



Forest Hills Presbyterian Church

The Branch

FALL EDITION



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Happy Fall, Y'all!

PASTOR'S CORNER

I imagine we all might have a story as to why church matters. I took the liberty of asking this question of my Facebook friends and the responses ranged as did those who answered. I expected my clergy friends to respond (and they did) as well as my parents (love them!), but so did sorority sisters from college, random

acquaintances, a beloved teacher from High School, my first Children's minister director, and even people I didn't know go to church responded. Church family and church community topped majority of the answers: the gratitude

for the ways the church shows up in our lives to care for us. One friend shared that as brand new parents, their church surrounded them with love and support though a meal train, daily text messages, and more. Others shared that gathering together to study the Word together as well as the accountability that comes from our community, quoting Proverbs, "Iron sharpens iron and one person sharpens another" and Micah 6:8, "to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God." One clergy friend highlighted one of my favorite things about church - the intergenerational community! Someone I admire greatly spoke of how it is "a diverse community of common faith in which each one shares mutual accountability with folks they never would have chosen as friends." We go to church to recharge and feel inspired/renewed by our praise and worship.

While we exist to give God glory, during worship we are given the opportunity to connect with God through song, praise, prayer and the Word. A Catholic friend spoke to how faith happens in community. And one of my favorite responses, sometimes we just need to be reminded of what truly matters in life! We pose the question to you this month - why does church matter? Why does FHPC matter? I pray you spend some time musing as to the why and share it with your family and church family.

Grace & Peace, Pastor Katy



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FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Worship

Welcome ● ● ●



DEB HARRISON

 FHPC Worship Musician

We are delighted to welcome Deb Harrison officially as our Worship Musician for FHPC. Deb's been a friend of our congregation for years and we are excited to have her in this official capacity sharing her gifts in worship and beyond. Originally from Amarillo, Texas, Deb has been playing the guitar since she was a small child. She has a heart for playing in worship and has shared her gifts in many worship settings, including the Diakonia Emmaus Community. When she's not strumming the guitar, writing her own music, cooking up a storm or rescuing animals, Deb serves as a Home Health Nurse in the Hill Country Region. Please join us in welcoming Deb on our staff by offering a hello!

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. Paul tells us that we are to “discern the body” when we partake of Holy Communion, mindful that we note our relationship to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the celebration.



We come together to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world.

Mark YOUR Calendar

SEPTEMBER

9/12 BOOK CLUB (2:30P)
9/14 MISSIONS MEETING (6:30P)
9/16 GAMESTERS (11:30A)
9/19 YOUTH GROUP (6P)
9/21 SESSION MEETING (6:30P)
9/22 MUSIC REHEARSAL (6P)
9/24-25 YOUTH MAIN EVENT (7P)
9/26 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
FELLOWSHIP LUNCH
9/29 LADIES' LUNCH OUT (11:30A)



OCTOBER

10/3 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9A)
BOOK CLUB (2:30P)
YOUTH GROUP (6P)
10/5 FELLOWSHIP/CHURCH GROWTH (6~30P)
10/7 WORSHIP COMMITTEE (6P)
10/10 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9A)
NEW MEMBER CLASS (9A)
FELLOWSHIP LUNCH
10/12 MISSIONS MEETING (6:30P)
10/14 ADMIN. MEETING (6:30P)
10/17 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9A)
NEW MEMBER CLASS (9A)
YOUTH GROUP (6P)
10/19 SESSION MEETING (6:30P)
10/21 GAMESTERS (11:30A)
10/24 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9A)
NEW MEMBER CLASS (9A)
10/27 LADIES' LUNCH OUT (11:30A)
10/31 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9A)
TRUNK OR TREAT (3P)
YOUTH GROUP (6P)

HAVE A



**What do you call a Bible character
who just pulled into church?**

A parking Lot.

**What did God's people say when food
fell from Heaven?**

"Oh man-na!"

What did pirates call Noah's boat?

"The arrrrrrrk."

In Loving Memory



All Saints' Sunday
NOVEMBER 7, 2021

This All Saint's Sunday we will be honoring those in our lives who joined the church triumphant this past year with a special video during worship. Please send a picture of who you would like to include with their name and relationship to you (such as father, aunt, beloved friend).

(This video is in addition to how we will be honoring those in our church during worship.)

