

# TODAY

at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Roger Owens, "Call and Continuity"  
Mark 1:14-20

8:15 AM	Cup and Loaf Worship Service	Chapel
9:30 AM	Contemporary Worship Service	Fellowship Hall
	Kid's Church	Fellowship Hall
	Nursery Care	Room 109
	Comfort Space	Room 107
9:45 AM	Adult Education Class	Chapel
10:15 AM	Children's Choir	Choir Room
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
	Kids' Church	Lower Level
	Nursery Care	Room 109
	Comfort Space	Room 107
12:00 PM	Confirmation	Youth Lounge
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](http://www.fcpc.us) | 412-963-8243

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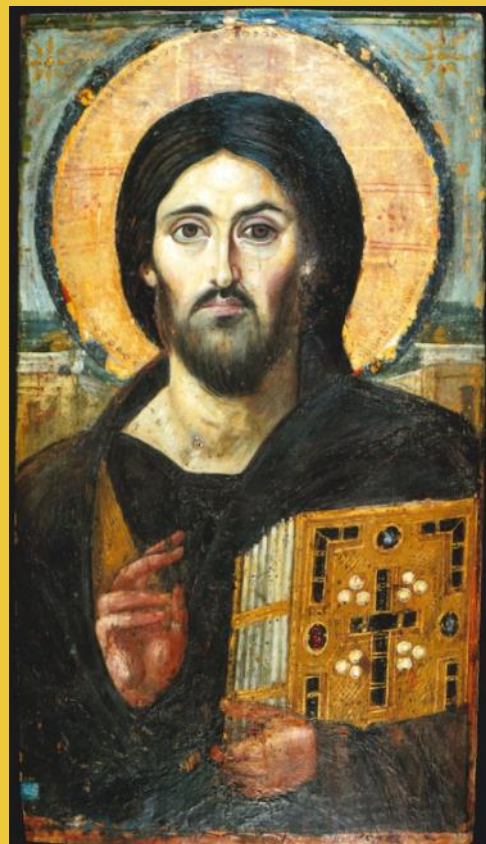
Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church  
January 21, 2024

# Highlights

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

*Welcome,  
Guests!*

We are so glad you are here to worship today.  
Learn more about FCPC at [www.fcpc.us](http://www.fcpc.us).



## 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 21 — Mark 1:14-20
- ✦ January 28 — Mark 1:21-34
- ✦ February 4 — Mark 1:35-45

## LETTER FROM PASTOR ROGER

Dear Friends,

As we move through the sermon series “First Impressions: Meeting Jesus All Over Again,” a series on Mark 1, each week there will be an insert in the bulletin that provides prompts for you to use during the week, allowing the words of Scripture to sink deeply into your spirit.

Marjorie Thompson, author of *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*, compares Scripture to a letter from a loved one. When we read such a letter, we are interested in the information contained in the letter—where have they been, what have they been up to, what was so great about the meal they had that we wish we could have shared with them—but we are even more interested in hearing the voice in the letter. If it's someone we miss—I think of the letters my brother sent home when he was studying abroad in Italy in college; how we cherished those letters!—we read them again and again. We savor them. Phrases and sentences weasel their way into our memory and we find ourselves repeating them throughout the day.

There is much information in Scripture. And serious engagement with Scripture requires understanding, as best one can, the language it was written in and the historical context in which it was composed. I never preach a sermon on the Gospels without consulting *Social-Science Commentary on the Synoptic Gospels*. (The synoptic gospels are Matthew, Mark, and Luke.) This commentary helps me understand the social conventions of the time in which these gospels were written. Around Christmas I want to be reminded of the role shepherds played in the first century. This week I'm reading about the place of fishing in the first-century economy.

But if Scripture is like a love letter in which we can discern the voice of God, then we seek more than historical or critical knowledge. Thomas Merton, the 20th Century monk and spiritual writer, says that historical study is important but it's only the front porch. We still need to enter and live in the house of Scripture. We still need to step through the front door and befriend the One whose voice resonates in the rooms and the hallways.

I love a poem by Billy Collins called “Introduction to Poetry.” The speaker is teaching a poetry class, and he wants students to explore a poem imaginatively:

I ask them to take a poem  
and hold it up to the light  
like a color slide

or press an ear against its hive.

I say drop a mouse into a poem  
and watch him probe his way out,

or walk inside the poem's room  
and feel the walls for a light switch.

I want them to waterski  
across the surface of a poem  
waving at the author's name on the shore.

But the students tire of this imaginative exploration.  
They want to get on with it; they want to decipher the  
meaning of the poem:

But all they want to do  
is tie the poem to a chair with rope  
and torture a confession out of it.

They begin beating it with a hose  
to find out what it really means.

I use this poem when I teach preaching because I want my students to do all these things with Scripture, to roam through Scripture using all their senses and with an open, curious mind. I want them to resist the urge to tie things up too soon. I want them to savor Scripture like a poem or a love letter so they can encourage such savoring by others.

I hope you will use the inserts each week and take the opportunity to savor Scripture and to listen to the voice of God within it, speaking to you, touching your life. In John's Gospel, Jesus says that he no longer calls his disciples *servants* but *friends*. Dwelling with Scripture this way provides an opportunity for us to meet Jesus not simply as a figure of history but as a living Friend.

Peace,



Roger

## FCPC PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

**Now offering tours for 2024-2025! Visit us  
online at [fcpc.us/preschool](https://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.**

## NEXT SUNDAY!

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

### One Service Sunday

10:00 AM combined worship in the Sanctuary with a variety of music and the ordination and installation of incoming elders and deacons.

