

TODAY
at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church
Rev. Roger Owens, "A Troubling Word"
Mark 1:21-39

9:15 AM	Children's Choir	Choir Room
10:00 AM	One Service Sunday	Sanctuary
	Kid's Church	Fellowship Hall
	Nursery Care	Room 109
	Comfort Space	Room 107
11:00 AM	Annual Congregational Mtg	Sanctuary
11:20 AM	Finance Information Session	Chapel
11:30 AM	Chili Cook-Off	Fellowship Hall
2:00 PM	Middle School Youth Group	Youth Lounge
4:00 PM	High School Youth Group	Youth Lounge

Church Office Hours:
 Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
 www.fcpc.us | 412-963-8243

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP:

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (SANCTUARY)

followed by

FINANCE INFORMATION SESSION (CHAPEL)

CHILI COOK-OFF (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE DETAILS!

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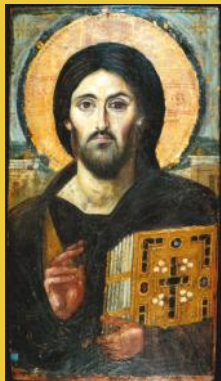
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Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church
 January 28, 2024

Highlights

As a community of Christ's disciples, we joyfully participate in Christ's mission of love and peace, transformation and hope.



**First Impressions:
 Meeting Jesus
 All Over Again**

**A Sermon Series
 on Mark 1**

It's a new year—a good time to pause and ask, "Who is Jesus? Who is Jesus for us? Who is Jesus for me?" As we explore the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark, the invitation is to come with an open, curious mind, in order to meet Jesus anew. We might find that he's more relevant than we ever thought.

January 28 — Mark 1:21-39

February 4 — Mark 1:35-45

FILL THE TRUCK!

February 4, 2024
 8am-12pm in the Chapel

All Ages Can Help!



Gather non-perishable items:

- Cereal
- Beans
- Pasta
- Mac n Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Canned soup
- Paper Towels
- Toiletries

Bring to FCPC on Sunday, February 4

Items collected will be sorted, packed and delivered to:

- *Bread of Life Food Pantry
- *Sharpsburg Food Pantry
- *Singing Winds Food Pantry



Bring your empty boxes—see page 4 for info!

LETTER FROM PASTOR ROGER

Dear Friends,

I don't know if you have books or movies that you consider old friends, the kind you want to call on a gray, snowy day or meet for a chat over a warm cup of coffee. The kind you can trust, whose presence you know will bring comfort and cheer.

That's the kind of book I want to read in the winter, one that's pleasantly familiar—that old friend. Last weekend I found myself reaching for a short memoir by Frederick Buechner, the Presbyterian minister and writer, who died in 2022 at ninety-six. Buechner was the author of many books—novels, collections of talks and sermons, and memoirs. Buechner is not a vigorous writer, and his sentences meander but never lack clarity. I've never read someone who can sustain a nearly perfect sentence of the extraordinary length of his. I understand that novelist Henry James had a similar penchant for the serpentine sentence, but since I avoid 19th-century novels, I can't speak to that.

The book I reread, *Now & Then*, is the second in a series of memoirs, each recounting a slice of his life (they are very short books). This one tells his vocational journey as he enters Union Seminary in New York to train to be a minister – mostly because he's become completely enamored with the Christian faith and wants to soak it in as best he can, while still wrestling with his longing to be a writer, having already published two novels, one to critical acclaim. At one point, he describes his anguish trying to decide whether to continue with his seminary studies or drop out to write a third novel. His description of his discernment rings true to my experience:

I knew that Christians were supposed to pray for guidance, and I tried my hand at that too, in the dark of night, in my bed at 929 Madison Avenue. The anguish was real enough, but I remember that, even at the time, the prayers seemed self-conscious and stagey. I was less a man praying than a man *being* a man praying, and no clear answer came, none that I could hear anyway, and maybe that in itself was the answer: that there was no clear right, no clear wrong, but that whichever way I chose, I would have to make it right, both for me and for the one I prayed to.

Such wisdom there. Sometimes we pray for guidance, then we have to choose, trusting that God is leading, even if we never saw a flashing neon sign alerting us to the right direction.

