



FPC Herald

July 2025



Tuesday: 9am -2pm
Wednesday: 10am -3pm
Thursday: 10am -3pm
Friday: 9am-2pm

1 Mission Committee Meeting, 6pm

6 Pentecost In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 9:30am.

8 Deacon Meeting, 6pm

13 In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 9:30am.

13-17 Vacation Bible School, 6-8:15

20 In-Person Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 9:30am

22 Session Meeting, 7pm

27 In-Person Sunday Worship in the Fellowship Hall or Watch Live Online, 9:30am

July 2025

“Since we have been *acquitted and* made right through faith, we are able to experience *true and lasting* peace with God through our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, *the Liberating King*. Jesus leads us into a place of *radical* grace where we are able to celebrate the hope of experiencing God’s glory. And that’s not all. We also celebrate in seasons of suffering because we know that when we suffer, we develop endurance, which shapes our characters. When our characters are refined, we learn what it means to hope *and anticipate God’s goodness*. And hope will never fail to satisfy our deepest need because the Holy Spirit that was given to us has flooded our hearts with God’s love.” Romans 5:1-5 (The Voice)

Dear Friends,

In June we experienced two losses. The first was Bunny Carlson and the second was Barbara O’Mara. I did not know Bunny, but I did have the opportunity to get to know Barbara. I was thinking that over the years, this church has had a wonderful group of people who loved God and Jesús, as well as the church. Both had served this church in wonderful and numerous ways. As pastor, sometimes I wish I could have been here during those years when people like Bunny and Barbara were young and active. Bunny turned 99 in January and Barbara would have turned 90 in November.

I was at a retreat last weekend and the theme was “Hope Does not Disappoint” based on the scripture above. Throughout the weekend we were reminded that according to the apostle Paul, suffering leads to endurance, which leads to character, and then to hope. And if we turn to 1 Corinthians 13, we learn that hope leads to faith and faith leads to love.

William Barclay writes: “When our hope is in God, it cannot turn to dust and ashes. When our hope is in God, it cannot be disappointed. When our hope is in the love of God, it can never be an illusion, for God loves us with an everlasting love baked by an everlasting power.”

Anyone who knew Barbara was aware of the challenges she faced in her life. Yet she had endurance, and strength that kept her moving forward regardless of the situation. She felt that she was brave and that she had decided not to stress over the things she could not change. The result was a great hope that the Lord would always be with her. God never disappointed her. She had strong faith and great love for life and the people she met along the way. She was most thankful for the small group of women who surrounded her, prayed for her, encouraged her, and supported her right up to the end.

This reminds me of the words found throughout the Psalms like this verse:

“The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.” Psalm 18:2

It is so easy to give into the trials and tribulations of life, to just give up and let it consume you. This leads to a downward spiral, where we feel that we are not worthy of love either by God or by others. At these times, a hope-filled life turns to hopelessness. It requires a supportive group of people around us to help us to see another way.

It warms my heart to hear stories about Bunny and Barbara and how they grew in their belief that God was taking care of them even at the hardest times of their lives. I know that they were loved and appreciated by the people who knew them, and they will be missed.

The scriptures tell us that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. We call them the invisible church. They are those who have come before us since the beginning of time and now we know that Bunny and Barbara have joined their ranks. If there are those who are living in despair, may they see hope in the lives of these two amazing women.

To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

I thank God for you,

Pastor KathyNealand



Vacation Bible Starts Next Sunday July 13th!

VBS Registration is open. VBS Starts July 13th, and runs Sunday-Thursday 6-8:15pm.

It's time for a summer camp adventure with God!

Explore timeless Bible stories that demonstrate how people trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name. Ages are preschool through 5th grade.



Work Camp a success!

Our Senior High Youth Group worked hard on this year's Work Camp helping to clear up damage and prepare grounds that are going to be used as shelter for those whose homes are damaged in storms that are common in this area. It was hot and tiring work, but the group did great work! To hear more about this fabulous week make sure to attend Work Camp Sunday in the Fall.



