The Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring

April 2025 Newsletter





April Worship Schedule

April 6: Brian Truesdale will preach in the Sanctuary at 8 AM. There will be one 10 AM service in the Family Life Center, to celebrate Youth Sunday.

April 13 - Palm Sunday. Communion will be served at all services. Rev. Carol Van Schenkhof will preach in the Sanctuary, and Brad Hill in the Family Life Center.

April 17 - Maundy Thursday Service, 7 PM in the Chapel. Rev. Carol Van Schenkhof will preach, and communion will be served.

April 18 - Good Friday service, 7 PM in the Family Life Center. Hear the story anew as it is told by Judas, Peter, and Mary.

April 20 - Easter at Falling Spring!

Rev. Dr. Meagan Boozer will preach in the Sanctuary, and Brad Hill in the Family Life Center.

April 27 - Brad Hill will preach in the Sanctuary, and Courtney Shatzer in the Family Life Center.

Views From a Hill



Grieving to Rejoicing

I am writing this on the first day of Spring, which is one of my favorite days of the year. Not only are we promised warmer weather

and longer days, but new life all around. At the church today, I witnessed new life blooming in an unusual spot (see photo). We typically don't expect flowers to grow between an asphalt driveway and concrete sidewalk, yet new life has a way of overcoming the odds. It reminds me of what Jesus told His disciples in John 16:20: "Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy."



When Jesus speaks of grieving being turned to joy, He's speaking of a work God has been up to since the very beginning. Abraham and Sarah grieved their inability to conceive, yet God gave them the gift of Isaac. Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers, yet God promoted Joseph to the highest ranks in Egypt and positioned him to save his people from famine. Israel was enslaved in Egypt, yet God rescued them and led them out of Egypt. The widow of Nain lost her only son, yet Jesus brought him back to life. The blind could see, the lame could leap, and even Lazarus walked out of the grave!

I'm sure the disciples grieved on Friday and Saturday, after Jesus was crucified and buried. Yet God raised Jesus from the dead, and there was rejoicing on Sunday! As we prepare to celebrate Easter at Falling Spring, let's remember that the work of God since the beginning is to turn grieving to joy. Let's not only remember, but participate in this new life by the way we live each day.

Much love, Brad

Welcome Rev. Dr. Meagan M. Boozer Meagan's Spiritual Autobiography

I was baptized by Dr. Rodney Thane Taylor at Falling Spring Presbyterian Church on March 22, 1959. My family attended worship regularly, and I was always happy to see my mom up in the choir loft using her beautiful soprano voice for God's glory. I remember taking part in the Christmas pageant when I was 7 or 8 years old. I remember because I was given the part of the "Modern

Child." The modern child didn't get to wear a costume, and I remember being sad about that. But God had a plan. My part came with the recitation of the following words which have guided my steps to this day: "What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I'd give him a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. I know what I'll give him. I'll give him my heart."

When I was 10, my parents separated. In the late '60's, the church didn't know what to do with separated/divorced people, and my mom's shame started a slide away from church for our family as a whole. I, however, had a 'job' to do during the Sunday school hour. I was a pianist and was counted on to accompany the opening songs. We lived 3 blocks from the church, and so I would set my alarm, get myself up and ready (I wonder whether I brushed my teeth or combed my hair), and walked to church in my 'Mary Janes.' Sometimes I would hitch a ride with our neighbors.

When I walked through the door to our classroom, the teacher, (Bob Frey, now in heaven) would be so excited and happy to see me. I felt loved and appreciated – something that was missing in my home at the time.

Music always kept me close to God through the fellowship of the church. In my senior year of high school, I joined a local singing group called the "Joyful Noise." We went all over the place ministering through music, and I loved every minute of it, playing and singing, doing skits, and giving testimonies. This connectional experience was formative in my faith, teaching me not to keep my faith under a basket, but let it shine for all to see.

