

FPC NEWSLETTER

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

NOVEMBER 2025



The 2026 "Entrusted to Act" stewardship campaign is underway!

Please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to share your time, talent, and resources.

Pledges can be made via card or online any time during the campaign, which runs through Nov. 2.

Use the action card in the pew rack to answer this question:
How will I act with confidence to further God's kingdom through the life of FPC in 2026? Pledge cards may be returned in the offering plate or submitted [online](#) by **November 2**.

So far, we've received 71 pledges totaling \$632,780

Join us **tomorrow (Oct. 29)** for WNL for a delicious dinner and fellowship. Following dinner, the Transition Team, led by Rich Crim and Emily Korab, will present an overview of the work done by the team thus far, an update on the Congregational Survey (CAT) and upcoming Listening Sessions, and next steps in the process. For those who cannot attend, a video of the presentation will be made available for viewing. We hope to see you there!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FRANKLIN

Listening Sessions

We are eagerly anticipating the Listening Sessions which are a key part of the Transition work we have been undertaking as a congregation. We encourage you to sign up to participate in one of many sessions which will be held during the month of November. These sessions are your chance to share your perspectives directly.

Each session will have approximately 10-12 people to allow ample opportunity to share their experiences, and each session will be facilitated in an identical manner for consistency.

The Listening Sessions will allow us to explore some areas from the survey more deeply and ensure we have a complete understanding of your perspectives to guide us as we plan our way forward.

Sign Up for a Listening Session

Question? Contact [Rich Crim](#), co-chair of the Transition Team.

Thank you for your willingness to engage in these important sessions that will help us shape FPC's future!



Upcoming Events

- November 1**
FISH PDA Cleanup Bucket Assembly
-
- November 5**
Adults 55+ Lunch and Learn
-
- November 6**
FISH UKIRK Dinner
-
- November 7-8-9**
Youth NaCoMe Retreat
-
- November 8**
Boy Scouts Breakfast; New Member Dinner
-
- November 9**
Fall Potluck
-
- November 10**
Prayer Shawl
-
- November 11**
Presbytery Women
-
- November 14-15-16**
Women's NaCoMe Retreat
-
- November 26-27-28**
Church Office Closed
-
- November 29**
Fish and Loaves Ministry
-
- November 30**
Advent Workshop
-
- Each Week:**
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:15 AM and Sunday School & Wonder Hour at 9 AM.

STAFF REFLECTION

SAM BELCHER, DIRECTR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

“Oh When the Saints”

Before we take time to honor those in the armed services on Veterans Day or gather around Thanksgiving tables to fellowship with loved ones and eat our fill, there is another November holiday that comes and goes with little fanfare: All Saints’ Day.



This ancient tradition far predates the PCUSA and Reformed tradition, and while we don’t canonize saints like our Catholic brothers and sisters, we do give thanks and honor for the lives of fellow believers in this day and age and in ages long passed.

We generally use this holiday to commemorate the deceased, and FPC has an All Saints’ banner that grows every year as we remember and celebrate the lives of those who are near and dear to us. I also appreciate how, weekly, in our Prayers of the People, we take a moment to remember and name the saints who have gone before us on the anniversary of their deaths. Grief does not stay behind in the year we lost our loved one, and the continual remembrance of our saints breathes new life into our memories of their love and wisdom.

Do our saints have to be deceased? I certainly see many saintly people when I look around the congregation on any given Sunday. A practice that we incorporate into our Confirmation program is encouraging our Confirmands and their Covenant Partners to meet together with a “saint of the church,” a member who has given many years to FPC and who has wisdom to share about faith and life. It’s a beautiful assignment that connects the generations, for there is so much that we can learn from each other without waiting for a funeral or memoir.

Before the holidays arrive in full force, I invite you to reflect upon the saints in your life, both those who have gone on to glory and those that remain in our midst. How might we celebrate their legacy this month? What words of gratitude could you share to show them how much their Christian witness has meant to you?

May we all live lives worthy of being called saintly some day!

