

#### The Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring March 2024

#### SERVING + SHARING @ PCFS

### Pastor's Pen & Page

The movies tend to portray Moses as a solo traveler. When the different plagues are brought upon the Egyptians we see Moses going one on one with the Pharaoh. When he leads the people from Egypt we see his actions as basically solo, and so on and so forth. However the Biblical Account is much different in that there are other people along on the voyage that are important, including Aaron, Miriam, and Zipporah. These additional people eased the burden on Moses as he journeyed giving him companionship, their gifts, and people to discuss what was going on in his life.

I think when we are on a journey whether its a career, or a summer vacation, or our faith journey, we value the presence of others. When I was in business, while I had to do it, I really did not like traveling to client sites on my own. It was lonely, many clients had questions I could not answer because it was not my expertise, and I had no one to bounce ideas off of. It was much more fun to travel with someone who had some expertise which could help, and whom I could have supper with after being with a client to receive feedback about the day. Its also such a blessing in my life now to be able to vacation with someone. This is especially important as my sense of direction can use a lot of improvement.

So, what does this have to do with Holy Week and Easter which are the end of March? Truthfully, a great deal. As we observe Holy Week, we tell the greatest story ever told. From Jesus coming into Jerusalem to shouts of acclamation (Palm Sunday), to sitting down with his disciples to institute the Lord's Supper and reminding us we are to serve others (Maundy Thursday), to dying on a Cross (Good Friday), to rising again (Easter), this story needs to be told and heard. But, there are people who do not know this story or who have forgotten it. So, friends, it is my prayer that during March you will take the time to invite people to travel with you on the journey of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Invite them to experience Jesus coming into Jerusalem to shouts of acclamation. Then bring them along when you hear Jesus telling us to serve others as He serves us. Journey with them on Good Friday as well as that glorious resurrection day. Let us all bring others with us on our faith journey in March. Happy Easter.



#### **Views From a Hill**

#### **Celebrations that Motivate**

Did you feel it? There we were, in the Family Life Center on February 11, introducing and welcoming fifteen amazing people into membership at Falling Spring. The congregation left their seats, moved to the front of the FLC, and surrounded this group in prayer. To be part of a church family,

praying over one another, is a powerful experience. I hope you enjoy the write-up in this newsletter, where you can learn about this great group.

I also hope this moment from February 11 motivates us to pray and invite. First, let's pray over one another more often. Second, do you know someone who might benefit from an invitation to church? Who will we be praying over after the next membership class?

#### **Staff Highlight**

Last month, I had the privilege of being a leader during the Winter Slam. After almost thirty years of planning and leading winter retreats, this was a new vantage point, from which much could be seen. Let me share one of the things I noticed from this vantage point: Sam Ray is an amazing Youth Director! This was the first retreat she led at Falling Spring, and she made it look easy. Students, parents, and leaders received excellent communication before the retreat, and strong leadership during. The weekend was fun, inspiring, and ran incredibly smoothly, largely because of Sam's leadership and ability to see both the big picture and each individual. Not only is Sam an amazing leader, but she and Caleb are a dynamic team! The way they consistently and compassionately led the group during the weekend was a blessing to behold. As the former Youth Director and parent of two youth, I have a strong interest in this ministry, and I thank God for bringing us such wonderful gifts in Sam and Caleb Ray! The next time you see or think of them, please take a moment to thank God for them. We are blessed at Falling Spring by a Christ-centered, committed, compassionate staff team!

Much love, Brad

#### New Bible Study Starting in March

The Tuesday night and Thursday morning Bible studies meeting in room 203, will be starting a new 7-week study called "Journey to Freedom - The life of Moses" beginning March 12 and March 14 respectively. In this study we will examine passages in Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy to show how Moses, the tabernacle, and the wilderness journey were pictures of the promises fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Please contact Renee Sharpe, <a href="mailto:reneesharpe789@gmail.com">reneesharpe789@gmail.com</a>, if you would like to join. There is a workbook that goes with this study.

#### **Becky Beattie**

I am happy to be back in Chambersburg, where I used to live in the 1970's and belonged to Falling Spring Presbyterian Church! My journey took me to Richmond VA for 42 years where I was involved in the Methodist church and started "Food for the Soul," a food ministry for people in the congregation. I am basically doing "unofficial ministry" here in the Menno Haven community by providing homemade soups and goodies to neighbors and friends. I like to be involved in the community as well, and play in several Bridge groups, participate in a book club, and support



library programs and women's educational endeavors through two groups involved in these efforts. I like to be involved in small groups, and this is how I became reacquainted with the great people at Falling Spring. The scripture that provides strength and comfort to me is Isaiah 41:10. Look it up!

