



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Below you will find a variety of ways to connect at FPCA

For more information on any of these please email life@fpcasheville.org. For a full staff list, please go to fpcasheville.org/leadership-staff. To see and sign up for our weekly email, please go to fpcasheville.org/weekly-news.

Interested in joining FPCA?

Our Session welcomes new members on the third Sunday of the month in the library. Our next opportunity is on Oct. 18 at 9:45 am. For more information, please contact Nancy McNeill at nmcneill@fpcasheville.org.

FAITH FORMATION @ FPCA

Sunday Mornings

- **Percolating Presbies** meets at 9:30 am in the second floor youth suite.
- **Godly Play** meets at 9:45 am on the first floor children's hall.
- **Text Talk** meets at 9:45 am in Room 112.
- **Faith & Fellowship** meets at 9:45 am in the ground floor fellowship hall. On Sept. 20, we welcome ministry partners Dan & Elizabeth Turk for a conversation about their work and life in Madagascar. On Sept. 27, Rev. David Germer and Rev. Shannon Jordan will lead a discussion on the film *The Odyssey*. We will talk specifically about ideas and sequences from the movie; watch at your own discretion.

The Men's Group

The Men's Group meets on Wednesday mornings at 9 am at the church in Room 112 to discuss matters of faith and life. For more information, contact Shannon at sjordan@fpcasheville.org.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study: A Study of Ecclesiastes

Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 23, we'll spend eight weeks exploring Ecclesiastes and what its ancient wisdom might mean for the way we live today. As always, our time together will blend Bible study, conversation, and reflection on our own lives. Email sjordan@fpcasheville.org with questions or to sign up. Women's Bible Study meets at 11 am in Room 112.

Looking Ahead: Worship Schedule for Sunday, Oct. 4

On Sunday, Oct. 4, there will be a simple worship service with communion in the Chapel at 8:45 am. All who are not participating in the church retreat are invited to attend. Retreat participants will worship at 11 am in Convocation Hall at Montreat. Rev. Dr. Patrick Johnson will preach at both services.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE @ FPCA

Women's Studies: Day Trip to Jonesborough on Thursday, Sept. 24

Join Women's Studies for a fun fall day in historic Jonesborough, Tennessee! We'll leave FPCA at 10 am, enjoy lunch and time to explore downtown Jonesborough, and then head to the International Storytelling Center for a 2 pm performance by acclaimed Welsh storyteller Daniel Morden. Tickets are just \$10! We have 25 tickets available—our bus has room for 15 participants, and an additional 10 can join us by driving or carpooling. We plan to return to Asheville around 4:30 pm. Space is limited, so sign up soon at life@fpcasheville.org.

Lunch Bunch at Cornerstone (102 Tunnel Road)

Lunch Bunch will meet on Monday, Sept. 28, at 11:30 am. It's a great time for fellowship and enjoying a good meal with others in the FPCA family. RSVP to life@fpcasheville.org.

MISSION @ FPCA

Saturday Sanctuary Begins Oct. 10

Every Saturday for roughly six months, we provide a warm meal and a safe and welcoming space to neighbors, building relationships and finding Jesus in our midst, right in the fellowship hall. Training for new volunteers takes place today, Sept. 20, from 12:30 to 2 pm in the fellowship hall — no sign up needed! Contact David Germer at dgermer@fpcasheville.org with questions or to be added to the email list.

Blue Ridge Pride Festival on Sept. 26

This year, our Youth Group and Mission Committee are staffing a FPCA table at the Blue Ridge Pride Festival from noon to 6 pm at Pack Square Park on Saturday, Sept. 26. Contact David Germer at dgermer@fpcasheville.org if you are interested in helping out for a 2-hour shift, or stop by to say hello!

Hosting ABCCM's General Assembly Gathering

We need significant volunteer help from 5 to 8 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 29, to host a large one-night event for our long-standing mission partner ABCCM. Volunteers will help people navigate from parking lots into the building and then from one room to another. Email David at dgermer@fpcasheville.org if you are interested in helping us extend radical hospitality.

Building A Wider Welcome

Earlier this year, our capital campaign raised \$5.2 million to invest in the future of this congregation and its ministry and mission—and work is already underway! The parking lot at 46 Aston St. has been resealed and re-stripped. Our general contractor, engineering team, and architect are in the midst of a Phase 1 evaluation for the narthex and Commons renovations. And the installation of a multi-split HVAC system in the Education Building is scheduled to begin this fall.



