

Lord's Day

May 5, 2024 10:15 am Welcome to worship at Fox Valley Presbyterian Church; we're so glad you've joined us! You come to us not as a stranger but as a friend in Christ.

In our order of service, the congregation speaks words in bold type. The asterisk* indicates when you are invited to rise in body or in spirit.

Large print bulletins and hearing assist devices are available from the ushers.

We Gather To Worship God

PRELUDE Andante Mueller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

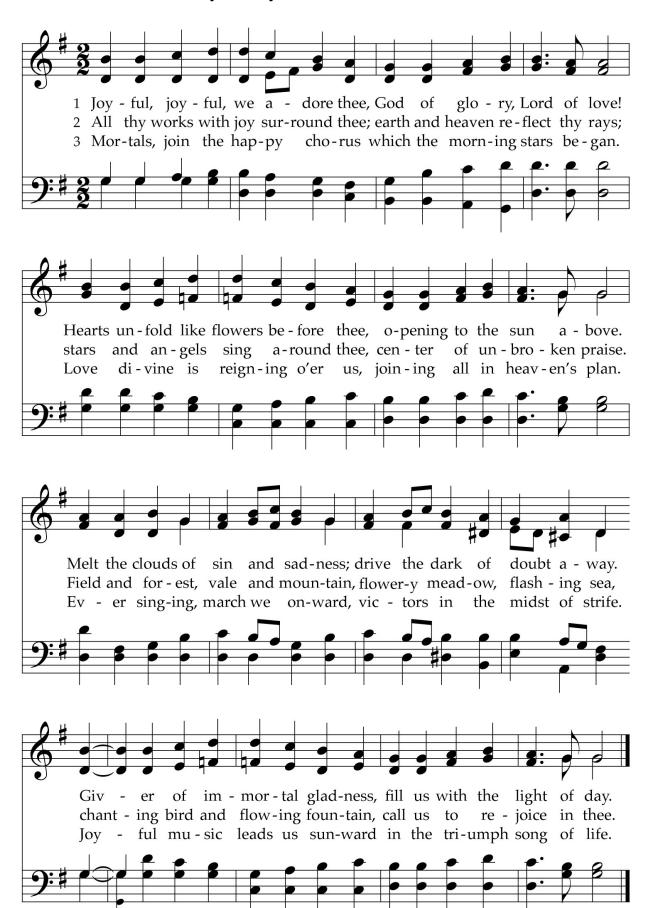
We come to join with all the earth in praise:

to sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.

We praise the Lord with joyful noises joining the symphony of the earth:

the roar of the ocean, the call of the birds, the wind across the hills, people in every corner of the globe.

On this day of rest and gladness, we greet you with joy, our living God!



*CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

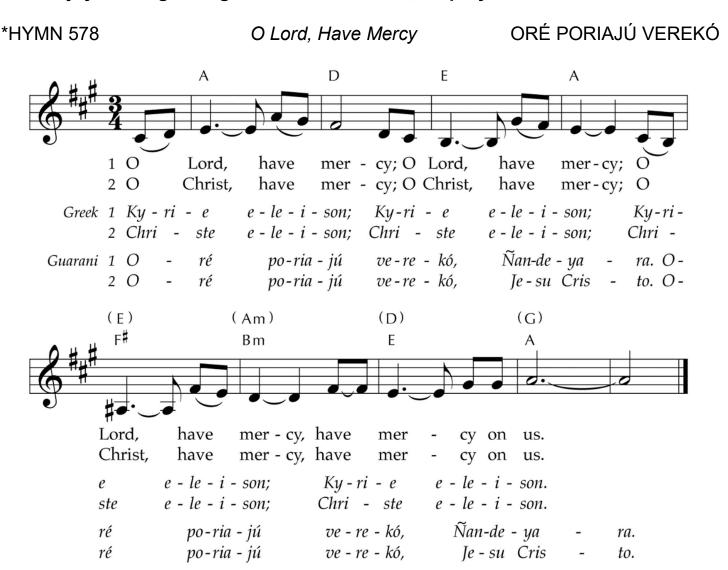
There is nothing that can separate us from God's love. Therefore, let's confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and help us transform our lives.

Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. Forgive us for our resistance that holds us back from living in true covenant community, accountable to and for all of your creation. How can a faith like that serve your purposes in the world?

Time for quiet prayers

Nourish us again,

to blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

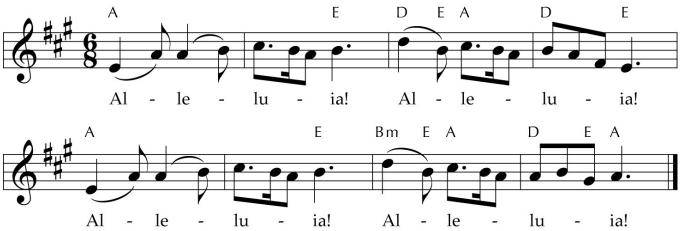


*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Hear the Good News! The only one who could judge us calls us friends. Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.

By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new. Let us live as God's forgiven children. Alleluia! Amen.

*HYMN 587 Alleluia! CELTIC ALLELUIA



*PASSING OF THE PEACE

As God's forgiven people we know true peace and can share that peace with others. May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share Christ's peace with those around you.

We Listen for God's Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children through fifth grade, please come forward at this time; parents are welcome to come, as well.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-aram, and he blessed him. God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall you be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he was called Israel. God said to him, "I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall spring from you. The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you." Then God went up from him at the place where he had spoken with him. Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone; and he poured out a drink offering on it, and poured oil on it. So Jacob called the place where God had spoken with him Bethel.

John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

SERMON

Stephanie E. Anthony



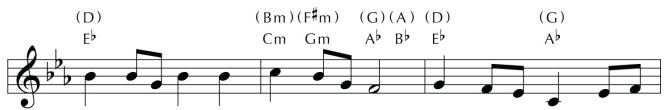
spin the whirl-ing plan-ets, fill 1 God, you the seas and have called us be faith - ful 2 You in our life and to 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing to us



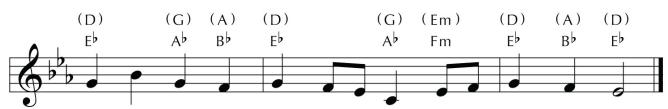
spread the plain, mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth min - is - try. We re-spond in grate-ful wor-ship joined in life made new. Now re-veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age, one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age, work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.



re - flec - tion of would a true be your jus - tice, whole. Healed fo cus us and make us and strength - ened Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures



truth that grace, and mer - cy and the makes us free. your peo - ple, move on - ward toward your goal. as we your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where. in

We Respond to God's Word

PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Charles Conboy David Jahoda Maren Williams Avery York

Dorene Tieche, Elder:

On behalf of the session, I present David Jahoda to join Fox Valley Presbyterian Church upon his profession of faith and the Sacrament of Baptism.

Charles Conboy, Maren Williams, and Avery York are presented by the Session to profess their faith publicly.

All of these students have indicated they are ready to accept greater responsibility in the life of the church and God's mission in the world.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor Michelle:

You all have worked towards learning about the faith we share and what it means to be part of the body of Christ. Now as you publicly declare your faith, I ask you to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? "I do."

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? "I do."

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? "I will, with God's help."

With whole church, rising in body or in spirit, let us confess our faith responsively using the words of the Apostles' Creed

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Pastor Stephanie:

Putting your whole trust in the grace and love of Jesus Christ, David, do you desire to be baptized? "I do."

Will you, by your prayers and witness, help David to grow into the full stature of Christ? "I will."

Dorene Tieche, Elder:

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture David by word and deed, with love and prayer? "**We do.**"

Will we encourage him to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of the church? "We will."

Pastor Stephanie:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:

In countless ways, from generation to generation, you reveal your great love for the world and bless us with signs of your grace.

We praise you that through the waters of the sea, you led your people Israel out of bondage, into freedom in the land of your promise.

We praise you for sending Jesus Christ your Son, and for the baptism of his death and resurrection through which you set us free from sin and death.

We praise you for the gift of your Holy Spirit, given to all nations and people so that all who call on your name might be saved.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this water, that this font may be your womb of new birth.

