

November 2016



During the Season of Advent we will explore the sounds of the season. Are we listening for joy, or creating more noise?

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Deepening our Discipleship

Rev. Rebecca Luter

I waited until the day before Halloween to purchase the hairspray my children needed for their costumes. I didn't have much time, and the party store was completely out. So, I went to Walmart, where the Halloween shelves were being emptied into carts for us to dig through because it was time to move on to Thanksgiving and Christmas. In the next two months, the world around us will be pushing to move us on to the next holiday before the first has happened.

Pause, and give thanks for your blessings. The theme for our Thanksgiving Service is "How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings." - Psalm 36:7. Join us for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner and worship on Nov. 16th at 5:45pm.

Listen, and hear the joyful noises of the season. In the midst of the hustle and bustle, the lists and the wants, the parties and the family gatherings it is easy for the "joyful" part of "joyful noise" to be drowned out. Come and worship as we focus on hearing joy this Christmas. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Day School News



Hello and Happy Thankful Month to all our families and staff,

Ms. Linda and I want to thank all of our staff, families and children for such a great school year so far! We are winding down our third month and have been very busy! As I mentioned last month we ended September with a big reading event, “Buggy for Books” and a Scholastic Book Fair. The goal for the preschool classes was to read 2,500 books in 2 weeks, the classrooms not only reached that goal, but read almost 3,000 books!!! Since all preschool classes reached and exceeded their goals they were treated to a classroom pizza party! Our book fair goal was to sell \$2,500 worth of books and we sold \$2,627 worth of books, which gave us almost \$1,400 to spend on items for the classrooms!

We took all 4 year old classrooms on a field trip to Priddy Farms Pumpkin Patch in October and the children had a great time. They got to ride the day school “bus” and go on their first field trip. Once we got there they could run around and play on their play equipment, ride a hayrack to the pumpkin patch and pick out their own special pumpkin, ride a train around the farm, walk through the Spooky Woods and we finished the trip by having an outdoor lunch at the farm!

The month of Thanksgiving gives us plenty to be

thankful for. We are planning classroom Thanksgiving Feast lunches for the children and a fellowship dinner for our staff. Ms. Melissa’s 4 year old class is practicing a Thanksgiving Play and will be performing for the parents. A reminder to all families the school will be closed November 23-25th for the Thanksgiving Break.

We want to wish you a thankful and blessed Thanksgiving month and a huge Thank you to all families, children and staff that make Farmington Presbyterian Day School so special!

Many Blessing to All,

Ms. Gretchen





We are a 3 Star Program!

Department of Human Services of Tennessee gave Farmington Presbyterian Day School a three star evaluation on this year's Star-Quality Report Card! The Star-Quality Child Care Program is part of the state's comprehensive plan to provide more information to parents and improve the quality of child care in Tennessee. It is a voluntary program for child care providers that encourages and recognizes quality child care programs.

Preschool Sunday

Sunday, November 20, 10:30am

Each week the children of Farmington Day School gather in the sanctuary for chapel. They sing, move, and listen to a message from the Bible about how our big God has big plans for us. This month, the students of Farmington Day School are invited to sing, move, and worship with the Farmington Church Family. Join us for Worship, November 20 as the Day School kids sing songs from chapel and we celebrate the good work God is doing through school. Singers will need to arrive by 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall to prepare for worship.



Missions



Farmington will be hosting every other week beginning November 5 - March 17. Volunteer the gift of your time Nov. 5, Nov 19, Dec 3, Dec 17, Dec 31, Jan 14, Jan 28, Feb 11, Feb 25, March 11, or March 25. To volunteer to serve in November or December, Scan or click the code below.

Room in the Inn-Memphis is an ecumenical ministry that serves people experiencing homelessness. Now beginning its seventh year in Memphis, the program provides emergency shelter and meals during the coldest months of the year—November through March. It is modeled after the incredibly successful Room in the Inn program that started in Nashville more than 28 years ago.



The goal is to share the love of God through hospitality. Shelter is a basic necessity that more than 2,000 people in Memphis are living without each night. Faith communities have warm buildings and people who can provide this necessity along with much needed meals and a good helping hand of kindness and respect.

