



HIGHLIGHTS

GROWING IN FAITH • SERVING IN LOVE • LIVING IN HOPE

A Letter from S.C. Toe, Minister of Music

I recently had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Men's Prayer Group where we had the most delightful time of prayer, fellowship, and conversation. During our conversation, a few questions arose that were particularly suited for a choir director.

Question: Is there a place for a person who wants to sing in the choir but truly cannot sing?

Answer: Yes, the conductor's podium. (but that's my job... lol)

Jesting aside, it wasn't until the first time I was thrown into choir that I found just how much I love it. I am not a singer, you will never find me singing a solo, but you put me in a choir and I just can't help it, I have to sing. To be surrounded by the sound and to have the vibrations running through your body, it is a truly spiritual experience. How much more so when we can make music in a faith setting that is a part of the worship of God.

I cannot express just how grateful I am to my piano professor freshman year informing me that I WOULD be singing in the choir. Had it not been for that firm grandmotherly nudge from my teacher and mentor of many years, I may have never truly known the joys of choral music making aside from accompanying at the keyboard.

Friends, let this be my nudge to you. Join us on Sunday, August 2nd at 10:00am in the sanctuary before service. No robes, no fuss, just fun music making. No RSVP or registration required. Just show up and sing!

See you there!

S.C.

Summer Choir Dates:

- August 2nd at 10am in the Sanctuary
- August 16th at 10am in the Sanctuary
- August 30th at 10am in the Sanctuary

Cup & Loaf Service Move to Sanctuary

The 8:15 Cup & Loaf Service will temporarily move to the Sanctuary starting next Sunday, August 2. This move is in cooperation with the Harvest Fair team as they manage donations and move into the Chapel. Thank you for your flexibility during this time.

New Disciple Bible Study

The Revs. John and Lynn Bell are planning to lead a DISCIPLE Bible study together this fall. DISCIPLE is a program of disciplined Bible study which both have used extensively.

The study gives the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible. DISCIPLE draws upon the work of scholars, personal Bible reading of the participant, and dynamic group discussion. Over the course of 34 weeks, the study covers the entire Bible following the biblical story from Creation to the New Jerusalem.

They plan to start on Wednesday, September 16, from 10:00-11:30am. Please register by scanning the QR code or visiting fcpc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/156/responses/new. The deadline to register is August 31st. All are welcome!

Questions? Contact Dr. Bell at john@fcpc.us.

DISCIPLE



GriefShare Group - Fall Session

Thursdays | Sep 17 - Dec 17 | 9:30 - 11:30 AM | Chapel

GriefShare is a grief support group led by trained lay leaders from Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church that have been called to this compassionate ministry to people from our congregation and community that are grieving the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

The goal of this group is to provide a Christ-centered, safe, welcoming place where people can come together to talk about their loss with others that are walking a similar journey. This 13-week group uses videos, workbook exercises, and in person discussion to work through common grief topics, providing tools and resources that are helpful in healing after a loss.

Sign up at <https://find.griefshare.org/groups/296301> or by scanning the QR code.

Questions? Reach out to Gail Harger at gailharger@verizon.net.



Harvest Fair Donations

Only one more month of collections for Harvest Fair and we need your donations! You can find more information about Harvest Fair, including drop-off days, what items are being accepted, and how to volunteer on our website at www.fcpc.us/annual-harvest-fair.

Donations will be accepted through **Saturday, August 22.**

Music Ministry

Summer Choir

Have you ever wondered what it's like in the choir loft? Ever wanted to sing in a choir? Is your schedule too jammed to squeeze a rehearsal night into your calendar? Can't read music? Ever wanted to see the funny faces S.C. makes up close? Well, it's your time to shine in the Summer Choir! Come join us on relevant Sundays at 10am in the sanctuary and sing the 11am service. No robes, no fuss, just fun music making.

No RSVP or registration required. Just show up and sing!

See you then!

Summer Choir Dates:

- August 2nd at 10am in the Sanctuary
- August 16th at 10am in the Sanctuary
- August 30th at 10am in the Sanctuary

Bells & Brunch

August 15th | 11 am - 1 pm
Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

Interested in learning more about Handbells? Don't read music, NOT A PROBLEM! Join us for this special Bells & Brunch event as we learn basic ringing technique and share in fellowship with one another over brunch.

Please scan the QR code to RSVP.