May all who pass through these waters be delivered from death to life, from bondage to freedom, from sin to righteousness. Bind them to the household of faith and guard them from all evil. Strengthen them to serve you with joy until the day you make all things new. **Amen**

David, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

David, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism, and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

UNITING WITH THE CONGREGATION

Pastor Michelle:

Having declared your faith, we rejoice that you now wish to share with us in our common ministry.

Will you devote yourselves to the church's teachings and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers? "I will, with God's help."

Dorene Tieche, Elder:

Do we, the members of this church family, welcome these young people in Jesus Christ, and promise by our fellowship to strengthen their ties with the household of God and to work with them in doing the work of Christ in the world? If so, please respond with "**We do.**"

ANOINTING AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

Pastor Michelle (and Maren and Avery):	ointing Charles and David) and Pastor Stephanie (anointing
Ο ′	the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy oth now and forever. Amen.

Pastor Stephanie:

I invite the confirmands' parents to join us as we offer prayers of blessing.

Parents place cross necklaces on their students.

Let us pray: Gracious God, by water and the Spirit you claimed us as your own, cleansing us from sin, and giving us new life. You made us members of your body, the church, calling us to be your servants in the world. Renew in Charles, David, Maren, and Avery the covenant you made in their baptism. Continue the good work you have begun in them. Send them forth in the power of your Spirit to love and serve you with joy, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Again and again, God calls upon young people to force change or fire up human hopes. May we never get in their way or hold on to power so tightly that we stifle the Spirit's work within our youth. May we even find ourselves following their lead into new ways of being the church together. Joyfully we receive each of these young people into the mission we share. Our prayers for them will continue, as will our support. Together, may we continue on in God's good work and witness to the world the Good News of Christ Jesus. **Alleluia! Amen!**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Instructions for giving online may be found on the "My Offering Today" card in the pew rack.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bless the Lord, O My Soul
Men's Quartet

Raney

The Lord's Supper

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MUSIC

Holy Is the Lord

Schrader

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Depart To Serve God

*HYMN 536

Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen

SURGE ECCLESIA



*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata Colvin

END OF WORSHIP.....BEGINNING OF SERVICE

Rev. Stephanie E. Anthony, Pastor and Head of Staff Rev. Michelle M. Hwang, Associate Pastor for Discipleship Revs. Allan Dempsey, Melinda B. Hinners-Waldie, Lucas King and Loy Williams, Parish Associates

Christopher Jackson, Music Director John Stombres, Organist
Dr. Chiayi Lee, Accompanist
Pam Curry, Director of The Growing Place Preschool

Men's Quartet Tom Dunn, Lamar Owings, John Stombres,

Kurt Wachter

Communion servers Charles Conboy, David Jahoda, Maren Williams,

Avery York

Ushers Brock Seney, Larry Buhl, Marilyn Buhl, Kirby Curry

Nursery/child care assistant Kim Kolaczewski

Fellowship Hour host Adult Education Committee (Susan Strasser)

Card & flower delivery Kathie Dempsey, Deacon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Mike and Beth Jahoda in celebration of the confirmands.

PRAYERS FOR THE GROWING PLACE PRESCHOOL. One of the best ways that we can support our students and teachers at The Growing Place Preschool is to keep them in our daily prayers as they learn and grow. This week we pray for Cassidy, Keaton and Pierce (students in the three-year-old class) and their teacher, Miss Cali; and Liam, Paige and Remy (students in the four-year-old class) and their teacher, Miss Colleen.

Staying in Touch

Meetings with the following staff members are by appointment. Please contact them directly via email to make an appointment:

Stephanie Anthony, Head of Staff – santhony@foxvalleypres.org Michelle Hwang, Associate Pastor of Discipleship – mhwang@foxvalleypres.org

Jill Reilly, Financial Administrator - jreilly@foxvalleypres.org

STAFF NOTES: *Pastor Stephanie's* day off is Monday. *Pastor Michelle's* day off is Friday. *Jill Reilly,* Financial Administrator, works on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On Mondays and Fridays, she works from home, and you may reach her on her cell phone, 630-564-1101. On Wednesdays, Jill is in her office at church. *Gerry Reed*, Office Administrator, is in the office during office hours. CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday; 9:00 am-noon, Friday.



