



LOVE AND LEARN

Join us for Worship

We offer four ways to worship on Sunday mornings: a casual service, our traditional service, and live-streamed versions of both services posted online.

**9:00 am
Casual Service
Sanctuary**

Our casual worship service at 9:00 a.m. is in our church parking lot in the warmer months, a relaxed atmosphere with keyboard and guitars. If the weather is questionable, this service will move indoors to our sanctuary. Bring your coffee and a lawn chair and join us!

**11:00 am
Traditional Service
Sanctuary**

Our traditional worship service is at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary featuring our Chancel Choir, FPC Ringers, traditional organ music and other talented guest musicians.

<https://tinyurl.com/fpclivestream>

We are a diverse and welcoming community of believers, called by God to be disciples of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge God's gracious presence in the world. Our faithful response in praising God encompasses compassionate service to all, nurturing one another to grow in faith together and sending out disciples to share the Good News.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR REVEREND MATT NIEMAN



Lots of Noises

The theme for this year's stewardship campaign is "Make A Joyful Noise," based on the famous exhortation in the psalms. While we mostly think of music, making a joyful noise unto the Lord is unique according to our own gifts and passions. We employ our money, our time, and our talents in proclaiming our joyful noises of praise.

In just the last few weeks, I have witnessed joyful noises throughout our church community. They include:

- The hospitality of members and friends at "Trunk or Treat" on Oct. 26 as children and parents from our community came onto the church grounds for candy and fun in the parking lot and fellowship hall.
- The generosity and partnership of the church family on November 2 in assembling hundreds of meal kits to feed the hungry.
- The compassion of volunteer shepherds in our congregation who look after their flocks with love and kindness.
- The talents of singers and instrumentalists each Sunday morning that make our worship so vibrant.

And, each year, for the last eleven years, I've witnessed our church family invest their money in our mission more generously year after year. Your generosity has ensured that we give more than ten percent of our budget to worthy outreach causes. It has maintained the beauty and vibrancy of our building and church property that makes them attractive and inviting to members and visitors alike. And it has secured the talents and dedication of a talented and committed church staff that leads and supports our mission so faithfully.

How and to what degree will you make a joyful noise to the Lord in 2026? From what you do, to how you spend your time, to the money you give, may your noises be even noisier in the new year.



**Stewardship Sunday is Coming!
November 9**

"Make a joyful noise!" Psalm 100 is famous for those words. Most often associated with music, making a joyful noise is also achieved by the ways we live, love, and serve in the name of Christ. God calls us to make a noise in our community and the world that is bold, impactful, and filled with joy.

During morning worship on Stewardship Sunday, November 9, we will make our financial commitments as our "joyful noise" so that our church's many ministries in this community and around the world will be supported in 2026.

Continued on next page

You should have received or will soon be receiving in the mail an Estimate of Giving Card. Please complete it and bring it with you on November 9. During worship (one service at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary), we will make our confidential commitments.

And then, following worship, we will celebrate our blessings with a wonderful Thanksgiving meal in fellowship hall. To make your reservation for the meal, you can go online to <https://tinyurl.com/FPCThanksgivingMeal>.

Thank you in advance for your enthusiastic participation in this year's Stewardship Sunday events.



The Quest Continues!

In T.H. White's *Once and Future King*, wise old Merlin – who has the gift of knowing what the future holds - counsels that learning:

Is the only thing that never fails. You may grow old and trembling in your anatomies, you may lie awake at night listening to the disorder of your



veins, you may miss your only love, you may see the world about you devastated by evil lunatics, or know your honor trampled in the sewers of baser minds. There is only one thing for it then — to learn. Learn why the world wags and what wags it. That is the only thing which the mind can never exhaust, never alienate, never be tortured by, never fear or distrust, and never dream of regretting. Learning is the only thing for you. Look what a lot of things there are to learn.