#### **Ethan and Kalee Messenger**

Over a year ago, Ethan, Kalee, Eleanor, and Ada Messenger set out to find a church in Chambersburg. They visited Falling Spring and found a church home where they have decided to plant themselves.



#### Lou and Bill Meyers

I (Lou) am a retired registered nurse and enjoy traveling, baking, cooking, horseback riding, and spending time with family and friends. I have been attending PCFS since last April. Everyone has been so welcoming and kind, that I knew it was the right fit for me. I look forward to becoming more involved in both the church and community activities. One of my favorite scriptures is Philippians 4:6.



I (Bill) am also retired and enjoy reading history, particularly the civil war and back to

the colonial era of the U.S. My favorite Scripture is Matthew 25 1-13. I am impressed by the number of programs and outreaches Falling Spring offers.

#### **Courtney Neus**

My family has called Chambersburg home since 2005. We are originally from Maryland. My husband is Gary, and our children are Matthew and Mallory. Matthew is a junior at the University of Maryland, and Mallory is a senior at Chambersburg Area Senior High School. I am a teacher assistant with the Chambersburg Area School District. I spend most of my time completing schoolwork as I am currently working to obtain my PK-4 teaching certification. I also enjoy running with my family and being a mentor for Go Girls Go, a local girls running program. I enjoy reading and spending time with my family whenever I can. I am a huge



University of Maryland fan. We LOVE going to Maryland Terrapin sporting events. I am so very excited to become a member at Falling Spring and cannot wait to meet everyone and start getting involved in the many programs offered.

#### **Gene and Joey Reineman**

We have been happily married since 1999 and have two children: Our daughter, Josey, is a junior at Huntington University in Indiana, and our son, Gabe, is a sophomore at Chambersburg. I (Joey) teach kindergarten here in Chambersburg and love giraffes and pink flamingos. I (Gene) grew up in Orrstown and graduated from Shippensburg High School. I obtained my undergrad and graduate degrees from Huntington University. I served in a variety of youth ministry positions for twenty years. For the past 8 years, I have worked in outside sales for an industrial automation company. My



hobbies include smoking BBQ and eating BBQ while watching my Pittsburgh Steelers. My favorite Scripture is Proverbs 3:5-6. We are eager to know and grow in God's word, and connect with the Falling Spring body of believers.

#### **Dale Secules**

My wife Emily and I own the Craig Manor B&B on Philadelphia Avenue. I work in the DC area five days a week as a contractor for the U.S. government, so I'm only in Chambersburg on weekends. We have six adult children and seven grandchildren. We love having a place where they all fit a couple of times per year. It has become a little more difficult to get the group together as Emily has started



working on a degree at University of Nebraska in Lincoln. One of my favorite Scriptures is Ephesians 4:32: "Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you." We need more kindness and forgiveness.

#### Jared, Trish, Jaxson, and Ethyn Thomas

The Thomas family is so excited to officially be listed as members of Falling Spring. We have been attending regularly since June of 2023. Prior to that, our family had been attending World Harvest Outreach. Our oldest son Jaxson was invited to help stuff boxes for Operation Christmas Child in Dec of 2022. He instantly connected with those involved with youth ministry and started attending Wackies faithfully on



Wednesday nights. We decided to visit the church on a Sunday morning in June and never left. Our youngest son Ethyn also started attending Wackies and we have loved watching them grow spiritually. Jared and I are looking forward to getting more involved and getting to know more members of this church family. Thank you for welcoming us!

#### **Michael and Christy Unger**

Michael and Christy were married in Tampa, FL in 2005 and relocated to be near family in June of 2006. We have two teenagers, Maxwell (turning 18 on 2/16) and Anna (turning 16 on 4/14). Max goes to Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers, FL and is studying Forensic Studies. Anna is a 10th grader at CASHS. In their spare time, the Unger family enjoys camping and have a seasonal campground site in Newville, PA. Max and Anna have been to Camp Falling Spring for several years and have participated in youth group and events, while the family has been attending church since summer of 2023. Anna is also currently going through Confirmation class. The Ungers are excited to join the Falling Spring Presbyterian family and get involved at church.





#### Laurie Parsons Internship Update

#### **Greetings Falling Spring Friends!**

As my internship experience begins to wrap up in the next few weeks with my final Sunday being March 10th, I wanted to thank you all for welcoming me into your lives! Many thanks to Pastor Andy, Brad, and the rest of the great staff at PCFS who have graciously answered my questions and allowed me to minister alongside them. I have greatly enjoyed my time learning from you and alongside you these past nine months. It was a blessing to join you in worship, small group studies, Wednesday evening activities, and Sunday Community Dinners.