There are opportunities to donate needed items, work behind the scenes, and to act as a host. Chris Luter is the coordinator for this program. Please see him for further information. More information is also available online at www.roomintheinn-memphis.org/

Room in the Inn-Memphis continues to recruit more local congregations to become partners in this transforming ministry.

Click or Scan to Sign up! ⇒



Session Update

Session elected Sandy Wann and MaryShelley Ritchey to serve as ruling elder commissioners to the November Presbytery Meeting at Pinecrest on Nov. 15. We also began the budgeting process for 2017. In November all committees are asked to consider their ministry plan for 2017 and estimate related costs for session to consider in building the 2017 budget.

Feeding Fayette

Imagine your Thanksgiving dinner for a moment. The smell of ham and turkey and the sounds of family talking politics, sports, and religion fill the house. In all the joys and stresses of the season, take a moment of gratitude to remember those whose only wish for Thanksgiving is to have food on the table and a friendly conversation. Help us create a joyful experience for local families in need of a good meal given in gratitude for God's abundant grace. We will be filling our Cornucopia with canned goods, instant potatoes, Jiffy Mix, and cranberry sauce and donating all collected items to the Feeding Fayette food pantry. Help in our effort to make this season a joyful one for all God's children.



Stewardship Season

Stewardship Sunday is November 13th. We will place the model of Farmington Presbyterian Church in the center aisle and each offer our pledge to God to support the ministry and mission in this place.

Rev. Donald Joyner laments that “Unfortunately, talk about stewardship in the church has been corrupted to mean money, and our reflex action causes us to hold onto our wallets or purses as if they would suddenly disappear. Have you heard the story about two men stranded on a desert island? One seemed cheerful and upbeat; the other was nervous and dispirited. The second man spoke first, ‘Why are you so happy? Don’t you know we’ll never be found? We’ll both surely die on this forsaken island.’ ‘Cheer up,’ replied the first man. ‘We’ll be just fine. My church pledge is due next week, and I know the finance committee will find me!’”

Stewardship is not about money. Stewardship is about managing a household. A household is more than walls and doors and a roof; a household includes the relationships of the people within it. Stewardship is about planning how we will manage the responsibilities of the household of God by wisely investing the gifts God has given us.

We have been given responsibility for hospitality in God’s household. Through our pledges we support ministry that welcomes all God’s children and expresses God’s love. We have been given responsibility for nurture. Through our pledges we support ministry that teaches God’s children about God’s love and fosters the spiritual development of a home for God in their own lives. We have been given responsibility for engaging our community with God’s love. Through our pledges we support ministries that heal brokenness, feed hunger, quench thirst, and extend grace.

How will the household of God sustain and grow the ministries of the Farmington Family in 2017? You will decide through your pledges. Please prayerfully consider the gifts God has given you and how you will invest them wisely in 2017.

Elementary



Chances are if you have kids in sports or competitions of any kind, you have a growing collection of ribbons and medals, sashes and badges, certificates, trophies, or plaques. Some might hang on your walls or sit propped up on shelves somewhere. But if we're honest, others get stuffed into a drawer and eventually thrown out. These were so important when they first came into our homes, but at some point they just lost their value. All those awards and medals can only mean so much, because honor has a deeper meaning.

People should not just be honored because of what they do; they should primarily be honored because of who they are. Stuff will lose value over time, but not people. At its core, honor is seeing people the way God sees people. We're naturally wired to put ourselves first, but honor is the opposite of self-centeredness. It is something that flows from your relationship with God. In a sense, one of the best ways we can HONOR God, is by honoring those who reflect the image of God.

Throughout Scripture we see how much God loves us:

He created us in His image. He knows the number of hairs on our heads. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. He pursued a relationship with us even when we wanted nothing to do with Him. He sent His only Son to pay for our sins to make an eternal relationship

with Him possible. And He did all of this for us without us even asking.

Jesus was the ultimate example of someone who showed others their value.

When Jesus came here, He showed us how to love and show honor to those around us. He taught us to love our enemies, care for the "least of these," and become the servants of all who puts others' needs before our own.