Just three months ago, FPC launched our comprehensive spiritual formation initiative - to simply help folks take a next step in their faith development. Named Quest, this ongoing initiative has a framework in three parts: Quest Sundays (engaging, ongoing classes that complement our Sunday worship schedule); Questions Classes (short-term classes that meet at various times through the week to address specific needs, issues and opportunities); and Quest Groups (ongoing small groups that meet in homes at various times)

As a community of faith that greatly values learning, the response has been robust and true to our identity. Adult engagement in learning opportunities on Sunday mornings has at least doubled, small groups have grown from one to three this year, and our Questions Classes participation has exceeded our highest expectations.

Soon we will announce our Quest menu of opportunities for winter/spring 2026. Watch for new mid-week offerings for senior adults, a highly experiential and immersive class that will permanently increase your biblical understanding and a major new science and faith initiative.

I'm always eager to hear your thoughts about spiritual formation at FPC, and ways we can better Love and Learn in a society that is in desperate need of both. Unlike Merlin, we can't foresee the future – but we can be certain that learning will be necessary to meet its challenges and opportunities.

Blessings,
John

MENU FOR SUMMER & FALL 2025

For Adults

Quest Sundays: Ongoing spiritual formation opportunities between worship services, meeting at 10:00am. Childcare is provided.

Pastor's Class Meeting in the Library, this class is led by Pastor Matt or, on occasion, others. You will find a great mix of Bible study and engagement on topical matters at the intersection of faith and culture.

Soul Café Meets Sundays at 10am in the new Narthex gathering space. John Sharp will facilitate a lively lesson to prepare. Come as you are!

Quest Groups: Building relationships and faith beyond Sunday mornings

Small Groups Typically meeting in homes, with an emphasis on relationships and growing together – so they are smaller by design. We are now starting a third group with new ones being formed on an as needed basis. Contact the church office or talk to John if you're interested in a small group or want to know more.

Presbyterian Women Currently three groups meeting monthly at 10:00 am (2nd Tuesday and 2nd Wednesday), all women are invited to be a part of these mid-week opportunities for Bible study, prayer and time spent together. This year's focus is: finding resilience, joy and our identity in Jesus Christ. Contact Janet Tinder if interested.

Men's Bible Study The 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 8:00 am, in the Narthex. Great discussion, exploration of scripture, prayer, time together, and Chik-fil-a biscuits!

Questions Classes Spiritual formation should be practical, helping to address real questions, interests and needs that we encounter in life. These occasional gatherings meet at various times for a specific number of sessions.

Adventures in Narnia Join Elizabeth Wilson (online or in person) in a discovery of C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* along with Bible content and readings from Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. One part book club among friends and one part biblical and theological inquiry. Come discover Lewis' unique way of increasing our spiritual understanding. Contact the office or Elizabeth for more information. Starts September 18.

Conversations in Science and Faith Coming soon! A majority of Americans believe science and faith are in direct conflict, leading to mistrust and misunderstanding of one another. How can faith and science understand and inform each other? How can faith flourish in an age of science and technology? Bring a friend and join the conversation!

Myself: A User's Guide Finding Fulfillment by Understanding Yourself and Serving Others - How do your life experiences, personality and skills pair with what you love to do and your spiritual gifts? A lively and enjoyable experience of self-discovery that integrates biblical teaching with the social sciences and self-reflection. Meets September 15, 22, 29 & October 6 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the Narthex.



● Baby Steps:

Formerly known as our nursery program, Baby Steps continues FPC's long-standing commitment to caring for our youngest children — from birth through age two — in a loving and developmentally appropriate environment. While the name has changed to reflect our church-wide Quest framework, the heart of the ministry remains the same: to provide a safe, nurturing space where infants and toddlers are welcomed as beloved members of Christ's family.

● KidsQuest (Formerly known as KidZone):

Formerly known as KidZone, KidsQuest is our 9am Sunday morning faith formation program for children from Pre-K through 5th grade. This ministry invites young disciples to explore God's love through Bible stories, songs, science, and more — all designed to engage their hearts and minds. KidsQuest encourages children to take meaningful next steps in their faith journey, nurturing curiosity, wonder, and a growing relationship with God.

