



FAIRBANKS FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and give glory
to your Father who is in heaven Matthew 5:16

FIRST LIGHT NEWSLETTER

April 2024

FPC Talent Show!!

Comedy
Skits
Music
Poetry

WE WANT IT ALL!!

Saturday, April 20, 6pm

In the sanctuary

To sign up, contact Jerry Cleworth at 907-452-6461 (work) or 907-452-5551 (evenings)

A Word From the Pastor

The 50 Days from Easter to Pentecost are traditionally known as "The Eastertide" in the church calendar. Not counting the Ordinary Days between the season of Pentecost and Advent, Eastertide is the longest season in the church calendar and is focused on celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Of course, we've already done most of the big celebrations. The fancy clothes are back in the closet, the chocolate is marked down at the store, and the eggs have been cracked open and plundered for their candy by eager children.

So, what remains? While the cultural trappings of the Easter celebration may already be set aside, the real celebration is just getting started! As God spoke through the prophets (Isaiah 1:12-17, Micah 6:8), He reminds us that we are always meant to focus on working for justice and righteousness in our own lives and in our communities first. Traditions and parties are meant to encourage us in these practices, but never overtake them. While the feast of Easter may already be behind us, the joyful and world-changing work of Easter is only beginning.

Eastertide is about the impact that Christ's Resurrection had on the men and women who followed Jesus and from them outward to the whole world. What began with a few women and an angel at an empty tomb, with Jesus and a few close friends in an upper room, grew into a movement that captured the hearts of nations and changed the course of human history! This tide continues to flow outward, reaching the distant shores of our world and our hearts. How will you continue the Eastertide? How will you carry the love of God by sharing the good news of the Cross of the Resurrected Jesus Christ? Will you have a neighbor or coworker over for dinner



for the first time? Will you share the story of how Jesus met you in your hardest moments with someone? Will you donate some of your time, money, or skill to a worthy cause that brings justice and righteousness to a broken world?

How will you celebrate Eastertide for the next 50 days?

Surfing With You,
Pastor David

What Seeds Will You
Plant
Today!

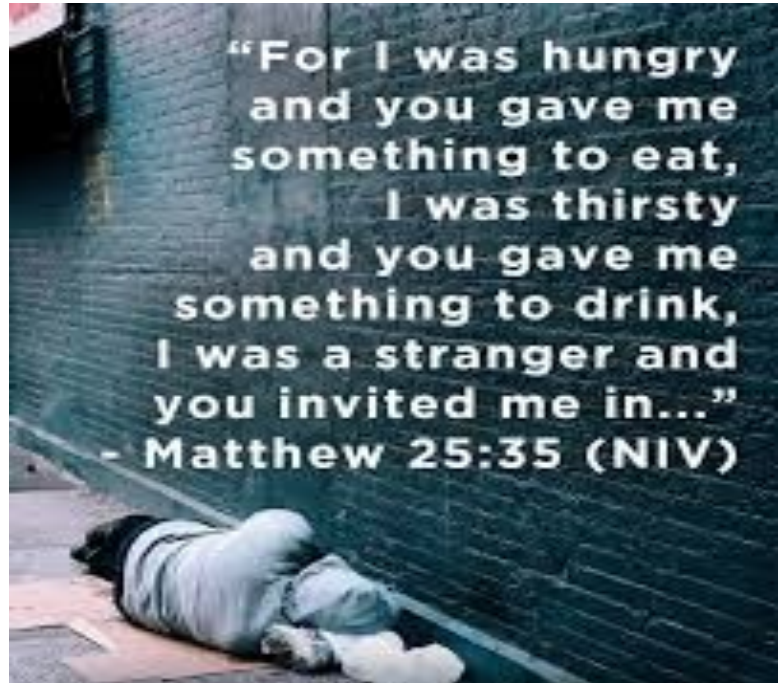




FPC Financial Reporting

THROUGH FEBRUARY 2024

Total Receipts	89,075
Total Expenditures	<u>107,000</u>
NET	(17,925)



The WELL

The Well provides a free hot dinner each Wednesday for everyone who shows up. Besides providing a healthy meal to people who are hungry, it provides fellowship to people who are lonely, prayer support to anyone who wants it, winter clothing for those without.

PLEASE JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY!!
6-7pm



Anniversary Celebration for Paul Bonnell

Did you know that Paul Bonnell, our Sound Projection Tech, became part of our FPC staff in 2004? We are so thankful that Paul has been faithfully serving us in this position for 20 years! That certainly gives us cause to celebrate. So, mark your calendars for Sunday, April 21, 2024 when we will acknowledge Paul in our worship service and then gather in the narthex after worship for cake and some celebrating.

