

FPC NEWSLETTER

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

SEPTEMBER 2025



Upcoming Events

September 1

Church office closed

September 3

WNL begins

September 6

FISH -Crossroads Mission Care;
YA Happy Hour

September 7

Holy Chow WNL Kitchen IOI

September 8

Prayer Shawl;
55+ Lunch at Serrato's

September 9

Presbyterian Women

September 14

Blood Drive; Visitation Ministry
Info Session;
SNS resumes-Game Night

September 15

55+ Book Share & Swap

September 17

Visitation Ministry Info Session

September 20

Dinner for 8

September 21

Music Commissioning

September 27

FISH -Sweet Potato & Apple Drop

September 28

HS Sex Ed Course

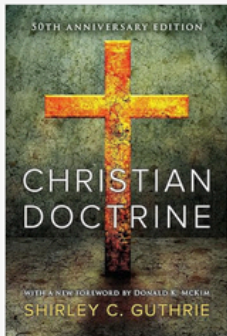
Each Week:

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

Wednesday NIGHT LIVE

September 3- October 1

Led by Pastor Eddie Bellis



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.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 AM

THE BIBLE CLASS, ROOM 207

CHRISTIAN FAITH & LIFE CLASS, ROOM 206

EXPLORATION CLASS, ROOM 211 (BARR CONFERENCE ROOM)
(HYBRID ON ZOOM)

FEASTING ON THE WORD, ROOM 210

LIVING FAITH CLASS, ROOM 208 (HYBRID ON ZOOM)

KEEPING CURRENT AS A CHRISTIAN, ROOM 213

CLICK HERE FOR CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Sisters in Spirit

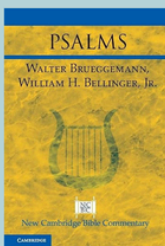
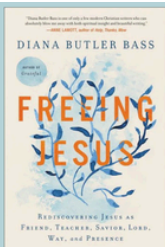
Fridays
10:00 AM
Church Parlor

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.



STAFF REFLECTION

EDDIE BELLIS, INTERIM PASTOR

To my friends and fellow believers at FPC,

On behalf of the Pastoral Transition Team (PTT), I want to encourage you to complete the survey titled “Church Assessment Tool” or CAT. The survey completion takes an average of 25 minutes. The survey makers are looking for your first impressions. Once completed, the Session and Transition Team will receive a review of the report from “Holy Cow! Consulting” in mid-to-late September, and we scheduled a Wednesday Night Live presentation of the results for October 29. Please mark that date, sign up for supper, and attend this important meeting in the life and ministry of FPC.



This past Sunday, Rich Crim, a Co-Moderator of the PTT, did a wonderful job introducing the PTT members during the Worship Service. If you were not able to attend, I encourage you to listen to Rich’s encouraging words. What struck me in his presentation was his emphasis that the Mission Study is a congregation document, and we need your input. His words reminded me to communicate what a “Mission Study” is: its purpose and content. designed to do. If you have questions after reading this, please ask me questions.

The Mission Study’s root is in Strategic Planning, and like any good plan we need to know where we are and also predict where we believe God is taking us. This includes the whole body of First Presbyterian in Franklin. Once we know those two data points, we begin to organize the data into a document called the Mission Study. The congregation survey is just one of the many items in the strategic plan.

The Table of Contents best describes what a typical Mission Study includes:

- Ministry in Community – This important snapshot includes a brief history of FPC as it relates to its pastors, location, and important historical events. FPC does not exist in a vacuum. We also look to the surrounding area of Franklin, Williamson County, and its relationship to Nashville which impacts the mission and vision of FPC. We capture the demographic data through discussions with Franklin planners, past census data and through an online program called Mission Insite where we can access current religious data related to our surrounding area.
- What are our ten-year trends in both worship attendance and financial giving?
- A concise review of the key elements of the congregation survey – CAT.
- A compilation and summary of the “listening sessions” that will follow your participation in the CAT. The PTT believes it will be in late October or early November when these listening sessions will occur.
- What is our current committee/organization structure and what sort of ministry programs do we offer inside our structure?
- Other items that may be unique to our local ministry’s presence are also noted as important to itemize and include.