When I started dating John, I went to Central Presbyterian Church with him. To sit in a pew with a whole family again was wonderful! We were married at Central by the Rev. Don May and all our children were baptized there. After finishing my bachelor's degree in music education at Penn State, I served in a variety of ways - starting their bell choir, singing in the choir, helping with children, etc. Then, in 1993 God called me to take a position back at Falling Spring as their Director of Music. So, we moved our whole family back down the street. It was so hard to leave our church family at Central, but we knew God was in it. We chose to think of it as having two church families within a block of each other!

At Falling Spring our family thrived. The choir thrived. My faith thrived under the care, compassion, and mentoring of the Revs. Bill & Linda Harter. In choir, I found myself spending almost as much time preparing a devotion for them as I was preparing their music. They started calling me Rev. Boozer. We all laughed. Remember when Sarai laughed?



Meagan's journey continued...

I came under the care of the Presbytery of Carlisle and started seminary at the Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg in 1995. I fulfilled a 10-month internship with the Presbyterian Church in Shippensburg in 1997-98. My faith, my confidence in Christ, my call to be part of leading Christ's church from the pulpit, around meeting tables, in hospital rooms, etc., grew with every step. After graduating with an M. Div., passing my exams, and receiving and accepting a call to be an associate pastor in Shippensburg, I was ordained on July 25, 1999 in the Falling Spring sanctuary. It 'just so happened' that Rev. Linda Harter was the moderator of the presbytery that year, and so it was Linda who asked me my ordination questions.

In 2002, God called us to expand our church family again. From Falling Spring to Central to Shippensburg, and now over the mountain to Spring Run at the Upper Path Valley Presbyterian Church – our love for and service to our Presbyterian brothers and sisters continued in that beautiful place. During the first few years, the church supported me as I had already committed to being part of a Doctor of Ministry cohort at Gordon-Conwell Seminary in South Hamilton, MA. Most of the work was at home during the year, with two weeks on-site each summer for 3 years. I graduated in 2005 with my D. Min. My focus was on Genesis 1-3 with my thesis entitled, "Men and Women in the Church: Glorifying and Enjoying God Together." Dr. Alice Mathews was my mentor in the cohort. She was an amazing example of how to be a humble, intelligent, strong, and compassionate woman in the Church of Christ. I will be forever grateful for her leadership in my life.

I served in Spring Run as the solo pastor with great thankfulness and joy until I retired on June 30, 2024, at the age of 67. To say the least, our season together was invigorating and lovely. Some might have thought a call to a 'little church in Path Valley'' was about helping them survive. No! Together, we thrived! We flourished! We grew together, loved each other, forgave each other, learned more about God together, and welcomed more and more people into the fellowship. Leaving them was one of the hardest things John and I ever did. But when God calls us to go, we go. When God calls us to stay, we stay. When God calls, we answer.

This new season of rest, reflection, and refreshment is also invigorating and lovely. We have traveled to many different churches to worship with friends near and far. It has been great in its own way. But we kept returning to Falling Spring. Some of our kids and grandkids are there. So many of our friends are there. The Word is preached, the mission of giving and serving is active, and love is evident there.

To call this season a 'full circle moment' is not an exaggeration. "All I have needed Thy hand has provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me."

Meagan has been married to John for 47 years. They have 3 children who all live in Chambersburg: Katy (& Josh) Dortenzo, Molly (& Randy) Daynard, and Douglas (& Natalie) Boozer. They are grateful for each of their 9 grandchildren ranging from age 22 to 6: Cicely (in heaven), Riley, Luke, & Mia Dortenzo; Taylor, Brady, & Peyton Daynard, and Emelia & James Boozer.

FALLING SPRING YOUTH MINISTR

April Update:

Love that leads to serving

On March 8th, 9 of our youth participated in a serve day. These youth gave up their Saturday morning to serve at Sweet Grace Ministries. They helped to clean up after the annual gown sale and prepared newsletters for mailing. One of the things we often talk about at youth group is the need for our faith in Jesus to move beyond just head knowledge. We love to discuss ways that our faith in God moves us to action. Serve Saturday's are one way that we seek to do that. These mornings give us the opportunity to serve others in our community by making God's love practical and tangible. We had a great time serving this local ministry together last month.