● KidStart:

KidStart is a welcoming faith formation opportunity for children in Pre-K through 5th grade during the 10 am Sunday hour. While it builds on themes explored in KidsQuest, participation in KidsQuest is not required to participate in KidStart. KidStart encourages students to kickstart their week through fellowship and active learning opportunities.

● Bridgepoint 345:

Bridgepoint 345 is our new faith formation opportunity for students in grades 3-5, occurring on the first Sunday of each month from 4–5 pm. Recognizing the importance of the later elementary years as a time when students begin to form their own sense of faith and identity, Bridgepoint 345 offers a welcoming and safe space where students can "bridge the gap" as they transition from childhood to youth. Through Bible study, fellowship, and shared meals, students learn to engage more deeply with Scripture and one another.

● Waypoint:

Youth Ministry invites students in grades 6 through 12 to be a part of a loving community where they can explore the big questions of identity, belonging, and purpose through the lens of faith. This stage of life is a formative one, where students are discovering who they are and discerning their place in God's story. Waypoint aims to serve as a spiritual waypoint—an encouraging stop on a student's faith journey—where they can wrestle with life's challenges and celebrate God's grace. We hope that Waypoint will be a beacon of God's love and hope in a complex world, helping students take meaningful next steps in their lifelong quest of transformation.

● YouthQuest:

YouthQuest is our faith formation program for middle and high school students on Sunday Mornings during the 10:00 am hour. In YouthQuest, students are given the opportunity to dive deeper into what the Bible means in our lives and how God can utilize the world around us to teach us more about ourselves and our relationship with God. While these courses are geared toward our middle and high school students, anyone is welcome to join.

● Waypoint Youth Collective:

Waypoint Youth Collective offers middle and high school students a welcoming and open space to gather on Sunday evenings at 5:30 pm. We seek to foster an authentic community where students can fully be themselves and grow in faith while being in fellowship with one another. Waypoint Youth Collective provides opportunities for Bible study, fellowship, service, and monthly collaborative events with other Presbyterian youth in East Tennessee.

● Midweek Meetups:

Midweek Meetups are informal, biweekly gatherings where middle and high school students can check in with Youth Collective leaders in relaxed community settings, such as local coffee/ice cream shops. These meetups provide a casual space for students to share how their week is going, connect with one another, and enjoy a tasty drink or treat together.

● Crossroads Young Adult Ministry:

In a season of life full of change, young adults, ages 18-23, often find themselves at a "crossroads" in life, wrestling with all kinds of questions regarding their future. Crossroads Young Adult Ministry seeks to meet them where they are and walk alongside them as they discern that next step. Through monthly casual fellowship opportunities, Crossroads provides a supportive community where we can journey alongside one another with grace and encouragement.

OUTREACH

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH GIVING

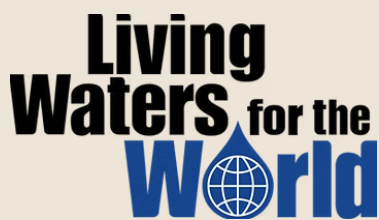


Our Outreach spotlight shines on these next three organizations we support:



Santa's Elves \$2,000

Santa Elves, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit that provides Christmas gifts to foster kids each year at local foster homes. Last Christmas, over 60 kids at Holston Homes for Children received gifts from Santa—the only Christmas presents most of them receive during the holidays. A Christmas party is also held for the kids prior to Christmas, where a meal is provided, thanks is given to God, and Santa arrives with gifts in tow.



Living Waters of the World \$1,500

A MINISTRY OF THE SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS,
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

Living Waters for the World (LWW) trains volunteers to establish and lead water mission teams that partner with communities to implement and operate sustainable water purification systems and health education programs. LWW Networks come alongside water teams and partners throughout every phase of a water project. They provide essential support for sustainable water systems that produce clean water for a generation.



Interfaith Health Clinic \$2,500

Interfaith Health Center provides accessible, affordable, and quality health care to the working uninsured or underserved, primarily through the support of individuals, the religious, health care, and business communities. These services are provided within the capacity of the Center regardless of race, sex, creed, age, religion, national origin, or ability to pay. These services include medical, dental, mental health and prescriptions.

