



NEW ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASS

Wednesdays at 6:30 in the Activity Room

What Is "Biblical" Justice?

The Lord loves justice and will not forsake his faithful ones. (Ps. 37:28)

God loves "justice", but do we? In our turbulent times are we even sure what justice means?

Join us for a study on discerning the meaning of biblical justice and how we can apply it in our lives. We'll take a careful look at scripture and God's just intentions for us and the world.

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Visit the bulletin board
in Eller Hall to find or share
community events —
educational, enriching,
or just for fun!**

To contribute, email ldesessa@gmail.com or post directly on the board.

Volunteers needed

for Monday mornings at the Eller Hall desk.

We need your smiling face to help with answering phones, greeting visitors and assisting with light administrative tasks.

Please contact the church office (910) 483-0121



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov 3 • Engagement Committee
- Mission Committee
- Nov 4 • S.A.L.T. breakfast at JK's Deli
- Worship Committee
- C. E. Committee
- Nov 9 • Stephen Ministry Guest Speaker
- MomCo Meeting
- **Kingdom Kidz & S.U.R.G.E. end at 6 p.m.**
- S.U.R.G.E. at the Awakening Tour
- Nov 11 • Martha Circle
- Family Skate Party
- Stated Deacons Meeting
- Nov 13 • Finance Committee
- Hannah Circle
- Nov 14 • S.A.L.T. trip to Rudy Theater
- Nov. 15 • Crossing Threshold Meeting
- Nov 16 • Dedication Sunday - Kids singing
- Lowlanders & Gathering Friendsgiving
- Nov 17 • Personnel Committee
- Nov 18 • 2026 Conference Planning
- Stated Session Meeting
- Nov 21 • S.U.R.G.E. Friendsgiving Lock-In
- Nov 22 • Vivaldi Gloria Rehearsal
- Nov 23 • Hanging of the Greens
- MomCo Meeting
- Nov 24 • David's Mighty Men
- Nov 25 • COAP Meeting (Zoom)
- Nov 27 • H3F Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon
- Church Office closed
- Nov 28 • Church Office closed
- Dec 12 • S.A.L.T. Christmas Lights Tour

CONNECT WITH US: [@1stPrez](https://www.facebook.com/1stPrez) [@firstprezfay](https://www.instagram.com/firstprezfay) [FPC](https://www.fpc.org) The First Prez App

A PASTORAL MESSAGE

from Dr. Mike Garrett

Some books change us. They say something we need to hear just the way we need to hear it. I still have an old yellow paperback on my shelf titled Evangelism: Doing Justice and Preaching Grace, by Harvie Conn.

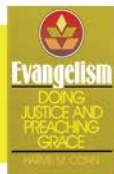


Harvie was the Professor of Missions at Westminster Theological Seminary. Back in 1983 I was sitting in class when a guy walked in with thick eyeglasses, a noticeable limp, old clothes, and hair that looked like it was combed with a garden rake. I was hooked. He spoke of his years of mission work in South Korea among prostitutes. He told them they were sinners in need of repentance.

Nobody listened. Then he made a discovery. Most of the women had been sold into a system of sex slavery in a male-dominated culture. *Their captors made sure there was no way out.*

As Harvey tells it in his book, no one changed until he changed:

"I discovered that a person is not only a sinner.
He or she is also sinned against."



My old copy has that quote underlined and starred multiple times. It was the beginning of my pilgrimage to understand biblical justice and a realization that I did not.

Some of us are quick to blame individuals for their wrongdoing and insist on "justice" by which we usually mean punishment. Others of us are quick to blame the "system" for the way individuals turn out and see justice as what it takes to make things right. The bible's definition of justice doesn't allow for such an easy choice.

Now is a good time to study "biblical justice". It's at the center of the story of the Old Testament. It is the heart of Jesus' gospel. The divided voices of our public and political life are quick to insist on the need for justice, and equally quick to say the other side has it wrong. As Christians we need to pay attention to what our faith has to say, first.

I'll be offering the class, "**What is Biblical Justice?**" on Wednesday evenings beginning on October 29 at 6:30 p.m. We'll be working on understanding this very important teaching in scripture. We will meet in the activity room. Bring a bible and join us for a rich time of learning together.