April will be a busy month: Camp Falling Spring Registration OPENS April 1st, Youth Sunday and Holy week. We have 17 students who will be leading the service on April 6th! Let's plan to fill the FLC to capacity to engage in a wonderful service lead by our youth! This is a great opportunity to show the youth not only that we support them, but also that they are a vital part of the church body.



Upcoming:

April 2nd YOUTH GROUP

April 6th YOUTH SUNDAY

April 9th SERVE @ KIDS EASTER EVENT

Apil 16th HOLY WEEK- NO YOUTH GROUP

> April 23rd & 30th YOUTH GROUP





Falling Spring

CFS HIGHLIGHTS:

- Games •
- Truth from Scripture
 - Amazing food
 - Friends •
 - Line dancing •
 - Cabin Chats •

JULY 13-18, 2025



\$210 \$195 FOR SIBLINGS *SCHOLARSHIPS AVALIBLE

2025



EASTER CELEBRATION April 9, 6-7:30

Egg hunt, games, and activities! Invite your friends to join us for a fun evening.

Vacation Bible School registration is OPEN!!!!

VBS - TRUE NORTH "Trusting Jesus in a Wild World" June 16-20



https://vbspro.events/p/pcfstruenorth

Kids age 3 (potty trained) - grade 5

9am-noon

Let the spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. -Ephesians 4:23

A Note from Miss Jenn:

The flowers have bloomed, the sun is shining, and spring is officially here! Easter is only a few weeks away. We hope that you will spend time with your family this season reflecting on what Easter really means and the sacrifice Jesus made for us. Watch the weekly bulletin and email updates for a full listing of special services and activities throughout the Easter season. See you soon!

Kids' Sunday school and midweek classes are for age 4-grade 5. Additional opportunities are available for those older and younger. THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FALLING SPRING

91 3.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday Mornings: 9-9:50, Sunday School in room 101 *Note: NO Sunday School Easter morning 4/20

4/2, 4/23, 4/30: 6:30-7:30, Regular mid-week activities Rm 101 J-Walkers (age 4-grade 2) Rm 103 Tweens (grade 3-grade 5)

4/2, 4/23, 4/30: 7:30-8 Joyful Voices Kids' Choir Rm 101

4/9: 6-7:30 Easter Celebration – egg hunt, games, activities

6/16-6/20: Vacation Bible School

Alpha Schedule

4/2: How Can I Make The Most Of The Rest Of My Life?
4/9: No Alpha during the church-wide Easter outreach.
4/16: No Alpha during Holy Week.
4/23: How Can I Resist Evil?
4/30: Why and How Should I Tell Others?
5/7: Does God Heal Today?
5/14: What About The Church?

Falling Spring Membership Class

Would you like to join Falling Spring Church? Even if you are "on the fence," feel free to attend the first session to learn more about our church and the membership journey. Church is more than an organization we join - it's a family! By grace we are God's children, and that makes us family - brothers and sisters placed in a household called the Church. Becoming a member of Falling Spring is not about putting our names in a book; it's about relationships and partnering more fully in the work God is doing here and beyond. Sessions will take place 9:00 - 9:50 in Rooms 107-108, and childcare is available. Here is the schedule:

- April 27: Getting to know one another and Falling Spring.
- May 4: How to Get Plugged In.
- May 11: Questions, History of PCFS, and Church Structure.
- May 18: Meet with the elders.

To register for the membership class, visit <u>pcfallingspring.org/membership</u> or scan the QR code here.



Congregational & Corporate Meeting

On **Sunday, May 4th** following the 10 AM worship services a Congregational & Corporate meeting will be held in the FLC. Purpose of the meeting: election of Trustee and "at large" Nominating Committee members, explanation of the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) and discussion of current amendments to the Book of Order.

Nominations for Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC)

The Nominating Committee will begin the process of seeking candidates to serve on the Pastoral Nominating Committee very soon. If you know of someone who would be a good candidate to serve on this important committee, if you yourself are interested in serving, or if you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of the PNC please contact Carl Francisco, Chair of the Nominating Committee.Carl's contact info: <u>carl.p.fran@gmail.com</u>, Cell Phone 717-377-9536.