Sam Belcher



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

2025 Women's Retreat
NaCoMe Camp and Retreat Center

November 14-16

Theme: Prayerful Meditation
Speaker: Shannon Horn Truss



2025 FPC Women's NaCoMe Retreat

Join us November 14-16, 2025, for a weekend of community, prayer, and reflection at NaCoMe.

Spiritual Director Shannon Horn Truss will guide us through prayer times focusing on God's generosity and love through scripture, poetry, and art.

Contact [Katie England](#) or [Register & Pay Here](#) by

TODAY, Oct. 28 to secure your spot.

[More Information.](#)



Adults 55+

Wednesday, November 5 @ 11 AM

Barr Conference Room

Francie Logan from Always Best Care Senior Services
"Hearing vs. Understanding in Seniors with Hearing Loss"
Soup and salad lunch provided

Thursday, December 4 @ 11 AM

Barr Conference Room

Diane and Roger Fender speak on their quest to visit all
US National Parks
Box lunch provided for \$10

Sign up on the FPC website



Adults 55+
CHRISTMAS LUNCH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

11 AM- 1 PM

WILSON HALL

Presbyterian Women meet the
second Tuesday of each month
at 9:45 AM in the Parlor.



Wednesday
NIGHT LIVE



Join us for food and fellowship each
Wednesday at 6 PM.

Reserve your meal today!

Suggested pricing: \$10 per adult/youth, \$5 per child,
\$25 family/max.

November 5

Francelia Downey- Life and Faith of a Teenager in a Social Media World

November 12

21st Recovery Court- Connie Martin and Healing House- Tracey Levine

November 19

Worship Service focused on Thanksgiving

November 26

No WNL due to Thanksgiving

December 3

Williamson County Homeless Alliance/Prison Ministry- Kevin Riggs

December 10

Breast Cancer Recovery In Action (BRA)- Namaste Anderson

December 17

Carol Sing + History- Michael Snoddy

Sisters in Spirit

Fridays

10:00 AM

Church Parlor

Women of any age are welcome to join us.

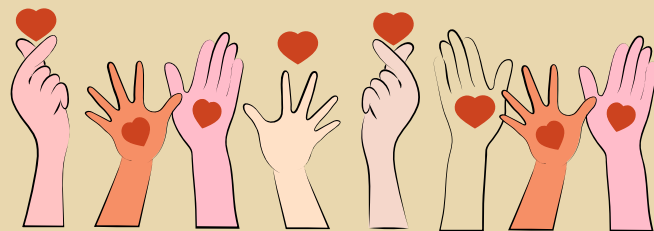
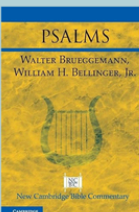
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays

7:30 AM

Church Parlor

Men of any age are welcome to join us.



Would you be willing to lead a Children's Worship session during one of our Sundays this month? This program occurs during the sermon and is both a boon for our parents of young children and a joyful time of age-appropriate worship for our little ones.

Email [Sam Belcher](#) for details!

YOUTH NEWS

3

MISSION & OUTREACH

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PDA Emergency Clean Up Buckets

**Saturday, November 1
9:00 AM Wilson Hall**



FPC INTERGENERATIONAL
SERVICE IN HOPE



BOY SCOUT TROOP 135

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
COUNTRY
BREAKFAST
& SILENT AUCTION**

**KIDS
4 AND
UNDER
FREE**



**ADULTS/
KIDS 5+
DONATION
\$13.00**

**SAT., NOV. 8, 2025
7:00-10:30 AM**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Come support our Boy Scout Troop 135 while enjoying a delicious breakfast and checking out the silent auction.

Thank you to the troop for helping us with the Fall Festival. Now let us support them!

GraceWorks MINISTRIES INC. MANGER

The Manger Tree is part of FPC's Christmas tradition. Each year our church collects gifts for GraceWorks' Manger. A Christmas tree will be in Wilson Hall starting **Nov. 2** and will be covered with Manger gift tags. Each Manger tag includes a child's age group on the front with directions and a list of gift ideas on the back. The suggested gift price is \$40 - \$60 as this will be their main Christmas gift. You are invited to take as many tags as you want.