See you there!

FCPC Children's Choir Party

August 30th | 3:00-5:00 PM
442 Dorseyville Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15215
At the home of our Children's Choir Accompanist, Connie Phillips

You're invited to the FCPC Children's Choir party to kick off the start of the season! Children grades K-5th and their families can meet the Children's Choir director, S.C. Toe, party with current children's choir members, and learn about our wonderful program!

Scan the QR code to RSVP.

Questions?
Contact Connie Phillips
at phillipsdm@aol.com

SEE YOU THERE!

Children & Family Ministries (Infant-5th Grade)

We Need YOU!

Volunteer on Sunday mornings and make a difference for our kids!

The Sunday morning Kids' Church is in continued need of adult volunteers. Without enough volunteers each week, during each service, we will be forced to cancel due to the legality of an adult to student ratio. Signups are available for the entirety of 2026. Please consider volunteering an hour of your time!

We can't keep this essential program going without your help. As a volunteer, it's super easy and lots of fun—we handle all the planning. All that's needed is for you to join us during Kids' Church to help with a game or activity. Sign up today and let's make a difference together!

Scan the QR code or visit
<https://tinyurl.com/FCPCkidschurch>
to sign up.

Sign Up!!



Hiring - Children's Program Coordinator

Part-time | 5-12 hours per week | Year-round

Interested? Find the full job description at
www.fcpc.us/job-opportunities.



Children's Ministry Contacts

Sam Harding

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

Children's Program Coordinators

Barbara Patterson | onepurplemom@gmail.com
Claudia Charley | claudia@fcpc.us

FCPC Preschool

Preschool 2026-2027 Space Available

Come see what all the excitement is about in our Tuesday/Thursday Twos classes — where we nurture tender hearts, curious minds, and strong bodies.

Register your child at www.fcpc.us/preschool or call 412-406-6617.



Preschool Contacts

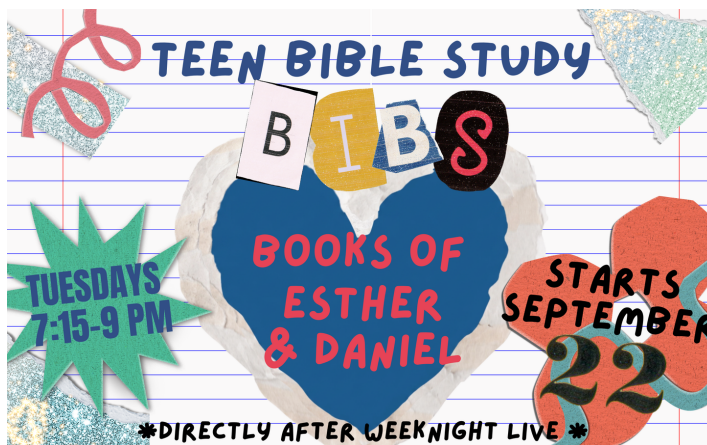
Karin Miller

Preschool Director | karin@fcpc.us |
412-552-9382

Preschool Office Staff

preschooladmin@fcpc.us
412-963-8243 ex. 60

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)



Youth Ministry Contacts

Sam Harding

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

Youth Program Coordinators

Jenna Tupponce | jenna@fcpc.us
Meg Wertz | meg@fcpc.us
Dan Wertz | dan@fcpc.us

PERSEVERING *toward* WHOLENESS

The 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, addressed constitutional governance, racial justice, gender justice, denominational finances and the direction of the church, laying groundwork for work continuing through the next assembly.

Co-moderators elected, GA228 to be held in Puerto Rico

Commissioners elected the **Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero**, border ministry coordinator for the Tres Rios Border Foundation in Tres Rios Presbytery, and the **Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer**, pastor and head of staff at First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, Iowa, as co-moderators. They will preside at GA228, June 11-22, 2028, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Commissioners also **approved full, in-person assemblies**, including an exhibit hall, beginning in 2030.

Budget and per capita

Commissioners approved a **balanced \$188.4 million unified budget** for Presbyterian Life & Witness (PL &W) and the A Corporation for the 2027–2028 biennium, about \$5.8 million more than the previous budget: \$90.45 million for 2027 and \$97.92 million for 2028. Per capita rates were set at \$13.04 in 2027 and \$12.72 in 2028.

