

January 2024 (Winter/Spring Edition)



Compass

Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF FPC BEAVER

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*FPC gathered for a
Christmas Hymn Sing - A
joyous evening praising
the name of JESUS!*

First Presbyterian Church



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 A.M. IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
11:15 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY
(OR JOIN US ONLINE)

10:15 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

252 College Avenue • Beaver, Pennsylvania 15009
724 . 774 . 6398 • www.fpcbeaver.com

From the Senior Pastor

Jeff Arnold



Dear FPC Family

As we usher in a new year, I'd like to share a few items of church news with you. We continue to see God's hand at work in providing for and leading his church.

We have laid out a full year of sermons, and some of them involve an integration of our discipleship and worship components. The sexuality series of January and February is enhanced by a four week J-term sexuality class team taught by Ron Cepek, Martha Schartner and myself. During Lent, a prayer series will parallel men's and women's groups (and

others who join us) who will dedicate Lent to prayer. Then, starting in the fall, we will feature "The Story," an all church resource that touches all ages, Sunday School, small groups, preaching...to tell the story of the Bible (fall, 2024 – summer, 2025). We believe that by pairing preaching and discipleship, what we learn from these explorations will be greatly enhanced.

We continue our search for a full-time Director of Student Ministries. We have strong candidates and the search is forging ahead. We hope to be able to find the person to lead our youth as soon as possible. Meanwhile, our strong core of volunteer leaders will be supplemented by the leadership of Joye Hagen at the Senior High level, and Dave Mateer at the Junior High level. We are confident that this wonderful work will continue.

We also continue our search for a Contemporary Music Director. Susan Grimm, who has taken the Interim role for us before, is guiding our praise team and this service as we forge ahead. Again, we are so blessed to have a dedicated team, the Praise Team, in place and serving capably.

Blessings in Christ,

Jeff Arnold

Worship and Music

Starting back up in January...

Now is a great time to get involved in the music ministry at FPC! All are welcome to join us as we declare His praise in song. Please speak with Emily Gedman if you have any questions (724-469-1248 or egedman@fpcbeaver.com).

The Chancel Choir meets for rehearsals on Thursday evenings at 7:30. This group helps lead worship at the 11:15 service in the sanctuary. We always welcome new members, and no previous choir experience is necessary!

The Adult Handbell Choir rings in worship several times a year. The ringers meet for rehearsals on Thursdays, from 6:30-7:20 p.m. We would really encourage you to think about joining our bell choir since we are a few ringers short!

Our Vision: Declare His Praise! I Peter 2:9

We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that we may declare the praise of Him who called us from darkness into His wonderful light!

The Student Handbell Choir is for anyone in grades 6-12 who is interested in ringing. We meet on Tuesday evenings for rehearsal from 7:15-8:00. This choir rings in worship about 4 times a year.

The SPARKS ministry is for students in grades K-2 that meets on Monday afternoon from 4:30-5:30. In addition to games and Bible teaching, the kids also enjoy a music component. Our SPARKS kids have participated in Praise and Worship Night and the Christmas Carol Sing. We would love to have more students join us in the new year!

On December 10, we held a **Christmas Carol Hymn Sing** in the sanctuary. It was so wonderful to see folks of all ages singing and praising God. Our SPARKS choir shared a few songs that they have been learning this year. It was a really fun time, followed by fellowship and a service opportunity. We decorated cookies and wrote cards to bless our shut-ins and the men at the new shelter.



Discipleship

Adult Ministry

Sunday School Offerings

J-Term: January 7 - 28

Sunday mornings, 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Join us every Sunday for a variety of excellent classes that will help grow you in the truth, equip you for faithful Kingdom living and further connect you with God's people.



Say What?? Grace Filled Conversation about Sexuality

Commons, taught by Jeff Arnold, Ron Cepek & Martha Schartner

In this SS class, teachers Jeff, Ron, and Martha will explore ways we can talk, in positive and God-centered ways, about sexuality and gender in today's emotionally charged environment. We will explore how we can make truth claims (in a world that does not acknowledge them) in winsome ways, while living out a witness in an increasingly fragmented world.



