



First Light

Volume 28, Issue 6

September 2018

Hello September!! The Month for Harvesting

September is generally known as the month for harvesting crops ; however, what does the bible say about seed time and spiritual harvesting? One plants, one waters, and God



is the one who provides the increase. Many plant seeds by telling the truth about Jesus. Paul encourages us to not only plant spiritual seeds by helping a person become a Christian, but also con-

tinue to help a person grow in Christ. We are "God's soil," God plants and waters, and the Holy Spirit helps one to see a need for Jesus. Planting the seeds of love, joy, and peace makes for a fruitful harvest.



FPC Monthly Newsletter

The First Light Newsletter is a monthly newsletter. Articles placed in the letter should be submitted to the front office by the 20th of each month.

*He that dwelleth in the secret place of
the Most High shall abide under the
shadow of the Almighty*

Psalms 91:1



- September is the only month with the same number of letters in its name as the number of the month.
- There are 30 days in the month of September, which starts on the same day of the week as December each year but does not end on the same day of the week as any other month of the year.



First Presbyterian Church

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FPC Saints,

“The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin...” Ex. 34.6ff

Summer has flown by, and we're well into the ramp up to Winter's icy grip. The air is crisper, the trees turning a dusty green mixed with yellow, leaves beginning to fall, middle aged men acting like giddy school boys at the thought of tramping through the woods in pursuit of that elusive Bull— all signifying a change in seasons. Change is in the air.

One of the changes which is taking place at FPC is in our Children's ministry. A year ago, after Connie left, Children's ministry team and several elders began a conversation - not on who we wanted our next Children's ministry director to be- but rather, what were the outcomes we wanted for our kids to come away with from FPC children's ministry program. Two things came from this conversation- 1) we wanted to increase our kids biblical literacy- the big picture story of God's actions for us found in the Bible- Creation, Fall, Redemption, Maturing in



Christ and Glory, and 2) We wanted to better equip families- parents- to be involved in their children's spiritual formation, and maturing in Christ.

As a result of these prayerful conversations we've contracted with a Children's ministry coach to assist us in developing a program 1) that is effective in accomplishing the two goals mentioned above, 2) is simple to implement for volunteer leaders with busy lives, and 3) doesn't cost a lot of money.

An ordered, deliberate Bible Story Telling is what we're implementing. The curriculum is the Bible. The cost is next to nothing. The method is story-telling, and then assisting the kids to wonder about it. Bible telling will take place for K-3rd grade during the 8.30 and 11am services. For 4th-6th graders, this will happen at Roots, in a more youth group environment, Sunday afternoon. 4th-6th graders will stay in the upstairs worship service on Sunday mornings.

(Continued on page 3)

We are currently scheduling interviews with the Vital Church Ministries Team on September 28th and 29th.



As part of the assessment process, the Vital Church Ministries team would like to have a conversation with you. They would like to hear what you like about FPC and what concerns you. They would like to hear your joys and concerns. The interviews are your chance to share whatever you would

like. It does not matter if you participated in the online survey or not. The interview will take about 45 minutes. There are spots available all day on Friday the 28th and on the morning of Saturday the 29th. If you would be willing to participate in a conversation, call the church office at 452-2406.

If you have other questions about the process, contact Dave Dreydoppel at (907) 388-9219.

(Continued from page 2)

We're throwing all of our energy and human resources into these activities and times, which means we are intentionally not doing children's Sunday School during the 10am hour. One of Session's jobs this Fall is to figure out how best to steward the time between the services. Please be praying for session on this - for wisdom and clarity.

Please sign up for a conversation with the Vital Church Ministry team, Friday, 28 Sept and Saturday morning, 29 Sept. Call the office and Marti will sign you up. Please attend worship on Sunday, 30 Sept. We will have one service at 11am, a potluck and a Town Hall meeting/Q&A where Vital Church Ministries will present to us their insights.

In your life, remember the God who claims you in baptism— the one who is merciful and faithful, who in Christ has forgiven all our sin... He is sovereign over the seasons and He is sovereign over the changes we all encounter in this life. Keep your eyes fixed upon him- He will guide you, and walk with you through it all.

