



**APRIL 2022**

Cooper Patterson at the Easter Sunrise Service 2021.  
Join us this Easter morning in the Outdoor Chapel at 7am.

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## Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

I've been thinking a lot about storms lately. Actually, not so much about storms, but about cleanup after storms. After the ice storm, we had a tree across our driveway. We spent the day wondering how we would move it or get it moved. And then, a neighbor came to the front door with his saw and offered to cut it up if we wanted to carry the debris to the street. The thunderstorms this week brought winds that knocked broken limbs out of trees and littered the yard with sticks and branches. More cleanup for our family to work together to clear. There are still two big limbs that are hanging in the top of one of my trees, and I am playing phone tag with professionals to come with their bucket truck and remove them.

Cleanup after storms requires: neighbors, working together, and sometimes, professionals.

We marked, in March, 2 years of pandemic storm. As we move forward, there will be cleanup to do. We will need our neighbors, and we will need to be neighbors and offer help to others. Recovery will mean that we come together to work, to fellowship, to serve, and to worship. And, sometimes, we will need professionals. I am hearing from more and more individuals about the impact the last 2 years have had on their marriages, their children, and on them. Please utilize me as a resource to listen and, when needed, connect you to a professional counselor.

There is a famous Holy Week sermon by Rev. Dr. Tony Campolo in which he repeats the refrain, "It's Friday, but Sunday's coming!" This year, as we celebrate Easter, we will rejoice that the cross did not have the last word. The storm passes, and the trees bud. COVID-19 has been a long storm, and there will be cleanup to do, but the sun is breaking through the clouds. New life bursts forth even from the grave! Let all, with heart and voice, rejoice!



# PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, **HOPE**

## How is Presbyterian Disaster Assistance helping in Ukraine?

Since Russia invaded Ukraine late last month, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has committed rapid response solidarity grants to five ecumenical partners in Eastern and Central Europe addressing the humanitarian crisis created by the unprovoked attack.

Recipients include the Friends of Community of Sant'Egidio, who are still in Ukraine, and Hungarian Reformed Church Aid, which is essentially the PDA of the Hungarian Reformed Church, said Susan Krehbiel, PDA's Associate for Refugees & Asylum.

"We are part of a church," Krehbiel said. "And so, we have church relationships, and that gives us a different way of entering into this work that is special. It means we're grounded in those relationships and people that have relationships in the community."

In situations such as Ukraine, Krehbiel says PDA's role is finding organizations on the ground, in the communities that need help, and helping to build their capacity to assist through the generosity of donors to PDA, including through the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. She cites the Hungarian Reformed Church as an example.

"They have relationships with individual congregations," Krehbiel said. "Then they have relationships with local governments, they have relationships with other ecumenical churches and organizations that do this work. And they get international support, not just from PDA, but also from other Reformed churches in the world.

"So, it's helpful for us to not only have the direct relationship with them, but also to know that they're in relationship with others, so we can see the whole picture, and we're able to work with the other national and international partners to see that resources get to them."

Local volunteers assist Hungarian Interchurch Aid's work to distribute food to people displaced by the conflict. (Photo by Hungarian Interchurch Aid)

PDA is also providing support to Hungarian Interchurch Aid and Lutheran World Federation through its longtime international partner ACT Alliance, and the International Orthodox Christian Charities in Romania. Krehbiel said that all partners are saying they see Ukraine as a long-term response that will require continued support. The Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, director of PDA, said the outpouring of response from Presbyterians has been unprecedented, and that she is hearing the same from other denominations.

"It's a massive, massive refugee response that's still unfolding, and that could escalate into a much different sort of issue," Kraus said, noting it is the largest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II.

As of Monday, 3.6 million people have left Ukraine and 6.48 million have been displaced within the country.

PDA has extensive experience responding to refugees in the United States and abroad, as wars in countries like Syria, Cameroon, and the Democratic Republic of Congo have driven

millions of people from their homes. Kraus acknowledges that being a European country makes the Ukrainian tragedy feel closer to many people in the United States and moves them to respond.

"I'm grateful that your heart has been broken by what's happening in Ukraine, and I'm hopeful that the breaking of your heart over Ukraine will break your capacity open even more to make connections when these things happen in places that don't feel as close as Ukraine," Kraus said.

Krehbiel said, "We don't want to compare one suffering to another, one disaster or conflict against another and say these people are more deserving than these people. What we want to talk about is when these things happen, and people are suffering from conflict, and when they are suffering from disasters, what is our call to respond? And how can we be as faithful to those people who are not in the limelight, who are not in the headlines, but who are in just as dire need of our care and having their rights protected?"