It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas... and that means Sunset Gap!!!

This year we are sponsoring 40 children in Cocke County for Christmas. Sign up on the on-site sign up board or online. Be sure to note the tag's number. All items are to be wrapped for Christmas and returned to church by **December 7**.

<https://tinyurl.com/SGChristmas2025>



Presbyterian women are also collecting winter hats, scarves, gloves/mittens. Items may be purchased or handmade. Deadline to bring is December 7. A bin to place these items will be in the Narthex beginning November 9. We will deliver them when we take the children's gifts. If you have questions about either of these projects, please contact Debbie Long.



Coats for the Cold

Coats for the Cold is an annual coat drive to collect thousands of coats for those in our area who otherwise may not have a coat during the quickly approaching winter months. In 2024, the East Tennessee

community helped collect over 9,000 coats!

The community is invited to donate new or gently-used men's, women's, and children's coats at any KARM Stores or Prestige Cleaners location. **Collection begins October 20 and lasts through November 7.**

Those in need of a coat are encouraged to contact local service agencies or churches to receive a coat ticket, then shop at any KARM Stores location with the ticket any time between November 17th through December 6th.



The Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry is getting ready for the holidays! Holiday food baskets will be distributed to pantry guests in November and December. Last year over 500 families received holiday baskets, including many families from local schools that were especially invited to receive the baskets. The baskets typically include a turkey or ham, canned vegetables, stuffing mix, cooking oil, eggs, and dessert mixes.

From October 26 through November 9, Farragut Presbyterian will again collect cake mixes and canned frosting (any flavors) and/or brownie mixes for the holiday baskets. As you shop, please consider adding these dessert items to your list and drop them off in the cart in the narthex. Contact Becky Thomason if you have questions.



When leaves begin to fall, the weather gets pleasant, and days get shorter, it is time for a trip to Townsend to take donated items to the CAM Craft Shop (Coalition of Appalachian Ministries). We are going on **Wednesday, November 5**. Of course, there will be a stop at Elvira's Cafe for lunch on our way in. Anyone with craft and sewing items to donate can bring them to the church or call Debbie Long or Mikie Lancaster for a pick-up. Several folks have mentioned wanting to ride along, and all are welcome.

Besides the fabric, batting, yarn, thread, buttons – especially white and black nickel-size, zippers, and other sewing notions the crafters always love to get, there have been some special requests for insul-brite needed for hot pads, old license plates for bird house roofs, and any size or shape of glass jars. Old blue jeans can be turned into many cute items, so go through your closet and donate the ones no longer worn. Don't forget to save your burned-out light bulbs, as several styles of cute ornaments are created from them.



Greetings from FPC women who attended the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of East Tennessee fall event at Camp John Knox.



A big thank you to all who participated in Presbyterian women's drive to help stock the food pantry at Sunset Gap. Our donation is greatly appreciated. 98 families were served on Wednesday, almost 400 families in the first three weeks this month. The food will definitely make a difference for the recipients. Thank you.

Ministries

Presbyterian Women

All circle meetings are held at the church

Circle #1

2nd Tuesday, 10 am
Leaders: Joyce Williams
865-719-2610
Kathy Emmerson
312-286-1676

Circle #2

2nd Tuesday, 10 am
Leaders: Becky Thomason
865-607-0727
Linda Nunley

Circle #3

2nd Wednesday, 10 am
Leaders: Mikie Lancaster
865-675-0360
Jo McElhaney
865-705-6518

Prayer Shawl Ministry

November 25

11:00 am in the Parlor

Can you touch a prayer? Can you pull it close and feel its comfort? You can if it comes in the form of a Prayer Shawl. Prayer Shawls are simple gifts of grace from God that are prayerfully and lovingly stitched by us as a reminder that God's promise is always with us. Every day in our own individual lives, we encounter people for whom a special prayer would be of great comfort and support. This ministry would welcome your participation. If you have ever knit or crocheted it will come back to you quickly. The patterns are simple repeats. Basic instructions and yarn are available.

