



TO PRAISE GOD, WELCOME ALL, SERVE OTHERS,  
GROW IN FAITH, BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST  
AND SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

# Good News Banner

May 2024

## Farragut Presbyterian Church

209 Jamestowne Blvd.  
Knoxville, TN 37934  
865-966-9547  
office@fpctn.org  
www.fpctn.org

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9-3  
Friday 9-1

## Worship

9:00 am

Casual Service  
Outside beginning  
May 12

11:00 am

Traditional Service  
Sanctuary

<https://tinyurl.com/fpclivestream>

We are a diverse and welcoming community of believers, called by God to be disciples of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge God's gracious presence in the world. Our faithful response in praising God encompasses compassionate service to all, nurturing one another to grow in faith together and sending out disciples to share the Good News.

# Reverend Matt Nieman

A Message from our Pastor



## You Can't Change 'Em

As we observe what we would consider bad behavior of those around us—near and far—we are tempted to believe that we can directly change how other people act. And while it is sometimes possible to physically stop the bad behavior of others (put people in jail or time-out), it is not possible to change the attitudes that go into that behavior.

We are tempted to disagree with that theory, for we believe we have the power to influence how others think and behave. Well, any influence we have comes not from changing somebody directly but only when we model in ourselves what we want others to demonstrate.

Dr. John Stuhl, a retired local psychologist, in his book *We Only Have a Few Minutes Left*, says, “It is so easy for us to get focused externally, to focus on others, on what we want him to change, and how we want her to be different. Our attention becomes captured by and our efforts become dominated by the changes we want to see in others. However, since we and all the dead know we can't change another, when we focus our attention and efforts there, on external changes, we're screwed.

“The task, the challenge, is to keep our focus on ourselves, on how we can change, on what we can do differently. Then, if we pay attention to our changes, and the consequent differences in others in response to how we think and act differently, we can determine what changes of ours bring about desired results.”

We can't change others, but we can change ourselves.

Attention to our faith, therefore, is one of the key ingredients to us bringing the change we would like to see in the world. When we grow in the ways of God, others stand a chance of growing in God's ways too—by how it is they observe God working through us.

With a commitment to humility, generosity, compassion, and Godly obedience, maybe we will rub off on those around us. And then, maybe we will see the change we long for.



This group from FPC attended the Annual Meeting/Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of East Tennessee at New Hope Presbyterian in Chattanooga. Congratulations to Beth White who was elected to the PWPET Coordinating Team.



Reagan Corbett

REAGAN IS GRADUATING MAY 19TH FROM FARRAGUT HIGH SCHOOL. SHE PLANS TO ATTEND EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (ETSU) IN THE FALL AND MAJOR IN DIGITAL MEDIA.



Dawson Sweetland

DAWSON WILL GRADUATE ON MAY 10TH FROM ALCOA HIGH SCHOOL WITH A 4.18 GPA. HE WANTS TO PLAY COLLEGE BASEBALL WHILE MAJORING IN MATHEMATICS/ STATISTICS AND EVENTUALLY BECOME A TEACHER AND COACH.



