



The Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

April 23, 2025

About five years ago, Lifeway Research did a study of VBS and kids ministry that revealed some interesting statistics. They discovered that:

- 6 out of every 10 adults they surveyed had attended VBS as a child
- 9 out of every 10 adults who attended VBS as a child say they had positive memories of it
- 9 out of every 10 of those adults also say that VBS helped them better understand the Bible and influenced their spiritual growth
- It's estimated that more than 25,000 churches will hold VBS in the summer and those VBS events will reach more than 2.5 million people
- More than half of the families with a child who attends VBS don't have a regular church home
- 69% of parents said they would encourage their child to go to VBS at a church they don't attend if that child were personally invited by a friend

To those important statistics, add these findings from Barna research:

- 43% of Americans who commit to Christ do so before the age of 13
- 64% of Americans who commit to Christ do so before their 18th birthday

Children matter to Jesus – and kids are capable of making life-long commitments to Jesus. The church has an important role to play in encouraging kids to trust Jesus and grow in their faith. VBS is one of the key ways we feel we can live into the vision to make disciples. I hope that you are considering how YOU can help as we prepare to bring VBS back to FPC. Here are three key things ALL OF US can do:

#1 – PRAY

- Pray that Jesus will be faithfully proclaimed at VBS
- Pray that God will make Himself known to kids and families
- Pray that the word will spread and kids will come to VBS
- Pray that we will have a wide reach and that families would get to know FPC better through VBS

#2 – HELP

- We still need volunteers to help before, after and during VBS – there are spots for everyone
- Even if you have told someone on the kids ministry team that you can help, please go ahead and sign up by visiting: <https://forms.fillout.com/t/posxoxPC7sus>

#3 – INVITE

- REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
You can sign a kid up to attend VBS by going to: <https://forms.fillout.com/t/61bPBAUZWdus>
- Please invite your grands, extended family members and neighborhood children to join us. We need ALL OF US to make personal invitations – this is what makes the difference!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

JUNE 2-6

6-8:15 p.m.



FREDERICKSBURG
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trail Mix Starts Thursday, April 24 at 6:00 pm

Are you ready for some fresh air, friends and fellowship?

The Outreach Team invites you to join us for "Trail Mix", a time to get together as a church family and community at the Holmes County Trail in Fredericksburg. All ages and ability levels are welcome, and please invite your friends and neighbors! The plan is to meet Thursdays at

6:00 pm. Park in the FPC parking lot and we will walk Diagonal Street to the trail from there. If you'd like to park closer to the trail, Tanya Chupp has offered that you can park at her house at 1851 Pilgrim's Trace (in the new subdivision right by the trail). She has also offered refreshments and a restroom if needed! Feel free to stop by her house for some goodies (see the menu below). Thanks Tanya! If it's raining, use your discretion--unless it's raining really hard, the leader will likely go rain or shine once the weather warms up. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at 330-464-4723 or email trailmixfpc@gmail.com.



CHANGES TO THE CHURCH FACEBOOK ACCOUNT

Facebook recently announced that it would no longer keep videos more than 30 days. So, if you go looking for a worship service that is more than 30 days past, you won't find it. This is a Facebook decision, and not our choice. You can, however, find all sermons on our website <https://fredericksburgpres.org/>



Ladies First Friday for May will be May 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Snacks provided. **Bring a cut flower as we will make a bouquet. Our subject is talking about how April showers (trials) can become May flowers (blessings)!**



Trustee Work Day

May 3 @ 8:00 a.m.

Bring gloves, rags, buckets, shovels, rakes, & a water bottle.

We will provide lunch. Rain Date May 10.



The Outreach Team is partnering with the Park Committee, Fredericksburg Church of Christ, and students in Waynedale's National Honor Society for a park clean-up on **April 26 from 10-2**. If you are able to attend, please bring tools like rakes, weed eaters, shovels, hedge trimmers and gloves. The Outreach Team will provide a light lunch for the volunteers. Talk to Michelle Wood, Connie Herman or Jenny Reed for additional information.

DECORATING ITEMS NEEDED FOR VBS

VBS is only a few weeks away and the VBS volunteers are planning out the decorations they need for the week of June 2-6. The theme is "True North - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World" The items needed all have to do with camping and the wilderness. Below is a list of needed items. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Gallery. Remember to label your items. Bring them to church by May 18 and store in the pre-school room. If you are unable to get to church to sign up, call or email the church and we'll get you signed up.