General Assembly Relationships

The GAR Committee approved the new Organization for Mission, the structure for the General Assembly as the denomination's highest council, and **established PL&W** and its governing board.

Israel/Palestine

Commissioners approved RIW-04, declaring that the **Israeli government has violated international law** prohibiting genocide in its war in Gaza. As amended, RIW-04 directs the denomination's Office of Public

Witness to advocate against U.S. military sales to Israel and purchases from Israel. It also encourages members to avoid products from Israeli companies linked to violations of international law.

Constitutional interpretation, missiology, and mission co-worker dismissals

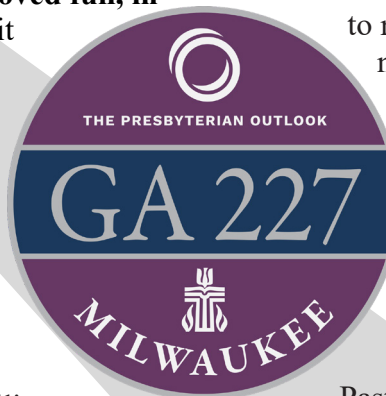
Following testimony on staff dismissals during **World Mission's closure**, the assembly approved CON-02, directing PL&W and the A Corporation to revise employment policies to prohibit nondisclosure covenants for employees, with a report due to the 2028 assembly. RIW-01 calls for review of the processes that terminated mission co-worker positions and World Mission. RIW-02 directs the development of a new missiological statement for global engagement.

Pastors will now be required to complete **boundary and abuse-prevention training** at least every three years. An overture to remove the Board of Pensions' medical coverage requirements was rejected.

Commissioners referred CON-10, which seeks an authoritative interpretation of monogamy, for discussion within the theological framework proposed in GEN-09, "Beyond Changing Families."

Gender and Sexuality Justice

The Constitutional Interpretation Committee **rejected a call for a special study of the Olympia Overture amendments**, citing related proposals GEN-06 and GEN-09. GEN-06 directs the development



of a mechanism that would allow congregations to indicate their openness and readiness to call an LGBTQIA+ candidate on their Ministry Discernment Profiles. Candidates would be allowed to view congregational responses. GEN-09, “Beyond Changing Families: Flourishing Relationships and Belonging,” seeks a theological framework and a study guide on human sexuality and gender that reflect the PC(USA)’s commitment to full inclusion.

The assembly reaffirmed support for **access to medically necessary gender-affirming healthcare** and approved development of a survey collecting non-identifying information about sexual misconduct in church settings.

Climate and Environmental Justice

The Climate Justice Committee approved CLJ-02, “Changing Course for a Green Future,” **directing divestment from more than 50 companies** by 2030 and barring new investments in them. All CLJ items were placed on the consent agenda, including a call for education on regenerative farming and prioritizing responses to the climate crisis.

White Christian nationalism

Commissioners voted overwhelmingly to declare White Christian nationalism and similar ideologies “**a theological error**” incompatible with the teachings of Jesus Christ; language changes in the *Book of Order* require presbytery ratification. Commissioners rejected an amendment that would have removed references to White Christian nationalism from the Special Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Race report.

Racial justice

The Racial Justice Committee advanced several recommendations **strengthening the denomination’s**

anti-racism work, including RAC-04, “The Report from the Special Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on Race,” directing “PL&W to create a tracking system that displays the progress/ completion of all GA business... related to race, racism, and White supremacy ...”

RAC-01 calls for PC(USA) entities to report to the 228th GA on implementation of RGJ-13, the 2022 Report from the Disparities Experienced by Black Women and Girls Task Force. RAC-03, the “Resolution on Liberia Project 180,” explores establishing theological learning and repair, and developing **acknowledgment and apology for Presbyterian involvement** in and support of the American Colonization Society and its lasting effects on Indigenous Liberians.

Ordered ministry

The Theological Education and Ordination Committee approved changes **modernizing preparation for ministry** while preserving Presbyterian ordination standards. ORD-02 clarifies that ministry preparation in G-2.06 and G-2.07 of the *Book of Order* applies to those training for the ministry of Word and Sacrament; it requires a two-thirds presbytery vote. ORD-03, addressing collaborative ministry teams, was approved; ORD-04, seeking removal of the time-of-service requirement for ruling elders in mid council roles, was not.

A new confession

A newly appointed special committee will continue **considering a new confession**. The draft seeks to articulate Christian faith in response to contemporary challenges including racism, economic inequality, environmental degradation, violence and political polarization.

For full stories about General Assembly or other news from the PC(USA):

Visit our website: pres-outlook.org

Follow us on social:

Facebook: Presbyterian Outlook

Bluesky: [@presoutlook.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/presoutlook.bsky.social)



Prayer Requests of the Congregation

We hold these friends in prayer:

- The Baginski family
- Adam Souply and family
- Lili Rosenthal
- Miguel Quintero, friend of Diane Tung
- Rick Dolnack, neighbor of Brian Baxter
- Kim Power
- Linda Jane Clark & pets
- Bill & Emy Boag

We pray for Local Congregations:

- Unity United Presbyterian Church
- Valley Presbyterian Church
- Valley View Presbyterian Church



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

- For people affected by immigration policy.
- For safety to those traveling.
- For all facing economic uncertainty and food insecurity.
- For addicts in our community to heal and recover.
- The people of Iran, Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Haiti, Sudan, Venezuela, and places in conflict, violence, and hunger.
- Refugees throughout the world.
- For our republic.

We pray for those who grieve:

- For Tracey Mulert and family on the passing of her sister, Gay Groomes, on July 8, 2026.
- For Shirley Phillis and family on the passing of her brother, Dean Gallagher, on July 13, 2026.

*Prayer requests will be publicly listed for one month. Please re-submit your request if you would like to renew after a month.
Requests made before end of day Wednesday will be published in the Sunday prayer list.*

Birthdays

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

JULY 26 Leona Kearns, Nathaniel Olbrich

JULY 27 Cate Mettenburg, Bill Schulte, Maddy Stewart, Robert Thibadeau

JULY 28 Richard Cagley, Charlie Haeussner

JULY 29 Joe Guyaux, Josie Lattimore, Ashley Pasay, Lena Sweringen, Reed Tucker

JULY 30 Evie Gourley, Brent Heitzenroder

JULY 31 Frankie Brady-Porter, Tom Reading

AUG 1 Armand Caldwell, David Francis, Bill Johnjulio, Laurie Kassim, Brian Sackett

Caregiver Coffee Hour - No Meeting in July

*There will be no Caregiver Coffee House in the month of July. The next meeting will be **Friday August 28 from 10-11 AM** in the Church Library.*

Caring for someone with physical, developmental, mental health, or age-related challenges can feel overwhelming and lonely. Caregiver Coffee Hour is an opportunity to give and receive support from other caregivers through conversation, the sharing of ideas, and prayer. All caregivers are welcome. You do not need to sign up, just drop in for a warm cup of coffee or tea.

QUESTIONS? Contact Nikki Rosswog (Minister of Congregational Care) at nikki@fcpc.us or 412-963-8243 ext. 07



This Week at FCPC

SUN JULY 26

- 8:15 AM** Cup & Loaf Service (Chapel)
- 9:30 AM** Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall), Kids' Church (Youth Lounge), Nursery (Kids Kingdom)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship (Sanctuary), Kids' Church (Youth Lounge), Nursery (Kids Kingdom)

MON JULY 27

- 7 PM** Session Meeting (Chapel)

TUE JULY 28

- 8 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
- 9 AM - 1 PM** Harvest Fair Donation Drop Off (Springhouse Lane Entrance)
- 5:45 PM** Meditation/Prayer Group (Fellowship Hall)

WED JULY 29

- 9:30 AM** Staff Devotions & Meeting (Library)

THU JULY 30

- 9 AM - 1 PM** Harvest Fair Donation Drop Off (Springhouse Lane Entrance)

FRI JULY 31

SAT AUG 1

- 9 AM - 1 PM** Harvest Fair Donation Drop Off (Springhouse Lane Entrance)

SUN AUG 2

- 8:15 AM** Cup & Loaf Service (**Sanctuary**)
- 9:30 AM** Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall), Kids' Church (Youth Lounge), Nursery (Kids Kingdom)
- 10 AM** Summer Choir (Sanctuary)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship (Sanctuary), Kids' Church (Youth Lounge), Nursery (Kids Kingdom)

Staff Contacts

Church Office.....	412-963-8243
The Rev. Dr. John Bell, Interim Senior Pastor.....	john@fcpc.us / ext. 16
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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 Ed 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

Giving

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)



FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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