A quickly growing issue in the countries taking in Ukrainian refugees is the need for housing, as it becomes obvious many will not be able to go home anytime soon, if at all. PDA's specialty is long-term response, and its partner ministries in the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Office of the General Assembly will be part of a broad, sustained response, as well as advocacy offices in Washington and at the United Nations and Presbyterian World Mission.

"PDA's work is humanitarian response to refugees and disaster, but the cycle of repair and healing in a crisis of this magnitude requires intersectionality," Kraus said. "But humanitarian response alone is not a holistic response. We need the Office of Public Witness and the Presbyterian Ministry at the UN to help the Church lift its voice in advocacy.

We need Presbyterian Peacemaking and the Militarism Roundtable to address impacts of the

cultures of war and violence that fuel such crises. World Mission colleagues have been sustaining collegial relationships with partners throughout this region for many, many years, and building bridges for precisely such a moment as this."

"We work together with OGA and in our relationships with the World Council of Churches, the World Communion of Reformed Churches and ACT Alliance to have a unified witness and response."

Give to One Great Hour of Sharing to enable Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to respond quickly to catastrophic events.

By Rich Copley, Presbyterian News Service



## HOW CAN YOU HELP THE REFUGEES FLEEING UKRAINE?

Give to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering during our Holy Week services. Memo your gift "OGHS." This offering funds Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

"After everyone else is gone, we are still offering ways to assist the communities," Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Coordinator

# FPDS

Spring has sprung here at FPDS. The spring brings lots of discovery and fun. We had the Kids Kountry petting zoo come visit us. All the kids rode a horse around the parking lot, rode Thomas the Train, fed goats, petted a llama and raced turtles.

All classrooms have started collecting donations for St. Jude. Our annual Trike a Thon will be held April 7th and 8th in the back parking lot. FPDS has raised over \$50,000 for St. Jude and we are proud to keep the tradition alive. If you would like to donate to a great cause please stop by the school office and see Ms. Gretchen or drop off a check made out to St. Jude.

We will be having employees from the National Weather Service here in Memphis come talk to our students about weather and we will be practicing tornado drills to keep us safe in inclement weather.

In science class all classes are learning about the life cycle of butterflies and will be watching their butterflies hatch and releasing them.

In art class the kids are very busy making all their art creations for the Spring Art Show. This will coincide with the Spring Music program. This year we will feature a song from Spanish class and Chapel! You are all invited to attend or to watch the live stream of the music program.

May will be a very fast and busy month as well as it will be the last month of our 2021-2022 school year. We will let you know all the fun happenings for May in the April newsletter.

Thank you all for the continued support and love that you show to our school. We are blessed to see another fun and busy spring here at FPDS!

Ms. Gretchen & Ms. Andrea



# SESSION REPORT

Session met in person for the first time since February 2020. It was a joy to welcome into the Farmington fellowship Jamie and Carol Jameson by transfer of membership from Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers, Florida.

Session received updates that registration is going well for FPDS Summer Camp and the 2022-23 School Year, plans are underway for capital improvements to begin the last week of May/first week of June, and a draft revision of the By-laws was shared. Ann Erickson updated Session on the Spring Presbytery meeting, including that Rev. Rebecca Luter was elected Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery for 2022, Kirsten King was accepted as a Candidate for Ordained Ministry, and appreciation was shown by the Clergywomen of the Presbytery to Bonnie Blair for planning and hosting a terrific Clergywomen's Retreat at Pinecrest.

## Dates for Your Calendar:

**April 13** - Presbyterian Women's Bake Sale

**April 14 & 15** - Maundy Thursday Communion and Good Friday Services at 6pm

**April 16** - Easter Egg Hunt at 10am

**April 17** - Sunrise Service at 7am, Easter Service at 11am

**April 24** - Women's Potluck Luncheon Picnic

**May 11** - Church-wide Picnic at Johnson Road Park

**June 4** - Presbytery Education Day at Farmington, "Vitality: Church in Post-pandemic Life"

**June 5** - Rise Against Hunger

# FELLOWSHIP



We are gathering again for Fellowship Coffee following worship.

If you would like to provide Sunday Morning snacks, please sign up on our website.

[www.farmingtonpres.org/sign-up](http://www.farmingtonpres.org/sign-up)

## Mid Week Meals In Person

### April 6, 13, 20th

Please join us for dinner as you are able to arrive between 5:15-6:15pm. The program will begin at 6:15pm in the Sanctuary.

