



SEPTEMBER 2021

All those who were going back to school received Blessings of the Backpacks from Rev. Rebecca on August 8th during worship.

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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

It seems that each year as we return to the routines of school, the heat of summer wanes, and leaves begin to change, the church program experiences a period of launching weekly opportunities for fellowship and study. After “taking summer off” from Wednesday night dinners, Fellowship Coffee, Potluck lunches, and small groups, we start all those programs back up again around August/September. We design logos and rethink what the content will be. But, we always launch.

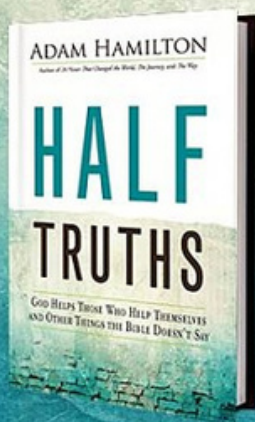
This year, we were all geared up for launch, and we had to scrap it. If I am honest, my disappointment in scraping the launch is not unlike the disappointment that is surely felt by those who gather for a shuttle launch that gets scraped at the last minute because a red light went on. It might be ok, but the risk is not worth moving forward just yet. Still, I was ready to sit at table together, to laugh and play and learn and pray together. Launch suspended.

So, we wait. It feels like so much is on “pause” in our world with the future unknown. The reality is the future has always been unknown and our over-filled schedules were simply a way to distract us from thinking too much about it. Now, we have time to think. We have space to evaluate. We have the gift of creativity.

Let's not waste this suspended launch! Let's check all the lights and gears! We don't have to have Wednesday Night Dinner and a program each week. We could have a special event once a month instead. Fellowship Coffee doesn't have to be after church; it could be before church, or it could be the weekly meal we have catered and eat together. Small groups don't have to meet in the evening, or at the church, or in someone's home. A group could meet for prayer from 8:30-8:45 on Tuesday morning on Zoom.

We are entering a season of evaluating what we have done in the past and visioning for the future. If there are ministries that have been especially meaningful to you, please share that with me or a member of Session. If there are ministries you believe would deepen our discipleship at Farmington, share that as well.

In nature, fall is a time for seeing the beauty in things coming to the end of their fruitfulness. It is also a time to plant bulbs to bring forth the beautiful colors of spring flowers. What things do we want plant now?



HALF TRUTHS

"God Helps Those Who Help Themselves"
and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say. Coming soon from Adam Hamilton!

GO BEYOND EVERYDAY SAYINGS AND EXPERIENCE THE FULL MESSAGE OF JESUS.

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways.

Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say

By Rev. Adam Hamilton

Sundays: September 12, 26, October 3, 24, 31, November 7 and 14

10am

East Room and Zoom Meeting ID: 835 3196 2842 (no passcode needed)

Led by Rev. Rebecca Luter

Book is available on Amazon, but it is not required.

Format is video + discussion.

All adults are welcome; any adult is welcome!

Adult Bible Study

Led by Rev. Rebecca

Sunday's @ 10 AM

Meeting ID: 835 3196 2842

DAY SCHOOL

Welcome Back FPDS

Welcome back to the 21-22 FPDS School year! We are so excited to have all of our new and returning families with us this year. Our first day was on August 9th and we are already in full swing of things with our new students acclimating and continuing students returning to the classrooms and interacting with one another. The classes have been focusing on getting to know each other and understanding classroom routines.

Within the first few weeks we are already growing in enrollment. The teachers have done an amazing job already filling the hallways with student work and crafts. School specials have begun and the children are loving getting to rotate out of their classrooms to learn about Art, Spanish, and Science and to have Chapel. Music will begin later in September.

We are looking forward to all of the fun fall festivities FPDS has planned to come!

Ms Gretchen and Ms Andrea



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CONFIRMATION

Every few years we present 4 questions to a group of young people with the purpose of professing faith and membership to the Farmington Family.

- Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?
- Who is your Lord and Savior?
- Will you be Christ's faithful disciple obeying his word and showing his love?
- Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

Consider your answers as we enter this season anew!

September 12th our weekly youth Sunday school will be devoted to what it means to be a member in the Presbyterian church. November 21st, we invite young people to publicly profess their faith in front of God and this congregation by answering the questions above with "I do" and "I will, with God's help"



"The ring bearer is setting out on the quest of Mount Doom. To you who travel with him, no oath or bond is laid to travel further than you will."