YOUTH MINISTRY @ FHPC



FALL



2021



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The Christian Education Committee along with Pastor Katy is working this fall to build up our Youth Ministry here at FHPC. We're so grateful for our families with youth and are seeking to provide fun, functional, and formational faith fellowship for our youth. Check out what's happening this fall, and stay tuned for new things headed your way in 2022!

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MAIN EVENT September 24 - 25, 2021

Join us for an adapted Main Event. Mission Presbytery is providing resources so we can retreat together, and the theme is SABBATH. Did you know God created with SABBATH in mind for all y'all? We'll do our own thing here on the FHPC Campus from 7:00 pm Friday until the next morning (did someone say lock-in??) when we head to **John Knox Ranch** for a day of play. Cost is \$25 (scholarships available) and we hope you can join us as you're able. Join us after the football game or just for Saturday's trip to the ranch.

RSVP by 9/21 to Pastor Katy by email or text.



We're starting at the beginning - literally and biblically! Join us this fall on Sunday nights for some fun, food and Bible study. **We will meet from 6:00-7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted) and dinner is \$5** (don't let that stop you!) See below for our schedule.

September 19th: Dinner & Game Night

October 3rd: Dinner & Bible Beginnings (Genesis)

October 17th: Dinner & Living Out Our Faith (Mission)

October 31st: SCARY(ish) Movie Night (after Trunk or Treat)

Bring a friend as we begin this fall! *Parents, if you'd like to provide a dinner one of these nights, please let us know.*



FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We'll be studying the book of Genesis this fall where we encounter creation, floods, family fights, and oh so much more! If you have a Bible, we invite you to bring it with you, but no worries - we've got plenty.

Questions? Comments? Concerns?
Contact Pastor Katy by email or phone.
pastor@fhpconline.org | 972-523-4650



STEWARDSHIP 2021

Why Does Church Matter?

"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for the One who has promised is faithful.

-Hebrews 10:23-25

Dear Friends,

Have you ever wondered "Why does Church matter?" Has someone in your family asked aloud, "Why do we go? Why should we go?" or "What does scripture even say about church?" On the heels of the past year and a half, we have been presented with the option more and more to explore what receives our attention, our time, and our resources.

This year for our stewardship season, we here at Forest Hills Presbyterian Church will be taking a closer look at why church, especially ours here in Helotes, Texas, **does matter** in our lives, in our community, and in the world.

We hear in Hebrews that we are to "hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for the One who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

The church of Jesus Christ and our church matters because the church cares: for one another, for our community, for our relationship with God. Even in this season of pandemic we continue to love one another and do good deeds. We **have not** neglected to gather together and have encouraged one another as we seek to show God's love in Helotes and in northwest San Antonio.

During this month of stewardship in September, we invite you to join us as we wonder what it means to care for church and how we care for our church, and just why the church indeed matters. Please prayerfully consider joining us in worship, whether in person or online, throughout this month and take the time to fill out our [Time and Talents Survey](#). On Commitment Sunday, September 26th, we will ask you to turn in your commitment of funds, time, and talents through pledges to the ministry of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church and glory to God during our 10:30am Worship Service. Pledge cards will be made available online and in person.