So, that is it! Currently, the PTT is working on many of these items. Once the PTT finishes its collective work, the Mission Study will be handed to the Session and Presbytery of Middle Tennessee’s Committee on Ministry for their approval. At that point, we come to the important task of reporting to you the results compiled in the Mission Study. We will meet as a church to celebrate the completion of the PTT’s main task and receive their work with joy.

Our last step will be the electing of a Pastor Nominating Committee that will use the Mission Study to develop our church’s resume and actively interview candidates for calling the next Head of Staff for FPC Franklin.

I am happy to discuss your questions, and I want to give thanks for the PTT’s ongoing work. They meet every other week (since May), and you should be proud of their curious nature and faith filled work in moving us along in this critical season. I am grateful and appreciate each person who is offering so much time and love for God’s excellent work in this place called FPC.

Continue to grow in God’s grace and walk in God’s love.

Shalom,

Rev. Edward Bellis, Interim Pastor

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Thank you to Katie Oldham for her many years of serving in our Children's Ministry. After many years of leading Children's Worship, she took on more responsibilities these past 15 months as our Children's Coordinator. We are grateful that she shared her gifts so generously.

Adults 55+ LUNCH AT 11:00 AM

Monday, September 8
Serrato's Steakhouse
(3046 Columbia Ave, Franklin)



Tuesday, October 14
Carrabba's Cool Springs
533 Cool Springs Blvd, Franklin



No signup. Just show up for food and fellowship.

Adults 55+ BOOK SHARE & SWAP

Monday, September 15 · 11:00 AM
Barr Conference Room

No signup needed—just come!

Informal discussion of books we've read recently

Book swap (bring books to trade)

Bring your own bag lunch — drinks & cookies provided

No Sunday School or
WONDER Hour
August 31.



Our FPC third graders received their Bibles, and with them, the encouragement of a church family walking alongside them in faith.

SNS Resumes

Student vs. Parent Game Night.

Everyone is invited to share dinner, enjoy some friendly competition, and hear about all the exciting programs planned for the semester.

September 14

5:30 PM



HS SEX EDUCATION COURSE

September 28th from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM, lunch provided, led by Sophie Maness. Email [Sam Belcher](#) to learn more and be added to the roster.



Children's Worship Volunteers Needed
Parents and volunteers are invited to help lead Children's Worship (ages 4-K) after Time with the Young Church. Lessons can be as simple as reading a book or using provided materials. [Sign up here.](#)
Questions? Contact [Sam Belcher](#) or [Sue Mahurin](#)



Adults 55+

NaCoMe Senior Adult Retreat
Friday-Saturday, 10/3-10/4

Get away for a refreshing overnight trip with other PCUSA churches in Middle Tennessee!

- Delicious meals (3 included)
- Uplifting worship
- Relaxing and fun activities at camp
- Pick up an info packet in the church office
- Sign up today!



YOUTH NEWS

3

MISSION & OUTREACH



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 [Khris Downey](#).



Basic Essentials Collection

Suggested items include: Boxed meals, canned goods, pasta, rice, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toilet paper, and especially diapers, diapers!!! (Sizes 4, 5, and 6). Drop off in Narthex.

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. Car pooling available leaving the church at 8 AM. Picnic lunch provided. [Sign up here](#).



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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)



PEANUTS x American Red Cross

A little goes a long way.
Give blood.

Blood Drive

Wilson Hall
Sunday, September 14, 2025
9AM-1PM

To schedule an appointment,
please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](#)
and enter sponsor code FPCF19



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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
1-2:30 PM
ALL LEVELS WELCOME!

After taking a summer break, the Prayer Shawl Ministry has resumed its meetings. 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](#).

YOUNG ADULT HAPPY HOUR

September 6
from 4:00-5:30 PM
at the home of
Jim and Anne Keener



Holy Chow!

WNL SET-UP AND KITCHEN 101

SEPTEMBER 7
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

THIS IS A FUN AND EASY WAY TO SERVE!



Join us for a fun training on the ins and outs of setting up and cleaning up for our Wednesday Night Live dinners. Whether you usually attend WNL or not, whether you have helped in this way before or not, we need you! The more people willing to serve, the more we can rotate the responsibilities.

