



MAY 2021

Farmington Day School held Trike-a-thon April 23-24 raising over \$10,700 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

Pentecost Sunday is May 23rd!

What is Pentecost?

Pentecost is the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. Luke tells us in Acts that those who were of one accord were all together in Jerusalem. Suddenly, a sound rushed like a mighty wind, filling the house where they were sitting. And what appeared to be tongues of fire rested on each of them, filling them with the Holy Spirit.

When is Pentecost?

Some will say that Pentecost is celebrated 50 days after Easter, and while that is true, it misses the symbolic placement of Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday is celebrated on the 7th Sunday after Easter Sunday. Seven was the number in ancient times of perfection and completion.

What do we wear on Pentecost?

Traditionally, the color that symbolizes the Holy Spirit is red, so we wear red to church on Pentecost Sunday.

Why do we have parties on Pentecost?

Pentecost is celebrated as the birthday of the church because before the gift of the Holy Spirit, the believers were together and praying, but they were not sharing the good news! On Pentecost, they were filled with the ability to speak in every language and the Gospel spread. 3,000 were baptized that day! And day after day, the Lord added to their number. Farmington Presbyterian was officially organized on Pentecost Sunday in 1975. So, on Pentecost we celebrate both the birthday of the church universal, and of Farmington!

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What will we do this year?

Worship - This year, you are encouraged to wear red and worship with us either online or in the Sanctuary. Reservations for attending in person and the link for attending on YouTube are on our website: www.farmingtonpres.org.

Celebrate - After worship from noon-1pm, we will enjoy birthday cupcakes outside in the back yard! Bring your children in comfortable clothes to play on the playground and don't forget a lawn chair and masks to wear when not eating!

Serve - We will join together in a COVID-conscious mission project. You will find details on the Gifts of Heart Hygiene Kits inside the newsletter on page 10. You can bring completed kits to donate, and we will have supplies outside to pack 100 kits on Pentecost.



Calling All Graduates

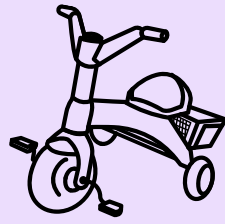
The Farmington Family loves to celebrate milestones of faith and of life. If you or someone you love is graduating this year, please contact us by May 9th. We will recognize graduates in worship on May 16th. Please email church@farmingtonpres.org

Session Report

Session adopted a revised 2021 Budget in response to faithful giving in the first quarter of 2021 and relaxing restrictions on gathering. We are planning VBS July 26-30. Salary ranges for Director and Assistant Director of Farmington Presbyterian Day School were adopted. Rev. Rebecca Luter will be on vacation May 26-June 3 and June 29-July 16. Doug Barr will preach on May 30, and Kirsten King will preach on July 11. A proposal for upgrading audio system and installing video capability in the Sanctuary to support hybrid and online worship ministry was approved. A request from the Farmington's Presbyterian Women to gather for lunch on the grounds on May 16th after worship was approved. Paul King and Jinney Hart reported on the Called Meeting of the Presbytery of the Mid-South on March 23rd. The purpose of the meeting was to act on a Covenant Agreement between the Presbytery and Pinecrest Camp and Retreat Center (both related motions passed). Updates were shared related to Rev. Luter's 2021 Work Plan goals and Session brainstormed strategies to achieve the goals.

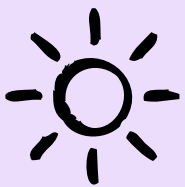
You are invited to participate in achieving these goals, too. Rev. Luter's Work Plan Goals: 1. Strategize for future and recruiting leadership for FPDS. 2. Implement a strategy for engagement of non-member, virtual worship participants. 3. Plan and execute a post-pandemic ministry plan which includes both in-person and virtual worshipers. Have ideas? Send Rev. Luter an email!

FPDS



Trike-a-Thon

The Day School would like to personally thank every child and family that raised money this year for our Annual St. Jude Trike a Thon. The kids were so excited to bring their bikes, trikes and scooters to ride to raise money for the kids at St. Jude. We had a record breaking year with over \$10,700 raised! This total has put our school total over \$60,000 donated over the years. We look forward to next year as the students will ride again for a great cause!



