

Highlights

MAR 24 2024

You Are A Beloved Child of God

PASTOR REBECCA DEPOE

Friends,

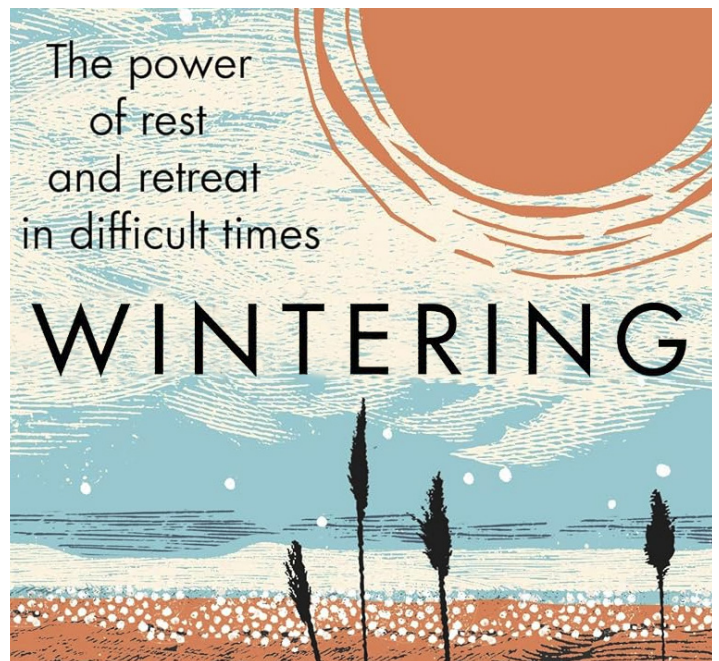
Last month, a dear friend's husband became one of many people to lose their tech job in the first quarter of 2024.

Right after my friend learned of her husband's layoff, she immediately started doing All. Of. The. Things. She pulled her kiddo out of expensive summer camps. Made plans for a simpler Easter celebration. Cancelled her Book of the Month subscription. She helped her husband update his resume and apply for jobs.

After she did all the things, she realized the hard part of unemployment is not necessarily making painful lifestyle changes. It's learning to live with uncertainty. It's learning to live with the knowledge that what you've always done is no longer working, and that you have no idea what your next steps are.

Some of our friends have struggled to support her well in this season of uncertainty. They share stories of what they did when their husband lost his job. They send meals that her kid can't eat because he's allergic to gluten. They ask her every week if her husband has found a new job yet. She feels exhausted managing all of their offers to help.

To support her in this, I suggested that we read a book together that I found tremendously helpful during those early, scary days of the pandemic. The book is called *Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult*



Times by Katherine May. The book begins with Katherine, a creative writing professor, unable to return to work after her husband's illness. When she finds herself stuck in the abyss of uncertainty, she wrote,

When I started to feel the drag of winter, I began to treat myself like a favored child: with kindness and love. I assumed my needs were reasonable and that my feelings were signals of something important. I kept myself well fed and made sure I was getting enough sleep. I took myself for walks in the fresh air and spent time doing things that soothed me. I asked myself: What is this winter all about? I asked myself what change is coming?

My friend and I are now in the habit of texting each other once a day, "How are you treating yourself like a favored

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POSITIVE PAINTING PROJECT

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You Are A Beloved Child of God *Continued from front...*

child today?" Some days the answers are silly – I listened to the Spice Girls at full volume on the way home from school drop off. Some days the answers are all we can do – I had oatmeal with raisins and brown sugar for dinner tonight, even though I have no appetite.

We've been doing this for about a month now, and I've learned a surprising lesson about pastoral care along the way. I've learned that many people are going about their days living with some degree of uncertainty. And they don't need advice. They don't need us to fix the uncertainty. They need us to sit with

them and say, I see you in all your messiness, and I am here to walk alongside you and remind you that you are a beloved child of God. While winter won't last forever, I'm here to help you discover what this winter is all about.

Helping people discover what their personal winters are all about, sure sounds like pastoral care to me.

Grateful to be in ministry with you all,

Rebecca

Pastor Rebecca DePoe

And I am here to walk alongside you and remind you that you are a beloved child of God.

Holy Week & Easter Worship

MAUNDY THURSDAY MAR 28

7pm in the Atrium with Holy Communion and designed with all ages in mind. This service will not be live-streamed. (Childcare provided)

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE MAR 29

7pm with Mendelssohn's Christ: A service of extinguishing candles, darkness, and dramatic music and drums, reflecting the drama of Christ's crucifixion.