You may RSVP for dinner by Mondays by noon to [churchoffice@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:churchoffice@farmingtonpres.org). The cost of dinner is \$8 per adult and \$4 per child (12 and under) with a \$25 family maximum.

## Mid Week Meals To Go

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](mailto:hutchinsathome@gmail.com).

April 6 - Chicken ala King

April 13- Beef Goulash

April 20 - White Chicken & Spinach Lasagna

April 27 - Meatballs with Marsala gravy & noodles



SAVE  
THE DATE!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**June 5 at 1:00 PM**

**in the Fellowship Hall**

Your donations will help us reach our goal of \$7,500 to package and box 20,000 meals!



## Easter Egg Hunt

10am - 11am, April 16, 2022

Eggs hidden for ages 0 - 12. Get your picture with the Easter Bunny.



*more  
than  
Enough*

2022 Montreat  
Youth Conference

### Buy Stock in this year's Montreat Conference

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! Donations can be made in the offering plate or online with a memo note: Youth Stock.

## 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.



# Annual Bake Sale

APRIL 13TH,  
12PM-6PM

All members of the Farmington family are encouraged to make or purchase baked goods to sell.

The Day School students love to come and purchase a cupcake, a brownie, or 2 cookies!

The adults love to purchase a cake or pie that is ready to serve on Easter.

Be sure and mark your calendar to come enjoy some delicious treats too...and tell your friends!

#### NOTES FOR BAKERS:

Bring your baked goods to the church kitchen by 11AM on April 13th.

Label your item/container of items with your name.

Indicate the flavor of cake/cupcake if different from frosting.

ALL items with NUTS/PEANUT BUTTER must be CLEARLY labeled!

The proceeds from the Farmington Presbyterian Women's Bake Sale are used to support our mission projects including: Mexico Cistern Water Project, Send a Kid to Camp (Pinecrest), Rise Against Hunger, and Church Health Center.





# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The Women's Circle of Farmington Presbyterian concluded their Horizon's Bible Study by discussing Mary, Jesus's mother. We discovered that the Gospel writers Matthew, Luke, and John depicted Mary differently. We also learned how the depiction of Mary has evolved through the ages.

### **Upcoming Events:**

The Women of the Church are planning a potluck salad luncheon Sunday, April 24 after the church service in the outdoor garden to culminate our Bible study and enjoy fellowship with one another.

The 2022 Farmington PW Coordinating Team is as follows:

Jinney Hart, Moderator

Kirsten King, Bible Study Leader

Melissa Still, Treasurer

Ann Erickson, Sunshine Committee

Kay Patterson, Secretary/Historian

## *POTLUCK LUNCHEON PICNIC*

Members from Farmington Presbyterian recently attended the Memphis Think Pink Luncheon on March 19th. The luncheon is hosted by alumnae of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity to promote breast cancer education and awareness in the Memphis Community. Jackie Hall represented Farmington as a breast cancer survivor model in the fashion show. Mary Lou Collins was recognized as the longest survivor, 38 years. Melissa Still started the luncheon 14 years ago and remains on the committee. If you are interested in attending the 2023 luncheon please email Melissa at [still\\_melissa@yahoo.com](mailto:still_melissa@yahoo.com).





# Kirstin King's

## Journey as a Presbyterian Woman

By Ann Erickson, Editor, PW Connection



On Saturday February 26, 2022, Kirsten King (KK as she is affectionally called) was approved as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in PCUSA by the Presbytery of the Mid-South. She began her studies as a part-time student at Memphis Theological Seminary. In 2019, she entered the ordination process and transferred to full-time study for a Master of Divinity degree at Columbia Theological Seminary (PCUSA), in Decatur, GA. Kirsten successfully completed her degree in December 2021.

Kirsten has related that her encounter with the Holy Spirit in her late 20's led her on a journey of faith discovery that drew her to PCUSA. In a statement of her faith journey she shared: "As God would guide, an inward transformation began, helping me learn to love and listen to a still, small voice of calm.

My heart believed in God through the whispers of the Holy Spirit long before my mind could process this understanding. My sense of call stems from this journey."

In 2013, Big Tent was being held in Louisville to celebrate 30 years of reunification of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (Southern and border states) and the United Presbyterian Church (congregations in nearly all states). Seeking renewal, Kirsten let it be known that she was going to attend, and Bonnie Blair said, "I'll go."