That's why it's important for us to help our kids and families discover more about honor—letting someone know you see how valuable they really are.

Our Memory Verse for November comes from Romans 12. Throughout the chapter, Paul casts a vision for the church and how they can live as people transformed by God's Holy Spirit.

In Romans 12:10, we read, "Love one another deeply. Honor others more than yourselves." (NIRV) As kids memorize this verse, we hope they understand that honor includes seeing others how God sees them. When kids start doing that, they will be more willing to show God's love to others and put their needs ahead of their own.

One place you can go as a leader or parent to help kids understand the concept of honor is the life of David. There are some powerful lessons about honor that show up all throughout David's story.



November events for youth

A month of special events.

Sun. November 6— Kingdom Experiment 2 - Those Who Mourn. We continue our look at the Kingdom of Heaven through the eyes of those who mourn. Join us from 4-6pm.

November 11-12—Senior High Lock In

Sun. November 13— No Youth

Sun. November 20—Hanging of the Greens

Sun. November 27— *Thanksgiving Holiday*



Senior High Lock-In

7pm—7am

The most requested, exhausting, and challenging night of a Youth Leaders life is the youth Lock-In. You buy the snacks, plan the activities, gather the chaperones, and schedule the games, movies, and mayhem but nothing prepares you for the 3 am temperatures and sock smell. November 11-12 we will have an up-all-night Farmington Lock-In for the SENIOR HIGH. Gather at Farmington Friday at 7pm and dismissal will be at 7am Saturday morning. Youth need to bring sleeping bag, pillow, SOCKS, \$20 activity fee and a completed permission form.

As our evening outing we will head to Breakout Memphis for an Escape Room. Because space is limited we must know who will be attending by Monday November 7 at 5pm. We can only take

14 students—first come, first serve. Talk to your friends and sign up now to reserve your spot.

Stay tuned for details on the Middle School Lock- In, coming soon.



(Pictures from the 3 Quest Challenge taken by our middle School Youth in Downtown Memphis.)

Thanksgiving at Farmington Wednesday, November 16th

Dinner at 5:45 with worship following at
7:00pm.

All are invited. RSVP in the church office by
noon on Monday, November 14th.



If you would like to place a poinsettia(s) in the sanctuary for Advent in honor or in memory of a loved one, please use the form below or contact the church office (754-2794, ext 21), or Sandy Wann([901-481-9266](tel:901-481-9266)). There will also be sign-up sheets in the bulletin. After the Christmas Morning Service on December 25th, you may take your Poinsettias.



Poinsettias for the Advent Season



Placing a poinsettia (s) in the sanctuary for the Advent Season is a lovely way to honor or celebrate the life of loved ones and/or friends. Please fill out this form and place in the offering plate or turn in to the church office. The poinsettias will be \$8.00 each, cash or check made payable to Farmington Presbyterian Church with "poinsettias" noted on memo line.

