



Forest Hills Presbyterian Church

The Branch

FALL EDITION 2022

In my first year of Seminary, the question that was asked endlessly the first couple of weeks was, "what's your call story?" The background being: you (precious little baby seminarian) have answered a call to serve God. I find theologian (and Presbyterian) Frederick Buechner gives meaning to what call means for us:

IT COMES FROM the Latin vocare, to call, and means the work a man is called to by God. There are all different kinds of voices calling you to all different kinds of work, and the problem is to find out which is the voice of God rather than of Society, say, or the Super-ego, or Self-Interest.

By and large a good rule for finding out is this. The kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work (a) that you need most to do and (b) that the world most needs to have done. If you really get a kick out of your work, you've presumably met requirement (a), but if your work is writing TV deodorant commercials, the chances are you've missed requirement (b). On the other hand, if your work is being a doctor in a leper colony, you have probably met requirement (b), but if most of the time you're bored and depressed by it, the chances are you have not only bypassed (a) but probably aren't helping your patients much either. Neither the hair shirt nor the soft berth will do.

The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.

Friends, my prayer for our church these days, is that we would find that place where our gladness and the world's hunger meet. And in that place, we may live out our calling as church here in Helotes. May it be so.

Grace & Peace, Pastor Katy

PASTOR'S CORNER

THE PLACE GOD
CALLS YOU TO IS
THE PLACE WHERE
YOUR DEEP
GLADNESS AND THE
WORLD'S DEEP
HUNGER MEET.



Quote is from Frederick Buechner's Wishful Thinking. In Wishful Thinking: a seeker's ABC, the first book in his much-loved lexical trilogy, Frederick Buechner puts the language of God, the universe, and the human spirit under his wry microscope.

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FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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June Session Highlights

The Session met in hybrid fashion (half online via Zoom, half in person in the Conference Room) on June 21, 2022, at 6:30 pm. Highlights included:

1. Rev. Walters offered an opening prayer and devotion using the words of Rev. Mr. Fred Rogers.
2. The following reports were given:
 - a. CLERK'S REPORT - accepted transfer of membership of Nancy Fuller to FPC in Tomball.
 - b. TREASURER'S REPORT - received by the Session.
 - c. ADMINISTRATION
 - Finalized job descriptions for Session's approval; continue to work on the AV/TECH position and Pastor's. Sent to the Session recommendation of two new committees coming out from Administration to ease the work load.
 - d. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
 - Having Children's Church in Choir Room is working; brought in more child appropriate furniture that does not disrupt Deb's use of the space. VBS is coming up in July, youth are heading to camp and the committee approved a CE Grant Policy and Application.
 - e. FELLOWSHIP AND CHURCH GROWTH
 - A graduate luncheon was held in May.
 - f. MISSION, OUTREACH, & SERVICE
 - Debriefing on Cornyval took place May 17, 5 prayer quilts were dedicated in May, and \$251. 62 was collected for the Pentecost Special Offering.
 - g. WORSHIP
 - A draft of the Worship Committee Description was reviewed. A cleaning day is set for June 26th. The Committee approved keeping Children's Church in the Choir Room permanently. Jason Hart is looking into restarting the Acolytes in worship.
3. In the Pastor's Report, Rev. Walters shared about Ministry Rally day taking place in August and the Session Retreat happening at our July meeting. Boundary training was completed in June by our staff; Rev. Walters is scheduled to take early in 2023.
4. The Session:
 - after discussion and edits, *approval of splitting the Administration into two new committees as recommended by Admin passed unanimously*. The two new committees: **Building and Grounds** will focus on the property, rentals, utilities and such ministry and **Administration** will focus on the financial and personnel matters of FHPC's ministry.
 - after discussion, *approval of accepting the job descriptions for the Administrative Assistant and Sexton passed unanimously*.
 - received the report from the June Mission Presbytery Meeting, provided by Kay McCloskey.
 - Moving forward, committees will be working on putting together Committee Descriptions to be approved by Session and put into the Manual of Operations.
5. Elder of the Month: June - Sandra Davis, July - Kay McCloskey.
6. Covenant concerns were shared and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Katy Walters

July Session Highlights

The Session met for a day retreat off campus for the July Session meeting. The morning was spent getting to know one another, learning about our Presbyterian traditions, and looking at who we are as Forest Hills Presbyterian Church. The Session did a SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis of FHPC and will be using their results to guide their discernment and decisions.

