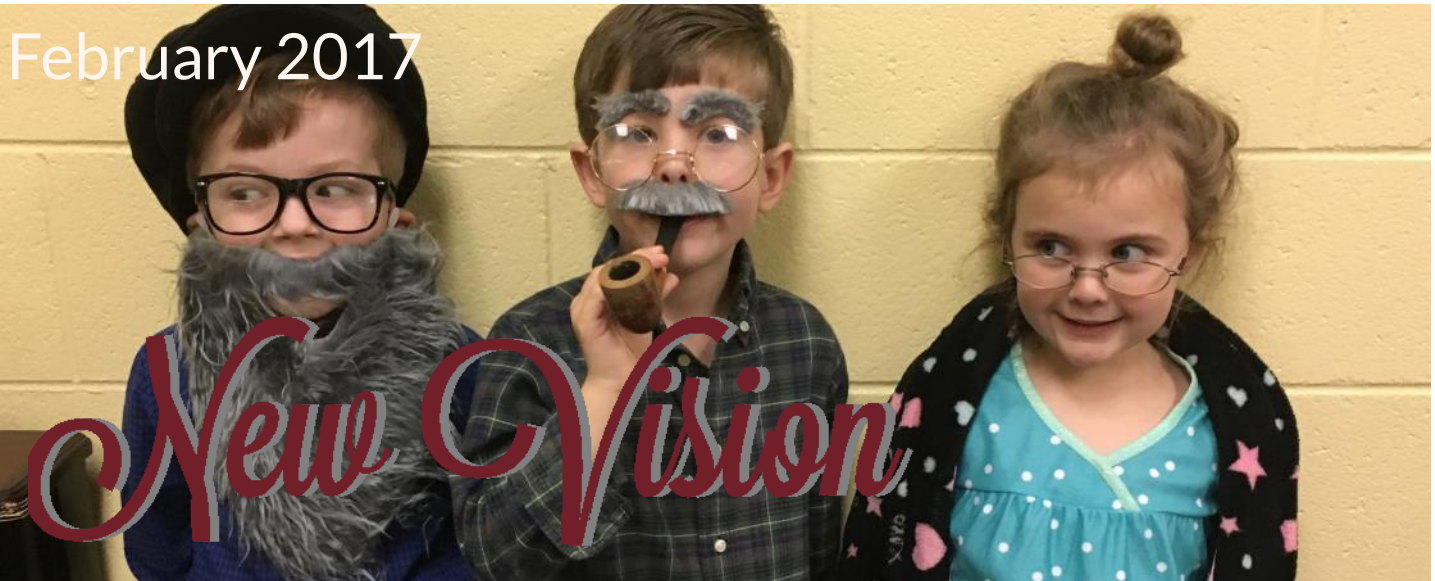


February 2017



Students at Farmington Presbyterian Day School celebrated their 100th day of school. More pictures on page 2.

Deepening our Discipleship

Rev. Rebecca Luter

As I enjoyed the Transitional Kindergarteners' paintings of "melted snowmen" along with their explanations of why their snowman melted, I rejoiced that we have such bright, funny and creative students who come each day ready and eager to learn.

Not every child goes to school ready to learn. Some children go to school hungry not just for knowledge but for food. The World Food Programme estimates that 66 million elementary school children attend school hungry across the developing world. Last year the Farmington Family packaged 10,000 meals to be distributed to hungry children at schools in developing countries through Stop Hunger Now. In 2016, Stop Hunger Now distributed more than 300 million meals to those in need in 74 countries around the globe.

Who will paint a transformed picture with hunger across our globe melted away? What story will be told to explain the transformation? I keep humming "They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love."

So, in this month of hearts and valentines, how will you show love? Will you pray that all unity will one day be restored? Will you guard human dignity and save human pride?

Consider making a gift to Stop Hunger Now. Perhaps instead of making a reservation at a crowded restaurant with your valentine you will want to eat at home and donate the cost of dinner to provide meals for others. Or, you may want to enjoy your dinner out and match the cost with a donation. Challenge yourself to paint a new picture this Spring of a child whose hunger has melted away, a picture of a child who is eager to learn.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Day School News.....	2
Stop Hunger Now.....	3
Mexico Cistern Mission	4
Confirmation.....	5
Preschool.....	6
Elementary.....	7
Valentines Dinner.....	8
Youth Summer	9
PYC Retreat.....	9
Polly Knight.....	10
Chili Cookoff.....	10
Scout Sunday.....	10
MidWeek Meals.....	11
PW & PM Meetings.....	11
Session Report.....	12
Birthdays	12

Day School News

Happy New Year and what a busy and fun new year we have planned! The month of January brought us 100 days of school. Many of our 4 year olds had aged over night! The classes had fun counting to 100 and making snacks that included counting out 100 pieces and seeing which were heaviest.

