

TODAY
at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church
Rev. Roger Owens
Psalm 29 | Mark 1:1-15

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 8:15 AM | Cup and Loaf Worship Service | Chapel |
| 9:30 AM | Contemporary Worship Service | Fellowship Hall |
| | Children's Worship Activities | 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 |
| 12:30 PM | New Deacon Orientation | 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 | 412-963-8243

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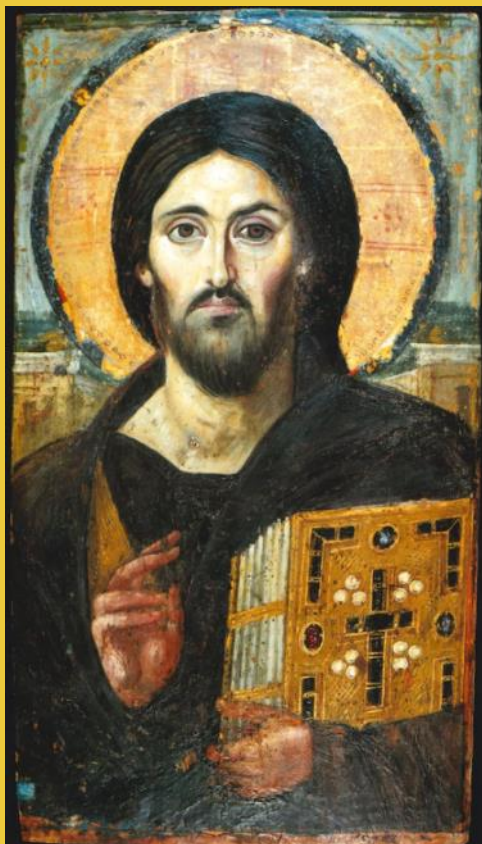
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Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church
 January 14, 2024

Highlights

*Welcome,
 Guests!*

We are so glad you are here to worship today.
 Learn more about FCPC at 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 14 — Mark 1:1-15
- ✦ January 21 — Mark 1:15-20
- ✦ January 28 — Mark 1:21-34
- ✦ February 4 — Mark 1:35-45

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

LETTER FROM PASTOR ROGER

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I am at a retreat center in Richmond, VA. It's a sunny, windy day. On a walk, I noticed some daffodils emerging from the ground. Welcome to January in the South!

I'm here leading a retreat for pastors on developing a rule of life. It's possible the phrase "rule of life" is new to you. Sometimes simply referred to as a "rule," it names the intentional set of habits, practices, and commitments—sometimes called spiritual disciplines—that help keep a life open and responsive to God. A rule lists the things we want to do to remain receptive to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The participants in the retreat are at the beginning of an eighteen-month leadership development program, and the organizers believe that, before they launch into leadership principles, the participants should root themselves spiritually by developing a rule of life that they will keep for the duration of the program.

Some people develop elaborate rules, thinking that they will take the opportunity to finally put their whole lives in order. But, in my experience, shorter, simpler rules often make the biggest difference; they indicate the few, nonnegotiable practices in our life with God. For instance, Dorothy Day, the founder of the Catholic Worker movement and one of the great religious figures of the 20th Century, had a simple rule of life: Receive the Eucharist (Holy Communion) daily; Read the Bible daily; Keep a journal; and see Christ in the faces of the poor. There is a good chance that Day, in the not-distant future, will be acknowledged officially as a Saint in the Roman Catholic Church. Yet the rules that sustained her friendship with God and her life of service were simple and few.

As the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday approaches, I'm thinking about the rule King developed for participants in the protests of the Civil Rights Movement. More elaborate than Day's, the rule began with "Meditate daily on the teaching and life of Jesus." It further included, "Walk and talk in the manner of love, for God is love," and "Strive to be in good physical and bodily health." Early in his advocacy for civil rights, King was convinced by Ghandi that nonviolence was an effective strategy; his commitment to nonviolence began for pragmatic reasons. But he soon realized that nonviolence marks the life of Jesus and the ways of God's Kingdom, and so grounding the movement in the life and teaching of Jesus became crucial to him. King knew that God changes the world through cross and resurrection rather than through violence and retaliation. He wanted this truth to shape the civil rights movement.