Following their retreat activities, the Session held their July meeting. Highlights included:

1. Rev. Walters offered an opening prayer; the Clerk gave her report. Receiving the financial report was postponed due to the Treasurer's absence.
2. Committees offered the following updates:
 - a. ADMINISTRATION:
 - No meeting was held in the month of July.
 - b. BUILDING AND GROUNDS:
 - No meeting was held in the month of July.
 - c. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
 - We sent 7 youth to Mo-Ranch this Summer for Senior High Celebration and Junior High Jubilee.
 - Final details are in place for Vacation Bible School happening July 25-28 from 5:30 to 8:00 pm.
 - CE remains mindful of choosing sensory items for the Matthew's Mat that do not make an abundance of noise. Signage is coming.
 - d. FELLOWSHIP AND CHURCH GROWTH:
 - e. MISSION, OUTREACH, & SERVICE
 - No meeting was held in the month of July.
 - f. WORSHIP
 - Sign up for liturgists through Fall is being set up. Thank you to everyone who has currently served in this role.
 - Communion dates for 2022-2023 have been submitted to the Office.
3. In the Pastor's Report, Rev. Walters shared she is recovering from leading Worship at Senior High Celebration at Mo-Ranch and then traveling as a sponsor for Junior High Jubilee at Mo-Ranch.
4. Elder of the Month: July: Kay McCloskey, August: Linda Rose Klar
5. Covenant concerns were shared and the meeting was closed with prayer.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Katy Walters*

August Session Highlights

The Session met in hybrid fashion (half online via Zoom, half in person in the Maples House) on August 22, 2022, at 6:30 pm. Highlights included:

1. Rev. Walters offered an opening prayer and devotion using the words of theologian Frederick Buechner.
2. The following reports were given:
 - a. CLERK'S REPORT
 - Correspondence was received that Grace Presbyterian in Victoria, TX prayed for our congregation on Sunday, August 14.
 - b. TREASURER'S REPORT
 - Received. Financially did okay this summer, with minimal deficit.
 - c. ADMINISTRATION
 - Continue to work on Job Descriptions for staff. Preparing for Stewardship Campaign in October. Committees are asked to submit 2023 budgets by October.
 - d. BUILDING AND GROUNDS
 - Working on de-cluttering areas and removing junk on campus.
 - e. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
 - Sunday School continues in the Maples House, studying Wired Word. Sending a survey to Congregation to receive feedback regarding Christian Education and Presbyterian Women opportunities.
 - f. FELLOWSHIP AND CHURCH GROWTH
 - The Session welcomed Pam Powers, who has graciously been chairing the committee in lieu of an Elder. Conversation was held on reviving and encouraging the ministry of this committee. Elders volunteered to assist in church events for this coming fall and we will reevaluate in January 2023.
 - g. MISSION, OUTREACH, & SERVICE
 - The Little Free Library is up and running! The Food Pantry continues serving families in need; we'll be hosting a "Cereal Sunday" on August 22nd to encourage donations of cereal. Use of the Samaritan Fund is needed; will be sent to subcommittee.
 - h. WORSHIP
 - Baptism requests for the Hart Family (Trevor, Eleanor, and Arthur) were approved for Sunday, August 21.
3. In the Pastor's Report, Rev. Walters shared details from her month. Approval of hosting the Helotes Community Band Concert on December 11th and Scout sales of Christmas wreathes were approved. We are looking into updates on technology but it is a work in progress. Rev. Dr. Krystal Leedy will be leading worship on September 25 while Rev. Walters is out of town. The SWOT analysis from the Session Retreat was included in her report.
4. Discussion was held regarding the Designated Pastor position and Ministry Rally on 8/28.
5. Elder of the Month: September: Cami Pace; October: Valerie Williams.
6. Covenant concerns were shared and the meeting was closed with prayer.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Katy Walters*

Worship

Coming Up In Worship

September 4

Communion Sunday

"Knit Together in Love"