January has been a busy month for the school office, January 17th the current families could register for the 2017- 2018 school year and at the end of the first week we had 122 children registered! We are well on our way to a full and busy school. January 30th families not currently enrolled will have the chance to enroll their child in our program.

February we will celebrate Valentine's day with

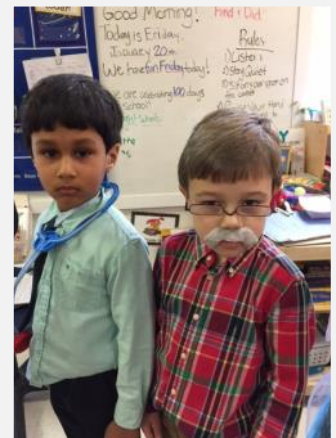
class parties and parents mark your calendars for February 13th as we will be serving you coffee and hot chocolate via drive through as a way to say THANK YOU! We will also be registering for summer camp and the children will have a visit from the dentist.

Every day is filled with fun, educational activities and play. We get to see the children grow, learn and blossom daily, and we just want to say thank you for sharing your children with us. We look forward to a wonderful second semester of school.

Many Blessings,
Gretchen Burch
Program Director

A little bit older and a little bit wiser.

Students celebrated their 100th day of school by dressing up as 100 year olds.





RiseSM AGAINST HUNGER



food • community • sustainability

Volunteer For Our Meal Packaging Event

DATE: March 26, 2017 TIME: 2pm—4pm

MEALS GOAL: 25,000 FUNDS GOAL: \$7,500

LOCATION: Farmington Presbyterian Church

CONTACT: Jinney Hart / virginiahart2@comcast.net



from your hands to their tummies



Mexico Mission Update

Dear Friends,

I am excited because I hold in my hand two scraps of paper ripped from a spiral notebook. Each sheet has five names—heads of households currently preparing to build cisterns WITH our Mexican and American partners in January. Even better, there are other pieces of paper with more names of families ready to build in February, May, June, and July. These families sought us out this past summer and fall. They see how our cisterns help meet their need for an abundant and accessible supply of rainwater, and carefully observed how their neighbors teamed up with us to build them. Now, they want to become our newest partners.

I thank you for wanting to be our partner, too. Through prayer, work, time and generous giving, you encourage the development of this unique partnership that combines peoples' talents to address a big problem—the lack of clean water for thousands of families in the Xpujil region.

Together, we built cisterns with 35 families in 2016, and 404 since 2002. We hope to work with another thirty-five to forty families in 2017. With your help, it can happen.

The effort needed to build cisterns often occurs in quick bursts—a fortnight, a week, a weekend, or however long it takes to offer a prayer or decide how to allocate the fruit of your God-given talent and labor. This is true for our partners on *BOTH* sides of the border.

Just as the commitment to partnership begins way before construction begins, it does not end once a cistern is built. This is why every year, during the first couple of weeks after Thanksgiving, Victor, Felipe, Raul, Andy, and I meet with the cistern owners in their respective villages. We ask about any cistern problems (so we can fix them), and collect repayment money

from families that have committed to repay either 25% (if built before 2011) or 100% of the construction materials cost. Because our loans are interest free and require no collateral, repayments are really voluntary gifts of love and gratitude.