News from Presbyterian Women



Regional Gathering of PW of the Synod of the Trinity to be held June 6 and 7, 2025, at the Penn Stater Hotel in State College.



The theme is "Treasured". Registration forms are available at the Welcome Desk and at the second floor kitchenette, as well as in the church office. Partial scholarships are available; contact Linda Fisher or Sue Mummert for more information. **Deadline to register is May 1.**

Spring Fundraiser for Camp Krislund Scholarship at Hoss's Steak and Sea House on Tuesday, May 6th

Obtain a "Cash Cow Card" (shown here) at church to **bring to Hoss's at any time on May 6th, and present it when you pay**. PW will receive a percentage of the day's income. The income earned from this spring's event will be forwarded to Camp Krislund's scholarship fund. This camp, situated near State College, is supported by the three central Pennsylvania Presbyteries (Carlisle, Northumberland and Huntingdon).



"For the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings, and you shall surely celebrate." (Deuteronomy 16:15b)

Since 1922, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives. This year's Birthday Offering recipients are: Leland Presbyterian Church's Windward Volunteer Housing Facility in Mississippi, and Red Cloud Renewable Dome Home Project in South Dakota. More information will be in the bulletin on May 11th.

PW in Mission and Service

We are always looking for women to join us in our missions. Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team Members: Linda Fisher, Sue Mummert, Marilyn Griffin, Karen Stover, Pat Phenicie-Grandel, Becky Fritz, Vicki Kaye, Wanda Hutchings, Lorraine Schwartz, Judy George, and Joy Zimmerman.





Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday Services Remember and honor your loved ones through the purchase of beautiful Faster Lilies to enhance the worshin services on Faster Sunday Lilies Remember and honor your loved ones through the purchase of beautifu Easter Lilles to enhance the worship services on Easter Sunday. Lilles cost \$10 each naid at the time of ordering Order forms may be found Easter Lilles to enhance the worship services on Easter Sunday. Lilles cost \$10 each, paid at the time of ordering. Order forms may be office worshin folders and bulletins in the Sanctuary FLC, and at the office cost \$10 each, paid at the time of ordering. Urder forms may be found Worship folders and bulletins, in the Sanctuary, FLC and at the office complete an order form and place it in the offering plate an order form Worship folders and bulletins, in the Sanctuary, FLC and at the office. Complete an order form and place it in the offering PA 17201. Checks the PCFS office 221 N Main St. Chambersburg. Complete an order form and place it in the offering plate, mail or bring the PCFS office, 221 N. Main St., Chambersburg, PA 17201. that it ie should be made out to PCFS please indicate on vour check that it the PCFS office, 221 N. Main St., Chambersburg, PA 17201. Checks on your check that it is for should be made out to PCFS. Please indicate on your check that it is should be made order before Monday Anril 7th Faster Lilies Please order before Snuulu ve maue our iu ruro. riease mulcale on you Easter Lilies. Please order before Monday April 7th. Cool Stuff for VBS Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

Happy Easter!

Please use the QR code below to shop the Amazon wish list for this year's Vacation Bible School. All items will be used to create an amazing week for the kids!

Thank you for your support!



https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/189NNZZ7AEFM0?ref =wl_share **Monetary donations are also appreciated if you prefer not to use Amazon.



the camp for the week. If you have questions or are interested in serving in this vital role contact Sam Ray. sam@pcfallingspring.org or 717-830-0806

"Oh the places we will go!"

"The best week of my life!"

All expenses paid, one week vacation to the beautiful mountains of Pennsylvania. Stay in a quaint cabin and dine lakeside on delicious meals prepared by legendary culinary chef Bryan & his experienced God Squad associates. You will have **front row** seats to all sporting events, **VIP seating** for evening worship and you can enjoy glorious morning prayers by the water's edge. Meet God in Horse Valley.

This trip can be yours if you are a licensed nurse and legally permitted to give medications to students. (possibly probably some adults too!) It's a vital & rewarding role to provide for the folks at CFS.

Please contact Sam Ray - <u>sam@pcfallingspring.org</u> or 717-830-0806 if interested or with any questions.