You may use the QR code on the tag to choose a gift from the Amazon Wish List set up by GraceWorks for each age group, which will be delivered directly to GraceWorks for them to place in their Manger store. Or, you can make your own selection using the ideas on the tags and return your unwrapped gifts to the Manger Tree in Wilson Hall by **December 7**, and FPC will deliver all collected gifts to GraceWorks.

For questions, contact **Verna Rydlund**.

Basic Essentials Collection



We have donated 609 lbs. so far! Thank you to Sue and Fred Banner for continuing to deliver items on a regular basis.

Highlighted item for November: Individually wrapped sealed snacks/fruits/nuts, tissues, paper towels, and laundry pods for the Day Shelter of the WCHA.

Leave donations at the Basic Essentials cart and we will get them delivered!



FPC INTERGENERATIONAL
SERVICE IN HOPE



November 6 at 6:30 PM

St. Augustine's Chapel on Vanderbilt's campus

FPC Tradition!

Help prepare, serve and share dinner and worship with Belmont and Vandy students

A favorite FPC tradition! We will prepare, serve, and share dinner and worship with Belmont and Vanderbilt students at St. Augustine's Chapel. This year is especially meaningful as our own Mary Sellers Shaw is now UKirk Campus Minister. You can help by preparing food to send or by joining us on campus. Email cmccall@comcast.net or sign up on the Connection Card to get connected.

Downtown Presbyterian Fish and Loaves Meal Ministry

**Saturday, November 29
8:30AM - 10:30AM**

**Serve Breakfast to our neighbors
experiencing homelessness!**



Carpool from FPC will be provided as needed.

Join us the Saturday after Thanksgiving as we help feed our neighbors who may not have spent the holiday surrounded by family and food.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FELLOWSHIP



We had a perfect Fall afternoon for our Fall Festival. Thank you to all those who attended and to all who decorated the 18 trunks, made the event run smoothly, and helped with all the setup and cleanup. We specifically want to thank: Verna Rydlund, overall event coordinator; Jane Otts, kitchen queen; Eric England, BBQ pit master; Dale Roos, movie expert; Emily Korab, communications specialist; John Rothermel, parking lot captain; Jason and Wyatt Coleman, firepit master, Derrick Solomon and the Hard Bargain Association Team, and Boy Scout Troop 135. It was a joy to see all ages enjoying time together.

Congratulations to our Trunk or Treat Winners!

**Best Theme- The Downey Family Best Decorated Trunk- Wayne and Angela Jackson
Best Costume- Sisters in Spirit**



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Come join us on the second Monday of the month in the church parlor from 1-2:30 PM. Whether an experienced knitter/crocheter or a beginner who wants to learn, all are welcome. For more information, contact [Karen Hanson](#).



MEAL MINISTRY

Our Meal Ministry is a wonderful way to respond to God's grace. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, contact Ann Crim 615-293-2993 or Tammy Love 615-472-6634.



Flower Dedications

Thank you to everyone who donated worship flowers in 2025 and to those who will in 2026.

The worship flowers are an important part of worship as they remind us of the beauty of God's creation and are then rearranged into smaller vases and delivered to members as a reminder of God's love and the love of their church family. The signups are now open and are first come first serve on dates, so sign up today.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Vanderbilt University Trombone Ensemble Concert

Over 200 attended our FIRST **Worship - Music & ARTS** Performance Event for fall.
What a wonderful afternoon of music making!



Midweek Rehearsals — Wednesdays

🎵 Carillon Handbell Choir – 5:15 PM

🍽️ WNL Meal – 6:00 PM

🎵 Chancel Choir – 6:45 PM

Want to sing for Lessons & Carols?

Join us for part of a Wednesday, a week, a special event—or longer!

Contact Michael in the Music Office to learn how you can “join your musical tithe with ours.”