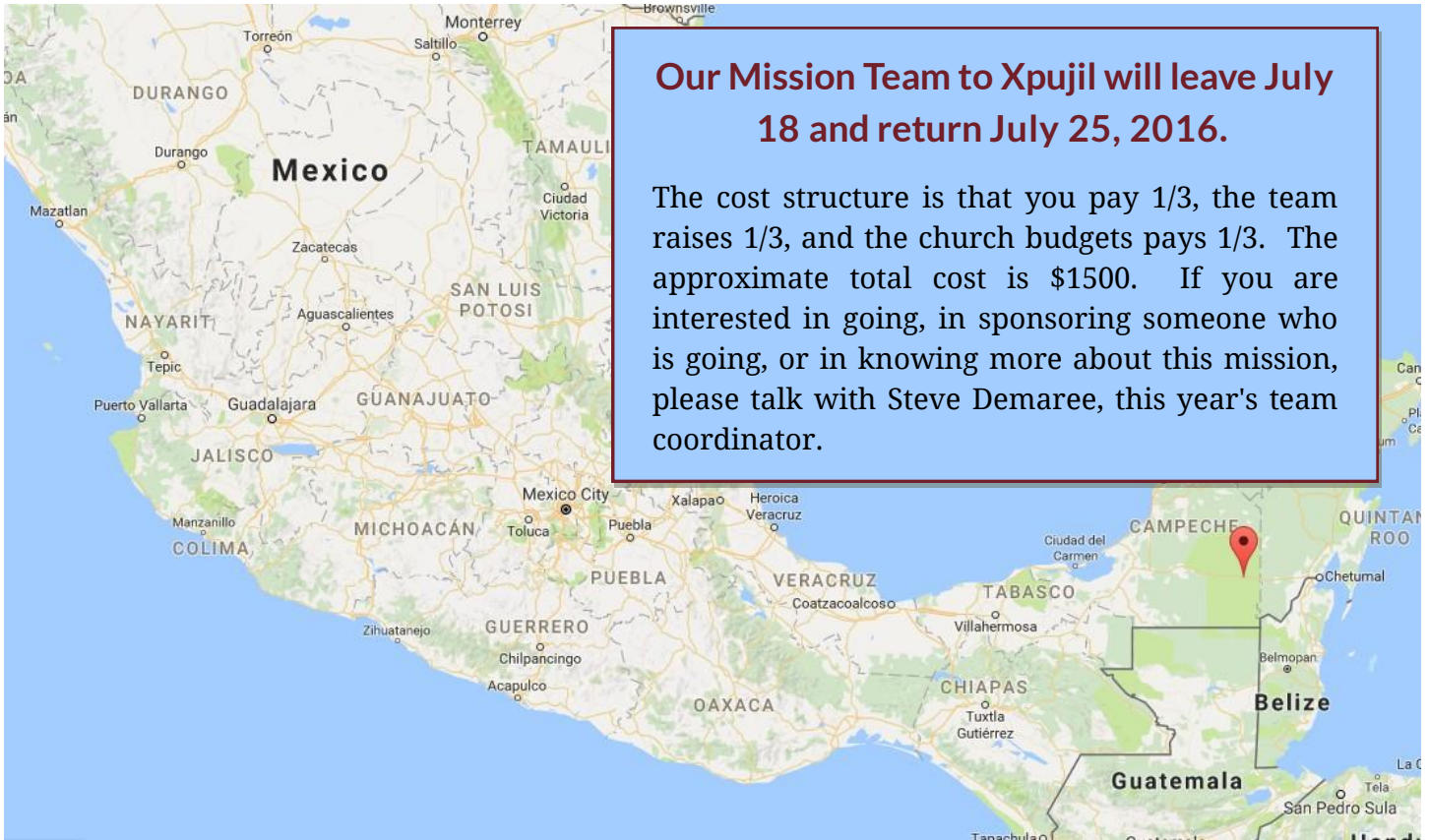
At the meetings, we thank God and one another because the cisterns are a result of this unique collaboration. Gratitude was present where eight of nine families in a village made a repayment this year; a man gave for the first time in ten years; and a woman set aside \$200 pesos for the sixth year in a row. Gratitude was strengthened by the folks who participated in the meetings even though they couldn't make a repayment at that moment.

Loving gratitude can unsettle. Age eighty-something Margarita made a \$1,000 peso repayment (about \$50 dollars). Awaiting the receipt, she mentioned that her husband's health is failing. Upon learning her new balance, she jogged out of the meeting to get more money to pay it off—ignoring my plea not to do so. She returned with the money and said, "We want to settle the account now, before my husband dies."

Should I have accepted either of Margarita's repayments? The Bible includes an account of a woman who anointed Jesus with expensive perfume. Some rebuked her. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me." Can the worth of a gift exceed its monetary value?

Throughout 2017, please pray for God to use our ministry to open eyes and ears, including our own. May we see that what draws us to this partnership is found in infinitely greater measure through a relationship with Jesus. He chose to come down from heaven to experience hunger, thirst, cold, pain, loneliness, rejection—and much, much worse. Why? Because Jesus and his Father love us more than we can ever imagine. What a gift. Let's receive it, and share it with others.

