



Forest Hills Presbyterian Church

# The Branch

JULY 2021

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## Hello Friends!

Throughout the month of July in Worship, we will be affirming what we believe using the words of the Belhar Confession. The PC(USA)'s most recent addition to the Book of Confessions, (it was written in 1982 and we adopted it in 2016) this confession affirms that we are all part of one human family, that we are called to be one church, and that we are to stand firmly against any injustice that denies these realities. In the Belhar Confession we remember the wonderful version of Galatians 3:28, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free,

there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." The Belhar Confession has its roots in the struggle against apartheid in southern Africa and the framers of this confession would most likely remind us that one of the most important ways the church influences the world in accord with the reign of God is to be a living demonstration of what God intends for all humanity. Or, as Belhar puts it, "Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another." Belhar explores how God has taken the initiative in reconciling us (sometimes stubborn and thick headed humans) to God and to one another.

I really appreciate this confession because it challenges the church and children of God to put into action the work of reconciliation, of peacemaking, of justice, of loving our neighbors. In August, we'll be looking at what it means to be a Matthew 25 congregation, which lifts up many of the themes found in the Belhar Confession. My prayer is that we might start imagining the ways we will put into practice bringing God's kingdom here on earth, for our congregation, our community and our world.

*Grace & Peace, Pastor Katy*

## PASTOR'S CORNER



EXALTING JESUS CHRIST • EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY • EXPANDING GOD'S KINGDOM

FOREST HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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# **HAPPY 4TH OF JULY**

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED JULY 5 IN  
OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY**

# Worship

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## Special Offerings News



**40% of the  
Pentecost Offering  
went to the  
Presbyterian Pan  
American School in  
Kingsville, Texas.**



With our gifts to the Pentecost Offering, we join together to build God's house with our children, youth, and young adults.

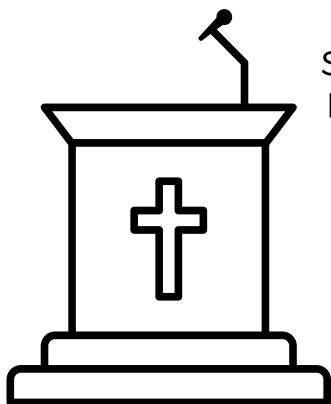
The Pentecost Offering helps our youth begin life with a strong start - a solid foundation formed in the years from childhood through young adulthood.

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## LITURGISTS NEEDED

We are all called to be the ministers to the people. This is especially true when we share the worship leadership as liturgist with our ordained minister. It is an opportunity to serve the church, connect the worship experience to each other, and experience our own growth.

As such, we owe it to God, each other, and ourselves to take the responsibility seriously, prepare well, and boldly minister! We make sure you have the bulletin a few days before Worship so that you are able to practice and prepare. You can come in early on your Sunday and practice reading into the microphone, and we can even adjust where the pulpit is to ensure your comfort.



Still wondering if you want to sign up? Feel free to call Pastor Katy with any questions or concerns you might have. Sign ups are open through October 2021.

**[Click here to sign up  
to be a liturgist.](#)**



## FHPC Book Club

Meets Sunday, July 11 at 2:30 pm in the FLC conference room to discuss *The Vanishing Half*, by Brit Bennett. The book for August is *The Four Winds*, by Kristin Hannah, and will be discussed on Sunday, August 1. Join Us!

## COMING UP

- 7/1 WORSHIP COM. MTG. (6:00PM)
- 7/4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 7/4-8 JUNIOR HIGH JUBILEE AT MO
- 7/5 OFFICE CLOSED
- 7/6 FELLOWSHIP MTG. (6:30PM)
- 7/7 MISSIONS MTG. (6:30PM)
- 7/8 ADMIN. MTG. (6:30PM)
- 7/11 BOOK CLUB (2:30PM)
- 7/13 CE/YOUTH COM. MTG. (6:30PM)
- 7/15 GAMESTERS
- 7/20 SESSION MTG. (6:30PM)
- 7/22 YOUNG ADULT LUNCH (11:30AM)
- 7/26-29 VBS
- 7/28 LADIES' LUNCH OUT (11:30AM)

