

FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Highlights



Welcome to Rev. Dr. Charissa Howe, Guest Preacher

Rev. Dr. Charissa Howe serves as Director of Chaplaincy at the Allegheny County Jail through the Foundation of HOPE, where she often brings her therapy dog to help facilitate a grief support group. She is an ordained Presbyterian minister with a heart for connecting faith with everyday life. When not serving in ministry, she can often be found behind a camera lens capturing nature or Pittsburgh's beauty, exploring new places around the world, or spending time with her family.



Annual Chili Cook-Off

JAN 26, 2025 / 12:30-2 PM / FELLOWSHIP HALL

For the 17th year, the entire congregation is invited to attend and sample the products of the church's best chili cooks, who will be vying for bragging rights (and hot prizes). Again this year, the Cook-off will remember its late, great champion of champions, B.J. Ferguson. B.J. surely would want to know: Who will be able to say that he or she has the best chili in the church and whether prior years' winners repeat in 2025!!



E-mail Chet Karas at karas756@comcast.net to sign up.

Fill the Truck Food Drive

Get involved in FCPC's annual Fill the Truck event. Gather non-perishable items, such as cereal, pasta, peanut butter, paper towels, toiletries, etc., and bring them in during the month of January. Items will be sorted, packed and delivered to: Bread of Life Food Pantry, Sharpsburg Food Pantry, Singing Winds Food Pantry on February 2. All ages and skill levels are welcome!



Congregational Meeting

TODAY / JANUARY 5 / 10:40 AM / SANCTUARY

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 5, at 10:40am in the Sanctuary, to form an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) and to elect an elder. Our current designated associate pastor, Rev. Rebecca DePoe, is serving our church for a designated time period that ends in September. The Session has approved a new job description for a future associate pastor and the Nominating Committee is prepared to nominate the following individuals to serve on the APNC to search for and identify a new associate pastor: Judy Grune, Mark Haas, Judy Leininger, Lynn Leppert, Jimmy Minor, Tim Oberlin, and Jaye Tupponce. In addition, the Nominating Committee is planning to nominate Amy Szlachetka for an open elder position with a two-year term.

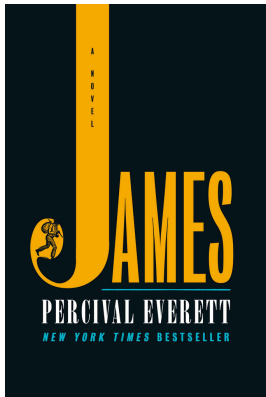


Women's Bible Study

Join us for the second half of Women's Bible Study in January focusing on the life of Nehemiah and Esther. This study is open to the community, so invite a friend! Materials cost is \$25. Meetings start again January 22, and continue every Wednesday at 9:30 in the Chapel.

For questions, reach out by email to: sarahdatt@gmail.com, cristiegood@gmail.com, cmettenburg@gmail.com, or juli_huntington@msn.com

Financial assistance is available. Contact Pastor Ginger (ginger@fcpc.us) for more information.



Friday Book Group

First meeting of 2025 on January 10th.

The book selected for discussion is *James* by Percival Everett, which won the 2024 National Book Award for fiction and the 2024 Kirkus Prize as well as being selected as Barnes and Noble's Book of the Year. It is a retelling of *Huckleberry Finn* from the viewpoint of Huck's black companion Jim. The book can be obtained from Barnes and Noble and Amazon, among other booksellers.

Questions? Contact Bev Reding at 412-780-2444

Notice for Scripture Lay Reader Volunteers

Pastor Roger: "Having other voices present in worship has made a wonderful contribution." If you are looking for an opportunity to share your voice and to get involved in worship services, give scripture reading a try. We are now working on the schedule for the first quarter of 2025, and are looking for volunteers to participate. No experience is needed, just share your Sunday availabilities.

Interested or have questions? Contact Judy Grune at grunefamily@gmail.com or at 412-780-5053.