Always yours.
Todd Luke



Our Mission Team to Xpujil will leave July 18 and return July 25, 2016.

The cost structure is that you pay 1/3, the team raises 1/3, and the church budgets pays 1/3. The approximate total cost is \$1500. If you are interested in going, in sponsoring someone who is going, or in knowing more about this mission, please talk with Steve Demaree, this year's team coordinator.

Christian Education

Confirmation continues for Olivia Mittag, Nicholas Luter, Joseph Williams, J.B. Wann, Eddie Morgan, and Madison Lewis. We have studied the role of Scripture, the shape of worship, the life of Jesus, and the corruption of sin. We have also toured Temple Israel and Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Be sure to join us for our last faith tour February 8 at the Islamic Community Center and join us in worship February 19 when these students are confirmed as members of Farmington Presbyterian Church. A special thanks to Melanie Oest, Ed Patterson, Paul King, Stephanie Nagel, Charlie Smithers, and Jennifer Young for joining us as Confirmation Sponsors.

Confirmation Schedule

- Feb. 4—Youth Host Room In The Inn
- Feb. 5 - Can't we all just get along?** (Diversity in Faith)
- Feb. 8—Islamic Community Center (TBA)
- Feb. 12 - Who made all this up?** (History of the Church)
- Feb. 19 - What do I believe?** (Faith)
- Feb. 24-26—Presbyterian Youth Connection Retreat** (Pinecrest)



(on the left) A picture taken at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Farmington's Confirmation Class experienced worship in the Catholic Church as part of our faith tour.

Preschool

The month of candy hearts and oversized stuffed bears has arrived. It's the month we set aside each year to celebrate our love for those we hold near and dear. And what says "I love you" better than a box of chocolates or cards that play music when you open them? As thoughtful as these things are, Jesus has a few different ways of showing us how much He loves us. Jesus shows His love for us by simply wanting to spend time with us. Jesus wants us to come to

Him – anytime, anywhere – just come. Jesus shows He loves us by helping us. And, Jesus loves us no matter what. Spend some time in God's Word this month reading the stories of Jesus' love for us. Start in Luke 7 and read how Jesus showered His love on those that surrounded Him. Then, jump to Luke 10:38 and see how Jesus loved His friends Mary and Martha and wanted to spend time with them. Jesus wants to be with you too. Sit with Him and feel the warmth and power of His love for you. It's SO BIG!

Memory Verse:
"How wide and long
and high and deep is
the love of Christ."
Ephesians 3:18, NIV

Bottom Line:
Jesus loves me.

SO BIG

 first look

© 2016 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

Elementary



Love is a reflection of the character of God.

God is love. As we read through God's One Big Story in the Bible, we see an epic love story unfold that started in a garden with a perfect relationship between God and His creation. When Adam and Eve sinned and broke that relationship, God didn't give up on creation. His love for us drove Him to make the ultimate sacrifice: sending His one and only Son, Jesus to pay the ultimate price to make it possible for us to be with God forever.

Because we are created in God's image, we have the capacity to love. Every time we choose to treat others the way we want to be treated, we show others a glimpse into the perfect love God has for each and every one of us.

Jesus is the ultimate example of love.

When God sent Jesus to earth, Jesus showed us exactly what it means to love. Jesus prioritized love above everything else. When the Pharisees asked Jesus about the greatest commandment, He reached into the 600+ laws of the Old Testament and took a law that existed about your neighbor and He linked it to loving God. Jesus said, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul. Love him with all your mind . . . and Love your neighbor as yourself,' (Mark 12:30-31 NIrV). Our relationship with Jesus changes how we love God, love others, and even love

ourselves. Love, above all else, was what Jesus stressed most.

That's why we think it's important for us to help our kids and families discover more about Love—choosing to treat others the way you want to be treated.

Our memory verse for February comes from 1 John 4:10.

In 1 John 4:10, we read, Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins. (NIrV)

We want our families to learn a verse that gives them the essence of why love is important. Love isn't just something we demonstrate because it's a good thing to do. Love doesn't even start with us. We love because God loves us. Love is an essential part of who God is and how God interacts with the world. We love others because of the capacity He put within us to love. His love drove Him to sacrifice His only Son on our behalf to make the relationship between us right again.

