

ANNOUNCEMENTS
NOVEMBER 22, 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 Jan. 17 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; next Sunday (Nov. 29), children will join Faith & Fellowship in the fellowship hall.
- **Text Talk** meets at 9:45 am in Room 112 for a discussion of the day's preaching text.
- **Faith & Fellowship** meets at 9:45 am in the ground floor fellowship hall. Next Sunday (Nov. 29), we kick off our Advent series with a special intergenerational class exploring what it means to wait with hope.

Longing & Lament: An Invitation to Pray in Advent

During the first week of Advent (Nov. 30–Dec. 3), the sanctuary will be open for an Advent prayer station experience, a quiet space set apart for lament and longing at the beginning of the season. You are invited to come at your own pace and walk through a series of prayer stations, each offering a simple way to pause, reflect, and pray. The sanctuary will be open on Monday from noon to 4 pm, on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to noon, and on Wednesday from noon to 6:30 pm.

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.

Presbyterian Women

PW will gather on Monday, Dec. 7, at 10:30 am in Room 112, where Rev. Diane Rehfield will lead a reflection on how our choices can build up or harm the faith of others, and how love guides faithful living. All women are invited to join these monthly gatherings as we share in study, prayer, and conversation.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE @ FPCA

Lunch Bunch at The Rye Knot (868 Merrimon Ave.)

Lunch Bunch will meet on Monday, Nov. 23, 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.

Poinsettia Dedications for Loved Ones — Due Monday, Dec. 14

Each Christmas season, we decorate the sanctuary and chapel with poinsettias and greens for our worship services. This year, white poinsettias and cyclamen may be dedicated in honor and in memory of loved ones. To make a dedication, pick up a form in the narthex, or give on Realm — please select "Chancel Flowers" from the dropdown menu and email Lucy at lhazlehurst@fpcasheville.org with your dedication. The suggested $20 donation enables the Flower Guild to provide arrangements that beautify our worship spaces throughout the year.

Dementia Support Group at Central UMC

Dementia Partners AVL facilitates a support group for anyone who has a friend/family member/loved one on the dementia journey, caregivers, AND individuals who are on the dementia journey themselves. The group meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at Central UMC from 2 to 3 pm. Learn more at dementiapartnersavl.org.

Stay in the Loop When Plans Change — Sign up for text messages!

We are beginning the process of having our church family opt in to text messages through Realm for timely updates about weather cancellations and other announcements we need to share quickly. We'll use texts sparingly, so you can stay informed without feeling overwhelmed. **To opt in, text "start" to 828-382-8752.** Questions? Email life@fpcasheville.org.

Parking Tickets

If you receive a parking ticket in either church lot and you believe it to be in error, please bring it to the attention of Church Administrator Liz Thurston at lthurston@fpcasheville.org.

MISSION @ FPCA

Loaves & Fishes Alternative Gift Market on Sunday, Nov. 29

Mark your calendars for our annual holiday alternative gift market, from 10 am to 1 pm in the fellowship hall at Trinity Episcopal Church on Sunday, Nov. 29. Come learn about 10 organizations doing vital work in our community. More at fpcasheville.org/loaves-fishes.

Saturday Sanctuary

Every Saturday for roughly six months, we provide a warm meal and a safe, welcoming space to neighbors, building relationships and finding Jesus in our midst, right in the fellowship hall. Contact Anne Apple at life@fpcasheville.org with questions or to be added to the email list.

Cold weather items needed!

Over the years, our congregation has been so generous to our Saturday Sanctuary neighbors. This winter, we are asking for three (and only three) items: **socks, gloves, and men's hats (warm)**. All other items you might think of we either already have—or cannot store or give out—at this time. We will have a donation bin in the foyer near the bottom of the stairs through the month of December.

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, November 22, 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 suite.
Text Talk will meet at 9:45 am in Room 112.
An Intergenerational Advent Celebration will gather at 9:45 am in the fellowship hall.
Pan Harmonia will perform an Autumn Winds Concert at 3 pm in the sanctuary.
Youth Group will meet from 4:30 to 8 pm in the ground floor fellowship hall.

Monday, November 23, 2026
Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 am at The Rye Knot (868 Merrimon Ave.).

Wednesday, November 25, 2026
The Men's Group will meet at 9 am in Room 112.
No Wednesday night dinner or children's choir until Dec. 2.

Thursday, November 26, 2026
Thanksgiving Day — the church office will be closed.

Friday, November 27, 2026
The church office will be closed.

Saturday, November 28, 2026
Saturday Sanctuary will take place from 10:30 am to 2 pm in the fellowship hall.

Sunday, November 29, 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 suite.
Text Talk will meet at 9:45 am in Room 112.
Faith & Fellowship will host an intergenerational class at 9:45 am in the fellowship hall.
Loaves & Fishes gift fair will take place from 10 am to 1 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Worship with us on Christmas Eve
Our **4 pm service** includes a pop-up Christmas pageant for children (up to 5th grade). This is a meaningful service for people of all ages. Childcare is provided for the 4 pm service.
Our **9 pm service** includes scripture, music, and communion. Christmas organ music begins at 8:30 pm. No childcare provided.

Partners at 40 Church Street

Child Care Center
First Presbyterian Church

AYM

FPCA Affiliations

Earth Care Congregations

Presbyterian Church (USA)

More Light Presbyterians

Matthew 25

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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 cancer treatments.

Martha & Bo Branden's son-in-law, as he navigates health issues.

Martha Branden's 99 year old father, Charles, hospitalized with an infection.

Cindy Clarke and family, as they grieve the death of Cindy's father, Tom Williams, on October 31 in Chapin, S.C.

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

Cathie Dodson, family and friends, as they grieve the death of Frank on November 1.

Marian Fincher, as she continues to recover in Givens Skilled Care after a fall.

Nathan Gruver's mother, Sandy, as she receives weekly chemotherapy treatments.

Nathan Gruver's sister Velvet, who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Rebecca & Doug Huntley's dear friend Cindy Radcliffe, diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor.

Sarah O'Dell's friend Kelly Gartner, hosptialized last week with serious health issues.

Fran Ogasawara, who was able to return home last week.

Sandra Strickland, as she begins physical therapy for fractures in her lower back.

We are thankful for:

David Germer and his family, Tracy, Josiah, Titus, and Naomi, and for David's faithful ministry at FPCA. We pray for him as he prepares to begin his new call in Texas.

Fran Ogasawara, who celebrated her 100th birthday on November 18.

Please join us in celebrating the following members who have birthdays this week:
Charles Dickens, Janine Goldin, Lydia Kampe, Art Kiser, Douglas King, Allie Sell, Stephen Sorrow, Bill Sword, Angela Drummond, Joseph Potter, Emilie Kimbrough, BJ Crosby, Larry Newberry, Dean Presson, Michael Greene, Rosina Lau-Miller, Courtney Alligood, and **Henry Bowkett.**