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Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

As we journey toward Easter this year, we will be focusing on what it would mean to live life **"Full to the Brim."** Jesus said, "I came that you might have life and have it abundantly." I invite you to engage in this journey with a set of daily devotional cards that will be available in the Narthex. You may make a commitment to give something up or take something on during Lent that will remind you of Christ's sacrifice and open you to God's grace. I will be praying each morning a simple prayer that you might consider as well:

**"Lord God, make me aware of the grace I encounter.
Lord Jesus, open me to receive grace.
Holy Spirit, pour me out to share grace."**

May our journey to Easter be a time of filling us with grace, full to the brim, so that the resurrection celebration on Easter Sunday isn't just about Christ's body 2,000 years ago, but about Christ's Body today and each of us as part of it. May we be open to new life that reaches all the way to the brim.

Come Rain or Shine

"I will keep on."
That's what I heard him say.
I will keep on
driving out demons
and healing people,
speaking the truth
and loving endlessly,
searching for lost sheep
and crying for the brokenhearted,
feeding the hungry
and welcoming the outcast.

"I will keep on."
That's what he said, right
after he said my name, right
after he called me beloved, right
after he welcomed me home
and saved me a seat.
And I knew,
there was no stopping him.
I was under his wing.
Come rain or shine,
today and tomorrow,
this love keeps on.

-Rev. Sarah Speed

Farmington Day School



Hello All! Happy Spring (I hope). As I write this article we are wrapping up a week of holiday care, a snow day and super cold temps. However, I do know that March in Memphis we will most likely get some very nice days as we head into spring.

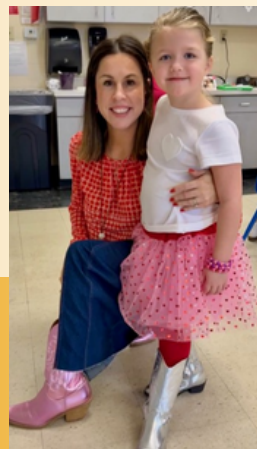
The preschool will be kicking off the first week of March with Read Across America. Each day the classrooms will learn about a famous/popular children's author. They will read books, do activities and have snacks that help promote reading by making reading FUN!

Many families will take a Spring Break vacation. The school will be open to provide holiday care for our school age kiddos and the preschool will use this week as a review week. Even though we are planning for spring activities and trips, I have been busy planning Summer Camp 2025! With over 230 kids registered, it looks to be another fun and crazy summer!

Registration has been successful. All full time 3-year-old classrooms are full. Only a couple of spots remain in the full time four-year-old rooms. We will still be accepting registrations for part time classrooms and before and after care.

We wish everyone a happy and warm spring ahead!

Ms. Gretchen & Ms. Andrea





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We had a delightful gathering Valentine's Day in the East Room tasting decadent chocolate and cookies, talking about upcoming events, and discussing the Horizons Bible study.

Our upcoming Horizon's Bible Study gathering will be Sunday March 23 at 12:30 in the East Room. Each time we meet, we discover the dilemma that our environment is enduring. We all need to take responsibility for God's gifts to us: land, water, and air. Come join us for Lesson 7 as we discuss Economic Climate Justice. All women are welcome!

PW Schedule 2024-2025

March 23 Lesson 7. Meet in the East Room at 12:30 PM

April 16 Bake Sale 10:00-6:00

April 27 Lesson 8 & 9. Meet in East Room at 12:30 PM

May TBD Possibly a pool party

COMING UP

Join us for two Visits to Calvary Episcopal Church's
Lenten Preaching Service & Waffle Shop

April 2 with Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor

April 9 with Rabbi Micah Greenstein

Lunch @ 10:30am

Speaker @ Noon

102 N. 2nd Street, Memphis, TN

If you want to attend either or both of these lunches and services and sit with a group, please let Jinney Hart know (virginiahart2@comcast.net).



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Each year, Farmington Presbyterian Women hold two bake sales. Each sale raises about \$1000. Those funds are used to support mission causes chosen by the group.

This year, we are supporting: Mexico Cistern Ministry, Room in the Inn, 1st Presbyterian Soup Kitchen, Mission Haven (a respite center for foreign missionaries located near Columbia Theological Seminary), a Columbia Theological Seminary scholarship, Pinecrest Camp Scholarships, and the Church Health Center.