Items needed

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Small tents (4) | Camping backpacks (2) |
| Sleeping bags (4) | Portable fire pit (2) |
| Kayak (1) | Paddles (4) |
| Coolers (3) | Camp chairs (4) |
| Coleman Stove (2) | Picnic Basket (2) |
| Walking Sticks (2) | Logs (4) |
| Camp cooking Supplies (4) | |
| Medium Round Stones (2) | |
| Stumps (4) | |
| Pencil Trees (4) | |
| Narrow Christmas Trees (4) | |
| Large Cardboard (2) | |

The Children's Ministry Team has a special request for our church family.

We are asking you to join with us in praying for the kids of the church and for growth and blessing in kids ministry. We are eager to see more children and families connect with our programming for kids; but as we work toward that goal, we are asking all of you to join us in prayer. We know that God is the one who can help us reach more children and so we want to be asking Him to be at work in these things. Each week in the weekly update we will be sharing a simple prayer prompt for each day of the month and it will be connected with a Bible reference that the prayer is based on. We encourage you to pray with us but lifting up the children in your life, or by praying a general blessing on the children of our community. Your commitment to join us in praying for these things is a blessing to us and makes a difference! Thank you!

Praying for Kids – April 23 – April 30

April 23 – Colossians 1:11-12

I pray that you will strengthen these children with all your glorious power so they will have all the endurance and patience they need. May they be filled with joy, always thanking you, Father. You have enabled us to share in the inheritance that belongs to your people, who live in the light.

April 24 - Romans 16:25-27

Now all glory to you, God, who are able to make kids strong, just as the Good News says. This message about Jesus Christ has revealed his plan for all these children, a plan you've held from the beginning of time. But now make this message known to children everywhere, so that they too might believe and obey you. All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen.

April 25 – 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

I thank you, God, for our children's ministry team, and pray for them constantly. As I pray to you about them, I think of their faithful work, their loving deeds, and the enduring hope they have been because of you, Jesus.

April 26 - 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now, God of peace, make children holy in every way. May their whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God, make this happen, for you have called me to reach children, and you are faithful."

April 27 – 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

So I keep on praying for these children, asking you to enable them to live a life worthy of your call. Give them the power to accomplish all the good things their faith prompts them to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way they live, and they will be honored along with you. This is all made possible because of your grace, and because of Jesus Christ.

April 28 – Philemon 1:4-5

I always thank God when I pray for _____, because I keep hearing about his/her faith in the Lord Jesus and his/her love for all of God's people.

April 29 - Philemon 1:6

And I am praying that children will put into action the generosity that comes from faith as they understand and experience all the good things we have in you, Jesus.

FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

MARCH 2025 FINANCIALS

YTD Operating Income \$53,392.60

YTD Operating Expense \$54,516.82

YTD Operating Gain/Loss -\$ 1124.22

YTD Other Income -\$1782.55

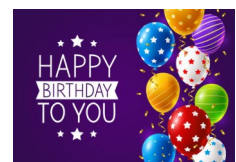
YTD Net Income -\$7201.47

Unrestricted Funds \$244,084.04

Happy Birthday

April 29 - Owen Walton

April 30 - Fritz Nichols





Scan the code to sign
up to help at VBS

VOLUNTEERS FOR April 27

Greeters	Wendy McKelvey Tanya Chupp
Ushers	Reid & Shawn McKelvey
Café	Wendy McKelvey
Nursery (Worship)	Veronica Styer
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Vickie Rhamy
Kidz Jam	Bridget Rhamy
Kids 2nd Hour	Bridget Rhamy
Elder Assist	Beth Miller
Safety Team	Tom Machamer

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

Praises

- **The Resurrection!**
- **Maundy Thursday & Easter Sunday worship**

Military Service:

- Isaiah Styer in Hawaii
- Hunter Amolotte deployed to southern border
- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Steven King - Army
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Arizona
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

- Victims of recent natural disasters
- Unspoken
- Triway students Ava, Annette and Viv injured in car accident

Health Concerns

- **Melodie Stroud - knee surgery April 29**
- Mark Lemon - prayers for progress
- Tonya Wade - upcoming surgery
- Zach Stevenson's stepfather
- Tim - Alzheimer's disease
- Pat Thomson
- Pastor Albert continued healing from accident
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- Janet Lee
- Diane Scott
- Susan Halliday
- Janet Lee
- Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Keylee - leukemia
- Dale James

Condolences

- **The family of Dr. Karen Asher**
- The family of Dolly Mann
- The family of Gary Edington

The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.