In Christ,
Rev. Katy Walters
Reverend Katy Walters
Pastor

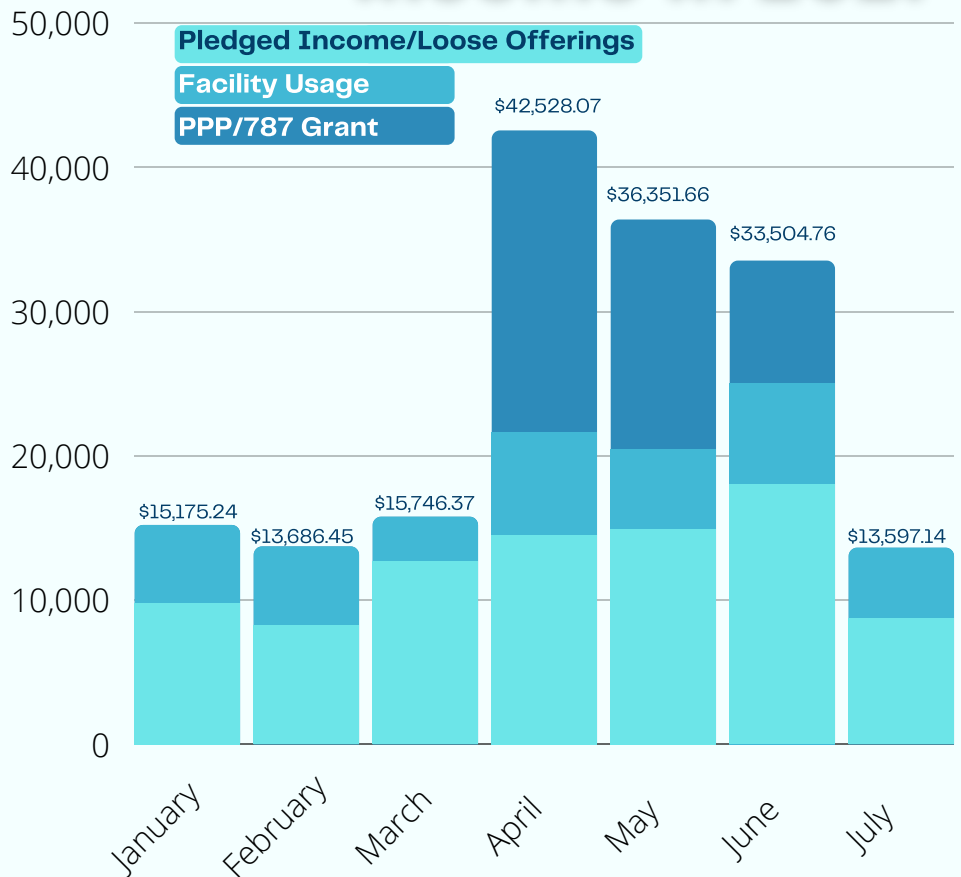


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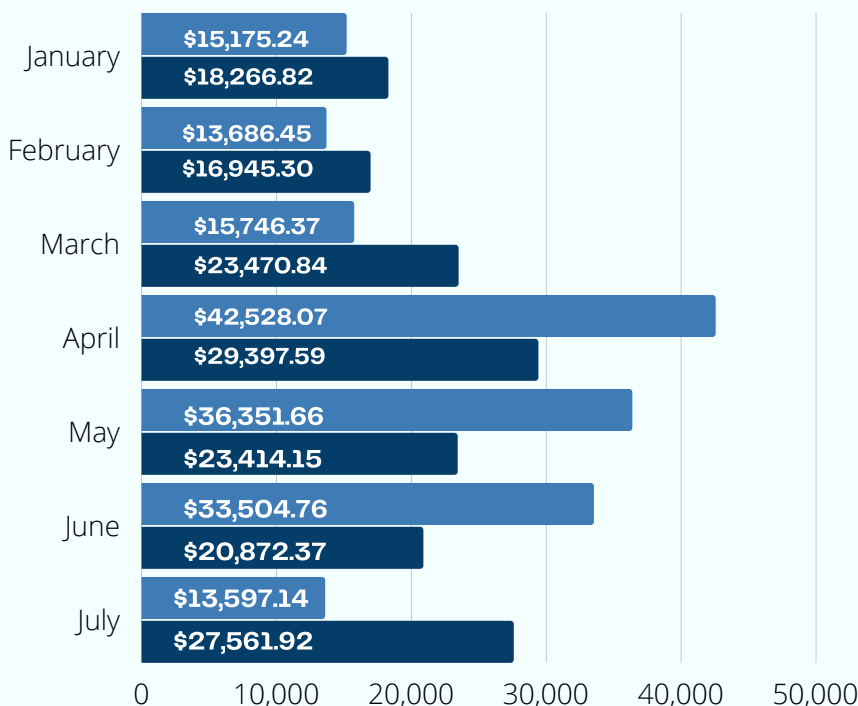
Stewardship 2021

*Part of our income during the first half of the year came from specific places or can only be used for specific uses. In April we received our second amount (\$20,932) from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP.) In May we received our final grant amount (\$15,910.00) from the 787 Collective that is designated to be used towards engaging young adults through creative ventures that deepen love for God, self and others. In June we received the Better Together Grant money (\$8,500) from Mission Presbytery that will be used for the Young Adult program to be launched this fall in collaboration with John Knox Ranch and others.

