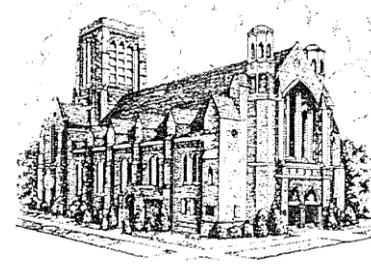


First Presbyterian Church  
300 South Main Street, P. O. Box 1038  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601-5038  
Phone: 724.832.0150 fax: 724.832.0152  
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August 2019

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Nursery Care provided

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE: MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019  
Email submissions to [fpcgreensburg@comcast.net](mailto:fpcgreensburg@comcast.net) or mail to church office.

*The Coulter Society asks that you please consider  
remembering our church in your will!*

## CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff  
The Rev. Nicole C. Atkinson, Associate Pastor for Youth & Educational Ministries  
Dr. John B. Salvesson, Minister of Music / Organist  
Lu Ann Peters, Financial Secretary  
Kimberly A. Stoner, Executive Secretary  
Keith L. Huey, Sexton  
Shannon Reid, FPC Preschool Teacher & Director  
Blythe Graft, Wendy McCann, Linda Wagner, Allisa Zorn, FPC Preschool Teachers  
Jill Linsz, Children's Music Assistant  
Ronald Vorel, Housekeeper  
Richard P. Fabery & Matthew Cohen, Assistant Sextons  
Arianne Winkleblech, Nursery Care  
Mr. Edgar B. Highberger, Minister of Music, Emeritus

## FIRST NEWS: A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### STIRRED HEARTS

*They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" Luke 24: 13ff ESV*



I am reminded of a parallel use of "stirred hearts" in the New Testament. Two men are walking along the road to Emmaus and a third man appears on the road and walks with them. They discuss the recent events in Jerusalem (the death and resurrection of Jesus) and, later, the stranger breaks bread with them. Their eyes and minds are opened to reveal that this man is Jesus.

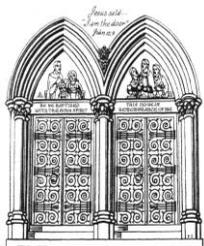
The next best thing to our own day-to-day experience of the resurrected Christ is our worship each Sunday morning, and especially on a Communion Sunday! We share in the monumental suffering and death of the historical Jesus and at the same time in the once-for-all atonement and redemption of the divine Savior.

Since 1788, folks have gathered at the table of our Lord at Greensburg Presbyterian Church.\* I am struck by the fact that for over 231 years this family of believers in Greensburg has come together to share in the life-giving knowledge of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God. The commonality of this stirring of hearts in the New Testament story is expressed in the communion table and in our very act of gathering here in this place.

As we celebrate anniversaries of this congregation, of this lovely historic church building, we are stirred by the very thought that—whether you have only been in our midst for a day or week, or whether you are a seasoned member who has worshipped here for years—you, too, are now connected by time and place to the resurrected, life-changing Son of the Most High who is at work in our community of Greensburg.

Oh, that we were on that road this day. Ah, but we are!! Be stirred my brother and sister, we are!! Our Savior is at work in our midst!  
-David McMunn

\*After 1902, this congregation changed its name to First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg.