My own rule is quite simple. It includes what are more traditionally "spiritual" practices, like praying with scripture in the morning and spending time with God in silence, as well as practices that bring me joy, like "make music daily," and practices that keep me healthy, like "walk vigorously at least six days a week." But I believe my whole life is my spiritual life—that God is in all of it. So walking and making music are as spiritual to me as silence and prayer.

If you have some time over this holiday weekend, maybe you'll want to take a few moments to reflect on what practices of prayer—or other life-giving practices—might help sustain you in a life of openness and responsiveness to God. It would be also a good weekend to reflect on aspects of the rule King used as a civil rights leader, to remember that the greatest movement for justice this country has known was rooted in commitment to the peaceable and just ways of Christ's Kingdom.

Peace,



Roger

THANK YOU!

The church staff thanks you for your generosity in the shared Staff Christmas Gift! Overall contributions totaled \$8,320 and were shared evenly among 23 staff members who did not receive end-of-year bonuses from specific church programs (like preschool and children's ministry). Your generosity is greatly appreciated by our staff. Thank you for making our holiday bright!

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

Adult Education Forum Current Issues in International Politics

January 7, 14, and 21, 2024
9:45-10:55 AM | FCPC Chapel

Over three weeks, Dr. Mark Haas, Professor of Political Science at Duquesne University, will explore 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 at 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.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

10 AM One Service Sunday
A combined worship service
in the Sanctuary. Childcare provided!

followed by

Congregational Meeting
in the Sanctuary

followed by

Chili Cook Off
in Fellowship Hall



**CHILI
COOK-OFF**

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

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

SIGN-UP

- Before / after services on Jan. 7, 14, or 21

OR

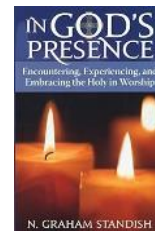
- online at fcpc.us/events-fc

OR

- contact Chet Karas (412-736-9733)

The Friday Book Group

January—February 2024



***In God's Presence:
Encountering, Exploring, and Embracing
the Holy in Worship***
by N. Graham Standish

Fridays, 9:30-10:30 AM by ZOOM
Contact Kitty Skinner at 412-406-7304
to join the group.

We welcome new members!

UPCOMING SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



Saturday, January 20, 2024
9 AM-11 AM - Fellowship Hall



Join with one of our mission partners, Haiti H2O, as we create care packages for Haitians living in four remote villages.

- Jump ropes made of recycled t-shirts
- Pencil Case Craft Project
- Care Package Assembly
- Individual Greetings - cards, drawings, videos

RSVP HERE:



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**, FCPC is partnering with Haiti H2O for the Care-to-Action service project. All ages are invited to join us from **9:00-11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall** as we create care packages for Haitians living in remote villages. For more information and to sign up, follow the QR Code on the flyer to the left!

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



CARE & CONCERN

We hold these friends in prayer:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Lynda Jamison | Bob Ball |
| Rev. Bill Meyer | June White |
| George Due | Bob Jamison |
| Rich Lockwood | Jenna Rodrigues |
| Dave Houggy | John Oehrle |
| Elizabeth Kurzinski | Marge Funk |

Linda Feather, mother of Elicia Sutton
 Ron Rieger, nephew of Fay Powell
 Bob S., uncle of Elizabeth Carter
 Allyson Koteski, sister of Jon Koteski
 Kimberly, sister-in-law of the Gazarov family
 Mary Crepeau, mother of Bryan Bass-Riley

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 the family and friends of Mellie Clark who passed away on December 30, 2023.

We pray for the family and friends (including daughter Diane Tung) of Eleanor Crago who passed away on December 25, 2023. A service will be held Saturday, Jan 13th at 11:00am in the sanctuary.

We share in joy and celebration with:

Celebrating the birth of Eleanore Wolfe Teele Chamberlain, daughter of Emily Teele and Garth Chamberlain, granddaughter of Amy Teele, born on November 19, 2023.