I Believe

Room 210, taught by Andy Davis



For millennia Christians have recited the The Apostles' Creed, boldly and succinctly declaring our beliefs. After all, we are "believers", right? But what does it mean? Why does it matter? This class will explore these questions and provide a framework for better understanding of what we believe and how we should respond in our daily lives.



Men's Bible Class: All Year, Every Year!

Conference Room on Lower Level

The longest continuously-meeting class at FPC, this class welcomes men of all ages for ongoing study of the Scriptures. Leaders take turns preparing lessons from David C. Cook curriculum and enjoy coffee and donuts every week.

Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness. Colossians 2:7

Looking ahead for SS Term III...

Begins February 4 during Sunday School hour

New Member Class: All About Our Church - What Presbyterians Believe

Room 200, taught by Martha Schartner, Stephanie Boyd, Jeff Arnold & Ron Cepek

This 7-week course is moving, interactive and informative! You will meet FPC elders and church leaders, and learn what membership entails at our church. You can pre-register from fpcbeaver.com/newmembers. We look forward to seeing you there! (Note: required for membership.)



We have 30 adult small groups that meet weekly during the school year to provide a space to dig into God's word together, support one another in prayer and share life together in the body of Christ. Men's, women's and co-ed groups are available. Contact Martha Schartner, Director of discipleship (mschartner@fpcbeaver.com) to join a group. Or register online at fpcbeaver.com/events.

Lenten Prayer Groups are back in 2024!

Lenten prayer groups will be returning the week of February 18 for the 5 weeks leading up to Easter. During the 2023 Lenten season 98 FPC women were part of 13 different prayer groups that gathered for 1 hour each week to pray. It was a beautiful time of women across the generations seeking the Lord in prayer, listening to Him and witnessing His movement in our hearts and lives. This year our men's ministry will also be hosting Lenten prayer groups! If you are not accustomed to and maybe even a bit uncomfortable with corporate prayer, this is a safe caring space to grow in this area. Don't miss out on this opportunity to deepen your intimacy with the Lord. Simply go to our website, fpcbeaver.com/events, then click on prayer groups and register for the day and time that works for you. All are welcome! Reach out to Martha Schartner with questions.

Young Adult Ministry

FPC is thrilled to announce the beginning of 2 new small groups for young adults in the congregation and Beaver area. Peter Collings and Sarah Duncan are leading a group on Monday evenings, and Josh and Courtney Andrasko are leading a group on Thursday evenings. Both groups are currently studying the book of Hebrews. We are excited to see how the Holy Spirit will work through these two groups. If you are post high school through age 30, consider joining one of these groups today! Register at fpcbeaver.com/events and click on small groups. Let us know you are interested in a young adult group!

PROVERBS 27:17 IRON SHARPENS IRON

Men's Ministry at FPC is Thriving. Thanks be to God!

During the past 18 months we have been blessed to witness a movement of the Holy Spirit in our FPC community at large. That said, speaking specifically in the context of our Men's Ministry, "Iron Sharpens Iron", we are witnessing signs of His movement in the developing and deepening relationships with our God and with each other. We have been encouraged by hearing and living each other's stories of how and where we see Holy Spirit at work in our lives today! Our goal is to engage and connect men to an authentic body of believers that will comfort, support, challenge, nurture and grow their walk as disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We are humbled as we witness the transformative power of our Lord. What an awesome encouragement these months have been!

Our mission is to encourage men to nurture their relationship with God. To understand and lean into their God given stewardship roles within the Kingdom, their families, each other, and the community through learning God's Word, worshiping and praying together, fun events, service projects, gatherings, and missions.

