



SEPTEMBER 2023

A team from Farmington visited the First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen, August 27, to serve lunch and assist in the Second Harvest grocery service

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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

I feel like I am writing a “back-to-school” essay on what I did over summer break! I know many of you have wondered about my Sabbatical work, so I’ll just go ahead and give you a thumbnail sketch of what I have been doing over the 12 weeks of Sabbatical and 3 weeks of vacation. I have been working on 3 projects related to my pursuit of a Doctor of Ministry. My purpose in continuing my education is to study what we believe about Communion (Reformed Eucharistic Theology) and how that guides our polity which informs our worship practices related to livestreaming and archiving worship services with communion online. This summer, that study has taken the form of a lot of research of online worship services, reading and note-taking! I’ve read over 2000 pages on the subject over the summer, and while I still have a long way to go before I am finished, I am thankful for the time to dive deep into this subject. This fall you will be hearing more about engagement with those who worship primarily online as I continue my studies.

During Sabbatical, I enjoyed worshipping with a different congregation each Sunday, paying particular attention to their welcoming ministry and to their practices related to communion and online worshippers. In addition, I have gotten my hands in the dirt, spent time with family, travelled, and took Nic to college. It has been a full summer.

I look forward to hearing about your time while I was away and to being back with you. September 10th, we will begin our fall worship series, “Encountering Jesus,” with the story of the wedding at Cana. Join us in worship at 11am in person or click “Worship” our website home page to find out what happens when the wine runs out!

Blessings,
Rebecca

Farmington Day School



Hello Everyone!

We are officially back to school and have hit the ground running. We invite you all to stop by the office and say hello. You can look at our new floors, paint and décor. Our office and the Youth room received a makeover during our In-Service week. The teachers all gathered for our annual Back to School In-Service training days. Some employees received their First Aid and CPR certification, others had New Employee Orientation and all of us attended an all-day training with our Quality Coach, Ms. Bremisha. She got everyone familiar with their TN-PAL account which is our own training and portfolio page. As a staff we will be focusing on meeting all our annual training requirements.

The children have all gotten settled into the routine of their new classrooms and have been having fun here at the Day School. We hosted an Open House on Thursday, August 31st. This gave the kids a chance to show off their classroom to their parents and give the parents a deeper look into their child's day.

In September we have a lot of fun and engaging activities planned. The children will invite their grandparents to our Muffins with Grandparent's event, September 7 and 8. This is a way we celebrate Grandparent's Day and to remind the grandparents that they are part of our village, as well. Last year we had standing room only and this year we had to schedule it as a 2-day event!

One of our bigger events that we host each year is the Scholastic Book Fair. All the children and teachers love this event. It gives everyone a chance to purchase books and to help raise money for new books and equipment for the classrooms. Please stop by and start some holiday shopping! The book fair will be going on the week of September 18th- 22nd. Daily 7:30- 9:30 a.m. and 2:30- 6:00 p.m.

The week of the book fair we will host our Back to School Family Picnic. This gives the families a chance to meet the other children and families that are in their child's class. It also gives families a chance to shop the book fair together.

We will be reaching out next month with an update on all our October Happenings...until then Thank You for the continued support of the Day School.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gretchen & Ms. Andrea

DAY SCHOOL TSHIRT SALE



Farmington Day School is taking orders for their upcoming Tshirt release. Long sleeve and short sleeve options are available. Contact the school office to place your order.

- Short sleeve Youth - \$15
- Long Sleeve Youth - \$18
- Short Sleeve Adult - \$20
- Long Sleeve Adult - \$23



MOPS
SEPTEMBER 14 AND 28
6-8PM
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

MOPS is an evening gathering of mothers for light refreshments, meaningful discussions, and quality time together. Every other Thursday, you are welcome to join, church member and day school teacher, Jenn Paine in the Fellowship Hall 6-8pm. More dates to come.

THE EVENT IS FREE.
NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED.
WELCOMING TO ALL MOMS!

SESSION REPORT

Session received and approved the 2022 Financial Review prepared by HHM, CPAs. The July 2023 Financial Report was accepted. The School Board report included news of strong enrollment for fall, high marks from DHS, and plans for the fall open house in August and two grandparents days in September. Upcoming dates were reviewed including Friendsgiving in November and 10,000 Villages and the PW Bake Sale in December. Session members expressed heartfelt appreciation to Tom Sauer for his calm and steadfast leadership and service at Farmington this summer during Rev. Luter's Sabbatical.



At a recent Session meeting, a Celtic cross made by Cooper Patterson and Jerry Hosier was presented to Tom Sauer in appreciation for his service to Farmington Presbyterian Church while Rev. Rebecca Luter was on Sabbatical leave. Tom not only delivered inspirational messages each Sunday for the past 3 months, but he also accepted numerous challenges and steered us through each bump in the road. We now consider Tom a member of the Farmington family and hope this gift reminds him of his time serving here and of the people who have grown to love him. May God's blessings go with Tom and his wife, Kim.

XPUJIL, MEXICO

“What have I done?”