By His grace and for His glory...
Pastor Dave



Happy moments, praise God
Difficult moments, seek God
Quiet moments, worship God
Painful moments, trust God
EVERY MOMENT, THANK GOD

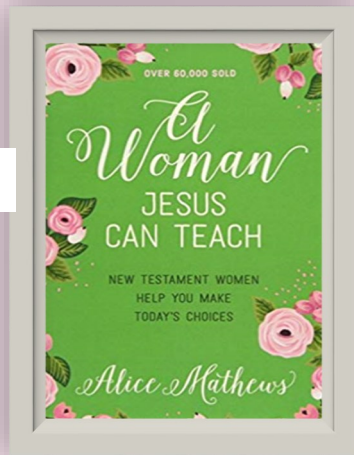
The Well

The Well is an important outreach ministry of 1st Presbyterian Church. This year on each Wednesday from September 19 through the end of May we will offer a free hot dinner, fellowship, and prayer opportunities for all who come.

Although the ministry is focused on those who live downtown, including those who are homeless, it is open to all; and we especially encourage members of the 1 Pres family to join us in welcoming and serving our neighbors. The ministry requires a lot of help, so please consider filling out one of the sign-up sheets available in the Narthex. If you have questions about The Well, address them to Paul Reichardt (455-6703; paulreichardt@gmail.com) or Joann Mills (455-7002).

Women's Ministry

You are Cordially Invited to...



Women's Bible Study

The Tuesday Women's Bible Study will resume meeting on **Sept. 11th**, beginning with a

study called, "*A Woman Jesus Can Teach*", by Alice Mathews. We will explore Biblical accounts of several women in the Gospels, whose lives were changed by an encounter with Jesus. As we look at these passages we will be encouraged to examine our own relationships with Jesus. As we study and pray, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will discover how to strengthen our own faith and align our priorities with God's will. It's a fulfilling experience when we allow Jesus to teach

us how to make choices that will glorify Him!

All women of FPC are welcome to join us for this study. Invite a friend and plan to attend. We meet from **10-11:30 am each Tuesday** in the FPC conference room. Child-care is provided.

For more information or to reserve a study book, please text or call Donna Brewer ASAP at (907-378-3351) or email (billanddonnabrewer@gmail.com)

Beth Moore Simulcast

Beth Moore Simulcast, Shannon Park Baptist Church, September 15, 9:15 AM - 4:00 PM. Free event, lunch provided. Please Register online at shannonpark-church.com or by phone 452-4098.

Church Flowers

If you would like to donate flowers, there are still slots available. Please contact the front office.

Sew Social Schedule

October 1, 2018

November 5, 2018

December 3, 2018



NOTE: There is no social scheduled during the month of September.

Worship Ministry Committee

The Worship Committee is working on several projects that could use the congregation's assistance.

Undeniably Useful Ushers

Are you unable to sit still for the whole service? Are you an urbane individual with an unparalleled need to be useful? Do you have an undeniable urge to assist in the ultimate activity at church? Become an **usher**! For this unskilled task, you do not undergo rigorous training, no uniform is required, no unusual education needed. Until you try it, you will not know the untold satisfaction it brings. This can be a unifying activity for families, too. **Ushers** are urgently needed in both services. Usually a person serves only one Sunday per month. Utilize your talents by volunteering today. Contact June Champlin at church or 479-3540.

Organ Excitement

October will bring some amazing organ talents with two individuals coming to perform at our church. Plenty has been said about this already, so I won't repeat, but do put the concerts on your calendars.



Prayer Ministry

TAKE TIME TO PRAY ~~~~

In Romans, Paul instructs us to "*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*" Rom 12:12 Prayer is a powerful gift that God has given. You are invited to join us at the All Church Prayer Meeting each Tuesday at 12:15 p.m. in the sanctuary to pray for our church, for our country and for personal requests.