As I reflect on my time at PCFS, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve at Community Dinner alongside Heidi and Julia & Ben Landon as they seek to create meaningful connections through prayer and conversation with those who



attend. If you do not currently help with Community Dinner on Sunday afternoons, I would encourage you to give it a try. You will be blessed.

For those wondering what is next in my own journey, I will continue to work toward completing the Covenant Order of Presbyterian's ordination requirements, which includes a final retreat intensive in Dallas, TX at the end of April. I would appreciate your prayers as I continue in this process and seek to follow the Lord's call.

Again, thank you for welcoming me into your community. The Apostle Paul sums up my final thoughts this way: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." May God continue to bless you all as you have been a blessing to me!

With Love & Blessings, *Laurie Parsons* 







# MARCH YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

#### Winter Slam Recap

February 2-4, 29 students and 8 adults from Falling Spring joined together with 7 other local churches for an Amazing winter retreat. There is something powerful that happens when the Spirit of God moves in a room of 300 people gathered together to worship Him!

Pastor Don Baker's teaching from the Bible on our need to trust God as we seek to reach out to those who are seen as untouchable was challenging and encouraging. The band Attaboy led us in powerful worship songs and put on an amazing concert.

Continue to pray for these students as they seek to follow God's leading in their daily lives and live out the truths that they brought home from Winter Slam.





#### Tweens Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

March 10 - 11:30AM Tickets are on sale now!



# Easter Celebration March 20 6pm-7:30pm



Invite your friends, neighbors, and the community to come join the fun at our Easter egg hunt. Games, snacks, and of course, an exciting time looking for hidden eggs.

\*\*Please contact Jenn if you're interested in helping with this event.

Help support
kids' ministry by
shopping our
Amazon wish list.
Items purchased
will be used for
future events
and activities.



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come.
The old has gone, the new is here!
-2 Corinthians 5:17

#### A Note from Miss Jenn:

Despite the morning frost, spring is in the air! Daffodils and tulips have started poking through the ground, and crocuses are showing off their beautiful blooms. Spring is a great reminder of new life. New life in nature, babies being born, and the new life we have in Christ. We can experience freedom and forgiveness every day in Him.

March is an exciting month for PCFS Kids as we celebrate both Tweens Sunday and the Easter Celebration Egg Hunt. Both of these are great opportunities to invite friends and family and share new life with them. Can't wait to see you this month!

Kids' Sunday school and midweek classes are for age 4-grade 5. Additional opportunities are available for those older and younger.



#### **Upcoming Events:**

Sunday Mornings: 9-9:50, Sunday School in room 101

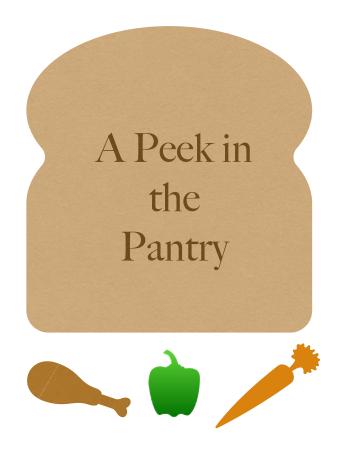
3/6, 3/13: 6:30-7:30 J-Walkers in room 103, Tweens in room 108. Joyful Voices

Kids Choir 7:30-8 in room 107

3/10: Tweens Sunday

3/20: Easter Celebration/Egg Hunt

6/17-6/21 - VBS



The Food Pantry serves an average of 90 households per week. Due to the high cost of meat and budgetary constraints, we can provide meat only two weeks per month. The alternate weeks we try to provide our clients with Spam, canned tuna, Manwich or canned chicken breast. Cereal has become more expensive.

If you wish to make donations in kind, we will be grateful for any of the above protein products and cereal of any kind. Of course, you can always mark your green envelopes for the Food Pantry and we will purchase needed items.

Marty Walker and Alice Hyatt Food Pantry Co-coordinators

#### **Tuesday Food Pantry Volunteers**

Tuesday morning February 27th was pantry day. It was a surprise to many of us that we were having a picture day. This picture shows only half of our wonderful active volunteers.

There are volunteers who give their time on Thursday or at other times who were not available at the time of the photo.

The Church Family together in this outreach ministry.

















#### **LENT: Mark Your Calendars**

As we enter that time of year when we remember the sacrifice of Lord Jesus, the Worship Committee wants you to save the dates of important times in our worship life here at the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring.

