

FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Highlights



A Letter from Rebecca, Associate Pastor

Friends,

When I was in high school, I didn't play on any sports teams. Instead, I played with the high school marching band. When I tell people I was in the marching band in high school, I always want people to try to guess what instrument I played, before I tell them. Almost no one gets it right. My freshman year I played the clarinet, then my sophomore year I switched to the baritone horn.

See I should mention that I went to Baldwin High School in the mid to late 00s. The Baldwin High School marching band wasn't just a good band. It was a great band. My first time on a plane was in 2004, as our band traveled to Pasadena, California to perform in the Rose Bowl. In 2007, my senior year, we were invited to perform at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

...Continue on pg. 2

It's a Team Thing! Finding a Place in Spirit-led Ministry

No Christian is a lone ranger. Jesus's mission through the church has a place for everyone. Just as a team functions when everyone knows that they belong and what their role is, so it is with the church. Over the next three weeks, we'll be exploring in worship what it means to belong to Team Jesus and how each person can find their place in the mission Jesus has given the church as together we move toward the goal.

January 12—Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

- "On the Team"

January 19—1 Corinthians 12:1-11

- "What Position Do You Play?"

January 26—Luke 4:14-21

- "Score!"



Use the insert questionnaire to indicate your gifts, passions, and interests for ministry.

Annual Chili Cook-Off

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

For the 18th 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 before Jan 22nd.

SUNDAY JAN 26th - One Service Sunday & More

Join us for one combined worship service January 26th at 10:00 am. All are encouraged to attend service, along with the ordination and installation of elders and deacons, followed by the annual meeting of the congregation at 11:05 am for the congregation to approve terms of call for the installed pastors and receive the 2024 Annual Report. After, come on down to the Fellowship Hall for the chili cookoff to follow.

- 10 am - One Combined Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:05 am - Annual Congregational Meeting
- 12 pm - Annual Chili Cook-Off (Fellowship Hall)

Here's the problem. I am not a great musician. I am shall we say average at best. I joined the marching band because my mom said I had to participate in an after-school activity while I was in high school. But I was in a band with kids who were great. Kids who spent all the time they were not at marching band rehearsal practicing their instruments. And I wanted to focus my time and energy into excelling in my school work. So I had a decision to make. Stay in the clarinet section where I would be stressed out all the time. Or play an instrument few wanted to play. Where I could just be an okay baritone player and still have fun.

At first I didn't know what a baritone horn was (it's a brass instrument that is bigger than a trumpet, but smaller than a tuba) because you can't really hear them in a marching band. I learned that you can't hear a baritone horn because it fills in the middle registers between a trumpet and a tuba. Without the baritone to tune to, the trumpet would sound too high, and the tuba would sound too low. Overtime I learned that the baritone horn plays an important, albeit supporting role, in the overall marching band.

I share the story of my high school marching band days to show that in teams everyone has an important role to play. We can't all be as impressive as a trumpet or as cool as a tuba. Some of us are called to keep everyone on the same page as we move towards our big picture goals- creating beautiful music together.

As we head into this new year, we pastors hope you will find your way into one of our ministry teams. Maybe you have always served in ministries that support children and families. But now your kids are grown, and you sense God calling you to learn more about ministries of care and compassion. Maybe the words "public speaking" or "livestreaming" give you anxiety. There is so much behind the scenes coordination the worship team could use your help with.

My hope and my prayer as we head into this new year is that God would point us into the direction of teams that will help us use our gifts in new and different ways in the coming year.

Grateful to be in ministry with you,

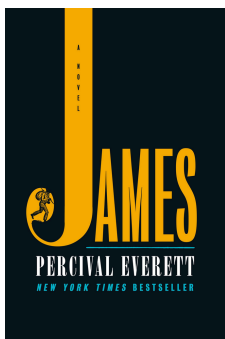


Pastor Rebecca DePoe

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 in the 11:00 service. 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.



Friday Book Group

First meeting of 2025 is on January 10th, 9:30 am over Zoom.

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



Women's Bible Study

JAN 22 / 9:30 AM / CHAPEL

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 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



Caregiver Coffee Hour

JAN 31 / 10-11AM / LOUNGE

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. Hope to see you there.

Questions? Contact Nikki Rosswog at 412-963-8466 or nikki@fcpc.us

Fill the Truck Food Drive

FEB 2 / 9 AM / FELLOWSHIP HALL

Get involved in FCPC's annual Fill the Truck event. Gather non-perishable items such as cereal, pasta, peanut butter, paper towels, toiletries, etc. Please drop off your non-perishable food donations for Fill the Truck in the bins in the Welcome Area, or outside of Fellowship Hall before February 2. Items will be sorted, packed and delivered to: Bread of Life Food Pantry, Sharpsburg Food Pantry, Singing Winds Food Pantry.



The deacons are in need of empty box donations for Fill the Truck. The best boxes are small to medium sized that have lids so that they can be easily stacked in the truck for distribution to our food pantries. Please drop your boxes off in the storage area outside of the women's restroom next to Fellowship Hall.