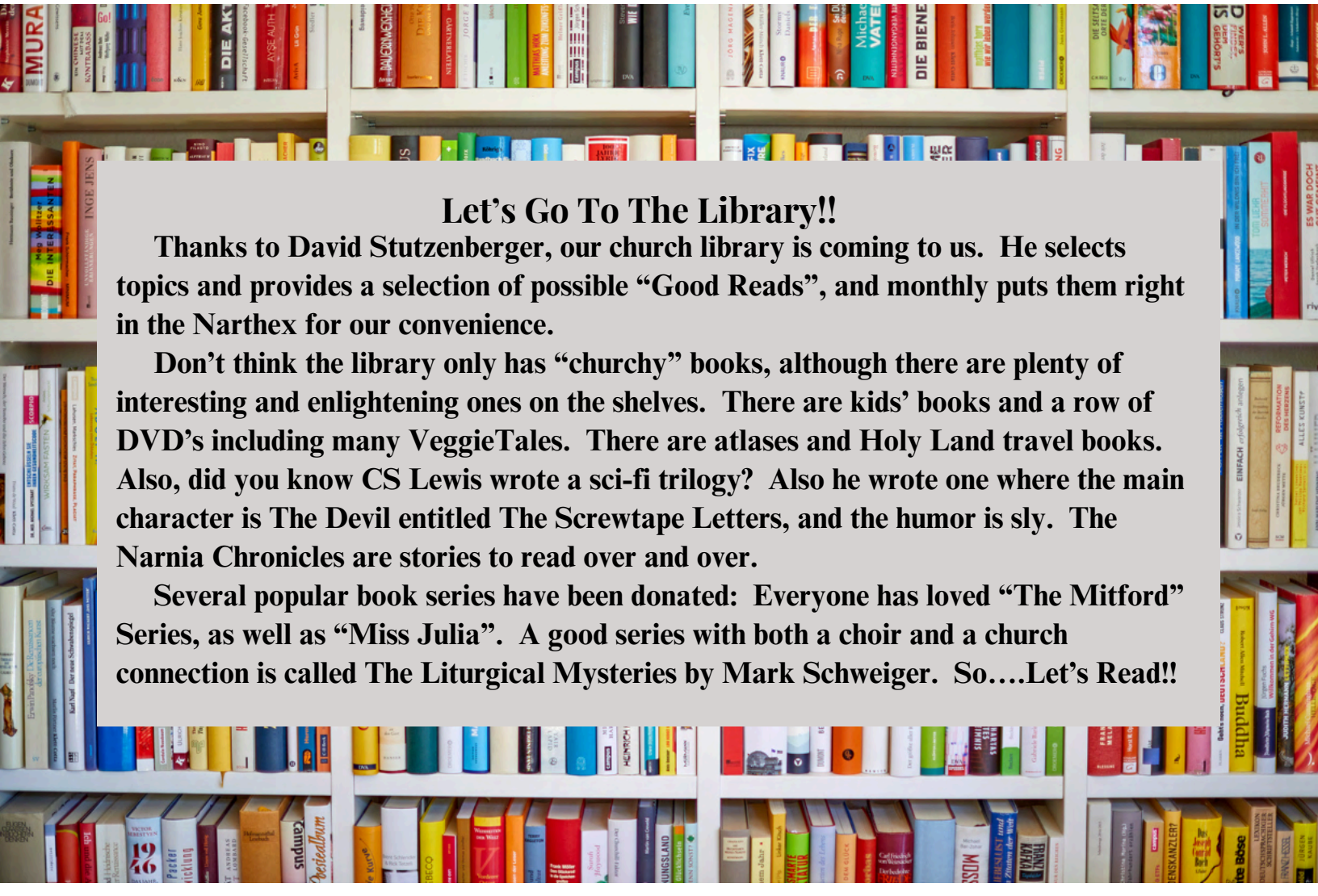
Maylee Warren

MAYLEE GRADUATED ON MAY 4TH FROM MARYVILLE COLLEGE WITH A BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HEALTH & WELLNESS PROMOTION AND A MINOR IN BIOLOGY. SHE LOOKS FORWARD TO HER NEXT CHAPTER IN LIFE.

Congrats!



CLASS OF 2024!



### Let's Go To The Library!!

Thanks to David Stutzenberger, our church library is coming to us. He selects topics and provides a selection of possible "Good Reads", and monthly puts them right in the Narthex for our convenience.

Don't think the library only has "churchy" books, although there are plenty of interesting and enlightening ones on the shelves. There are kids' books and a row of DVD's including many VeggieTales. There are atlases and Holy Land travel books. Also, did you know CS Lewis wrote a sci-fi trilogy? Also he wrote one where the main character is The Devil entitled The Screwtape Letters, and the humor is sly. The Narnia Chronicles are stories to read over and over.

Several popular book series have been donated: Everyone has loved "The Mitford" Series, as well as "Miss Julia". A good series with both a choir and a church connection is called The Liturgical Mysteries by Mark Schweiger. So....Let's Read!!

# Outreach

**BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH GIVING**



**Jean Peretz and Kirk Morris brought a wonderful dinner of fried chicken, mashed potatoes and green beans, as well as cookies & drinks to UKirk for their Wednesday dinner before worship. Thank you to the Outreach Committee!**

**The kids were thrilled with something other than fast food and so appreciative!**

**SPRING has arrived, and we are organizing the next trip to Townsend to take crafting supplies to CAM (Coalition of Appalachian Ministries) on May 16. Needed items include all sewing supplies and fabric, yarn, and even costume jewelry, if it is the type that can be incorporated into hand-made items. Crafters have mentioned some special “wished-for” items: cotton for quilting and aprons, batting, denim, and yarn, especially peach and cream colors. Used light bulbs are made into cute Snowmen and other Christmas decorations. Old and worn (even stained) tablecloths can be transformed into many useful items. Trims, such as ric rac, and of course thread and buttons, are always on the wish list.**