Rejoicing with Jeanne Conner, who celebrated her 100th birthday on Tuesday, December 26, 2023!

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.



THANK YOU!



On behalf of the Christ the King Conference, St. Vincent DePaul Society, we extend our most sincere "thank you" to the members of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church for your continued support of our **Sharpsburg Food Pantry** and your giving spirit. We truly appreciate your very generous donation of \$5,225.00 from the end of the year donation and also \$2,500.00 for the 4th quarter mission distribution. Thank you for your amazing donations and for your extreme generosity and kindness. These donations will allow us to greatly help families in need in our local communities. God bless you and your families, and have a blessed new Year.

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 for the different services:

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 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)



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!



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



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)

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, we lead children 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.

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)



JANUARY 2024

FCPC YOUTH

7TH - NO YG
 14TH - MS 2-3:30 & HS 4-5:30
 20TH - HAITI H2O SERVICE PROJECT 9-11AM
 21ST - MS 2-3:30 & HS 4-5:30
 28TH - MS 2-3:30 & HS 4-5:30

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!

This week we are back in action with a pizza party, and on January 20 we'll participate in an all-church service project with Haiti H2O to benefit various communities in Haiti. Don't miss the annual all-church Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, January 28!



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

January 14: Patrick Alexander, Teddy Brubaker
 Joan Donovan, Shelly Marcussen, Brendan Valley

January 15: Laura Bruno, Vadim Gazarov,
 Carie Pecci, Beth Rygelski, George Stewart

January 16: Taylor Burke, Naomi Killian, Adam Lauer

January 17: Neil Chrisman IV

January 18: Jim Bischoff, Karen Jueng
 Carol Squires, Richard Sweringen

January 19: William Kassling, Chris Sasada

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS



We offer congratulations to David Billings, Director of Music Ministries, and Guy Russo, Choir Director, as they have both announced decisions to retire in August. Their music and leadership have been a blessing to the church for many years. Please make plans to be present for their last days in worship with us on August 11th for Guy and August 25th for David.



Church leaders will be working in the coming weeks to discern current and future church needs in the area of worship music, as well as deciding how to configure music positions to meet those needs. Congregation input is welcome and can be given at fcpcmusicsearch@gmail.com.

(UPDATED!) JOB OPENINGS AT 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.



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.

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!



The chancel flowers today are given for the glory of God, and in memory of Lola Morrow, wife and mother, by Bob Morrow and family,
and in memory of Eleanor Crago by her family.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, January 15

Church Building Closed—Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Preschool Closed

Tuesday, January 16

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)
6:00-7:00 PM: Safety Team Mtg. (Lounge)
7:00-8:00 PM: Finance Cmte Mtg. (Library)
7:00-9:00 PM: Deacon Mtg. (Chapel)

Wednesday, January 17

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool
9:30-11:00 AM: Community Bible Study (Rm 310)
5:00-6:00 PM: Manual of Operations Mtg. (Library)
6:30-8:00 PM: Wednesday Night Live! (Fellowship Hall)
7:00-8:00 PM: Preschool Cmte Mtg. (Zoom)

Thursday, January 18

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool
6:30-7:30 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, January 19

9:00 AM-2:30 PM: Preschool

Saturday, January 20

9:00 AM-11:00 AM: Care-to-Action Service Project (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, January 21

8:15 AM: Cup and Loaf Worship Service (Chapel)
9:30 AM: Contemporary Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)
9:45-10:55 AM: Adult Education Class (Chapel)
10:15-10:55 AM: Children's Choir (Choir Room)
11:00 AM: Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)
12:00-1:00 PM: Confirmation Class (Youth Lounge)
2:00-3:30 PM: Middle School Youth Group (Youth Lounge)
4:00-5:30 PM: High School Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Sunday, January 28

One Service Sunday—One combined worship service at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary, followed by a congregational meeting and annual Chili Cook-Off.

Sunday, February 4

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

Get the weekly Highlights newsletter delivered straight to your email inbox!
Sign up: tinyurl.com/FCPCemail