Autumn Tea and Treasures

YES.....we will be having a TEA PARTY this year. It will look a bit different but completely designed to be fun!

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 18th from 2:00-4:00 PM AT THE Family Life Center. MARK YOUR CALENDERS!!!!!!

This year more people can come and enjoy tea, sandwiches and desserts. You can also SHOP for treasures as we are inviting vendors (hopefully some of you) to share your talents, make a little money and allow us to purchase new treasures. So if you sew, paint, make jewelry, etc.. this is your chance to share it.

More info to come.

Call Judi Armstrong for questions 586-557-3203.

OPEN YOUR EYES and be GREATFUL

Take a moment this summer and notice all the little things that happen around our church home. Weeds that get pulled, plants that find a home in our soil, basements that stay dry/HVAC that continually works, seasonal decorations, homemade treats after worship, lay readers, ushers, people preparing communion elements, musicians playing specialty music and on and on and on! None of you are taken for granted as unpaid volunteers in the FPC -MC Family. Thank you for all that you do for this congregation and our community. Remember: we are Christ's eyes, ears and voice.....what we do for one another we do for Him.

Judi Armstrong



The Deacon Corner

If you have any questions or need assistance during service please see that morning's Deacon in Charge.

The Deacons

Celebrating Membership

Below is a list of current members who have joined our church in Junes past.

Wayne Courtney 07/15/2008

Ben Leitch 07/17/2007

Beth Leitch 07/17/2007



ATTENDANCE

June Attendance

In person:	Live Stream:
June 1 - 68	13
June 8 - 69	18
June 15 - 44	11
June 22 - 46	13
June 29 - 55	30



Our Service Men & Women

Stephanie Dixon, Army
Crestview FL

Michelle Dixon, Army
Colorado

Ashley Dixon, Army
Puerto Rico
Daughters of Glenn and Pam Dixon

Sam Heaton, ANG
Reservist at Selfridge
Son of Pastor Dan and Kim Heaton

Sean Heffernan, CG
Grandson of Sue Heffernan

Prayer List

Please keep the people listed in your daily thoughts, and remember them with a card, phone call and prayers of encouragement.

Assisted Living or Long-Term Care

Irma Black
Bruce Smith
Mary Murphy

Those we are keeping in Our Prayers

Nancy Ventimiglia
Claren Bannow
Fred Binning
Jeanne Ledingham

July Birthdays



1
3
3
7
7
7
10
11
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14
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16
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29
31

Lisa Rood
Celeste Duggan
Christy Medley
Angelica Medley
Brady Medley
Parker Medley
Katie Heaton
Tom Fisher
Sue Heffernan
McKenna Fisher
Karen Norberg
Dick Runnels
Claire Wilson
Ann Kelley
Calia Wheaton
Ashley Dixon-Fernandez
Rob Wilson
Sarah Hopson
Daryl Martin
Anna Armstrong

Weekly Announcements

Sunday Worship Details

In-Person Worship and Live-Streamed Services on Sundays at 9:30am. To watch online, key in fpcmtclemens.com, click the worship tab, then live stream.

This Sunday we continue our new sermons series on worship focusing this week on "The Power of Prayer."

—Tables and chairs will be set up in the back of the sanctuary for more casual seating. Hot beverages are available in the hallway before and after service, or you may bring in your own. Please use a lid.



THIS SUNDAY! WORSHIP BEGINS AT 9:30am!

Based on the almost even split of votes collected, the decision has been made to keep Sunday morning worship at 10am for June and move to 9:30am for July and August.

Donate Hygiene Items



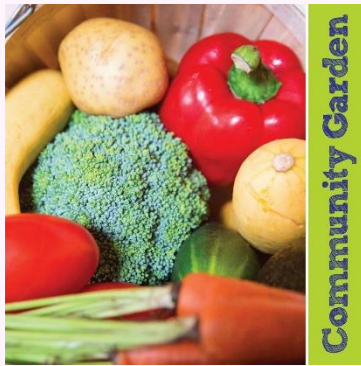
Please consider, as you are looking at your closets, to donate clean, good condition summer clothing for men and women to distribute on the third Sunday of the month when our Feed the Hungry team serves meals to our homeless/low income neighbors in the Mt. Clemens community. A box is in the hallway for donations.