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, Philemon 1:1-21

September 11

"Lost & Found"

Exodus 32:7-14, Psalm 51:1-10, Luke 15:1-10

September 18

"Telling the Truth"

Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13

September 25

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Krystal Leedy

October 2

World Communion Sunday

"Entrusted Treasures"

Lamentations 3:19-26 & 2 Timothy 1:1-14

October 9

"Treasured Scriptures"

Psalm 119: 97-104 & 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

October 16

"Treasured Generosity"

Psalm 146 & 1 Timothy 6:11-19

October 23

Stewardship Sunday

"Treasured Faith"

Psalm 65 & 2 Timothy 4:6-18

October 30

Reformation Sunday

Reformation Lessons & Carols

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.



FOR YOU SHALL GO OUT IN JOY,
AND BE LED FORTH IN PEACE.
ISAIAH 55:12

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

9/4-10/2
2022

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 3, 2021

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

9/1 WORSHIP COMMITTEE (6P)
 9/5 LABOR DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)
 9/8 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (6:30P)
 9/11 BOOK CLUB (1:30P)
 9/13 MISSIONS MEETING (6:30P)
 9/20 SESSION MEETING (6:30P)
 9/23-25 YOUTH MAIN EVENT
 9/27 FELLOWSHIP/CHURCH GROWTH (6:30P)
 9/28 LADIES' LUNCH OUT

OCTOBER

10/2 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING
 BOOK CLUB (1:30)
 10/6 WORSHIP COMMITTEE (6P)
 10/9 YOUTH SUNDAY
 10/11 MISSIONS MEETING (6:30P)
 10/13 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (6:30P)
 10/16 HOLY SMOKE (5:30P)
 10/18 SESSION MEETING (6:30P)
 10/25 FELLOWSHIP/CHURCH GROWTH (6:30P)
 10/26 LADIES' LUNCH OUT
 10/30 REFORMATION SUNDAY
 TRUNK-OR-TREAT (3P)



Reformation Sunday

On Reformation Sunday, observed the last Sunday in October, Presbyterians are reminded of their Reformed heritage, hearing once again how in 1517 Martin Luther nailed to the cathedral door in Wittenberg, Germany, his Ninety-five Theses. These theses, outlining what needed to change in the church, are credited to sparking a reformation that would change the religious landscape forever.

October 30

This Fall, we will be using a service created by my friend, the Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett, pastor of Crescent Springs Presbyterian Church in Crescent Springs, Kentucky. She created this service to educate today's "reformers" — those Presbyterians in the pew — of the legacy of following a God who is always creating something new. A recent article interviewed Carol, who admitted to "really loving our Presbyterian confessions, as they give us the voices of our ancestors as they wrestled with faith in their time and place," used the model of a Christmas Lessons and Carols service, highlighting the confessions throughout and peppering them with background stories, hymns and prayers.

Prickett said she wrote "A Legacy of Faith: Reformation Lessons and Carols" to take people on "a journey through our own Reformed heritage, hoping that learning more about our past can give us strength for the future." "I think the confessions are an incredible gift to a church that is still wrestling today," she said. "So often we feel like we're the first generation to face upheaval and crisis, when we're really only the latest." I'm so excited to honor her work and our Reformed Tradition in worship this fall! - Pastor Katy

YOUTH MINISTRY @ FHPC

 **FALL**  **2022** 

MISSION PRESBYTERY + JOHN KNOX RANCH

MAIN EVENT FOR YOUTH

SEPTEMBER 23-25
JOHN KNOX RANCH

Brick by Brick: Repairing God's World



For 6th-12th graders
and their adult
sponsors.

Registration due
September 12, 2022.

\$125 per person

We're in this together!