52 years ago, a group of Presbyterian Women from across the Presbytery joined together to form The Johnson Auxiliary to serve what is now Regional One Medical Center. Farmington member, Bonnie Blair, was one of the founding women and was instrumental in establishing and recently refurbishing a Chapel for the hospital. This ministry will be closing March 28, 2025. We are thankful for those who saw a need and met it, those who sacrificed to care for those in crisis, and for the legacy that will inspire and guide our future endeavors.



SOUPER BOWL

CHILI FUNDRAISER

We scored!

The SuperBowl Sunday Chili Fundraiser raised **\$1,190** to support the First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen which makes everyone who participated a **WINNER!**



**Mothers
in
Community**

Bee Blessed

Mom's Dinner Out

to celebrate Fat Tuesday
Tuesday March 4th, 6:30pm at Las Delicias on Quince
Kids and Husbands welcome

Meeting

Thursday March 13th at 6pm in the fellowship hall.
Free childcare will be provided.





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN | PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-SOUTH
SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS

2025 ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

WHO: Women in the Presbytery of the Midsouth

WHERE: *Farmington Presbyterian Church*

8245 Farmington Blvd., Germantown, TN 38139
901-754-2794

9:30 am Registration with Fellowship,
Coffee, and Pastries

10:00 am Program with Keynote
Speaker Lucy Cummings – Executive
Director of Pinecrest Camp and
Retreat Center

11:30 am Lunch

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS of 2024-2025: Reports,
Presentation of Grants, Installation of New
Officers, In Memoriam, Special Offering and
Worship Service

QUESTIONS: Contact Jinney Hart, Chair
virginiahart2@comcast.net or 901-262-5392

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 14, 2025
*Please register by the deadline to facilitate site
preparations. Send one registration form per person or
a list of names with requested information.*

COST: \$25 for coffee, pastries, and lunch
(Vegetarian, gluten free, and dairy-free options available)

Make check payable to Presbyterian Women and mail to:
Sherila Tuggle, 5294 Cherokee Rose Lane, Memphis, TN 38125

Church Affiliation: _____

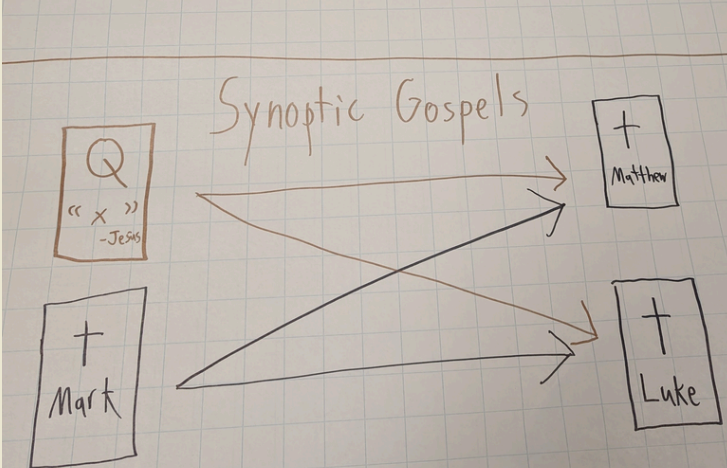
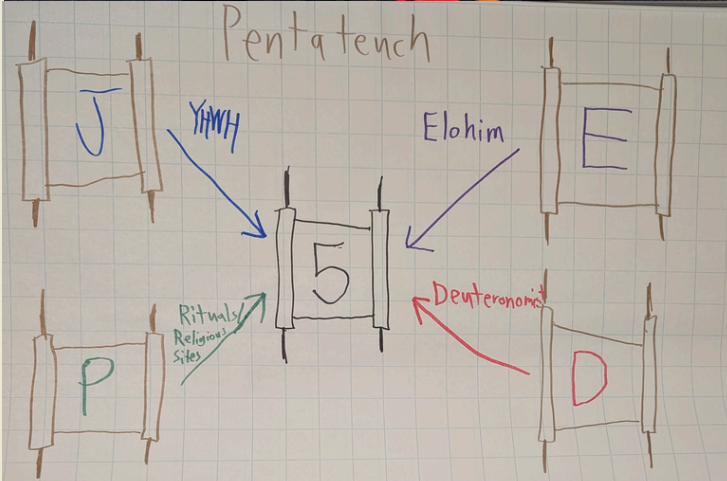
Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____ Name on Nametag: _____

Youth Fellowship

The youth had a good February, finishing up the Sunday School series of "burning questions" where they delved into everything from toxic friendships to JEPD theory! The main event for this month was the Presbyterian Youth Conference, where the Farmington youth joined 50+ other kids from around the Presbytery for a weekend of worship and fun, with this year's theme of Peace giving a calm retreat from the world's chaos. March will be a somewhat shortened month for the youth group with Spring Break taking a couple Sundays, but there will be a bowling event on March 9th, details will be provided to parents soon.