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD MAR 31

8:15 and 11am Traditional Service with the West Virginia Brass Quintet and Timpani, in Sanctuary
9:30am Contemporary Service



Mission Partner Spotlight

REVERENDS ELMARIE & SCOTT PARKER MISSION CO-WORKERS IN LEBANON

Our Mission Partners of the Month for March are the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker. Elmarie and her husband Scott are Presbyterian mission co-workers who are based in Beirut, Lebanon.

Elmarie serves as a regional liaison to Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon. She works to strengthen the relational ties between the churches in her region and churches in the United States. Scott serves with the Middle East

Council of Churches (MECC) as a writer in residence. Scott has been asked by the MECC to lead their efforts in responding to children traumatized by unrest and war in Iraq and Syria who now seek refuge in Lebanon.



Sunday at FCPC

PALM SUNDAY

Rev. Rebecca DePoe shares the sermon, *Glimmers of God's Kingdom*.

8:15am Cup and Loaf Worship Service Chapel

9:30am Contemporary Worship in Fellowship Hall

Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)

10:15am Children's Choir (Choir Room)

11am Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary

Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)

1-3pm Middle School Youth Group Fun Event (Zone 28)

3:30-5:30pm High School Youth Group Fun Event (Zone 28)

Making Palm Crosses

Here's a simple video on how to make a Palm Cross from palm branches. You can watch on YouTube at: <https://bit.ly/makeapalmtree> or scan the QR code.



39th Annual Sponsorship Concert

SUN APR 14 AT 4PM / FREE ADMISSION / RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

This year's concert will feature George Frideric Handel's most beloved oratorio Messiah (Parts 2 and 3). Messiah was chosen as perhaps the most meaningful music for this year's Sponsorship Concert, as it will be the last such event before the retirement of both David Billings and Guy Russo from FCPC's staff this summer. The concert will feature the FCPC Chancel Choir and guest singers forming the Fox Chapel Festival Chorus as well as the Academy Chamber Orchestra. The concert is free. A reception in the Atrium follows the concert.

Positive Painting Project

APR 13 10AM-12PM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

The Positive Painting Project believes that art can be a powerful tool for healing and connection, and we are committed to providing opportunities for people of all ages to create and share their own art.

Join us for a special event using art to:

- + Provide opportunities for people to express their positive thoughts and feelings
- + Promote positive mental health and suicide prevention
- + Break the stigma surrounding mental illness and suicide
- + Let people know that "It's okay not to be okay"

Learn More You can learn more about the Positive Painting Project at <https://www.paintpositive.org>.





Harvest Fair Planning Meeting

SUN APR 21 12:15-1:30PM IN THE CHAPEL

Come hear about the plans underway for Harvest Fair 2024. In the meeting we'll be discussing which days we'll collect donations over the summer.

Zoom Information:

Meeting ID 858 5187 8781

Passcode: 783168



New Meditation Course

TUESDAYS 5:45-7PM / CHAPEL / THRU APR 9 (WILL NOT MEET ON MAR 26)

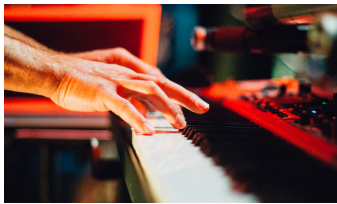
Led by Will Adams, PhD, this course is designed for beginners as well as experienced meditators drawing deeply from the wisdom of Christian contemplative traditions as well as Buddhist traditions. For more information, contact Will W. Adams by email at adamsw@duq.edu. **Just show up, no registration needed.** A donation of \$10-\$15 per session is suggested but not required to attend.



Event Hosts Needed

PAYS \$100 PER EVENT

We need Event Hosts to provide help and hospitality during community events at FCPC. Event hosts need to be 18+ years old and have (or be able to obtain) clearances at church's expense. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Rebecca DePoe at rebecca@fcpc.us.



Worship Musicians Needed

VOCALISTS & INSTRUMENTALISTS FOR 9:30AM WORSHIP

We are in need of musicians and vocalists desiring to use their God-given gifts and talents for the 9:30am contemporary worship band. Must be available for rehearsals and Sunday mornings. Contact Jason Adams, jason@fcpc.us, to get involved.



FCPC Preschool Summer Camp Registration

NOW OPEN

For more information, please visit the preschool website at www.fcpc.us/preschool, or call the preschool office at 412-552-9382.

Want to Serve Your Church?

