



MARCH 2024

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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

Look around you. What are your anchors? What do you see from where you are right now, in this very moment, that reminds you of who you are?

From my favorite chair, I see baby pictures of my children, our engagement announcement portrait, pictures from our travels, gifts of art from my children, a candle with a cross on its pottery bowl from my mother-in-law, a gift from a friend when I finished chemo the first time with an Elizabeth Edwards quote "She stood in the storm and when the storm did not blow her away, she adjusted her sails," windchimes just outside the French doors that were a wedding gift from a long-time faithful Presbyterian and soprano now joined the chorus of the Church Triumphant, Bible and hymnal, commentaries and stacks and stacks of books,... They anchor me to the shore of my purposes in life, hold who and what I love before me, and remind me when my heart wanders who I am and whose I am.



This Lent and Eastertide, we will be studying Peter's journey of faith. 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.

Worship Themes:

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"

"Come, thou Fount of every blessing. Bind our wandering hearts to Thee."

Farmington Day School



America: The Red, White, and Blue Transitional Kindergarten Program on February 16th.

Most years we just roll into March, but this year we are hitting the month running! March is packed full of all sorts of fun activities and events this year. We will start out the first week of March with Read Across America Week (formerly known as our Dr. Seuss week). We will still have a Dr. Seuss Day, but will also be featuring some of our other favorite preschool authors: Eric Carle, Mo Willems, Andrea Beaty and one of my personal favorites Eric Litwin who wrote the Pete the Cat books. We will have fun dress up days to go along with our reading days.

We will be springing forward by losing an hour as daylight savings time begins and we hop into GMSSD's Spring Break. We will be offering holiday care to our school age friends and the preschool will be open for normal services. We will all be wearing green for St. Patrick's Day on Monday, March 18th followed by the first day of Spring on Tuesday, the 19th.

Our staff and students will be sure to bring in their extra dollars as we all love the FPC Women's Bake Sale on March 27th. If all these events were not enough to keep us busy we will be celebrating Easter with our classroom Easter Egg hunts and sundaes. The school will be closed on Good Friday, everyone is invited to the Easter Egg Hunt on March 30th at 10am (gather in the Sanctuary), and we wish everyone a very Happy and Blessed Easter.

Blessings to All,
Ms. Gretchen & Ms. Andrea

M



MOPS

6-8PM IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL



Thursday, March 7 - 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Thursday, March 21 - 6:00pm - 8:00pm

MOPS will meet on March 7 for St. Patty's Day theme and March 21 for Easter theme 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
FREE CHILD CARE PROVIDED**



COMING THIS SUMMER

VBS 2024

JUNE 10-14



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Meeting | Sunday, March 17

The Farmington Presbyterian Women will continue to discuss embracing diversity as we explore the topic of “borderline moments” in Lesson 7 of our Horizon’s Bible Study book. Because of our experiences, ethnicity, and background, we offer a variety of views regarding scripture. However, through study and discussion we better understand the will of God in our church and community. Come join us! ALL women are invited to attend the gathering Sunday, March 17 at 12:30 in the East Room.

2024 Annual Presbyterian Women’s Spring Gathering

**Saturday, April 13, 2024
Germantown Presbyterian Church**

Coffee and Pastries @ 9:30am
Worship and Keynote Speaker @ 10am,
John Johnson, Visible Music College
Lunch @ 11:30am

Register by March 22nd

COST: \$20 for coffee, pastries and lunch
(vegetarian, gluten-free & dairy-free options available)

Make check payable to *Presbyterian Women* and mail to:
Melissa Still
8634 Riverchase Dr
Germantown, TN 38138

Name _____ Church Affiliation _____
Address _____ Telephone (____) _____
City _____ Email _____
State _____ Zip _____ Name on Nametag _____

SAVE THE DATES

CHURCH SECURITY MEETING

Sunday, April 7th
following Potluck
in the East Room

Share information & gather
ideas to increase security for
Farmington Presbyterian
Church & Day School.

Who should attend?

Anyone with suggestions or
concerns.

WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT!



ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

Sunday, April 28th, 1pm-3pm
in the Sanctuary

Germantown Police Department will be providing Active Shooter and Medical Training in the Sanctuary at Farmington Presbyterian on Sunday, April 28th, from 1-3pm. Mark your calendars, invite your friends and neighbors, and plan to attend. All members of the church, school staff, and surrounding community are welcome to attend this important training.



Sunday, April 21st

Packaging
20,000 Meals

If you are >4 and <100,
your participation is vital!

Pizza lunch after church and
packaging will begin at 1pm.





Holy Week Services

All services are also available on livestream.
Come and worship with us!

MARCH 24 Palm Sunday Worship **11am**

MARCH 28 Maundy Thursday Worship **7pm**

MARCH 29 Good Friday Worship **7pm**

MARCH 30 Easter Egg Hunt **10am**
🥚 *gather in the Sanctuary* 🥚

MARCH 31 Outdoor Sunrise Service **7am**
Easter Morning Worship **11am**



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S

EASTER *Bake Sale*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 10AM-6PM

MOST ITEMS WILL BE PACKAGED AT \$1 EACH.
FULL PIES AND CAKES WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE.



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

Adult Ministries Luncheon



March 21st at 12pm

The Adult Ministries Group will host a luncheon on Thursday, March 21 at noon. The speaker will be Bob Plotner. Bob will share his many different lives with us. Please make plans to attend.

Chef Scott Hutchins will be catering. The cost is \$13. Please email Sandy Wann at srwannebellsouth.net by Monday, March 18 to make reservations.



LAST ONE OF THE SEASON



March 16

Farmington Presbyterian will host
Room in the Inn
at the Cottage of Germantown Methodist.

Sign up to host!

