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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

On the first Sunday in Lent, our Scripture lesson was the story of Noah and the flood. Perhaps more accurately, it was the story of God's first covenant with all living creatures. The terms of that covenant were that no matter what - no matter how evil people are or how far from God's vision for creation we stray - God will never again destroy the earth.

Lent is a period of 40 days leading up to Easter during which we are encouraged to consider our own paths, how we have strayed and how we are following Jesus. If you began a Lenten practice on Ash Wednesday, either by giving something up or taking on a practice, you may have had some days that you did better than others. You may have even stopped altogether. You may not have taken on a Lenten practice. It is not too late. It is never too late to seek to be more like Jesus.

In this time of limited social contact, one of the most healing things we can do is reach out to others. If you know someone who has struggled or strayed, who may be down on themselves, share the YouTube link for the first Sunday in Lent, February 21st. Let them know that God loves them and will never stop seeking their well-being. If you know someone who has reached out to you when you were struggling or straying, when you were down on yourself, reach out and thank them for being a rainbow of grace in your life. You might even want to share the YouTube link with them for February 21st and share that the service brought them to mind.

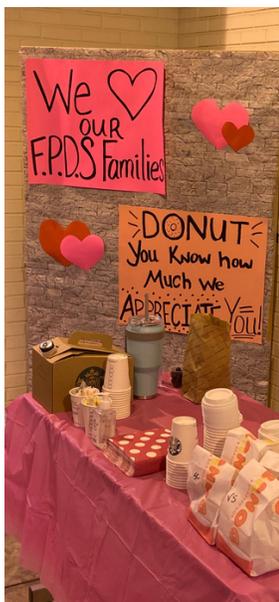
May we follow the path of Jesus that leads to life abundant, may we respond to the nudge of the Holy Spirit to share grace with one another, and may we journey with God through this Lenten wilderness expectantly watching for rainbows.

FPDS PARENT APPRECIATION

F.P.D.S loves our families! On Friday, February 26, 2021 the Day School showed our appreciation for our families. We served Gibson's donuts and Starbucks coffee on the porch. We want to thank all our parents for their patience, trust and flexibility during this not so normal year!

The day school looks forward to celebrating Dr. Seuss week the first week in March. We will be reading many books and dressing up during the week. We may even have a visit from Cat and the Hat!

There is still time to sign up for Summer Camp and for next school year. Please visit our website www.farmingtonpres.org for more details.



SOUP KITCHEN DONATIONS

Farmington Presbyterian Church continues to demonstrate our mission of caring even though we have not been able to assemble in our Sanctuary! We have remained diligent in our support for the Soup Kitchen operated by First Presbyterian Church downtown.

The Soup Kitchen was started over 40 years ago to provide a hot meal on Sunday afternoons to the food insecure of Memphis. Back then, there was no organization in Memphis that offered a meal on Sundays. So, the church started from there. First Presbyterian Church provides the facilities and the leadership while volunteers from around Memphis assist in welcoming guests, serving a hot meal, and outfitting guests in the clothes closet.

For many years, our church has helped serve meals and distribute clothing twice a year. We typically have a "Souper" Bowl Chili Cook-off this time of year to help raise money for this mission. However, nothing is typical now due to COVID restrictions, and we have not been able to go downtown to serve meals or have our cook-off event! We received an email recently from First Presbyterian that they were in need of clothing for the guests. We have had some brutal weather lately, and it is unimaginable what life on the streets must feel like.

Our church did not hesitate to begin gathering jackets, pants, socks, shirts, sweats, undergarments, and a variety of other items that our neighbors needed. An SUV loaded with items was delivered to First Presbyterian February 3, 2021.

Thank you for helping with this vital mission in our community. God loves you!



Blessings,
Jinney Hart



MEETUPS!

Each week there are opportunities to touch base with the Farmington Family. If you have not already connected with us, consider logging into one of our Zoom events. Download the app and use the codes below! Direct links are available in the Happenings.

Fellowship Coffee

Sundays after the service airs at 11am.

Meeting ID: 603 671 0393

Password: coffee

Youth Fellowship

Led by Doug Barr

Sundays @ 2pm - 4pm

Meeting ID: 122 607 840

Password: Farmyo

Adult Bible Study

Led by Rev. Rebecca

Mondays @ 9am

Meeting ID: 869 8138 8088

Password: Bible

Young Adult Study

Led by Doug Barr & Madison Lewis

Thursday @ 6pm

Meeting ID: 769 5579 3868

Passcode: Psalms

Weekday Worship

Led by Rev. Rebecca Luter & Doug Barr

Wednesday @ 6pm

Meeting ID: 843 7787 5851

Passcode: Worship

Register at

www.farmingtonpres.org/weekday-worship

Session Report

Session approved the 2020 Annual Statistical Report for submission to the Office of the General Assembly.

