



# *The Weekly Update*

## *Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church*

### *February 5, 2025*

#### **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

When I worked as a print news reporter we would have a critical meeting every morning. It was the same in each newsroom: we'd gather at a conference table, with our coffee and our notebooks, ready listen to others and to share what stories we were developing. Each morning, the team worked together – reporters, editors, publishers, all of us - to set a vision for what the paper was going to look like when it went to the press that night. We discussed what was most important, what needed more attention and what we knew that could help others before we started that day's work.

Often, things changed. New stories would break, events would surprise us, additional information would be discovered, and we would adjust. But still these meetings (in old school print journalism-speak they are called “budget meetings” because you have a limited amount of space to “budget” to stories in a newspaper) were essential for outlining the work of the day and for shaping the intention of the whole group.

I think the same kind of thing is helpful for a church! This Sunday we are going to have a meeting following the worship service where we will spend a bit of time talking about what's happening at FPC.

First, we'll talk about events to celebrate from 2024. (spoiler alert – it was a great year!) We'll receive our annual report with information from different ministry areas and an overview of how God has blessed us in the year that has passed.

But most of our time we'll spend looking forward! We'll discuss what's most important, we'll see what our leadership is sensing and discerning for the next season of church life and we'll catch a vision for how we can ALL contribute to the work of being God's disciples here in Fredericksburg!

Just like at a newspaper, we don't know how the day may turn out; we may have new opportunities and new challenges to face in 2025. But it is still incredibly beneficial to look forward with enthusiasm to how we see God moving among us and what we hope to reach for in the coming year.

I want to encourage you to attend this meeting and to share in the vision and excitement for FPC in 2025. Let's outline the work of the day – what is God calling us to be and to do in the coming year. I believe that God has some amazing things in store for us as we look forward to His leading and His guiding.

My confidence doesn't just come from how awesome I know this church is (I know this church is great!) but my confidence comes from God – who calls us to go and make disciples, to be His ambassadors in the world – and has promised to equip and meet us as we seek to live faithfully as a church pursuing faith in Him!

See you Sunday!

Polish your dancin' shoes and get ready for another ballroom dance session. We held one several years ago and everyone had a great time. Mark your calendars for March 1st from 7-9 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Light refreshments will be served. It will involve a basic group instruction. A sign up sheet will be in the entry to give us an idea of numbers for setting up the refreshments. All are welcome - even if you don't want to dance, come join the fun and fellowship! **There is a sign up sheet on the table in the Gallery. This helps us with refreshment prep.**

## LEARNING MORE

Are you interested in learning more about Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church? Ever wanted to know what ECO stands for or what it means to be Presbyterian? We are looking to hold a potential new members session in February for those who want to discover more about the church and might want to take the next steps of becoming a covenant partner at FPC. If you would like to hear about this opportunity, please talk to Pastor Jos (314-749-1315, [jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org](mailto:jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org)) and she'll give you additional information!

## February Calendar

February 7 6:30 p.m. First Friday (Women)  
 February 9 Sunday morning worship (NO 2nd Hour today)  
 February 9 following worship - 2024 recap and 2025 Vision  
 February 12 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)  
 February 12 6:45 p.m. Music Team  
 February 15 Outreach Team set-up in FH  
 February 16 Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour  
 February 16 Packing boxes for OHuddle w/Outreach Team  
 February 18 7:00 p.m. Finance Team Meeting  
 February 19 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)  
 February 19 6:00 p.m. Emmaus 4th Day  
 February 19 6:45 Music team  
 February 22 Library Soup Supper in Fellowship Hall  
 February 23 Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour  
 February 25 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting  
 February 25 7:30 p.m. The Grind (Men)  
 February 26 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)  
 February 26 6:45 p.m. Music Team

# PRAYER

**Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.**  
 The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

### Military Service:

- Hunter Amolotte (USMC) being deployed to southern border
- Isaiah Styer flying home Feb 3, 1 week to pack and process for assignment in Hawaii.
- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Steven King - Army
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Arizona
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

### Prayer Needs

- Southern California

### Health Concerns

- Steve Moffitt upper respiratory illness
- Zach's stepfather - recovering from a stroke
- Genevieve's teacher's surgery
- Katie Gehring - (infant) she is home, long health journey ahead.
- Roger Stroud - continued healing, less pain
- Pat Thomson - continued recovery
- Edna's daughter in law, Tonya
- Pastor Albert continued healing from accident
- Jane Heilman

