

Ministry Updates

WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020: On this first Sunday of Advent, two separate worship services will be offered online and onsite at the church at 9:00 am and 11:00 am, both Convergent style worship in King Hall.

Rev. Bill Pardue will be preaching both services this week, using Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:3 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).*

ADVENT SERVICES – Over the coming weeks, you will receive more details about these services. We want to get these dates, locations, and times in front of you so that you can begin planning.

November 29th Convergent style worship, in King Hall	9 am and 11 am
December 6th <i>Lessons and Carols</i> , Classic style worship, in the Sanctuary	9 am, 11 am, and 5:30 pm
December 13th Convergent style worship, in King Hall	9 am and 11 am
December 20th Classic style in the Sanctuary	5:30 pm <u>Saturday</u> , 9 am and 11 am on Sunday
December 24th Candlelight Service: Convergent style in King Hall	4 pm
Candlelight Service: Classic style in King Hall	6 pm

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 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM WILL BE CELEBRATED DURING OUR 11AM SERVICE IN KING HALL TODAY – We welcome this morning, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas (Jordan) Orr, as they present their son Eldon to be marked with this sign of the covenant.

2021 COMMITMENT CARDS – Thank you to everyone who has turned in your pledge cards for 2021. We have received 77 cards with a total pledge of \$962,992.00. If you did not have a chance to turn in your 2021 Pledge Card last Sunday, we will have a designated drop box at the back of King Hall. Ushers will also have extra Pledge Cards/Envelopes. You may place these in the offering baskets or mail/drop them off at the church office. Please contact Lisa at 706-291-6033 if you need a card or have any questions.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES – Over 270 boxes were collected to share the Gospel of Christ and to spread JOY this Christmas season, because of your love and generosity. Thank-You!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING OF OUR CHURCH – *As good stewards of the manifold grace of God, each of you should use whatever gift he has received to serve one Another, 1 Peter 4:10* – Ladies, Come help decorate the church for Christmas. On Tuesday, December 1, we will finish decorating in the Sanctuary. **As with our other church gatherings, we will be practicing social distancing and wearing masks when we cannot be 6 feet apart.** Please contact Virginia Saunders at 205-914-4034 if you are willing to help.

COFFEE HOSPITALITY MINISTRY – Our hosts and hostesses are lovingly offering 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.

MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH & WISDOM: GUIDELINES FOR GATHERING – Check these out on our website.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES – Take advantage of a great opportunity! Give \$35.00 for each Christmas box that you and your family donate to a needy family to brighten their Christmas. Please make your check payable to FPC and note “food box” in the lower left hand corner or give online at fpcrome.org and select the “Christmas Box” fund.

- Trucks will be unloaded for the boxes on Saturday, December 19 at 9:00 am-1:00 pm. *We will be practicing Safe Gathering procedures by wearing masks during this time.*
- Boxes will be packed at the following times:
 - Saturday, December 19 at 3:00 pm-5:00 pm
 - Sunday, December 20 at 10:00 am-12:00 noon
 - Sunday, December 20 at 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
 - Sunday, December 20 at 4:00 pm-6:00 pm*We will be packing boxes in smaller groups of folks this year so that we can practice social distancing.*
- Boxes will be picked up on Monday, December 23 at 7:00 am-12:00 pm. *We will be practicing Safe Gathering procedures by wearing masks during this time.*

We are asking volunteers to sign up to help pack boxes at one of the 4 times available on Saturday and Sunday to allow for social distancing. Each group will have no more than 50 volunteers. Please call the church office to sign up at 706-291-6033.

CHRIST & CULTURE FORUM: JANUARY 2021 – How do we think rightly in times of chaos?

When: Every Wednesday in January 2021 at 6:00 PM

Where: King Hall + Facebook Live

2020 has arguably thrown us more curveballs and upended our lives than any year in our lifetimes. Between the pandemic, protests, riots, a presidential election, and economic disruption our culture has seemed to feed on this chaos to grow division and strife. Both Christians and unbelievers have found themselves gripped with fear, engulfed in suffering, and contemplating injustice. What should the response of the church be for the year 2021? Join us in the discussion as we search the scriptures to determine how we should think rightly about all these issues and more. More details and speaker line-up can be found on the church website. Please contact John Goodrich (jhgoodr@gmail.com) with 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.

ADVENT BEGINS SUNDAY TODAY, NOVEMBER 29 –

Why is talking about Advent is important for our kids? Because, just like us adults, they need reminders. Christmas is supposed to be full of Happiness, Joyfulness, Peacefulness, Kindness and Giving. If you talk about the preparation and read an advent for your child each day or night, you will be guarding your hearts from burnout, comparison, fear, pride and replacing the tangle with happy expectation – love – joy. Joy as a family.

One way that the Children’s Ministries has found to help your family prepare for the coming of Jesus is to provide you with few advent resources. We pray that this year’s choice can help you and your family!

We will have a “miracle in a manger bag” for each child on the tables outside King Hall and Sanctuary. Please get yours and please let us know how can we serve you better this Advent season.

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/>.