

THE FANFARE

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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FANWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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♦ ♦ ♦
THE FANFARE

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Fanwood Presbyterian Church
Growing in God's Love, Serving All God's People
through Rejoicing, Renewing and Reaching Out

May God's Love Reign Over Us and Grant Us Strength

Our world feels so fragile and broken. Our deep vulnerability has been exposed by this pandemic; our supposed triumphs as self-sufficient saviors exposed as a lie. But many of us have re-learned our need for each other and the importance of communal and neighborly care. In other words, the Spirit of God has come to us in our vulnerability and fragility and reminded us that we are 'broken children of Christ's own redeeming' and that 'our only comfort in life and in death is that we belong to God.'

In these pages, you will find example after example of souls dedicated to love and healing and hope; followers of Jesus on a hard journey, strengthened by Jesus' example and resurrection and by their fellow journeymen and women. What and whom might you like to join? 'Christian Education' on the path to Divine Wisdom? 'Hospitality' on the path of Welcoming Guests? 'Worship and Music' on the path to Glorifying God? 'Stewardship and Finance' on the path of Sharing Gifts? 'Fellowship' on the path of Making Friends? 'Mission', Food Bank and/or Thrift Shop on the path of Caring for the Poor? (May we all be 'poor in Spirit' in order to fully receive blessings.) Thanks to all of the leaders of these committees and ministry teams and please consider offering support as we could use more volunteers on the committees and Thrift Shop especially.

The fallen world may beat us down but the redeeming power of Jesus' life and resurrection raises us up into eternal life, time and again, thanks be to God. How might you help re-energize our committee's members? Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, David

Session and Committee News

Personnel Updates

We are so thrilled that God is calling Lauren into Family Ministries and ask for your prayers for all of our Gen X and younger couples and singles; that we might all lead in the church and society according to the Spirit and faithfulness of Jesus.

To free Lauren up for this calling, Hailey is taking on the following administrative duties: 1. bulletin, powerpoint and midweek movie preparation; 2. website updates; 3. sermon/ bulletin mailings. So please provide Hailey with any specific content (i.e. updates, announcements or news) related to these publications. All other administrative tasks continue to be Lauren's role so please be in touch with her regarding anything not related to the above.

The search committee for our next traditional music ministries director (and praise band keyboardist) has been hard at work and we hope to have a new person in place very soon. Sarah Zimmerman is going to continue singing for us, thanks be to God.

Worship Update and Homecoming Sunday

With the Delta variant continuing to impact our society's comfort level with group activities, we will continue with one service at 10:30 a.m. Weather-permitting, we will be outside on Communion Sundays, September 5th and October 3rd. We are continuing to seek to improve our online

presentation of worship and the gospel and just installed a second, new camera. We give thanks to Rev. Richard Hong for offering many hours of service to evaluate our system, recommend improvements and install new equipment. We will continue to present Midweek Worship at least two Wednesdays a month on Facebook and Youtube at 7:30 p.m. in addition to our Sunday morning 10:30 a.m. Livestream on Facebook and recording by noon on YouTube. Stay tuned for possible events on Homecoming Sunday, Sep. 12th.

Updated Website!

Please check out the new look of the website and thanks to Hailey for good work.



Online Bible Studies



Discipleship is more convenient than ever with our expanding digital ministries. Please enjoy studies on Hebrews, Acts, Romans and Mark on our YouTube channel and let Pastor David know any questions or thoughts.

Session and Committee News



MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

Our food ministries continue to be a main focus of our efforts during the summer months. We are providing basic food products to about 80 families each month. The support of the congregation with financial contributions and non-perishable food items is greatly appreciated. To make helping easier, boxes to collect food items are now located in the front of the church and at the parking lot entrance.



Do you know that Justin Zimmerman's Eagle Scout project was focused on food ministry? He conceived the concept of a "Blessing Box", designed and built the box, and filled it with non-perishable items available anytime to anyone in need. The box is located next to the entrance to the Thrift Shop/Dining Room. Food Bank volunteers are committed to restocking it as needed.



The Thrift Shop will reopen for the fall season on Wednesday, September 8th. All proceeds from the sale of donated items goes to local

organizations. This summer the Thrift Shop was able to support both the Scotch Plains and Fanwood Rescue Squads with financial donations. Donations of good, used clothing and small household items will be accepted beginning September 8, 2021. Volunteers are needed and welcome. Please call or text Claudia Heffner to volunteer. 908-472-0150.

