



JANUARY 2020

The Annual Christmas Pageant was a celebration of the amazing children and youth our church has the privilege of serving each week. Happy New Year!

THIS ISSUE:

DAY SCHOOL

Page 02

EVENTS

Page 03

CALENDAR

Page 04

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Page 06

SESSION REPORT

Page 08

Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

There is an old story about a happy little boy who went out into the field wearing a baseball cap. In one hand he carried a baseball, and in the other his trusty bat. His face bore a look of tremendous confidence. Cocking his bat, he tossed the ball into the air, saying, "I'm the greatest batter in the world!" Then he swung and missed. "Strike one," he said. He picked up the ball, examined it, and then threw it into the air again. As he swung, he repeated, "I'm the greatest batter in the world." Once again he missed. "Strike two," he said. This time, he stopped to examine his bat to make sure there wasn't a hole in it. Then he picked up the ball, adjusted his cap, and tossed the ball into the air for the third time. He repeated again, "I'm the greatest batter in the world," and swung with all his might – and missed for the third straight time. Now most boys might be discouraged by that, but this boy said, "Wow! I'm the greatest pitcher in the world!"

I don't know about you, but I don't have a lot of enthusiasm about New Year's Resolutions. Each year that I make one, it seems that about mid-afternoon on New Year's Day I am coaching myself mentally through the justifications for why I can wait to commit, or allow a bit of a cheat, or not be SO strict. What if, this year, instead of committing to being the world's best hitter, we looked at being the greatest pitcher? In other words, what if instead of committing to some specific giving up or taking on of a habit, or to losing weight or exercising more, or to learning a new hobby or practicing an old one more – what if instead, you committed to being more who God created you to be.

Join us in January in worship as we explore what it means to be heirs of God, how the wise men were transformed by meeting the Christ child and how we are, our own unworthiness and God's call anyway to be servants of God, and Jesus' call to the disciples and to us, "Follow Me."

You may not be the world's greatest hitter or pitcher, but may you be the world's greatest YOU. Thus says the Lord, "You are my servant, in whom I will be glorified (Isaiah 49:3)."

FPDS

REGISTRATION

SCHOOL YEAR 2020-21

Current FPDS Families -
Monday, January 13, 2020

Open to the Public -
Monday, January 27, 2020

All registration is completed online at
www.farmingtonpres.org

OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, JAN 24, 10AM

You are invited to an Open House for new parents to tour Farmington Presbyterian Day School Friday, January 24, 2020 at 10 AM. If you attend, you will be able to register on Friday, January 24, 2020.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Farmington Presbyterian Day School Music program was an outstanding Preschool performance presenting the spirit of Christmas. The children captivated their audience with their opening song "Oh What a Night." The three year olds took the stage with "Up on the Housetop" choreographed with the tap of wooden sticks. While strumming their imaginary guitars, the four year olds sang "Rockin around the Christmas Tree." FPDS Spanish teacher, Daysi Aldaz, taught the children "Feliz Navidad" which is always a show hit. Valerie Robbins, our Musik Adventures teacher, produced a grand finale of "Joy to the World", and the teachers joined their students to sing "We wish You a Merry Christmas." Rhonda Bryne, school Program Assistant, prepared a festive display of refreshments in the Fellowship Hall which was enjoyed by parents, grandparents, friends, and children. The Music program was a time to experience the joy of children singing and the spirit of Christmas.





POTLUCK

Bring a dish to share and come enjoy some delicious food. There is always a gracious plenty.

JANUARY 12, AFTER WORSHIP

SOUP KITCHEN

It's our opportunity to serve lunch at the First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen. Please see Rev. Luter or Jinney Hart if you are interested. We will need to leave Farmington at 1 PM.

JANUARY 12, 1 PM - 3:45



FARMINGTON HOLIDAY CELEBRATION



Gather at Halle Plantation (Halle Point Lodge, 2490 Dibrell Trail, Collierville, TN 38017) for our annual Church Holiday party closing out the season of Christmas and New Years. Child care provided at the Church.

