

The Focus
Forest Grove Presbyterian Church November 2022

Pastor's Notes:

“And not only this, but we also celebrate in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope” -- Romans 5:3-4

As I sit to write this the Phillies just played the third game in the World Series – and won, 7-0! Now, for those of you who are not baseball fans, if you had looked at the team's record back in July or August you would not have thought that they would have even made it to the playoffs let alone be up two games to one in the World Series! I don't know who was suffering greater tribulations, the team or the fans but both persevered with determination as their hearts and minds remained hopeful. And here we are.

It is easy to cheer for a winning team. It is no sweat to be positive when things are going in your favor. But when times get tough, when efforts seem fruitless, it's a whole lot harder to remain hopeful. I'm not just talking about baseball. The same is true for all life-situations, and right now in our current political climate, world tensions, economic uncertainty and personal struggles there are those who wonder if the sun will shine tomorrow.

The Apostle Paul knew a whole lot about personal suffering and facing the opposition who felt like he was backing the wrong team – team Christian, that is. He suffered a great many trials and tribulations as did so many other followers of Jesus. But Paul also knew that the SON would shine, not just tomorrow, but also today. God was with him and that nothing can separate us from the love of God. We may lose a game or two, hardship and pain may hamper our immediate sense of well-being, but the ultimate victory is ours. Hang in there. It's not over yet and God's got this. Jesus is the Captain of our team, and we can't lose.

Yours in Christ's service,

Pastor Sue



UNICEF Collection

On October 23rd we had a lot of fun at our annual Trunk or Treat event. There were great scary and beautiful costumes. We also collected for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, that works in over 190 countries and territories to save children's lives, defend their rights, and help them fulfill their potential, from early childhood through adolescence. We collected \$47. Every little bit helps!





2023 Stewardship Campaign

This year's campaign: A Rainbow of Giving, culminated on October 30 when pledge cards for the upcoming year were received. It was a wonderful time together as we remembered God's promises for a good future as we reflected on the awesomeness of how remarkable it is that our All-Powerful God should want to use us to help bring about that good future. Each of us have been given unique gifts and we have been called to be good stewards of those gifts by sharing them for the building of God's Kingdom. We are part of the rainbow!

If you have not yet made a commitment to the ministry of the church for the upcoming year, you are still invited to do so by filling out a pledge card or through our online giving on the church website: www.forestgrovechurch.org.

We are partners in ministry – with each other and with God who will give us a future that is bright!

The New Benches

There are two new benches in the chancel that are being used for the Time with Children. Thanks to the bench team...

Jim Gessner (Pat's son) for donating the wood, Paul Wachtendorf for building the benches, and Bill Wark for painting them!





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Gifts for Disabled Adults

For several years now members of the congregation contributed gifts that were given to disabled adults living in the many group homes of Allies, Inc. These were received with tremendous gratitude by people who are often overlooked. There are many organizations that address the needs of children, but not very many who consider those with disabilities. Even simple gifts of a hat, CD, or a toy brought not only a smile to the face of those recipients but also extended expressions of love and caring.

Once again congregation members are invited to participate in giving gifts to this population. A list of individuals and their “wish list” items is now available in Fellowship Hall on the Christmas tree. Please sign out the gift. Gifts are to be brought to the church no later than December 11. They should be wrapped including a gift tag with the name of the recipient. Please do not put the gift description on the tag. Remember, Jesus said, “When you do to the least of these, you do also to me.”



The Church Has Left the Building Mission Sunday, November 13

Instead of engaging in multiple mission projects, on the 13th we will join together to answer Jesus' call to care for God's world by helping to feed the hungry through a very special program, "Rise Against Hunger." One in three people worldwide are adversely affected by vitamin and mineral deficiencies. Rise Against Hunger meals, packaged by volunteers, are designed to provide a comprehensive array of micronutrients. Rise Against Hunger meals include enriched rice, soy protein, dried vegetables and 23 essential vitamins and nutrients.

Rise Against Hunger meals are provided in schools to encourage increased enrollment and attendance. For adults in community empowerment programs, the provision of meals offsets productive time lost while attending training sessions. Meals distributed in hospitals and clinics may support patients' nutritional needs and complement their treatments.

Recently, catastrophic hurricanes struck the United States and the Caribbean. Rise Against Hunger responded immediately by providing relief and recovery assistance to these communities. Overall, support was provided to over tens of thousands of people.

We will be packaging life-changing meals on the 13th. There are jobs for every age and ability. Since we will be packaging 12,000 meals, we need lots of help! Bring your friends. Don't miss what will be an energizing, Spirit-filled experience to "be the church." We will begin at 10:00 for a brief time of worship and then begin the project at 10:15. As there is a cost of the materials needed for this effort, we are asking for donations. Please sign up to participate online at <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/11/1> or call the church office and Susan will be happy to register you. Donations can be made online or at the event on the 13th. If you are unable to make a donation at this time, come and help anyway! God needs you!



What's Happening at Youth Group

The group had a fun October with an emphasis on Halloween when they went to a Corn Maze and then talked about what scares them and how to handle fear.

In November they will focus on giving thanks first by helping with the Rise Against Hunger Mission. Then we will have “Thanksgiving” based theme during their November 27th meeting. There will be games and challenges with lots of fun as we grow in our understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. All those in 7th—12th grade are welcome to join. Our schedule for the month is as follows:

November 13: 10:00AM—Rise Against Hunger Mission

November 27: 6:30PM—Regular Meeting Night.