This line from the Lord of the Rings is in the book as well as the movie. It defines the fellowship that binds each dwarf, elf, human, wizard, and hobbit in the group to one another. They see the mission ahead and seek only to do their part without coercion or reward. No judgement falls on those who seem to fail and forgiveness abounds within the Fellowship. This is why our afternoon Fellowship will embark on a journey through the films and books to see where J. R. R. Tolkien may have let his theology slip into his work and how appropriate his themes are today. Beginning September 26th we will watch the first part of the first film, Fellowship of the Ring. The following few weeks will allow students to question and consider scenes and quotes from the film and uniqueness of the book before moving on to the second half of the film.



Young adult Bible study continues its study of Luke each Monday night at 6:30pm at the Starbucks inside Pinnacle Bank on Germantown Parkway. Our lively discussion and discoveries bring smiles each week we gather. All students beyond high school are welcome.



BACK TO CHURCH BASH



FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO TRAVEL

2022 brings 3 opportunities to travel to Biblical sites!

Rev. Rebecca Luter has traveled with Educational Opportunities on two different itineraries of Paul's Journeys and to the Holy Land and Jordan. While she is not leading a trip this year, there are three trips being led by Mr. Ross Hamilton, II, who is the Director of Travel Ministry for Educational Opportunities.

If you are interested in having more information, please contact Rev. Rebecca.

February 14 - 23, 2022

Holy Land Classic - Visit Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, and Jerusalem

April 21 - May 1, 2022

Journeys of Paul in Turkey - Visit the Seven Churches of Revelation, Ephesus, and Colossae

November 1 - 11, 2022

Splendors of Egypt - Follow the footsteps of Moses, Joseph, and the Holy Family

PINECREST's 59th Anniversary Save the Date

October 24th from 5-8pm at
Shady Grove Presbyterian Church



A casual, friendly event with
tasty food and the popular
"Pinecrest Cinnamon Roll"
Cocktail.

Pinecrest Camp and Conference Center is 59 years old this year! In celebration, this year's CampFood and Cocktails is only \$59 per person. (or \$75 at the door)

What is going on at Pinecrest? This summer, 425 kids camped in the piney woods, got dirty, and had fun learning about God's love and 19 middle schoolers took a week-long outdoor adventure.

How can I do more? You (or your business) can sponsor of CampFood and Cocktails!

SPARK Sponsorship Level - \$345

- 2 tickets to the event
- Name on the big screen at the event

TORCH Sponsorship Level - \$1000

- 4 tickets to the event
- Name on the big screen at the event
- Two CampFood & Cocktails long sleeve t-shirts (we'll need your sizes)

BONFIRE Sponsorship Level - \$1500

- 4 tickets to the event
- Name on the big screen at the event
- Two CampFood & Cocktails long sleeve t-shirts (we'll need your sizes)
- Pair of jersey Pinecrest PJs (we'll need your size here also)

To sponsor, please contact Lucy at lucy@camppinecrest.org. The deadline is October 11th.

Come eat, drink, be merry, AND make sure Pinecrest stays a "place set apart where people of all ages can come to listen for God."

SERVICE



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.

What? Lunch for 15 adults and children (A sandwich, chips, and cookie is plenty!)

When? Wednesdays

How can I sign up? You can sign up to provide a meal on our website at [farmingtonpres.org](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094da9aa2ea0f49-room) (click "Sign Ups" in the top right banner).
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094da9aa2ea0f49-room>

Where do I take it? Jinney Hart and Ann Erickson are able to deliver the lunch if you are not able to take it to the campus at 409 Ayers in Memphis.

FARMINGTON CONTINUES TO PROVIDE MEALS ON WEDNESDAYS

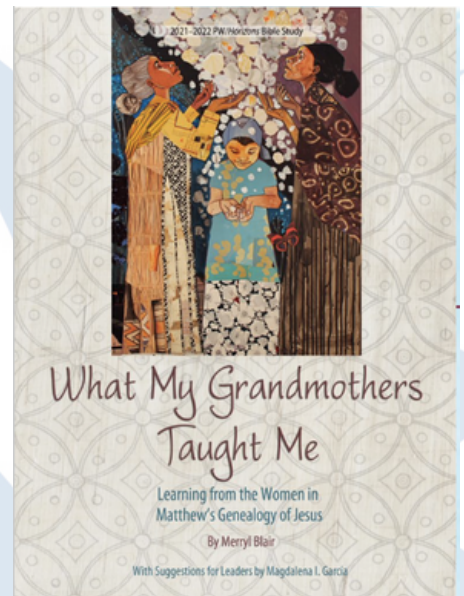
Beautiful Artwork lines the halls of the new Room in the Inn housing. Check it out when you deliver a meal!