Summer Weekly Themes!

May 24- May 31	Closed
June 1- 4 Week 1	Explode Into Summer
June 7- 11 Week 2	ARTastic
June 14- 18 Week 3	Full S.T.E.A.M Ahead
June 21- 25 Week 4	Splish Splash
June 28- July 2 Week 5	Spirt Week
July 5	Closed
July 6- 9 Week 6	Out of This World
July 12- 16 Week 7	Ready Chef Go
July 19- 23 Week 8	Music & Motion
July 26- 30 Week 9	V.B.S. (Vacation Bible School) - Knights, Princesses and Dragons
August 2- 6 Closed-	Closed- Teacher In-Service
August 9	First Day of Preschool Classes

The cost is \$40 per day for children entering Kindergarten through 14 years old with a 3 day minimum within that week. The cost is \$200 per week for Preschool Age children. There is a minimum attendance of two weeks of summer camp for all ages.

Since the retirement of Linda Turner, Gretchen Burch has served as Interim Director of the Day School. At the time, our enrollment was limited and much about this school year in the midst of a pandemic was unknown. All of the staff has done an amazing job keeping life happy and healthy for our children. Our enrollment for summer and for next year is strong and growing! So, we need to hire another full-time administrator!

The Administration Committee and School Board determined that the administrative leadership of FPDS will be restructured. Rather than having a Managing Director and a Program Director, we will have a full-time Director and a full-time Assistant Director. If you would like more information, I am happy to answer any questions. If you are interested in applying, please submit your resume to Rev. Rebecca by May 20th at rluter@farmingtonpres.org.



Picnic Party

Who: All Women of Farmington Presbyterian Church

When: May 16

Time: 12:15PM

You are invited to attend a brown bag luncheon after church, Sunday, May 16 in the outdoor sanctuary (weather permitting). Bring your own lunch and chair. Dessert and bottle water will be provided. Remember to observe COVID safety precautions. It will be wonderful to have fellowship together!!



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
IS BACK!
JULY 26-30
9AM - 12PM**

Calling all lords and ladies! VBS returns this summer with Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor.

Farmington invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids will take on the role of brave Knights and begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book.



Rise Against Hunger

Rise Against Hunger Virtual 5K or 10K

In the countries we serve worldwide, children walk an average of 3 miles to school every day. Let's walk to make sure they have a meal when they arrive to learn!

May 21-May 23

Register or donate here:

<https://act.riseagainsthunger.org/event/2021-rise-and-stride/e319306>



PROVIDING MEALS ON WEDNESDAYS

The historic Collins Chapel Hospital campus now lives on as a place of hope, healing, and holy hospitality as the new home of Room in the Inn. Here, those experiencing homelessness can find a warm meal and a safe place to sleep. Farmington has joined in the joy of this holy hospitality by committing to provide Wednesday meals. More details to come. Be on the look out for your opportunity to provide a meal to this exceptional ministry.

RESCHEDULED

CLEAN UP CAMPUS

The grass is growing...and so are the weeds! Come out for a morning of donuts and coffee, fellowship with friends, and spring gardening. We will weed the front beds (should be quick and easy since we weeded them this fall), rake up the last of the fall leaves, spread some pre-emergent, and plant spring flowers!

Saturday, May 15
9am-12pm

Bring the whole family, your rake and/or your spade, and your gardening gloves!

SUMMER 2021



BE THE Light



We're so ready to see everyone at Pinecrest this summer! We've had a year to work on safety protocols, and we're ready with smaller camper numbers and more staff to clean. At this point, we'll be able to accept 56 campers per session with 3-4 campers and 1 counselor per cabin. Maybe, by the time camp starts, we'll be able to increase those numbers. You may notice some shorter camp offering of 2 or 3 nights. These are new this year and we're so excited! Check out our brochure here for more information. Give us a call at 901.878.1247 or email lucy@camppinecrest.org if you have any questions.

Presbyterian Women (PW) has provided 2 scholarships to Pinecrest camp this Summer. Don't let finances keep your kids from an incredible summer opportunity. Email Rev. Rebecca Luter at rluter@farmingtonpres.org for details.