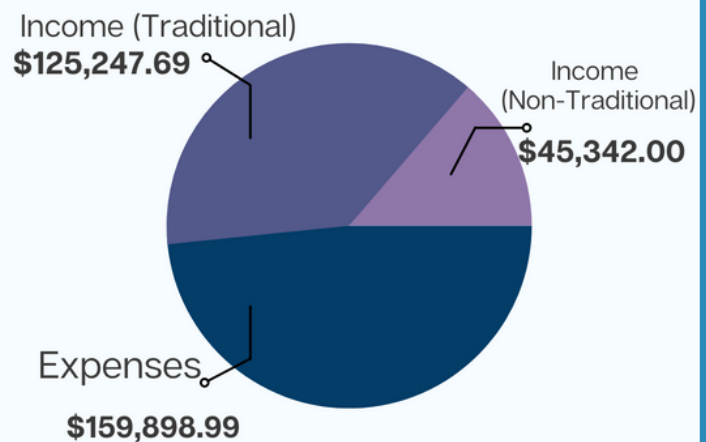
Income in 2021



Income vs. Expenses



Year to Date Income vs. Expenses



*A reminder - these numbers include the added funds of \$45,342 that are "abnormal" to a traditional year. See the image below for what our income would look like without these funds.

Sunday Sessions with the Lord

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS STARTING IN OCTOBER 9AM IN THE CWNC

We will be studying stories from the Bible starting with Genesis. All ages are welcome. We will have activities for children, as well.

*Enrich your day by studying scripture with
your Forest Hills Family!*



FHPC NEW MEMBER CLASS SUNDAY AT 9AM OCTOBER 10, 17 & 24

As a newer member or friend of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, you are invited to take part in our New Member Class. This opportunity allows individuals to discover, learn, ask questions, and talk together in some of the following areas:

- What it means to be a Presbyterian
- What are some of the beliefs, words, theology, understandings of faith we seek
- A brief overview of the history of Forest Hills as a congregation
- A look at: Worship, Music, Mission & Outreach, Christian Education and some of the many other forms of ministry that is involved through this congregation

This class is open to those joining Forest Hills over the past year or two, interested folks considering joining, and even present members wanting a refresher. If you have been a life-long Presbyterian or from a different tradition or even have never been a member of a local church – we look forward to sharing this time with you!

Fellowship Opportunities

**LET'S
PLAY!**



THURSDAY
**SEPT. 16 &
OCT. 21**
11:30AM



GAMESTERS

BRING YOUR LUNCH
AND JOIN US EVERY
THIRD THURSDAY IN
THE CWNC

FHPC Book Club

The Book Club will meet Sunday, Sept. 12th at 2:30pm in the FLC conference room. We will be discussing *The Paris Wife*, by Paula McLain. Below is a list of the books for the coming months. For more information, please contact Nancy Collins at (210) 695-2012.

October - *American Dirt*
by Jeanine Cummins
November - *Pastrix*
by Nadia Bolz-Weber
December - *The Dutch House*
by Ann Patchett

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE FOR
LADIES' LUNCH OUT ON THE LAST
WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.

SEPTEMBER 29TH WE WILL BE AT
ASPEN CREEK GRILL AT 11:30 AM. JOIN

US!

FOREST HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Ladies
Lunch Out*

LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH



FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join us this Halloween!

Sunday, Oct. 31, 3-5pm



**FAMILY FUN AT
FOREST HILLS!**

**FREE
COMMUNITY
EVENT**

**PRIZES FOR
BEST TRUNKS**

**COSTUMES
ENCOURAGED**



COMMUNITY EVENTS

9.11.01 Remembrance Event

SEPTEMBER 10

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Join us for a time of reflection as we remember and honor our nation's heroes.

Helotes Fire Department
12951 Bandera Road
Helotes



HELOTES MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCT. 15, 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

The next Helotes Movie Night will be Friday, October 15.

In October, they will start the Halloween celebration at movie night! The featured movie will be a slightly spooky and very funny family-friendly (PG) option. The title will be announced soon, so check back for details.

This family-friendly event is free and open to the public. Bring your blankets, chairs, sunscreen, and snacks. Then, settle in and get ready for a fun night.

Food vendors will be on-site selling your favorite movie snacks (i.e., snow cones, popcorn, candy, sodas, water, etc.). The Helotes Area Community Band will perform a live concert and then the featured movie will start promptly at dusk.



Food Distribution Event Saturday, Oct. 16, 9-11am

Kuentz Elementary School
12303 Leslie Rd., Helotes

Volunteers are needed to help process family registrations & distribute food that day. Please contact the church office at (210) 695-3123 if you can help.