Let Us Pray for You

Did you know we have a prayer chain? If you have a joy or concern to lift up to your church family, please contact Office Administrator Gerry Reed (office@foxvalleypres.org). She will

send the information out to our prayer chain. The more informed we are, the better we can support and care for each other. (Please note: Out of respect for privacy, if you wish to ask for prayers on behalf of a friend, be sure you have their permission to do so.)

Want to receive prayer chain updates? Just let Gerry know and she will add you to the prayer chain email list.



Topic for our May 5th class: The Lives of Jesus



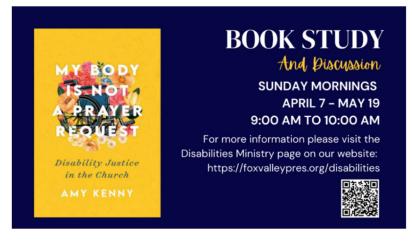
Resuming our in-depth conversation and posing questions with answers and no answers

Drop in as you wish!

adult education class meets on Sundays 9:00 am in Rooms 2 and 3

Pastor Michelle is the facilitator

All are welcome!



Adult Ministries is offering an educational study and discussion on the topic of disabilities awareness and the church. Our weekly topics include references to the book by Amy Kenny, *My Body Is Not A Prayer Request*.

Please join us as we learn more about how disabilities impact individuals and families, and how the community can be more inclusive. Classes meet on Sunday mornings in the Conference Room, 9:00-10:00 am, now through May 19.

Copies of *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request* are available for purchase for \$12.00. For more information, please contact Angie Bateman at abtmn95@gmail.com.

New!

DISABILITIES MINISTRY

Did you know that 1 in 5 people live with a disability? (U.S. Census Bureau)

CONTACT US

Sunday

Schoo

Our Disabilities Ministry
Classroom is located in
Room #4 and is open on
Sunday mornings from
10:00 - 11:15 am.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Middle and High School

9:00 am in the Youth Lounge Breakfast provided!

Children 5th grade and under

10:30 am after the *Children's Time* in worship

Three-year-olds through kindergarten - Room 1
First through fifth graders - Room 2



The Children and
Family Ministry Committee
is inviting you to a

Sunday School Family Feedback and Fellowship Meeting

Sunday, May 5th in rooms 2-3.

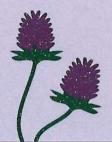
The meeting will begin after worship at 11:25 and end at approximately 11:50.

Parents and grandparents will gather to provide feedback, share input for future planning, and complete registration forms for the next school year.

Childcare will be provided in room one.

If you have questions, please contact
Bridget Wachter at bkwachter@sbcglobal.net.





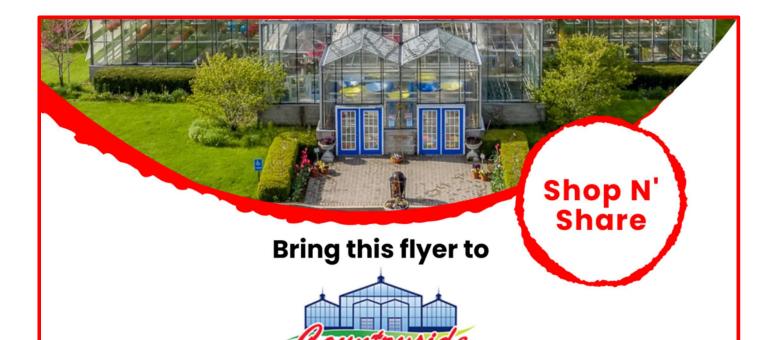


Monthly Styrofoam and plastic bag recycling event

Begins Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 10:00 am Ends Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 11:30 am

Drop off your recycling in the bins by the preschool entrance BLUE bin is for #6 Styrofoam and clean foam food containers BLACK bin is for plastic bags and wrap





& Garden Center
42W075 IL Route 38, Elburn, IL,
OPEN DAILY: 9 AM to 5 PM

on Tuesday May 7th

Present it to the cashier and 18% of your pre-tax purchase will be donated to Fox Valley Presbyterian Church!



Form must be presented at time of purchase. Not included in shared dollars are purchases of birdseed, fresh floral arrangements, bulk items, landscape design, labor, or delivery charges. For hours and directions, visit us online at www.countrysideflowershop.com

Name:	Phone:
Are you interested in receiving the Countryside bi-monthly e-newsletter with gardening tips, upcoming events and special offers? Sign up below:	Is this your first visit to Country side? Yes No If no, how did you hear about us?
Email:	

Note: Please do not distribute shopper forms at Countryside.