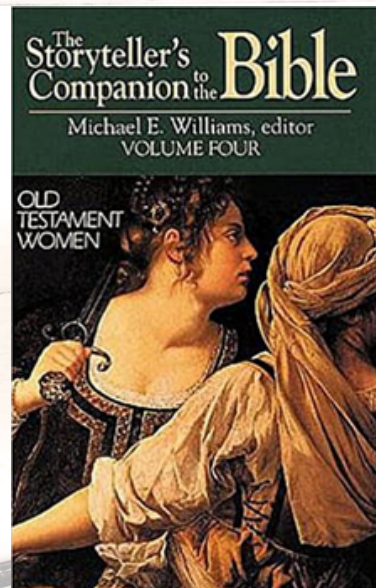
DO YOU KNOW MY STORY?

Bible Study on Monday Mornings,
beginning May 3rd from 9am-10am
Women in the Old Testament

Join us as we consider: Why is her story recorded? What does her story teach us? How might we tell her story today? You may want to purchase a copy of *The Storyteller's Companion to the Bible, Volume 4* edited by Michael E. Williams

Go to www.zoom.com and click "Join Meeting." You will need to enter the Meeting ID: 811 5596 9116 and Passcode: Bible.

- May 3 - Sarah and Hagar
- May 10 - Rebekah and Rachel
- May 17 - Dinah and Tamar
- May 24 - Shiphrah, Puah, and Miriam
- May 31 - No Class, Memorial Day



Adult Bible Study
Led by Rev. Rebecca
Mondays @ 9am
Meeting ID: 869 8138 8088
Password: Bible

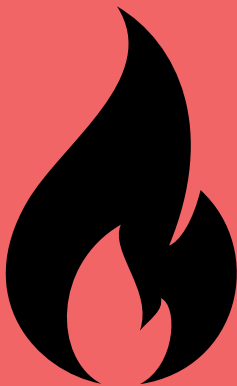


Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost is the Sunday we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. We will continue to have hybrid worship with a sign-up for limited seating to be in person and livestream for those who are worshipping at home.

After worship, we hope EVERYONE will come between 12pm-1pm for cupcakes outside in the back parking lot. It will be wonderful to see our friends, fellowship, and celebrate that the Holy Spirit continues to bind us together as the Farmington family.

And, with grateful hearts for the blessing of the Farmington family, we will be sharing the blessing of Gift of Heart kits. We will assemble hygiene kits to be distributed by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in areas that experience natural disaster.



MAY 23RD IS PENTECOST SUNDAY

11AM WORSHIP: SANCTUARY AND
LIVESTREAM

12PM - 1PM: OUTDOOR CELEBRATION
-WITH CUPCAKES AND GIFT OF HEART
HYGIENE KIT ASSEMBLY

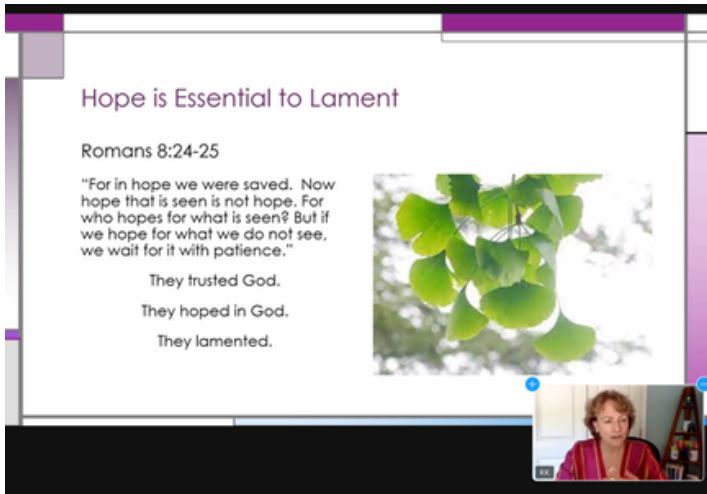
Service committee is gathering the supplies to assemble 100 kits on Pentecost Sunday. If you are not able to attend and would like to assemble kits, or if you would like to donate additional kits, the contents (see below) are to be gathered and placed in gallon zip-closure bags.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance requests \$2 per bag for disaster response costs. If you would like to make a donation, please indicate "Gift of Heart Hygiene Kits" on the memo line of your check to Farmington Presbyterian.