JANUARY 17, 6 PM - 9 PM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

January 8 - Enchilada Casserole / College Retreat Report

January 15 - Meatloaf / A Theology of Star Wars

January 22 - Smothered Chicken / A Theology of Star Wars

January 29 - Beef Stroganoff / A Theology of Star Wars

SOUPER BOWL CHILI COOK-OFF

The annual "Souper Bowl" Chili Cook-off will be held on Super Bowl Sunday February 2nd. Get your crock pots and recipes ready! Jinney Hart will either keep the trophy she received last year or pass it to someone else. Proceeds will go to First Presbyterian in support of the Soup Kitchen.

January 2020



WEDNESDAY	1	HAPPY NEW YEAR
THURSDAY	2	FPDS Closed
FRIDAY	3	FPDS Closed
SATURDAY	4	Montreat College Conference Service Committee Meeting
SUNDAY	5	7:00 AM 6:00 PM 8:00 AM 5:30 PM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:30 PM 2:00 PM 7:00 PM 5:45 PM 6:30 PM 5 PM 10:00 AM 9:30 AM 11 AM 9:30 AM 12:30 PM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM
MONDAY	6	Scouts Training Room in the Inn
TUESDAY	7	Sunday School Worship Safety Task Meeting Youth Fellowship—Melanie and Rev. Rebecca lead
WEDNESDAY	8	Scouts
THURSDAY	9	Mid-Week Meal - Enchilada Casserole <i>College Retreat Revisited</i> School Board
FRIDAY	10	Boxing of the Greens
SATURDAY	11	Sunday School Worship Christian Education Meeting Potluck First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen
SUNDAY	12	
MONDAY	13	Scouts
TUESDAY	14	

BIRTHDAYS

2	Jennifer Young
6	Vanessa Howard
7	Eddie Morgan
8	Doug Barr
13	Bettye Lucas
15	Linda Bourassa
16	Rebecca Hutchins
16	Sandra Hilliard
18	Ed Patterson
23	Thomas Nagel, Jr.
24	Schneider, Vickie
29	Jon Still
29	Kristie Lively

Farmington Holiday Party

Halle Point Lodge
2490 Dibrell Trail
Collierville, TN 38017

January 17, 2020
6 PM - 9 PM



Worship Leaders

WEDNESDAY	15	5:45 PM	Mid—Week Meal - Meatloaf	JANUARY 5	
	16	6 :30 PM	Program	Acolyte	Delilah Davis
THURSDAY	17	7:30 AM	Presbyterian Men	Children’s Moment	Jennifer Young
SATURDAY	18	6:00 PM	Holiday Party @ Halle Plantation	Liturgist	Lance Palmer
	19	5:30 PM	Room in the Inn	Communion/Usher	Bonnie Blair
SUNDAY	19	9:30 AM	Sunday School	Communion/Usher	Jinney Hart
	19	11:00 AM	Worship	Communion	Vanessa Howard
	20	12:30 PM	P & G Meeting	Communion	Kirsten King
	20	12:30 PM	Worship Meeting		
MONDAY	20		Newsletter Articles, Pictures, and Events Due	JANUARY 12	
TUESDAY	21	6:00 PM	Session Meeting	Acolyte	May Webb
	22	5:45 PM	Mid—Week Meal - Smothered Chicken	Children’s Moment	Charlie Smithers
WEDNESDAY	23	6 :30 PM	Program	Liturgist	MaryShelley Ritchey
THURSDAY	24			Usher	Charlie Smithers
FRIDAY	25			Usher	Melissa Still
SATURDAY	26	9:30 AM	Sunday School	JANUARY 19	
	27	11:00 AM	Worship	Acolyte	Charlotte Moots
SUNDAY	27	12:30 PM	Presbyterian Women	Children’s Moment	Jinney Hart
	28	5:00 PM	Administration Meeting	Liturgist	Susan Bryant
MONDAY	29	7:00 PM	Scouts	Usher	Ann Erickson
TUESDAY	30	5:45 PM	Mid—Week Meal - Beef Stroganoff	Usher	Scott Hutchins
WEDNESDAY	31	6 :30 PM	Program		
THURSDAY				JANUARY 26	
FRIDAY				Acolyte	Henry Webb
				Children’s Moment	Elizabeth Demaree
				Liturgist	Laurinda Ingram
				Usher	Sandy Wann
				Usher	Roland Mittag



JAN. 2 -5

MONTREAT COLLEGE CONFERENCE -
REMEMBERING SABBATH.