**OUR CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

**PRAYER LIST:** Linda Anderson, Ann Bagley, Rona Beluschok, Raeann Berger, Lisa Bulger, Carolyn Carr, Paul Carr, Kathleen Cline, Traci Confer, Vivian Coombe, Edna Mary Cox, Chris Dieck, Gregory Dolan, Janie Dowdy, Joanne Doyle, Laureen Earnest, Richard Enterline, Elizabeth & Michael Felice, Edgar and Joanne Highberger, George Hritz, Lee Jamison, Jody, Juniper, Anna Kostrick, Ray Kuyat, Linda, Jake Manallo, George Maser, Beverly Ross McClung, Judith Morrow, Ed Murphy, Alex Noel, Bill Ofcansky, Denise Ohr, Joe and Nancy Pallitta, Michael Pennesi, Kathleen and Norbert Piekut, Carolyn Pike, John Pollins IV, Colton Reid, Marcia Remaley, Henry Roland, Mark Rubino, Ron Russell, Nico Salvio, Rich Schall, Sean, Gene Sember, Liz Sember, Pat Sheridan, Suzanne Slausenhaupt, J D Stoner, Dave Stucker, Janet Sutherland, Linda Turin, Lynda Turin, Elsie Vanetta, Craig Vojnik, Ron Vorel, Gealy Wallwork, Nancy Jane Whipkey, Jay and Sue Woodward.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Each month we observe the VIP's and fourscore or more birthdays: If you are 80 or older, and would like to be listed in the monthly newsletter, please contact the church. August birthdays are:

- Richard Morford, 759 College Ave., Gbg (1)
- Betty Hammer, 302 Redmont Place, Gbg (12)
- Frank Hodges, 605 Pennsylvania Blvd., Jeannette, PA 15644 (18)
- Carolyn Falcon, 220 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Gbg (21)

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES** – If you don't receive contribution envelopes and would like a set or if you currently receive envelopes for yourself or a family member and do not wish to receive them please let me know. Lu Ann Peters, Financial Secretary.

**IN MEMORIAM:** Linda Anderson, May 31; Richard Lewis, July 21

**MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** since July 15 – Dr. Charles Callahan

<b>Stewardship Report</b>	
Total Disbursements through 06/30/19	\$336,010.67
Total Receipts through 06/30/19	\$280,035.58
Total Income over/under Expense	(\$55,975.09)
<p><b>If you would rather receive an electronic version of the First News, please let us know at <a href="mailto:fpcgreensburg@comcast.net">fpcgreensburg@comcast.net</a> and we'll add you to our email list and remove you from the paper copy list. Then you will receive the First News through your computer rather than the mail box, but you'll have to let us know!! A copy of the latest First News can also be found at our website: <a href="http://www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com">www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com</a></b></p>	



**VIPS ARE MEMBERS** of our congregation who are unable to attend church services on a short-term or long-term basis. The Board of Deacons, along with the pastors, provide these members with visits, phone calls, cards and reminders of their connection to our congregation, including the sacrament of communion, as requested. Please contact the church office (724-832-0150) for more information and/or to request to be added to our list.

**A NEW ARRIVAL** in the family is amazing, exciting and can be overwhelming. The Deacons are offering a meal for the family on a busy day with appointments, etc. The new mother, or a family member, can contact Darlene Nagrosky (724-837-4157), Chris Terrill (724-834-3842) or the church office. We do not have a formal network to know of births at the regional hospitals; however, the church office will forward information as received. Anyone wishing to provide a meal may also contact Darlene or Chris. Thank you for your help with this ministry.

**THE PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE** of the Board of Deacons is asking church members with family or friends who are hospitalized, have health conditions that have changed, and/or have other concerns that you wish the church to know about, please inform the church office at 724-832-0150 and your concern(s) will be directed to the proper person(s).

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SPONSORING A COFFEE HOUR?** Provide your own cookies, muffins or pastries or underwrite the refreshments for \$35. Use the sign-up sheet on the Dining Room bulletin board. Your contributions and participation are greatly appreciated.

**STEPHEN MINISTRIES AT FPC:** Is there someone you know or you yourself who could use a little encouragement? Our Stephen Ministers have been trained to be a good listening ear and caring heart. If you would like to suggest someone to the care of our Stephen Ministry, please see either Sandra Beaugard or Rev. Atkinson.

**CAN YOU SPARE 2 - 3 HOURS OF YOUR TIME** to help the Food Pantry? We are looking for volunteers to help distribute food for the Food Pantry on August 3 at 8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Grace Church, Greensburg. There will be a sign-up sheet at coffee hour or you can contact Kathy Martinko for more information at 724-838-7956.