2024 brings new and exciting ways for men to engage with each other, our families, the FPC body, and the greater community as we walk alongside each other seeking to honor our Lord in all we say and do. At our core, we have discipleship groups that cover multiple days and times during the week and new groups are forming. We CAN PLUG YOU IN and would love to have you join us! Our vision, hope, and prayer is for holistic, intergenerational discipleship for the glory of God. Age should not deter. All men are invited. Please consider joining us this coming year. See you soon, brothers!

In His service...



Visit fpcbeaver.com/mensministry for the 2024 calendar.

Women's Ministry at FPC

Our vision is to create a culture where women of all ages can gather in a loving and grace filled environment to pray, worship, learn and grow together. And as we grow together our hearts are turned outward to participate in God's Kingdom activity throughout our neighborhoods and communities.



Breakfast Tea
Saturday, January 20
10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Plan to start the new year connecting with other FPC women to share, learn and worship together! This promises to be a wonderful time of encouraging you in your faith walk and connecting you with other women in our congregation. The Women's Discipleship Team has put much thought and prayer into creating a gathering where all women will be loved and cared for. Our time together will include small group time, as we share and enjoy the breakfast tea around the table, and large group worship. Invite a friend or come on your own and meet new friends! Register online at fpcbeaver.com/events and click on events. If you have a servant's heart and would like to work with other women to prepare for this gathering, click on the "I'd like to help box when you register!" Questions may be directed to Martha Schartner Director of Discipleship.

Other Opportunities to Connect With Women & Grow!

Monday Morning Women's Bible Study

Room 210, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Taught by Donna Nunamaker

Be a part of a women's study that meets every Monday during the school year. Each week the women study the passage of scripture that will be preached the following Sunday. This provides a wonderful opportunity to deepen your understanding of the passage and to prepare you for Sunday worship. In addition studying God's word, praying and sharing together provides the foundation for deep, rich fellowship with others. If you are looking to grow in the Lord and meet other women, plan to join in the new year!

Register for a women's Lenten Prayer Group that will meet for 5 weeks of Lent! Go to fpcbeaver.com/events.

Women's Small Group Bible Studies: We currently have 5 women's small groups at FPC and most have space for you! Women's Small groups are available during the following times:

Tuesday morning 10 a.m.

Tuesday afternoon 1 p.m. (currently full)

Wednesday afternoon 1 p.m.

Wednesday evening

Thursday evening

Looking Ahead to Summer Bible Study: We will be gathering again this summer on Tuesday mornings (child care included) or Tuesday evenings for a summer women's Bible study. Keep your Tuesday morning or evening free this summer to study the scriptures with other women!



This fun fellowship group (geared to adults 60+) continues to enjoy spending time having fun together! In October we shared a lunch and loaded the church vans for Lincoln Park to see the musical "Catch Me If You Can". In November we enjoyed a quiet evening indoors with a game night on the 3rd floor. Then got loud in December with a Christmas Party full with fellowship, Christmas cookies, Christmas bulb crafting, tree trimming, writing cards to shut-ins, and a Christmas Carol sing along led by Carla McKrell. (THANK YOU CARLA!)

Here is what is coming through June 2024:

- Friday, Feb. 9: Valentine's Party, 6:30-8 p.m.
- Friday, April 5: Annual Birthday Bash, 5:30-8 p.m.
- Sunday, June 2: Phipps Conservatory. Lunch & depart at 1 p.m.
- Saturday, June 16 (date change): FPC Block Party, we host the Root Beer Float booth, time TBD.

For questions or to get involved in this special group, contact Lucinda at lpelka@fpcbeaver.com. We plan and advertise events, and you attend what interests you. And if you're not sure, just attend an event we are advertising, and check it out.

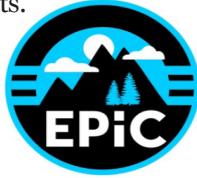


High School

Confirmation Class

This class starts January 7. This is for any students in 9th grade or above to explore their relationship with Jesus and deepen their trust in Him. Then the opportunity to profess their faith to our congregation and become members of the church. Info and sign up at fpcbeaver.com/events.