We would like to bless Paul with a gift from the congregation. If you would like to donate, please place your contribution in the offering plate either on Sunday, April 7 or Sunday April 14 (mark it: for Paul Bonnell gift) or drop it by the church office and give it to Marta by Mon. April 15th! Also, please bring cards or notes expressing your personal thanks to Paul and place them in the basket that will be available at the celebration.

FPC Personnel Team

SESSION

What follows is a short summary of the decisions and actions of the Session, at the March 19, 2024 Stated Session Meeting, which began at 6:00 pm in the Church Conference Room. The minutes of the meeting will contain a more complete record.

- The Meeting was opened with a Devotion and Prayer
- It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the agenda as presented.
- Elders spent time in prayer. After making prayer requests known, Elders prayed for those needs.
- A written financial report was received from the church treasurer.
- It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the Minutes from the last Stated Session meeting, and the vital statistics from the last month.
- The minutes of the Deacons January 23, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Session discussed the possibility of providing a second evening meal, during the week, in addition to the Well.
- Session discussed an updated process for storing, sharing, and retrieving Session documents.
- Session discussed a plan for reviewing and updating Church Policies.
- Officer candidate training was discussed, and tentatively scheduled for April 14th and 21st, after Sunday Services.
- Ruling Elders Bill Satterberg and Sarah Albert volunteered to assist with Communion on April 7th.

- The topic of church safety was addressed, with several suggestions made by a member of the congregation. A working group was formed to further address the subject.
- Session received an update, from the Facilities Team, on seating in the Sanctuary. The team is in the process in obtaining samples of available seats.
- Written and verbal reports were received from Ministry Teams.
- The meeting was adjourned with prayer, by the Moderator at 9:17 pm.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on April 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm, in the Church Conference Room.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



1	Bill Satterberg
5	Ivory Huffaker
5	Melissa Logan Mitchell
6	Paul Bonnell
9	Isaiah Hull
12	Anglea Thies
12	Cora Wietgreffe
13	Jerry Cleworth
19	Marty Foster
19	Sean Williams
20	Robert Askelin
23	Stephanie Rozell
26	Patricia Fink
29	Merle "Sunny" Fortune III
30	Rosario Sheets

O COME TO THE ACTAR

Genesis 35:3

FPC Young Adult Ministry

NOTES FROM NICOLE

First Pres,

March was busy! We had our first lock-in-ish event and it was like homecoming getting to see so many new and old faces together.

In the month of April we'll move high-school and college meetings to the Fireside room after lunch on Sundays. The Youth Room will receive a glow-up that will require us to use another room until it's complete. Once the makeover is complete we'll refer to that space as The Studio.

To celebrate the glow-up we'll have an "Open House" + Spring Parent Meeting on Monday, April 29th at 6:30. I don't expect the meeting to run later 8:00 p.m. We'll have light refreshments, go over the summer calendar, and upcoming ministry changes/growth.

Thank you all for your continued patience and support as we learn the FPC traditions and get to know one each other better.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or would like to volunteer to mentor with us please give me a call (205) 914 - 6281, send me an e-mail nicolefirstpresfbx@gmail.com, or visit in office Monday - Thursday 9:15 - 3:15.

For the good and God,
-Nicole

APRIL EVENTS

Sunday Morning Prayer @ 9:00 a.m. - Meet in Nicole's office (all Young Adult Members are invited to attend)

Sunday Afternoons @ 11:30 a.m. - High school and College fellowship lunch & bible study, REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR BIBLE AND A NOTEBOOK. Meet in Fellowship Hall and Fireside Room

Thursday Nights @ 6:30 - Career meet for dinner and bible study at Nicole's House (April 11th meet @ church in the Fireside room)

Sunday, April 7th @ 6:30 - Sanctuary, Worship Night. NO AFTER CHURCH MEETING.

Monday, April 29th @ 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Spring Parent Meeting + Studio Open House

DONATIONS + VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Lanterns or candelabras
- Battery Operated Pillar Candles & Tea Lights
- Snacks for Sunday
- Mentors for Highschool and College programs



Getting To Know You

Hello FPC Church Family! Part of the role of the Deacons is to help new members get connected, and to encourage all members to get to know each other better. In order to do that, your Deacons have decided to feature different households in our church family by sharing a little bit of information about them, so we can all learn a little more about each other. This month we are featuring the Halfhill family. If you and your family are interested in being featured now, or on a particular month, please let one of our Deacons know. We are looking forward to getting to know you all a little bit better!

The Halfhills



Kathy Rahmandar Halfhill and her husband Rick Halfhill have been married for 9 years, and currently live with 4 cats and 1 hamster. Kathy raised 4 children, and Rick raised 3. Together they have 12 grandchildren. Kathy moved to Alaska from Texas in 2011. Rick was transferred from California to Alaska via the Airforce in 1992. Kathy recently retired from Costco, where she worked in the deli. Rick still works at Costco as a cashier.