### 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!



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT FCPC

### Adult Education Forum *Current Issues in International Politics*

**January 21, 2024**  
**9:45-10:55 AM | FCPC Chapel**

Over three weeks, Dr. Mark Haas, Professor of Political Science at Duquesne University, explores key issues and problems in contemporary international politics and how we can help solve them. Because of human sinfulness, perfectly just societies seem impossible, but even a little more justice can mean better lives for millions of people.

How can Christians help bring this about?

### 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](http://www.resonanceworks.org/this-love-between-us) or 412-501-3330.



## CHILI COOK-OFF

### COMPETITION CATEGORIES



BRING THE HEAT!

- Traditional
- Non-traditional
- Vegetarian/Heart Healthy
- Youth

### SIGN-UP

- Before / after services on Jan. 7, 14, or 21
- OR
- online at [fcpc.us/events-fc](http://fcpc.us/events-fc)
- OR
- contact Chet Karas (412-736-9733)



Fill the Truck Service Project

**FILL THE TRUCK!**

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

All Ages Can Help!



**Gather non-perishable items:**

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



**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!

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.**



## 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	

Allyson Koteski, sister of Jon Koteski  
 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

### We pray for those who grieve:

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.**

### 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](mailto:nikki@fcpc.us)).

## 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.



## 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.



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](mailto: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](mailto:sarah@fcpc.us)). Thank you!

SUBSCRIBE

**Get the weekly Highlights newsletter delivered straight to your email inbox!**  
 Sign up: [tinyurl.com/FCPCEmail](https://tinyurl.com/FCPCEmail)

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



**JANUARY 26**  
**5:30PM-8PM**

**WINTER FAMILY Fun Night**

DROP IN AND HANG OUT!

Indoor Paper Ice Skating,  
Make Fake Snow,  
Build Snow People,  
Open Gym,  
Toys & Board Games

SIGN UP!  
FOLLOW OUR QR CODE  
OR CLICK HERE!  
DINNER IS AVAILABLE!  
TURKEY & CHEESE  
SANDWICHES, FRUIT, BAGGED  
SNACKS, DRINKS!

QR Code



**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

QR Code

TIME FOR KIDS TO:  
CONNECT  
SHARE  
RELAX  
PLAY  
LEARN  
GROW

ALL TOGETHER  
IN GOD'S LOVE

## TUNES 4 TOTS!



**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)

QR Code

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Children are signed in prior to worship and begin the service with loved ones. After the Children's Message, we lead children to the lower level Kids' Space. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the lower level unless otherwise indicated.

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

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

## YOUTH MINISTRY (Grades 6—12)



### JANUARY 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!

Don't miss the annual all-church Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, January 28!



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**January 21:** Jonathan Rodrigues, Josie Szlachetka

**January 22:** Carol Henderson, Kelly Hofer, Sydney Inglis, Sheila Schmutz

**January 23:** Jennifer Braham, Gary Farrell, Gary Heitzenroder, Ada Mol, Judy Rowse, Liz Sasada, Malina Trozzo

**January 21:** Kim Chrisman, Josie Hahl, Tracey Mulert, Barbara Thompson

**January 25:** Elliot Lesnik, Benjamin Myerburg, Nikki Rosswog, Pat Taylor

**January 26:** Dick Barton, Vivan Rusnic, Lucy Rygelski, Brandon Stallard

**January 27:** Bonnie DeMotte



## UPDATED JOB OPENINGS @ 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.fcpc.us/giving)) or by contacting FCPC's Finance Administrator, Sandi Deaner ([sandi@fcpc.us](mailto: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](http://www.fcpc.us/forms) or follow the QR Code at right!



The chancel flowers today are given  
for the glory of God,  
and in loving memory of Laurie Culbertson  
by her children and grandchildren.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Monday, January 22

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool  
7:00-8:00 PM: Stephen Ministry (Choir Room)  
7:00-9:00 PM: Session Meeting (Chapel)

### Tuesday, January 23

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool  
8:00-9:15 AM: Men's Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)  
9:30-10:30 AM: Staff Mtg. (Lounge)

### Wednesday, January 24

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool  
9:30-11:00 AM: Community Bible Study (Rm 310)  
6:30-8:00 PM: Wednesday Night Live! (Fellowship Hall)

### Thursday, January 25

9:00 AM-12:00 PM: Preschool / Noon Dismissal  
6:30-7:30 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
7:30-9:30 PM: Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Friday, January 26

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool  
5:30-8:00 PM: Family Fun Night (Fellowship Hall)

### Saturday, January 27

### Sunday, January 28

9:15-9:55 AM: Children's Choir (Choir Room)  
10:00 AM: One Service Sunday (Sanctuary)  
10:00-11:00 AM: Kid's Church (Lower Level)  
10:00-11:00 AM: Comfort Space (Room 107)  
10:00-11:00 AM: Nursery Care (Room 109)  
11:00 AM: Annual Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)  
11:30 AM: Finance Information Session (Chapel)  
11:30 AM-12:30 PM: Chili Cook-Off (Fellowship Hall)  
2:00-3:30 PM: Middle School Youth Group (Youth Lounge)  
4:00-5:30 PM: High School Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

### To Note:

### Sunday, February 4

8:15 worship will be held in the Sanctuary due to the Fill the Truck service project.

### Thursday, February 11

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

### Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday service, 7:00 PM

### Monday, July 8-Friday, July 12, 2024

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

**Submissions for "HIGHLIGHTS" are due to Sarah at [sarah@fcpc.us](mailto:sarah@fcpc.us) by 5:00 PM on Monday.**