

FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Highlights

Worship Outside the Walls

"Morning has broken like the first morning, Blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!"

- Morning Has Broken

On a crisp Sunday morning, September 7th, over 150 congregants and guests of FCPC gathered on our southern lawn to sing these words as we worshipped together in God's beautiful creation.

The hymn we sang was first published in 1931, written by English author Eleanor Farjeon. She was commissioned to write a hymn that would express gratitude for each new day—a simple yet profound request. This hymn has been cherished in my family since before I was born. It's my father William McConnell's favorite. A man of Scots-Irish heritage, my dad grew up on a farm, waking early each morning to complete his chores. Now 87, he still wakes before dawn, grateful for the beauty of his bucolic surroundings and the new day God has given him.



When I was married on our family farm, my father and I walked down the aisle to a string quartet playing this hymn. It was a deeply personal and symbolic choice. And yet, the hymn took on new meaning for me during our outdoor service. That morning, I stood shoulder to shoulder with my friend Matt, my arm around him, both of us singing with gusto and with full hearts. In that moment, I felt God's presence so tangibly—His Spirit moving among us as we lifted our voices in unison.

I was not only thankful for the beauty of worshipping outdoors, but also for all who made the morning possible: our Minister of Music, SC, who oversaw all the details; the team of volunteers who arrived early to set up; the talented musicians who led us in praise; the ushers and greeters who helped guide everyone to this new space; and the many hands who stayed to clean up—like the new family I met that morning, who lingered long after the service to help.

The response from those who attended was overwhelmingly positive. One person came up to me immediately after and said, "That was great—we should do this more often." Another shared that she was moved to tears by the beauty of worshipping together outside. Of course, not everyone was immediately on board. Before the service, we heard our fair share of skepticism and anxiety about worshipping on the lawn. My son Hugh, who was helping in the parking lot, told me that someone turned around and left, visibly upset upon learning the service was outside. It became a teaching moment. I told Hugh that following God often leads us to places we wouldn't choose ourselves—unfamiliar, uncomfortable places. If we're always seeking comfort, we may not be truly following God. For some it might mean worshipping in different spaces, even the lawn. That morning, a neighbor walked by as we were setting up. I was reminded again that worshipping outside isn't just about the scenery—it's about making space for others to witness our joy and our faith.

I look forward to seeing how God will continue to call FCPC into places—both inside and outside our church walls—where we can worship, grow, and serve our mighty God together.

Cate Mettenburg, Worship & Music Committee Chair

Get Involved at FCPC

Newcomer Luncheon - Come Explore the Church

Are you interested in joining the family of congregants that is Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church? If so, please plan to attend the Explore the Church luncheon that is scheduled for Sunday, November 9 in the Lounge following the 11:00 Service. Please plan to return for the luncheon if you attend the 8:15 Cup and Loaf or 9:30 Contemporary Service that morning. A light lunch and refreshments will be served. Church staff and members of the congregation will be present to answer your questions and give you some historical tidbits about FCPC as we approach the church's 75th Anniversary. Rumor has it there will be a tour conducted to familiarize you with some of the building's nooks and crannies. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to Katie (katie@fcpc.us) or Sarah (sarah@fcpc.us) in the church office. We look forward to sharing a meal and our love of FCPC with you. *Childcare will be provided.*

Congregational Prayer Group

Tuesdays | 10 AM | Library

We are continuing to meet through this time of transition for our members, staff, elders, and other lay leaders, let our church be unified through prayer and the knowledge that the LORD will generously provide for FCPC. Do you desire to pray for the changes our church is experiencing; keep the devil out; and grow spiritually? All are welcome!

The prayer group meets weekly on **Tuesdays at 10 AM in the Library** to express gratitude, seek guidance, and find comfort in the new thing that God is doing. If you want to access the prayer meeting by Zoom, please contact Katie in the church office by Monday morning at 412-963-8243 or katie@fcpc.us.

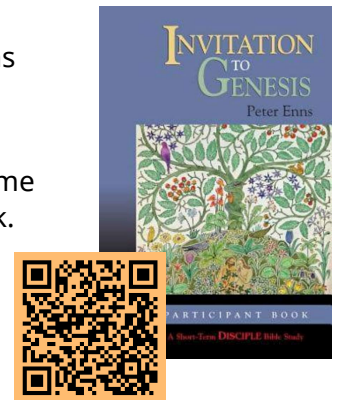
If you have questions, please call or text Kim Power at 412-965-8794.

Fall Small Group Bible Study

Small group Bible studies resume this week! We will be studying **Genesis** which, as the story of the road to humanity's redemption through God's blessing, is the beginning and foundation of the entire bible.