Jinney Hart and Paul King were elected Commissioners to the March 6th meeting of the Presbytery of the Mid-South (Doug Barr and MaryShelley Ritchey are alternate commissioners). Suzanne Thomas was elected Chair of the 2021 Nominating Committee and MaryShelley Ritchey to serve as the second elder.

Session voted to approve small group meetings for the purposes of Christian Education consisting of no more than 6 individuals in the youth room and no more than 20 in the Fellowship Hall, utilizing the same protocols for permission, entry, distancing and masks, and sanitation as the Day School.

Session voted to continue to worship on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings in March virtually. The Sacrament of Communion will be shared on Wednesday, March 3rd, on Zoom at 6pm. Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham was approved to preach for the March 21st Sunday service.

The request of Worship Team to purchase replacement wireless microphones and receivers for use in the Sanctuary was approved.

The session then engaged in a robust discussion of future capital needs for hybrid and/or live-streaming worship.

Wednesday's

Weekly at 6pm on Zoom

The Farmington Family gathers for vesper services Wednesday nights at 6pm via zoom. All are welcome. Simply register with your name and email at www.farmingtonpres.org/weekday-worship.

Lost your link? Simply register again and a new one will be sent to you.

Communion Service March 3rd

We will celebrate Communion together during the Zoom Worship Service on March 3rd so be sure to have bread and juice available.

Dinner Menu

Scott and Becky Hutchins (Firehutch Fine Foods) catering to-go orders for dinner to be picked up on Wednesday evenings at the church at 5:30 pm. They are donating 10% back to Farmington. If you would like to order, please contact them at hutchinsathome@gmail.com.

- March 3 Ground Beef Stroganoff
- March 10 Enchilada Casserole
- March 17 Baked Spaghetti Pie
- March 24 Pasta Jambalaya
- March 31 Shepherd's Pie

Homemade Pizza is available each week as an alternative.



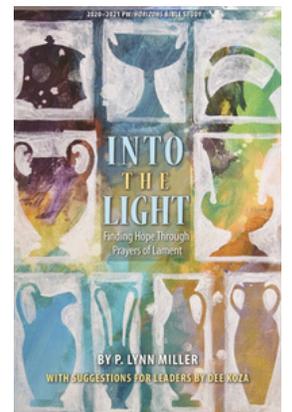
**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**



Farmington Presbyterian Women's Circle continues to meet by Zoom to discuss Lynn Miller's Horizon Bible study *Into the Light*. All women of the church are welcome!

Please join us! We would love to be together with you!

Jinney Hart
Farmington Presbyterian Moderator





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Thomas Nagel
- 2 Virginia Hart
- 6 Roland Mittag
- 7 Don Rossman
- 7 Andrea Soto
- 9 Joseph Williams
- 10 Rob Hall
- 12 Madison Lewis
- 14 Lorelei Phillips
- 16 Sara Ward
- 17 Lance Palmer
- 18 Mia Mittag
- 21 Mary Lou Barrentine
- 21 Benjamin Byrne
- 23 Sam Bryant
- 24 Gianna Colon
- 25 Faye McKenzie
- 28 Mary Ashley Churchwell
- 29 Elizabeth Demaree
- 31 Elias Haguewood

Sunday Worship Online

Join us, Sunday mornings for worship on YouTube. You can find us through our website, www.Farmingtonpres.org, or on YouTube at www.youtube.com/c/farmingtonpresbyterian. Don't forget to subscribe so you never miss our services or video events.

And don't forget to like, share, and hit that subscribe button!



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
- Gretchen Burch, Program Director of Day School, Ext. 3132
- Anthony Jones, Maintenance Technician

Session Members

- Moderator - Rev. Rebecca Luter
- Administration – Ann Erickson
- Christian Education – Doug Barr
- Clerk – Laurinda Ingram
- Congregational Care – MaryShelley Ritchey
- Fellowship – Becky Hutchins & Suzanne Thomas
- Property and Grounds – Roland Mittag
- School Board – Susan Bryant
- Service – Jinney Hart
- Treasurer—Melissa Still
- Worship – Paul King



Content for the April New Vision newsletter is due Monday, March 22. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at Shelley@farmingtonpres.org



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