JAN. 18 - 5:30PM

ROOM IN THE INN

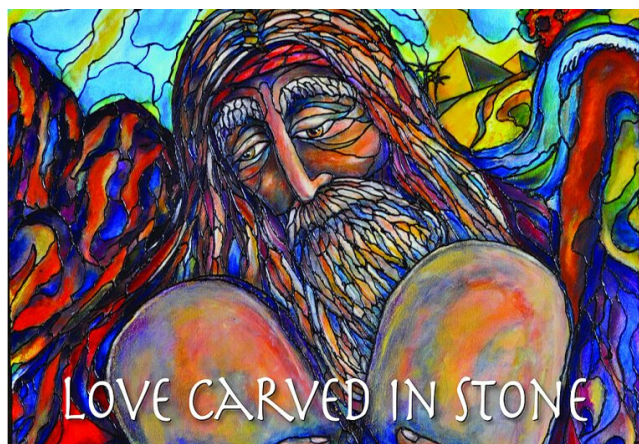
Join us in service to those experiencing homelessness. The Youth will make the beds, serve the meal, coordinate the showers, and host the families, Saturday, January 18.

REGISTER FOR SUMMER RETREATS

\$100 DEPOSIT RESERVES YOUR SPOT FOR
SUMMER RETREATS!

The Great Escape Middle School Conference
in Cleveland TN,
June 7 - 12. Student cost is \$250.

Montreat Youth Conference for High School
Students in Montreat, NC,
July 19 - 27. Student cost is \$280



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Women's Circle will meet Sunday, January 26 in the East Room at 12:30 pm. We are excited to have Rev. Ruth Lovell as our new Bible study leader. We continue our Horizon's Bible Study Love Carved in Stone lesson 4. We pray for God to watch over Kirsten King as she continues pursue the call to ministry as a full time student in Decatur, GA. We will miss her, but we are so proud of her and wish her the best as she travels this new path.

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES

Thank you to all who helped support the recent Ten Thousand Villages Event! We were able to raise around \$6,000 this year. The Ten Thousand Villages staff shared that they enjoyed coming to Germantown for this event and that our hospitality could not be matched! Thank you for making this a successful event.

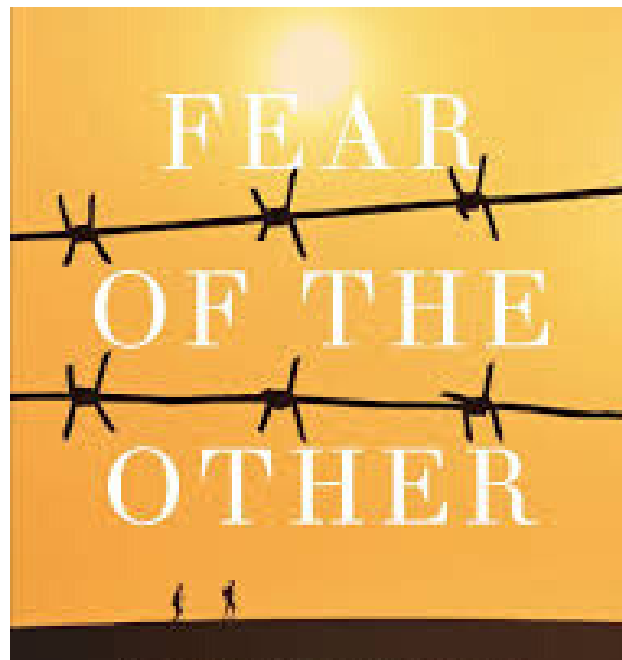


ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rev. Rebecca Luter will be leading a study of William H. Willimon's *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*. Together we will discuss whether there is a distinctively Christian way to engage the "outsider" and "stranger" and explore our own "otherness."