SIGN UP



Wednesday Night Dinner & Devotion

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

**March 6 - 6pm Pasta Jambalaya Dinner
6:45pm Devotion**

March 13- No Dinner/Devotion (Spring Break)

March 20- No Dinner/Devotion

Maundy Thursday — Dinner & Worship —

March 28

Dinner will be held in the Fellowship Hall and Worship will be in-person and live-streamed from the Sanctuary.

**6pm Dinner: Roast Beef and Potatoes
7pm Maundy Thursday Service**

DOUG BARR'S FAREWELL RECEPTION

February 18th, 2024



*We will
miss
you*





Easter Egg

FAMILY EVENT

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SANCTUARY

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

10:00AM

THE EASTER STORY

AN EASTER EGG HUNT

PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

CRAFTS AND SNACKS

PLEASE HELP FILL THE EGGS!

PLACE CANDY IN THE BASKET
AT THE WEST ENTRANCE BY
FRIDAY, MARCH 22. THANK YOU!



THE MEN OF FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN
ARE SMOKING PORK BBQ TO SUPPORT
RISE AGAINST HUNGER!



\$40 PER ORDER (APPROX. 3 LBS.)
PICKUP AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN
(8245 FARMINGTON BLVD, GERMANTOWN)
10AM-11AM ON SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH

Order yours now at www.farmingtonpres.org
or scan the code to the right with your smartphone.



Update From MEXICO



JANUARY 31, 2024

Dear Friends,

Thanks to your prayers and generous support, 2024 is off to a strong start. Maria and I are back in Xpujil. God willing, we will be here almost full-time from here on out.

Two Mission Teams

The cistern building season kicked off in the village of Centauro Del Norte. This is our first time working there. The drive from Xpujil to Centauro took only 30 minutes because the roads were free of potholes. (It's an election year.)

On January 8, a group of three from Rapid City, South Dakota began to build four cisterns with our highly experienced cistern building crew (Victor, Raul, Isaias, Diego, and Esau). Together we worked with four laborers from Centauro—one from each of the four cistern-acquiring families. With twelve people working at each site, the concrete pours went quickly and smoothly—despite the occasional presence of a rambunctious goose.

On January 23, eight people from the Memphis, TN area started four more cisterns. The piles of sand and gravel at all four homes were close to the new cistern site. We only had to walk a few steps to fill the cement mixer and pour the walls. The work was completed faster than I have ever seen before thanks to good weather, close-proximity, and thirty-four hands on deck. Everyone had a job to do. Everyone kept busy.

In the future, when someone asks me about mission team member age limits and/or group size, I'll refer to these two groups. Of the ten January travelers, one was a teenager, two were in their 50s, and seven were age 67 and older. Both groups—one small, the other big—lightened the load for our local partners by many, many tons.

For those not familiar with our ministry, I'll point out that both American work teams also accomplished what is potentially more valuable than providing the gift of abundant water. The presence of young/old, men/women from the United States working hard and joyfully with our Mexican partners prompts the local villagers to wonder, "What on earth is happening here?" Victor, Raul, Isaias, Diego, and Esau revere Christ as Lord of their lives, and are glad to clear up any confusion. They respectfully and gently explain how our shared hope in Jesus Christ has brought this uncommon collection of people together to build cisterns. More conversations on faith, water, love for neighbor, etc. often follow. New relationships begin. Some have lasted for decades. This is one way our American work teams help share the Good News without speaking Spanish, Chol, Yucatan Maya, or Tzeltal.

Muchas Gracias.

Todd and Maria Luke

Session Report

Session approved motions to create the new job position of Livestream Coordinator and update the personnel policy to add this as a contracted staff position. Changes in the wage rate scale were approved to add the Livestream Coordinator position and to increase the wage rate scale for bus drivers. Session approved Rev. James Gale, Executive Presbyter, to preach on Sunday April 28.

The January 2024 Financial Report was accepted. Session discussed church security concerns and next steps to gather input from members. Online viewer statistics were reviewed including a year over year comparison. Session reviewed a list of capital improvement projects which are hoped to be completed this year.



ELDER NOMINATIONS

Please prayerfully consider nominations for the next class of church officers. These are very important roles of service and responsibility. You can submit your nomination directly to the church office, in the offering plate, or via email to church@farmingtonpres.org. Nominations can be made through March 18th.

Consider the following qualifications:

Church Involvement

- Regular attendance at Sunday worship and participation in church activities
- Areas of service in church ministries
- Demonstration of commitment to the church and its mission

Christian Living

- Love of Jesus Christ and dedication to Christ as Lord and Savior
- Strong faith
- Demonstration of grace and compassion in common life (family, work, community)
- Spiritual maturity
- Acceptance of the Bible as the unique and authoritative witness to God's work in the world and guide for Christian living

Personal Characteristics and Skills

- Cooperativeness; willingness to learn and listen
- Ability to follow through on assignments
- Openness to new ideas

Elders Exhibit

- Gifts of good judgment, fair-mindedness
- Spiritual leadership with a vision to provide oversight and direction for the congregation
- Willingness to teach and preach

I suggest _____
for nomination for the office of Elder.

Submitted by _____
(Please print or type.)



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Thomas Nagel
- 2 Jinney Hart
- 6 Roland Mittag
- 7 Don Rossman
- 7 Andrea Soto
- 9 Joseph Williams
- 10 Rob Hall
- 12 Madison Lewis
- 14 Lorelei Phillips
- 17 Lance Palmer
- 18 Mia Mittag
- 21 Benjamin Byrne
- 23 Sam Bryant
- 25 Faye McKenzie
- 29 Elizabeth Demaree
- 31 Elias Haguewood



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 - 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
Worship - Jackie Hall

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



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Germantown, TN 38139
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