Given by _____

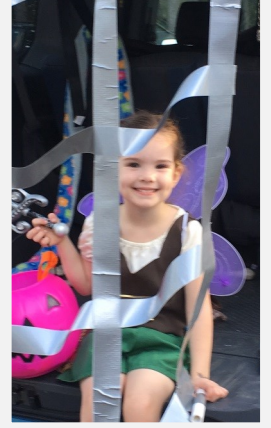
How many? _____

In Honor: _____

<or>

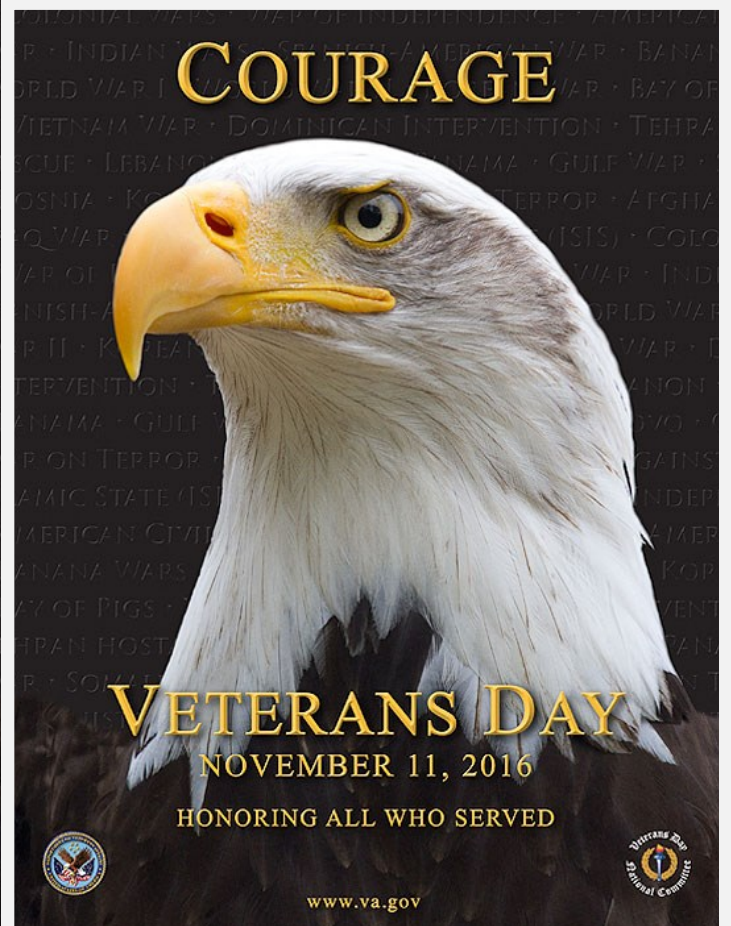
In Memory: _____





We will honor our Veterans November 13:

- Ray Bendall, USAF, Sergeant, 1951-55
- John Bivens, USNR, Petty Officer, 1983-2000
- Jim Collins, USA, E-4 (SP 4) 1957-1960
- James Millen Darnell Jr., USA, Master Sergeant, 1987-2000
- Danny Davis, USA, 2010
- John Hazen, USAF, Captain, 1971-1984
- Jerry Hosier, USN, Master Chief, 1958-1988
- Loyd Hudson, USN, Petty Officer, 1953-1957
- Jack Ingram, USA, Major, Regular Reserves, 1975-2010
- Annette Main, USAF, Captain, 1969-1972
- Perry Main, USAF, Captain, 1967-1977
- Neil Sherman, USN, CW04 Warrant Officer, 1959-88
- Robert E. Simpkins, USA, Lieutenant Colonel, 1945-52
- Charlie Smithers, USA, Colonel, 1979-2007
- Maureen Smithers, USA, Lieutenant Colonel, 1983 - 2013
- Billy J. Wann, USAF, Sergeant (E-4), 1964-68
- Gerry Wilder, USA, SP 5, 1968-70
- Jack Williams, USAF, Major, 1956-58 and 1964-93
- Al Fister, Army



Thanksgiving

at



**Turkey and all the trimmings
homemade and served
with a smile
and extra cranberry!**

Thursday

24

NOVEMBER

21430
Hwy 57
Moscow, TN

Serving

11:30

until

Thanksgiving lunch • better in the pines

**Reservations necessary:
901.878.1247 or pinecrestrc@wildblue.net**

Upcoming Farmington Events



Operation Christmas Child

Pick up your shoe box from Farmington and return it by November 20nd.

