



FPC Herald

June 2026



Office Hours:

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

2 Mission Committee, 6pm
Worship and Music Committee, 7pm

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

9 Deacon Meeting, 6pm

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

16 Session Meeting, 7pm

21 In-Person Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am Happy Father's Day!

21-28 Work Camp to North Carolina

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

Dear Friends in Christ,



A couple of months back, a friend of the church spoke to me about having endurance to get through the difficult time in our lives. The Worship committee agreed and so I began to research the topic and then something happened to two good friends of mine.

They were in a car accident in which his wife lost her life. The husband is a minister and has seen many terrible things in his lifetime and have helped many through the grief process. Whenever he would experience or hear of any tragedy, he would say that it caused him to fall to his knees. Whether the event was a personal or professional loss, 9/11, hurricanes, etc., he relied on the tools of faith to see him through those times.

This loss though made me question how prepared we really are, because when tragedy comes, it can knock us for a loop. And more importantly, how do we recover? As the scripture above reminds us, there will always be a thief working to seek and destroy our lives. However, it is not the desire of God to abandon us, but to equip us with the tools to endure during times of trouble. This does not mean that we will not grieve during times of loss. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross in her 1969 book *On Death and Dying* wrote about the five stages we go through: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. What people learn is that it takes effort to get to that final stage and find a way to continue living instead of dying. Without the tools of faith, people can get stuck in the first four stages.

In the book *How to Quiet a Hurricane*, by Justin Kendrick, Lead Pastor, Vox Church, he makes the case for not just existing through life, but it is possible to living fully, being happy and whole, living a life of purpose by overcoming our fears and finding fulfillment. He writes, "The title {of the book} sums up so many of our highest ambitions and suggests that life does not need to be lived from a place of weakness or frailty. We can overcome. We can live life strong."

To live through difficult times, it might help to strengthen our convictions, to lean into the promises found in the Bible and to embrace the tools of the faith that leads to Christian endurance.

There is a song I heard by Chris Tomlin called "I Will Rise" that I shared with my friend hoping that it would assure him that the Lord will see him through the pain and sorrow he is currently experiencing. It is a good message for those we know who are stuck and see no way out.

Even as summer begins, and vacations are planned, you will join me in learning how we can live our lives each day from a place of strength and confidence in the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To God be the glory!

I thank God for you,
Pastor Kathy Nealand



Senior Highs head to North Carolina for Work Camp later this month

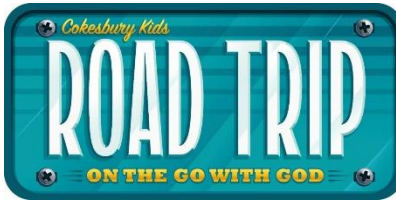
The Senior High Youth Group Members and Advisors will head to Southern Pines NC to work with Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills on June 21st-28th. Keep them in your prayers for a safe and fulfilling trip.

Also, mail is always appreciated by the group! You can send a note of encouragement to:

(Work Camper's Name)

C/O Southern Pines United Methodist Church
175 Midland Road
Southern Pines, NC 28387-3311

For a list of participants, contact the office.



VBS Registration Now Open

Contact the office for information. VBS will be July 19-23.

Celebrating Membership

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

Jon Ansley 6/19/1983
Becky Ball 6/28/1981
Jennifer Ghandour 6/7/1981
Kimberly Heaton 6/16/2009
Julie Huttenlocher 6/1/1986
Wendy Kahler 6/7/1992
Pat Politano 6/4/1995
Richard Runnels 6/23/1968
Roz Runnels 6/23/1968
Molly Sims 6/8/2025
Nicholas Surdenik 6/8/2025
Sarah Surdenik 6/8/2025
Nancy Wilson 6/26/2005





ATTENDANCE

May Attendance

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| In person: | Live Stream: |
| May 3- 60 | 16 |
| May 10- 71 | 14 |
| May 17 - 82 | 8 |
| May 24 - 49 | 13 |



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

June Birthdays



| | | | |
|----|---------------------------|----|-----------------|
| 1 | Dave Henderson | 23 | Rose Ambe |
| 3 | Carol Herhilan | 24 | Rebecca Ullrich |
| 3 | Logan Leitch | 25 | Mary Murphy |
| 4 | Roz Runnels | 27 | Sean Blair |
| 6 | Samantha Henderson | | |
| 11 | Kyle Ball | | |
| 15 | Lily Dubs | | |
| 15 | Lindsey Armstrong | | |
| 17 | Dorothy Joseph | | |
| 18 | Mary Jane Marino - Bratke | | |
| 20 | Deb Doherty | | |
| 20 | Jennifer Ghandour | | |
| 20 | Julie Sims | | |
| 22 | Norb Leach | | |

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 start a new sermon series on 'Calming the Hurricane' in life and endurance through Faith. We begin with the sermon: "Adjusting Expectations: How God Expects Us to Live." This Sunday will also be send-off Sunday for our Senior High Group going on Work Camp in a few weeks.



Proposed Bylaw Changes

The session has proposed changes to the church bylaws for congregational vote. Please contact the office for a copy of the changes. Voting on the changes will take place on Sunday June 28th.



It's time to start the community garden!

Do you want to help? Beginning tonight with the youth cleaning up the beds and continuing through the summer help is always appreciated. For detailed information see the bulletin board next to the parlor or contact Gary Cynowa at (586)291-0399 or gcynowa@comcast.net.



Fundraising sale extended!

Help support our Youth Group and get a cool new cup. The Youth group will be taking orders starting this Sunday during the Youth coffee bar. Father's Day Designs will soon be available!



BABY SHOWER for Beth Orin on Sunday, June 14th after Worship.

Beth and Colin will welcome their baby girl early in July.

Plan on joining us for brunch and baby fun on the 14th. Please RSVP to Judi Armstrong to let her know if you plan to come, so she can have a headcount.



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 MAY

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.



Stay in the know on what's happening

To see events happening in the church and Family life center, you can view the Church Calendar via our website. If you have any questions, contact the office at 586-465-0461, or email office@fpcmtclemens.com.



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