I asked myself this question several times over July 31 - August 5. I asked as we drove away from the beautiful tourist enticing landscape of Cancun, 5 hours into the jungle. I asked again as I was robbed of sleep by the dogs and the roosters making constant noise throughout the night. I asked again as I shoveled my 16th 5 gallon bucket of gravel to be hoisted into the cement mixer. And I asked again as my lower back refused to lift me out of the car as we arrived at the apartment in Xpujil, Mexico from our first of 4 days building cisterns.

This was a hard trip, but a rewarding one. I met amazing people, tasted true Mexican meals, saw more bats than I could imagine, climbed Mayan ruins, and saw God at work in new and heart wrenching ways. We built the bottoms of four cisterns several miles from Xpujil in Cristobal Colon (Christopher Columbus). The first cistern we poured was across the street from a government water project! A large sign in front of it celebrated the administrations work and expense in completing this water provision for the town.

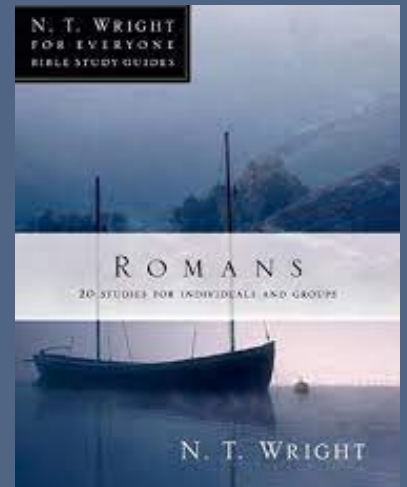
Why are we building a cistern across from a PROVIDED water project? The answer is not very surprising, but I hope to share that with you at an upcoming Wednesday night dinner. I also want to encourage you to consider taking this trip next summer. It is difficult work, but you will surprise yourself and learn a lot about the people of Mexico living away from the visibility of tourists.



N. T. WRIGHT FOR EVERYONE BIBLE STUDY

Cooper Patterson will be leading a bible study using the guide by N.T. Wright on the book of Romans in the Fellowship Hall

9:30am - 10:30am
Fellowship Hall
Led by Cooper Patterson



Mark your Calendars
October 29, 2023
4 - 6pm

Treats, games, activities, box maze, candy, costumes, decorated trunks and so much more. Don't miss this years Trunk or Treat, October 29, 2023



POTLUCK SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH

Join us for Potluck on a special Sunday after worship as we celebrate the return of Rev. Rebecca Luter from Sabbatical, September 10. There's always plenty to eat and fellowship to share!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Melissa Still, Jinney Hart, Kay Patterson, Charlene Still, and Nadine Oest recently attended the Presbyterian Horizon Bible Study Training at Pinecrest. Delicious cinnamon rolls and lunch complimented the day as Rev. Mary Gale provided us with a preview of our upcoming study of Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts. This study will focus on sacred encounters that break through the mold. Join us as we discover those encounters and the transformation that occurs with the character in the story and ourselves!

PW POTLUCK SALAD DINNER SEPTEMBER 6 AT 6PM



All ladies are invited to a potluck dinner at Ann Erickson's house on Wednesday, September 6th at 6pm. Bring a salad of your choice. Please RSVP to Ann at annerickson1@bellsouth.net

FELLOWSHIP

COFFEE

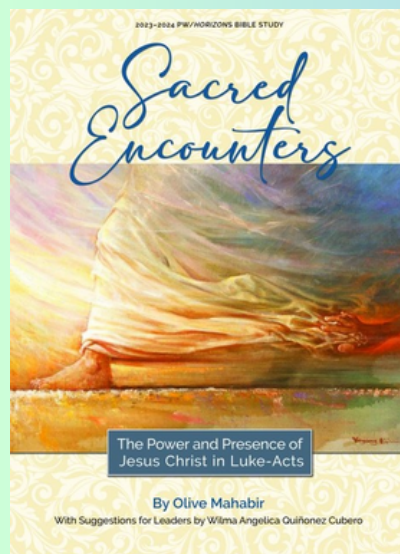
We gather for Fellowship Coffee following worship. If you would like to provide Sunday Morning snacks, please sign up on our website.

www.farmingtonpres.org/sign-up

Join us September 3rd in the Fellowship Hall following worship as we say farewell to our Commissioned Ruling Elder Tom Sauer. Tom's service to Farmington has been a blessing. We are thankful for the opportunity to connect with him, even as we eagerly await the return of our pastor, Rev. Rebecca Luter.

PW BIBLE STUDY

SEPTEMBER 24 12:30PM



All women of the church are invited to attend the Horizon's Bible Study: Sacred Encounters Sunday, September 24 at 12:30 pm in the East Room for Lesson 1 from this series. Ann Erickson, Kay Patterson, and Jinney Hart will be leading the Bible study for the 2023-2024 series. This will be a study of Luke-Acts which is actually 2 volumes of the same book and is considered to have been written by the same author, Luke. Through this interactive Bible study series, we will investigate ways the 21st century church can exhibit mercy and compassion within and beyond the traditional congregation.

Come join us as we learn about the sacred encounters of the characters of the stories and how they were transformed by their experience. We too may be transformed!

