



# THE UPDATE

April 2023

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## **Online**

<https://www.forestparkpres.org> Check it out! Forest Park Presbyterian Church website. Up to date information online. Links to latest news, calendar, Sunday sermons, and Daily Connections from Pastor Scott! This online mission is a work in progress!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQ6HozKk70sDOhJSMJg14g/featured> Forest Park Presbyterian Church channel on youtube.com Our Sunday services are available to see online and live streaming. They are archived and you can go back to watch our services at your convenience. You can also subscribe to the channel.

## **Holy Week Services**

April 6, Thursday, **6:00 p.m.** - Passover Seder Meal and church family dinner in Fellowship Hall

April 7, Friday, **12:00 p.m.** - Community Good Friday Service at First Baptist Church, Statesville

April 8, Sunday, **7:00 a.m.** - Outdoor Sunrise Service with breakfast to follow in Fellowship Hall

No Sunday school

**11:00 a.m.** - Easter Worship Service

## **April Time with Children Assignments**

April 2- Phil Lail

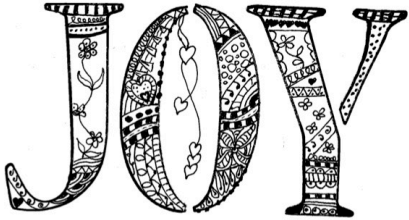
April 9 - Doug Griffith

April 16 - DeNeil Suarez

April 23 - Scott Jeffreys

April 30 - Phil Lail

**JOY Fellowship** met on March 25 in the fellowship hall for lunch and a time for sharing prayer concerns and conversation with each other. About twelve people were in attendance. April 19 we will have a guest speaker from The Dove House, Children's Advocacy Center. Further information will be posted soon. Lunch will be provided— soup and sandwich. If anyone would like to provide dessert, feel free to do so! Please plan to attend this lunch and especially to hear our speaker from Dove House.



“He took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them .” Mark 10:16

**Mwandi Mission** We have had a very good response to our Mwandi tuition collection. We are currently sponsoring 33 students and we have 29 sponsors. We had two students finish the program and one move away. Otherwise all students returned for this school year. Thank you for continuing or joining the sponsorship as well as a big thank you to those who sponsor the fund for the students. Without your generosity we would have had problems covering the tuition for some high school students who are more expensive. If anyone would like to contribute to either the Mwandi tuition fund or the Mwandi school program you may give a check marked for either program to the church office. You don't have to be a student sponsor to help the program. Again, thanks to everyone who participated.

**Circle #1** will meet in the Fellowship Hall, **April 3**, at 6:15 p.m.

**Circle #2** is meeting on Tuesday, **April 4th**, at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Circle #3** will meet in the Fellowship Hall, **April 4**, at 6:30 p.m. Looking forward to our meeting together!



### **Thank You!**

Thank you so much for allowing me and my family to use your fellowship hall. I feel in my heart this was God sent. I have been asking God for a long time to help me find place to bring my family together. This was another prayer answered. This was such a blessing.....Thanks again: Dianne Gantt

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. James 1:17

## **New Ad Hoc IT Committee and WiFi**

Forest Park now has a committee that has met to inventory and evaluate our technology supplies. We have office desk top computers, laptop computers, sound boards, printers, scanners, projectors, and surveillance cameras. Thanks to this committee we now have WiFi in the Fellowship Hall to serve our technology needs! The new addition will allow for better program presentations and all things needing connections. If you have technology savvy and/or would like to be a part of IT, please contact Laurel Andrews at larool60@hotmail.com.

## **Update/Newsletter**



There are a few ways now to receive your monthly newsletter, The Update.

- Pick up in Narthex (the last or 1st Sunday of the month)
- Mail (postal service)
- Text (through phone tree) linked to website
- Email (through phone tree) linked to website

Due to postage increases, we are trying to offer other ways to get our information to you. We will mail remaining printed newsletters from Sunday to you. Please make sure to take home your newsletter from the Narthex file.

## **Loving Hands Committee**

The Loving Hands Committee of Forest Park Church is responsible for providing a meal for the family when there has been a death of a loved one. This consists of meal preparation, setup of serving tables, serving, cleanup, etc. Anyone who wishes to serve with this group would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Nan Weatherman at (704) 402 4718.