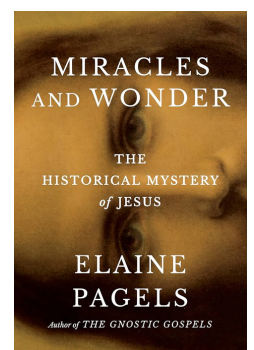
We will be using the book *Invitation to Genesis* by Peter Enns, which is from the same series that we used in our study of John last fall. There are 10 chapters in the book. We will do the first 5 chapters this fall, beginning the week of Sunday October 19 and ending the week of November 16, well before the Advent season. We will do the last five chapters in the winter, beginning early in January.

Scan the QR code to view small group dates & times and to register online.
Books are available in the church office and the worship spaces.



Friday Morning Book Group

The Group will be concluding its discussion of *The Bible and Borders* on October 24th. We will begin review and discussion of *Miracles and Wonder: the Historical Mystery of Jesus* by Elaine Pagels on Friday October 31st at 9:30 am in the Chapel. For those who prefer to participate by Zoom, a customary link will be provided. Ms. Pagels is the Harrington Spear Paine Foundation Professor of Religion at Princeton University. She is the author of *The Gnostic Gospels*, which won both the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Pagels was a MacArthur Fellow and was awarded a National Humanities Medal in 2015. Her most recent book is *Why Religion?*



Please contact Bev Reding at reding118@gmail.com if you have questions or want the Zoom link. Books can be obtained through the bookseller of your choice.

Volunteer Opportunities

Support our Local Food Pantries

With your help, the Deacons of FCPC regularly donate non-perishable food to 3 local food pantries: 1) Bread of Life in Etna; 2) Singing Winds at the Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center by Dorseyville Middle School; and 3) Sharpsburg Food Pantry located in the basement of St Mary's Church.

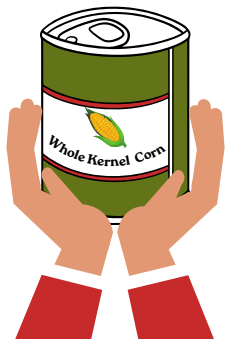
All food pantries are struggling due to rising food costs, an increased number of recipients, and significant cuts in government funding. **You can help by contributing non-perishable healthy foods to the designated bins** located in the Red Tile Area or downstairs, outside Fellowship Hall.

Healthy foods that are in demand:

- unsalted canned peanuts and nuts
- peanut butter & jelly
- canned beans & baked beans
- canned tuna fish, salmon and chicken
- unsweetened apple sauce
- granola bars
- pasta & pasta sauce
- toothpaste, shampoo
- deodorant, soap
- diapers, wipes & formula



Thank you! Don Boyd & Fay Powell



Canned Corn Food Drive

ACCEPTING DONATIONS NOW THROUGH NOV 9

Support Light of Life's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Drive, helping provide Thanksgiving dinner to over 10,000 families facing food insecurity. **Bring donations of canned whole kernel corn to church on Sunday, November 9, 2025.** Donations brought at other times can be placed in the bins in the Red Tile Area or outside Fellowship Hall.

Thank you! FCPC Deacons

Congregational Care Ministry

Soup Ministry - Soup Available

The Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church Soup Ministry is up and running for this fall and winter. The youth group was hard at work last week making two delicious soups: Garden Minestrone and Taco Soup.



Soup is now available in the kitchen freezer labeled "Soup Ministry." Everyone is invited to gift a soup to someone in need, sharing God's love with others.

Questions? Contact Juli Huntington at juli_huntington@msn.com or Nikki Rosswog at nikki@fcpc.us.

Music at FCPC

From the Minister of Music

"O Come Let Us Adore Christ the Lord!"

The joy of the season is calling and we would love for you to be part of it!

We're forming a Festival Choir to sing for our beautiful Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 21st at 10:00am. Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to lift your voice in celebration, all are welcome!

Rehearsals begin Thursday, November 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and will continue each Thursday evening (excluding Thanksgiving, Thursday November 27th) as we prepare inspiring and festive music together.

Come share the spirit of Christmas, make new friends, and help fill our church with joyful music. See you at our first rehearsal. We can't wait to sing with you!

Concert Postponed

The Thousand Bridges Opera concert scheduled for this Sunday has been postponed. Please keep an eye and ear out for a new date.



Mark Your Calendar! Other concerts at FCPC this season include:

November 2, 2025 4:00pm – All Saints Concert
December 14, 2025 4:00pm – Holiday Organ Recital with Don Megahan
February 15, 2026 4:00pm – The Heritage Gospel Chorale of Pittsburgh
March 15, 2026 4:00pm – Belle Voci
May 31, 2026 4:00pm – Sponsorship Concert

We hope to see you there!