Will Willimon has served as a Bishop in the United Methodist Church, is former dean of the chapel of Duke University, and is now serving as professor of the practice of Christian ministry at Duke Divinity School.

"There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us. If anyone says, I love God, and hates a brother or sister, he is a liar, because the person who doesn't love a brother or sister who can be seen can't love God, who can't be seen. This commandment we have from him: Those who claim to love God ought to love their brother and sister also." - 1 John 4:18-21 (CEB)



WEDNESDAY NIGHT DISCUSSIONS

Last month, the final installment of the Star Wars epic was released. From the beginning, George Lucas, the creator of the franchise, dreamed it would be a nine film series. So convinced, was he, that *Star Wars: A New Hope*, the first film, was released as Episode 4. What he began a long time ago, has led to a cultural movement, debates about which film or director is the best, and mockery of those who have never seen the series. Regardless of where you are on this spectrum, you should join us for Wednesday night discussions in January. Join us for A Theology of Star Wars, and may the force be with you.

A SPECIAL THANKS FOR LESSONS & CAROLS

After a beautiful Lessons & Carols service, the congregation was treated to a wonderful reception in the Fellowship Hall. The decorations and the food were spectacularly done and it would not have happened without this team of women. Thank you to Carolyn Demaree, Iris Lawing, Faye McKenzie, Paula Patterson, Stephanie Nagel, Merry Bonner, and Sandy Wann.



SESSION REPORT

Session received a full financial update on all accounts. The proposed 2020 Budget was approved with agreement that additional funds would be provided to Congregational Care and Fellowship in addition to Capital Projects if additional pledges are received. The membership roll was reviewed and Erin Wright Simpson was removed. FPDS 2020-2021 Rates for additional hours for Part-time Preschoolers and Drop-In School Age Students were approved.

The session engaged in a discussion of the importance of taking risks in ministry and our own aversion to it. We listed risks in ministry that Farmington has taken including Room in the Inn, renovating the kitchen, hiring Rev. Luter without going through the traditional search process, Rise Against Hunger, and Spaghetti Dinner for Germantown Flood Victims.

This work led into a discussion of risks God is calling us to take now. The discussion included such possibilities as: offering supervised service hours for teens in the community; a community youth choir; community action opportunities for children, youth, and young adults; and classes in Exploring Faith through Art that would be open to adults and include adults with special needs. We have made no commitments at this time but encourage your input and prayer for God to lead us into God-sized work in the world.



A special thank you to Sam Bryant for bringing us to worship in awe and wonder on the fourth Sunday of Advent.

Staff Extensions

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor, Ext. 3134
Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education, Ext. 3130
Polly Knight, Financial Records Keeper, Ext. 3136
Shelley Wann, Church Office Administrator, Ext. 3131
Linda Turner, Managing Director of Day School, Ext. 3138
Gretchen Burch, Program Director of Day School, Ext. 3132
Anthony Jones, Maintenance Technician

Session Members

Moderator - Rev. Rebecca Luter
Director of Christian Education - Doug Barr
Administration - Ann Erickson
Christian Education - Susan Bryant
Clerk - Laurinda Ingram
Congregational Care - MaryShelley Ritchey
Fellowship - Becky Hutchins
Property and Grounds - Roland Mittag
School Board - Charlie Smithers
Service - Jinney Hart
Treasurer—Melissa Still
Worship - Sandy Wann

Content for the February New Vision newsletter is due Monday, January 20. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at Shelley@farmingtonpres.org



Farmington Presbyterian Church & Day School
8245 Farmington Blvd.
Germantown, TN 38139