## **Sanctuary Guild**

The Sanctuary Guild is responsible for making sure the sanctuary is always in proper order, that flower arrangements are available and appropriate for Sunday worship service, that pulpit area is in order, and that all seasons of the year are acknowledged specifically with the flower arrangements. The paraments are also changed according to the liturgical calendar and appropriate for communion.

If you would like to serve on the sanctuary guild, please call the church office, 704-862-6482. Your participation will be appreciated.



### **Our Music Ministry**

If you are interested in being a part of the church's music ministry please speak with Sarah, Brad, or any choir member.

We work hard in rehearsals but have fun doing so. May the Lord be glorified in our music. Amen!

### **Congregational Emergency Relief Fund (CERF)**

This service was formed in order to financially help FPPC members who have unexpected needs arise. Only FPPC members are eligible to receive help from CERF. Requests for aid must be reviewed and approved by the CERF committee. The CERF committee consists of two Forest Park members who were approved by the session. Current committee members are Doug Griffith (704 785 6953) and Jackie Tomlin (704 880 4869).

All requests and gifts are to be strictly confidential. Persons who are in need of financial help must go directly to one of the committee members. The minister of Forest Park, members, and/or officers of the church should not be approached.

The funds from CERF come from one or two fundraisers as needed and from monetary donations; many of which are given in honor or memory of loved ones. There are times when individuals who have received help from CERF find themselves in a position to repay the gift. We are grateful for this. We encourage those who are feeling especially blessed to donate to this fund.

### **Food for Thought**

Coming together for meals is a blessing in the life of our church. The session began a discussion regarding the schedule of our dinners. A few ideas were to move dinners back to Wednesday nights, scheduling them quarterly, or having a Sunday lunch rather than dinner. You may want to share your ideas within your care team or just let one of the elders know your opinion. Our goal is to have our meals at a time that works best for our folks!

**Happy April Birthday to You!**

- 7 - Marley Weatherman
- 8 - Sarah Tomlin
- 10 - Landrea Rhyne
- 10 - Hunter Wigley
- 12 - Kay Smith
- 12 - Sarah Suarez
- 18 - Beth Lail
- 23 - Weylin Johns
- 24 - Jim Andrews
- 24 - Ashlyn Murray
- 25 - Rob Crawford



## **Session in Brief**

### **Moderator's Report**

- The ECO Spring Gathering is scheduled at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charlotte on Saturday, May 6, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.. Church planter Andy Guthe will be presenting at the meeting.
- A seder meal is planned for Maundy Thursday at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. He asked for volunteers to prepare kosher chicken casseroles for the event. This meal will replace the March fellowship dinner. To attend, people must sign up in advance, as the plates must be prepared ahead of time. Scott announced that he also needs two couples to assist in the meal.
- Scott plans to host two movie nights in the fellowship hall sometime this spring. The first movie will be "Jesus Revolution," and the second is "Salt and Light – the Miracle in Hollywood."

### **Mission/Outreach**

- Tuition for all Mwandu students has been collected. If people would like to contribute further, they can make additional donations to the Mwandu school or hospital.
- A number of women in the church are donating desserts for the Empty Bowls fundraiser. Proceeds from the event will go to Fifth Street Shelter.
- Wi-Fi is now available everywhere on the church campus. The IT Committee recently assessed the equipment in the sanctuary, office, and educational building, and the computer in Ann's office will need to be replaced in the near future. Adding a donation option to the website was also discussed.

### **Property**

- The communion table cross has been repaired at a cost of \$321.
- All doors in the educational building have been repaired. The tables in the fellowship have also been repaired, and the lights will be replaced with LED bulbs.
- A second handrail and lights have been added to the choir loft, and yellow stripes have been painted on the speed bumps in the parking lots.
- It is time to make some improvements to the playground area.

### **New Business**

- The Session approved Scott's request for vacation/study leave time April 10-24.
- Committee assignments were made.
- Several people have suggested changing our monthly fellowship dinners back to Wednesday nights. Other options discussed included replacing the evening dinners with covered dish lunches after worship services or having quarterly fellowship meals rather than monthly ones. Session members will contact their care teams to get feedback and will report back in April. In the meantime, the Seder meal will replace both the March and April dinners.