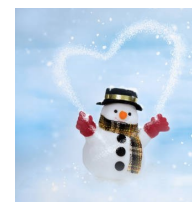
### Battling Cancer

- 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 Jaret Luzier

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



**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 – February 5 – February 11

### **February 5 - Ephesians 1:22-23**

*God, I praise you because you have put all things under the authority of Christ and made him head over all things for the benefit of the church, including our children's ministry. Our group of children is your body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.*

### **February 6 - Ephesians 3:14-16**

*When I think of what Christ has done to unite us, and what he has called me to in ministry, I fall to my knees and pray to you, Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from your glorious, unlimited resources you will empower me with inner strength through your Spirit, to teach your children with excellence.*

### **February 7 - Ephesians 3:17**

Jesus, make your home in children's hearts as they trust in you. Give them roots that grow down into God's love and keep them strong.

### **February 8 - Ephesians 3:18**

*May children have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.*

### **February 9 - Ephesians 3:19**

*May children experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then may they be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from you, God.*

### **February 10 - Ephesians 3:20-21**

*Now all glory to you, God. You are able, through your mighty power at work within our children's ministry team, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to you in our children's ministry and in Christ Jesus through this generation we lead, and all generations forever and ever! Amen.*

### **February 11 - Ephesians 6:19-20**

*And God, I pray for myself. Give me the right words so I can boldly explain your mysterious plan that the Good News is for children and grown-ups alike. No matter what happens, I pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for you, as I should.*

This Sunday, February 9, plan to stay after worship and hear a recap of ministry from 2024, and what to look forward to in 2025.



Ladies First Friday is at 6:30 p.m. This Friday, February 7 at the church. The topic is "Loving Each Other." Snacks are provided.

## Happy Birthday

February 7 Kaylee Parrot  
February 10 Darcy Miller  
February 10 Holly Daugherty  
February 12 Barry Henderson



## ACCESSING THE CHURCH DIRECTORY APP

Mary Ann Henderson will be available after the worship service on February 16 in the café to help anyone who may need to troubleshoot or access the online church directory app. If you've been having problems with the app, or if you would like to know more, you can stop by that morning and Mary Ann will be happy to help!

## OUTREACH TEAM and OHUDDLE

Let's show God's love to our local students by providing items for use with the OHuddle program. Please drop off items for hygiene kits, snacks, drinks, crafts, games, and clothing (hoodies, t-shirts, leggings, sweats-clean/gently used) to the church lobby collection box by Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. (See sign-up sheet in lobby for specifics.) Then join us Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> following 2nd Hour to compile the kits and pack items for delivery.

## VOLUNTEERS FOR FEBRUARY 9

**Greeters** Jim & Candi Kinney  
Bridget Rhamy  
**Ushers** Cody Daugherty & Scott Schlauch  
**Café** Shirley Swinehart  
**Nursery (Worship)** Connie Herman  
**Nursery (2nd Hour)** Wendy McKelvey  
**Kidz Jam** Delores Schlegel  
**Kids 2nd Hour** Delores Schlegel  
**Elder Assist** Steve Schlegel  
**Safety Team** Duane Wood

Questions or concerns or just curious about something within the church? You are invited to reach out to our Church Elders:

Angie Chapman 330-465-0963  
Beth Miller 513-319-6447  
Darcy Miller 330-440-4155  
Earl Rhamy 330-988-4285  
Mike Rhamy 330-464-0961  
Steve Schlegel 330-317-3898  
John Scott 330-466-0226  
Adam Swinehart 330-641-1575  
Claudia Ward 330-466-3417



## GROUNDHOG'S DAY TRIVIA True or False

1. In the movie Groundhog Day, the celebration was filmed in Punxsutawney, PA.
2. Staten Island Chuck is a more accurate forecaster than Punxsutawney Phil.
3. Groundhogs can live ten years in captivity.
4. If the groundhog sees his shadow on this day, it means an early spring.
5. The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club was a group of groundhog preservationists hoping to spread awareness to keep the groundhog from going extinct.
6. Before having his name changed to Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog was called Br'er Groundhog.
7. Punxsutawney Phil has a wife named Phyllis.
8. The most famous Canadian groundhog is Ontario Ollie.
9. Groundhogs are one of the few animals who truly hibernate.
10. Punxsutawney Phil's full name is Punxsutawney Phillip.

Answers next week!