
Ministry Updates

WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13: Two separate worship services will be offered online and onsite at the church at 9:00 am (Classic in the Sanctuary) and 11:00 am (Convergent in King Hall). Dr. Jonathan Schwartz will be preaching both services this week, using John 17:6-26 as his text.

To access the service online directly, go to www.facebook.com/fpcrome or click the button you'll find on our church web page, www.fpcrome.org. You do not need to be a Facebook user to access the service.

To view or download the Order of Worship for Sunday's service, go to the home page of the website, as well, and follow instructions there. Using this Order of Worship, you'll not only be able to follow along in the service, but can participate actively as it includes words to songs and other elements we'll be asked to join in speaking, praying, or singing. You can also download the provided sermon guides for children and middle schoolers. *If attending in-person, please print and bring with you the order of worship for the service you plan to attend as our services will be touch-less (no bulletins, hymnals, friendship pads).*

MOVING FORWARD...IN FAITH AND WISDOM – Over the past months, our leaders have chosen to provide opportunities for in-person corporate worship on Sunday mornings. These services, at 9:00 am and 11:00 am will continue throughout the fall season. Additionally, beginning on October 4, we will begin modified Nursery Ministry during the 11:00 am worship hour. (Look for more details to follow in the next few weeks.)

Faithfully clinging to the truths of God and relying upon God's gracious gift of wisdom, our Pastors, Elders, and Ministry Leaders believe that God is calling us to reopen Wednesday Night Family Gathering. Providing another in-person assembly during the week, Family Gathering will include ministry for nursery, children, and youth, and adults. The plan is to launch our *Wednesday Night Family Gathering* on September 30 and include a meal followed by various ministry programs. (Again, look for more details in the next few weeks.)

Simply put: This fall, our church is gathering together as a corporate body on Sundays and Wednesdays! Following the prudent guidelines which serve to make our campus a healthy place to assemble, we will gather...we will worship...we will live together...and we will make and mobilize disciples. We will courageously follow our risen Savior and Lord in such a time as this, and we will walk *together* in faith and wisdom.

SEEKING YOUR FEEDBACK – We will be sending out a survey to you asking for your input regarding our upcoming Wednesday Night Family Gatherings. It is a very short survey--only 5 questions--that will take you less than 2 minutes to complete. Just as your feedback was helpful to us as we launched our in-person worship services back in June, your feedback will be extremely helpful to our Ministry Leaders as we plan and prepare for the launch of our Fall Wednesday Night programs. You will be receiving the survey link via email on Monday, September 14 and we ask that you complete it by no later than Friday, September 18.

VISITOR WELCOME – Thank you for worshiping with us today. Whether you are worshiping in-person or viewing our livestream, we want to welcome you into our midst. We would love to have the opportunity to answer any questions you may have about our ministries. Please visit www.fpcrome.org and click on the Connect Form link at the top of the home page. Our Connections team will contact you. We look forward to connecting with you!

THE ROSE IN WORSHIP TODAY is given in honor of Master Paul Cashel Brock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett (Mary Win) Brock, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Paul (Joan) Brock, born on September 4, 2020.

PRAYER REQUESTS – If you would like to be kept informed of the church's prayer needs, email Tracy at tracyd@fpcrome.org to receive updated prayer requests. If you would like to submit a Prayer Request for you or someone you know that is in need, you may do so on our website at <http://www.fpcrome.org/resources/personal-prayer-requests/>.

COMMUNION TO BE CELEBRATED IN BOTH WORSHIP SERVICES AGAIN NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 –

Following the same procedures we used in July, communion will be served in both on site worship services next Sunday. We will again use sealed, pre-packaged communion sets that include the communion wafer and juice. These individual element sets will be distributed as we are ushered to our seats by elders who will be taking precautions by wearing face coverings and gloves, and we will remain in our seats in both services to partake of the elements. Other than these modifications to the format of the communion elements and the method of distribution, the service with all its richness and meaning will remain the same and, as always, will emphasize both the vertical element of communion with our God, and the horizontal element of fellowship with the church body, which are both essential to the meaning of the sacrament.

