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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

Whenever I have to address something and I just don't know how to start, these words from Lewis Carroll's "The Walrus and the Carpenter" come to mind:

*The time has come, the Walrus said, to talk of many things:
Of shoes – and ships – and sealing-wax – of cabbages – and kings –
And why the sea is boiling hot – and whether pigs have wings.*

The time has come to talk about the future staffing needs of Farmington Presbyterian. I get asked fairly regularly if Doug's absence is noticed yet. Yes, absolutely! As much as we planned and prepared, we felt his absence immediately.

After 9.5 years of ministry with us, we may be tempted to look for someone to fill Doug's absence. However, we will not find another Doug Barr. God makes us all unique for a reason and with particular purposes. Doug was called away from here because God has a vision for something new not only for Doug, but also for Farmington Presbyterian Church.

The first seeds of the vision were planted over a year ago as Session discussed the needs of our church and our ministry to the Day School and the community. The vision began to sprout as we prayerfully considered the needs and possibilities before us. Session has discerned that we will be seeking an Associate Pastor for Community Life and has determined that the communications work that was part of Doug's job description will be handled through redistribution of responsibilities and out-sourcing.

The Associate Pastor for Community Life will have skills in community building and pastoral care. This person will have responsibility for ministry with children and youth, including serving in an intentional chaplaincy role to the Day School students and families, and for implementing opportunities to get to know our community, both in the Day School and the surrounding neighborhoods, and welcome them as an active part of the Farmington family.

Farmington Day School



Moments from March: Read Across America Week and St. Patrick's Day fun!

Hello Everyone!

Spring has sprung here at FPDS Day School. April is always a busy month here at the school as we host one of our favorite annual events...the St. Jude Trike-a-thon. Every year each class participates in the Trike-a-thon on the back parking lot. As we prepare for the event we talk about bike safety, why we collect money for the event, and how exciting it is to have St. Jude Children's Research Hospital here in our home city! If you would like to make a donation to St. Jude via our Trike-a-thon, please leave your donation in an envelope in the church or school office with your name and "St. Jude" written on the front. The Trike-a-thon will take place April 10th and 11th.

We will also be having fun with the petting zoo. The kids get the chance to ride a horse, brush a llama, feed goats and take a train ride around the parking lot.

We will close out the month with our Spring Concert and Art Show. This year we will have Memphis-based music and art! Save the date, April 25th and 26th, at . We would love for you to "Shake, Rattle, and Roll" with us!

Happy Spring!

Ms. Gretchen & Ms. Andrea

M



MOPS

6-8PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



Thursday, April 4 - 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Thursday, April 18 - 6:00pm - 8:00pm

MOPS will meet on April 4 and 18 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**



VBS 2024

JUNE 10-14

Currently seeking volunteers!

Behind the scenes, center leaders, and Group shepherd roles available!

Email Rev. Rebecca for more info

rluter@farmingtonpres.org



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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

PW Meeting | Sunday, April 14

The Presbyterian Women will conclude their study of Sacred Encounters Sunday, April 14 at 12:30 pm in the East Room. We will be discussing lessons 8 & 9 and broaden our understanding of women in the early church and their role in breaking barriers to serve the needs of others. Even though this is our last Horizons Bible study meeting, we will be gathering informally in the upcoming months. Check your email, newsletter & church bulletin for updates.

PW End of Year Dinner & Farewell to the Oests Tuesday, May 7

All Farmington Presbyterian Women are invited to celebrate the end of the PW year and bid farewell to Nadine, Melanie, and Meridith Oest. We will miss the Oest ladies dearly and want to enjoy being with them before they leave us. We also want to have fellowship with one another before summer break.

Come join us for dinner (Dutch treat) on Tuesday, May 7 at 5:00PM
at Amerigo's, 1239 Ridgeway Road

Space is limited so you must RSVP to Jinney Hart no later than April 28.

Hope to see you there!



Joy was apparent as the Farmington PW conducted our 2024 Spring Bake Sale. All of the fresh baked goods were sold, earning around \$850 for PW mission projects. It was delightful visiting with the students, staff, and community at Farmington Day School. A special note of gratitude is extended to all who participated.





Potluck Lunch Sunday, April 7 following worship

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.

Session Report

Session approved a motion from Memorials and Gifts Committee for the purchase of a stained-glass window with lighted shadow box for the Narthex area. The stained-glass window will use the heart and hands design.

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, April 14 for the purpose of receiving and acting on the report of the Nominating Committee to present a slate for the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The slate to be presented consists of Tom Bryant, Mike Colley, Elizabeth Moots, Kay Patterson, and Sandy Wann. Any member may make additional nomination(s) during the meeting.

Adult Ministries Luncheon



April 25th at 12pm

The Adult Ministries Group will host a luncheon on Thursday, April 25 at noon. The speaker will be Ann Erickson. Ann will share major events from her life and the lessons learned along the way. Please make plans to attend.

Chef Scott Hutchins will be catering. The cost is \$13. Please email Sandy Wann at swann@bellsouth.net by Monday, April 22 to make reservations.



2024 Graduate Recognition

If you know someone who is graduating this May, please email Rev. Rebecca at rluter@farmingtonpres.org by April 25.



Congregational Meeting

Session has called a Congregational Meeting Sunday, April 14 following worship.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear and act on a report of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee has been tasked by Session to nominate an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. Those being nominated are: Tom Bryant, Mike Colley, Elizabeth Moots, Kay Patterson, and Sandy Wann. Additional nominations may be made during the meeting by any member of the congregation.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

Friday, April 12

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner will return Friday, April 12th at 6pm. Signup on our website by April 10th with your preference for Asian Eatery (Germantown), Margarita's (Collierville), Bog & Barley (Regalia), or Ronnie Grisanti's (Regalia). You will be notified regarding your reservation by 1pm on the 12th. Sign up to enjoy this opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones!





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.

Rise Against Hunger Packaging is Sunday, April 21 at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. All who are 5+ are encouraged to stay and help package 20,000 meals. For childcare, please RSVP to church@farmingtonpres.org.

Pizza will be served prior to the Rise Against Hunger packaging event. All are encouraged to stay & help.



During Fellowship Coffee on Sundays, the Service Committee will be selling Mother's and Father's Day cards and "In Honor Of" cards for \$10. All proceeds go to Rise Against Hunger.



Easter 2024

Christ is Risen



Egg Hunt



Sunrise Service

Worship



The Palm crosses we received on Palm Sunday were lovingly handmade by these wonderful people. The palm fronds are soaked in water and then diligently folded to make the cross. Some of us are just beginning to learn this technique, and we had some very patient people helping us. Each Palm cross is unique due to the type of frond and the creator's hands shaping it. It reminds us that we too are unique and lovingly created!





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Bailey Wann
- 9 Charlotte Moots
- 13 Jack Ingram
- 15 Kasi Wann
- 19 Angela Rutland
- 20 Gavin Perkins
- 22 Maureen Smithers
- 23 Emily Rhodes
- 24 John Perkins
- 27 Elizabeth Williams
- 29 Ann Erickson

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 May New Vision newsletter is due Tuesday, April 23rd. Email articles and event information to Shelley Wann at shelley@farmingtonpres.org



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