But the real reason I love this book is for what I consider to be one of the accounts of what it means to live a spiritual life, one I return to again and again. Near the end of the book, after he has written about seminary, his years teaching religion at a prep school,

and his move to Vermont with his family to write full time, he writes:

I discovered that if you really keep your eye peeled to it and your ears open, if you really pay attention to it, even such a limited and limiting life as the one I was living on Rupert Mountain [in Vermont] opened up onto extraordinary vistas. Taking your children to school and kissing your wife goodbye. Eating lunch with a friend. Trying to do a decent day's work. Hearing the rain patter against the window. There is no event so commonplace but that God is present within it, always hiddenly, always leaving you room to recognize him or not to recognize him, but all the more fascinatingly because of that, all the more compellingly and hauntingly. . . . If I were called upon to state in a few words the essence of everything I was trying to say both as a novelist and as a preacher, it would be something like this: Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.

I wouldn't dare add anything to that, except to say that we have several books of Frederick Buechner's in the church library, including a few of his memoirs, including this one.

Peace,



Roger

FCPC PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Now offering tours for 2024-2025! Visit us online at fcpc.us/preschool

Registration for current students, legacy families, and church members will open on Monday, January 29, 2024.

We encourage early registration!



Registration will open to the community on Monday, February 12, 2024.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FCPC

TODAY, January 28, 2024

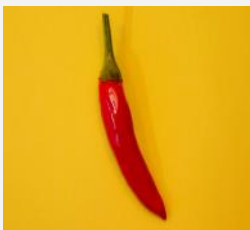
Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Members of the congregation are encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the congregation immediately following worship in the Sanctuary. The FCPC Annual Report will be distributed. Agenda includes brief finance report and approval of terms of call for pastors.

Finance Information Session

Those interested in learning more detail about the church's finances are invited to a financial information session in the Chapel immediately following the annual meeting of the congregation.

Chili Cook-Off



All are invited to enjoy the fun, food, and friendly competition of the annual chili cookoff in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the annual meeting of the congregation!

Financial Peace University

**Sundays, February 25—April 28, 2024
(except Easter Sunday)
4:00-5:15 PM in the Lounge**

Led by John Culbertson

When debt isn't holding you back, nothing can stop you from living the life of your dreams. And here's the good news: You can get there. You just need a plan that works.

In this series, you'll learn how to put together that plan and how to:

- Take control of your money;
- Attack debt with a vengeance and pay it off fast;
- Save for emergencies;
- Choose the right insurance plans;
- Invest wisely and build wealth; and
- Give generously (the best part).

More information coming soon!



Choral Concert
Sunday, February 4, 2024
4:00 PM

The Resonance Chamber Orchestra and Chorus take center stage with a performance centered around Indian-American composer Reena Esmail's 2016 work *This Love Between Us: Prayers for Unity* and Bach's glorious *Magnificat*.

One of the most exciting voices in music today, Esmail works between the worlds of Hindustani and Western classical music traditions, aiming to bring communities together through the creation of equitable musical spaces. *This Love Between Us* reflects on the themes of unity and kindness, juxtaposing texts from seven different religious traditions (and in seven different languages!).

Building on the success of *Mass in B Minor* last season, Bach's sparkling *Magnificat* anchors the first half of the program along with *Breaking Bread*, a solo work by American composer Nkeiru Okoye, which serves as a kind of invocation for the mesmerizing sonic journey to come.

Tickets are available at www.resonanceworks.org/this-love-between-us or 412-501-3330.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP 2024

Paths of Light Ministry in Guatemala is one of FCPC's international mission partners. Plans to visit and assist them with whatever needs to be done the week of June 17-23, 2024 are in the making. Deadline to register and deposit of \$300 is due on March 6, 2024. For more details, click on the QR code below.

If you have further questions, please contact Pastor Rebecca (rebecca@fcpc.us).



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Bring Boxes for Fill the Truck!