SIGN UP!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Although the Women's Circle was not able to have their scheduled salad luncheon in August, they are definitely going to continue fellowship through Zoom! Kirsten will guide us through the study of *What My Grandmothers Taught Me* by Meryll Blair. The exact date and time for our meeting has not been determined. Please notify Jinney Hart of your preference regarding meeting times. Who knows....when the weather gets nicer a picnic might be arranged!



SERVICE

LETTER OF APPRECIATION FOR THE GIFT OF HEART HYGIENE KITS ASSEMBLED AT OUR PENTECOST CELEBRATION

Friends,

In the book of Romans we are encouraged that, "...hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts..."

When disasters strike, often people are left without basic necessities, many without even a place to call home. In these trying times, families search for something positive to hold onto amidst the chaos. A pandemic compounds these unmet needs.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance appreciates those of you who prepared and supported the Gift of the Heart kits and CWS blanket ministries. We believe you are helping to offer not only essential supplies such as personal hygiene or school items, a warm blanket or a way to clean up following the disaster - but also hope.

In 2020, more than 101,472 total kits, cleanup buckets and blankets were distributed internationally and in the United States. The neighbor you helped might be in the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, Romania, Iowa, Haiti or Alabama, among many other areas stricken by disaster. We encourage you to pray for these neighbors, that the enduring hope of Christ will be evident to them.

Thank you for joining others who share the vision of Matthew 25 - reaching those near and far with the hope of Christ following natural or human-caused disasters. In addition to the tangible way you have joined the mission of disaster recovery; your congregation's gifts to *One Great Hour of Sharing* support numerous disaster responses and other compassionate ministries around the world. Together we can make a difference in lives and livelihoods.

If you would like to receive *Mission Mosaic* (complimentary) to find out other ways Presbyterian support is helping around the world, you are invited to email a request to pda@pcusa.org. You can stay up to date about PDA's work by subscribing to the PDA blog to pcusa.org/PDAblog/subscribe and liking us on Facebook at facebook.com/PDACares.

Thank you for providing a tangible witness to the compassion of Christ, and for sharing a love that reaches beyond borders and helps to give hope along with kit supplies or blankets.

Serving together,

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

supported by *One Great Hour of Sharing*

WORSHIP

Flowers for Worship

Providing flowers for worship is a time-honored way to remember a loved one, to honor an occasion, or to thank someone for their service to the church.

You can sign up to purchase flowers and note the wording you would like in the bulletin. For example, "The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God by (your name) in honor of/in memory of/with thanksgiving for (person or occasion)."

The cost of flowers is \$60. Please notate "Flowers for (Date)" on the memo line of your check or in the comments with your online payment through the website (www.farmingtonpres.org).

Please Note: Flower contributions are not tax deductible. Please feel free to take or share your flowers with someone. Flowers left in the Sanctuary after service may be distributed to brighten someone's day.

[SIGN UP!](#)



Session Report

A called meeting of Session was held Saturday, August 14th to consider response to rising COVID-19 spread in our community. Two actions were taken: Masks are required of all persons 3 and over regardless of vaccine status inside the building unless speaking as a leader in worship. Indoor fellowship events involving food are discontinued indefinitely.

At the Stated Meeting, Session approved the Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the year ended December 31, 2020 prepared by HHM, CPAs. Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham was approved to provide pulpit supply for Rev. Rebecca Luter on September 19, 2021. Session discussed current financial projections, upcoming plans for fellowship events,

FPDS enrollment and staffing, attendance both in-person and online, and the work of the Elder Nominating Committee. Rev. Luter shared a draft of the Pastor's Work Plan for 2021-22 with three new goals: 1) Provide curriculum for and promote the formation of small groups in Advent 2021 and Lent 2022 2) Evaluate the efficacy of pre-COVID church program calendar and brainstorm alternatives for post-pandemic programming and 3) Lead at least one online class (5-6 weeks) for parents/grandparents to target FPDS families.

FELLOWSHIP

Picnic at Johnson Road Park

Come enjoy an evening at the park! There's a great playground for the kids, lots of room to run, and a completely accessible pavilion! Bring your lawn chair to distance farther, visit with your friends, and take the opportunity to get to know someone new.

