

Announcements 10-16-26

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINS SOON

Both of our groups will begin a 4-week study of *An Unlikely Advent* by Rachel Billups in preparation for Advent. We will begin November 2 & 3, Mon. mornings 10:00am via Zoom with Amy Poston and Shannon Pleasant and Tuesday evenings 6:30pm with Lynn James-Smith (Zoom and in the Room). EVERY WOMAN IS INVITED and encouraged to bring a friend!

NEW MEN'S GATHERING STUDY

The Men's Gathering meets each Tuesday morning at 8:30 in the Lecture room and by Zoom. We explore many topics based on The Great Courses lecture series. We begin our new series, [The Holy Land Revealed](#), on October 27. This 36-week series is an exploration of biblical archaeology, geography and politics. Contact Bob Smith (bedoodah@yahoo.com) or Steve Harlan (sdhvir@gmail.com) with questions.

STEWARDSHIP DINNER

It's almost time for the 2026 Stewardship dinner at FPC. Join us for a complimentary meal at 6pm on Sunday, November 1 in the fellowship hall. The sign-up for dinner and to volunteer can be found online. The menu is Caesar Salad with Homemade Croutons on the side, Artisan Chicken Breast with Citrus Beurre Blanc, Pasta with Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Fresh Basil, and Fresh Mozzarella, Green Beans, Assorted Bread Basket, and Pumpkin Cheesecake with Spiced Whipped Cream. Childcare and a kids' meal will be provided for those first grade and under.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Join us at 6:15pm following our Wednesday Night Supper on October 28. Come in your costume ready for fun. We need people to sign up online to decorate their trunks and hand out candy to the trick-or-treaters. Friends are always welcome!

MIDWEEK REFRESH SERIES CONCLUDES THIS WEEK

Faith Seeking Understanding: Artificial Intelligence & Human Wisdom

Artificial intelligence is suddenly everywhere-but what exactly is it, what is it good for, and what might our faith have to say about it? Join us this Wednesday after supper as we wrap up our exploration of AI and consider its possibilities and pitfalls.

SIGN UP FOR MONTREAT XIX

Join us for *Rock the Boat* in Montreat on February 5-7, 2027. There will be something for all ages and all interests as we practice an active faith through our core values: Embracing, Imaginative, Humble, and Generous! Contact beth@hickoryfpc.org with questions. We encourage you to sign up by November 5!

ALL-AMERICAN ORGAN RECITAL NEXT SUNDAY

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the USA, Dr. Brandon Burns will present an organ recital of all-American music next Sunday, October 25 at 4pm. Featured composers will include, among others, John Knowles Paine, Horatio Parker, Leo Sowerby, Charles Ives, Richard Purvis, and William Bolcom. There will be a pre-recital discussion at 3:30pm in the sanctuary.

STOCK CONTRIBUTIONS

If you are making a stock contribution to the church, please let us know at accounting@hickoryfpc.org. We want to make sure that credit is given to the correct contributor.

NEXT FPC BOOK CLUB READ

Our book club will discuss *The Calamity Club* by Kathryn Stockett on November 9 at 7pm in the parlor. Please join us!

ACT OF LOVE

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 11 for our next “Act of Love” event. We will have updated booklets for recording your information and final wishes for your family as well as a panel and discussion.

MINISTRY MATCH NEWS

Thank you to all who have participated in our Ministry Match survey. We are excited to begin using these results as we prepare to kick off a new year! We hope you will consider any opportunities suggested by our engagement committee. If you have not taken the survey, we hope you will take a few minutes to discover matches at FPC for your interests and skills.



FPC PHOTOS

We love pictures of everything going on around the church and are always in need of photographers! Please share any pictures you have or take with beth@hickoryfpc.org

FPC EMAIL LIST

A few of you have mentioned that you are no longer receiving our emails. Please let us know if you are not receiving our communications and would like to receive them. It is easy to unsubscribe by accident, and we would love to help.

ELDERS NEEDED TO SERVE COMMUNION

All ordained elders are welcome to sign up online to serve communion throughout the year.

MAIN FPC BUILDING

We have a keyless entry system on most of the doors into our main church/administrative building, and your old church keys will no longer work. Contact Sarah (sarah@hickoryfpc.org) with questions about keys or Sarah or Beth (beth@hickoryfpc.org) to add anything to the church schedule to ensure access.

FAMILY MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a national organization that builds beds for children without one. A new Hickory chapter is looking for volunteers and donations, and Bobbi Trick (bobbitrick@gmail.com) can provide details on how your family can serve.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We have an additional option for submitting prayer requests. You'll find this form online with our sign ups. The submissions will go directly to our ministerial staff.

REALM

We invite you to sign up for Realm, our church database that will allow you to have access to our online directory. We would love for everyone to sign up soon to make sure the information we have is correct. Please contact Beth Taylor (beth@hickoryfpc.org) if you need help signing up or have questions.