Also, consider purchasing personal hygiene items such as sunscreen, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, disposable razors, handi wipes and small bottles of hand sanitizer. Again, a box is provided in the hallway.

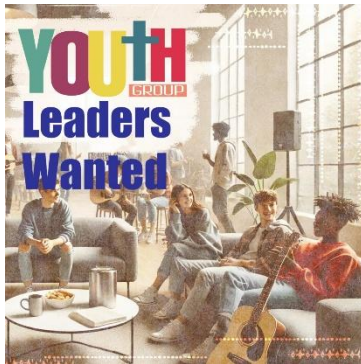


Interested in Becoming a Member?

If you are interested in becoming a member here at FPC please see Pastor Kathy to set up a time to meet



The FPC Community Garden is planted!!! Come take a look, and you can even pull out a weed or two before our crops start to produce. Special thanks go out to our dynamic FPC Ignite and Impact Youth Groups along with Barb Jung's classes for doing all of the initial shoveling, tilling, raking, troweling, and painting to prep our three boxes. Thanks also to all FPC church members who purchased and donated garden supplies and plants and to those who planted the garden on Thursday and Friday. The Mission Outreach Committee is looking forward to having fresh vegetables for the nearby community to pick and eat again this fall!!



Beth and Ben are hanging up their Youth Group Leader hats. This means Dave, Tammy and Jeanette are looking for new adults who wish to be a part of this wonderful team! This doesn't have to be a long term commitment. Try it for one year and see how it works out. We have amazing youth at this church who will fill your spiritual bucket and then some. You will get much more out of than you put in. If interested or have questions please reach out to any of the leaders or the church office.



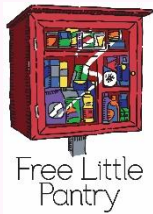
Help our youth group with their work camp mission trips by doing things that you already do every day. We have started a new fundraiser through RaiseRight. Buy gift cards from your favorite stores to earn money on everyday purchases. Shop 750+ popular brands. Shop online, buy gift cards or even dine locally and earn money for the youth group.

If you have any questions, contact Tammy Henderson.



Calling all Musicians!

While choir and bells get some time off for the summer, we still want a special touch of music in our Sunday morning worship. If you sing or play an instrument and would be interested in sharing that gift for worship, please contact Sara Ball. Even if you are unsure what to do, or don't want to do it alone, let Sara know and she can help arrange something for you.



Our Free Little Pantry is always in need of restocking! You can help by donating food, toiletries, even socks are needed. For food donations please bring items that do not need extra ingredients and are easy to open. Many of those who are blessed by this food do not have access to can openers and extra ingredients.

Our Free Pantry was built and decorated by our wonderful youth and kids. There is a box located by the north door where you can drop off your donations

Fridays 9am



Every Friday!!

Every Friday morning, the men of FPC get together in the parlor to talk about what's happening in the church, what's going on in their lives, and solve the world's problems. Other church men are welcomed to join them at nine!



Our Church Elders



Our Church Deacons

Session Class of 2025

- Ann Guldemon, CE
- Judy Landuyt, CE
- Daryl Martin, Nominating

Session Class of 2026

- Mike Ball, Building, Property & Technology
- Martha Fisher, Personnel
- Patty Lange, Memorial

Session Class of 2027

- Becky Ball, Worship and Music
- Gary Cynowa, Mission
- Ken Schmidt, Finance

Clerk of Session: Jane Ethier

Deacon Class of 2025

- Mary Jane Marino
- Jon Ansley
- Matt Sims

Deacon Class of 2026

- Pam Kurtz
- Kyra Hickey
- Beth Orrin

Deacon Class of 2027

- Judi Armstrong
- Gloria Cynowa
- Evelyn McKenzie

Deacon Moderators

- Beth Orrin
- Judi Armstrong