Men's Bible Study

November 6 and 20
8 a.m. / Narthex

The men of FPC gather twice a month for fellowship and a time of bible study. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month in the narthex at 8am. If you would like to join us, please contact John Neighbors or the church office to get on the contact list. Breakfast, coffee, and great fellowship provided!

Activities

Chair Yoga

MONDAY AND FRIDAY
10:00 - 10:30 AM
NARTHEX

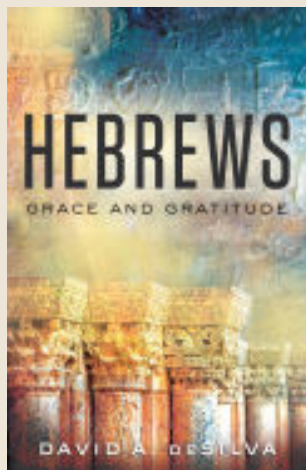
Class designed for those with limited mobility or balance concerns.

TGIF Gentle Yoga

FRIDAY 7:00 - 8:00 PM
NARTHEX

Gentle, slow flow class. Bring a mat and comfortable clothing. For beginner and experienced yogis.

Contact Jenny Trussell at
CEDARSTUDIOS4@GMAIL.COM
for additional information or a private introductory session!
Both Yoga classes are free and open to the public.
No childcare available



Join the Pastor's Class beginning November 16 as we begin a focus on gratitude by studying the book *Hebrews: Grace and Gratitude* by David A deSilva. This book is about the connection between God's grace in our lives and the call to invest ourselves in God's mission in the world. As always, you need not have read the book to participate in the class.

November Birthdays

11/01 Becky Thomason
11/02 Dee Robinson
11/02 Debbie Long
11/02 LaQuita Misner
11/06 Darren Schmitz
11/06 Sue Burton
11/06 Christy Fitzgerald
11/07 Mia Feldhausen
11/13 Nancy Pevey
11/16 Margo Gregory
11/16 John Sharp
11/17 Collin Greaser
11/18 John Huntley
11/21 Jan Seiler
11/21 Colin Fitzgerald
11/21 Gale Montgomery
11/25 Robert Olberding
11/25 Beth Honey
11/28 Rick Van Allen
11/30 Helen Agee
11/30 Kathy Emmerson

November Anniversaries

11/01 Hal and Jeanie Oakley
11/07 David and Liz Gargan
11/14 Kent and Joyce Williams
11/20 Earl and Kimberly Platt
11/29 Andy and Merle Andrew

**Remember in
your prayers...**



Pat Dail, Dean & Lucy Fleming, Marigold Fritz, Frank Guess, Beth and Jimmy Loyless, Ann McAnally, Maria Medina, John Huntley, Irma McGuffey, Tami Newsom, Donna Phillips, Mark Scheuer, Linda Wert

WHEN YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO

stephen
MINISTRY.

*Call someone
who cares*

FPC STEPHEN MINISTER LEADERS
BETH MARTIN | MATT NIEMAN
JEANIE OAKLEY | ELIZABETH WILSON

865/966-9547

Our Stephen Ministry Leaders
can help:

Beth Martin (865) 776-3132	Matt Nieman (865) 966-9547
Jeanie Oakley (256) 468-4501	Joanie Scheuer (865) 705-1571



Music at FPC

Dr. Angela Batey, Director

It is once again nearing the time of year to give thanks! We are so grateful to be worshipping in a beautiful sanctuary replete with magnificent musical instruments, and the capability to livestream our services, we are reaching more people than ever before! We give thanks to God, who has provided so much to the Music Ministry through the generous gifts from members of our congregation. And we give thanks to our congregation who values a quality worship time so very highly. We are so truly blessed!

One of the many wonderful things we always enjoy during the Advent and Christmas season is the music that enhances our celebration. Our Music Ministry is very proud to offer several opportunities to worship and celebrate together during the upcoming season. On Sunday, November 02 at 3:00 p.m., don't miss the UT Women's Chorale with reVOLution contemporary acappella ensemble in their Fall Recital!