- 1 – hand towel (approximately 16" x 28", no fingertip or bath towels)
- 1 – washcloth
- 1 – wide-tooth comb (remove from package)
- 1 – nail clipper (UPDATE: nail clippers with metal files or emery boards attached are now accepted; remove from package)
- 1 – bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- 1 – toothbrush (in original packaging)
- 10 – Band-Aids® or other adhesive bandage strips



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The Women’s Circle of Farmington Presbyterian Church has concluded its study of Into the Light Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament. Kirsten King diligently and faithfully guided us through the process of exploring lamenting by helping us define a lament; discussing why we lament; and in writing our own personal laments as we learned to use this tool as a personal way to communicate with God and open the lines of communication. The process of lamenting is an act of great faith as we address God, describe our grievance, state our trust in God, and show our assurance as we call God to act. We found this study to be most appropriate as we dealt with the Global Pandemic! We concluded our study with the comfort of knowing that at the end of lament there is an affirmation of trust and hope in God. The author, P. Lynn Miller states, “God isn’t somewhere out there waiting in a perfect place. God is walking beside each of us in our troubles today, hearing our cries and answering our calls”.

Although we were not able to assemble in person, our Women’s Circle continued to fulfill its mission of giving. We contributed to Johnson Auxiliary, Mission Haven, Pinecrest Camp, Soup Kitchen, and Church Health Center. Contributions for the Birthday Offering and the Thank Offering were gratefully acknowledged! Blessings to all as we take this journey with our Savior every day!

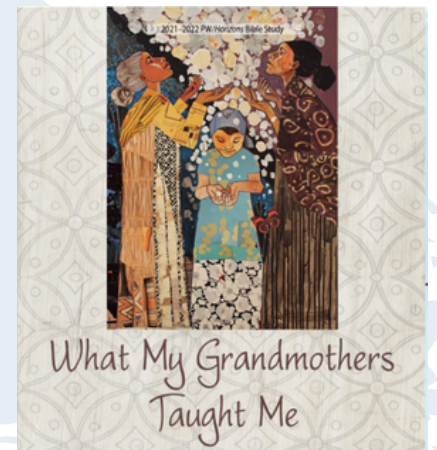
Christ be With You,
Jinney Hart
Farmington PW Moderator

2021-2022 Women’s Circle of Farmington Presbyterian Church Coordinating Team

- Moderator: Jinney Hart
- Secretary/Historian: Kay Patterson
- Treasurer: Melissa Still
- Prayer Partners: Nadine Oest
- Bible Study Leader: Kirsten King
- Sunshine Ladies: Jinney Hart & Ann Erickson

2021-2022 PW/Horizons Bible Study

The Women’s Circle of Farmington Presbyterian Church will begin our new Horizon Bible study for 2021-2022 in August. If you want Jinney Hart to purchase your book, please contact her by June 15. The price is \$10 for regular print and \$15 for large print.





THANK YOU AN AUDIENCE OF GENEROUS FOLKS

As I have said many times, when Bonnie Blair asks you to do anything, you don't say no. It's probably going to stretch you and take you out of your comfort zone and ultimately make you grow. So, when Bonnie asked me to deliver the message of Poverty on Gifts of Women Sunday, I immediately said yes.

I immediately began thinking about the topic and discussing it with the closest person that would listen (thanks Scott). It is a massive subject and a daunting one to express in 15 minutes on Sunday morning. Naturally, I made the connection with my family law practice. I encounter the effect of systemic poverty quite often in family law. The effects of poverty are enhanced when the family is struggling with other issues too and vice versa. Then there was, of course, the Bible. How had God expressed Himself about poverty? What did Jesus have to say on the subject? The parable of the goats and the sheep was our scripture that morning. Jesus could not have been clearer in His call to action.