One thing they absolutely love about Alaska is the summers. They spend as much time outside as possible. They both love gardening and going for walks.

Kathy has been a member at FPC since 2011. She was re-baptized in the Chena River. Kathy is currently serving as a deacon, as well as on the hospitality committee. She used to teach children's church, and because of that, there are several kids in our church family that call her grandma Kathy. One reason FPC is so important to Kathy and Rick is because it's their extended family. Be sure to say hello when you see them!




CHILDREN'S ministry

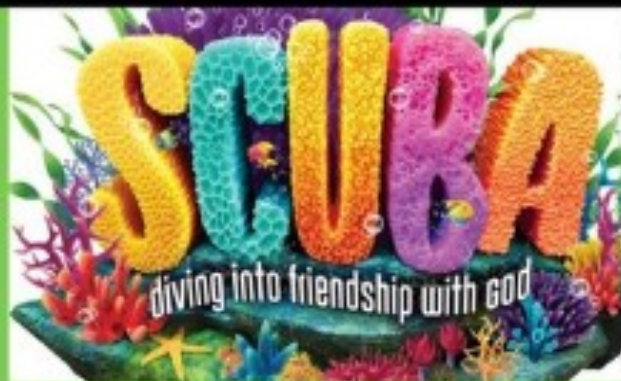


Dear First Pres Folks,
Happy Easter! The Lord is Risen! Children's Ministry kicked off the season with a big Eggstravaganza party. Thanks again to all who helped us host 60+ children and their families! It was a friendly event where many new faces became familiar with us and our building. May Jesus bring them deeper into relationship with us and with Him!

Following the Easter festivities, I'll be out of the office resting body and soul. I'm looking forward to some long walks in the sun with my pup, evenings with my family and some precious time to be quiet and still with Jesus.

 *Quinn*

COMING SOON!
JUNE 17-21



Its time to sign up for Vacation Bible School!
Join us here at 1st Presbyterian June 17-21. Learn what it means to be a friend to God-- while exploring the deep blue sea through our SCUBA theme!

Scan the
code
below to
register for
SCUBA
VBS



ROOTS CLUB
NO
MEETING
APRIL 7

SUNDAY SCHOOL
AS
REGULARLY
SCHEDULED

CLIMB CLUB
AS
REGULARLY
SCHEDULED

SATURDAY, APRIL 6
10am

LADIES, ITS TIME FOR
COFFEE CONNECTION

Harvest Bread
1990 Airport Way

For additional information, please contact Cindy Aldrich
at 907-388-6366



**MEN'S SMALL GROUP
BIBLE STUDY
THURSDAY NIGHTS**

April 11-May 2

Ted Riggs will be holding a men's small group study at his house on Thursday nights, starting on April 11th and going through May 2nd. A light supper will be served at 6:00pm. The study will start at 7:00pm and be about an hour long. Ted has several ideas for the topic of the small group study but the group will finalize the topic at the first meeting. Come for both the meal and study if you can or just the study.

For additional information, please contact Ted Riggs on his mobile phone 907-371-9254 or by email at riggsteddy@gmail.com.

Women's Ministry
The Catechism Study

FPC Women's Ministry
kindly invites you to attend a
Women's Small Group on
Tuesday Nights @ 7:00 p.m.
at Nicole's House*
beginning March 12th, 2024.

This season we will study the
Westminster Long Catechism.

Light refreshments will be provided.
Please bring your bible and notebook.

(*message Nicole for address 205 - 914 - 6281)

Life Study Group
Thursdays, 6:30-8:30p,
a light dinner will be
provided, For additional
information, please
contact Paul or Terry at
907-455-6703 or
907-347-3214.

International Friends of Compassion Family Gathering

Hohidiai School, Tobello, Halmahera



International Friends of Compassion will be hosting their **semi-annual Family Gathering on Friday night, April 5th**. The event is being held at The Lighthouse, formerly Door of Hope Church (270 Fairhill Road), and will start at 6:30 pm. Carl and Cathy Cady will be our hosts and Hendra Pontomudis, the principal of Hohidiai School, will be the guest speaker. (If you remember, Hendra has spoken at FPC in the past, and we have sent a number of teams to help with the mission). This is a great family event. Come hear about the amazing work that is being done in Indonesia. **RSVP to:** ifcusdir@gmail.com or contact **Jim Aldrich** at jwaldrich.com

**PRAYER
TIME**

Tuesdays
Beginning at 12:15pm
In the sanctuary
All are invited
A time to intercede for our
world, nation, community,
church family
and friends.