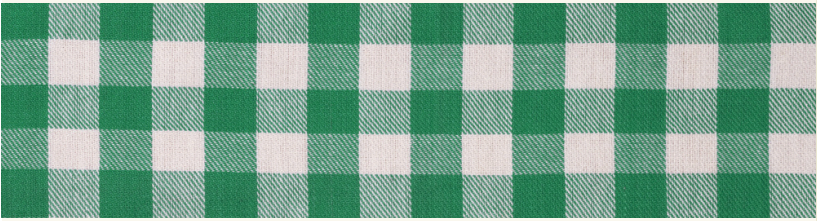
Session Report

Session approved the 2024 Statistical Report for filing with PC(USA). The January 2025 Financial Report was accepted. Session approved the Memorials and Gifts Report for 2024 which reflected the refurbishing of our Narthex. A motion to engage Hord Architects for roof replacement services was approved at an estimated cost for consulting services of \$32,000 with the next step as selection of a general contractor. Session elected Brittany Barnett to serve as the Parent Representative on the Day School Board as nominated by the 2024 Nominating Committee. Session approved changing the March Stated Meeting to March 24 due to Spring Break. Rev. Ruth Lovell-Bradham was approved to preach on Sunday, March 16. Session approved Rev. Joshua Narcisse to preach on Sunday, March 23 and Rev. Ruth Lovell-Bradham was approved to preach if he is not available.

A Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, February 16. Ann Erickson presented the 2024 Annual Report. Charlie Smithers provided an update on the 2025 Stewardship Campaign. Changes in the Pastor Terms of Call for 2025 were approved: 2% increase in salary, an additional week of paid vacation, and establishing a PC(USA) 403(b) retirement plan with contribution of \$1,896 for 2025 (the cost to the family for obtaining outside medical coverage for spouse with an adjustment to Pastor's family medical/dental/vision coverage to drop medical coverage for spouse). The following were elected to serve on the 2025 Nominating Committee: Paula Gale (chair), Jinney Hart, Madison Lewis, Laurinda Ingram, and Mike Colley.



Thursday Adult Ministries Luncheons



**Plan to join us
March 27, 2025**

for our monthly gathering.

Mr. Scott Sanders, Retired U.S. Marshall and Germantown Alderman will provide a short presentation on all subjects Germantown and then take questions.



Associate Pastor Nominating Committee



The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee meets on Tuesday nights, either in person or virtually.

We are actively seeking candidates with networking emails and phone calls and an advertisement in the Presbyterian Outlook. If you know of anyone that is interested in applying for the position of Associate Pastor for Community Life, our email is apnc@farmingtonpres.org. As we continue with our search, we ask that you pray for our committee as well as our Farmington congregation.

APNC Committee,

Elizabeth Moots (Ch.), Tom Bryant, Mike Colley,
Kay Patterson, Sandy Wann, Rick Baker (COM Liaison)



Churchwide Mardi Gras Party

Friday, March 7, 7-10pm

Adult social at Halle Plantation Clubhouse
(2490 Dibrell Trail Dr., Collierville)

Dinner will be New Orleans-inspired fare
with King Cake for dessert.

All members, guests, and friends are invited to come
laissez les bons temps rouler!

If you do not drive at night, but would like to attend, please call
and leave a message for Renee in the church office (754-2794).

We will coordinate one for you!



Full to the Brim

Have you ever thought, “There has to be more to life than this?” More than the non-stop race of wake-work-chores-sleep-repeat?” You are looking for an expansive life, an abundant life, a life full to the brim. It is the life God offers in the example of Jesus. It is a life of awareness of the beauty and wonder around you. It is a life drenched in gratitude and defiantly hopeful. It is a life overflowing with meaningful relationships with God and other people, with nature and yourself.

When we lean in to the story of Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection the flood gates to this abundant life open and we are filled to the brim with the life God wants for us.