2025 Chancel Flower Orders

The Chancel Flowers on Sunday mornings are something we have all come to enjoy. These flowers not only beautify our sanctuary, but they also honor very special people in our lives. Please consider a Sunday (or two) when you would like to thank God and honor a special person with a gift of flowers. Find a pink order form in any worship space to fill out and send in to the office.

My Garden on Harts Run Road provides the arrangements at the cost of \$55.00 per arrangement. When you place your order, you may request that certain types of flowers or a specific color scheme be used. Thank you for your consideration of blessing our sanctuary and worship service with beautiful flowers!

Interested or have questions? Contact Katie Caracciolo (katie@fcpc.us)

Stewardship Update & Financial Info

As pledges continue to come in to financially support the church's ministries in 2025, we are excited to share that 22 new households have made pledges totaling more than \$111,000, and 75 households have increased their annual pledge amount by a total of more than \$71,000. It's exciting that so many are investing in significant new ways as our church is "Following Jesus to Flourishing Ministry" in 2025. Our pledges received for 2025 total over \$38,000 more than the pledges made for the current year. This will help the church manage increasing costs, expanding facility upkeep needs, and complex staffing decisions.



Our ministry commitments are dependent on every person's giving. If you have submitted a pledge, thank you! If you have not yet made a commitment, we hope you will prayerfully consider how you will be a part of supporting our church's ministries financially in the coming year. Pledge cards can be found throughout the church, and online pledges can be made on our website at www.fcpc.us/giving.

Per Capita

You can help offset FCPC's Per Capita assessment, paid to the presbytery based on church membership. This year our church will pay \$35,061, which represents \$38.11 per member. Your donation of \$38.11 can help offset this obligation. So far this year, \$2,305.11 has been donated to help cover FCPC's Per Capita amount.

If you have any questions, contact Sarah Hays, Office Manager (sarah@fcpc.us).

New Giving System: PushPay

We will be transitioning from our current online giving platform (Shelby) to a new online giving platform called Pushpay in January. This platform is much more flexible than Shelby, will provide you with easier access to your giving statements, will integrate more smoothly with FCPC's accounting system and membership database, and ultimately enable you to access a mobile-enabled "My Church" app for information about our activities and events and to connect with church staff and other members from anywhere.

PushPay has been implemented at the start of 2025. Step by step instructions for first time giving using the new system can be found at <https://www.fcpc.us/giving>. More information will follow as new systems are integrated, such as: Church directory, calendar, forms, newsletters, event info, and more.

If you have questions, please email (giving@fcpc.us) or call for assistance:

- David Tupponce (Finance Committee): 412-354-1492
- Sarah Hays or Katie Caracciolo (FCPC office): 412-963-8243

Blessings,

The Stewardship and Finance Transition Team at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

January FCPC Youth Group Schedule

JAN. 5: 2:00-3:30

JAN. 12: 2:00-3:30

JAN. 19: 2:00-3:30

JAN. 26: ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF 12:00

JAN. 26: 2:00-3:30

DO YOU HAVE A 9TH GRADER WHO'S INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH? SIGN THEM UP FOR CONFIRMATION!

Confirmation prepares youth to engage in the life of the church! It provides a space to wrestle with big questions like, "Who is God?" or "What is God doing?" or "How can my faith impact the world around me?" This exciting journey invites students to deepen their faith and officially become members of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church.

SIGN UP FOR MORE
INFORMATION USING THE QR
CODE BELOW.



CONTACT EMMA KATE
LANDER, INTERIM MINISTER
OF YOUTH, AT
EMMAKATE@FCPC.US OR
(410) 858-7311 WITH ANY
QUESTIONS!

FCPC Youth Group

6th-12th graders are invited to join us weekly from 2:00-3:30 on Sunday afternoons for youth group!

Youth group provides a safe space for youth to have fun, be known, build community, and experience God. Our goal is to help youth grow in their love for God, their love for others, and their love for who they are.