A Prayer Calendar is published each month. Call Marta at 452-2606 and ask her to put you on the mailing list. The Prayer Calendar lists a person or family from the First Presbyterian Church Directory for each weekday to lift up in prayer. It also lists upcoming events to be covered in prayer.

Upcoming Events ~~~

New MOSES Movie Thursday, 9/13-6:30pm

Saturday, 9/15 12:55pm

Thursday, 9/20 6:30pm

Save the Date Fall Community Organ Concert

October 9, 7pm

October 14

Church Ministries cont'd.....

Life Groups

Why Life Groups (FPC's Small Groups)?

"At the heart of our vision for the Life Groups ministry here at FPC is the desire to see a community of believers (Relationship) who are growing deeper in their love for Christ and their obedience to Him (Discipleship).

The scriptures indicate that the Christian life is to be lived out in a community with other believers. Within that community, we are instructed to encourage one another, serve one another, rejoice and weep with one another, correct, instruct, build up, accept and love one another. Life Groups provide a wonderful context to

facilitate involvement in one another's lives: to know and be known by God and others." (FPC Life Group Leadership Training Manual)

How does this model of personal relationship with God and public interaction with others fit into our technologically connected but relationship-challenged world? It's easier to pray and study by ourselves, even easier to pull up a sermon on our laptops. Maybe it's a little harder to get up from our chairs and drive across town to study with other Christians, but the effort has value. Sharing your story. Hearing other's stories, their struggles, and praying for one another.

When Joan and I started attending FPC we were

finding it difficult to connect with others. A morning worship service just didn't allow for connection/relationships. Once we joined a Life Group, we began to connect with others and see just how much we all loved the Lord and wanted to follow Him as true disciples. The experience was so powerful and beneficial that we became Life Group host/leaders.

Like most things in life it's not that we can't we just won't. I would like to encourage you to join a Life Group this fall. Yes, your busy, but this is an addition that will change your relationship with Christ and with this community of believers. And isn't this what you truly desire?

Ted Riggs, Elder

Our mission is to welcome all people, equip them for a deep and living faith in Jesus Christ, and send them into the world to share God's love.



Our vision is to be a beacon for Jesus Christ. With his love and joy we will draw people into a safe harbor where they are welcomed, healed, restored, and nurtured, becoming radiant witnesses.

Deacons Ministry



The Wonder of Family and God's Great Out of Doors

By Barbara Nore, FPC Moderator of the Deacons

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance, perseverance, character, and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." Romans 5:1-5

Through this great faith and perseverance from our Lord Jesus Christ, my family and I hiked the Klondike Gold Rush Chilkoot Trail July 24-28, 2018. Spending time with family, friends, and our beautiful earth rejuvenates and activates our FAITH in our great creator. Through prayer circles and determination we can accomplish almost anything. Be kind to one another and look around to see whom you might be able to uplift with your words and actions. Do not be afraid to face difficult challenges – He will give you the strength to carry on – all the way to safety and back home again.



Commissioner's Presbytery Report

Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest held it's very first meeting on January 26 & 27, 2018 at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Oregon City, Oregon. *(The number of churches in Presbytery of the Pacific increased to the point that it became necessary to form two Presbyteries: Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest and Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest.)*

Dave Moody and I attended the World Outreach Workshop Thursday afternoon. (World Outreach Committee meets the day before Presbytery and usually holds a workshop in the afternoon.) The teaching time during the Presbytery meeting was also focused on World Outreach.

The primary calling of EPC World Outreach is to the work of full-cycle church planting among least reached and unengaged people groups with a particular focus on Muslims. World Outreach has three tracks to accomplish this calling.

- **ENGAGE 2025** - Vision of Engage 2015 is for each Presbytery to establish a church planting team among an "unengaged" Muslim group by the year 2025.
- **ITEN** - The International Theological Network is an equipping ministry of EPC World Outreach. Working in 10 sites around the globe, ITEN's vision is to see indigenous leaders gain higher theological education in order that they can equip and teach their own to go tell the story of Jesus among people who have no church, especially Muslims
- **WO CO-OP** In areas outside our expertise, EPC World Outreach workers partner with other approved mission agencies. WO CO-OP workers are full members of WO and their co-op agency, They go through the application process of both agencies but oversight and coaching of the workers on field comes primarily through the co-op agency, not WO.

