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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF
BAKERSTOWN**

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

Are You Tired of the Spiritual Treadmill?

Do you ever feel like you're working overtime to be a "better Christian"? We often treat our faith like a spiritual treadmill—running faster, praying harder, and pushing ourselves to be more patient—only to find ourselves spiritually winded. We treat following Jesus as if it were something we had to do on our own. In this week's devotional blog, we explore a life-changing shift in perspective: **We don't grow toward Christ; we grow from Him.** Rather than striving on a solo journey, we look at what it means to "abide" as branches on a single vine. By unkinking the things that block our joy and surrendering our emotional baggage to the Spirit, we learn to grow together as a church family. If you've been feeling exhausted, we invite you to take a breath and operate out of the shared, limitless power of Christ's life instead.

Together, we hear Christ's call to grow together in union with Him!

[Click Here](#) to read a devotional blog post based on Sunday's sermon.

[Click Here](#) to watch the full sermon, "Jesus Calls Us to Follow Him," preached by Pastor Paul Becker at the First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown.

Make Disciples with Him, Near and Far

[Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8](#)

Sometimes we hear the "**Great Commission**" and feel the weight of an impossible to-do list, but this Sunday we'll discover that Jesus doesn't just give us a job—He gives us Himself. Sunday's sermon will reveal that we aren't sent out as isolated workers, but as branches of a single Vine. Whether you are at your dining table or navigating "points of crossing" in the community, you'll learn how to move in His authority rather than your own strength.

Join us as we find rest in the fact that the mission belongs to Christ, and He simply invites us to join Him!

[First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown - YouTube](#)

Spirit Led FPCB in 2025

In 2025, the Session set aside time to reflect on our church's mission. Through teaching, prayer, and thoughtful discussion, we revised the Mission Statement into a Call Statement—a clearer expression of Christ's call to FPCB.

The Call of Christ to FPCB is this: Jesus calls us to follow Him; grow together in union with Him; and make disciples with Him, near and far.

Looking back on 2025, we joyfully see how the Holy Spirit has been leading us to answer that call in many ways.

- **Intercessory Prayer Team:** Formed and launched under the leadership of Ruling Elder LouAnn Oyler, this team ministers to you through prayer and continually prays for our church to grow in our desire to make disciples.

- **Summer Serve Week:** Members of all ages shared Christ's love with our neighbors—blessing veterans, the Richland Volunteer Fire Company, Richland Elementary School, and several women in need. It was a beautiful expression of Christ's compassion.
- **Trinity Kids:** Under the steady interim leadership of Bev Weston, and now under the direction of Colleen Mahan and a strong team of teachers, Trinity Kids continues to thrive.
- **456 Ministry:** An expanded group of teachers is faithfully discipling our students in grades 4–6, strengthening this vital ministry.
- **Brothers and Brisket:** Several dinners for men were held in member homes, creating space for fellowship and spiritual connection.
- **Family Ministry Dinner:** Parents gathered with Pastor Jeremy and Youth Minister Kaelin Wakely for meaningful conversation about the essential role parents play in disciple-making and how the church can support them.
- **Adult Discipleship:** We began re-envisioning Adult Discipleship—not as a collection of unrelated groups, but as a clear, unified ministry of spiritual formation that helps adults grow together in union with Christ. This work is ongoing and hopeful.
- **Communion:** We expanded our observance of Communion to include the Sundays of Advent, mirroring our practice in Lent. Many have expressed gratitude for more frequent access to this means of grace.
- **Neighbor to Neighbor Lunch:** Our first N2N Lunch welcomed local experts to speak on Medicare coverages, estate planning, and financial planning. About 16 FPCB members attended, along with two former members. It was a good beginning, and more lunches are planned as we continue learning how to love our neighbors through food, hospitality, and practical help.
- **New Members:** We joyfully welcomed seven new members into the life of our church—all of whom are actively engaging in worship, study, fellowship, and service.

Please pray for your Pastors, the Elders, the Deacons, teachers, group leaders, and other servants who help us answer the Call of Christ. Please encourage them with your words, your presence, and engagement in this Calling!

Financial Standing - Jan 31

Offerings were \$26,983. This was \$8,350 less than Jan '25. We had a cancellation this year and sub-zero temps.

Ministry expenses were \$44,104. This was \$617 more than Jan '25.

A deficit of \$17.157 is our current financial position.

Better Together: A Study of Hebrews

Hebrews Was Written for Our World

The Letter to the Hebrews was written for believers under pressure—people tempted to drift because their faith no longer "fit" a hostile culture. We feel that same tug today. **With Christian identification in America dropping from 72% in 2020 to 66% in 2025, it's easy to feel isolated or pressured to keep your faith private.** This struggle is often made worse by a Western Christianity that overlooks our vital, spiritual union with one another in Christ. **Hebrews reminds us that we aren't meant to stand alone.** It calls us to anchor ourselves in Jesus and lean on the strength of the community He is forming for Himself, to one day be His Bride.

Join us for a new study on The Letter to the Hebrews!

[Study Details](#)

Join **Pastor Paul** in the **Westminster Room** for a chapter-by-chapter conversation through Hebrews. This study is open to all men and women.

- **When: Tuesdays at 9:30 AM, beginning on March 3**
- **Where: The Westminster Room**

Parking Instructions

To avoid the Preschool drop-off traffic, please arrive between **9:15 and 9:30 AM**. We ask that you form a block of cars on the **front line of the main parking lot, beginning nearer to the Administration Building**. (Look for Pastor Paul's truck.) Handicap parking is available near the Heckert Road porch, basement level entrance.

Flower Orders for Easter

We are receiving orders for Easter flowers, **due on Sunday, March 15**. Donations may be placed in the offering at worship or delivered to our office. On your envelope or memo line of a check, please designate your flower choice(s):

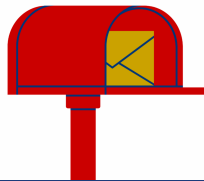


- **Small Lilies for \$10**
- **Tulips for \$10**
- **Daffodils for \$10**
- **Azaleas for \$15**

(Cash must be in a marked envelope.)

After Resurrection Sunday, flowers will be delivered to homebound and senior-living residents or planted on church grounds.

Words of Encouragement from Our Congregants



"Dear Church,

Keep up the good work!!

God Bless,

John & Janet (Kubasiak)"

The Week Ahead

SUN., Feb 22

Sunday Gathering (Worship)
10:00 AM
Sanctuary

MON., Feb 23

**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., Feb 24

Tues Women's Bible Study

10:00-11:30 am

(Hebrews)

Admin bldg

TOPS

(Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)

3:30- 4:30 PM

Church Café

Tues Adult Bible Study

9:30-10:30 am

(Not mtg this week. Hebrews
starts Mar 3rd)

Westminster Rm

WED., Feb 25

All Moms Bible Study

9:30-11:00 AM

Westminster Rm

FRI., Feb 27

Fri Men's Bible Study

7:00 AM

Eat 'n Park, Gibsonia

SAT., Feb 28

Sat Men's Bible Study

NOT MEETING THIS DAY

8:30 AM

Church Café

SUN., Mar 1st

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.

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