Sincerely,

Trunk or Treat

A big thank-you to all the amazing volunteers
who made Trunk or Treat such a success!

Not even the rough weather could dampen the fun —
kids, youth, and adults alike had a fantastic time together!



Create
in me a
Clean Heart





WEDNESDAYS ARE BETTER TOGETHER

All In Fellowship meal with potluck sides, family & friends
Wednesdays - 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The church will provide the main entree. You can bring a salad, side, dessert or bread that will serve 8 to 10 people or pay \$8 per adult (age 13+) and \$3 per child (age 5-12). The meal cap is \$20 per family. Childcare available upon request—contact Britany or Wanda no later than the Sunday prior.

November 5
Taco Bar

November 12
Spaghetti

November 19
BBQ

After the meal, stay and take part in evening opportunities for all ages: Dr. Garrett's class "What is Biblical Justice", Stretch & Scripture, Celebration Choir, and God's Little Creators for kids.

s.a.l.t.
Seasoned Adults
Learning Together

S.A.L.T. Fellowship Breakfast
Tuesday, November 4
JK's Deli at 8:30 a.m.

Upcoming S.A.L.T. Trip

Friday, December 12 - Festival of Lights Tour

We will depart the church at 6 p.m. and tour Sweet Valley Ranch's Christmas Lights. Cost will be dinner at MiCasitas.

RSVP by November 21 to Kathy Nickell at
(703) 283-7230 or nickell.katherinem@gmail.com





Family Roller Skating Party

Tuesday, November 11 - 4 to 5:30 p.m.

at Round-A Bout Skating Center 880 Elm St.

Grab your loved ones for an afternoon of skating, laughter, & memories. All ages & skill levels welcome.



SCAN ME

Lace up and roll with us!

\$5 for skaters. Adults not skating are free.

Register online at bit.ly/FPCSkate



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

As we celebrate this congregation's remarkable 225th year, we are reminded of the countless stories shared—stories of impact, compassion, and unwavering faith. For generations, this church has stood as a cornerstone for families and the broader community, serving with love, purpose, and grace. That's why this year's stewardship theme, "A Legacy of Generosity – A Future of Abundance," feels especially fitting.

Legacy is more than a word—it's a living testimony. It can mean something passed down from those who came before us, a gift entrusted to our care, or a sacred connection to a greater story. But perhaps the most powerful definition is this: legacy is what we choose to build and nurture today for those who will come tomorrow.

Legacy is not a status we inherit—it's a calling we answer. It is sustained not by memory alone, but by action. Every pledge, every offering, every hour volunteered, and every act of service is a brick laid in the foundation of a future filled with hope and abundance.

So, what does legacy mean to you? How will you continue the legacy of this church?

As Scripture reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9:11:

*"You will be enriched in every way
so that you can be generous on every occasion,
and through us your generosity
will result in thanksgiving to God."*

This verse beautifully captures the heart of stewardship. Our generosity is not just a gift—it is a response to God's grace, a reflection of our faith, and a source of gratitude that echoes far beyond these walls.

Together, let us honor the legacy we've inherited by boldly investing in the future we are called to create. May our generosity today become the thanksgiving of tomorrow.

In Christ,

Your Stewardship Committee

Brandon Hammond (Moderator), Drew Kramer (Vice Moderator), Rodney Baker, Lou Brooks, Paul Haddow-Green, Kimberhly Hopkins, Ralph Huff

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

FPC packed meals have been shipped to the Philippines!





“People Experiencing Challenges Related to Aging”

Discussion with guest speaker

Dorothy Funkhouser

Sunday, November 9 at 3 p.m. in the Chapel

Dorothy is well known in our community. She served 25 years as Director of Christian Education and Stephen Ministry leader at Haymount United Methodist Church and now works as a clinical mental health counselor at Fayetteville Family Life Center.



Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**





Home & Hearth Holiday Fellowship Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner Thursday, November 27th at 12 p.m.