USING YOUR GIFTS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Several ministry committees and teams are looking for people interested in sharing their gifts for the upbuilding of the church! If you have gifts in offering hospitality, organizing events, preparing food, encouraging others, communicating, tracking finances, learning tech or AV equipment, or

managing projects, your gifts are needed! Contact Pastor Ginger Thomas (ginger@fcpc.us) to discuss how you can use your gifts for the church!

Tech Team Needs You

The 9:30am and 11am worship services are seeking people to be trained to run sound, projection, and live stream. Contact Ryan Lancia (ryan@fcpc.us) if you are able to join the crew!

Care & Concern

We hold these friends in prayer:

Wilberta Pickett
Elizabeth Kurzinski
Kim & Rob Strohm
Missy and Jason Fry
Penny Young
Jenna Rodrigues
Laurel Schultz
David Garzarelli
Jan, friend of Gail Harger
Hayley Hellstern's grandfather, John Philips
Jane May, sister of Sue Patrick
Philip Russo, friend of Gary and Mary Ann Celo
Tina Shaw, friend of Gary and Malina Trozzo

We celebrate with:

Rebecca and David Clements on the birth of their son Wallace William Clements, born March 4. His grandparents are Wally and Sandy Clements.

Chris Follansbee and Katie Kurzinski on the birth of their daughter Harper Elizabeth Follansbee, born March 5. Her grandparents are Bill and Susan Follansbee.

Rob and Lauren Simmonds on the birth of their son Graham Kurt Simmonds, born February 29. His grandparents are Bob and Jean Simmonds.

We pray for those who grieve:

Marcia Mayhew with the loss of dear friend and companion Gary who passed away on January 8.

Barry Leonard and family with the loss of his sister, Carley MacDonald on February 28.

Dorothy Hill and family with the loss of Dorothy's husband Bill Hill on February 25.

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

- + The people of Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Haiti, Sudan, and every place there is conflict, violence, and hunger.
- + Refugees throughout the world.

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

Birthdays

MAR 24 Ann Marsico, Gary Celo, Amy Stabingas

MAR 25 Mia Stelitano, Alice Lloyd, Joanne Welsh, Sam Rockwell

MAR 26 Bill Frohlich, Ashley Rusnic

MAR 27 Garrett Rosswog, Athena Demetri, John Culbertson, Cindy Simons, Mark Haas

MAR 28 John Shallenberger, Tracy Crocker, Sarah Baldwin, Ella Lattimore

MAR 29 Kenneth Hall, Jane Charlton, Stuart Lotz

MAR 30 Sandy Cook, Jay Thier, Maria Ringeisen

MAR 31 Fisher Heitzenroder, John Watters, Jon Koteski, Karen Gallo

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:

+ **8:15am Chapel**

+ **9:30am Fellowship Hall**

+ **11am Atrium**



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 needs support, contact Nikki Rosswog at 412-963-8243 ext. 07, or nikki@fcpc.us.

Subscribe to Weekly Highlights

Get the weekly *Highlights* newsletter delivered to your email inbox. Sign up: tinyurl.com/FCPCEmail.

Children & Family Ministries (Infant-5th Grade)

SUNDAY MORNING

8:15AM WORSHIP

No children's programming during this service.

9:30AM 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 lowest level Kids' Space. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the lowest level.

9:30 & 11AM NURSERY CARE

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

9:30 & 11AM COMFORT SPACE

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

11AM 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 lowest level Kids' Space. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the lowest level.

Questions? Contact our Director of Children & Family Ministries, Pastor Lori Bass-Riley, by email at lori@fcpc.us or call/text 412-737-1412.



Wednesday Night Live

WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8PM / ELEMENTARY AGE (K-5TH)

Join us for Wednesday Night Live – a time for kids to connect, share, relax, play, learn, and deepen their relationship with God. All together in God's Love! Sign-up via the QR code or just show up! Please call or text Pastor Lori with questions, 412-737-1412.



VBS 2024: Hero Hotline

JULY 8-12 1-4PM / PREK (AGE 4) - GRADE 5

Registration is now open for VBS: Hero Hotline –where everyone's a hero and every hero has a role to play in the Kingdom of God! To register, scan the QR code.



Now Hiring Sunday Nursery Caregivers

Know someone with experience and love for young children? We have several available positions for Sunday nursery caregivers, 9am-

12:30pm. You must be 18+ years and have experience with children and infants. The schedule is flexible. To apply, contact Pastor Lori Bass-Riley at 412-737-1412 or by email, lori@fcpc.us, or scan the QR code.