**For more information or to arrange a pick-up, call Debbie Long or Mikie Lancaster. Anyone wanting to ride along is most welcome. We always enjoy our lunch out!**



**CAM Cabin Crafts  
Handmade and Handcrafted  
items from Appalachia**



# Music at FPC

*Dr. Angela Batey, Director*

*O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.*

In my Good News Banner article in July 2020, I wrote about what I missed during the pandemic: *I have missed singing with others -- hymnals in hand, voices at full-throttle! During this COVID time, we have all learned things about ourselves. I think one of the most important things I learned was something that defined me and I did not realize how important that was until it was taken away --- making music with others and conducting choirs. Leading others into the magic of choral music not only challenges me to be a better teacher, but it also fills my soul when I understand the joy that others feel as they embrace choral music.*

I went on to say: *But one of these days, I want light to spill through the sanctuary windows and spread across my hymnal, and the organ to give a mighty introduction, giving me my cue to sing. I plan to weep.*

That weeping moment FINALLY came during worship on Sunday, May 30 with the return of no mask/distancing restrictions as our Associate Director of Music, Tami Newsom, opened the organ up in a fantastic, thundering alternate harmonization on the last verse of Holy, Holy, Holy and your voices rose above it all in full-throated singing! Electrifying moments like these are probably why I am such the lover of hymns and hymn-singing.

I wrote last month about the exhaustive hymnal collection in our house and how remarkable the content of hymnals can be. Now, let's turn to the actual SINGING of hymns!

It has been said that when you sing a hymn at church you actually are praying twice... and let me tell you I plan to use that loophole at the pearly gates. Music has always been an integral part of my life and singing certainly IS something I have done my entire life – my mother tells me I hummed myself to sleep in my crib! I came up through the children's choirs in my home church, then to youth choir, then to the 'adult choir' as it was called – first singing in that group while sitting next to my grandmother, who could sing a mean alto line! It was there I first learned to value the liturgy through word and song with the participation of the people; first because it is a biblical mandate, and second because it is therein that I have most-regularly encountered the Godhead throughout my life – usually in a beautifully-appointed sanctuary with the King of Instruments – the Organ – leading worshippers in these grand hymns. And those formative years certainly had a great bearing on how I have lived my life as a musician – worship ever and always playing an integral part.

After all, it is the power of music to push and pull, eventually leading one to step into one's faith. As for me, music was a pull that would not only teach me to read the sound that floated from the choir loft to raise up a congregation, but to most importantly allow me to enter into the lives of the most interesting people I will ever meet. All their songs now reside and travel with me as part of my soundtrack... I have been fortunate that way.

Each worship service is a new song. A new chance to let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad. A call to come out of the cold darkness into the warmth of the light... and sing wonderful traditional hymns with joy and gladness. A few years ago, I was in the middle of glorious voices singing an Evensong and my faith grabbed onto a few lyrics that served me well when that pandemic hit:

The stars have disappeared, and distant lights are dim,  
My soul is filled with fears, the seas are breaking in.  
I hear the Master cry, "Be not afraid, 'tis I,"  
And the storm is passing over, Hallelujah!"

Then I finally understood. You may question the strength of a hymn against that of a sermon or reading and grade their effects on you. A hymn, at least for me carries the weight of my faith. It is the sound of my joy, my grief, my anger, my fear, my agitation in the now and not in the distant past or future. After all, music sets your mental stage and pushes your soul to march, to dance, or take communion. This, in the end brings you face to face with the fact that you are the Lord's song brought forward to rejoice in his creation.

So, my friends, come to worship, sing and rejoice!



**SUNDAY, MAY 05**  
**6PM**  
**UT CONTEMPORARY**  
**ACAPPELLA ENSEMBLES**



**BASEBALL**  
**VS. MISSISSIPPI**  
**BRAVES**

Come listen to our own Sandra Bohlken sing the National Anthem!  
Tickets are \$13 and can be purchased with a form on the narthex table.

**23 JUNE 2024 | STARTS AT 2PM | SMOKIES STADIUM, KODAK, TN**

To purchase Smokies tickets, grab a form on the narthex table, then return the complete form with payment to the office.

# MINISTRIES



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

May 28

11:00 am

Room D

Join this wonderful group of knitters and crocheters to make shawls for FPC members who need extra comfort during a difficult time.

Patterns and yarn are provided.