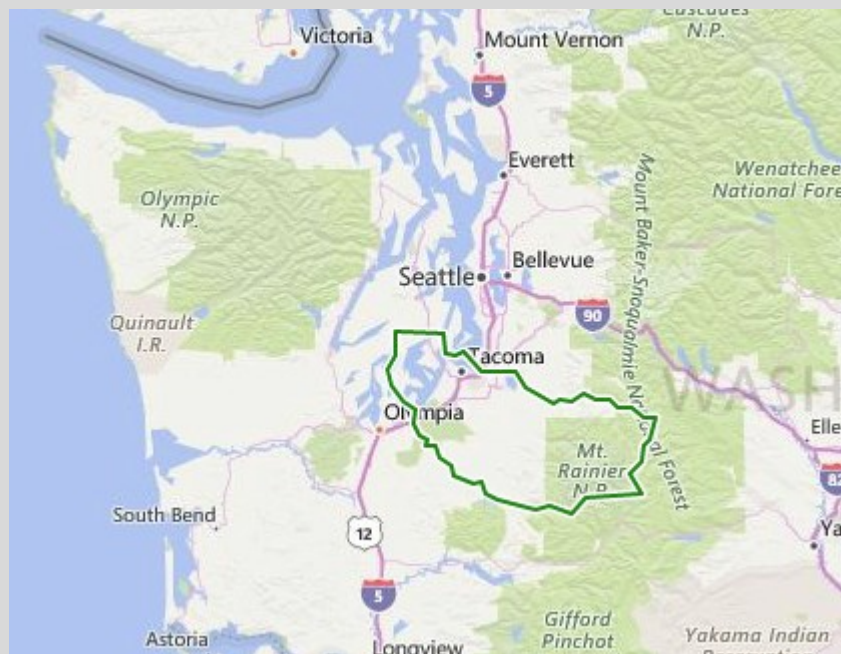
In order to be more effective in church planting, Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest has developed clusters of churches that join together to carry out church planting and other missions. We are part of the Puget Sound cluster.

<u>Churches in Puget Sound Cluster</u>	<u>Members on 1/1/17</u>	<u>Number of Pastors</u>
Alder Community Church	25	1
Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church	1550	5
Evergreen Church	80	1
Grace EPC	28	1

Churches in Puget Sound Cluster	Members on 1/1/17	Number of Pastors
New Hope Presbyterian Church	357	2
Parkway Presbyterian Church	103	1
Sequim Community Church	578	2
Wabash Church	258	1
FPC Fairbanks	256	2

Our cluster is seeking a focus for church plants. We have churches with different sizes and different resources, but together each church has a chance to contribute to the church planting effort. Chapel Hill, the largest church in our Presbytery, wants to see 3 new churches planted in the Pacific Northwest. They are putting 1% of their budget into church planting. Evergreen Church with its 80 members created a designated fund for Church planting. They are small, but they are putting 1% of their budget into the church planting fund. FPC in Redding, CA (part of a different cluster) has 130 members and is devoting 1% of their budget to church planting.

Conversation in the Puget Sound Cluster has revolved around 2 areas, Pierce County, WA (the 2nd most populated county in WA which has underserved areas) and Spokane. (There have been requests for an EPC plant in the Spokane area.) See map on the next page. The outlined area is Pierce County. There also have been requests for an EPC Church plant in the Seattle area. TE Jamie Richard, a member of our cluster, is working out-of bounds with SIM International. He works with Somali immigrants in the Seattle area. He located a source of bottled Camel milk and has made connections with Somali merchants helping them obtain their beloved Camel milk. He brought some for us to try. The camel milk was delicious.