On Sunday, November 23 at 3:00 p.m. we are very excited about our annual Christmas Festival! This year our own Chancel Choir will partner with the Chamber Singers from the University of Tennessee to sing the wonderful Carols of the Season! Featured will be the electrifying Gloria by Randol Alan Bass with professional brass, percussion battery, piano, and organ. You won't want to miss this exciting event, which will fill our chancel with the glorious sounds of the season!

On Sunday, December 14 during our special 10:00 a.m. worship service, we will participate in our 28th annual Service of Lessons and Carols in the sanctuary. The Service of Lessons and Carols is a traditional seasonal service of scripture and music. Come enjoy the music of our Chancel Choir, FPC Ringers, Flute Trio and more! Our service will be followed by a sumptuous reception. Celebrate with us in these very special events!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At its meeting on October 27, the Session:

- Heard of a second vendor’s proposal to upgrade our sanctuary lighting and sound as part of Fresh Look II. The proposal will be compared to the first one received. The Session hopes to make a decision on which vendor to work with at its December meeting. This would be part of a broader effort to refresh the sanctuary and narthex. All the elements of such an effort will be presented to the congregation for its support in the first quarter of 2026.
- Voted to spend up to \$500 to build a platform at the back of the sanctuary to support the audio/visual control booth that had previously been in one of the upper corner balconies. Moving this equipment down to the floor will provide easier and safer access and hopefully create more volunteer involvement.
- Accepted a slate of new elders for the class of 2028 that will be recommend to the congregation for election at the congregational meeting on November 16. The slate will be announced in the worship bulletin the week prior to the meeting.
- Decided to meet for the final time in 2025 on Tuesday, December 9.

Financial Report as of September 2025			
	Actual for September	YTD September	YTD September Budget
Operating Income	\$67,306	\$577,331	\$557,583
Big Fish Academy Income	\$2,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Total Income	\$69,306	\$595,331	\$575,583
Operating Expenses	\$73,378	\$569,252	\$582,523
Total Expenses	\$73,378	\$569,252	\$582,523
Total Income less Expenses	(\$4,072)	\$26,079	(\$6,940)



STAFF

Pastor

Reverend Matt Nieman
matt@fpctn.org
402-660-2451 (call or text)

Reverend Dr. John Sharp
Director of Spiritual Formation
johnsharpsemail@gmail.com
239-227-3999

Sandra Porter Bohlken
Office Administrator
office@fpctn.org
865-966-9547

Lori Corbett
Bookkeeper
bookkeeperfpc@gmail.com

Mason Warren
Director of Family Ministry
masonwarren@fpctn.org

Dr. Angela Batey
Director of Music
abatey@utk.edu

Tami Newsom
Associate Director of Music
tnewsom3@utk.edu

Sandra Porter Bohlken
Music Director, Casual Service
singsandrab@gmail.com

SESSION

Administration
Kathy Emmerson
Cheryl Cardwell

Christian Education
Beth Honey
Cheyanne Feldhausen

Church Life
Gayle Williams
Jeff Thode

Outreach
Scott McKinney
Jan Darnell

Property
Thom Haig
Rick Van Allen

Worship and Music
MaryAnne Walls
Eva Quinley Lynch

Clerk of Session
Lisa Gary

Farragut Presbyterian Church
209 Jamestowne Blvd.
Knoxville, TN 37934
865-966-9547
office@fpctn.org
www.fpctn.org

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday 9-3
Friday 9-1

Get Social!

Farragut Presbyterian is live on Facebook, Instagram, and X.
Have something to post?
Send to our social media coordinator, Emily Sweetland,
at social@fpctn.org or text 865-567-7636



<https://www.instagram.com/farrgutpesbyterian>



<https://www.facebook.com/FPCKnox>



@FarrPres



Farragut Presbyterian Church



When donating used items to KARM tell the employee the name of the church. The church will receive gift cards to KARM Stores that can be given to someone in need.



Support FPC Christian Ed with Kroger Community Rewards Program. Link your Kroger reward card to FPC. Sign up at: Visit <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/> Our organization number is YU915.