WHEN YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO



*Call someone who cares*

FPC STEPHEN MINISTER LEADERS

BETH MARTIN | MATT NIEMAN  
JEANIE OAKLEY | ELIZABETH WILSON

865/966-9547

Our Stephen Ministry Leaders can help:

**Beth Martin**  
(865) 776-3132

**Matt Nieman**  
(865) 966-9547

**Jeanie Oakley**  
(256) 468-4501

**Elizabeth Wilson**  
(865) 382-6786

## Presbyterian Women

All circle meetings are held at the church

Circle #1

2nd Tuesday, 10 am

Leaders: Janet Tinder

865-556-8193

Kathy Emmerson

Circle #2

2nd Tuesday, 10 am

Leaders: Becky Thomason

865-607-0727

Linda Nunley

Circle #3

2nd Wednesday, 10 am

Leaders: Mikie Lancaster

865-675-0360

Jo McElhaney

865-705-6518

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) groups build community, affirm women's calls to leadership and spiritual growth, raise concerns and channel information to and from Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery. Presbyterian Women is a loving community that can challenge and nurture you, and be a vehicle for making the world a better place for all of God's children. Consider joining an FPC Circle.

Check us out on Facebook: Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA) or on Instagram: PWPCUSA, Inc.  
[www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org)

## Men's Bible Study

May 9 and 23

8 a.m. / Narthex

The men of FPC gather twice a month for fellowship and a time of bible study. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month in the narthex at 8am. If you would like to join us, please contact John Neighbors or the church office to get on the contact list. Breakfast, coffee, and great fellowship provided!

## Chair Yoga

**MONDAY AND FRIDAY**

**10:00 - 10:30 AM**

**NARTHEX**

Class designed for those with limited mobility or balance concerns.

## TGIF Gentle Yoga

**FRIDAY 7:00 - 8:00 PM**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Gentle, slow flow class. Bring a mat and comfortable clothing. For beginner and experienced yogis.

Contact Jenny Trussell at [CEDARSTUDIOS4@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CEDARSTUDIOS4@GMAIL.COM) for additional information or a private introductory session!

No childcare available, but both Yoga classes are free and open to the public.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**



### **Pastor Matt's Class Library**

**Pastor Matt's Class will be a Bible study class focusing on multiple topics with a variety of class leaders throughout the summer.**

### **Youth**

#### **Cafe (Parlor)**

**Led by Mason Warren**

**The youth Sunday School class meets to “DIVE IN to the Old Testament!” Each week throughout the school year, youth explore a specific book of the Old Testament utilizing videos and discussion.**

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

#### **Outdoors/Room D**

**Led by Elizabeth Wilson**

**This class will discuss the weekly Lectionary text. There's an optional lesson handout, but you can also join us for the conversation.**



### **Thursday Evening Bible Study Meetings on Zoom at 7pm Led by Elizabeth Wilson**

**Having finished the longest book of the Bible last year, we're turning to the shortest Gospel this year. The Gospel of Mark is the second of the four canonical gospels and one of the three synoptic Gospels. It tells of the ministry of Jesus from his baptism by John the Baptist to his death, burial, and the discovery of his empty tomb. If you're interested in an in-depth look at the Gospel of Mark, we'd love to have you join us (even if you can't make every week). For more information contact Elizabeth Wilson, the church office, or any of the current members.**

### **SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS**

**Hello Friends! Farragut Presbyterian Church is looking for volunteers to assist in our worship services. If you can help in any of the submitted categories: usher, scripture reader, communion server or coffee crew, please go to:  
<http://tinyurl.com/FPCvolunteerSignUp>  
and sign up in the appropriate available time slot.**

**If you have any questions, please contact Mikie Lancaster, Ken Ladrach, or the church office (865/966-9547).**

**Thank you for your help!**



## May Anniversaries

- 5/04 Chuck and Karen Brown Gonzalez
- 5/18 Mitchell Adams and Laura McFee-Adams
- 5/10 Tom and Sharon Koch
- 5/11 Chuck and Mitzi Gentry
- 5/15 Jim and Jessy Rich
- 5/19 Fred and Jean Peretz
- 5/21 Christopher and Lori Patterson
- 5/28 Alan and Melody White
- 5/31 Philip and Ruth Jacobs



Nathan Burris, Denise Damelio, Wayne Davis, Kathy Emmerson, Billy Fain, Chuck Foriska, Frank Guess, Paul Hanson, Mike Hoolihan, Bron Lewis, Beth Loyless, Ann McAnally, Irma McGuffey, Maria Medina, John Montgomery, Tami Newsom, Jim Rich, Dee Robinson, Steve Tinder, Helen Weaver