- Tween's Sunday-March 10 at 10am, in the Family Life Center for ALL the congregation where children assist in leading worship. After worship at 11:30 there is a fundraising spaghetti lunch for purchase to support the Tweens trip to Lancaster Sight & Sound Theater.
- Wednesday Evening Lenten Gatherings in March. During Lent, you are invited and encouraged to attend the Wednesday evening Lenten gatherings, 6:30-7:30 in the Chapel March 6th and 13th. The Chapel is being filled with music, Scripture, reflection, testimonies, and prayer. All adults are welcome bonus points if you bring someone with you. Lent is a season for growing in our faith through prayer, self-examination, and preparation for remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus. All other Wednesday evening adult classes will pause during Lent, as we all meet together in the Chapel.
- Palm Sunday-March 24 Holy Communion will be provided in all worship services.
- Maundy Thursday-March28 at 7pm in the chapel, all invited to remember the Upper Room meal with the disciples as Christ begins the sacrament of Holy Communion.
- Good Friday-March 29, we gather in the Family Life Center to remember God's Plan of Salvation through the cross and Jesus' sacrifice for all of us.
- Easter Sunday-March 31, a glorious time to celebrate the Resurrection and the new life God promises from the cross in all our times of worship.

Doug Martzluf, Worship Committee Chair

#### **Getting Prepared for Good Friday-You Are Invited**

As we prepare for the events of Holy Week, we want to make sure that you are invited to participate in the Good Friday presentation of God's Plan of Salvation For Us. On that evening, we will attempt to retell the story of God's love for us. Beginning with our world's creation and moving through His attempts at connecting with us in love, the story unfolds that we humans find ways to disobey God's will. God again and again promises through His covenants to be "with us" through our struggles. Yet, we, in our sin, reject His efforts. By the radical act of sending the Word, Jesus, who was there at creation, into the world to be fully human and die for us on a Roman cross, God pays the price for our sin. We are made "right" with Him through Jesus and have the hope that comes from the promise of eternal life. John 3:16

Please contact Doug Martzluf 717-816-1881 or Renee Sharpe 717-369-4100 to participate in our presentation. There are almost NO MEMORIZED LINES. We anticipate needing 10 more volunteers. Some minimal costuming will be used. PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING DATES FOR PREPARATION for this Good Friday presentation of *God's Plan of Salvation For Us*.

Sunday, March 17 after worship in the Family Life Center 11:20-12:45

Sunday, March 24 after worship in the Family Life Center 11:20-12:45

Wednesday, March 27, DRESS REHEARSAL, 6:00-8:00PM



#### News from Presbyterian Women

#### Hosting PW of the Carlisle Presbytery, Saturday, April 13th.

We hope many women from Falling Spring will attend the Gathering of women from within our Carlisle Presbytery. We need extra helping hands for the event for greeting, lunch preparation, serving, and clean up.

Registration begins in the FLC lobby at 9:00. There will be coffee, tea, and pastry as the women gather. The morning begins with introductions and a greeting by Rev. Andy Hart, followed by opening devotions. A brief business meeting is scheduled to find out what is happening at the presbytery level and within the PW groups of churches attending.

The **morning program** is presented by Christine Mayer, the Director of the Fulton Center for Sustainability Studies at Wilson College. The topic is about climate change and how we can locally impact the global picture. "Think global and act local" is the theme.

A **lunch** will be served during a time of fellowship. Also during the lunch break, women are invited to visit the sanctuary to learn about the stained glass windows as Rev. Andy has offered to share from his sermon series.

The **afternoon session** is presented by Laura Umbrell, the Breast Health Patient Navigator for Wellspan. She will focus on cancers affecting women.

The gathering will end around 2:00 PM with closing music.

Plan to attend and bring a friend. Contact Linda Fisher (717-263-0310) if you are able to help or would like more information.

# **Churchwide Gathering of PW 2024 August 8-11 in St. Louis, Missouri**

Check out <u>www.presbyterianwomen.org</u> for more information about Presbyterian women (PCUSA)



2024 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women August 8–11, 2024 - St. Louis, Missouri

#### **PW** in Mission and Service

We are always looking for women to join us in our missions. Speak with any of the Coordinating Team members to let us know of your interest in joining us.

Linda Fisher, Sue Mummert, Marilyn Griffin, Karen Stover, Lynne Peters, Pat Grandel-Phenicie, Becky Fritz, Vicki Kaye, Wanda Hutchings, Judy George, Lorraine Schwartz, and Joy Zimmerman. The Coordinating Team meets on the second Friday each month. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact any of the CT members.