Get ready for something EPiC!



January 26-28

Our High School Winter Retreat (known as EPiC) is coming up at Ligonier Camp. EPiC is a time for students to grow in their walk with the Lord and deepen their relationships with others, all while enjoying God's creation. The cost for the weekend is \$120 per student. Need based scholarships are available. Deadline to register is January 14! Go to fpcbeaver.com/events.

The Gospel according to Luke

January through May, we will be studying through the Gospel of Luke together. Join us on Sunday evenings from 6:45-8:45 p.m. as we study the revelation of Jesus Christ in Luke's Gospel. Invite a friend for their first time and receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card! We hope to see you at High School Youth Group!



Come on a missional opportunity with us to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as we join in the mission of The Philly Project. We will spend seven days living in the Mount Airy neighborhood of Northwest Philadelphia and serving neighbors in partnership with three local congregations. The cost is \$450. Each family will be responsible for paying for \$150 of the cost. We will be sending out support letters to fundraise the remaining \$300. Please submit a deposit of \$50 with your application. Deposits and registrations will be open until January 28. Visit fpcbeaver.com/events to find more details and registration.

What is happening as we begin 2024...

Middle School

The Gospel according to Mark

Join us Wednesday evenings from January through May as we dive into the book of Mark and take a close look at Jesus. Invite a friend for their first time and receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card! We hope to see you at Middle School Youth Group!

Middle School Summer Mission Opportunity

Join us in serving Aliquippa residents at Kingdom Week this summer from July 14 through 20! Mark your calendars, all students entering grade 6 through students entering grade 8 are welcome to join us!

WEEKLY FOR STUDENT MINISTRY...

Sunday School, 10:15-11:00 a.m., High School meets on the 3rd floor, Middle School guys in Room 204 and girls in 202. Starts back up on January 7!

Middle School Youth Group is on Wednesdays, at 6:45 p.m., for games, reuniting with friends & leaders, and to gather in studying God's word! We resume on January 10.

High School Youth Group is on Sundays, at 6:45 p.m., for games, fellowship and a time of study together. We begin again on January 7!

Calendars for winter/spring have been mailed out and can be found at fpcbeaver.com/students.

Thank you

To all of our Volunteer Youth Ministers over the years, students, and alumni,

To only say "thank you" never feels like enough. In Italian, a common expression of gratitude is "Grazie Mille". It means "a thousand thanks". In scripture, Paul says, "I have not stopped giving thanks for you." These two sentiments are a good way to sum up how I feel as my time with you all comes to a close. I consider myself fortunate to have served alongside each of you in our student ministry.

As thankful as I am for each of you, I can't help but also be thankful to the Lord for sustaining this ministry. I pray that you would seek to know the Lord more and more and have a mindset like that of Jesus. He has been faithful before and will be faithful again.

In Christ,

Andrew

Children's Ministry



Sunday School

Classes for age 2 through 5th grade, have been in full swing. We welcomed between 55-65 children each week throughout fall and are thankful for the many gifted adults who team teach on all the different levels, sharing the Gospel in creative, age appropriate ways. Through our offering the kids continued to support the Neighborhood North After School Program, getting the chance once a month to shop for and send a snack to our friends in Beaver Falls.



Quest

This group for (3rd-5th) grade has been working their way through Genesis and Exodus this fall. We discovered that the same characteristics God displays throughout these Old Testament Scriptures towards the Israelites, are still true for us through Jesus. Our QUEST crew has been growing as well and we are thankful God provided Snack Helpers, as well as Helping Hands to support our Ministry Team this year.



SPARKS

This group for K-2nd grade completed 2 studies this fall. We kicked off with a 4 week study on "All Things New" deepening our understanding, and getting excited about this biblical view of heaven. Then we dove into "Kids Of the Bible", focusing on kids that God used throughout Scripture and learning that He can use us too to further His Kingdom, regardless of our age. Our group has been thriving and the kids always enjoy the combination of lesson, music & play time.