Youth Ministry (Grade 6-12)

We invite all middle and high school students to join our weekly Sunday afternoon youth group. We meet in the Youth Lounge for games, snacks, discussions on how scripture impacts our life, and to grow together as a community.

TODAY, SUN MAR 24

1-3pm Middle School Youth Group Fun Event (Zone 28)

3:30-5:30pm High School Youth Group Fun Event (Zone 28)

THIS WEEK

This week we are headed to Zone 28! Anyone and everyone is invited to join.

Questions?

Reach out to Ryan Lancia, Director of Youth Ministries at ryan@fcpc.us or 412.963.8243 x19.



MARCH 2024

3RD - MS 2-3:30 & HS 4-5:30

10TH - MS 2-3:30 & HS 4-5:30

17TH - MS 2-3:30 & HS 4-5:30

24TH - ZONE 28 MS 13 & HS 3:30 - 5:30

31ST - EASTER NO YG



Summer Trips for Youth

SURF CITY CAMP IN MICHIGAN

Surf City is a camp in Michigan that is full of activities like tubing, zip-lining, laser tag, crazy games, and time to grow in community and with God.

Middle School (available for those in 6th-9th grade for '24-'25) happens August 4-9 and costs \$650.

High School (available for those in 9th grade through high school graduate) happens July 21-26 and costs \$650. Register at fcpc.us/youth-ministry.



Sunday Kids' Church Adult Team Sign-Up

SIGN-UP THRU THE QR CODE

Be a part of our Sunday team and help share the love of Christ! Adults will need clearances and to go through our child protection process.



College Scholarships

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS APR 7

FCPC offers a one time college scholarship for high school seniors. All are welcome to apply! Award amounts are based on the number of awardees. Deadline to apply is April 7. The application is at fcpc.us/youth-ministry.

Graduating Senior Information

HONORING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

If you know and love a high school senior in our church community, please send their name and their post-high school plans to Ryan Lancia (ryan@fcpc.us). We want to honor and pray for them on May 19 during the service and send them a gift from the church.

Ways to Give

Give Online

- + Scan this QR code to give online
- + Text the word "Give" to 412-201-0557



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

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

Giving Envelopes Second quarter giving envelopes were recently mailed out. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes, or if you would like to start receiving weekly or monthly giving envelopes, please contact Sandi Deaner, Finance Administrator at sandi@fcpc.us or 412-963-8479.

We're Hiring

Administrative Assistant, Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm

Do you know someone who feels a call to serve in the church, is organized, proactive, attentive to detail, a good communicator, and experienced with Microsoft Office? Please share our job posting at <https://www.fcpc.us/job-opportunities> and encourage them to apply to join our staff team!

Chancel Flowers

Today's chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor and in memory of those who came before, by Marti White.

Your order of flowers beautifies the sanctuary and is a way to honor or remember someone special. You can find order forms in the church office, scan the QR code, or visit fcpc.us/forms.



This Week at FCPC

MON MAR 25

- Preschool Closed thru Mon, Apr 1
- 2-3pm Knitting Group (Library)
- 7pm Session Mtg. (Chapel)

TUES MAR 26

- 8-9:15am Men's Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)
- 8am Men's Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)
- 9:30am Staff Mtg and Devotions
- 6pm Support Group for FC Students & Parents (LL)
- 7-8:15pm Pops Concert Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

WED MAR 27

- 6:30-8pm Wednesday Night Live (Fellowship Hall, LL)

THURS MAR 28

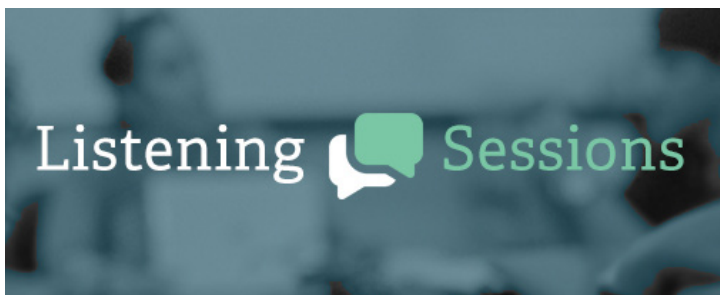
- 7-8pm Maundy Thursday Service (Atrium)

FRI MAR 29

- 7-8pm Good Friday Tenebrae (Sanctuary)

SUN MAR 31 / RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

- 8:15am Cup and Loaf Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30am Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 11am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)



Listening Session Report

On Sunday, March 10, 2024, we held four listening sessions regarding FCPC Music Ministries. A report of these listening sessions can be found in each of the worship spaces today, or in the Church Office at the front desk.

FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