Oakmont Presbyterian Church Organ Recital

Performance by Dr. David Billings | Sunday October 19th at 4:00pm

Celebrating 20 years of the sanctuary organ and featuring works of Hollins, Bach, Mendelssohn, Franck, Vierge, and Widor. A free will offering will be received to support the Friends of Music Fund. Come support FCPC's former Music Minister at this harmonious music recital!

*Oakmont Presbyterian Church
415 Pennsylvania Ave.
Oakmont, PA 15139*

Get Involved in FCPC's Music Groups

Children's Choir Rehearsals

Sundays 10:15am-10:50am (Choir Room)

Bell Choir Rehearsals

Thursdays 6:00pm-6:45pm (Sanctuary)

Contemporary Worship Band Rehearsals

Sundays 8:00am-9:30am (Fellowship Hall)

Chancel Choir Rehearsals

Thursdays 7:00pm-9:00pm (Choir Room)

Children & Family Ministries (Infant-5th Grade)

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:15 AM WORSHIP

No children's programming during this service.

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 will be led to the **Lowest Level**. Parents/guardians can pick up their children there.

9:30 & 11 AM NURSERY CARE

Room 109, ages 0-3. Staffed by experienced adults.

9:30 & 11 AM COMFORT SPACE

Room 107. A place to comfort or feed a child and watch the worship service.

11 AM KIDS' CHURCH

For ages 3 to 5th grade. Children are signed in before worship and begin the service with loved ones. After the Children's Message, children will be led to the **Lowest Level**. Parents/guardians can pick up their children there.

Questions? Contact Barbara Patterson at onepurplemom@gmail.com.

YOUTH SUNDAY

October 26th
8:15 AM, 9:30 AM
& 11:00 AM

Come share your talents with
the congregation!

*In need of readers, singers,
ushers, musicians, artists, etc.*

Youth
delivered
Message

Children's
Choir
Performance

*Join us for this entirely youth and
children led service!*

**Contact Sam Harding at sam@fcpc.us
if interested in participating**

Kids' Church Volunteer Sign Up

**Scan QR code to volunteer for Kids' Church
Sunday mornings.**

Children's Ministry and the Christian Nurture
Committee thank all these who have
volunteered over these past
few months. :)
Thank you!



Fox Chapel Presbyterian Presents

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

WEDNESDAYS 6:15PM - 7:30PM

Beginning October 22nd
Fellowship Hall

★ 1st - 5th Grade ★

Questions? Contact
Sam Harding at sam@fcpc.us



Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

OCTOBER YOUTH SCHEDULE

October 5 - Youth Group 2pm-3:30pm

October 12 - Soup Ministry/College Boxes
Service Project 2pm-4pm

October 19 - Youth Group 2pm-3:30pm

October 26 - Youth Sunday **ALL SERVICES - 8:15
AM/9:30 AM/ 11 AM**

Pizza Lunch to Follow Service - No Youth Group

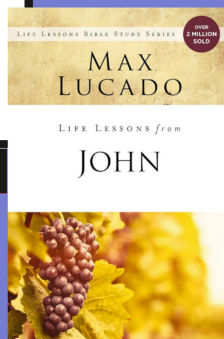
November 2 - Youth Group 2 pm-3:30pm
Youth Bible Study 4pm-5:30pm

**Feel Free to Attend Youth
Group or Bible Study or Both!**

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Sundays After Youth Group
4pm - 5:30pm

Beginning November 2nd



**Do you have a
college student you
would like a care
package sent to?**

Scan the QR code to provide us the
information for your student!



Please provide information by November 2nd!

Questions? See Sam Harding or email sam@fcpc.us

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*In need of readers, singers,
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Youth
delivered
Message

Children's
Choir
Performance

*Join us for this entirely youth and
children led service!*

**Contact Sam Harding at sam@fcpc.us
if interested in participating**

Youth Ministry Leader Contacts

Sam Harding | Director of Christian
Education and Youth Ministry |
sam@fcpc.us | 412-726-0322

Jenna Tupponce | Youth Program
Coordinator | jenna@fcpc.us |
623-203-8385

Prayer Requests of the Congregation

We hold these friends in prayer:

Dominic Lettrich, friend of the Oberlins
Charlie Skinner
Virginia Latini, friend of Diane Tung
Mark Meyer, son of Beth Meyer
Harumi and Takao Sumiya, friends of Diane Tung
Janet Rohrer
Holly Drake, friend of Bob Heister
John Culbertson
Karl Jussen, brother of Christian Jussen
Erick and Lily Jussen, family of Christian Jussen
Dom Leo, friend of Judy Leininger
Lynn Rueter
Mary Hanna
Jane May, sister of Sue Patrick
Johnny Wallisch

We pray for those who grieve:

- For Maryanne Henderson on the death of her husband, David Patterson, on October 4, 2025.
- For the family of Carol Henderson, who passed away October 3, 2025.
- For Barbara Laswell and family on the death of her husband, Bruce Laswell, Sept 5, 2025.
- For the family of Elinor Lindsey, who passed away on August 28, 2025.
- For Dudley and Betsy Hawley on the death of Dudley's uncle, Washburn Hawley, who passed away September 19, 2025.
- For Cristie Good and family on the death of her father, Bob Kelly, who passed away Sept. 8, 2025.