LESSONS & Carols
Sunday, December 14
10:15 AM
Featuring the Chancel Choir and musical guests:
Peter Simon, concert pianist, and Elizabeth Smith, organ.

NOVEMBER 2

Luke 19:1-10

Small Man, Big Heart

EDDIE BELLIS

SUNDAYS



Click HERE for the
November Daily
Lectionary

NOVEMBER 23

Luke 23:33-43

God Loves You

EDDIE BELLIS

NOVEMBER 9

Luke 20:27-38

The God of the Living

EDDIE BELLIS

NOVEMBER 16

Luke 21:5-19

Give Me the Bad News

EDDIE BELLIS

NOVEMBER 30

Matthew 24:36-44

Keep Watch

ANNE KEENER

CELEBRATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
FRANKLIN

MINISTRY UPDATE
FALL 2025

[Click Here](#)



Thank You

I am grateful to be a member of such a caring congregation. My heart is filled with love and appreciation for all you have provided during my cancer treatments. Thanks for the food, flowers, calls, cards, visits and especially your prayers. I am truly blessed.
Vickie Ellis

Gifts like yours enable GraceWorks to give a helping hand during seasons of struggle. Thank you so much for having a heart for people.

May you be refreshed and prosperous as you refresh others. Proverbs 11:25

New Members



Kendall Merrick grew up in Loudin County, TN and **John Rothermel** in Easton, PA. Job opportunities took them to many parts of the US. They met about 10 years ago in Louisville, KY after each settling there. Kendall has a daughter and three young grandchildren who live in MT. John has two sons living in Oklahoma City. Kendall and John are avid skiers, enjoy the outdoors and travel, love seeing live music, and are grateful to have found FPC Franklin.



Sydney and Kevin Costacamps moved to downtown Nashville from New York City in 2021 and made the transition to Franklin last year. Sydney works as a Data Scientist at Dollar General, and Kevin works as a Risk Manager for the Tennessee State Treasury. They are expecting their first child, a boy, in February and are excited to build a community for their growing family within the church.



Gary and Carolyn Patterson were both US Air Force members when they met and married 63 years ago. They have one son who lives in Germany. Wherever the Air Force took them, Carolyn always found a church needing a Director of Music. After retirement they lived in San Antonio and now live in Spring Hill. When visiting FPC Franklin they discovered their church home, with a welcoming congregation that is lively in serving others. They are lifelong Presbyterians and find our gifted Music Director, acoustically wonderful sanctuary, and amazing organ as icing on the cake. Gary feels honored to be singing in the choir.



Kat and Dave Ray lived in Nashville for 20 years and moved to Franklin in 2019. Their sons, Gabriel and Conor attend school in Franklin, are active in both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, and participate in soccer and baseball. Kat and Dave own a dog training business- Dogs & Kat- in Nashville, and both are musicians. Kat is the daughter of a Presbyterian minister which influenced their decision in seeking a Presbyterian Church home. We couldn't be happier at FPC Franklin.



Susan Shockley was born and raised in Birmingham, AL and graduated from the University of Alabama. After college, she moved to Nashville, where she worked in the music business for 30 years. During this time, she met and married her husband Chuck and had 2 wonderful children, Will and Claire. She's now happily retired and happy to have found FPC Franklin.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
101 LEGENDS CLUB LANE
FRANKLIN, TN 37069

PHONE: (615) 794-5114
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

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.

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

Income
Fixed Expenses - Admin & Facilities
Other expenses
Ordinary income (loss)
Other income (expense)
Net income (loss)

Sep-25 Actual	Sep-25 Budget	Mar-Sept 2025 Actual	Mar-Sept 2025 Budget
94,940.33	106,470.00	685,021.86	650,680.00
90,245.06	85,218.00	598,151.36	581,921.00
9,384.78	12,665.00	86,583.87	107,938.00
(4,689.51)	8,587.00	286.63	(39,179.00)
-		-	
(4,689.51)	8,587.00	286.63	(39,179.00)