Sign up for our weekly
newsletter here:



Questions about Youth Ministry events? Contact Emma Kate Lander, Interim Minister of Youth, at emmakate@fcpc.us or 410-858-7311

Make a Difference as a Youth Group Volunteer!

Want to share Christ's love and support with teens? Talk to Emma Kate Lander about serving as a volunteer for youth ministry for youth group gatherings, special youth events, or a trip with youth.

FCPC Preschool Tours

TIME TO SCHEDULE A TOUR!

Families interested in learning more about the preschool and the enrollment process are encouraged to schedule a tour with us. Contact Karin, Stephanie, or Jason in the preschool office at karin@fcpc.us, 412-552-9382, or preschooladmin@fcpc.us. We're excited to hear from you!



Children & Family Ministries (Infant-5th Grade)

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:15 AM WORSHIP

No children's programming during this service.

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 will be led to the Lowest Level. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the Lowest Level.

9:30 & 11 AM NURSERY CARE

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

9:30 & 11 AM COMFORT SPACE

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

11 AM KIDS' CHURCH

For ages 3 to 5th grade. Children are signed in before worship and begin the service with loved ones. After the Children's Message, children will be led to the Lowest Level. Parents/guardians can pick up their children in the Lowest Level.

Questions? Contact our Minister of Children and Families, Pastor Lori Bass-Riley, by email at lori@fcpc.us or call/text at 412-737-1412.

**JANUARY 25
5:30PM-8PM**

**WINTER
FAMILY
Fun Night**

**DROP IN
AND HANG
OUT!**

**Dinner,
Crafts,
Open Gym,
Toys & Board
Games**

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

It's time to dive in!

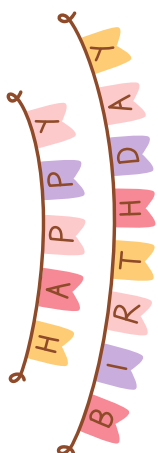
Wednesday Night Live Kids' Club

Open to all kids K-5th grade

Wednesdays 6pm-7:30pm Starting January 8
Get closer to God and to each other through crazy games, fun art projects, snacks, and so much more!

Drop in or Sign Up!

Questions? Contact Pastor Lori 412-737-1412



Birthdays

JAN 5 Charlie Burk, Donna Stewart, Margaret Haas

JAN 6 Mike Fazzini, Tom Wash, Will Simpson

JAN 7 Bonnie Kleberg, Richard Easler, Sarah Crittenden

JAN 8 Corinne Sample

JAN 9 Patrick Brunins, Rob Woodings, Enzo Sundy

JAN 10 Julie Hagan, Kate Minor

JAN 11 Skip Fox, Jon Burnett



Music at FCPC

Organist Position

In consultation with the Minister of Music and Pastor/Head of Staff, FCPC seeks an organist to provide organ and/or piano accompaniment for scheduled worship services and other occasions in support of the music ministry.

Duties:

- Play the organ and/or piano for two Sunday morning worship service and other regularly-scheduled special services (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, etc.)
- Play for rehearsals of the Chancel Choir
- First right of refusal for weddings and funerals (paid separately, not included in compensation)

Education/Training:

While a degree(s) in music is/are preferred; private study, course work, and experience will be considered.

Experience:

Minimum of three years experience in service playing, accompanying at the organ and piano, and hymn playing required.

Interested? Please send any resumes to S.C. Toe at sc@fcpc.us

Join the FCPC Children's Choir

Children K-5th grade welcome to join

Rehearsals are held weekly on Sundays from 10:15-10:55 AM in the choir room (room 209).

Questions? Please reach out to S.C. Toe, Minister of Music at sc@fcpc.us



Call for Musicians

Interested in leading through sharing musically in one of our worship services? You are most welcome! We have opportunities to play the piano, other instruments, and sing at 8:15am; play in the band or sing, at 9:30am; play an instrument or sing in the choir at 11:00am. There is also the opportunity to play in the handbell choir on Thursdays at 6:15pm.