**ATTENTION!!!!** When sending mail to the church office, please be sure to include "P. O. Box 1038" on the address line to assure delivery. Though we have had this P.O. box for many years, new policies at the post office have enforced the use of this designation.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Recently I came across a passage of scripture I know I have read countless times, but a light I hadn't considered shined out a bit from the reading:

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

The passage is from the first chapter of the Gospel of John and describes the calling of some of Jesus's early disciples. If we look closely at the text we see that folks come to Christ through the work of two agencies: God actively working upon their hearts and other human beings inviting them to join in the way of Christ.

Presbyterians are not known for excessively active evangelistic campaigns or programs, but we should be known for the simple sharing of the Gospel with our neighbors. Philip is invited to follow Christ by Jesus himself, but Philip then turns to find his friend Nathanael and shares with him the impression that Christ has left upon him.

In a like manner, we are called to invite others into the household of God with authenticity and sincerity. Are there friends or neighbors of yours that you might consider inviting to the church some Sunday? I would encourage you to do so; you don't know how many of our members have become involved through this simple gracious act of the invitation of another. Consider being one who does the inviting ...

See you in worship ...

-mra

# KIDS & TEENS

**Y-FI SERVES!** Calling all youth and their families! Let's go to the Farm! Join us for a few hours helping at a community farm...in the middle of downtown Pittsburgh! Hear more about this great ministry, how YOU can help it grow, and spend some time in the soil harvesting food for others. **Saturday, August 17 9am – 2pm (Meet @ Church) Lunch provided.**



**Sunday, August 18 at 9:00am** – Teacher & Volunteer Training... We'll meet in the youth room to go over some important information for volunteering in our youth and children's ministries. (Early start time so we don't conflict with the church picnic.)

### ALL CHURCH MOVIE AFTERNOON!

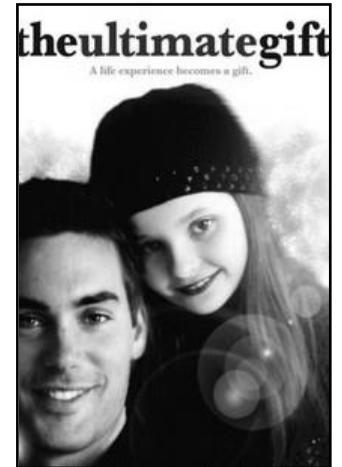
**When:** Sunday, August 25 @ 12 p.m.

**Where:** Youth Room (Bring a comfy camp chair or pillow)

**What:** "The Ultimate Gift"... Based on the best-selling book by Jim Stovall, the story sends trust fund baby Jason Stevens on an improbable journey of discovery, having to answer the ultimate question: "What is the relationship between wealth and happiness?" Jason's billionaire grandfather leaves his spoiled adult grandson a series of odd tasks to perform in order to receive "the ultimate gift," with the resentful grandson having no idea what that might be. Stars James Garner, Abigail Breslin, Drew Fuller

**Food:** Lunch & Popcorn provided (donations welcome)

**RSVP:** [revnicoleatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:revnicoleatkinson@gmail.com) (so we can be good stewards of our resources!)



### YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PARENT MEETING

September 8 at 11:30am in the youth room...that's right, this meeting is for parents of youth AND children. We'll be doing some fun collaborative events this semester and I can't wait to share the details with you! Trunk & Treat, Jump for J.O.Y.: Advent Edition, and some changes to youth group. Don't forget it's also time for another Confirmation class! And some music planning will happen here too!