## Bereaved

The family of Thomas Blackstock, Beth Honey's grandfather

The family of Diane Lovin

The family of FPC Charter Member May Louise Slawson

## May Birthdays

- 5/01 Janet Tinder
- 5/01 Helen Nalley
- 5/05 Connie Rutenber
- 5/05 Pat Dail
- 5/05 Bruce Wilson
- 5/06 Holly Morrell
- 5/06 Beth Hallman
- 5/06 Brenda Selecman
- 5/08 Wayne Davis
- 5/09 Hazel West
- 5/09 David Long
- 5/10 Rachel Hopson
- 5/10 Carolyn Caldwell
- 5/11 Ann McAnally
- 5/17 Paul Gary
- 5/17 Ginger Grunke
- 5/18 Jenny Trussell
- 5/19 David Bolus
- 5/19 Beth Ralph
- 5/20 Angie Batey
- 5/21 Dennis Starr
- 5/22 Bill Nelson
- 5/23 Liza Wright
- 5/24 Jeff Gary
- 5/25 Judith Bradbury
- 5/26 Tim Schult
- 5/27 Jaci Marks
- 5/29 Norma Foriska

If you have updated information about our prayer recipients you would like to share, please email [office@fpctn.org](mailto:office@fpctn.org) or call the church office at 865-966-9547.

## Session Highlights

At its meeting on April 22, the Session:

- Heard that more than 100 members have taken the online survey designed to seek feedback on any proposed improvement project to the sanctuary and narthex areas of the church building. Feedback from the survey and focus group discussions back in March will be given to the Session as they consider future efforts.
- The next Church Life event is the Cinco de Mayo lunch on May 5 at 11 a.m. Round tables will be rented for the event in fellowship hall as a trial run for how we could permanently incorporate and store any future round tables the church might purchase.
- Heard that elder Mary Overstreet from Powell Presbyterian Church will serve as a pastoral intern with us from May through July as part of her training to be a Commissioned Lay Pastor in our presbytery. Mary will assist with worship leadership a few times, preach at least once, and design and lead a ministry project while she is with us. The experience will be very part-time (minimum of 20 contact hours over the three months).

# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### Financial Report as of March 2024

	Actual for March	YTD March	YTD March Budget
Operating Income	\$84,083	\$192,321	\$175,162
Big Fish Academy Income	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
Total Income	\$86,083	\$198,321	\$181,162
Operating Expenses	\$65,481	\$161,522	\$179,509
Total Expenses	\$65,481	\$161,522	\$179,509
Total Income less Expenses	\$20,602	\$36,799	\$1,653

## STAFF

### Pastor

Reverend Matt Nieman  
matt@fpctn.org  
402-660-2451 (call or text)

Dawn Zilles  
Office Administrator  
office@fpctn.org  
865-966-9547

Lori Corbett  
Bookkeeper  
bookkeeperfpc@gmail.com

Mason Warren  
Director of Family Ministry  
masonwarren@fpctn.org

Dr. Angela Batey  
Director of Music  
abatey@utk.edu

Tami Newsom  
Associate Director of Music  
tnewsom3@utk.edu

Sandra Porter Bohlken  
Music Director, Casual Service  
singsandrab@gmail.com

### SESSION

Administration  
Kathy Emerson  
Cheryl Cardwell

Christian Education  
Beth Honey  
Cheyanne Feldhausen

Church Life  
Jeff Thode  
Gayle Williams

Outreach  
Kirk Morris  
Scott McKinney

Property  
Darrell Sparks  
Thom Haig

Worship and Music  
Catherine Manning  
MaryAnne Walls

Clerk of Session  
Lisa Gary



### Get Social!

Farragut Presbyterian is live on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.  
Have something to post?  
Send to our social media coordinator, Emily Sweetland,  
at social@fpctn.org or text 865-567-7636



<https://www.instagram.com/farrgutpesbyterian>



@FarrPres



<https://www.facebook.com/FPCKnox>



Farragut Presbyterian Church



**KARM STORES**  
The Thrift Store with a Mission

When donating used items to KARM tell the employee the name of the church. The church will receive gift cards to KARM Stores that can be given to someone in need.

Support FPC Christian Ed with Kroger Community Rewards Program. Link your Kroger reward card to FPC.  
Sign up at: Visit  
<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>  
Our organization number is YU915.