Teens and adults with disabilities are invited to join us for a FREE evening of fun, games, snacks and community! This event is hosted by the Disabilities Ministry at Fox Valley Presbyterian Church every second Friday of each month. All participants must register/RSVP monthly. For more information or to sign up, visit foxvalleypres.org/disabilities.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Second Sunday Community Dinner

May 12

4:00-6:00 pm in the Great Hall

Turkey tetrazzini, peas, dinner roll, lettuce salad and ooey butter cake.

INVITE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO JOIN YOU

DINE IN, CARRY OUT, OR BOTH





MEETS MONDAY, MAY 13

1:30-3:00 PM IN THE ADULT LOUNGE



COME AND JOIN US!

NOT JUST FOR KNITTERS - BRING YOUR CROCHET,
EMBRODIERY, OTHER HANDWORK
KNITTING HELP AVAILABLE

Our Next GriefShare session is Monday, May 13

Grief Share

Grief Support Group

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

At a GriefShare group, you'll find understanding, guidance, relief, and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us!

Mondays (excluding the first Monday)

April 22-August 19th

6:30-7:30pm, Adult Lounge

RSVP to Michelle, mhwang@foxvalleypres.org

workbooks \$10

griefshare.org

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

MAY 15 MAY 22

NOON - CONFERENCE ROOM

Come and get a sneak peek at the Sunday sermon!

Bring your lunch if you wish

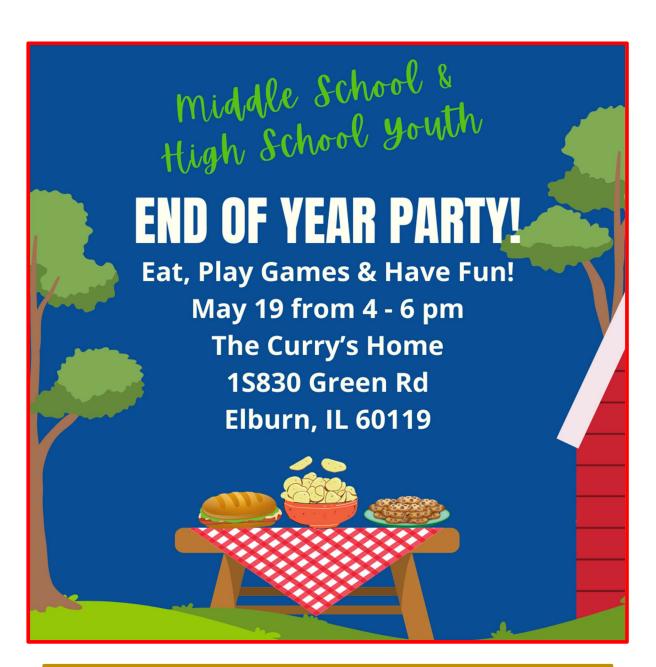


Pentecost Offering Will Be Received Sunday, May 19



We will receive this special offering on May 19, 2024. The Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

You may give on Sunday, May 19, with a check marked Pentecost Offering on the memo line or online on our giving page (www.foxvalleypres.org/give).





COFFICE HOURS
WITH
PASTOR STEPHANIE
MAY 31

Come on by the Arcedium Coffeehouse in St. Charles anytime between 12:00-2:00 p.m. for casual conversation with Pastor Stephanie and anyone else who stops by.



Deadline for making your contribution is Friday, May 31.







As we seek to create a culture of justice, Presbytery of Great Rivers is partnering with Crossroads

Antiracism Organizing and Training to learn how to identify and dismantle the systemic racism that afflicts
us, our church, and the larger culture. Join us in building the beloved community God calls us to be.

Animating Antiracist Ways of Being

4pm Friday, May 31st - 1pm Saturday, June 1st Stronghold Retreat Center, Oregon, IL

Overview:

For People invested in transforming their institutions and ecologies to become racially just, it is critically important to understand what antiracism is and what it requires of leaders in institutions. This work includes building shared understanding of how systemic racism operates within institutions, practice identifying its impacts and tools for imagining solutions. The workshop is customized for Presbyterian clergy, staff, elders, and church members.