I really couldn't differentiate between it and cow's milk. Jamie is making friendships that will provide

opportunities to share the gospel with these Muslim immigrants. EPC has a carefully thought out strategy for church planting involving three factors - Person, Place and Plan. The person desiring to be a church planter is assessed and approved by the EPC Church Planting Assessment center. The target area for the plant is carefully assessed. A long-term plan is developed. (5-year strategy, with goals, vision and budget)

Since this was our very first meeting as Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest, there was a lot of housekeeping business to take care of all of the Teaching Elders and the Churches were received into Presbytery

- Committee chairs and members were approved for the seven committees of Presbytery
- Corporate officers were elected. (According to the state laws of WA)
- Bylaws for the Presbytery were approved.
- Per member asking was raised to \$20 per member.

Three overtures sent to Presbyteries by GA (descending overtures) were approved. Two REs were examined and approved to become Commissioned Lay Pastors. Jim Day will be lay pastor at Reflections Church in Meridian, ID. Mike McCandles will serve as a lay pastor to provide pastoral support to the congregations of the Klamath Falls and Mt. Shasta area churches.

We approved the recommendation from the session of First EPC of Oregon City that one of their own, Suanne Kohl, who grew up in their church, and aspires to be a TE, come under care of Presbytery. I had an opportunity to meet several of the ten ruling elders I have been interviewing on the phone and emailing as part of my Ministerial Committee duties.

Barbara Page,

Elder Commissioner to Presbytery

First Presbyterian Church Elders

Donna Brewer
June Champlin
Dawn Cogan
Dave Dreydoppel
Michelle Harpole
Mikki Holt
Russ Vander Lugt
Dave Moody; Moderator
Barbara Page
Terry Reichardt
Mike Repasky
Jake Sirevaag
Jim Williams

First Presbyterian Church Deacons

Deborah Lynn Bush
Sarah Curtis
Nancy Dreydoppel
Debby Foster
Logan Foster
Kathy Rahmandar
Darlene Lundberg
Lonny Marney
Barbara Nore
Keith Nore
Joan Riggs
Ted Riggs
Kathi Stevens



**Fall Children's Ministry
Kickoff!! September 9th!**

Children's Ministry is excited to announce this year's curriculum is ...the Bible. If you asked your kids whether they want to explore an exhibit or read about it, most would choose to explore. The Bible is meant to be read, but unlike any other written word, it's also living and active. God's Word exists to be explored and wondered about! We will have an informative training workshop offered to parents, leaders, teachers and anyone curious about the Bible Telling method of sharing God's word. We welcome anyone who has a heart for children's ministry to come and join us!

Heidi Van Harper
Children's Ministry Administrator

Please join us for

FPC ROOTS

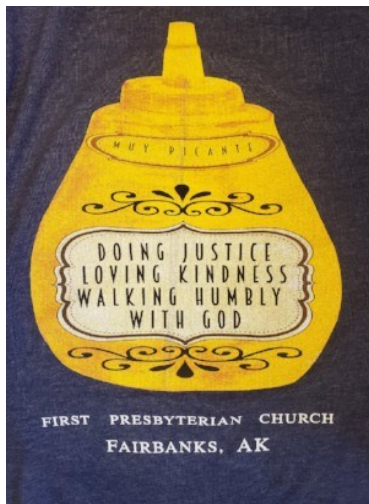
Weekly Bible Study and Fellowship
For kids in Grades 4-6

Sundays 4 PM - 6 PM
Beginning on September 9

Dinner Provided

Led by Brian and Stephanie Rozell
907-687-9792 or 907-687-3730

brianrozell@gmail.com or stephanie.a.rozell@gmail.com



SPICY MUSTARD

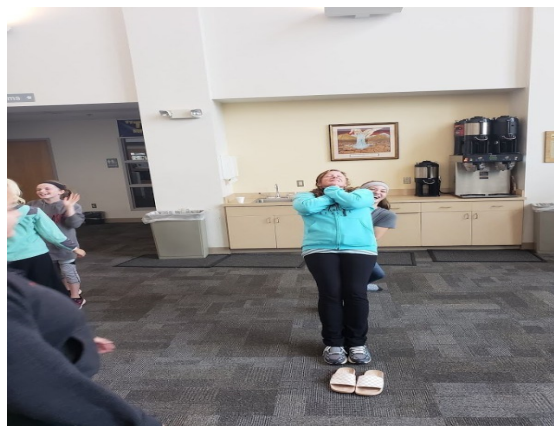
YOUTH

MINISTRY

And We Are Back!