At this conference, Kirsten met Presbyterians of all ages and leadership levels as they gathered for worship and engaged in learning about a variety of topics such as evangelism and intergenerational ministry and engaged in local community activism. She and Bonnie found the worship services and connections with other members across the country to be especially rewarding and uplifting.



2018 PW Churchwide in Louisville KY

Kirsten has credited the Presbyterian Women as an avenue to test the waters, to try new things, and to spread her wings. She has served in many leadership roles and has participated in numerous PW gatherings. A particularly memorable trip was in 2018 to PW Churchwide in Louisville, Kentucky when Kirsten was serving as our Moderator of PW. At this conference, the Presbytery of the Mid-South had more attendees than any other Presbytery outside of the host group.

During her time in the Presbyterian Church, Kirsten has practiced stewardship by generously sharing her time and talent through her service in leadership positions.

Kirsten has been a ruling elder for twenty-five years at Farmington, Moderator of Presbytery of the Mid-South, Moderator of Presbyterian Women of the Mid-South, and a commissioner to the 222nd General Assembly. She is currently serving as the PW Bible study leader at Farmington and Moderator-elect to the Synod of Living Waters for Presbyterian Women.

Kirsten continues her testimony to Christ as she leads others. When asked what's next, Kirsten says, "My personal experience and my understanding of Christian mission call me to a life of service. I am open to what God is preparing me for in the intersection of my prior experience and the juncture of prayer and discernment."



*2018 installation as Moderator of PW of the Mid-South*

## **P.W. SYNOD GATHERING** **June 24-25, 2022 - Online Event**

Presbyterian Women  
June 24-25, 2022  
Synod of the Living Waters  
Triennial Gathering  
A Virtual Gathering

Key Note Speaker: Carol Bechtel the author of the 2022-2023 Horizons Bible Study, "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight"



## *Holy Week*

**GERMANTOWN PREACHING SERIES**  
12 PM WORSHIP AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

**Tuesday, April 12**  
Germantown Presbyterian

**Wednesday, April 13**  
Germantown United Methodist

**Thursday, April 14**  
New Bethel Baptist

**Good Friday, April 15**  
St. George's Episcopal

\*A light lunch will follow each service except on Good Friday



# THE SEASON OF LENT

## The Way

Walking in the  
Footsteps of Jesus

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

Where: Sanctuary and Zoom

When: Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15,  
March 9th-April 20th

Retrace the life and ministry of Jesus this Lent as we travel to the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized, to the Judean wilderness where he was tempted, around the ruins of Capernaum where he made his home during his years of ministry, up the mountain where he preached the Sermon on the Mount, on a boat across the Sea of Galilee, to the well where he and a Samaritan woman exchanged water, and finally to Jerusalem as we remember the events of his final week.

No preparation is necessary.

**April 6** - Jesus with the Sinners, Outcasts, and the Poor

**April 13** - The Final Week

**April 20** - Friday Was NOT the End of the Story



zoom

Meeting ID: 871 7636 8648

Passcode: 387216

## Holy Week Events

**April 10** - Palm Sunday -  
Sanctuary

In-person and live-streamed @  
11am

**April 13** - Presbyterian Women  
Annual Bake Sale

Purchase cupcakes, brownies,  
cookies, pies, or cakes for your  
Easter celebration!

**April 14** - Maundy Thursday -  
Sanctuary

In person w/ Communion & Live-  
streamed @ 6pm

**April 15** - Good Friday - Sanctuary  
In-person & Live-streamed @ 6pm

**April 16** - Easter Egg Hunt -  
Back Parking Lot @ 10am.

**April 17** - Easter

- Sunrise Service - Outdoor  
Chapel - 7am

- In-person Worship - Sanctuary -  
11am

## HE IS RISEN



## Sunday Worship Online

Join us, Sunday mornings for worship on YouTube. You can find us through our website, [www.Farmingtonpres.org](http://www.Farmingtonpres.org), or on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/c/farmingtonpresbyterian](http://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!



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Bailey Wann
- 3 Wendy Korner
- 9 Charlotte Moots
- 13 Jack Ingram
- 15 Kasi Wann
- 18 Henry Webb
- 19 Angela Rutland
- 20 Gavin Perkins
- 22 Maureen (Mo) Smithers
- 23 Emily Rhodes
- 24 John Perkins
- 26 Kelly Nowak
- 27 Elizabeth Williams
- 29 Ann Erickson

## 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 May New Vision newsletter is due Tuesday, April 19.  
Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at [shelley@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:shelley@farmingtonpres.org)



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