## STIRRED HEARTS MOMENTS FROM THE FIRST VIEW

**Chancel Choir** - FPC's Choir makes my heart sing. 1 Corinthians 12: One Body with Many Parts. Singing in FPC's Choir, putting forth that with which I have been blessed (my need to sing!) and contributing it to the Ensemble, stirs my heart deeply, in a way nearly nothing else can. Adding my voice to the many different, beautiful voices of our Choir — different textures, different ranges, different notes — and hearing us blend together under marvelous direction into one, rich voice through which we glorify God, makes my heart sing, and tangibly reminds me that each of us is a needed part of the Body of Christ. Belonging to First Presbyterian Church stirs my heart in a way nearly nothing else can. Thank you, and God Bless. Louisa Dieck

**Lunch Bunch** - For many years I had the pleasure of belonging to the Highlander's group. That was my very first chance to meet with other seniors in our church on a social basis. It was with great sadness that group disbanded. The M&E committee decided we needed a monthly event for seniors to replace Highlanders and that was when The Lunch Bunch was devised. Each month we pick a nearby restaurant for lunch and sometimes we have a speaker or mini field trip afterward. So far we have toured the Art Museum in Greensburg and visited the Palace Theater. Among our speakers have been Rev. Atkinson and John Salvesson. On several occasions we have gone to the show to take advantage of cheaper prices on Tuesday! Since this is a daytime event, it is very senior friendly and best yet, NO COOKING. The Lunch Bunch has developed into a pleasant core group with the welcome mat always open to anyone wanting to join. Sandy Beauregard

**CLO Trips** - As a three year member of the Membership and Evangelism Committee, I have helped plan different types of activities that bring church families and friends together. One such activity that stirs my heart is the Sunday evening CLO musical series at the Benedum Theater in Pittsburgh. This being our second year, during the months of July and August, our group will enjoy three different musicals, *Rock of Ages*, *Once*, and *Hello Dolly*. Whether traveling together in the church van or separately, we come together as a group to enjoy a fun evening of entertainment and fellowship. Please join us! Judy Breon

**Faith and Family** - While there are many things that stir my heart at First Presbyterian, one in particular immediately comes to mind. Shelley and I have been attending the Faith and Family class for many years now. It is a great opportunity for fellowship and friendship. We enjoy the lively discussions, which are often based on formal programs we follow, but equally often, may include talking about something that happened the previous week. Tackling how to address evil and tragedy in some far corner of the world or right here in our community or how we might best work through a loss for one of our children or ourselves, whether it be a profound loss or simply not getting selected for the soccer team, we have a forum to discuss these challenges and profit from a varying number of perspectives and experiences. What started as a place to “blow” forty-five minutes while our son attends Sunday school has evolved into a truly enjoyable and productive time where our hearts are repeatedly stirred. Nick Fazi

## ***Congregational Activities from the Membership & Evangelism Committee***

**THE LUNCH BUNCH - TUESDAY, AUGUST 13 – 11:30 A.M.** – This month we will head back to The Boulevard and then you may attend a movie of your choice. Make your reservations soon at coffee hour or by calling the church office or Sandy Beauregard. All are welcome.

**CORNERSTONE GATHERING: ALL ARE INVITED! - SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 6 P.M.** Cornerstone is a gathering of folks from FPC on a monthly basis for dinner and conversation. We will meet at Rizzo's Malabar Inn, 126 Rizzo Road, Crabtree, one of the oldest and most popular restaurants in the Westmoreland county area. This family owned restaurant boasts a myriad of homemade sauces, pasta and breads. We will be meeting on August 10th at 6:00. Sign up during coffee hour, call Sandy Beauregard or the church office before August 7. See you there!!!

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

### **PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! CHURCH PICNIC – SUNDAY, AUGUST 18**

Please join your church family and friends on **Sunday, August 18** following the morning worship service for our annual Church Picnic at the Mt. Odin Park, Greensburg, just off Route 30. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, and paper products. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. If you are not a cook, no worries!!

We always have plenty of food and your presence will make the event a memorable one! Come meet and socialize with family and friends from the congregation. Events for the kids are being planned. If you can bring along food to share, sign-up at coffee hour following the morning worship service each week until the picnic. **Come casually dressed to church if you wish!!!** See you there!!