Johnson Road Park, Pavilion (all the way to the parking lot at the end of the main park road)

Wednesday, Sept 29th

5:45pm-8pm

Dinner will be available: \$8 for adults, \$4 for children, \$25 family maximum

MENU: Hamburgers, hotdogs, all the sides, salad and dessert

Wednesday Dinner & Menu

Scott and Becky Hutchins (Firehutch Fine Foods) are now catering to-go orders for dinner to be picked up on Wednesday evenings at the church between 5:00-5:30pm. They are donating 10% back to Farmington. If you would like to order, please contact them at hutchinsathome@gmail.com.

Sept 1 - Rasta Pasta

Sept 8 - Chicken and Vegetables with homemade noodles and creamy gravy

Sept 15 - Meatballs with Marsala mushroom gravy over mashed potatoes

Sept 22 - NO DINNER PROVIDED

Sept 29 - Picnic at Johnson Road Park

Wednesday Night Dinner & Fellowship

We have decided to delay the start of dinners as we were aware that many were not planning to attend due to the current wave of COVID-19 in our community. We will continue to monitor the situation.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Responding to the Flooding in Waverly, TN

- We are planning to go to Waverly, TN, to assist in clean up on Tuesday, September 7th.
- We are packing 75 Flood Buckets.
- We are planning a "Dinner on the Grounds" for our church and community to benefit flood relief.
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is already responding to the floods in Tennessee and Hurricane Ida with initial assistance grants to meet emergency needs. They will continue support through the long-term recovery phase.

BLESSED



TO BE

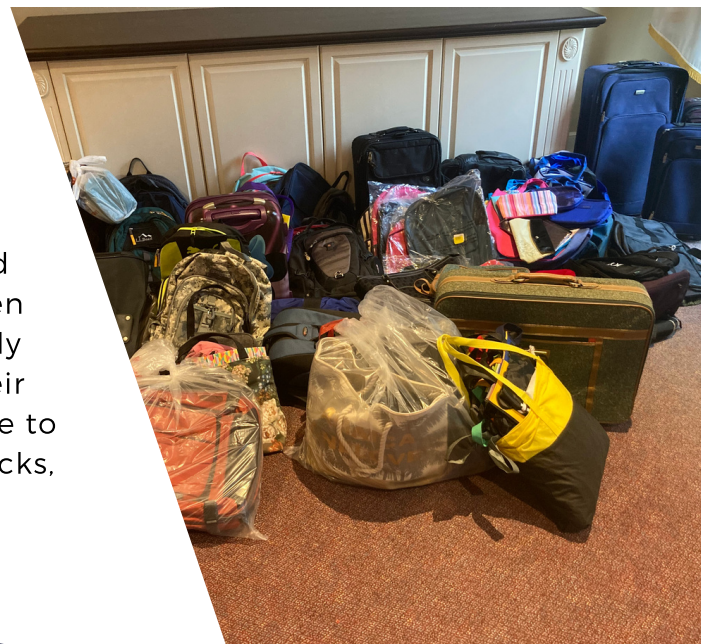


While preparing for Farmington Presbyterian to pack Flood Buckets in response to the waters in Waverly, TN and Southern Louisiana, Ann Erickson filled 5 grocery carts full of supplies at the Germantown Dollar Tree. The staff and customers watched patiently, helped load the supplies into her car, and gave financial support to the mission.

A BLESSING

Partnering with the Black Presbyterian Caucus

In the State of Tennessee alone there are an estimated 8000 children in the foster care system. These children often move frequently from house to house never really experiencing a place that feels like home, carrying their belonging in shopping bags and boxes from one house to another. The Farmington Family donated 149 backpacks, suitcases, totes and cosmetic bags to provide a small sense of dignity to their moves.





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Paula Patterson
- 3 Camille Hempel
- 3 Elizabeth Moots
- 4 Dr. John Thomas
- 5 Hadley Barr
- 5 Brooke Stegeman
- 7 Cydnee Young
- 8 Drew Howard
- 9 Hal Schneider
- 10 Melissa Still
- 14 Emily Emrich
- 15 Sharaze Colley
- 16 Mary Hudson
- 18 Rev. Rebecca Luter
- 18 Joanna Andrews
- 20 Tracy Riddle
- 20 Grigg Schneider
- 21 Tyler Celosky
- 21 Mary Elizabeth Ward
- 22 Laurinda Ingram
- 23 Laura Rhodes
- 25 Paulette Bukauskas
- 27 Blanche Hamilton
- 30 Tom Bryant



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, Director of Day School, Ext. 3132
 Andrea Soto, Assistant Director of Day School, Ext. 3138
 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 October New Vision newsletter is due Monday, September 21. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at shelley@farmingtonpres.org



Farmington Presbyterian Church & Day School
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 Germantown, TN 38139