FILL THE TRUCK
BOXES DROP OFF

Food Bin Outside of Fellowship Hall
January 21, 2024
January 28, 2024
February 4, 2024

DONATION

DROP OFF YOUR EMPTY BOXES. THE DEACONS WILL USE THEM TO PACKAGE FOOD DONATIONS FOR FILL THE TRUCK.

MISSION PARTNER OF THE MONTH



HAITI H2O
HOPE TO OPPORTUNITY

Our January Mission Partner of the Month is **Haiti H2O**, one of our international mission partners. Since 2021, Haiti has been in political and economic crisis. In July of 2021 their president, President Moise was assassinated, and Ariel Henry was installed as the Prime Minister and acting President. Then in August 2021, Haiti suffered a huge earthquake with many casualties and economic devastation. Political unrest and an unstable economy led to the rise of gang violence and other violent crimes. As of March 2022, Haiti has no president, no parliamentary quorum, and a dysfunctional high court.

Since 2006, Haiti H2O has been investing in Haitian-led solutions for remote villages through construction, agriculture, healthcare, and micro-business projects. Haiti H2O is creatively meeting the challenges brought on by a global pandemic and political unrest. While it is currently not safe to send mission teams to Haiti, FCPC financially supports Haiti H2O from our mission budget. We also participate in various prayer initiatives and fundraisers for Haiti H2O.

On Saturday, January 20, we partnered with Haiti H2O for the Care-to-Action service project, creating care packages for Haitians living in remote villages. Thank you to everyone who joined us!



Second Harvest Community Thrift Store needs volunteers! When you volunteer with Second Harvest, you are giving more than just your time. You are providing an opportunity for those in the community to have access to needed, quality goods. For more information or to see which shifts are available, please check the sign-up link: <https://www.secondharvestthrift.com/volunteer/>



Meals on Wheels of Aspinwall is in need of volunteers, especially drivers and delivery persons. They operate out

of St. Edward's kitchen in Blawnox and serve Aspinwall, Blawnox, Fox Chapel, O'Hara, and Sharpsburg.

For more information on volunteer opportunities or to sign up, please visit their website at <http://www.aspinwallmealsonwheels.org> and click "Volunteer".

CARE & CONCERN

We hold these friends in prayer:

Lynda Jamison	Bob Ball
Elizabeth Kurzinski	Bob Jamison
George Due	Jenna Rodrigues
Dave Houggy	John Oehrle
Brian Baxter	Marge Funk
Charlie Haeussner	Tom and Pam Stickle
Penny Young	

Kimberly, sister-in-law of the Gazarov family
 Mary Crepeau, mother of Bryan Bass-Riley
 Jane May, sister of Sue Patrick
 Bob, friend of Bob Baxter
 Sandy Preuhs, friend of Bob Heister
 Elizabeth Hernandez, mother of Sheryl Austin

We pray for those who grieve:

We pray for Susie Dull and her sister Connie Marteeny with the loss of Connie's husband William Marteeny on Sunday, January 21

We pray for the family of Rev. Frederick C. Heitzenroder, brother of Gary (Sue) Heitzenroder, uncle of Brent Heitzenroder and Christy Farrell, who passed away on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

We pray for Fay Powell and family as they grieve the loss of her nephew, Ronald Rieger.

We pray for the family and friends of John Hodgson who passed away on Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

We pray for Debbie and Diane Demmler as they grieve the loss of their aunt, Carol Lippert, on January 5, 2024.

We pray for Nick Krawec and family, friend of Bob Heister, on the passing of his wife, Dolores.

We share in joy and celebration with:

Celebrating the birth of baby Owen Lorenzo Feige, son of Emma Thomson and Carl Feige, born on December 28, 2023. All are doing well.

Celebrating the birth of baby Hazel Lancia, daughter of Rachel and Ryan Lancia, born on December 29, 2023.

We pray for peace, aid, and consolation for all who suffer, including:

- ◆ The people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, and every place there is conflict and violence.
- ◆ Refugees throughout the world.

To keep this list current, please renew requests on a monthly basis for continued prayers.