Jesus  
goes to camp

Pastor Katy @ John Knox Ranch

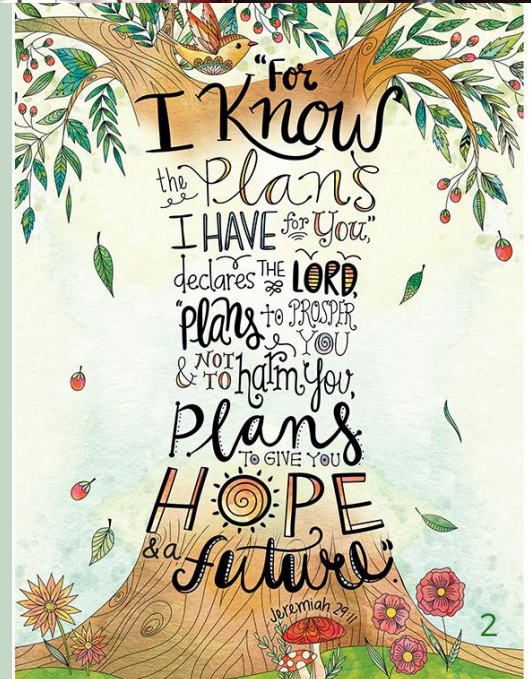


## At Home Communion

Communion is a holy meal, whether it is done in our church Sanctuary with bread and juice or at our kitchen table with a biscuit and coffee. Knowing that, we might have missed a bit of our church community in our staying home. If you would like a pastoral visit for Communion and a time of prayer, please let Pastor Katy know at [pastor@fhpconline.org](mailto:pastor@fhpconline.org).



# Our Youth at TLC





THE INSTALLATION OF

Rev. Katy  
Walters

SUNDAY, JUNE 27, AT 3:00 PM

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church



*Thank you so much to everyone who came out to celebrate this day! Special thanks to our Fellowship Committee for the wonderful reception with some of my favorite treats: brownies & ice cream! Thank you too, for welcoming my family and guests from around Mission Presbytery. I am so grateful to be here with y'all! Love, Pastor Katy*



# YOUTH MINISTRY @ FHPC

July 4-8 Junior High Jubilee at Mo Ranch  
Middle school camp; Theme is Re:VISION; Scripture is John 4:29

July 11 - Youth 11:30-1 at FH  
Lesson: Jesus walks on water

July 14 - Sonic Happy Hour 2:30-4  
Lesson: Woman at the Well

July 18 - Youth 11:30-1 at FH  
Lesson: Jesus washing disciples feet

July 20 - Youth 6-8pm - Top Golf  
RSVP by July 4; cost is \$10 per person

July 25 - Help with VBS set up after church

July 26-29 - VBS, 6-8pm

July 30 - Movie night at FH

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church



**VBS**  
**2021**

**You've Got a  
Friend in  
Me!**

**July 26-29 from 6:00-8:00 pm**  
**Dinner is served from 5:30-6:00 pm.**



**To volunteer  
[click here](#)**



**See our  
wish list  
here.**

**[Register today for  
VBS by clicking here.](#)**



# Pentecost Church Picnic



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Pentecost Picnic!

A big shout out to our Fellowship Committee for putting it together and providing delicious cupcakes and to Christian Education for bringing in the bounce house!

We look forward to more opportunities of fellowship together with our beloved church family.

# Session Highlights

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## **May Meeting Highlights:**

- Christian Education shared registration for youth trips is taking place for Mo-Ranch and VBS planning is in full swing.
- Mission and Outreach shared FHPC won 2nd place in Non-Profit Parade Float Category, still waiting on final number for amount raised at Cornyval.
- Discussion on mask wearing during worship was had; Session decided to allow masks to be taken off while in the pew. Masks are encouraged as people move around inside on the church campus. Bibles will return to the pews as well. We continue to take into effect CDC recommendations.
- Summer Fellowship before Worship will be taking place from 9:45-10:15 beginning in June. Light refreshments will be served.
- New name tags are being ordered for church congregation.
- Pastor Katy continues to do at home visits and share communion.
- We continue to search for a Worship Musician to lead on Sunday mornings.
- Admin and Pastor Katy continue to work to enhance communication, policies, forms for personnel and church.