Nursery

Our little ones in the nursery, newborn through pre-K, continued in this happy and happening place this fall, especially during the 9 a.m. Worship Service. We are thankful for the many volunteers that serve on a monthly rotation, loving on our youngest covenant children.

WEEKLY FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY...

Sunday School, (Pre-K-5th) 10:15-11 a.m., Children's wing on the lower level. 3's meet in the train room, 2's in the tree room, children under 2 in the Balloon room nursery. We begin again on January 7.

SPARKS (K-2nd), Mondays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Meet us in Fellowship Hall for music, playtime and Bible study. We are back on January 8!



QUEST (3rd-5th), Thursdays, 6:30-8 p.m. Join us for games, snack, Bible lesson & small group study. Always feel free to bring a friend! We start back up on January 11.

Calendars for winter/spring have been mailed out and can be found at fpbeaver.com/kids.

Preschool

The preschool students have settled into their routines of the classroom and are building relationships with their teachers and classmates. It has been a busy 3 months learning about each other, creating, playing, and singing!

The 4's class went on their annual field trip to Old Economy Village to visit Belsnickle on December 6. It was a wonderful opportunity to see how people in the 1800's celebrated Christmas. We are happy to report that everyone made the nice list!

Mrs. Emily has been preparing the students since the beginning of November for their December 15th Christmas program. It was a precious time with our kids singing and celebrating the birth of Jesus!

(Preschool Teacher)
Shannon Perez



Connections at FPC



Photo from Communicycle 2023 Serve Event

As we enter a new year we reflect on the wonderful things that have happened and are so thankful. We connected with each other, we served in our communities, we loved our neighbors, and had many gatherings with meaningful times of fellowship. As we look to 2024 we are excited about continuing the monthly Love Your Neighbor days and gathering opportunities. We are so blessed on the continued collaboration between ministry departments and the excitement to continue to serve together in our church and communities. Connecting the body of Christ makes us stronger and more effective as we serve the Lord. The Body of Christ working together can do so much to further the Kingdom work God has called us all to do. So join us as we serve coffee, fix bikes, help neighbors move into homes, make soup care packages, encourage a friend, invite your community to an outreach, and be present as we gather together in fellowship.

In the new year keep stopping by the Connections Spots to get updated information, scan a QR code to register for an upcoming event, or let us help you get registered. You can also scan a QR code each Sunday on the announcement slides that appear on the screen at the beginning of the service and register for any of our events and outreaches.

Upcoming events and outreaches to put on your calendar in 2024:



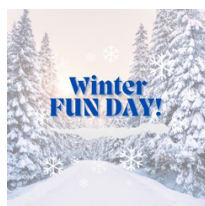
Saturday, January 27

We will be making soup, assembling care packages, and delivering to community needing encouragement.



Saturday, February 24

This will be a day of serving with one of our domestic mission partners the church supports throughout the year.



Sunday, February 25

This is an all church family focused day of games, possible snow activities (weather permitting), and fellowship.



Saturday, April 20

This is our all day, all church day of serves in 5 locations and with many of our domestic mission partners. It will be a blessed time!



You can get details & sign up for all events from fpcbeaver.com/events.

International Missions

Christmas in Romania

As we look back on this trip, we are reminded that God is sovereign over the whole earth. It's been a year since a team has traveled the Pond to spend time with the Phillip House kids and Ovidiu. And in a year so much has happened. Ovidiu's wife, Viorica, passed away, new kids and their families joined the PH community, the big blue van is gone (unsafe), new volunteers help at the PH, and more. And through it all God has been right there providing and comforting and preparing hearts.

We were fortunate to meet a woman with a beautiful heart. She is a family friend to Ovidiu and his wife, growing up in the same village Viorica grew up in. Two years ago she moved to Bucharest to help with Viorica while she was sick. Even though the loss of Viorica added to the trauma she was already dealing with, she decided to stay in Bucharest after Viorica's passing. As we heard this story, it was impossible to not see how God had been at work in each of their lives. Bringing stability and love into the young woman's life and creating a new family for Ovidiu after Viorica was gone. This was an answer to prayer for those of us who were concerned about him being alone.