***Your family looks forward to having you join them on Thanksgiving Day!!
Feel free to invite and bring a friend!***



There's no fee—just bring a side, salad, bread, or dessert to serve 8–10. The main entrée and drinks will be provided by the Congregational Care Committee.

Let us know what you'll bring to the H3 F Potluck Dinner—
salads, sides, or desserts (store-bought or homemade).

Register online by November 23 at 3 p.m.,
scan the QR Code or visit bit.ly/H3FThanksgiving25



Sunday, November 16

Lowlanders & The Gathering
will join together for a



Friendsgiving Celebration!



Contact Brandon Hammond
for location & time.
bran.hammond@gmail.com

KINGDOM KIDZ SCHEDULE

- Nov. 2
- Nov. 9 - Ends @ 6pm
- Nov. 16
- Nov. 23 - Memory Verse Party
- Nov. 30
- Dec. 7 - Christmas Party

Kingdom Kidz will break until Sunday, January 4, 2026.

KINGDOM KIDZ SING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, November 16

Sunday, December 7

MEMORY VERSE CELEBRATION

All children who memorize these verses are welcome!

Sunday, November 23 | 4:30–6:30 p.m. during Kingdom Kidz

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Toddlers (Birth to 2): Room 128 (Downstairs in the Nursery Area)

Ages 3 to 5: Room 104 (Downstairs in the Nursery Area)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade: Room 207

3rd - 5th Grade: Room 208

Join us as we learn about worshiping God with the following stories:

Nov. 2 - David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6:12b–15, 17–19)

Nov. 9 - Let Us Worship (Psalm 122)

Nov. 16 - Jonah (Jonah 1–4) & Children Sing in Worship

Nov. 23 - Everything Begins with God (Isaiah 56:1–8)

Nov. 30 - A Child Will Be Born (Isaiah 9:2–7)

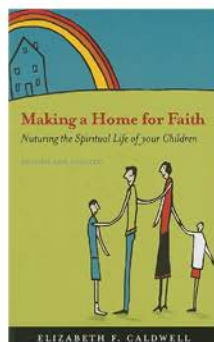


Parenting Sunday School Class New Book Study
beginning November 2 at 10 a.m. in Room 225

Making a Home for Faith: Nurturing the Spiritual Life of Your Children

by Elizabeth F. Caldwell

Guiding children in their spiritual growth after baptism can feel overwhelming. In this book, Elizabeth Caldwell provides practical insights and thoughtful strategies for parents and educators to nurture a child's faith. She explores ways to cultivate a supportive spiritual environment, at home, in the church, and in the broader world, helping children develop a lasting, meaningful connection with their faith.



S.U.R.G.E. SCHEDULE

- Nov. 9 - Ends @ 6pm
Awakening Tour @ Crown Col. @ 7pm
- Nov. 16 - NEW SERIES BEGINS
- Nov. 23
- Nov. 30 - Cocoa Jar Pack Night
- Dec. 7 - Christmas Mission Project



Starts
January 2026
Register
today!

Youth Pickleball League

Grades 4-12

Register at bit.ly/FPCPickleball
or scan the QR Code.



COCOA & COOKIE GIFT JARS ARE BACK!

Enjoy a special holiday treat made by your very own FPC youth!

Funds support youth missions and retreats.



- Hot Cocoa w/ marshmallows (12oz-\$8, 24oz-\$10)
- Hot Cocoa w/ peppermint & marshmallows (12oz-\$8, 24oz-\$10)
- Sugar Cookies (\$12) makes approx. 30 cookies
- Chocolate Chip Cookies (\$12) makes approx. 30 cookies



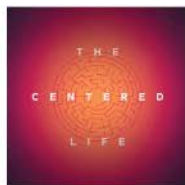
Preorder now through Nov 23. Pick up Dec 1 - 7 in Eller Hall.