We will spend the month of February taking a closer look at the way love shows up throughout the Gospels in how Jesus interacts with others.



Filleteo di Pollo

Are you looking for a romantic Valentine's Dinner but you don't want to foot the bill for a sitter or spend any time away from your sweet children? We've got you covered. Bring your whole family to this year's Farmington Valentine's Dinner at *Filleteo di Pollo* (a.k.a. Chick-fil-a) on Germantown Parkway. We have reserved your table, your children will serve and entertain you as you enjoy the romantic atmosphere, a delicious entrée and the finest service your children can offer. **February 11 at 5:30pm.** Make your Reservation today.

Contact Doug Barr to make your reservation. doug@farmingtonpres.org.

Chick-Fil-A
Germantown Parkway

February 11
5pm—6:30pm.



PANCAKES
IN THE PINES

Tuesday
February 28
11:30-1:30

\$25/person
Benefits our Summer Camp
Scholarship Fund
Please reserve your spot now!

www.camppinecrest.org

901.878.1247

Shake off your sins.
Send a Kid to Camp.

Youth Fellowship



PYC RETREAT—February 24–26

Why does our faith really matter? When we pass through the waters, and admit it, we all pass through some rough waters, God is with us.

Let's take a look at how we are anchored in Christ. Our own Doug Barr will lead the opening Keynote for this year's PYC at Pinecrest.

\$75/person.

(1/3 of the \$110 registration is covered by Farmington Christian Education Committee.)

Summer Youth Retreats



Junior High Retreat

July 24–28

A new ministry has begun in downtown Memphis and this year Farmington's Middle School group is invited on one of its maiden voyages. Memphis Youth Mission is a branch of Youth Mission Co. based in Asheville, NC. Participants will have an opportunity to understand the struggles of those living on the margins in The Blues City. Youth will volunteer at a variety of agencies and through their work and their presence will come to know more about issues of homelessness, poverty, food insecurity, and the unsupported. Fundraisers and cost information coming soon but do not wait to sign up. During the week, Chaperones and students will eat and sleep at First Presbyterian Church.



Montreat Senior High Retreat

July 15–22

Senior High students experienced the quiet peace of Montreat, NC last year and have longed to return. This summer we will go back to this "thin place" for the Montreat Youth Conference: A Missing Peace. Fundraisers and cost information coming soon but do not wait to sign up. We are reserving 5 spots for this trip. We will leave Memphis on Saturday July 15 to take part in the Asheville Youth Mission before the start of Montreat Youth Conference. Service, fellowship, and an incredible learning opportunity in Presbyterian faith.

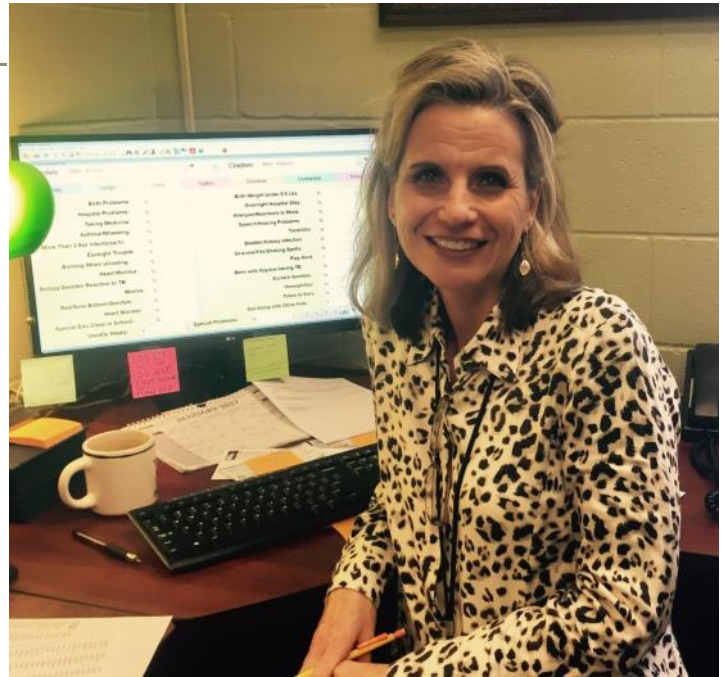


Polly Knight

NEW Financial Records Keeper

I would like to first start by thanking everybody for making my first week at Farmington great! Everyone has been very friendly and helpful in helping me transition into my new position. I am excited about being here and look forward to getting to know everyone.