We praise God, our Almighty King and Sovereign Lord, keeper of promises and healer of heart. We, as a team went, expecting our hearts to be moved and changed by the children we met



and spent time with. But God saw fit to show us He is bigger than anything we could imagine. He is bigger than the plans we make, bigger than the gifts we give and just plain bigger than us.

Thank you our church family for supporting our team in prayer and financially and donating gifts for the children. We are always in awe of this church and the love that you extend to others. We thank God for each of you and pray that you will find peace and experience joy in His love for You this Christmas.

Joye Hagen and the 2023 Romania Christmas Team

Care at FPC

Journeying Through Grief

If you have lost a loved one or know someone who has, the "Journeying Through Grief" books may help. As well as talking to a Stephen Minister. Throughout this year most of the articles from Stephen Ministry in the Compass have been walking through book one, "A Time to Grieve". This book is normally sent after three weeks after a loss. The second book is called, "Experiencing Grief". This book is sent 3 months after the loss. "Finding Hope and Healing" is the third book in the series and sent six months after the loss. The last book of the series is called, "Rebuilding and Remembering". These books focus on what a person is likely to be experiencing at that point in grief. The books also offer understanding, empathy, compassion, and hope.



stephen
MINISTRY®

Many different people use these books and pass them on to offer comfort. If you know someone who has recently lost someone and could benefit from this series, you can let one of our Pastors know, or contact a Stephen Minister (Kathy Davis 412-974-3168 or Dana Wallace 309-613-0463). You can also ask Lynn in the church office to put a request for these books in the Stephen Ministry mailbox.

If you'd like to talk to a Stephen Minister, we are here for you. You can talk to us about grief, a difficult time you are going through, or if you just need a listening ear. It is a confidential ministry. Contact us anytime.

Welcome New Members

Joined October 29, 2023



Courtney Andrasko moved to Brighton Township a little over a year ago. She married her husband, Josh, in FPC in September of 2022. She has already begun to become a participating member of our church congregation by leading a young adult small group and serving on our Brew Crew. Her hobbies include gardening and hiking.



Craig Meckler moved to Beaver roughly two years ago with his wife Kristin and son Owen. Craig, a Critical Infrastructure Threat Intelligence Analyst, enjoys growing rare Angraecoid orchids from Africa. He is excited to be part of First Presbyterian Church and looks forward to developing new relationships within the body.



Linda Bodycombe retired last year after 45 years in the tubing business. She has a daughter and granddaughter living in South Carolina, and a grandson who is currently working in Texas. Linda works part time sitting with a friend with dementia.



Chris Philips has returned to her hometown after many years of living elsewhere. She is very happy to have found FPC. She has 4 adult children and 7 grandchildren. Chris enjoys working with children and the elderly and hopes to use these gifts serving in our congregation.



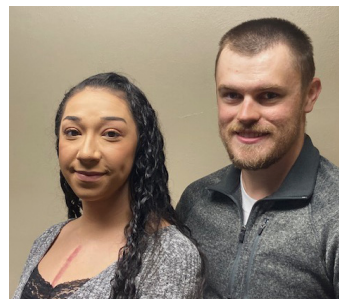
Jeff and Susan Caler have recently moved back to the area after serving in Christian education for 39 years in the Philadelphia area. They are now retired and looking forward to seeing how God will use them to serve in their next stage of life.



Maxwell Reda and Danielle Champ



Ted and Lisa Kilyk are from Conway and have been married for 22 years. They share 4 children and 2 grandchildren. Ted is retired from the 171st Air National Guard and Lisa is a medical social worker for UPMC. They are happy to become new members and to call FPC their Church home.



