



New Vision | May 2026

Rise Against Hunger Packaging Event

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## Deepening Our Discipleship

BY REV. REBECCA LUTER

It took me a minute to figure out what my friend meant when she greeted me with, “Are you ready for May-cember?” No. No, I am not.

The calendar is full to overflowing with end-of-school activities, programs, graduation ceremonies, and the celebrations that follow. The to-do lists are long, and coordinating it all can feel overwhelming. At times, I can sense my calm, non-anxious presence slipping away.

The truth is, we all experience seasons of “May-cember.” They may not happen in May, and they may not fall neatly into any particular month. They are the times when our commitments stretch to capacity and our pace becomes unsustainable. In those moments, it helps to remember that God’s people have always wrestled with the tension between the pace of the world and the peace of Christ.

At the Last Supper, Jesus offered His disciples words we still need when our calm begins to fray: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.” (John 14:27)

The world’s peace depends on accomplishment—on meeting deadlines, keeping up, and staying ahead. But Jesus offers a different kind of peace: an inner stillness grounded in God’s presence with us in every struggle, an assurance that we are made in God’s image and that our worth is not determined by our productivity.

When we find ourselves in a “May-cember” season, may we choose to practice peace. If you see me walking around the perimeter of the church property, I am likely practicing peace.

Peace settles in us when we make space for it:

- Get outside. Go for a walk. Breathe fresh air.
- Pause to pay attention. What do you see? What do you hear?
- Name your stressors. Release what you cannot control and trust God with it.
- Give thanks. What is good? What is beautiful? What is hopeful?

The reality is that if we allow the world’s pace to set the rhythm of our days, every day will feel like May-cember. But when we practice the peace Jesus offers, we discover a calm that steadies us and shines through us.

# Farmington Day School

Oh me, oh my it is already MAY! The school year may be winding down, but we still have plenty of learning and fun events planned to end the school year. With the children often having parties and events planned for them we take time to plan a fun and exciting week for the teachers and staff here at FPDS!

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8. Parents have made donations to help fund the week with fun gifts, treats and a luncheon. If you would like to leave goodies on the kitchen island for our staff, please feel free to do so.

All the classes are making memorable presents for their sweet moms in honor of Mother's Day coming up May 10.

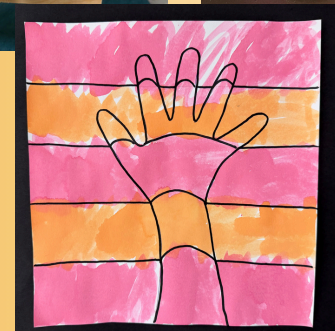
We look forward to hosting alongside the church at the Annual Church and School Spring Picnic on Thursday, May 14 from 5-7pm. There will be a face painter, a bounce house, music, a silent auction and delicious food. We hope to see you all there! Remember to bring a lawn chair, a blanket or grab a seat at one of the new picnic tables.

Each year we look forward to celebrating our 4-year-old classes at their graduation ceremonies. Many will go on to kindergarten in the fall, while a couple of kids will move up to Junior Kindergarten here at FPDS. They have all worked hard, made great strides in academics, social emotional growth and independence. We wish them all the best in their educational journeys.

The school will be closed the week of Memorial Day as we are preparing for Summer Camp 2026. With over 250 kids registered for summer camp we are well on our way to a fun, hot, and busy summer!

Thank you to all for another successful year here at Farmington Presbyterian Day School!

Sincerely,  
Ms. Gretchen & Ms. Andrea





# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



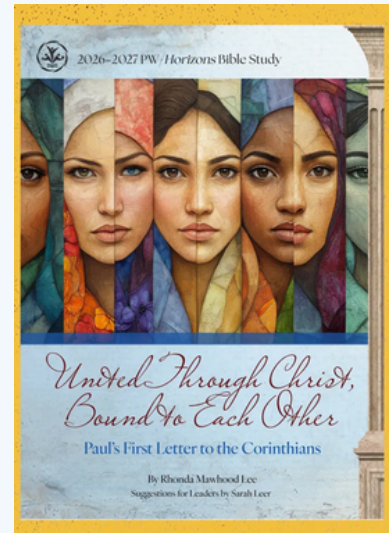
The women of the church were excited to receive a grant for \$500 from the PW of the Mid-South at the Spring Gathering at Grace Presbyterian Church, Bartlett. The grant money for children who are receiving assistance from Room in the Inn will be used to purchase school uniforms. Grant money from the PW of the Mid-South 2025 provided almost 250 all day bus passes for the guests we hosted at the Germantown Methodist Cottage and at Room In the Inn downtown. Our service and financial support to RITI is just one example of how the women of Farmington Presbyterian witness to others about our mission to share God's love and forgiveness with others.



