

Announcements 8-17-26

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY PROJECT THIS WEEK

Before the next study begins in September, our WBS will have a service/fellowship opportunity this Wednesday, August 18, at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall! We'll put together birthday cake boxes to donate, share hors d'oeuvres, and laugh! All are invited to come see what the Women's Bible Studies at FPC are all about!

NOMINATIONS FOR ELDER

The Nominating Committee welcomes your suggestions of persons who might serve on the Session! As you know, the Session is the governing body of the church, providing leadership and oversight for all our ministries.

Each year we welcome five new elders to the Session, each for a three-year term. We also add two elders for a one-year term. These slots are intended for our youth, so that they can contribute their voices to the church's leadership.

You can use the button below, or [email Kim Brookman](mailto:kim.brookman@hickoryfpc.com) with your suggestions. Please submit all nominations by **5PM TODAY**. Once the Nominating Committee has prepared a slate, the Session will call a meeting of the congregation to elect the next class of elders.

Please contact Richard (richard@hickoryfpc.com) if you have any questions.

CHOIR RETREAT

All singers who are interested in checking out our choir are invited to a choir retreat this Saturday, August 29 from 9am-2pm. Contact kiki@hickoryfpc.org with questions or sign up online.

BACKPACKS & SNACKS

This Sunday, August 23, we'll worship as one in the sanctuary with our Blessing of the Backpacks. Following worship, we'll have our 2nd annual "Stuff on a Stick." You'll find the sign-up with more details on our website. Help us make this new tradition a success!

FPC BOOK CLUB UPCOMING READS

Our book club will discuss *Buckeye* by Patrick Ryan on September 14, and *The Calamity Club* by Kathryn Stockett on November 9. All discussions are at 7pm in the parlor. Please join us!

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.

PUNCH ON THE PATIO

There's still time to sign up to host a Punch on the Patio after worship this summer. We still have several open Sundays and would love for you to check the sign-up online. We hope to have this time of fellowship every Sunday for the rest of this summer!

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.



ELDERS NEEDED TO SERVE COMMUNION

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

SUMMER SAINTS

Join us for a faith formation opportunity for adults at 9am on Sunday mornings this summer! The study is on *Amazing Grace - A Vocabulary of Faith* by Kathleen Norris, but you do not have to read the book to participate.

SUMMER SIGN-UPS

We have numerous ways to serve and get involved over the summer. You'll find sign-ups for Welcome Center Greeters, Kairos Ushers, and Sanctuary Ushers on our sign-ups page.

MONTREAT SAVE THE DATE

We have been able to secure the weekend of February 5-7, 2027 for our next congregational retreat in Montreat. We hope you will all mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details!

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.

FPC PHOTOS

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

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.