**FOUR SEATS AVAILABLE!!!! FALL BUS TRIP** – Our bus trip to Lancaster to see *Jesus* followed by dinner at Hershey Farms has four seats left. If you are interested in joining us for a fantastic performance at the Sight and Sound Theater you may call the church office (724-832-0150) to make your reservation. The trip cost is \$175.00 per person and must be paid by August 12. Checks may be made payable to First Presbyterian Church with “for bus trip” written in the memo space. If you mail the check, please include our street address (300 South Main Street) AND the P.O. Box #1038. Don't miss your opportunity to witness the life of Jesus as a theatrical performance!

## COMING IN SEPTEMBER:

### C.S. LEWIS ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9 A.M. (STARTING SEPT. 15)

**ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE** is a well-attended Sunday morning adult education class that seeks to provide a greater understanding of the Christian faith through examination of the life and thought of a great theologian. Our group has studied Dietrich Bonhoeffer, John Calvin, Jonathan Edwards and Martin Luther in the past. This year, we will be reading about and discussing the faith of a particularly well-known theologian / writer, C.S. Lewis. Dr. Ankrum leads this class and we will begin to meet in mid-September.



**THE FAITH & FAMILY GROUP** meets on the third floor of the CE Wing at 9 a.m. every Sunday during the academic year (Sept. – May) to discuss topics related to our faith and family relationships. The group is composed of young couples, singles and any in the church who are concerned about issues related to faith and family. Join us!

**LAST TUESDAY BOOK CLUB ANNOUNCES READING LIST FOR UPCOMING YEAR ...** Join us on the last Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the PW Lounge for good conversation over our featured novel. **We will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 24 to start the year off!** Here's the list for our upcoming year!!!

September 2019 – *A Study in Scarlet* – Arthur Conan Doyle  
October 2019 – *Death in Venice* – Thomas Mann  
November 2019 – *Bridge of San Luis Rey* – Thornton Wilder  
January 2020 – *The Sorrows of Young Werther* – Johann von Goethe  
February 2020 – *The Man Who Would be King* – Rudyard Kipling  
March 2020 – *In the Penal Colony* – Franz Kafka  
April 2020 – *White Nights* – Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
May 2020 – *The Vicar of Wakefield* – Oliver Goldsmith

**LOOKING FOR US ONLINE?** Not only do we have a Facebook page (facebook.com/firstpresbyteriangreensburg) but we also have a great website! Check it out and let us know what you think! You can find it at [www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com](http://www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com).

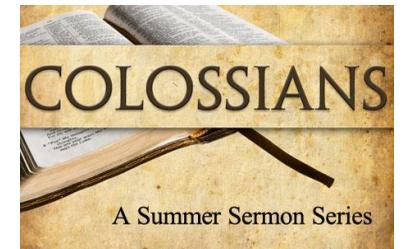
## SUMMER ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### THRU the BIBLE

**THRU THE BIBLE CLASS** – The monthly class will meet on Monday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room to discuss the Old Testament books of 1 & 2 Chronicles. See you then!!!

**THE MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY** meets at Eat'n Park on Rt. 30 E. each Wednesday morning at 7:45 a.m. for a time of fellowship, study and, of course, breakfast. We are now studying the Book of Acts under the leadership of Dr. Ankrum.

**SUMMER SERMON SERIES: COLOSSIANS:** Join us each Sunday as we (re)discover this precious and profound little epistle of the New Testament. Take the Colossians challenge and read this short epistle EACH week all the way through ... May your reading deepen your faith and increase your understanding of just what God has done and is doing in Jesus Christ!



**PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS...** Check us out at [www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com/preschool](http://www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com/preschool) and [www.facebook.com/fpcgpreschool](http://www.facebook.com/fpcgpreschool). The website contains lots of information about our preschool, including upcoming events, our education methods, and more! Our Facebook page has photos from recent class fun and family nights! **Know someone looking for a preschool next year? Open enrollment is happening NOW! Recommend us to a friend!**

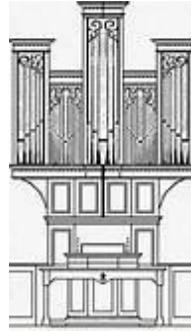


**A Report on the Capital Campaign  
Pledges totaling \$729,913!  
Donations received \$671,438!**

# NOTES FROM THE LOFT

“Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love. Here’s my heart Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.” – Robert Robinson

I have a confession to make. There’s a Viking in your midst. Worse, that’s me. Now lest you feel you need to run and lock up your house and batten down the hatches, I never learned the plundering and raiding part of the heritage. But that wandering part, every time we sing that, it feels just a little personal.



But, Viking or not, I suspect there are others who have the same challenge. Sometimes wandering isn’t about our physical location. For me, wandering is often related to the next sentence – “if only.” If my house were just a little bigger, if Joe were just a little nicer, if my car were a little newer, or I had just the right meal delivery service, THEN I would be happy. Funny thing is, I may get that house, or Joe might be nicer, or get a newer car and immediately, I need something else to make me happy.

Now I don’t think there’s anything wrong with a bigger house or a newer car, and I certainly like it when poor old Joe is a nice guy. But when I begin to think that those are the things that will make me happy, I begin to wander. Jesus had a habit of telling people that “The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.” That really wasn’t an almost statement. That was a way of saying that the reign of God was right here, right now, in our midst. That we could touch it.

That was a revolutionary message. Everyone was sure that the reign of God meant Israel would finally be free of those pesky Romans and David would return to the throne. What Jesus told them was that the reign of God happens right here. When we feed the hungry, God is there. When two or three gather, God is there. When we care for those around us, God is there. When we welcome the stranger, God is there.

But perhaps Jesus was part Viking too (o.k. – not really), but he too had a habit of wandering. Only, it wasn’t to get the next thing, but to gather the lost, feed the crowds, heal the sick, and welcome the least of these. It’s a pattern for us. God calls us to gather, as we do in worship. But then God calls us to go, and be the reign of God in a world that needs our care.

May the reign of God dwell in your hearts and home. See you in worship!  
John Salvesson, Minister of Music/Organist



## MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

We look forward to our musical ensembles resuming rehearsals and helping in the leadership of worship. The Chancel choir will resume rehearsals on Thursday, August 29. Chapel Ringers resume rehearsals on Thursday, September 12. Watch for more information on the youth choir (first rehearsal in October) and Children’s Choir (First rehearsal in September).

## Second Sunday Suppers

When one thinks of July, images of beaches, picnics and especially, spending time together on these beautiful summer days. That’s exactly how we spent the day on Sunday, July 14, 2019 Second Sunday Supper . . . Beating the heat, spending time together and enjoying great food and company.

Our own church member, and Deacon, Amy Templeton prepared the meal this month which 54 dine in guests enjoyed immensely.

The guests were treated to a beautiful, fresh garden salad, followed by tender beef braciola (steak stuffed with a bread stuffing then rolled and braised for hours in a rich tomato sauce), pasta and fresh steamed green beans. The meal finished with a

delicious frosted coconut cake. Thank you Amy for all the work you did to prepare and kitchen help you provided for the event. We hope your heart was stirred and hope to see you again soon! Everything was amazing!

As always, we are grateful for the help of FPC’s church members who assisted in both the dining room and the kitchen. Some of the duties our monthly volunteers take part in throughout the dinner include (but not limited to) . . . preparation and plating of the dinner items, scrubbing pots and pans, washing dishes, dining room set up, delivering meals to the tables/guests, socializing with the guests and the second most important job . . . clean up (most important is to take care of our guests)! The support shown by the congregation is a blessing and continues to stir the hearts of many. Thanks again for all you do!

\*\*\*Interested in helping, contact or see Scott Sucke\*\*\*

Respectfully, Scott Sucke, Ruling Elder and Mission Committee Chair