In the past 15 years or so, I have had the privilege of being a stay-at-home mom for our two boys who are now 19 and almost 14, while doing some part-time photography and accounting work on the side. Prior to that, my years were spent in accounting and bookkeeping areas between a few companies in the mortgage and advertising fields and a couple within a non-profit organization. My husband and I are natives to East Tennessee in the Knoxville and Chattanooga areas. We have now been in Memphis almost 25 years, so you might say that part of our blood still



runs a little orange with a little Tiger blue mixed in! We have been active members in our church for almost 23 years now. I love running, biking and a little cooking on the side when time allows.

Upcoming Farmington Events



Super Bowl Chili Cookoff during fellowship hour after worship service on February 5th. Bring a pot of homemade chili, or your appetite. Use your donations to vote for your favorite chili. Donations will go towards the First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen. Chili that raises the most donations wins and that cook will receive a prize.

Potluck and Scout Sunday

February 12, 2017

Each year we celebrate the ministry that takes place through Farmington Presbyterian and the Scouting Program. We are blessed to be a part of the formation of so many young people. We invite the boys and girls involved in scouting through the troops that meet at Farmington to join us in worship with their families and for lunch afterward.

Bring a dish to the kitchen before worship and gather in the Fellowship Hall for a feast after Worship.





Dinner Offerings:

February 1—Breakfast for Dinner

February 8—Spaghetti Pie

February 15—Meatloaf

February 22—Pasta Jambalaya

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus said that when we pray, we should pray in this way. Join us as we consider what the format of the Lord's Prayer teaches us about how we approach God and about what and for what we pray.

February 1—"Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done...on earth as it is in heaven."

February 8—"Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors."

February 15—"Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

February 22—Life App Wrap—The children will join us for a wrap-up of their month-long study of God's love.

Our study takes place in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30-7:00 each Wednesday evening. All are welcome.

Farmington Presbyterian Women

February 26, 2017

The Farmington Presbyterian Women January circle meeting will meet on Sunday, February 26 @ 12:30 in the East Room. Chapter six: **According to Hebrews** will be the Bible study lesson. Come join us on this journey to expand our understanding of who Jesus was and is.

Gifts of Women Sunday

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart is the message as we Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday on March 5, 2017. We will be encouraged to live with an "attitude of gratitude." Please mark your calendar to attend this special worship service.

Presbyterian Men

February 10, 2017

We will meet in the Youth Room at 6:30am February 10 for Ray's Coffee, Breakfast, and discussion over one of Billy Grahams sermons. Property and Grounds will meet afterward. A special thanks to John Hazen for keeping this group going . Safe Travels on the Appalachian trail.

Committee Meetings

Congregational Care
10:00 am Monday, Feb. 13

Service
6:00 pm Monday, Feb. 13

School Board
5:30 pm Thursday, Feb. 9

Property and Grounds
7:30am Friday, Feb. 10

Christian Education
12:30 pm Sunday, Feb. 19

Worship
12:30pm, Sunday, Feb. 19

Session
6:00 pm, Monday, Feb. 20

Administration
6:00pm, Monday, Feb. 27

Session Report

The 2016 Financial Report was received and accepted.

A revised 2017 Budget was adopted.

School Board report included updates on a Community Garden Project, active shooter training for staff, and a Cop Stop planned for April 20.

The session received the notice of John Hazen that he will not be able to continue as Charter Organization Representative for Boy Scout Troop 368. We are seeking to fill that position with a member of Farmington Presbyterian. If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving in that capacity please let Rev. Rebecca or an elder on session know of your interest.



FARMINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
& DAY SCHOOL

Acolyte Schedule

February 5	Natalie Lively
February 12	Lorelie Phillips
February 19	Olivia Mittag
February 26	Cole Ritchey
March 5	Elizabeth Luter

February Birthdays

1	Liv Ann Palmer
8	Meredith Oest
8	Kerry Bailey
15	Katherine DelPriore
15	Sara Millar
17	Pat Rush Davis
17	Jim Darnell
23	Kristen Perkins
24	Martha Mize
26	John Hazen
28	Kaitlyn Ogburn

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

Staff Extensions

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor, Ext. 23
Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education, Ext. 29
Cyndi Bevington, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 21
Polly Knight, Financial Records Keeper, 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 you have content for the March edition of New Vision, please email Doug Barr no later than February 20 at Doug@farmingtonpres.org



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