



FPC Herald

July 2026



Office Hours

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

5 Sunday In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am

12 Sunday In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am

19 In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am

19-23 Vacation Bible School

21 Session Meeting, 7pm

26 VBS In-Person Sunday Worship in the Fellowship Hall or Watch Live Online, 10am

“A people is an assemblage of reasonable beings bound together by a common agreement as to the objects of their love, so in order to discover the character of any people, we have only to observe what they love.” -- St Augustine’s City of God.

Dear Friends,



This coming weekend, our country will be celebrating 250 years since the Declaration of Independence was signed by representatives from the original 13 colonies.

I came across the quote above by St. Augustine of Hippo in a book entitled *The American Book of Fables* by Matthew Mehan and John Folley. The book is a collection of fables and stories they collected from around the country. In glancing through this coffee table book, I was surprised to find this quote from St. Augustine.

Augustine seems to be asking us as a community of people, what are our priorities? For instance, I revealed Sunday that I told John my priorities are God, children, and John. John was glad he was there somewhere. What was most important to me was to follow God’s will and in so doing, this demonstrated that I loved God more than anything else.

As Christians, our priorities might be to: preach the Good News of Jesus Christ, to make disciples of all believers, and to be a service to our community.

When we think about our priorities according to a citizenship in the United States, we may hear people say: “Faith, family, and country” in that order. When we say “**faith, family, and country**”, we are referring to three enduring pillars that have historically shaped personal identity, community life, and national unity. These are not just abstract ideals — they are interconnected foundations that provide meaning, stability, and moral direction.

Faith – When we put faith first, we are stating that we believe in a higher power to set the foundations for how we live our lives. This faith is our “anchor in a storm” offering humility, forgiveness, and service over self-interest. We can interpret “faith” in terms of religious spiritual or moral values that are above personal gain.

Family – It is in our families where our faith is played out in the way we love, discipline, and sacrifice. It is through our familial relationships that demonstrate our true core values. It can be said that a healthy family life is a stabilizing force for any society.

Country – To love our country is a responsibility not a privilege. In this we realize that, as Augustine pointed out, we are a diverse community of people who have been brought together based on our desire to understand that we have a shared commitment to the principles of freedom, justice, and equality. This means that we would work towards its well-being and work together for a more perfect union that serves all its people. We know that we are not perfect, but we owe it to future generations to continue to try to make it better.

By putting Faith or God first in lives we are not only living into the first commandment: “**You shall have no other gods before Me**” and the greatest commandment to love the Lord your God with your whole heart, mind, body and soul. If we do this, everything else in our life will be informed by this basic request from God.

Or as the apostle Paul states in Galatians 5:13-14:

“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Therefore, while you are enjoying and exploring this beautiful world that God has created for us, consider your own priorities in life and what do those priorities say about you. Remember what Jesus said, *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* (Matthew 6:21)

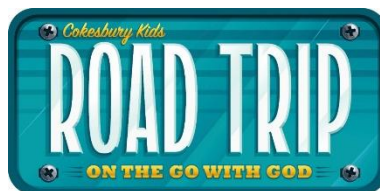
May God keep us all safe his summer in all our comings and goings.

I thank God for you, Pastor Kathy Nealand



Work Camp was a great Success!

Thank you to everyone for your support! This year's Work Camp group spent the week in North Carolina where they worked for Habitat for Humanity. Most of the week was spent working on bringing the outside of a house up to code with removing siding and putting up new plywood and insulation. There was also wonderful fellowship a spiritual growth among the youth. To hear and see more about the week be sure to attend Work Camp Sunday this Fall!



VBS Coming Up This Month!

Join us for Road Trip as we learn about God! Free and open to grades pre-k through 5th grade. VBS will be July 19-23rd from 6pm-8:15.

Celebrating Membership

Below is a list of current members who have joined our church in July's past.

Wayne Courtney 07/15/2008

Ben Leitch 07/17/2007

Beth Leitch 07/17/2007



June Attendance

In person:	Live Stream:
June 7 - 80	13
June 14 - 51	11
June 21 - 82	9
June 28 - 49	15



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
On Deployment
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
Mary Murphy

Those we are keeping in Our Prayers

Martha Fisher
Gary Cynowa
Loretta Martin
Lou Emerick
Nancy Ventimiglia
Claren Bannow
Jeanne Ledingham

July Birthdays



1	Lisa Rood
3	Celeste Duggan
7	Jack Remejes
10	Katie Heaton
11	Tom Fisher
11	Sue Heffernan
14	McKenna Fisher
16	Dick Runnels
18	Ann Kelley
19	Calia Wheaton
22	Ashley Dixon-Fernandez
27	Sarah Hopson
29	Daryl Martin
31	Anna Armstrong

Weekly Announcements

Sunday Worship Details

In-Person Worship and Live-Streamed Services on Sundays at 10am. To watch online, key in fpcmtclemens.com, click the worship tab, then live stream .

This Sunday we continue the sermon series on 'Calming the hurricane' with "Our Provider: Learning to see God as Your Source." Communion will be served



Thanks to all who participated in weeding and tilling the boxes, planting the vegetables, and/or donating supplies and plants in the last two weeks of May.

If you would like to help with weeding control or putting up plant cages, please let Gary Cynowa know.



Kitchen Update Team

We're excited about the potential to make even better use of our kitchen and create an updated space that works well for everyone. If you'd like to be part of a team helping explore ideas and shape a plan, we'd love to have you involved. Please contact Mike Ball if you're interested



New Children's Mission Project for June
This month the children will be having a Spare Change Drive. There will be jars available for your spare change to benefit Vacation Bible School.



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 2026

- Mike Ball, Building, Property & Technology
- Martha Fisher, Personnel
- Patty Lange, Memorial
- Kenny Jung, Worship & Music

Session Class of 2027

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

Session Class of 2028

- Kristen Abouelseoud, CE
- Barb Jung, CE
- Steven Thebo, Technology

Clerk of Session: Jane Ethier

Deacon Class of 2026

- Pam Kurtz
- Kyra Hickey
- Beth Orrin

Deacon Class of 2027

- Judi Armstrong
- Gloria Cynowa
- Evelyn McKenzie

Deacon Class of 2028

- Mary Jane Marino - Bratke
- Diana Lozen
- Jay Lozen

Deacon Moderators

- Beth Orrin
- Judi Armstrong