James Purdy and Olivia Russell are engaged to be married. They recently moved to Chippewa from Aliquippa. They have been coming to First Presbyterian for about a year now and are excited to be members. James and Olivia are also looking forward to becoming more involved with the congregation.



Patrick and Amy Shields moved from Mt. Lebanon to Moon Twp. and started attending services at FPC in February, 2023. Patrick lived in Beaver until age 9 and Amy grew up not far in Zelienople. They have 6 grown children and 7 grandchildren (and expecting number 8 in Oct. 2023). Patrick and Amy are looking forward to discovering ways they can be a meaningful part of the church.

Church Announcements

CPR Certification

Here at FPC on Saturday 1/13, 9:30-11 a.m., or Monday 1/15, 7-8:30 p.m. We're excited to be able to offer a CPR Training to all of our volunteers and congregants. Please register for either date at fpcbeaver.com/events. Cost is \$18/person to cover the certification.

Fridays at First!

Women of all ages and life-stages (and any children in your care), please join us for a casual get-together on the First Friday of each month. We hope to see you Friday, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 1, April 5 and May 3. We meet at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Coffee and snacks provided! For more information, go to fpcbeaver.com/events.

A Grief Share Support Group

Another session will begin on March 7. It will be on Thursdays, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is for anyone grieving the death of someone close to them. You can join in at anytime. Be on the look out for registration to be advertised soon. Or contact Dave Lytle Sr. (dglytle@comcast.net / 724-494-8323) or Janet Shaddick (shaddickj3@gmail.com / 724-622-8898).

Openings for Greeters!

An easy and rewarding way to serve. If you're already here on Sunday mornings – why not serve by welcoming congregants into worship. Pray about this once-a-month opportunity to serve. Contact Lucinda (lpelka@fpcbeaver.com).

This past fall season

We have prayed for...

Families that have suffered loss:

- Pete and Chrissy Thompson and family, as Chrissy's father John Colanero, went to be with the Lord on September 26, 2023.
- Mark and Kate Czartoryski and family, as Mark's father, Anthony Czartoryski, passed away on October 22, 2023.
- Family and friends of beloved member Cathy Collins, who went home to be with the Lord on October 25, 2023.
- The Lutz family (friends of the Antitomas family) who tragically lost their son Aiden in mid-October.
- Dave and Debbie Cutich and family, after the passing of Dave's step-father, Wilbur "Scotty" Scott, on November 22, 2023.
- Daughter My'Halle "Princess" and family of India Owens, as India tragically passed away on November 24, 2023.
- Ed Neiman and family, as his beloved wife, Ann Niemann, went to be with the Lord on December 4, 2023.
- Janice Madison and family after her mom, Kay Myers, went to be with the Lord on December 7, 2023.
- Family of longtime FPC member, Barbara Bakken, after she passed away on November 23, 2023.
- Nate and Abby Beukema and family as Nate's mother, Carla Beukema, passed away on December 12, 2023.
- Husband Dave and family of Bobbi Blair, as she passed away suddenly on December 13, 2023.

Faith in Action

Still in need of more volunteer drivers! NO requirement of how many rides you would need to provide - as this volunteer program is very flexible. Contact Carla McKrell at (814) 450-3985. Driving is mainly within Beaver and Brighton Twp. (Faith in Action is a ministry that provides rides, to doctor appointments, to people 60 and over who are shut in.)

Backpack Program

Better Together partners with BASD National Honor Society in providing snacks & ready made meals for children in grades K-12, who are at risk for hunger over the weekends. Visit fpcbeaver.com/events for a donation list, or how to donate funds. Drop off weekly in church office.

Need pastoral care?

If you or a loved one want the Pastoral Staff to know that you need care or a visit, email us at hospital@fpcbeaver.com. This is a simple system that enables the pastor on call to get information quickly and efficiently. If you don't have email, call the church office at 724-774-6398.

Other ways to stay connected...

The weekly **Pastor's Email**. Contact Lucinda at lpelka@fpcbeaver.com to be added.