I was sitting in Youth Court in North Mississippi with the subject weighing on my heart when a mother, through fear and helplessness and with the help of a friend/translator, communicated with the judge about her six children. The social worker assigned to the case began to list for the court the ways that the agency was trying to help the family and avoid taking the children into custody. This is always the agency's first

consideration and is termed "reasonable efforts to prevent removal." I heard about the need for clothing for the children, the need for beds and bedding, and ultimately a need for rental assistance. I immediately thought, "the Farmington Family can you help this family, and possibly change the course of events for them." I recognized it as a rare opportunity in my experience. I told the social worker that I would have an audience of generous folks who would undoubtedly respond if called upon to help this particular family and with her assistance I indeed put out the call on Gifts of Women Sunday.

To say that the response was overwhelming is an understatement. With the assistance of Jinney Hart, Service Committee Chair, there was a truckload of donations of clothing, bedding, and other necessities. I dropped them off on Thursday, April 22 at our regular court date, and watched as two CPS employees drove away and directly to the home of this family in need. There are cash donations as well. I have discussed with CPS the method of delivering these funds directly to the rental office and/or the electric company. I intend to do that on May 13.

Thank you again for your generosity. Farmington has certainly shown God's love to this family and you are without a doubt the sheep that Jesus described in Matthew 25:31-46, and by your love, everyone will know you are disciples of Jesus (John 13:35).

> Thanks be to God.

Vaccine Accessibility

Share with your friends and neighbors!



Meritan is vaccinating homebound Memphians. Meritan is providing this vital service for Shelby, Fayette, Tipton, and Lauderdale county residents who are homebound and would have difficulty traveling to a vaccination site due to medical or mobility issues. There is no charge for the service; however, they will collect insurance information (if applicable) to bill for the administration fee, which helps to cover the cost of providing the mobile vaccine. They can also vaccinate caregivers or family members in the home during the visit.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this service, they can request a vaccine by:

- Completing the online form at www.meritan.org (preferred method)
- Emailing vaccine@meritan.org
- Calling the vaccine hotline at (901) 612-2212 and leaving a message
- We are so grateful to Meritan and its Executive Director Melanie Keller for their dedication to helping our senior neighbors access the vaccine.

Weekday Worship

The Farmington Family gathers for vesper services Wednesday nights in the outdoor chapel at 5:30pm. If the weather does not permit us to gather outside, worship is presented on zoom at 6pm. Simply register with your name and email at www.farmingtonpres.org/weekday-worship to join us on Zoom. Outdoor worship services are live streamed to our YouTube page.

Wednesday Dinners

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

MENU

- 5/5 - Taco Spaghetti
- 5/12 - Shrimp & Cheese Grits
- 5/19 - Bacon Cheeseburger Mac-n-cheese
- 5/26 - Chicken & Dumplings

Homemade Pizzas are available each week in addition to the weekly special.

Update from Worship Committee

We are in an exciting time and place with respect to worship at Farmington! Hopefully, by now it is not news to you that on Palm Sunday we began combining in-person sanctuary worship with YouTube live-streaming using a “hybrid” form of worship. Our mission, as it has been since the church was founded, is to provide safe accessible worship and administration of the sacraments to all. Holy Communion was administered during both services on Easter Sunday. Some segments, like choral music, will be pre-recorded for the choirs safety until a time when it is safe to sing again in the chancel. Please reference the website and weekly Happenings for information on registering and attending in-person on Sunday mornings.

We need volunteers to become familiar with and operate cameras, audio, and the livestream itself. If you, or a family member, can take a picture with a smartphone, you are qualified to operate one of our cameras. If you, or a family member, can create and deliver a PowerPoint presentation, you can control the livestream software. This is an exciting time, join us in the effort! Contact Paul King at 901.633.0360 or nomonarch@comcast.net.





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!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 10 Olivia Mittag
- 10 Duke Lively
- 10 Andrew Webb
- 11 Gerrie Wilder
- 11 Billy Wann
- 12 Jayme White
- 13 John Ingram
- 13 Jack Williams
- 14 Autumn Colley
- 14 Camille Young
- 16 Christian Barlow
- 16 May Webb
- 23 Doug Sweet
- 24 Jo Anne Simpkins
- 25 John Bivens
- 27 Abigail Palmer

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 June New Vision newsletter is due Monday, May 17. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at Shelley@farmingtonpres.org



Farmington Presbyterian Church & Day School
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