For those of our body who at this time are unable to, or do not feel comfortable attending on site worship, we would love to have a Ruling Elder representing the church body, together with one of our pastors, come to your home to serve you there at your request. We encourage those receiving communion at home to participate in our streaming worship service on Sunday, if possible, as the foundation for receiving the sacrament from the elder and pastor when they come to your home. If you would like to request communion be served to you in your home, please call or email the church office, or go to the form on the church website at www.fpcrome.org to request that we schedule a time in the next two weeks following Sunday's communion to allow you to share in the sacrament as well.

PIPS THURSDAY LUNCHEON – September 24 will be our next PIPS program. We're going to offer a boxed lunch from Duffy's Deli to the first 15 people who sign up by calling the church office. This is a great opportunity for fellowship. We will practice social distancing and ask you to bring your own drink and please wear a mask. Our program will feature, Jimmy Latham, who is our new youth director. The program will be in the Fellowship Hall and starts at 11:00 am. Lunch will be served after the program. For those of you who can't come it will be offered virtually through the church website. Join us for great food, fun and fellowship!

COMMUNITY KITCHEN – As you may know it is FPC's week (September 14-18) to serve at the Community Kitchen. Due to COVID-19, we are only serving to-go plates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We are in need of 5 people each day. I would love to see 5 different people/families serve on these days. To limit our risk of exposure, we have masks and gloves available. Our job would be to make sandwiches in the morning and then make to-go plates. We will stay in the back of the kitchen. Drew and Shelia will be out front passing plates to the clients. We are able to accommodate physical distancing requirements and will have minimal contact with clients. Please email me at amyedwards3677@gmail.com or text me [706-594-0878](tel:706-594-0878) if you would like to help so we don't have a large group show up.

MISSION MOMENT UPDATE – Many of you were in the service when Nate & Shanna Mast asked for prayers for Nate's renewed passport. They were anxious to return to Nairobi, Kenya, as they serve as missionaries through Blue Sky (www.blueskyglobal.org). Even with numerous attempts to expediate, they were told that there was nothing to do but wait. But God! Through that Sunday morning time of sharing, a member suggested and helped facilitate contacting a local congressman. The Masts filled out forms and sent emails ... within 24 hours they received word the passport was approved and shipped! They left September 9th, right on schedule! Please praise the Lord with us and continue to lift this family and their ministry to the Lord in prayer.



PRAY for ME CAMPAIGN – "Rallying the Church around the Next Generation" - 40-50% of Students from good youth groups and families will drift from the Church after High School. In fact, research shows that adult believers are crucial in passing on faith to the next generation. And whom better to invoke to work in the hearts of our students than the one, true, living God? PfMC is a movement designed to naturally create multi-generational relationships through prayer. Three adult believers from three different generations pray for one student (7th to 12th grade) for one year. If you would like to join this movement, please visit the church website by October 3 to register to attend the virtual launch event on October 4. Prayer guides will be available for purchase for \$10.

CONTINUING OUR GENEROSITY – “The Lord loves a cheerful giver.” Since today’s service will be touch-less (no bulletins, hymnals, friendship pads), we will have plexiglass drop boxes at the entrance and exit areas of each service in which you may place your tithes and offerings. There are many other ways you can make your offering to the Lord— by giving through the mail, dropping off in a sealed envelope in the secure black mailbox outside the church office, or electronically by following this link:

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/firs101214> or through the ShelbyNext Membership App on your mobile device. If you have not been connected through the ShelbyNext Membership app on your mobile device, contact Tracy at tracyd@fpcrome.org or leave a message with the church office and she will help you get set up.

Our worship services are broadcast weekly on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/fpcrome, and at 11 am on WLAQ FM 96.9 and AM 1410.
Sermons may also be accessed on our web site at www.fpcrome.org.