Then join us February 2 in the Fellowship Hall to package donations and fill the truck. All ages and skill levels are welcome!

For questions regarding Fill the Truck, please contact Toby Eberhart via e-mail at pteberhart@hotmail.com



2025 Chancel Flower Orders

The chancel flowers in the Sanctuary 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. 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)



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

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:



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!

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

NOW HIRING - Minister of Youth and Young Adults (Part Time)

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church (FCPC) is seeking an individual who is passionate about youth ministry to join our team as the Minister of Youth and Young Adults. The candidate will possess a joyful Christian faith, a welcoming and hospitable spirit, as well as strong leadership and relational skills. As the Minister of Youth and Young Adults, the position will continue our traditional youth group and confirmation class programming and explore other opportunities and initiatives to increase youth involvement and discipleship.

Scan the QR code to view full job description, responsibilities, and qualifications or visit <https://www.fcpc.us/youth-ministry> to learn more.



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

FCPC Preschool Registration

Families interested in signing up for the 2025-2026 school year should be on the lookout. Registration for our current, legacy, and church families opens Monday, January 27th, and registration for the greater community opens Monday, February 10th.

Contact Karin, Stephanie, or Jason in the preschool office at karin@fcpc.us, or preschooladmin@fcpc.us, 412-406-6617.

We're excited to have you join us for the next school year!

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!



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).

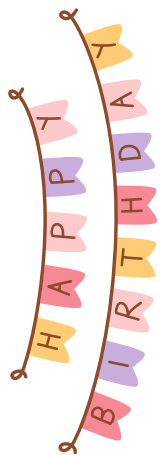
Questions? Please reach out to S.C. Toe, Minister of Music at sc@fcpc.us



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



Birthdays

- JAN 12** Susan DeRiggi, Judy Forbes, Sue Johnston, Bob Otte, Marcia Kline
JAN 13 Stuart Campbell, J. William Futrell, Steve Breuner, Thomas Stelitano
JAN 14 Brendan Valley, Patrick Alexander, Shelly Marcussen, Teddy Brubaker
JAN 15 George Stewart, Beth Rygelski, Carie Pecci, Laura Bruno, Vadim Gazarov
JAN 16 Naomi Killian, Taylor Burke, Adam Lauer
JAN 17 Neil Chrisman IV
JAN 18 Carol Squires, Richard Sweringen, Esme Hirshberg, Jim Bischoff, Karen Jueng



Care & Concern

We hold these friends in prayer:

Cindy Heister, family of Bob Heister
Marijo Crowe
Bryan Bass-Riley
Lynn Ruter
Marcia Mayhew
Lynne Olesen and Jong, friends of Marcia Mayhew
MacKenzie and Chasen Strawn, family of Marcia Mayhew
Carol Squires
Ewen Boag
June Balzer
Sue Heitzenroder
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



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

We celebrate with:

- Maura Bell and Logan Newman, who were married here at our church on January 18, 2025.
- 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 Rev. William Meyer, who passed away January 15th. A memorial service will be held at FCPC on Saturday, February 1, at 11:00am.
- For the family of Jack Oehrle, who passed away January 15th.
- For the family of Verne Koch, who passed away January 2nd. A memorial service will be held at FCPC on Monday, January 20, at 11:00am.
- For the family of Dick Sweringen, who passed away on December 29th.
- For the family of Eleanor Atwell, who passed away in December.
- 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 communities in California affected by wildfires.
- 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.

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 19

- 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)
- 10:15 AM** Children's Choir (Choir Room)
- 11 AM** Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary), Kids' Church (Lowest Level), Nursery Care (Room 109), Comfort Space (Room 107)
- 12 PM** New Deacon Orientation (Lounge)
- 2 PM** Combined Youth Group (Youth Lounge)

MON JAN 20

- Preschool Closed
- Building Closed
- 11 AM** Verne Koch Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

TUE JAN 21

- 8 AM** Men's Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)
- 9 AM** Preschool
- 9 AM** Backpacks for Hunger (Chapel)
- 9:30 AM** Staff Meeting and Devotions (Lounge)
- 2 PM** Christian Nurture CPP Work (Library)
- 5:45 PM** Meditation Group (Chapel)
- 7 PM** Session Meeting (Chapel)

WED JAN 22

- 9 AM** Preschool
- 9:30 AM** Women's Bible Study (Chapel)
- 3 PM** Stephen Ministry Meeting (Library)
- 6 PM** Wednesday Night Live Kids Club (Fellowship Hall)

THURS JAN 23

- 9 AM** Preschool
- 10:45 AM** Hospitality Training Event (Lounge)
- 6:15 PM** Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 PM** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

FRI JAN 24

- 9 AM** Preschool

SAT JAN 25

- 5:30 PM** Winter Family Fun Night (Fellowship Hall)

SUN JAN 26

- 10 AM** One Service Sunday (Sanctuary)
- 11 AM** Annual Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 12 PM** Chili Cook-Off (Fellowship Hall)

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