It's been a wild and crazy summer, but with the return of the school year and the Autumn season, we are looking to get back to a more regular schedule of youth ministry activities and opportunities!

Please read on for important updates and resources for you and your family!



WHO DO YOU TRUST?

This past Sunday we split into smaller teams and did Trust Building Challenges. Here we see Angela entrusting everything to Courtney, who proved herself worthy of that trust! After these challenges, we had the small groups scour the Bible for stories of trust. After sharing these stories, we asked the important question "What can you trust God with?" and "How can you trust God More Every Day?" This is just one small example of the ways we try to engage, learn, and grow with all of our young people through group activities, Bible study, prayer, and serving others.

SPICY MUSTARD KEEPS ON MOVING ...

- No Youth Group Sunday September 2 (Labor Day Weekend)
- Wednesday Hangouts September 5, 4pm-7pm - DOWNTOWN SCAVENGER HUNT!
- Rummage Sale Fundraiser Set-Up Friday September 7 - 4pm-8pm
- Rummage Sale Fundraiser - Saturday September 8 - 8am-2pm
- One Homeless Night - Saturday September 8 - 5pm-9am at The Door (10th Ave)
- No Youth Group Sunday September 9 (Recover from One Homeless)

1 Homeless Night



Register your student now to raise money and awareness for The Door and its important ministry!

We have done this every year, the students love the community and the challenge and learn important lesson about helping others!



We will be hosting a huge Rummage Sale fundraiser for youth mission trips on Saturday, September 9th from 8am (9am open to the public) until 2pm. We will also be setting up the night before from 4pm until we're done. Puerto Rico trip participants and parents are especially encouraged to help out, but all are welcome to pitch in!

HATS OFF to SPICY MUSTARD MINISTRY for assisting with uploading, assembling and disbursing food boxes this summer!!!

Meal Train!



We want to make sure every student who comes to our youth ministry programs feels warm and welcomed and part of our church family. One of the best and easiest ways to do that is to provide them a hot meal and 'break bread' together. Would you consider providing a meal once a quarter to help our youth ministry thrive and grow? [Sign Up Now!](#) Point of contact is David McConnell-Booher.

FOOD BOX requests are received via phone or in person each Wednesday to the first fifty (50) requests. Unloading and assembling food orders take place from 12:30p-1:30pm.



Food boxes are distributed the same day from 2-4pm. Many thanks to Jeanette Wrede, Bunnie Boykins, Barbara Nore, Mike, Joy-el Culligan, Cindy Aldrich, and countless others (below) for the assistance provided throughout the summer season.



Rick



Ted



Mike



Vern

Thank You !

In the World of.....



Finance

THROUGH JULY 2018

TOTAL RECEIPTS	357,023
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>341,398</u>
NET	<u>15,625</u>



4	Dan Wells	19	Nancy Dreydoppel
6	Mark Lawson		Mark Wartes
7	Josephine Papp	20	Kil Whiteman
	Shannon Riggs	21	Anarrakaq Hoak
9	Vern Canada	22	Debra Lynn Bush
	Sherry Dudgeon		Kathryn Sorrels
10	Norman Klann		Adelaide Wietgreffe
	John Purcell		Catherine Matthews
	Ben Logan	24	Donald Putugook
	Sarah Logan	26	Hannah Denton
11	Wabda Bowder	28	Meredith Nava
12	Alan Sims		Rachel Marney
13	Sandy Hoak	29	Scottie Klann
14	Rachel Perkins		Sage Gates
15	Quivaq Hoak		Lorena Sims
16	Scott Marney	30	Julia Solomon
18	Patty Greimann		