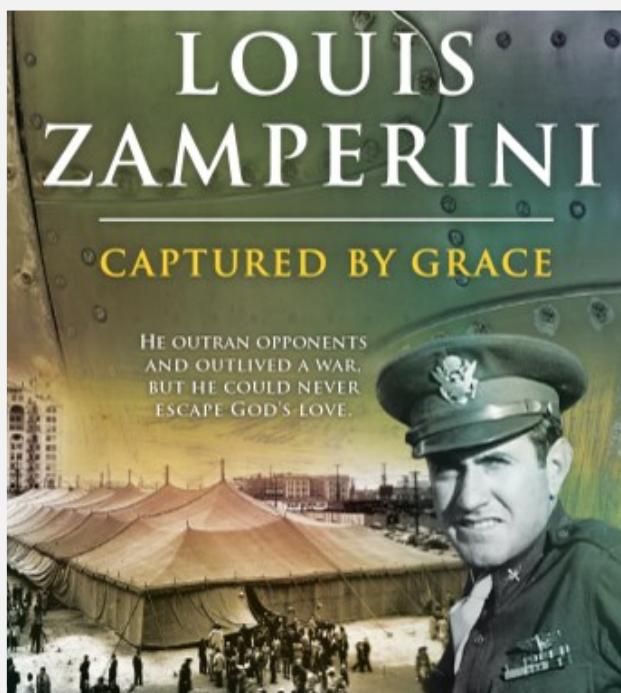
Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy to millions of children around the world through shoeboxes lovingly and prayerfully packed with gifts that will bring delight to a child. In the hands of local churches, every gift-filled shoebox is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children and their families around the world through the Good News of Jesus Christ! Farmington will be joining the effort this month. Pick up your shoebox from the church and fill it with goodies for a child in need. Label the box for a girl or a boy and deliver the box on November 20 during worship.

Farmington Men

Friday, November 11, 6:30am

McDonald's breakfast and Ray's coffee provided. We will watch a 25 minute DVD, "Louis Zamperini, Captured by Grace"- after Unbroken, the rest of the story. Discover Power of Forgiveness.

November 26th, Saturday 9am, we'll put up the outdoor Nativity Scene. Afterwards, we may have a short business gathering. There will be no monthly December or January meetings.



Farmington Women

November 27, 12:30pm

The Farmington Presbyterian Women November circle meeting will meet on Sunday, Nov. 27 @ 12:30 in the East Room. Bible study lesson will cover Chapter three: **According to Luke**

Hanging of the Greens

November 20, 3pm—6pm

We will be Hanging the Greens on Sunday, November 20th, 2016, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Please join us as we decorate the sanctuary for the Advent Season, followed by dinner at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to join in this very festive occasion! Food, fellowship (and maybe the singing of a few Christmas Carols!)

Committee Meetings

Congregational Care 10:00 am Monday, Nov. 4	Christian Education 12:30 pm Sunday, Nov. 6
Administration 6:30 pm Monday, Nov. 28	School Board 5:30 pm Thursday, Nov. 10
Service 6:00 pm Monday, Nov. 14	Session 6:00 pm, Monday, Nov. 21



FARMINGTON
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 & DAY SCHOOL

Acolyte Schedule

Nov. 6	Ethan Simpson
Nov. 13	Nicholas Luter
Nov. 20	Lorelei Phillips
Nov. 27	Cole Ritchey
Dec. 4	Olivia Mittag

November Birthdays

1	Charlene Still
1	Cristaldawn Smith
6	Deborah Aleman
9	Nadine Oest
10	Eliza Schneider
10	Chris Luter
11	Meg Sweet
11	Max Egan
13	James Brandon Wann, Jr. (J.B.)
17	Nicholas Luter
18	Kirsten King
19	Rachel Barr
19	Cyndi Bevington
20	Stephen Bivens
22	Amelia Palmer
24	Lauren Thomas
25	Anita Ford

Staff Extensions

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor, Ext. 23
 Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education, Ext. 29
 Cyndi Bevington, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 21
 Rhonda Pearsall, Bookkeeper, Ext. 22
 Linda Turner, Managing Director of Day School, Ext. 24
 Gretchen Burch, Program Director of Day School, Ext. 28
 Anthony Jones, Maintenance Technician

Session Members

Administration – Kirsten King
 Christian Education – Laurinda Ingram
 Clerk – Melanie Oest
 Congregational Care – Susan Bryant
 Fellowship – Mary Shelley Ritchey
 Property and Grounds – Jerry Hosier
 School Board – Charlie Smithers
 Service – Lance Palmer
 Worship – Sandy Wann

If your birthday is not listed, please contact the church office to be added. We would

If you have content for the December edition of New Vision, please email Doug Barr no later than November 21 at Doug@farmingtonpres.org



Farmington Presbyterian Church and Day School
 8245 Farmington Blvd. Germantown, TN 38139
www.Farmingtonpres.org