Our Lenten Journey

March 5 - Ash Wednesday - Dinner at 6 with Service at 6:45pm
"Return to God, with ALL that You Are"

March 7 - Mardi Gras Party - 7-10pm at Halle Plantation Clubhouse

March 9 - "When We Are Tested"

March 16 - Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham, Guest Preacher

March 23 - Rev. Joshua Narcisse, Guest Preacher

March 30 - "Prodigal Grace"

April 6 - "Called to Extravagant Love"

April 13 - Palm Sunday - "What Can't Be Silenced"

April 17 - Maundy Thursday - Dinner at 6 with Service at 7pm
"Receiving Grace: Take Off Your Shoes, Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup"

April 18 - Good Friday - Service at 7pm
"My Song Is Love Unknown"

April 19 - Easter Egg Hunt - Gather in the Sanctuary at 10am

April 20 - Easter Sunrise led by the Youth at 7am
Easter Morning Worship at 11am
"Filled with Amazement"

Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings at 10am in the Transition K room (A6). Each week the lesson will introduce the story of Jesus and theme of worship that morning.

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School meets on Sundays at 10am-10:45am in the Youth Room.

Sunday School for Adults

Rev. Rebecca Luter is facilitating a Bible Study on the Lenten theme for the day in the East Room at 10am.

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 24th.

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.)

Saturday, March 15, 2025

The Cottage at Germantown United Methodist Church

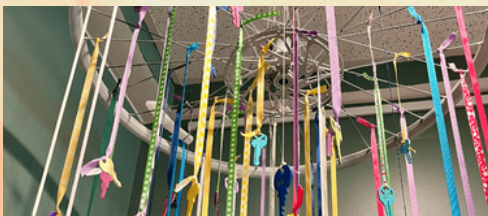
We host Room in the Inn on the 3rd Saturday each month at The Cottage at Germantown United Methodist Church. This ministry provides housing for homeless persons. Each time we host, a group of people prepare a meal for the evening: a casserole or meat, side(s), salad, bread, and dessert. The meal should serve 22 adults. A group of 6-8 people host our guests by setting up at 5pm and welcoming the guests at 6pm. We eat together and visit or play games until 9:30pm. At 9pm, 2 overnight shepherds arrive to spend the night, prepare coffee and a to-go breakfast, and do light clean-up after the guests depart at 6am. After we host, 2 laundry angels volunteer to launder the sheets, pillow cases, and blankets after we host our guests. This is a great way for someone who cannot be there in the evenings to still be a part of this ministry. The sign-up is on the website.



We are making a difference in the lives of our unhoused guests through our ministry partnership with Room in the Inn! In 2024:



1636
GUESTS RECEIVED SHELTER
INCLUDING 492 CHILDREN



156
GUESTS MOVED INTO
PERMANENT HOUSING



OAKLAND PRESBYTERIAN FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Donations for this 24/7/365 food pantry may be placed in the baskets by the West entrance.

- Soups and stews
- Grain breakfast
- Canned or dried beans
- Canned fish, meat
- Peanut or other nut butters
- Pasta sauce
- Canned tomatoes
- Shelf-stable milk
- Canned vegetables





Save the Dates

April 27 – Rise Against Hunger

June 8 – 50th Anniversary Celebration

June 16-20 – VBS

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!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Thomas Nagel
- 2 Jinney Hart
- 6 Roland Mittag
- 7 Andrea Sotl
- 9 Joseph Williams
- 10 Rob Hall
- 12 Madison Lewis
- 14 Lorelei Phillips
- 17 Lance Palmer
- 18 Mia Mittag
- 23 Sam Bryant
- 29 Elizabeth Demaree
- 31 Elias Haguewood

Staff Extensions

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor, Ext. 3134

Davis Howe, Interim Youth Director, Ext. 3130

Polly Knight, Financial Records Keeper, Ext. 3136

Renee Abel, 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

At-large – Paul King

Congregational Life – Paula Gale

Christian Education – Liv Palmer

Clerk – Laurinda Ingram

Discipleship – Charlie Smithers

Property and Grounds – Bob Plotner

School Board – Tom Moots

Service – Jinney Hart

Treasurer—Melissa Still

Worship –Jackie Hall

Content for the April New Vision newsletter is due Tuesday, March 18, 2025.
Email articles and event information to church@farmingtonpres.org