## SAVE THE DATE! WOMEN'S PRAYER GATHERING

We are excited to announce that the Lord has led us to another women's prayer gathering, a time when women from our church and community meet to fellowship, worship, pray, and experience the presence of Jesus together.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 20 AT 8:30 AM in the FLC

The theme for this Gathering is "Designed for God," and we will explore our identity in Jesus and learn about ways we can draw near to Him. God led us to Paul's writing in Ephesians 2:10:

"We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it!" (TPT)

More information and a flyer will be coming soon, and childcare will be provided. As we witness the Lord moving in our congregation, we continue to see his goodness everywhere. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

Designed for God





AUGUST 20 2 - 4 24

PCFS Campus & Horse Valley

- Campers, Counselors & GodSquad from the first decade
- Special Guests: Fernando "Fern" Ortega, Mark Lesher, Don Baker & Brad Hill
- Bring your spouse / significant other & round up your bunkmates & friends! This is going to be EPIC.

**200ppl** LIMITED SPACE

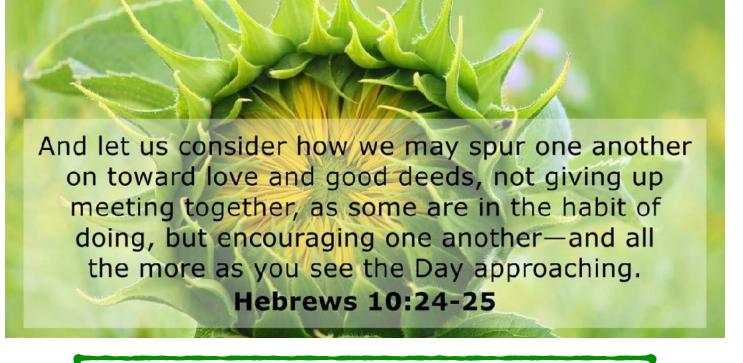


FOR MORE INFORMATION & ONLINE REGISTRATION:

CampFallingSpringReunion.com

## **Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring**Committees & Opportunities of the Church

Committee	Nominated to/Join	Chair	Contact Information
Session	Nominated to	Through Nominating Committee, Dave Mummert	Dmummert02@gmail.com
Deacons	Nominated to	Through Nominating Committee, Dave Mummert	Dmummert02@gmail.com
Trustees	Nominated to	Through Nominating Committee, Dave Mummert	Dmummert02@gmail.com
Building and Grounds	Join	Susy Sponseller	ssponse@gmail.com
Security	Join	James Albrecht	Jalbrecht671@gmail.com
Adult Discipleship	Join	Jody Wright	Wright3813@comcast.net
Children's Ministry	Join	Rita Hillwig	Rhillwig1537@gmail.com
Congregational Life	Join	Renee Brink	Rhillwig1537@gamil.com
Health & Prayer	Join	Rev. Andy Hart	pastorandy@pcfallingspring.org
Mission and Outreach - Community Dinner - Food Pantry - Power Pack	Join Join Join Join	Dana Baker Heidi Lucas Alice Hyatt Sue Bodner	Drbaker9533@gmail.com Heidijo35@yahoo.com Hyattal929@gmail.com Suebodner4@yahoo.com
Nominating	Nominated to	Through nominating Committee, Dave Mummert	Dmummert02@gmail.org
Personnel	Join	Steve Bucher	2bucher7@gamil.com
PW	Join	Linda Fisher	ljhfisher@comcast.net
Stewardship	Join	Andy Hart	pastorandy@pcfallingshpring.org
Worship Committee	Join	Doug Martzluf	dmartzluf@comcast.net
Youth Ministry	Join	Sue Bodner	Suebodner4@yahoo.com



April Newsletter Deadline is March 17th, St, Patricks's Day. The lucky person who is the first to submit an article will be rewarded with a yummy Irish Treat complements of the Riddle House Leprechaun!







#### **Easter Lily Orders**

Remember and honor your loved ones through the purchase of a beautiful Easter Lily to be displayed on Easter Morning.
Cost is \$11.00 per Lily. Paid when you place your order.
Complete an order form and return it to the office or place it in the offering plate along with your payment made out to PCFS. Mail to PCFS Church Office, 221 N. Main St., Chambersburg, PA 17201.
Please indicate on your check that it is for Easter Lilies.
Deadline for ordering is Monday, March 18th.
Order forms can be found in the FLC, Sanctuary, Riddle House and as bulletin inserts. Please PRINT clearly