



FEBRUARY 2022

On January 26, we celebrated 101 days of education at Farmington Presbyterian Day School this year.

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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

In the grey cold days of winter, as we approach the 24th month of pandemic, you may find that you are tired and weary and beginning to ask with the Psalmist, “How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?” It is as I was praying these words of Psalm 13 that I was reminded of a children’s book that I read to my children when they were preschoolers, “Mama, Do You Love Me?” by Barbara M. Josse. The book features an Inuit mother and child. The Inuit have lived in the northern part of Alaska for more than 9,000 years, and the child asks questions that people have asked of God even longer.

“Do you love me?”

And the answer comes, “Yes I do, Dear One.”

“How much?”

“I love you more than the raven loves his treasure, more than the dog loves his tail, more than the whale loves his spout.”

“How long?”

“I’ll love you until the umiak (a type of large kayak) flies into the darkness, till the stars turn to fish in the sky, and the puffin howls at the moon.”

The child asks “What if” – what if she accidentally broke something precious, or intentionally did something wrong? What if she ran away? And the parent responds, I would be sorry, ...angry, ...worried.

“What if I stayed away and sang with the wolves and slept in a cave?”

“Then, Dear One, I would be very sad. But still, I would love you....I will love you, forever and always, because you are my Dear One.”



My friends, we are loved. Even when we accidentally break something precious...even when we intentionally do something wrong...even when we run away, still, we are loved. Therefore, we are able with the Psalmist to complete our prayer, even in the bitter wind and darkness of winter, even as the months of pandemic precautions drag on, "I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the Lord's praise, for the Lord has been good to me."



PARABLES OF JESUS

Jesus taught in parables, short stories that teach a moral lesson through analogy. We are able to better understand the analogy when we understand the culture of the Middle East in Jesus' time. Come hear again the Parables of the Good Samaritan, the Rich Fool, the Great Banquet, and the Wise and Foolish Builders and consider their meanings for us now as we better understand their meaning for Jesus's followers then.

Sundays at 10am

East Room

or

Zoom Meeting ID: 889 8485 9604

Passcode: Farmington

February 6 - Parable of the Good Samaritan - Luke
10:25-37

February 13 - Parable of the Rich Fool - Luke 12:13-21

February 20 - Parable of the Great Banquet - Luke
14:15-24

February 27 - Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders
- Luke 6:46-49

SERVICE

SOUP KITCHEN SUPPORT

Service Committee would like to thank all who have been so generous in donating clothing to the First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen Clothes Closet. We continue to take clothing and blankets to First Presbyterian to distribute for our neighbors in need in the downtown area. Any items can be placed in the bins located by Youth Room or by the West entrance.



CHILI FUNDRAISER



SUPPORT THE SOUP KITCHEN AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN.

Chili, cornbread, and dessert will be available for pickup at Farmington after the worship service on February 13th, Super Bowl Sunday.

Preorder ONLY
by February 9th

Donation

\$20 per quart container

Order by Email

church@farmingtonpres.org

FPDS

It may be cold outside, but things are steaming along in preschool! The preschool has talked about all things winter. They have discussed snow, temperature and winter activities. We welcomed a new science teacher, Ms. Kate, and she taught the kids all about volcanos. They even made a volcano erupt!

The week of January 24th the children celebrated 100 and 101 days of school. Ms. Katie's Pre-Kindergarten class dressed up as 101 Dalmatians to celebrate.

Ms. Jennifer's Jr. Kindergarten class have all been assigned famous Americans and given a speech to learn. They will perform their annual America: Red, White and Blue play to celebrate President's Day and to learn more about famous Americans and American land marks. This is always a highlight of the year and we invite you to watch it on livestream. Please reach out for an email with the link (gretchen@farmingtonpres.org).

We have started registration for summer camp and for next school year. Everything is on track for a successful registration. We have 156 kids signed up for summer camp already and just opened registration.

If you know anyone that would be interested in working with children, we are hiring for the school year and for summer camp. Please direct them to the school office.

Love is in the air and we love all our Farmington Families and Staff! Thank you for the continued support of the Day School.

Gretchen Burch,
Director



SESSION REPORT

Session received a positive final report for the 2021 Budget and voted to open a low-risk investment account at the Community Foundation for short-term savings for Capital expenses. Session received from the Administrative Committee the news that the second PPP loan has been forgiven in its entirety and expressed appreciation to Ann Erickson, who coordinated the application and forgiveness processes. The 2022 Budget was amended to reflect additional pledged dollars. Thank you to Charlie Smithers for chairing the 2022 Stewardship Campaign and to all who pledged.

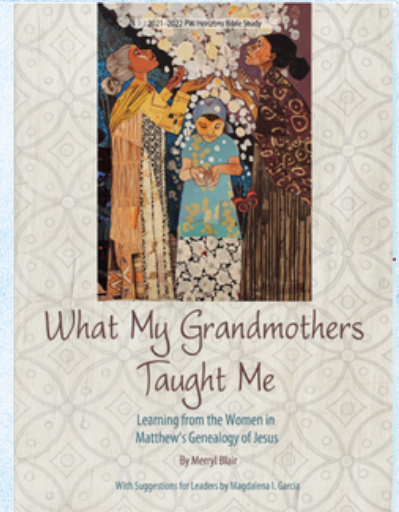
Session discussed protocol for mitigating COVID-19 transmission and current COVID cases within the church and day school. Alternate pews will continue to be closed to encourage social distancing and masks strongly encouraged for all, with masks required for those unvaccinated. There will be no fellowship events with food served at the church in February. The Souper Bowl Chili Cookoff will instead be a Chili Fundraiser on February 13th with chili pre-ordered and pre-packaged to go.

