



The Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian
Church
August 7, 2024

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Huge "Thank you!" to all of you who participated in Friendship Sunday last week; and a special "Thank you" to our Congregational Life team who prepped for the morning. It was a blessing to see so many of us gathered, enjoying each other's company, eating good food and celebrating the gift of friendship together.

God's word teaches us that friends are VALUABLE! They matter in our lives; so here are some experiments you could do to grow in friendship. Pick one or two over the coming weeks and invest in your friendships!

Friendship experiments:

1. Light a candle and sit quietly (put your phone on silent). Ask God to be with you and turn your attention to Him. As you sit in the silence spend time thinking about what it means that God has called you His friend and that He wants to be with you. If your mind wanders, bring it back to the idea that God has called you His friend. Prayerfully think through the implications and significance of that statement. Spend at least 15 minutes with God this way. When you blow out the candle, thank God for being with you.
2. Sit down for at least 20 minutes in quiet and make a list of the friends you have in your life. Pray about your attitude toward friendship and ask God to begin to reveal to you the true nature of your friendships.
3. Bake or make something for a friend and drop it off at their house. Tell them that you love them and that you appreciate their friendship.
4. Do a surprise act of service for a friend – figure out something they need and do it!
5. Pick a real-life mess in your house or in the community and clean it. While you do, pray about your own need for empathy in other people's messes; and your need for others to be patient with your messes.
6. Consider sharing a struggle with one of your friends. Challenge your friend to ask you questions that will help you think well about your struggle or concern. Ask them to pray for AND WITH you.
7. Set aside some intentional time this week to spend with a friend or two. Put the phones away, eliminate distractions and just BE with your friend(s)!
8. Commit to praying for 2 or 3 friends every day this week. Pray specifically for who they are that the needs they may have in their lives.
9. Reach out to someone who maybe isn't in your friend group or a friend you haven't spoken to in a while and tell them why you are thankful for them
10. Practice listening. Talk to someone this week and concentrate on HEARING them instead of figuring out what to say. What kinds of things might you notice when you try to LISTEN more?
11. WRITE A LETTER TO A FRIEND! Make it long. Share about your life, and your thoughts and feelings and put it in the actual mail to them!

Our Church Windows



The story behind our windows here is an interesting one and certainly quite unusual. Each one represents a symbol used by churches through the centuries. Come and listen as

Pat Thomson shares the story of our windows, August 11 following worship.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

August 18

All students regardless of age or grade - including college, adult classes, and vocational education are invited to bring their backpack/ bookbag or briefcase, etc. to worship Sunday morning August 18 for a blessing of the backpacks and the new school year. Anyone attending or working in the schools this fall are invited to participate



This is a great time of food, fellowship and fun!

At the village park.

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, August 18 following the worship service.

We will have a corn hole tournament so get your team together.
A sign up sheet is in the Gallery.

Bring your lawn chairs, and a dish to share. The meat, beverages and paper products will be provided

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

Praises

- **Friendship Sunday**
- **VBS Family night**
- **The much needed rain**
- **Al Amstutz surgery successful**

Military Service:

- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer - stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

- Our country
- Jeann & Larry's granddaughter on Africa trip
- Church camp staff and campers
- Unspokens
- Israel

Health Concerns:

- **Al Amstutz - recovering from lung surgery**
- **Veronica's mom - MRI on Aug 13**
- Corky Fisher - heart and other health issues
- Mary Lee Wiricks's brother, John, complications following surgery.
- Edna Wade's daughter-in-law
- Pastor Albert - infection following last surgery
- Dave Crosby - COPD
- Bill Crosby - COPD
- Kim Crosby - arm issues
- Karen - Parkinson's & broken hip
- Tom - Dementia
- Wendy Scott - severe health concerns
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- **Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo**
- David Meulenberg
- Karen Flowers - lung cancer
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- David
- Keylee - leukemia
- Dale James

Condolences

- **The family of Stacy Wellman**

The Deacons encourage you to send cards or



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

August 9 - Shirley & Adam Swinehart
August 14 - Candi & Jim Kinney



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

August 9 - Joyce Rhamy
August 10 - Steve Schlegel
August 11 - Beth Reed
August 13 - Shad Swinehart

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

- August 8 - 6:00 p.m. Emmaus 4th Day Gathering
- August 11 - Sunday morning worship
- August 11 - Stained Glass Windows (following worship)
- August 14 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- August 14 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- August 14 - 6:30 p.m. Trustees
- August 18 - Sunday morning worship
- August 18 - Blessing of the Backpacks
- August 18 - Annual church picnic following worship
- August 21 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- August 21 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- August 25 - Sunday morning worship
- August 26 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- August 27 - 7:30 p.m. The Grind (Men)
- August 28 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- August 28 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team

To contact the church:

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Follow us on Facebook too!

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Church office hours

Monday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3 p.m.

PRAYER FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Please note: This is a parent-planned event from a Waynedale mom—not a church or school event. You're invited!! August will not only kickoff our '24-'25 school year, but also new beginnings amongst new friends, in a brand new building. (I am a Waynedale) mama of three, all of whom will walk these halls), I invite you to join in on an evening of prayer to start this new chapter. I'd like to meet within the Waynedale parking lot Sunday, August 11th, between 7:00p-8:00p to pray over our students, faculty and new building. You may pray amongst yourselves or request a neighbor to join hands with. #GoBears

A Big Thank You to everyone who made Friendship Sunday and VBS Family Night a success. Everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed the games, snacks, stories and crafts (VBS). Thank you all for working together to make it such a pleasurable experience for all. We have some photos to share with you!