The Presbyterian Women of Farmington will be studying Paul's letter to the Corinthians in their upcoming 2026-2027 Horizons Bible Study beginning in September.

You can purchase a copy from Melissa Still for \$15.40 or order from the PW website:

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org>



Several ladies from Farmington Presbyterian gathered at Ann Erickson's home to enjoy fellowship, food, and the Kentucky Oaks. The Kentucky Oaks honors cancer survivors, so we followed their example and wore pink too! Ann was able to provide information to the group to help us pick our favored fillies to win. Beverly Butler's choice, Always a Runner, won! Her winnings of \$300 will be donated to Pinecrest Camp. The Women of Farmington Presbyterian know how to have fun and support their community!



**FARMINGTON PRES**

**FAMILY  
PICNIC**

**AND RIBBON CUTTING FOR  
OUR \*NEW\* BACKYARD!**

**Thursday, May 14 | 5-7 pm**

Live Music • Hot Dogs and Hamburgers

Face Painting • Bounce House


Silent Auction to Benefit Rise Against Hunger

**Cost: \$10/Adult • \$5/Child • \$30 Family Max**

**8245 Farmington Blvd.**

**Germantown**

[farmingtonpres.org](http://farmingtonpres.org)





# FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN VBS 2026

**JUNE 8-12 ❄️ 9AM-NOON**

RISING 1ST-6TH GRADERS  
REGISTER USING THIS QR CODE:



**FARMINGTONPRES.ORG**

**(901) 754-2794**

**8245 FARMINGTON BLVD**



On April 13<sup>th</sup>, J.B. Wann was recognized by the Germantown Education Commission as the Spring 2026 recipient of the Exceptional Student Award at a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Alderman at City Hall. This distinguished honor is presented to students in their final year of working toward a Special Education Diploma who demonstrate dedication, growth and a commitment to excellence. J.B. is completing his final year in Houston High's Transition Academy, where he continues to build academic, social and vocational skills that will support his future success.

Throughout his time at Houston High, J.B. has been an active and engaged member of the school community. He participates in Horizons Club and Art Flow Club, both of which promote inclusion and connection among students. He is also a member of the Stang Gang exceptional student cheer team, where he brings enthusiasm and encouragement to every event, and he participates in Special Olympics track.

Also while at Houston, J.B. has been engaged in work-based learning where he has gained valuable, hands-on experience at a variety of community job sites, including Eggs Up Grill, Make-A-Wish, the Germantown Athletic Club, MoJo and Cordova Bowling, as well as several others across the area. At school, he assists in the front office, helps with deliveries and supports the school clinic each morning.

In addition, J.B. contributes to his classroom's student-run t-shirt shop, where he has developed skills using specialized equipment and takes pride in producing items for the school community. He has also distinguished himself as a top salesperson on the Candy Cart, demonstrating initiative, responsibility and strong interpersonal skills. His dedication and work ethic have earned him "Employee of the Week" recognition more than once.

Beyond the classroom and workplace, J.B. is actively involved in the community. He is an active member of Farmington Presbyterian Church and Youth Group, participates in YoungLife, Social Group and Pin Pals, a bowling program for individuals with disabilities.

J.B. is widely recognized as a positive and encouraging presence. He consistently looks for ways to support others, offering a helping hand, a kind word or a moment of encouragement. He is particularly attentive to the weekly prayer requests shared in worship. His ability to connect with people of all abilities, along with his willingness to reflect and grow, make him a strong role model within the school community.

With good attendance, steady academic progress and a commitment to personal growth, J.B. continues to embrace new challenges and opportunities. His positive attitude, reliability and determination make a lasting impact on those around him.



# 2026 Fellowship Schedule



## Fellowship Coffee Sign-Ups

On the third Sunday of the month members of the congregation help serve a simple after worship snack in the Fellowship Hall. We simply ask that one person bring savory items and another bring sweets.

## Sign up now to host on May 17.

Nothing fancy is required, just something to share as we enjoy fellowship after worship.