## **June Meeting Highlights:**

- Mission Presbytery thanked us for continued support.
- New Check Signers are in the works for FHPC. This will allow for more flexibility and less demands on the current signers.
- Service of Installation for Pastor Katy is June 27th at 3:00 pm.
- We received the "Better Together" Grant for \$8,500 from Mission Presbytery in partnership with John Knox Ranch.
- Pastor Katy will be the Chaplain at John Knox Ranch June 20-25.
- Admin is working on repairs/updates for lighting in the Gym and continues to work with Pastor Katy on Job Descriptions for FHPC Staff to ensure they are up to date.
- Young Adults are now meeting for lunch on the 4th Thursday of the month.
- Many groups are slowly returning to campus for activities, including Gamesters, Book Club, and Sunday Morning Fellowship.
- We presented four quilts to graduates on May 23rd.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Katy Walters*

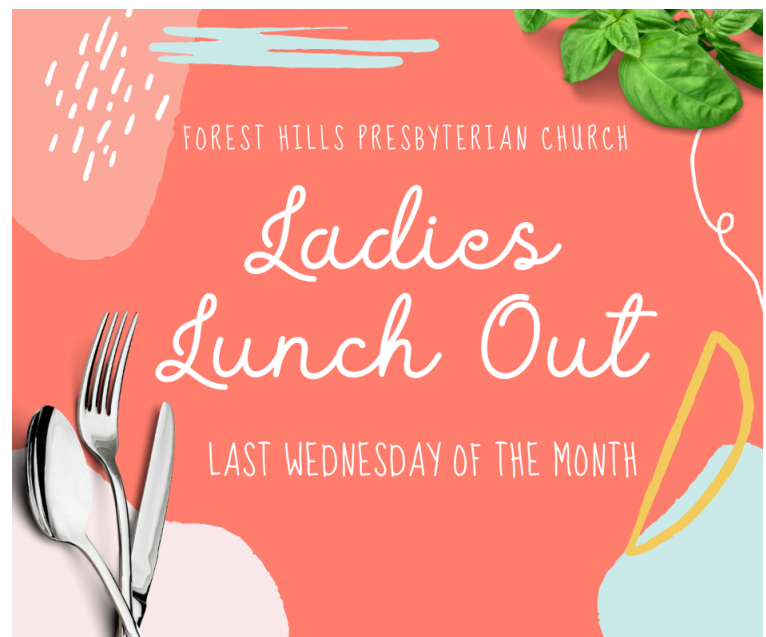
Young Adult Lunch  
Thursday, July 22  
@11:30am  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
5860 De Zavala Rd.



**BUFFALO  
WILD  
WINGS**

**LUNCH IS ON US,  
SO BRING YOUR APPETITE!**

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE FOR  
LADIES' LUNCH OUT ON THE LAST  
WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH. JULY  
28TH WE WILL BE AT PANERA BREAD AT  
1604 & BANDERA RD AT 11:30 AM.  
JOIN US!



*Did you know?*

In addition to the **Forest Hills Presbyterian Church Facebook** page, there are a few others that celebrate being a Presbyterian. Here's a few to check out:



- **Happy to Be a Presbyterian - PC(USA)**
- **A Presbyterian Haven**
- **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**
- **Mission Presbytery**
- **Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (USA)**

*Search for these groups in Facebook, and join in the conversations about the church at work in the world!*





# SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

FOREST HILLS IS JOINING WITH THE  
HELOTES HOUSE OF NEIGHBORLY  
SERVICE TO COLLECT SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
FOR NEEDY CHILDREN IN OUR AREA.

DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO  
CHURCH ON SUNDAYS OR TO THE  
CHURCH OFFICE DURING THE WEEK.

BELOW IS A LIST OF NEEDED SUPPLIES



DURING THE MONTH  
OF JULY

- backpacks (new please)
- glue - bottles & sticks
- tissues - large boxes
- notebook paper - wide ruled
- zip lock baggies - gallon size
- index cards - 3X5, white, ruled
- crayons - 24 pack
- composition journals
- erasers - large & pencil top
- pens - blue, black & red
- watercolor sets
- highlighters
- folders with pockets
- scissors - blunt & pointed
- spiral notebooks
- rulers - 12 inch
- pencils - #2 & colored
- pencil sharpeners



*Actively Engaged in the World*

# What is a Matthew 25 Congregation?

The 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) challenged the PC(USA) to embrace Jesus' call in Matthew 25:31-46 to take our living faith into our communities and the world. As a Matthew 25 church, we are called to live out true discipleship by acting boldly, compassionately and fearlessly serving people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. We joyfully share this vision and them.

## **FHPC will see how we can live out one or more of these three focuses:**

- Building congregational vitality by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.
- Dismantling structural racism by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- Eradicating systemic poverty by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

Stay tuned for more information coming your way regarding the Session's decision to become a Matthew 25 church. To learn more, visit:<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>



# WE NEED YOU

# TO JOIN A COMMITTEE!

*Please prayerfully consider joining us in ministry by becoming a member of one of our committees:*

*Christian Education, Missions and Outreach, Administration, Worship, Fellowship and Church Growth*

**CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION**