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# Ministry Updates

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**WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25:** 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). Rev. Bill Pardue will be preaching both services this week, using Ecclesiastes 9:1-12 as his text.

To access the service online directly, go to [www.facebook.com/fpcrome](https://www.facebook.com/fpcrome) or click the button you'll find on our church web page, [www.fpcrome.org](http://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).*

**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](http://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!

**NEW DEACONS ORDAINED/INSTALLED LAST SUNDAY AND TODAY** – Having been elected by the congregation, taken part in a period of officer training, and approved by the Session, the following are the new deacons who were ordained and/or installed last Sunday and who will be ordained and/or installed TODAY.

*Deacons Ordained and Installed last Sunday:*

Chris Congdon  
Cooper Evans  
Larry Brown

*Deacons Installed last Sunday:*

Matt Claytor  
Dave Abernathy

*Deacons to be Ordained and Installed TODAY:*

John Goodrich  
Sam Echols

*Deacons to be Installed TODAY:*

Rusty Chadwick

We would like to thank the following deacons who have rotated off of active service: Tommy Atha, Rick Gilbert, Nate Masters, Jay Riley, John Rix, Ryland Scott and Harris York

**MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH & WISDOM: GUIDELINES FOR GATHERING** – You will notice that we have updated our Guidelines to include the Safe Screening questions. You will see new signage around our campus to help remind us all of the things that we can do to maintain a safe space for gathering. You may also find these Guidelines on the home page of our website.

These guidelines apply to any activity that we have on our church campus and to those FPC-sponsored events that take place off site. In short, we are practicing social distancing, hand sanitizing, and the wearing of face coverings when we cannot consistently maintain social distance of 6 feet. We are being very strategic about seating in our worship services and in our Wednesday Night Family Gathering.

There is much conflicting information out there about quarantine, isolation, what an exposure is, and so forth. Our church leaders have chosen to follow CDC guidelines regarding exposures and for those who are COVID positive. If you have a question as to whether or not you or your family member should attend an event on our campus, please reach out to our church office. We are happy to help answer your questions.

**SENIOR HIGH BIG HERE** – In place of an overnight retreat in a mystery location, Senior High will host a two-day, in-town retreat with social distancing measures on Saturday 11/21 and Sunday 11/22 at the Crossing. The cost is \$40. Register your student online by 11/18 (11/5 to ensure correct sweatshirt size) at [www.fpcrome.org/student-events](http://www.fpcrome.org/student-events).

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY GATHERING CONTINUES OCTOBER 28** – Meal from 5:15–6:15: Pirkle's will cater our meal, which will include a Chopped Smoked Pork Sandwich, BBQ Sauce on the side, Dill Pickle Pasta Salad, Baked Beans and a Gourmet Chocolate Chunk Cookie. **Reservations are due no later than 3pm on Monday, October 26, no exceptions. Reservations for the meal AND classes are required.** Please be sure and register online for the meal and for the program you/your family will be attending. When you go to our website to register, you will notice that we have posted our Guidelines for Gathering **and** our Safe Screening criteria. The home page of our website ([www.fpcrome.org](http://www.fpcrome.org)) provides easy access to make your reservations. You may also email your reservation by that same deadline to [info@fpcrome.org](mailto:info@fpcrome.org), or call the church office at 706-291-6033. If you are unable to attend after making a reservation, please contact the church office. **Additionally, we will not be offering 'to go' meals at this time. We apologize for any inconvenience.**

Program from 6:15 – 7:15

- The Book of Ruth (Kenneth Studdard) – CLC Bldg. King Hall
- Untangling Emotions (Mandy Williams) – CLC Bldg. Fellowship Hall
- Marriage Small Groups – CLC Bldg. Rooms 201, 203 and 204
- Bible Zone 2/3 Year olds (Faith Weaver) – Education Bldg. Room 208
- Bible Zone 4/Kinders (Faith Weaver Friends) – Education Bldg. Room 206 & 207
- Grades 1-3 (Lord Teach Me to Pray) – Education Bldg. God's Garden
- Grades 4-5 Girls (New Testament-Matthew to John) – Education Bldg. Upstairs Playground
- Grades 4-5 Boys (New Testament-Matthew to John) – CLC Room 210
- Communicants (6<sup>th</sup> grade) – Hardy Classroom #1
- Jr. High 6:00 (Mark: How Jesus Changes Everything) – The Crossing
- Sr. High 6:00 (Gospel Love) – The Crossing

**Cost: Adults \$7.00 – Students and Children \$3.00 (Note: Family Max has increased to \$25.00)**

**FAMILY GATHERING STUDIES FOR ADULTS CONTINUE THIS WEDNESDAY:**

**MARRIAGE SMALL GROUPS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS** – Family Equipping Ministry Team is excited to announce that we will be offering marriage small groups on Wednesday nights at the church this fall. These small groups will be based on a powerful sermon series delivered by one of today's most gifted preachers, Alistair Begg. The series is called "We Two Are One." Participants will be asked to listen to the sermons on their own, and privately discuss them together as a couple at home using a helpful discussion guide that will be provided. Then on Wednesday nights we will join together in our various small groups for a one hour session, where the group facilitators will lead discussion around the major theme of the week, and the participants will encourage one another. Please look for forthcoming information from the church regarding how to register for these groups. We have been praying about and preparing for this for a long time, and we are excited to finally present this opportunity to you! For more information, please contact Pastor Jonathan

at [jonathans@fpcrome.org](mailto:jonathans@fpcrome.org). –Pastor Jonathan and your Family Equipping Ministry Team

- **THE BOOK OF RUTH** – The book of Ruth is the story of a family that faces one tragedy after another. It seems as if the Lord has completely hidden Himself from their view. But there is more here than meets the eye. In the book of Ruth we have the story of God active in the lives of His people even when they don't recognize it. We see His purpose being unfolded through the ordinary events in the lives of very ordinary people. In fact you will find that the lives of the characters in the book of Ruth are quite similar to ours.

- **UNTANGLING EMOTIONS LED BY MANDY WILLIAMS** – How do you feel about how you feel? What are emotions? What does the Bible have to say about our emotions? Join us on Wednesday nights as we explore God's gift of emotions and ways to engage, in healthy ways, the more difficult emotions like anger, fear, shame, guilt and sorrow. Please call the church office if you are interested in attending. "Emotions are strange. They're strange in that they can make us behave in ways we don't want to. Strange in that they can flood through our bodies whether we like it or not.....Strange in that most of us don't know (or even stop to ask) why we are feeling the way we are feeling most of the time" Untangling Emotions J. Alisdair Groves Winston T. Smith

**THE ROSE IN WORSHIP TODAY** is given in honor of Master William Lawrence Edwards, son of Dr. and Mrs. Will (Jennifer) Edwards, grandson of Dr. and Mrs. Robert (Frances) Edwards, born on September 29, 2020.

**FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT** lessons can now be viewed on Children's Ministries page

<http://www.fpcrome.org/ministries/children/>

**PIPS SEND OFF FOR PASTOR JEFF** – Thursday November 12 we'll have a chance to say good-bye to our beloved Pastor. At 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, Rev. Jeff Chadwick will be our speaker. We will then enjoy a boxed lunch and fellowship. We'll have room for the first 20 people to sign up with the church office. \*As a reminder, attendees should wear masks until we find our seats and can maintain 6 feet apart.\* This event will also be recorded so those of you at home can join us virtually.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER** – Welcome to our newest member who joined the church on October 4, Ms. Mary Kate Bojo.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2020** - The goals of Operation Christmas Child are **evangelism, discipleship and church planting**. *At an OCC outreach event in a very remote Liberian village, 70 people responded to the Gospel and accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior. Just one week later, a Liberian pastor, returned to the village to lead the first worship service, and, thus, a new church was born in this previously unreached region of Liberia.*

Each box is a GIFT to a child to show the love of Jesus. Each child has the opportunity to take a twelve- week Bible class and is given a New Testament in his language at the completion of the course. New believers, children, and adults are plugged into local churches.

Your shoebox gift offers an opportunity to serve others as a missionary in a time of limited contact and travel. Your shoebox gift presents children, parents, and neighbors with the gospel. Your shoebox gift helps international church pastors to disciple and build churches. Your shoebox gift teaches our FPC children about giving and serving others in a tangible way.

**Key Dates:** **TODAY** is the last day to pick up a box to fill! Due to Covid restrictions, we ask that all boxes be returned only on the collection date of **Sunday, November 22nd**. \*If you would prefer a box be packed for you, please drop a \$25 check into the offering box with OCC on the memo line. Please contact Natalie Pettegrew at [nataliep@fpcrome.org](mailto:nataliep@fpcrome.org) with any questions.

**JESUS CARE FOR CHILDREN 8 WEEKS-2 YEARS OLD CONTINUES** – During the 11:00 am Worship Hour we will have Jesus Care for children 8 weeks through 2 years old. Reservations are required online at [fpcrome.org](http://fpcrome.org).

**COFFEE HOSPITALITY MINISTRY** – You may have noticed last Sunday that we had something special going on in the Van Dyke room. A group of our members have lovingly offered their time and talents to safely serve coffee to us on Sunday mornings between 10:30 and 11:00 am. As you enter through our courtyard, you will be guided to the serving area in the Van Dyke room. Our gracious hosts and hostesses will safely and warmly serve you. We then ask that you proceed to King Hall to enjoy your specially prepared cup of coffee.

**PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD** – Today, instead of using the plexiglass boxes for your tithes, our ushers will be bringing around the offering plate or basket in which you may place your tithes and offerings. We will not be "passing" the plates/baskets, but this is one more way we can safely move towards a sense of familiarity in our worship services.

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](mailto:tracyd@fpcrome.org) or leave a message with the church office and she will help you get set up.