You can sign up at [farmingtonpres.org](http://farmingtonpres.org) or contact Elizabeth Demaree.




## Potlucks 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month



**Our last potluck before summer  
is coming up! Mark your calendar!**

**May 3**

Each Potluck Sunday we need 3 volunteers for set-up and 3 volunteers for clean-up. You can find the sign-up by the coffee in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or at [farmingtonpres.org](http://farmingtonpres.org) under "Sign Ups."



## Flower Signups

**You can honor a loved one, remember a dearly departed one, thank a friend, or celebrate an occasion by providing flowers for worship.**

The sign-up for 2026 is on the website. At the top right, click "Sign ups," then click the "Sunday Flowers" icon.

The cost for the two arrangements is \$60. You may take them home after worship, but please return the silver urns.



# Sunday, May 17

## Senior Recognition Sunday



We will recognize and celebrate our graduates in worship on Sunday, May 17. If you have a graduate in your family to be recognized, please let Rev. Rebecca know their name, school, degree, and future plans to be announced by emailing this information to her at [rlutere@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:rlutere@farmingtonpres.org) by May 11th.

## Honorary Life Membership

The Presbyterian Women of Farmington Presbyterian will confer this award on Sunday, May 17 in worship. This award recognizes faithful service to the church demonstrating the values of caring, support, growth in faith, and peace.



## Sunday School

### Youth Sunday School

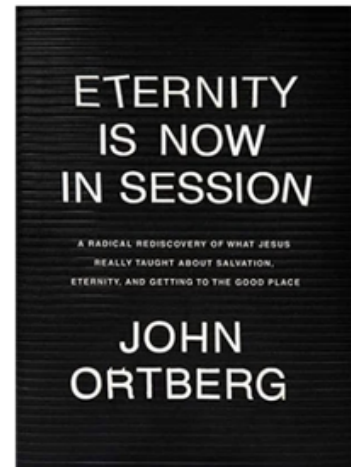
Students in 6th-12th grades have Sunday School from 10am-10:45am in the Youth Room on Sunday mornings.



Cooper Patterson's class is studying John Ortberg's *Eternity Is Now in Session*. This class meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30am to 10:30am.

### Sunday School for Adults

Prepare for worship each Sunday morning by reading and reflecting on the Scripture with Rev. Rebecca. All are welcome. We meet in the East Room from 10am-10:45am.



## Session Report

There were no meetings of Session in April.

**01 SAFE SURRENDER**

From This...



**DISMANTLING**

**02**

To This...

**03 DISMANTLED**

To This...



**TRANSFORMED**

**04**

And Finally This...  
Garden Tools, Art & Jewelry



## Sunday Worship Online

Don't miss worshipping with your Farmington family. Join us on Sunday mornings for worship online. You can find us by clicking "Worship With Us!" on our website, [www.Farmingtonpres.org](http://www.Farmingtonpres.org), or on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/c/farmingtonpresbyterian](http://www.youtube.com/c/farmingtonpresbyterian). All services are archived and available on our YouTube channel.

And don't forget to like, share, and hit that subscribe button!



## May Birthdays

- 10 Olivia Mittage
- 10 Duke Lively
- 11 Gerrie Wilder
- 11 Billy Wann
- 12 Jayme White
- 13 John Ingram
- 13 Carol Jameson
- 14 Autumn Colley
- 14 Camille Young
- 23 Jamie Jameson
- 23 Doug Sweet
- 24 JoAnne Simpkins
- 25 John Bivens
- 27 Abigail Palmer

## Staff Extensions

- Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor, Ext. 3134
- Rev. Dr. Barb Johnson, Associate Pastor, Ext. 3130
- Davis Howe, Youth Director, 901-482-2503
- 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

- Pastor - Rev. Rebecca Luter
- Associate Pastor - Rev. Dr. Barb Johnson
- Administration - Mike Colley
- Congregational Life - Elizabeth Demaree
- Christian Education - Liv Palmer
- Clerk - Laurinda Ingram
- Discipleship - Charlie Smithers
- Property and Grounds - Bob Plotner
- School Board - Tom Moots
- Service - Madi Lewis
- Treasurer - Jackie Hall
- Worship - Paula Gale

Content for the June New Vision newsletter is due Tuesday, May 19.  
Email articles and event information to [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org)