Facilitator:
Jessica Vazquez Torres
National Program Director

Workshop Delivery:

This workshop utilizes large and small group conversation and individual reflection, as well as applied practice of frameworks introduced to provide participants with both knowledge and experience. Crossroads unique analysis provides a place to start or deepen for institutions committed to institutional transformation. There will also be time for meals together, worship, and fellowship.

Cost

\$90 per person, with a discounted rate of \$60 and supporter rate of \$120 for those who want to help.

Register Here



A neighboring presbytery is hosting a workshop May 31-June at Stronghold Camp and Conference Center on how to live into our desire and spoken intentions to be antiracist. The presenter, the Jessica Vasquez Torres, was a guest of FVPC at Pastor Michelle's installation and is widely known for her excellence in leading antiracism training.

If you participated in either of the learning opportunities we provided in 2019 or 2020, led by the local affiliate of the national organization leading this one, this will be a great follow-up. If you are new to antiracism training, you couldn't choose a better facilitator to start with!

If you would like to go, but the cost options listed are prohibitive, please reach out to Pastors Stephanie and Michelle for church sponsorship.

Summer Sunday School

Starting June 2!

Three year-olds through kindergarteners "Summer Story Series" in Room 1

1st - 5th grade "Brick by Brick" in the Conference Room



Sunday, June 2, after our indoor worship

Church picnic

Bounce house, tent, hot dogs and beverages provided by the Deacons

Bring a side dish/dessert for our potluck buffet in the Great Hall and chairs/blankets for outdoor dining Eat indoors or outdoors!

VOICES

June 2 9:00 am Rooms 2 and 3

FVPC member and
Army veteran
Al Aguilar
will share his
Honor Flights experiences

Pick up a beverage and a treat at our Fellowship Hour and join us for more fellowship





Wednesday, June 5, 10 am

The Land and Name Acknowledgement Task Force (LANA) of Blackhawk Presbytery invites you to join us for a visit to the Apple River Fort State Historic Site, followed by a picnic lunch and discussion at Schapville Zion Presbyterian Church.

Optional afternoon activities include visits to Casper Bluff Reserve, Casper Creek Natural Cemetery, First Presbyterian Church of Galena and dinner at DeSoto Hotel, Galena.

Join us for any or all of the day's activities!

Details:

- Meet at the Fort (311 E Myrtle St, Elizabeth, IL 61028) for a guided tour and visit the interpretive center.
- Re-gather at Schapville Zion for a provided picnic lunch of grilled bratwursts, chips, cookies and beverage (donations accepted) or BYO
- Join a discussion around our Blackhawk name, land acknowledgement statements, and related topics - bring a lawn chair!
- Optional activities: the Effigy Mound site at Casper Bluff (30 minute drive), Casper Creek Natural Cemetery, tour of First Pres. Galena (est. 1831), dine as a group (dutch treat) at DeSoto House Green Street Tavern
- Overnight lodging is your preference, but there are plenty of activities for a second day in Galena
- Please RSVP: loreen@blackhawkpresbytery.org

More information: blackhawkpresbytery.org

Please let Pastor Stephanie know if you register and would like to be connected to other FVPC-ers who are participating.



VOICES

Pick up a beverage and a treat at our Fellowship Hour and join us!

Watch this space and upcoming church publications

for more details...

Here's the rest of the summer schedule

June 9, 16 and 30 July 7, 14, and 21 August 4, 11, and 18

> 9:00 am Rooms 2 and 3

BOOKS AND BAGELS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN THE SUMMER 9:00 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM

June 23

How To Know a Person, by David Brooks

July 28

Horse, by Geraldine Brooks

August 25

Poverty by America, by Matt Desmond

Bring your own books and come prepared for lively discussion (and snacks)



Here's your link to the church calendar, which includes church meetings and community group meetings.



FOX VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Mission and Ministry Partnerships



















Facebook page



YouTube channel

THE GROWING PLACE PRESCHOOL
Pam Curry, Director

FRUTO DE VIDA IGLESIA CHRISTINA Fernando Mira, Pastor