</b>                  | 14,433.67                | (14,640.00)              | 16,459.44                           | (46,915.00)                           |
| <b>Other income (expense)</b>                  | -                        |                          | -                                   |                                       |
| <b>Net income (loss)</b>                       | 14,433.67                | (14,640.00)              | 16,459.44                           | (46,915.00)                           |