VISITATION MINISTRY

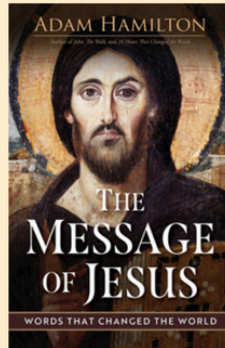
Visitation Ministry- Would you enjoy visiting a FPC member once a month who doesn't worship in person and would like to stay connected to people in the congregation? You can serve ongoing or for a season like the fall months for example. Come join us in the Parlor on September 14 after worship or September 17 before WNL at 5:15 PM for a brief information/orientation session or contact [Karen Hanson](#) to learn more.



Meal MINISTRY

Come be a part of this ministry!
Contact [Ann Crim](#) 615-293-2993 or
[Tammy Love](#) 615-472-6634.

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.



SIGN UP DEADLINE IS THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 31



Want to connect with fellow FPC members over a meal? Join us for Dinner for 8 on Saturday, September 20, from 6 to 8 PM at various members' homes. After you register, the Fellowship Committee will form groups of up to eight adults based on your location preference. Groups could include couples, singles, or a mix—part of the fun is meeting new people!

Your dinner host, companions, and location will be revealed about one week before the event.

[Click here to sign up.](#) The sign up deadline is September 10. If you have any questions or are interested in hosting, please email [Emily Korab](#).

**FALL
FESTIVAL**
Saturday, October 18
4:30 PM Trunk or Treat
5:00 PM BBQ Dinner
6:00 PM Movie
First Presbyterian Church
101 Legends Club Lane

WORSHIP & MUSIC

**WELCOME
ONBOARD**

New Music Friends Welcome! – Welcome to Kathy Garst, Starr Nolan, and Gary Patterson as they join their “musical tithe” to ours.

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.



Casavant Birthday – Our pipe organ, Casavant Opus 3938 (2020) will celebrate its Fifth Birthday in October. On Reformation Sunday, October 31 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

Worship – 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.

SEPTEMBER 7

Luke 14:25-33

The Cost of Discipleship

EDDIE BELLIS

SEPTEMBER 14

Romans 8:12-25

Called You by Name

EDDIE BELLIS

SUNDAYS



SEPTEMBER 21

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Luke 16:1-15

Let's Make a Deal

EDDIE BELLIS

SEPTEMBER 28

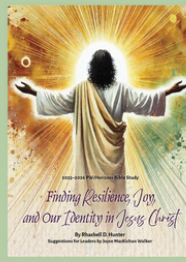
Luke 16:19-31

Are We Listening?

ANNE KEENER

CELEBRATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Click here
FOR
SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS



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

Births



Ava Koeppen and Eleanor Koeppen, born July 2, are the daughters of **Lauren Christman and John Koeppen**

Recent Deaths

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

We are especially in prayer for the family of **Bob Kopjoe** upon his death on August 12 and for **Pat DuPree** and her family upon the death of **Hugh DuPree** on August 17.

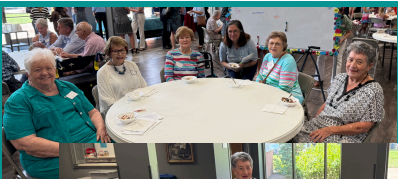
Thank You's



Thank you for this prayer shawl is such a beautiful gift! Randy was really touched by your thoughtfulness, and we've all loved wrapping up in it this week. There's something holy about being physically surrounded by cozy love and support. Many, many thanks!
All the Gottliebs



Thank you for your support to help children, women and men have clean water around the globe!



Thanks to the Fellowship Committee for another fun Sundaes on Sunday to celebrate the kickoff of the new Christian Education year.



Thank you for helping create meaningful opportunities for adult adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities so they can learn work and thrive.



Thank you for showing love for your neighbors through your congregations recent contribution. Your gift helps your neighbors, avoid hunger, eviction, homelessness, utility disconnection, and other problems.



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)

Jul-25 Actual	Jul-25 Budget	Mar 2025-Jul2025 Actual	Mar2025 - Jul2025 Budget
94,631.58	103,410.00	479,830.72	441,460.00
102,263.74	87,506.00	426,937.86	413,582.00
26,783.56	26,134.00	70,852.04	85,023.00
(34,415.72)	(10,230.00)	(17,959.18)	(57,145.00)
-	-	-	-
(34,415.72)	(10,230.00)	(17,959.18)	(57,145.00)