BIRTHDAYS

January 28: Deacon Anderson, Jenna Barbour, Louise Lytle, Sue Patrick

January 29: Abby Alexander, William Datt, Ivan Kofmehl, Janet Johnson, Sarah Woodings

January 30: John Musgrave

January 31: Jackie Cagley, Jenna Yanchik

February 1: David Clark, Tori Taylor

February 2: Aida Foley, Lauren Valley

February 3: Louise Cannon, Nina Cordisco, Anne Rockwell, Harry Stump



LETTERS OF CONCERN

Every week the deacons send letters of concern to members of our church family who are experiencing joys or concerns. You are invited to sign these letters each week. Cards are located at these locations:



8:15 AM	Chapel
9:30 AM	Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Atrium

KEEP US INFORMED

Please let us know about illness, hospitalization, prayer concerns or other needs for pastoral care by calling the church office (412-963-8243) or emailing Pastor Ginger at ginger@fcpc.us.

Have you recently moved, changed your phone number or email? To ensure you receive FCPC information, we want to keep your contact information up-to-date. Please contact Sarah in the church office with your updates (sarah@fcpc.us). Thank you!

Need a caring presence?



Stephen Ministers at FCPC provide one-on-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

If you or someone you know may benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Nikki Rosswog (nikki@fcpc.us).

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES (Ages 0—5th Grade)

Tunes 4 Tots!

Spring Series with Miss Roux!
@ Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

BABY, TODDLER, PRESCHOOLER
AND ME MUSIC TIME!

5 SATURDAYS!
FEBRUARY 17
FEBRUARY 24
MARCH 2
MARCH 9
MARCH 16

3 TIMES:
10AM
INFANT-1YEAR
10:30AM
TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL
11AM
TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL

**SIGN UP
USING OUR
QR CODE!**

Questions? Contact
Pastor Lori 412-737-1412
(Call/text)



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

ELEMENTARY AGE (K-5TH)
KID'S CLUB
FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN

**WEDNESDAYS
6:30-8:00PM**

Sign up by using the QR code
or just show up!
Questions? Call/Text
Pastor Lori 412-737-1412

TIME FOR KIDS TO:
CONNECT
SHARE
RELAX
PLAY
LEARN
GROW

**ALL TOGETHER
IN GOD'S LOVE**



SUNDAY MORNING FOR KIDS

8:15 AM Worship No children's programming though all are welcome to attend worship with their loved ones.

9:30 AM Contemporary Service All children are invited to stay in worship and engage in activities with Pastor Lori at the back of Fellowship Hall.

9:30 AM Kids' Church For age 3 to 5th grade. Children are signed in prior to worship and begin the service on the children's rugs at the back of Fellowship Hall. After the Children's Message, children are led to the lower level Kids' Space. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the lower level unless otherwise indicated.

9:30 & 11:00 AM Nursery Care Room 109, for ages 0-3. Staffed by two adult professionals.

9:30 & 11:00 AM Comfort Space Room 107. A place to comfort or feed a child and watch the worship service.

11:00 AM Kids' Church For age 3 to 5th grade. Children are signed in prior to worship and begin the service with loved ones. After the Children's Message, children are led to the lower level Kids' Space. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the lower level unless otherwise indicated.

Questions/Concerns? Contact our Director of Children and Family Ministry, Pastor Lori: call/text 412-737-1412 or email lori@fcpc.us.

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church VBS 2024

Dates July 8-July 12
1pm-4pm
PreK (age 4) - Grade 5

Theme is To Be Announced!

Registration is OPEN! Follow the QR Code! or click here!



Learn more about what's happening at FCPC for children and families at <https://www.fcpc.us/children-s-ministries>

YOUTH MINISTRY (Grades 6—12)

YOUTH GROUP

We invite all Middle and High School students to join our weekly Sunday afternoon youth group. Each week we enjoy games, eat snacks, talk about how scripture impacts our life today, and grow our community. No need to sign up, just show up!



WORSHIP SERVICE RECORDINGS

For your convenience, the worship services are available on the FCPC YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@FoxChapelPresby/streams.

Consider joining the tech team! We will train you to help run sound, video, and the live stream. Contact Jenny Clark (jenny@fcpc.us).

WE'RE HIRING @ FCPC

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

We invite your interest and referrals for the open position of Communication Coordinator. This position is part-time (30 hours per week). The position responsibilities include print media preparation, digital communication, increasing online presence. Experience with Microsoft Office software is required. Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to jobs@fcpc.us.