To preorder online, scan the QR Code or visit bit.ly/SURGEJars

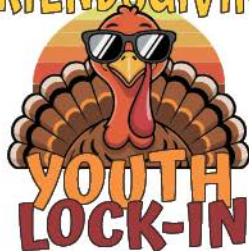
If you'd prefer to pay by cash or check, please email Jess at youth@firstprez.com

S.U.R.G.E. NEW Series Starts Nov 16th - The Centered Life

We hope you have had a terrific year! We know that things get chaotic during the holidays with finals, celebrations, shopping, and travel. We can lose focus on what is most important. This is why we are beginning a series called The Centered Life! We will focus on some spiritually forming practices to stay in step with Jesus ourselves and our community.



FRIENDSGIVING



Scan Me



Drop off - Friday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.

Pick up - Saturday, Nov. 22 at 7 a.m.

Join us for a fun-filled evening of celebrating friendship and giving thanks to the friend who never leaves us, God! Bring a buddy and dress like twins...best dressed will win a prize! It will be a night full of games, prizes, shenanigans, and of course a movie and snacks.

\$10 per youth. Buddies are free!

Register online. Scan the QR Code or visit bit.ly/SURGElockin

Potluck dinner will be served. Don't forget to sign up for what dish you'll bring here: bit.ly/SURGEpotluck

Lock-In Wish List

We need your help making our friendsgiving extra special!
Contact Jess Jones to see how you can help!



THE *Angel Tree* IS COMING SOON!

This Christmas season, share the love of Christ by being part of our Angel Tree Ministry—a cherished tradition that brings hope and joy to families in need.

The Children's Ministry and Mission Committee are partnering with Walker Spivey Elementary to sponsor 20 children this year. Each Angel Tag represents a gift to an assigned child. Feel free to take one Angel Tag or more.

The Angel Tree will be in Eller Hall beginning Sunday, November 16.

Stop by to select an Angel Tag and help make Christmas morning special for a child in our community. **Gifts are due by Monday, December 14.**

Drop off gifts under the Christmas tree in Eller Hall or outside Britany Spivey's office. Gifts may be wrapped, but please remember to attach both the gift receipt and the Angel Tag securely to the outside of your package.

If you would like to make a financial contribution toward gifts, please contact Britany Spivey at britany@firstprez.com.

Let us come together as the body of Christ to share His love, light, and generosity this Christmas season.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Hudson McFadyen	9 Happy Hibler	16 Caroline Helmke
2 Glinda Davis	9 Margaret Reid	17 Shep McCauley
3 Daniel Perry	9 Carter Baltz	17 Page Haddow-Green
3 Mike Spinosa	10 Brian Pearce	18 John Harbison
3 Harper Bryan	10 Resa Cleveland	19 Priscilla Hooks
4 Corey McMahon	10 Evans Hibler	19 Tripp Hall
5 Bill Dunn Sr.	10 Eden Hibler	20 Cecelia Sherrill
5 Ned Johnson	10 Stone Harrison	21 Caroline Cox
5 Susan Williams	11 Martha Helms	21 Jim Watson
6 Fred Williams Jr.	11 Lee Gutierrez	23 Susan Hardin
6 Daniel Harrison	11 Radford Brown	24 Anji Martinez
6 Taylor Gilbert	11 John Megson	24 Billy Kirby
6 Lyn Kirby	11 Riley Spinosa	25 Debra Chestnutt
6 Cole Wright	11 Grady McLaughlin	25 Steve McRae
6 Stiles Kraft	11 Greer McLaughlin	26 Dee McCutchen
7 Wells Alderman	12 Nancy Soffe	27 Gayle Braxton
7 Debbie Brock	14 Susie McFadyen	27 Luke Howle
7 Alex McFadyen	14 Ashley Foster	27 Lia Bullock
7 Michael Dunning	14 Sara Campbell	28 Eliza Harrison
8 Janice Luce	15 Allan Battles	29 Taylor Sky
9 W. C. Strickland	16 Cara Spencer	30 Jamie McFadyen
9 Stephen Gooding	16 Jacqueline Smith	

Memorials

Jonathan Stuart Laws

Ann Rowell
Ann & Buzz Loyd

Rev. Earl Vaughan Sr.

Sammy & Carol Short

Ted Lepper

Debra Chestnutt
Gillie Revelle
Bud Lafferty
Rob Hastep & Family
Marian & Bill Boyette
Ann & Buzz Loyd

