



The Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

February 19, 2025

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

As you know, several weeks ago a handful of us attended the ECO National Gathering in Dallas. We experienced some great encouragement, connection and training. Following that meeting, I wanted to offer a few things for you to think about as well as some ways you could get a sense of what that week was like!

1. We're so blessed that ECO records and shares the videos of the main session speakers every year! You can listen to the same great material we got to experience in person. If you click here <https://www.econationalgathering.org/PastGatherings/2025> you can choose to watch any of the primary speakers from the conference. But if you only have time for one, or if you are looking for a good place to start, try listening to Derwin Gray's presentation- <https://vimeo.com/1053984721> We want to encourage you to click around, listen to some of the speakers and get a flavor for what ECO is passionate about!
2. One of the best ways you can learn more about ECO or the National Gathering is to talk to folks who attended the event this year (or even in previous years!). We have a lot to share about what we experienced and how we sense God moving following the event. We'd love to grab coffee or a meal with you and tell you all about it.
3. If you have never spent time clicking around ECO's website, I recommend taking a look. ECO has tons of resources and they are available at <https://eco-pres.org/>. You can even visit the ECO theology page and see past publications that the team (of which I am a part) has worked on over the past years. If you have any thoughts or questions – shoot me an email – I love to talk about why I love ECO and I think it's a great denominational home for us.
4. ECO's vision is to build flourishing churches who make disciples. That's the kind of church we want to be! ECO encourages its pastors, congregations and presbyteries to be serious about proclaiming the good news of Jesus. We share a vision for disciple-making with hundreds of other churches across the country, and that's a very encouraging thing.
5. Next year's National Gathering will be held in Atlanta, February 2-5, 2026. Anyone is welcome to attend - you can always join in the fun! When we know more about the cost and registration for next year's gathering, we will share it with all of you. Consider saving the date for that meeting and coming along – the more the merrier!

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!

February/March Calendar

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
 March 1 7:00 p.m. Ballroom dancing
 March 2 Sunday morning worship & 2nd Hour
 March 5 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
 March 5 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
 March 6 6:45 p.m. Music Team (tentative date at this time)
 March 7 6:30 p.m. First Friday (Women)
 March 8 **Move Your Clocks Ahead Tonight!!**
 March 9 Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour
 March 12 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
 March 12 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting
 March 12 6:45 p.m. Music Team



The church's Ash Wednesday Service, the beginning of Lent, is planned for Wednesday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. We hope you will

join us

PRAYER

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

Praises

- **Waldo - who has been battling cancer is tolerating his 3-week maintenance dose of chemo, and planning a trip to Florida.**
- **The Mandarin Baptist Church in LA says fires are contained and they are doing well.**

Military Service:

- Hunter Amolotte 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

- **Victims of recent natural disasters**

Health Concerns

- Zach's stepfather - recovering from a stroke
- Genevieve's teacher's surgery
- Pat Thomson - continued recovery
- 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 Curt Raber
- The family of Kodi Brenner

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 19 – February 25

February 19 - Colossians 1:6

This same Good News that we teach in children's ministry is going out all over the world. I pray for those ministries, that they may bear fruit by changing lives, just as it changed my life from the day I first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace.

February 20 – Colossians 1:7-8

The children at our church are learning about the Good News from me and _____, my beloved co-workers. We are your faithful servants, and we have seen the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given my kids.

February 21 – Colossians 1:9

I will not stop praying for these children from the moment I meet them. I ask, God, that you give them a complete knowledge of your will and give them spiritual wisdom and understanding.

February 22 – Colossians 1:10

May the way children live always honor and please you, Lord, and may their lives produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, may they grow as they learn to know you better and better.

February 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.

February 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.

February 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.

Happy Birthday

February 26 Genevieve Miller



February 24 Claudia & Jim Ward

VOLUNTEERS FOR FEBRUARY 9

Greeters	Jay & Val Haver Shirley Swinehart
Ushers	Brent St. John & Keith Hewitt
Café	Connie Herman
Nursery (Worship)	Kim Morrow
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Vickie Rhamy
Kidz Jam	Beth Miller
Kids 2nd Hour	Beth Miller
Elder Assist	Beth Miller
Safety Team	Gary Graham

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



It's time to order Easter Flowers - The flowers come from Buchwalter's Greenhouse (as they have for many years). The order form is located on the sign-up table in the gallery. The choices are:

- Easter lilies (6" pot)
- Hyacinths, Tulips, and Daffodils
- Pansy market basket
- Hanging fern basket
- "Bulb Garden" which is a mix of tulips, daffodils and pansies.

Details are on the table with the order form. Be sure to list who the flower is in honor or memory of. And please include payment with your order. Final day to order is March 15. The flowers will be displayed Easter morning, and you can take your flowers home with you following the Easter morning service.

I know this is really early, but Buchwalter's say they cannot guarantee selections after March 15. Ordering this early will get you the type & color you want.

-Secretary Jeann

Our Newest Deacon

Jenny Reed was Ordained as our newest Deacon on January 5, 2025. Jenny is elected to the 3-year spot vacated by Debbie Hewitt who served 2 terms as Deacon. We are blessed to have Jenny joining our Team of dedicated Deacons who care for our congregation.



Jenny Reed

Free Day Fun

A day at the spa

Overseas Vacay

Italy (or a European tour)

Something Interesting

I'm a "crime junkie" (podcasts and/or documentaries)!

Favorites

FOOD: Cheesecake

COLOR: Blue

BIBLE CHARACTER: Sarah/Ruth

SPORTS TEAM TO FOLLOW: Ohio State Buckeyes, Massillon Tigers, Pittsburgh Steelers

Hobbies

Collecting candles, flower gardening

Quick Hits

Baseball or Football

Mountains or Beach

Mexican Food or Chinese Food

Chocolate or Vanilla

Late Nights or Early Mornings