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

SEPT 10 4:30 - 6:30pm - National TV Dinner Day

Join us for a bus trip to Kroger to pick up dinner and beverages. we will return to the church to cook the meals, watch a show and enjoy a meal together.

SEPT 17 2 - 4pm - Bowling at Cordova Bowling

Invite your friends to bowl with us at Cordova Bowling.

SEPT 24 4:30 - 6:30pm - Dinner & Discipleship

Everyone loves dinner.

Don't let Discipleship scare you. It means to follow in the footsteps of a rabble rouser as he confronts systems of oppression across the known world; a system that ultimately had him condemned and silenced. Sounds boring right? He wasn't just "nice", yall!

September 23
10am
in the Sanctuary

Active Shooter Training

Germantown Police Department will be providing Active Shooter and Medical Training in the Sanctuary at Farmington Presbyterian on Saturday, September 23rd, at 10am. Mark your calendars, invite your friends and neighbors, and plan to attend.

Farmington Adult Ministries Thursday, September 28 12:30pm

The Adult Ministries Group will host a luncheon on Thursday, September 28th at noon in the Youth Room. The speaker will be Jim Collins. He is retired from a career with DuPont. Jim has an interesting story life story to share with us.

Please mark your calendar to attend this event. Lunch will be prepared by Chef Scott Hutchins. The cost is \$13. Please contact Sandy Wann to make a reservation by Monday, September 25th.

We will be discussing booking a day trip to the Slave Haven Underground Railroad Museum on 826 North Second Street in Downtown Memphis.

EVERYTHING
HAPPENS
~~FOR A REASON~~
WITH KATE BOWLER

PODCAST DISCUSSION W/ REV. REBECCA LUTER

9:45-10:45am Sunday Mornings
Everything Happens. with Kate Bowler

Listen to the podcast at katebowler.com or through your podcast app.

Join us Sunday mornings in the East Room to discuss it!

September 10 - Season 1, Episode 1:
"The Insight of Outsiders"
Guest - Nadia Botz-Weber

September 17 - Season 1, Episode 2:
"Costly Love"
Guest - Lucy Kalanithi

September 24 - Season 1, Episode 3:
"Awkward"
Guest - Alexandra Petri

October 1 - Season 1, Episode 4:
"Joyful, Anyways"
Guest - Margaret Feinberg





Awesome news, Farmington!

Meals packaged at your Rise Against Hunger Experience have shipped.

At this moment, healthy meals are on their way to a community in urgent need of nutrition. We're excited to share that destination with you. (Drumroll, please!)

Meals you packaged are headed to Haiti!

Haiti, a small island nation located in the Caribbean, was the world's first black-led republic and the first independent Caribbean state. The country faces political, economic, and social instability, as well as vulnerability to natural disasters, having suffered serious devastation from massive earthquakes and hurricanes in the past decade. These unique circumstances create complex and ever changing threats to food security and public health in the country. The Global Hunger Index, which assesses food insecurity based on indicators that measure undernourishment and undernutrition, categorizes Haiti as having a "serious" level of hunger.

Your impact

To address some of the challenges community members in Haiti face in providing healthy food for their families, Rise Against Hunger partners with organizations serving food at schools and vocational training centers. This is a key part of Rise Against Hunger's Nourishing Lives pathway. The meals you packaged will help ensure that people have access to the consistent nourishment they need to live healthy lives, while also supporting the opportunity to receive an education that will serve their families for years to come. Read more about the impact your meals make by checking out our Pathways to End Hunger!

Continue growing the movement

Thank you again for volunteering your time. If you happen to receive more than one of these emails, your meals are being distributed through multiple shipments! The impact we are making together starts with a meal and leads to resilient communities worldwide. Please consider continuing your journey to end hunger by donating to support sustainable solutions for communities like the ones your meals are serving.

Gratefully,
Rise Against Hunger

FAYETTE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Farmington Presbyterian continues to collect canned goods for the food pantry in Fayette County. Donations are delivered to First Presbyterian Church in Oakland, TN. All support we have been giving them is greatly appreciated. Anyone who needs food can come by and get what they need. Please consider donating for our neighbors in need. A basket is located at the west entrance of the church.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Paula Patterson
- 3 Camille Hempel
- 3 Kate LaVelle
- 3 Elizabeth Moots
- 5 Hadley Barr
- 5 Brooke Stegeman
- 7 Cydnee Brown
- 10 Melissa Still
- 15 Sharaze Colley
- 18 Rev. Rebecca Luter
- 18 Joanna Andrews
- 20 Tracy Riddle
- 20 Grigg Schneider
- 21 Mary Elizabeth Ward
- 22 Laurinda Ingram
- 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
- Congregational Life -
- Christian Education – Doug Barr
- Clerk – Laurinda Ingram
- Discipleship - Bonnie Blair & Paul King
- Property and Grounds – Bob Plotner
- School Board – Mike Schneider
- Service – Jinney Hart
- Treasurer—Melissa Still
- Worship –Jackie Hall
- Liv Palmer

Content for the October New Vision newsletter is due Tuesday, September 19th. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at shelley@farmingtonpres.org