Find all these updates and more at fpcasheville.org/widerwelcome.

LIFE AT FPCA



Below are some of our upcoming church events. For a full list, scan to see our most recent Thursday News.

For information on our Staff and Leadership, please scan here:



Sunday, September 20, 2026

Rev. Dr. Patrick Johnson will be preaching at 8:45 and 11 am.
Percolating Presbies will meet at 9:30 am in the second floor youth rooms.
Godly Play will meet at 9:45 am on the first floor children's hall.
New members will be received at 9:45 am in the library Room 108.
Text Talk will meet at 9:45 am in Room 112.
Faith & Fellowship will meet at 9:45 am in the ground floor fellowship hall.
Church Street Chorister Mini-Festival will meet at 12:15 pm in Room 204/206.
Saturday Sanctuary training will meet from 12:30 to 2 pm in the fellowship hall.
Chorister Mini-Festival "informance" will be held at 3 pm in the sanctuary.

Monday, September 21, 2026

Building Bridges meets from 6:30 to 9 pm in the fellowship hall and other rooms.

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

The Men's Group will meet at 9 am in Room 112.
FPCA Stitchers will meet at 10 am in Room 214.
Women's Bible Study will meet at 11 am in Room 112.
Wednesday night dinner will be served at 5:15 pm in the fellowship hall.
Beginning Choir and Junior Choristers will rehearse from 6 to 6:45 pm.
Parent Group will meet from 5:45 to 7 pm in Room 214.
Chancel Choir will rehearse from 7 to 8:30 pm in the sanctuary.

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Women's Studies will meet at 10 am to depart for Jonesborough, Tenn.
The Liturgical Arts Team will meet at 1:30 pm in Room 205.

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Youth and mission volunteers will staff a table at Blue Ridge Pride from noon to 6 pm.
A memorial service for Debbie Duncan will be held in the sanctuary at 2 pm with a reception to follow.

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Rev. Shannon Jordan will be preaching at 8:45 and 11 am.
Percolating Presbies will meet at 9:30 am in the second floor youth rooms.
Godly Play will meet at 9:45 am on the first floor children's hall.
Text Talk will meet at 9:45 am in Room 112.
Faith & Fellowship will meet at 9:45 am in the ground floor fellowship hall.

Partners at 40 Church Street



FPCA Affiliations

COMMUNITY JOYS & CONCERNS

Please pray for these joys and concerns in our FPCA family. If you have a prayer request, please call the church office at 828-253-1431 or email life@fpcasheville.org. If it is an emergency, please reach out to the church office, and if after hours, please choose option 5 to reach the pastor on call this week.

We pray for:

Jerry Bleckley, as he navigates a recent cancer diagnosis.

Dawn Carlton, as she recovers from recent successful back surgery, one year following a significant procedure last August.

BJ Crosby's brother Gary, and his wife, as Gary has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

Frank & Cathie Dodson, as Frank continues to receive chemo treatments at Wake Forest.

Family and friends of **Debbie Duncan**, as they grieve her death on August 25. A memorial service will be held at FPCA on September 26 at 2 pm with a reception following.

Gloria Dupree, as she recovers from a fall resulting in a cracked collar bone.

Joan Gaddis, mother-in-law of **Susan Gaddis**, for an ongoing hospitalization.

Scott Haight and **Jim Hackney**, as they grieve the death of Scott's mom on August 25.

Our children, youth, and college students who have returned to school, along with their families, teachers, and other school officials.

We are thankful for:

Children and music leaders from **First Presbyterian, Central United Methodist, and Trinity Episcopal** participating in the Church Street Chorister Mini-Festival today.

Mission partners **Dan & Elizabeth Turk** and their faithful ministry in Madagascar.

The birth of **Silas Robin Hamilton-Lenos**, son of our Kitchen Manager **Nick Lenos and (wife) Alyssa**, early Tuesday morning, September 15.

Please join us in celebrating the following members who have birthdays this week:

Betsy Black, Jean Wauford, Taylor Foss, Susan Godchaux, Marriette Van Der Sluijs, Bailey Farmer, Fritz Ackerman, Steve Frellick, Jemma Wijesinghe, Steve Vance, and Paula Vasey.