

FEBRUARY 2024

The Outdoor Chapel was blanketed with snow in January.

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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

As I turn the calendar to February, I always begin to think of Spring and have to pull myself back. As much as I love to watch intricate flakes of snow drift from the sky and settle in a simple, white blanket across the ground, I have a hard time seeing the beauty of a grey, cold winter's day. You may notice as you turn your calendar that there are two entries on February 14th. It is both Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday this year. I hope you will make plans to celebrate the greatest love we receive that evening. On Ash Wednesday we acknowledge that in life and in death, we belong to God. We acknowledge that we are flesh and will all die, and we begin our Lenten journey toward the promise of new life.

Our theme this Lent is "Wandering Heart," and we will be studying the story of Peter and considering how we are a lot like him. Peter's heart was prone to wander. He has moments of great faith and great failing. Ultimately, though,

God uses him - and us - in mighty ways.

Lenten Worship Themes:

Ash Wednesday - "Tune My Heart"

February 18 – "Jesus Sought Me"

February 25 - "Rescue Me from Danger"

March 3 – "Praise the Mount"

March 10 - "I'm Fixed Upon It"

March 17 - "Teach Me"

March 24 - Palm Sunday - "Songs of Loudest Praise"

March 28 - Maundy Thursday - "Here's My Heart"

March 29 - Good Friday - "O to Grace"

March 31 - Easter Sunday - "And I Hope"

You may recognize the hymn, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," from which our worship themes come. May our prayer as we await the joy of the warming of the earth and the breaking forth of new life be: "Come, thou fount of every blessing and bind our hearts to thee, this Lent and forevermore. Amen."





America: The Red, White, and Blue Transitional Kindergarten Program

Join us February 16 at 11am for a great celebration of our country. Students present what they have learned about America through costumes, speeches, songs, and impressive artwork!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Meeting February 25 at 12:30pm

The Farmington Presbyterian Women continue their study of Luke-Acts Sunday, February 25 in the East Room at 12:30 pm. We will be combining chapters 5 & 6 of our Horizon's Bible study: Sacred Encounters. Please join us as we delve into Jesus's impact on society when encountering individuals with disabilities. This study will transfer into a transformative experience for us in today's world.

Nostalgic Tea Room Luncheon February 14th at 1pm

All Ladies are invited to attend "high tea" luncheon a the Nostalgic Tea Room at Sheffield Mall in Collierville on Wednesday, February 14th at 1pm. We will celebrate our love of being Presbyterian Women with a Valentine luncheon served in a true English manner! Please RSVP to Jinney Hart. Reservations are required.

Lenten Lunch Calgary Episcopal Church February 28th at noon

The Women of FPC will attend the Lenten lunch at Calgary Episcopal Church downtown Memphis on February 28th at noon. If you are planning to attend, contact Jinney Hart.



MOPS 6-8PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

MOPS will meet February 8th and 22nd in the Fellowship Hall from 6 - 8pm. All moms are welcome to this time of fellowship, study, and support for one another.

ALL MOMS WELCOME NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED.



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Friday, February 2

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner will return Friday, February 2nd at 6pm. Signup on our website by January 31st with your preference for Mulan Bistro, Rotolo's, Los Cabos, or Commissary BBQ. You will be notified regarding your reservation by 1pm on the 2nd. Sign up to enjoy this opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones!

Potluck Sunday FOLLOWING WORSHIP FEBRUARY 4, 2024





Scout Sunday
JOINING US IN WORSHIP
FEBRUARY 11, 2024



Celebration Troupe
LEADING US IN WORSHIP
FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Youth PYC Retreat

Piece
by \$50
Piece

Presbyterian Youth Retreat

February 23 - 25

Pinecrest Camp <u>Middle</u> and High Schoolers

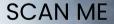
Everything we are and
everything we do
shapes the way we see God.
Piece by piece
our faith is stitched together.

