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The Map

Jesus calls us to follow Him, grow in union with Him, and make disciples with Him, near and far. ([Click here](#))

Join us for Sunday worship, in-person or online, at 10 AM

The Grace of Holy Forgetfulness

[Philippians 3:7-14](#)

"I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead." —
Phil 3:13

As we move deeper into this new year, many of us are still carrying heavy luggage from the seasons behind us. Some of that weight is the **shame** of past mistakes, but surprisingly, some of it is the **pride** of past successes. Did you know that both can actually keep you from following Jesus effectively today?

In our latest blog post, "**The Grace of Holy Forgetfulness**," we explore a powerful lesson from the Apostle Paul on how to "close the file" on the past. Inspired by a recent sermon from **The Rev. Paul Becker**, this blog looks at:

- **The Rearview Mirror Trap:** Why staring backward causes us to crash in the present.
- **The Danger of "Good" Baggage:** Why your past trophies might be more dangerous than your past failures.
- **The Great Exchange:** How to trade your "religious resume" for the perfect record of Christ.

Don't let the weight of yesterday keep you from the prize God has for you today. Stop replaying the old tapes of your life's movie reels and learn how to practice the grace of letting go.

[[Click here](#) to read the full blog post and discover the freedom of Holy Forgetfulness.]

Based on the sermon preached at First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown. You can also watch the full video message [here](#).

Upcoming Sermon

Members of a Body, Not an Organization

[Ephesians 4:1-7,11-16](#)

We often talk about "joining" a church, as if it were a gym, social club, book club, or a service fraternity. But what if your connection to the person sitting in the next pew is actually more intimate than the connection between your own hand and your head?

This Sunday, as we welcome new members into our fellowship, we'll explore the "noble and perfect" union we share in Christ. Join us as we look at Ephesians 4 and discover why, in the Body of Christ, you are never truly on your own.

Join us this Sunday at 10:00 A.M as we take hold of the One who has already taken hold of us.

Covenant Sunday (New Members and Communion)

This Sunday, we will joyfully welcome new members into our church family. This day (and every future Sunday when new members join) will be celebrated as a Covenant Sunday.

As new members affirm their vows to live in union with Christ and His Church, we will reaffirm ours, reminding us that we are one family in Christ, walking together in faith and love.

The whole church will be gathered around the Lord's Table as one body with Jesus. His Spirit bids you to come!



Leadership Updates

Leadership Changes From the Congregational Meeting

1 - Hospitality Deacons receive a new colleague to their ranks. Denée White, who will be ordained on January 25. Denée and her husband, Gabe, have three sons: Justin and Zach are in college, and Nate is a student in Pine Richland. The Whites live in Grandview Estates.

No new Deacons were added to the Member Care or Campus Care Deacons. After the passing of our Member Care Minister, Elaine Stuebgen, Pastor Paul will temporarily take her lead position. He will lead the Member Care Deacons in assessing their scope of care, each Deacon's capacity to provide care, and how to invite new candidates to consider this high and special calling.

No new Deacons were added to the Campus Care Deacons. Session desires to hire a part-time *Operations Manager* whose job will include leading Campus Care, overseeing contracted and vendor services, and managing our tenant relationship with the Preschool. Adding new people to Campus Care Deacons didn't seem prudent without leadership in place.

2 - Session adds new colleagues. Here are the Session classes. First-term Elders are indicated by asterisks:

- **Class of 2026:** Sean Jones, Jamie Mahan, Pat Manderfield**
- **Class of 2027:** Mike Clogan, Bob Hackel, LouAnn Oyler**
- **Class of 2028:** Donna Dallatore**, Dan Morgan, Steve Williams

Pastor Paul led us in giving thanks to God and in directing our minds to the varied and detailed roles that **Elder Nelson Crooks** fulfilled during his two terms as a Ruling Elder on Session.

3 - The Audit Committee, by Class, is as follows: Joe Wynn (2026), Paula Contini (2027) and Ken Miller (2028).

4 - The Nominating Committee, by Class, is as follows: Jeremy Wakeley (2026), Julie Wettach (2027), and Lori Scears (2028).

Ordination and Installations on Sunday, January 25

During worship, **Denee White** will be ordained and installed as a Deacon.

Having been previously ordained as Ruling Elders, **Donna Dallatore, Pat Manderfield, and LouAnn Oyler** will be installed as Ruling Elders on the Session.

Honduras Mission Team Commissioning

On Sunday, January 18, the Honduras Hope Mission Team Commissioning will occur. The Rev. Gary Weston will be preaching. Gary is the Treasurer for **Honduras Hope Mission**. He is warmly regarded as being married to FPCB member Bev Weston. He also once served on staff as a part-time Visitation Pastor. We always look forward to Pastor Gary's preaching and encouragement!



BPCC 2026- 2027 School Year Registration

Believe it or not, it's almost time to think about next school year!

BPCC's registration for the 2026-2027 school year will open to current families, alumni and church families on **Sunday, January 25th**. Please contact the office for details to access an online registration form.

Registration will open to the community on **Monday, February 2nd**. If you would like to visit and take a tour of the preschool, call or email and we will be happy to schedule that for you!

Office Contact Info: 724-443-5330 // bpccmail@yahoo.com

The Week Ahead

SUN., Jan 11th

Sunday Gathering (Worship)

10:00 AM

Sanctuary

MON., Jan 12th

**Church Office is Closed on
Mondays**

All Dads Bible Study*

6:00 AM

*For location contact Pastor

Jeremy at collins@fpcb.org

**Monday Community Bible
Study @ St. Barnabas Village**

Bldg. A., 5th Floor

1:45-2:45 PM

TUE., Jan 13th

Tues Women's Bible Study

9:30-11:00 am

Admin bldg

Tues Adult Bible Study

Resumes Jan 27th

Westminster Rm

TOPS

(Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)

3:30- 4:30 PM

Church Café

WED., Jan 14th

All Moms Bible Study

9:30-11:00 AM

Westminster Rm

FRI., Jan 16th

Fri Men's Bible Study

7:00 AM

Eat 'n Park, Gibsonia

SAT., Jan 17th

Sat Men's Bible Study

(Hebrews)

8:30 AM

Church Café

SUN., Jan 18th

**Sunday Gathering
(Worship)**

10:00 AM

Sanctuary

If you want information about any Bible Study, please call Linda Smith at 724-443-1555 and choose option "zero."

**Please look for a Worship Email on Sundays at 9:15 a.m.
Our service begins at 10 a.m.**

You may access worship directly at 9:55 a.m. by visiting:

Sunday Livestream

Please forward this email to friends.

Be sure to follow us on Youtube, Facebook, and Instagram to be up to date with everything happening at FPCB! When you come across our content please share and repost it, so that our congregation can continue to grow and increase in evangelism. To bring all glory to our Lord Jesus Christ!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

To subscribe to our emails, sign up on our website ([Click Here](#)) or call 724-443-1555.

First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown | 5825 Heckert Road #127 | Bakerstown, PA 15007 US

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