

Calendar

Al Anon:
Sep 4, 11, 18, 25, 10am

Back Row Boys:
Sep 3, 9am @ The Iron Kettle

Bible Study:
Sep 10, 17, 24, 10am

Book Club:
Sep 29, 6:30 pm

Christian Education:
Sep 15, 6:30pm

Community Engagement:
Sep 7, 9am

Deacons:
Sep 30, 7pm

Ms. Bridget's Sprouts:
Sep 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30
10:30am

Session:
Sep 8, 7pm

Women's Group:
Sept 17, 6:30pm
@ Carol Griffis' House

Worship Committee:
Oct 5, 11am

Book Club's September book is "I am Malala". Join us at 6:30pm on Monday, Sep 29th. All are welcome!

A Note from the Pastor

Are you ready for some football!? I can only hope we are as excited for another program year to begin at FPCEA as we are for another Bills' season! As always, the pace of life, which seems to rarely slow down, will only be picking up. We know we lead busy lives, but we are thankful we can still find time to gather together as a church family and recenter our lives upon what God is doing in our lives and in the world.

All are invited to "Rally Sunday" on September 7; we'll be worshiping outdoors. You're welcome to bring along a lawn chair, but we'll also have other seats on-hand as well. After worship, which will include communion via intinction, the deacons are hosting a picnic complete with hotdogs and other yummy foods. Then, on Sunday, September 14, immediately following worship, we'll gather for an informal congregational meeting. Now is the time to begin thinking about what activities you find to be meaningful at our church and which ones may have run their course. Our session and our committees want to hear from you – what ideas are you excited about? And perhaps you have something you would like to try at our church – a painting night, a hike, a joint-ministry with another church, a retreat, etc. It will be an important time of sharing and listening, so we hope you can make it. And do note, we'll be sure to finish in-time for you to watch the Bills game at 1pm!

The church has always been a big, wild, often messy experiment – with few instructions. We strive to follow Jesus, to minister to those in need, to discern God's Spirit among us, to support one another on the journey of faith, to tend to those who are hurting, and to be a beacon of hope to all those around us. In 2025, we face our own unique opportunities and problems, just as every generation before us. But, God has also called each of us to FPCEA for a purpose and has endowed each one of us with special gifts to share. John 1 tells of Jesus calling his first disciples – he encourages them to "come and see." And so the leaps of faith begin. May we, too, be filled with a strong sense of trust in the Lord and one another. May we have the faith to take the hand of the Spirit, and keep experimenting as God's church in this time and place. It's a journey that always includes some ups and downs, but it's often a lot of fun and it gives us the meaning we so long for. Hope to see you soon! -Jesse

Join us on September 7th and welcome everyone back from their summer adventures!



We will worship outside (weather permitting, so say an extra prayer or two) and bring a dish to pass for our annual picnic!

Christian Education Update

September is here. Let the fun begin!! There are so many exciting things happening this year. Completion of the confirmation class in May, the selection of a new curriculum, and potential plans for a "Youth Sunday" orchestrated by our one and only Pastor Jesse. In an effort to make these goals run smoothly please review the information below.

1- A hard copy of the Teacher -Assistant sign-up is available in the Assembly Hall near the monthly calendar. An email with the electronic sign-up was sent out in mid-August to those already on the CE Teacher-Assistant list. Please consider volunteering. It is an amazing opportunity to connect with our church community. If you are not on the list yet and are interested in volunteering, email me at ce@fpcea.org.

2- September 7th is Rally Day. It would be great if we could have as many teachers be in attendance to for a "meet the teachers' moment".

3- The confirmation schedule has changed this year. A schedule was emailed to all parents mid August. The first class will be on September 14th. A parent meeting will be planned for October to touch based on the final steps to confirmation.

4- A CE calendar has been approved and will be posted outside of the CE office. Wednesday 10 am Bible Study in the Lounge will resume on September 10th.

Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 14th

On Sunday, September 14, immediately following worship, we'll be having an informal congregational meeting. No vote will be taken, rather we simply want to bring our church family together for a time of conversation and sharing. As we continue to get to know one another as the new pastor and congregation, we are also adjusting to lots of different realities facing the church in this era. We are all managing busy schedules and so we have less time for church than years ago. Please take some time to reflect and pray about what you find special at our beloved church and those gifts and interests that you'd like to share and engage here. Perhaps you have a fun idea to share for a fellowship or mission idea - please do so! We hope that people will attend and bring a spirit of openness and honesty. We'll let the Spirit move and see what we learn and what doors might begin to open!

Ms. Bridget's Sprouts

Come each week to join Ms. Bridget and her friend Sprout this fall! Sprouts is designed to enhance your child's early growth & development and increase socialization. Get ready to learn and have fun each Tuesday & Wednesday at 10:30am! See the calendar for details. Ages 6m-5y. Please contact Bridget Pacholec to register at 716-982-2000.



Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee is currently laying out our calendar of this Fall's events for the 2026 campaign as well as our Consecration Sunday kickoff in October. Our Stewardship theme for this year is "Serving The Lord, Rejoicing In Hope". More details will follow next month. Our church is so thankful for all your 2025 pledge payments to date which are so vital in staying current with paying our annual operating expenses.

September Birthdays! Happy Birthday Everyone!

Robert Beyer
Matthew Boss
Wyatt Dechert
Lloyd DeMario
Richard Depke
Richard Fentzke

Nicki Fischer
Ian Fisher
Penn Gipe
Gwyneth Griffis
Richard Hess

Lois Kohler
Linda Krieger
Brad Meholick
Emily More
Katie Oleksy

Ron Parkhurst
Emily Pfaff
Larry Poturalski
Jean Seeley
Darcy Sowyrda
Talia Spencer

Join us for worship Sundays at 10am, in person or on Facebook!

The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of every month.