



At Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church we are becoming a community that cultivates faith and faithfulness to Christ.

That's our vision – that we would become a church where we are working to nurture the growth God wants to do in us and in our community. But HOW are we going to do that? To help us grow we have identified FIVE BASIC activities that will cultivate growth, and our hope is that every meaningfully connected FPCer will pursue at least one basic strategy for growth! For the next five weeks in our weekly update, I'll be asking some of our fellow congregation members about how they experience a different one of these basics!

This past Sunday we discussed our first strategy: WORSHIP. We think that we experience growth when we commit to worship regularly. I asked Claudia Ward to have a chat with me about how worship has helped her experience God and how she has grown in her habits of worship. Among lots of other things, Claudia is an elder at FPC, she leads a Tuesday night Bible study and serves on the music team. Here are some paraphrased tidbits of our conversation together.

Me: There's lots for us to talk about when it comes to worship, but how about we start here: how has your experience of worship changed as you've grown in faith?

Claudia: It's changed so much. I used to think that worship was just Sunday mornings or going to a concert; I was thinking that you had to be moved by a performance to experience worship. But I've learned it's much more about being a part of worship that matters, not just watching it. Playing the flute has been really powerful for me to get to express worship through music.

Me: What does worship look like for you these days?

Claudia: So many things can be worship – just getting outside in nature, working in the flower beds. I see the colors and the flowers, the insects and bugs and look up at the sky and the clouds and how amazing it is, and I'm really drawn into the sense that God is there in the created world, that He is with me everywhere. You know, this study we've been doing in Seasons over the past year or so (Claudia leads the Seasons Bible study group) has really helped me learn more about who God is, His attributes and characteristics, even just the fact that He is with us all the time. I can worship God when I'm in the kitchen just doing dishes – He is there with me.

Me: Do you think people ever struggle to worship when they are in a dry spot with their faith or trust in God?

Claudia: For sure. I do. It can be different when things are hard. Ken told me once that you can't always go by what you feel, sometimes you have to just do it (worship) and your heart will catch up. I've learned it can be hard to go through the steps of worship when you don't feel anything; but it's still good to go by faith.

Pastor Jos

Scholarships for 2027 ECO National Gathering

Because we believe it would be beneficial for our church and our mission to cultivate faith and faithfulness, Session has set aside money from a recent donation to help members of our FPC family be able to attend the 2027 ECO National Gathering. Any FPC Covenant Partner or regular attendee can request financial support to be used toward registration, travel and/or lodging at the Gathering. Individuals or couples are invited to request whatever amount (up to \$750) would actually help them be able to attend.

We especially want to support two kinds of folks: those who have never been to a National Gathering and those for whom cost would otherwise keep them from going. Maybe you've never considered going to the Gathering before, or maybe you didn't even know it was a possibility; either way, perhaps this is the nudge you might need to consider it.

The National Gathering happens every year, but this financial gift is only currently available for this year's event; so now is the time to come along and see why we all love the Gathering so much. Requests are due back to the church office by October 15 – that way people can take advantage of the early bird pricing. You can find the Request for Support from here or in the church office; and please reach out to me directly with any questions.

Calling All Creatives

This Advent, FPC's theme is Jesus, the Light of the World, and we want your help celebrating! Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" - John 8:12

We'd love to display your art, crafts, or designs around the church this Advent season — new or old, original or repurposed, painted, sewn, built, or doodled. If you've made something (or want an excuse to), this is your glowing invitation.

We'll collect pieces to display through Advent and return them after Christmas. So get those creative juices flowing now and we'll let you know more as Advent approaches!

Prayer Request Mailing List

Did you know we have a prayer list that receives urgent prayer requests? If you would like to join the distribution list, request to be added by emailing Holly.

For Your Prayers

Military Service We have 7 young men & women serving in the Armed Forces. Please keep Abraham, Isaiah, Shannah, Christa, Steven, Ryan and Gaven in your prayers.	Prayer Needs - Our military troops - Our country - Unspoken	Battling Cancer - Tiana's friend's mom - Cody's boss, John - Miriam's coworker's family member - Mike Sherrick - Chad Hinkle - leukemia - Tom Jefferies - thyroid cancer - Nelson's neighbor, Vickie - Nicki - Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma - Rick Spencer - Hospice following a major stroke
Condolences - The family of Corky's niece, Debbie Hoxworth - The family of Connor Schlauch	Health Concerns - Martin Lemon - Mike Covert's sister - Kim Crosby - cataract surgery - Janet Albright - Beth Miller - Darcy's dad - health concerns - Mike Covert - Edna Wade - Pat Thomson - Jane Heilman	
Praises - Birth of Oliver Ray Pittman - Melodie's daughter's new house		

This Saturday!

Church Fish Fry and Bonfire
Saturday, October 3 at 5:30pm
Bring a lawn chair and an empty stomach
All are welcome - invite a friend

Calendar of Events

October 03, 2026 5:30pm — Church Fish Fry and Bonfire
October 04, 2026 10:45am — 2nd Hour
October 07, 2026 10:00am — G.L.O.W.
October 07, 2026 6:45pm — Music Team
October 08, 2026 7:00pm — Intercessory Prayer (Zoom)
October 11, 2026 10:45am — 2nd Hour
October 13, 2026 6:30pm — Seasons Study
October 13, 2026 7:30pm — The Grind
October 14, 2026 10:00am — G.L.O.W.
October 14, 2026 6:45pm — Music Team
October 15, 2026 7:00pm — Intercessory Prayer (Zoom)
October 18, 2026 10:45am — 2nd Hour
October 19, 2026 6:30pm — Deacons Meeting
October 20, 2026 7:00pm — Session
October 21, 2026 10:00am — G.L.O.W.
October 21, 2026 6:45pm — Music Team

Volunteers — October 4th

Greeters Don & Joyce Rhamy; Shirley Swinehart
Ushers Reid & Shawn McKelvey
Cafe Wendy McKelvey
Communion Prep Connie & Jerry Herman
Communion Servers Earl Rhamy, John Scott, Mike Rhamy, and Beth Miller
Nursery Veronica Styer
Nursery 2nd Hour Bridget Rhamy
Kidz Jam Beth Miller
Kidz Jam 2nd Hour Beth Miller
Elder Assist Earl Rhamy
Safety Team Brian Parrot

Happy Birthday!

September 30 Chad Badger
October 04 Jim Ward
October 06 Finley Smith

Tithes and Contributions

There are many ways to contribute to FPC.

THE BOX in the sanctuary during worship
MAIL CHECKS to P.O. Box 259 Fredericksburg, OH
TEXT "GIVE" to 833-648-1702
DROP OFF during FPC office hours
Scan the QR CODE



or

Give Here



Becoming a community that cultivates faith and faithfulness to Christ