Contact S.C. Toe if interested or with any questions at sc@fcpc.us

Care & Concern

We hold these friends in prayer:

Jack Oehrle
Sue Heitzenroder
Beth and Bill Meyer
Laurie
Molly and Chris
Ryan Frohlich
Dave Houggy
Barry Freeman
Charles MacDonald, friend of Bob Heister
Kim Power
Dorothy Hill's niece, Helen
Hutch Hutchison
Jonny Wallisch

We celebrate with:

- Faith DeBolt and Matt Bean on the birth of their daughter Grace Margaret McElroy Bean on December 24th.
- Erica Sandbothe and Evan Wright on the birth of their daughter Mabel Sandbothe Wright, born November 30th.

We pray for those who grieve:

- For the family of Verne Koch, who passed away January 2nd.
- For the family of Dick Sweringen, who passed away on December 29th.
- For Toby Eberhart and family at the death of his brother Alan.



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

- For addicts in our community to heal and recover.
- The people of Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Haiti, Sudan, and places in conflict, violence, and hunger.
- Refugees throughout the world.
- For our republic.

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

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 before or after all worship services.

Staff Contacts

FCPC Office.....412-963-8243
Rev. Ginger Thomas, Co-Senior Pastor.....ginger@fcpc.us / ext. 16
Rev. Roger Owens, Co-Senior Pastor.....roger@fcpc.us / ext. 17
Rev. Rebecca DePoe, Designated Associate Pastor.....rebecca@fcpc.us / ext. 18
Rev. Lori Bass-Riley, Minister of Children and Families.....lori@fcpc.us / ext. 25
S.C. Toe, Minister of Music.....sc@fcpc.us / ext. 29
Nikki Rosswog, Minister of Congregational Care.....nikki@fcpc.us / ext. 07
Emma Kate Lander, Interim Minister of Youth.....emmakate@fcpc.us
Sarah Hays, Office Manager.....sarah@fcpc.us / ext. 10
Katie Caracciolo, Administrative Assistant.....katie@fcpc.us / ext. 11

This Week at FCPC

SUN JAN 5

- 8:15 AM** Cup and Loaf Worship Service (Chapel)
- 9:30 AM** Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 2 PM** Combined Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

MON JAN 6

- 9 AM** Preschool
- 9 AM** Backpacks for Hunger (Chapel)
- 2 PM** Knitting Group (Library)

TUE JAN 7

- 8 AM** Men's Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)
- 9 AM** Preschool
- 9:30 AM** Staff Meeting and Devotions (Lounge)
- 1 PM** Christian Nurture Committee Talk (Lounge)
- 5:45 PM** Meditation Group (Chapel)
- 7 PM** 2025 Budget Meeting (Lounge)

WED JAN 8

- 9 AM** Preschool
- 3 PM** Stephen Ministry Meeting (Library)
- 6 PM** Wednesday Night Live Kids Club (Fellowship Hall)

THURS JAN 9

- 9 AM** Preschool
- 2 PM** Christian Nurture Committee Meeting (Library)
- 6:15 PM** Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 PM** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

FRI JAN 10

- 9 AM** Preschool

SAT JAN 11

SUN JAN 12

- 8:15 AM** Cup and Loaf Worship Service (Chapel)
- 9:30 AM** Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:15 AM** Children's Choir (Choir Room)
- 10:30 AM** Communion Servers Meeting (Library)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 2 PM** Combined Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

Giving

New Online Giving

Now using new giving platform, PushPay.

+ Scan the QR code to give online

+ Text the word GIVE to 412-201-0557



2024 Giving Statement

Annual giving statements will be emailed in January 2024.

Please be sure to you are able to receive emails from giving@fcpc.us. Please contact the church office if you are unable to receive an emailed giving statement.

2025 Financial Pledge

If you have not yet made your stewardship pledge for the coming year, there is still time. 2025 pledges can be made online via our website at www.fcpc.us/giving or by contacting Sarah Hays, Office Manager at sarah@fcpc.us or call 412-963-8479.

FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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