First Wednesday Community Lunch – December 7

Wednesdays at noon have become a wonderful time of fellowship. Wanting to offer a little more, the first Wednesday of the month now offers a special program of interest. In December there will be a special lunch where a meal will be served followed by carol singing led by Leanne Yerkes and a Christmas story shared by Pastor Su. All are welcome to attend this holiday treat. Tickets for the free lunch will be available in Fellowship Hall after worship or by calling the church office. Bring friends!



**Kids
Needed**

Join us for Christmas Pageant Practice!

Can you Sing? Baaaa? Read???

Everyone is welcome to join the fun!!!

Sundays after church (11:15-11:45)

The Pageant is December 18th

During church service

Special Kids Choir for Christmas

Practice during Sunday School

You will sing during Church
during Advent!



Questions? Call Leanne 215-920-4000

Forest Grove Presbyterian Church
Poinsettias for the Christmas Season
Please help us enhance our sanctuary with a
Poinsettia plant for the Christmas Season.
For a donation of \$14 per plant you can help
Brighten up our Sanctuary.

Name: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

___ I wish to take a Poinsettia after the Christmas Eve. Service.

___ Please, deliver to a shut-in or someone in the hospital

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Please enclose your payment and leave in our offertory basket or mail
to Forest Grove Church.

Donations will be accepted no later than December 8, 2022.



**TRUNK
OR
TREAT**







A huge thank you to all who helped to make our Chicken Barbecue a success this year. It takes a "team" of people to make it so successful... from planning, to shopping, putting the sign out front, to making applesauce, cole slaw and baking cakes. On the day of the barbecue the "team" cooks, collects tickets and money, runs tickets to the kitchen, serves up the food, packs up the dinners and delivers them to the cars. Then the clean-up "team" shows up! We can't forget all of you that purchased tickets and enjoyed a delicious dinner. Everyone is so appreciated.



This year, because of the rainy weather, a special thank you to the Schroeder family that allowed us to use the covered area of their barn to cook the chickens... and to Tim Ruth and his cooking crew who pivoted to cooking at a different place with the same delicious results.

The Chicken Barbecue is an outreach to our community and a time of fellowship for our church members. This year we are contributing a portion of our profits to the food pantry of Bucks County that we support year round. The remainder of the profits, as usual, will go toward expenses of the mission of our church.

THANK YOU TO THE WHOLE FGPC TEAM !!!!







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Elder of the Month, November: Deacon of the Month, November:

Donna Jencks

Maggie Realley

Sunday Morning Coffee Host:

Nov 6 Vini Christie Nov. 13 Su Fall
Nov. 20 Carol Eckmeder. Nov. 27

November 2022 Carillon Schedule

The carillon plays each day at 12 noon and at 6:00 in the evening and plays 3 different selections each time

November 6 In memory of Ray Purdy.
November 13 In memory of W. Earl Rockafellow.
November 20 In memory of Ruth C. Fawcett.
November 27 In memory of Addis Cosner.

Sunday School Teachers:

November 13 Karen Myers
November 20 Ruth Squillace
November 27 Kim King



↓



Jim Hampton	11/2
Nick Dell'Orefice	11/7
Maggie Realley	11/7
Dorothea Tinari	11/12
Scarlett Bradney	11/13
Maxwell Sinofsky (Squillace)	11/17
Sandy Rekemeier	11/18
Bill Hyndman V	11/19
Peggy Mellinger	11/21
Judy Ferguson	11/22
Emily Squillace	11/24
Ethan Dobbins	11/26
Wes Schroeder	11/26

FGPC FINANCIALS Ended September, 2022

FGPC

Operating Fund

For the month Ended
September 2022

Offering & Misc Income	\$ 8,742
Large Fund Income	<u>5,982</u>
Total Income	\$14,724

Expenses

Pastor Compensation	8,586
Staff	3,718
Office	420
Music & Worship	42
Christian Education	295
Property	1,121
Stewardship/Finance	69
Parish Life	0
Mission	0
PILP Loan Payment	555
Chicken Barbeque Expenses	<u>42</u>
Total Expenses	\$14,848

2022 Operating Fund

Surplus (Deficit) (124)

Fund Balance @ 8/ 31/22 60,265

Fund Balance @ 9/30/22 \$ 60,141

Benevolence Fund

1-September-22

Balance @ 1/31/22	\$ 4,734
Receipts & Transfers	4,032
Disbursements:	1,131
Balance @ 9/30/22	<u>\$ 7,635</u>

**Capital Campaign @
9/30/2022**

Pledge	304,618
Receipts	
Pledge & Non-Pledge	\$275.00
Construction Loan	<u>0</u>
TOTAL:	\$275.00

Forest Grove Presbyterian Church

1856 Forest Grove Road
Furlong, PA 18925-1120

Come Worship with us. Sunday's 10am.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Schedule

10:00 am Worship

Church Office Hours

9am-2pm (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday)

Phone 215-794-8575

Pastor: Reverend Susan L. Fall

Email: pastorsu@forestgrovechurch.org

Music Director: Leanne Yerkes

Administrative Assistant: Susan Flanagan

Frank Orzechoski, Asst. Treasurer

Mark Lempp, Grounds Keeper

Email: office@forestgrovechurch.org

www.ForestGroveChurch.org

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