VERY CURRENT MISSION REQUESTS



We have received an urgent request from the local Refugee Assistance Program (RAP), a mission effort of many local congregations. They anticipate the arrival of several families of Afghan refugees in need of housing, basic household and personal necessities and food. As they assess the exact needs, they are requesting gift cards for ShopRite, allowing the families to purchase culturally appropriate food items. As these families find suitable housing, RAP will determine specific needs, and will appreciate our continuing support. If you would like to participate in this mission effort, please send a check made out to Fanwood Presbyterian Church, and write Afghan Assistance on the memo line.

Temple Shalom is sponsoring a food drive for Yom Kippur. Our Food Bank is the beneficiary of this collection. Volunteers are needed on Thursday, September 16, at FPC to receive and sort the donations. If you are available to help that day, please let Andrew Stewart know. You may text or call him at 973-220-4214.

Session and Committee News



Our return to in person VBS was a tremendous success. Check out the videos on our YouTube channel if you did not see them earlier. Children, youth and adults experienced the “Power of Jesus to Pull us through” Some of the families who sent their children have joined in the exciting new programs that Lauren has highlighted in other places. Our Christian Education committee takes seriously the commitment to lifelong learning and disciple making that is part of our charge in Matthew 28:19 “...Go and make disciples...” and in our Presbyterian church government to provide for Christian nurture of members of all ages. We have new opportunities for Bible studies in person and online, family events, youth and children’s events. Read about some of them in this Fanfare and watch your emails, Facebook posts, our YouTube channel, and other announcements to learn more. It continues to be vitally important for each one of us to grow in faith and commitment. If you are able to help in oversight of these programs, consider joining our Christian Education committee. Help will be needed for some of the events planned for this fall and beyond; please let Lauren or Linda Macari or any of our CE committee: Ashley Donofrio, Michelle Howell, Jessica Miller know of your availability. CE Committee Chair : Linda Macari, lrmacari@gmail.com, 732-501-0679.



1. We are launching 2 new bible studies for families! An all women's Bible study open to all FPC Women and we will be discussing the I am statements found in the gospel of John. The Bible Study will take place once a month on the 4th Monday of the month between 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Colville Room. The first session starts September 27th. We are also offering a Gen X and younger Bible study which is open to all men, women, singles and couples under the age of 55. Together we will be looking at beatitudes and how they point us towards 'the good

life.' The Bible Study will take place once a month on the 2nd Tuesday of the month between 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. This first session starts September 14th. You can sign up for either Bible study via the website or by contacting Lauren.

Session and Committee News



2. Youth groups restart on Tuesday September 14th. Kingdom Kids (2nd-5th grade) will be from 4:15-5:00 p.m. Ignite GROW (6th-9th grade) from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Ignite LEAD (10th-12th grade) from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

3. We are having our first family game night on September 7th where our children & youth will battle against their parents in trivia and a whole host of other fun challenges! Families will enjoy competition, pizza and prizes!

4. This summer FPC Youth have enjoyed various activities! We had a Ice cream and game day in June where we played SPUD and hide and seek and enjoyed some ice cream. In July we had a water game day where we enjoyed some Italian ice and had fun racing each other down the waterslide and soaking each other with water balloons! In August we had our outdoor movie night where we watched the film overcomer to close out the summer.



A Word From Westminster Preschool

This summer we have been preparing for a busy 2021-2022 school year. We are excited to welcome many new families to our preschool and our teachers will work toward setting up their classrooms the last week of August. Unfortunately, the guidance from the Office of Licensing has not changed very much therefore we will need to continue with a morning session only this school year and we will again use the gym space as classrooms to accommodate as many families as possible. On the brighter side, Mrs. Hamel will be returning as our music teacher and will visit the children in their classrooms once a week and the Bright Minds Enrichment program will be able to resume the way it is intended. We will welcome families for an Orientation Day on Thursday and Friday, September 9th and 10th. Our first day of school is Monday September 13th. As the world keeps changing we are working together to still provide a wonderful education and instill a trust and love of God to guide us through these changes. We always appreciate the support of the Church and we are looking forward to having another successful school year. Kim Russo Westminster Preschool Director

Session and Committee News

FANWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER
7TH
@ 6:30 P.M.**

**WHERE:
DINING ROOM
OPEN TO ALL
AGES/FAMILIES**

COME FOR FAMILY FUN,
PIZZA, PRIZES AND TO HEAR
ALL ABOUT WHATS COMING
UP THIS FALL FOR CHILDREN,
YOUTH AND FAMILIES!

We are kicking off the fall with a "beat the parents" game night where our children & youth will battle against their parents in trivia and a whole host of other fun challenges! Sign up for our family game night here: <https://forms.gle/e4k3FoV6i73QTMp9> or on our website.