*Submit your prayer request for the published prayer list by using a worship connect card or by emailing a staff member.
Prayer requests will be publicly listed for a month, if you would like to renew requests please submit another one.*

FCPC Session Members

Class of 2027

Ann Boyd
Ryan DeMotte
Toby Eberhart
Morgan Oberlin
Jeff Todd
[Vacant]

Class of 2026

Howard Havlicsek
Ralph Miller
Amy Szlachetka
Jay Thier
Dave Tupponce
[Vacant]

Class of 2025

Leah Cullen
Bill Follansbee
Steve Huntington
Chet Karas
Cate Mettenburg
Barbara Patterson

Birthdays

OCT 19 Lindy Butler, Ralph Miller, Jane Moffet, Susan Nichols, Kim Nolder, Jenny Siple

OCT 20 Tim Coleman, Med Crandon, Evelyn Oberlin

OCT 21 Kathy Gigliotti

OCT 22 Camille Cagley, Brady Fowler, Reese Ploucha

OCT 23 Steve Blackmore, Judy Goehring, Chris Hart, Anne Ringham, Whitney Tucker

OCT 24 Jenna Rodrigues

OCT 25 Clara Joyce, Ophelia McBride, Mary Clare Owens



Staff Contacts

FCPC Office.....412-963-8243
Doug Marshall, Bridge Pastor.....doug@fcpc.us / ext. 16
S.C. Toe, Minister of Music.....sc@fcpc.us / ext. 29
Nikki Rosswog, Minister of Congregational Care.....nikki@fcpc.us / ext. 07
Sam Harding, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry.....sam@fcpc.us/ 412-726-0322
Karin Miller, Director of Preschool Ministries.....karin@fcpc.us / ext. 60
Sarah Hays, Office Manager.....sarah@fcpc.us / ext. 10
Alex Shroyer, Business Manager.....alex@fcpc.us / ext. 15
Katie Caracciolo, Administrative Assistant.....katie@fcpc.us / ext. 11

This Week at FCPC

SUN OCT 19

- 8:15 AM** Cup & Loaf Service (Chapel)
- 9:30 AM** Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 10:15 AM** Children's Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 2 PM** Youth Group (Youth Lounge)
- 7 PM** Fall Small Group Bible Study (Lounge)

MON OCT 20

- 8 AM** Preschool
- 7 PM** Deacon Meeting (Lounge)
- 7 PM** Fall Small Group Bible Study (Zoom)

TUE OCT 21

- 8 AM** Preschool
- 8 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast (Lounge)
- 10 AM** Congregational Prayer Group (Library)
- 11 AM** Fall Small Group Bible Study
Sharpsburg Tower)
- 5:45 PM** Meditation Prayer Group (Lounge)



WED OCT 22

- 8 AM** Preschool
- 9:30 AM** Staff Devotion and Meeting (Lounge)
- 10 AM** Fall Small Group Bible Study (Library)
- 6:15 PM** Wednesday Night Live Kids Club (Fellowship Hall)
- 7 PM** Interim Pastor Nominating Cmte (Library)

THU OCT 23

- 8 AM** Preschool
- 9:30 AM** GriefShare (Chapel)
- 1 PM** Women's Bible Study (Chapel)
- 6 PM** Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7 PM** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

FRI OCT 24

- 8 AM** Preschool
- 9:30 AM** Friday Morning Book Group (Zoom)

SAT OCT 25

SUN OCT 26

- 8:15 AM** Cup & Loaf Service (Chapel)
- 9:30 AM** Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 9:45 AM** Fall Small Group Bible Study (Lounge)
- 10:15 AM** Children's Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 2 PM** Youth Group (Youth Lounge)
- 7 PM** Fall Small Group Bible Study (Lounge)

Ways to Give

Online Giving

Now using giving platform, PushPay.

- + Scan the QR code to give
- + Text the word GIVE
to 833-830-6600



As a PCUSA church, we welcome all persons who trust in God's grace in Jesus Christ and desire to become part of the fellowship and ministry of his Church. The Gospel leads our members to extend the fellowship of Christ to all persons. (Book of Order, G-1.0302)



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384 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 | 412-963-8243 | www.fcpc.us