Rev. Luter has been asked to serve as Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of the Mid-South. Session expressed their support and excitement for her to serve in this role. Doug Barr will be serving as chair of the Committee on Education and Leadership.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

February 20, 2022
2pm

The Women's Circle of Farmington Presbyterian will be meeting on Sunday, February 20, 2022. We will study Lesson 6 on Bathsheba. All women of the church are invited to attend our Zoom meeting.



FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday ToGo Menu

Scott and Becky Hutchins (Firehutch Fine Foods) are 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.



Feb 2 - Beef Stroganoff

Feb 9 - Chicken Rice and Broccoli Casserole

Feb 16 - Baked Spaghetti Pie

Feb 23 - Meatloaf and Mashed Potatoes



Sunday July 16 -23
Summer Retreat
Rising 9th-High School
Student Cost: \$280

Purchase Stock in the retreat for any amount and receive daily updates from Doug Barr in your email and a personal postcard from a youth attending the retreat!

This Summer, don't miss the most influential and Spirit filled retreat of your year. Join us for Montreat 2022 Youth Conference, July 16 - 23. This year we are renting a house in Montreat and making our own meals. Let us know if you have any dietary restrictions well before the retreat. Cost is split between our church youth fund, our own fundraising, and a student portion. The student portion for this retreat is \$280 with a \$100 deposit due March 1st.

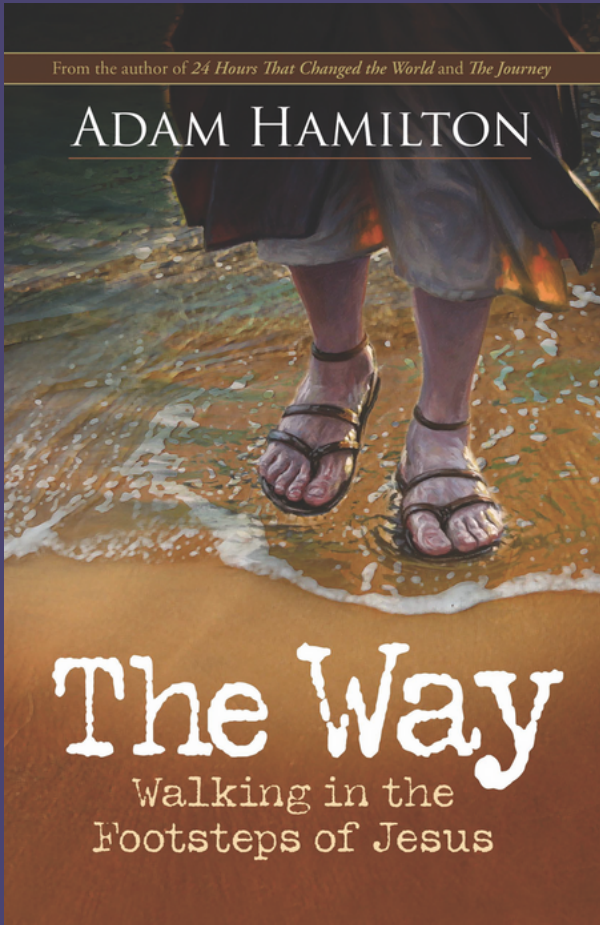
There is limited space for this retreat so please get your deposits in quickly. Contact Doug Barr for more information.

VBS 2022

JUNE 13-17, 9AM-12PM

JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THIS SUMMER. REGISTRATION IS COMING! PARTICIPANTS IN FPDS DAY SCHOOL WILL AUTOMATICALLY ATTEND. THEY DO NOT NEED TO REGISTER.





LENTEN STUDY

THE WAY: WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS WITH ADAM HAMILTON

While we may not be comfortable to travel to the Holy Land in person right now, we have the opportunity to travel with Rev. Dr. Adam Hamilton as he retraces the life and ministry of Jesus. Together, we will watch fascinating video from his personal travels to the Holy Land. We will have a "first-person" experience as he shares historical information, archaeological data, and stories of the faith to follow in the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry, and to into Jerusalem his final week.

Mark your calendars now for Wednesday evenings from 6-7pm throughout Lent on Zoom. Books are available for \$11.25 on amazon or by emailing church@farmingtonpres.org by February 23rd.

LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2nd, 2022





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!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Carter Paine
- 1 Liv Ann Palmer
- 3 Mike Colley
- 6 Jackson Paine
- 8 Meredith Oest
- 8 Kerry Bailey
- 11 Rev. Ruth Lovell-Bradham
- 11 Vickie Haguewood
- 15 Bert Phillips
- 15 Sara Millar
- 17 Pat Rush Davis
- 23 Kristan Perkins
- 23 Susan Phillips
- 24 Martha Mize
- 26 John Hazen
- 28 Cindy Coleman

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
- Adult Ministry - Bonnie Blair & Paul King
- Christian Education – Doug Barr
- Clerk – Laurinda Ingram
- Fellowship – Becky Hutchins
- Property and Grounds – Bob Plotner
- School Board – Mike Schneider
- Service – Jinney Hart
- Treasurer—Melissa Still
- Worship –Jackie Hall



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



Farmington Presbyterian Church & Day School
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