Join Us



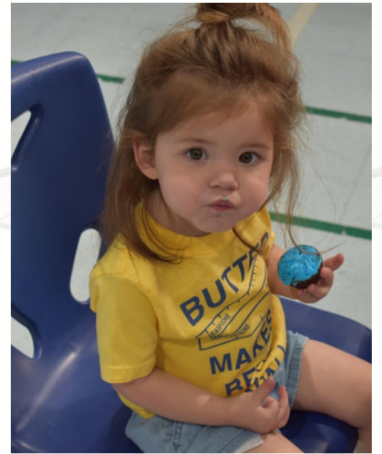
August 21- Blessing of the Backpacks
August 28- Ministry Rally- Come help!
September 4th- Labor Day Weekend (no youth group)
September 11- Youth Group 5:30-7:30 (dinner provided)
September 18- Youth Group 5:30-7:30 (dinner provided)
September 25 weekend- Main Event at JKR
October 2- Youth Group 5:30-7:30 (dinner provided)
October 9- Youth Sunday
October 16- possible FIELD TRIP after church (Hart Ranch)
October 23- Youth Group 5:30-7:30 (dinner provided)
October 30- 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

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
2022
Follow Me
"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." – Matt. 4:19





Let's Celebrate

Congratulations to our High School graduates, Rheana McEntire & Claire Hunter!

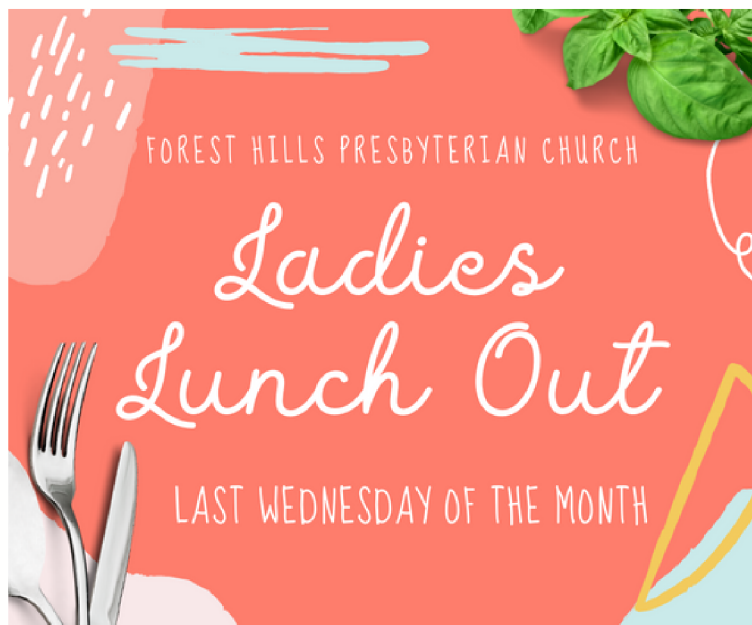


Pam Power's son, Adrian Jasso, retires after 21 years of serving his country. Congratulations!

We want to CELEBRATE with you! Do you have some celebrations to share with our church family? Family graduations, milestone birthdays or anniversaries? Send your celebrations (with a picture if you have it) to the church office and we'll include them in our newsletter.

Fellowship

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE FOR LADIES' LUNCH OUT ON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH. AUGUST 31ST WE WILL BE AT BJ'S RESTAURANT IN ALAMO RANCH AT 11:30 AM. JOIN US!



"HOLY SMOKE" A fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity

Covenant Presbyterian Church
211 Roletto, SA, TX 78213

Sunday, October 16, 2022
Dinner - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Entertainment - 6:45 - 7:45 p.m.

AN EVENING OF INCREDIBLE FOOD & AMAZING ENTERTAINMENT

TICKETS

\$12 PRESALE / \$15 AT THE DOOR / CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE.

RAFFLE PRIZES!

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION



Habitat
for Humanity®
of San Antonio



LET'S HAVE A
BALL
THIS **FALL**

MINISTRY RALLY
SUNDAY, 8/28



The Church Office will be
closed on Monday,
September 5th.

Entrusted Treasures
God's Gifts in Our Hands

Stewardship Series
Sundays in October at 10:30 am

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with
the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.
2 Tim 1:14

October 2nd
Stewardship Lunch

A decorative branch with several leaves.

Save the Date

Veteran's Day Lunch
Sunday, November 13th



VETERANS
DAY





FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Get your trunks ready!

Sunday, Oct. 30, 3-5pm



**FAMILY FUN AT
FOREST HILLS!**

**FREE
COMMUNITY
EVENT**

**PRIZES FOR
BEST TRUNKS**

**COSTUMES
ENCOURAGED**