IGNITE
READ & PRAY (10-12TH GRADE)

FPC YOUTH

KINGDOM KIDS
A BIBLE STUDY FOR KIDS

Tuesday Youth Groups

KINGDOM KIDS (2ND-5TH GRADE) 4:15-5:00 P.M.
Elementary Ministry that introduces kids to the Bible in a fun and engaging way! Expect games, video lessons, fun discussions, treats and more!

IGNITE GROW (6TH-9TH GRADE) 5:00-6:00 P.M.

GROW
IGNITE

Our youth group for 6th-9th graders will encourage spiritual growth, strengthen friendship bonds in an intentional community and create a safe and judgement free zone to discuss relevant topics that impact our teenagers and how these events connect to their faith!

IGNITE LEAD (10TH-12TH GRADE) 6:00-7:00 P.M.

Our youth group for 10th-12th graders will equip them to be leaders amongst their peers and explore how they can be positive influences to the community, church and our younger youth. We will continue to build upon the friendships made and forge new friendships and above all grow in our faith together!

LEAD
IGNITE

the good life

BIBLE STUDY

A BIBLE STUDY GROUP FOR UNDER 55:

**Men
Women
Couples
Singles**

Sign up for the Gen X & Younger Bible Study here:
<https://forms.gle/JBtm3NpTweAB1awK9>

8 Session Bible Study From Pastor & Dr. Derwin Gray
"See that happiness does not depend on what happens to you but what has happened to you through Jesus."

When: The 2nd Tuesday of the month
Where: Youth Room
What Time: 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Gen X & Younger SMALL GROUP

**55s
UNDER**

FPC

Finding I Am
Lysa TerKeurst

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Fanwood Presbyterian Church

A BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL WOMEN

A 6 SESSION BIBLE STUDY
From Best-Selling Author Lysa TerKeurst.

"What is the deep cry of your heart? That ache in your soul that keeps you up at night? The prayer you keep repeating? Jesus not only cares about this deep, spiritual wrestling, but He also wants to step in and see you through it."

WHEN: THE 4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH
WHERE: COLVILLE ROOM
WHAT TIME: 7:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Sign up for the Women's Bible Study here:
<https://forms.gle/JBtm3NpTweAB1awK9>

FPC



On August 30th a tree service will be on site to remove 2 large trees that are leaning and present a probable danger. One is leaning over the Dining Room and shows signs of recent movement. The other is leaning toward the house on Marion Ave. and it too shows signs of movement. Additionally, all trees with growth hitting or close to hitting roofs as well as trees with dead limbs will be trimmed and cleared of dead wood. There is some ceiling molding in the gym and classrooms that are being repaired and the door leading into the Sanctuary will be repaired shortly.

Church News



Bereavement Support Evening

Could you use some help and support in dealing with a recent loss? If you'd be interested in hearing some expert advice, the deacons would like to plan such an evening this fall, if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Judy Raub at 908-322-7426 or at judyshar@gmail.com. Or the church office at 908-889-8891 or at fanwoodpres@gmail.com if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested.

September Birthdays

Date		Date		Date		Date	
1	Evan Zakovic	9	Macada Brandl	17		25	
2	James McClure	10	Ross Leahy	18		26	
3	Clifford Stueck	11	Virginia Kraus	19		27	Ross Charnock
4		12		20	Jessica Knierim Sharon VanOstenbridge	28	
5	Janet Newell Diana Vasnelis	13	Mark VanOstenbridge Kristen Kosmaczewskit	21	Dorothy Ledesma	29	Ryan Canfield
6		14	Nicole Turso	22		30	
7		15		23		31	
8	Chris Poullos	16		24	Barry Daniskas Tyler Daniskas Kelsie Lubalin		

October Birthdays

Date		Date		Date		Date	
1		9		17	Michelle Howell	25	Dietrich Jahnke Nicholas Poullos Kay Taillon
2		10		18		26	Shirley McGuinness
3		11	Logan Gray James Tway	19		27	Susan Burgard
4		12		20		28	Linda Macari
5	Freda Brown Virginia Kurek	13	Kristine Adams Kaitlyn Jackmin	21	Betty Gustafson	29	
6	Chris Gray	14		22		30	Shirley Pillow
7		15	Ashley Donofrio Janet Krey	23		31	
8	Gary Zakovic	16		24			

Sorry if we missed your birthday or have it mistaken. Please let us know, if so.

Fanwood Presbyterian Church

Box 69, FANWOOD, N.J. 07023

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