TEMPORARY FINANCE ASSISTANT

We invite your interest and referrals for the open position of Temporary Finance Assistant. This position is part-time (24 hours/week). This is a transactional accounting clerk position. Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to jobs@fcpc.us.

This posted position is in addition to the Temporary Finance Project Administrator position now held by Shannon Watters.

SUNDAY NURSERY CAREGIVERS

We have several available positions for Sundays, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM, starting in January 2024.

Position details:

- * Age 18+
- * Flexible schedule
- * Experience with small children and infants required

For more information or to apply, contact Pastor Lori Bass-Riley at 412-737-1412 or lori@fcpc.us, or scan the QR code to the right.



THERE'S STILL TIME TO....



**Pick up a
70th
anniversary
t-shirt in the
Reception
Area!**

**Many adult
and kid sizes
available.**

**Suggested
donation \$15.**

ONLINE GIVING

Scan this QR code with your phone to give online **OR**



Text the word "Give" to 412-201-0557.

HOW TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT FCPC

You can **make a financial pledge** to FCPC no matter the time of the year. 2024 pledges can be made online via the church website (www.fcpc.us/giving) or by contacting FCPC's Finance Administrator, Sandi Deaner (sandi@fcpc.us / 412-963-8479).

FCPC accepts **stock donations**. When donating stock, please send a notification letter to Sandi Deaner. Include the name of stock, number of shares, how to apply the donation on your account, and the date you will donate your gift. For further Instructions, contact Sandi Deaner.

If your workplace supports nonprofits through a **corporate gift matching program**, double the impact of your gift to the church!

Another way to give is by **helping to offset FCPC's Per Capita assessment**, paid to the presbytery based on church membership. For 2024, FCPC **will pay approximately \$33,006** (\$36.35 per member. Your donation of \$36.35 designated for the Per Capita assessment can help offset this obligation.

Consider making a legacy gift to the church that tells the story of your hope in Christ. You can leave a gift to the church in the following ways:

- * A bequest in your will
- * Retirement plan beneficiary
- * Life insurance beneficiary
- * Proceeds from the sale of real estate or property
- * Other ways that suit your situation.

Consult with an attorney or professional advisor before making changes to your estate plans.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Would you like to provide flowers for the chancel in 2024? Your order of flowers beautifies the sanctuary and is a wonderful opportunity to honor or remember someone special.

Orders forms are available in the church office, online at www.fcpc.us/forms or follow the QR Code at right!



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, January 29

9:00 AM-2:00 PM: Preschool

2:00-3:00 PM: Knitting Group (Library)

Tuesday, January 30

9:00 AM-2:00 PM: Preschool

8:00-9:15 AM: Men's Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)

9:30-10:30 AM: Staff Mtg. (Lounge)

Wednesday, January 31

9:00 AM-2:00 PM: Preschool

9:30-11:00 AM: Community Bible Study (Rm 310)

6:30-8:00 PM: Wednesday Night Live! (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, February 1

9:00 AM-2:00 PM: Preschool

6:30-7:30 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:30-9:30 PM: Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, February 2

9:00 AM-2:00 PM: Preschool

Saturday, February 3

Sunday, February 4

8:00 AM-12:00 PM: Fill the Truck (Chapel)

8:15 AM: Contemplative Worship Service (Sanctuary)

9:30 AM: Contemporary Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)

Kid's Church (Fellowship Hall)

Comfort Space (Room 107)

Nursery Care (Room 109)

11:00 AM: Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Kid's Church (Lower Level)

Comfort Space (Room 107)

Nursery Care (Room 109)

2:00 PM: Middle School Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

4:00 PM: High School Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

To Note:

Thursday, February 11

10:30 AM-1:00 PM Lent-venturing

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday service, 7:00 PM

Monday, February 19

No Preschool—President's Day

Wednesday, March 6

Deposit Deadline for Guatemala Mission Trip

Monday, July 8-Friday, July 12, 2024

Vacation Bible School, 1:00-4:00 PM, Ages 4-Grade 5