FPC's Facebook Page, search for "First Presbyterian Church of Beaver" and "Like" us.

Also on Instagram, search for "fpcbeaver" and follow us.

- Tim and Leslie Strum and family, as his mother Lois passed away on December 18, 2023.

- Abby Torrence and family after her sister, Ashley Eline, passed away suddenly on December 19, 2023.

Our deepest sympathies go to these families.

And we have celebrated...

Births:

- Andrew and Shelby DiPietrantonio, welcomed a baby girl, **Faye Myrtle**, on October 25, 2023.

Baptisms:

- Parker Tate Balaski, daughter of Christian and Jamie Balaski, on September 17, 2023.

- Auckland Gailey Seger, son of Vince and Gretchen Seger, on November 12, 2023.

- Callahan Michael Slavin, son of Michael and Lindsey Slavin, on December 10, 2023.

Weddings:

- Armin & Madison (Wright) Kashkooly, who were wed on Saturday, December 30 in Pittsburgh.

- Max & Danielle (Champ) Reda, who were wed at FPC on Sunday, December 31.

First Presbyterian Church

252 College Avenue
Beaver, PA 15009



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Articles to be published in future Newsletters may be left in the main office or emailed directly to our Connections Coordinator, Lucinda Pelka at lpelka@fpcbeaver.com.

The Compass Newsletter is a publication of First Presbyterian Church, Beaver, PA. Send any comments or suggestions to Scott Miser at smiser@fpcbeaver.com.

DIRECTORY

First Presbyterian Church (724) 774-6398

MINISTRY STAFF (fpcbeaver.com/staff)

Jeff Arnold – Senior Pastor

Ron Cepek - Associate Pastor

Emily Gedman – Worship & Music Director

Susan Grimm - Contemporary Worship Director

Martha Schartner – Director of Discipleship

Marion Butler - Children's Ministries Director

Andrew DiNardo - Student Ministries Director

Stephanie Boyd - Director of Connections

SUPPORT STAFF (fpcbeaver.com/staff)

W. Scott Miser – Administrative Manager

Heather Neish – Building Coordinator

Lucinda Pelka – Connections Coordinator

Kristie Lang - Communications Coordinator

Lynn Ellenberger – Office Administrative Assistant

Dave Hagen / Jay Blizman – Counters

Library Team - Rebecca Clark, Mary Jane Puz, Sue Parry,

Kristy Phillips, Phyllis Felts, Brenda Lichius

There are also a number of volunteers who make the church run so efficiently. We thank them for their continued dedication.

SESSION & DEACONS

Clerk of Session

Jeff Cole 561-5496

Moderator of Deacons

Trisha Good 412-496-3088

Deacon Member Care

Janet Shaddick 622-8898

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Budgeting, Stewardship
& Accounting

Mark Murtha 622-1835

Adult Christian Education

Christine Cole 581-6453

Student & Family Ministries

Griffin Telljohann 917-727-3714

Children's Ministries

Joye Hagen 412-735-2962

International Missions

Brian Wallace 309-613-0464

Domestic Missions

Dana Wallace 309-613-0463

Personnel

Terry Biss 412-298-3109

Property

Mark O'Leary 622-9427

Worship & Music

Jeff Cole 561-5496

Music/Choir Director

Emily Gedman 469-1248

Nursery

Shannon Perez 630-5805

Boy Scout Leader

John Saunders 412-780-4340

Cub Scout Leader

Nathan Bradley 622-1777

PRESCHOOL

4-year-old Teacher

Shannon Perez 630-5805

3-year-old Teacher

Michelle O'Leary 544-3108

HODGE BAND

Madge Nichols 709-3108

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Kathy Davis 412-974-3168

WEDDING COORDINATOR

Jamie Emge 462-1796

WORSHIP TECH COORD

Doug Martin 462-0760

AUDIO VISUAL ASST.

Andrew Jones 724-3052



(Please let the Church Office know of any changes to this list)