Let us know if you plan to attend by Feb. 15

SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY 2024

Benefiting First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen Sunday, Feb. 11th

Preorder your chili by February 7th! www.farmingtonpres.org





"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind." Philippians 2:1-2

Dear Beloved Farmington Family,

I joke that "joy" is when sorrow and happiness come out of you at the same time in a wet ball. When I joined Farmington Presbyterian, I felt the joy of an inward and outward call to this ministry. I was sorry to let go of Birmingham, AL, but excited to see what God would do through that change. Long story short, we arrived at this little church on Farmington Blvd through no small provision and the immense providence of Christ.

I remember two weeks into my time at Farmington sitting in the emergency room with my 7 month pregnant wife who was about to have an emergency Appendectomy. You barely knew us, but we were welcomed, loved, and cared for like long time members. I experienced joy. I will not go into the multitude of times Farmington has opened their arms to us because that is not the focus of this letter. However, accept our gratitude and experience joy in remembrance of our nine years together in Christ.

I am writing to tell you of our next step in following that inward and outward call to ministry. I will be leaving Farmington Presbyterian on February 18th to become the new Director of Children and Family Ministries at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, AR. Second is the church where Rachel grew up, it is the church where Rachel and I were married, and Little Rock is the home of Rachel's parents and my sister's young family. It fills me with joy to think of watching my niece grow up and being present for my in-laws in their later years. Sadly, I cannot take you with me. Therefore, it is with sorrow (and great joy) that we depart from the church we have loved so much and who has loved us so well.

I start in this new ministry at Second Presbyterian on March 4, 2024, but I am entrusting you with the continued care of Rachel, Hadley, and Hudson. They will join me in Little Rock this summer, once Hadley finishes 5th grade and Rachel closes out her time at Briarcrest. Please watch over them and pray for us while we are apart. I will be around to visit and to swap stories of what God is doing in and through these two congregations.

I hope you will see, as I do, that this will be a season of great new beginnings at Farmington. People will pick up the many parts of the ministry I have carried and they will build far greater things than I can even imagine, because God is doing a new thing. New energy, creativity, and enthusiasm will fill this building and the children who grace these halls will grow in knowledge, wisdom, and faith.

Grace, peace, and tremendous joy be with you always, Doug Barr Director of Christian Education

A Farewell Reception for Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education

February 18th

Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall to give thanks for Doug's ministry with Farmington and wish him well as he serves God at 2nd Presbyterian Church, Little Rock.



Adult Ministries Luncheon February 22 at Noon

The Adult Ministries Group will host a luncheon on Thursday, February 22nd at noon. The speaker will be Vesta Andrews. Animals and travel are just a few things you will learn about Vesta. Please make plans to attend.

Chef Scott Hutchins will be catering. The cost is \$13. Please email Sandy Wann at srwann@bellsouth.net by Monday, February 19th to make reservations.



February 17

Farmington Presbyterian will host Room in the Inn at the Cottage of Germantown Methodist. Sign up to host!

SIGN UP

Session Report

The December 2023 Financial Report was accepted and the church budget for 2024 adopted. A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, January 28 for the purposes receiving the 2023 Annual considering Pastor Terms of Call for 2024, and electing the 2024 Nominating Committee. Session reviewed Rev. Luter's terms of call and approved a motion to recommend a 2% increase in salary with no change in housing Session approved a motion to nominate Jackie Hall (chair) and Kasi Wann (ruling elder) to serve on the 2024 Nominating Committee. Session discussed the departure of Doug Barr as Director of Christian Education and the possibility of creating an Associate Pastor. As the first step in the process, Session approved a motion to create an Associate Pastor position. Session elected Bonnie Blair and Ann Erickson as commissioners for the Presbytery of the Mid-South meeting February 20 with Doug Barr as alternate.

Wednesday Night Dinners



Wednesday nights during Lent, join us for weekly evening meals and spiritual enrichment.

2/14 - 6pm Soup Dinner and 6:45pm Ash Wednesday Service

2/21 - 6pm Dinner and 6:45pm Devotional

2/28 - 6pm Dinner and 6:45pm Devotional





COMING THIS SUMMER VBS 2024 JUNE 10-14







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 Palmer
- 3 Mike Colley
- 6 Jackson Paine
- 8 Meredith Oest
- 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



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 - Liv Palmer
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

Content for the March New Vision newsletter is due Tuesday, February 20th. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at shelley@farmingtonpres.org

Worship -Jackie Hall



