

Ministry Updates

WORSHIP

WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 & 20, 2020: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, three separate worship services will be offered online and onsite at the church on Saturday (12/19) at 5:30 pm, Sunday (12/20) 9:00 am, and 11:00 am. All three services will be in the Sanctuary. (In anticipation of larger attendance, we will have overflow seating on Sunday available in the Crossing—the Christmas Food Boxes will be set up in the Christian Life Center, so we cannot use those areas for overflow. Thank you for your patience!)

Dr. Jonathan Schwartz will be preaching, using Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8 as his text.

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.

ADVENT SERVICES –

December 19 & 20 th Classic style in the Sanctuary	5:30 pm <u>Saturday</u> , 9 am and 11 am on Sunday
December 24 th Candlelight Service: Convergent style in King Hall	4 pm
Candlelight Service: Classic style in King Hall	6 pm

VISITOR WELCOME – Thank you for worshipping with us today. Whether you are worshipping 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 Miss Isabella Anne Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brant (Ashley) Evans, born on November 24, 2020, adopted by Brant and Ashley on December 13.

CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25 for the Christmas Holiday. We will reopen on Monday, December 28.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION – After packing the food boxes throughout the weekend, we need folks to help us distribute the boxes tomorrow morning, December 21 at 7:00am – 12:00pm. As each box is distributed to a family in need, we offer prayer for them, being sure they know they are loved by God and by the folks at FPC. *We will be practicing Safe Gathering procedures by wearing masks during this time.*

LADIES, HELP US UNDECORATE THE CHURCH on Tuesday, December 29 at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please contact Virginia Saunders at 205-914-4034.

CARING FOR OTHERS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – Welcome to our newest members who joined the church on December 13: Mr. Clay Barnett, Mrs. Stacey Pardue, Ms. Lynn Beaver, and Mr. and Mrs. Garrett (Kattera) Cochran

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/>.

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

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

2021 COMMITMENT CARDS – Thank you to everyone who has turned in your pledge cards for 2021. We have received 117 cards with a total pledge of \$1,261,676.00. If you haven't turned in your 2021 Pledge Card, 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.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES – are now available. They will be in the hallway outside the church office until the December 23 and will then be moved to King Hall. Thank you for using them! They help with processing your contribution. If you can't locate your envelopes, please contact Lisa at 706-291-6033 ext. 112 and she will be glad to help you!

2020 CONTRIBUTIONS – The final day to bring your 2020 contributions to the church office will be Thursday, December 31 at 2:00 pm. Mailed contributions must be postmarked by December 31 in order to be included on your 2020 statement. If you have any questions regarding your 2019 contributions, please call Lisa at 706-291-6033 ext. 112.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY GATHERINGS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY GATHERINGS RESUME ON JANUARY 6 with a church family meal at 5:30, followed by teaching opportunities and activities for all age groups. See the announcement below for information about our special 4-week "Christ and Culture Forum" (6:00-7:30 pm) for all adults. Start the new year off well and join us!

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.

NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES – As we are making our plans to start 2021's programs, we need your help. Are you willing to volunteer for Children's Ministry Sunday School and/or the Wednesday Night program? If so, please contact Mrs. Andrea at the church office.