2026.11.12 Edition

Click Here: Prayer Request Link

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

Echoes of Sunday

A Midweek Devotional Reading Based on Last Sunday's Sermon

Need a midweek lift? We live in a **broken, fractured world**, filled with hospital rooms, quiet cemeteries, and daily reminders of the sorrow that entered when humanity turned away from God in the Garden of Eden. Too often, we exhaust ourselves trying to patch the cracks through fragile human effort. **Yet the final pages of Scripture offer a breathtaking promise for those who trust in Him—a brilliant new heaven and a new earth where God Himself will wipe away every tear, and sickness, mourning, and death will be no more**. If you are carrying a heavy burden this week and long for the comforting assurance of our ultimate homecoming, take two quiet minutes today to rest in the finished work of Christ and the glorious future He has secured.

[**Click here** to read the full devotional: **The Promised Restoration**]

Pulpit Preview: This Sunday's Sermon

Sermon Series: The Greatest Story Ever Told

The Greatest Story Ever Told begins in a garden, centers on a cross, ends in a city, and invites us to find our place within it. It's a story that explains: who we are, why the world is broken, what Jesus came to do, and where history is headed.

The story will be told in a six-week sermon series:

Prologue
The Blueprint: Scripture's Authority & The Great Story
Act I
Creation: Design & The Creator King
Act II
Fall: Vandalism & The Promised Seed

Act III
Redemption: The Rescuer on the Cross

Act IV
Restoration: The Renewal of All Things

Epilogue (THIS SUNDAY)

The Sent Church: Living Out the Grand Story

Join us for worship this Sunday at 10 AM. If you are homebound or traveling, **click here** to watch our 10 AM Sunday Livestream.

October Financial Report

Financially, October was an encouraging month, generating an operating surplus of **$7,769.** Year-to-date, revenue stands at **$444,852** and expenses at **$486,911**, leaving an operating deficit of **$42,059**. While seasonal deficits are normal at this point in the year, we are nearly **$20,000 ahead** of where we stood at the same time last year. This year's improvement is encouraging. Thank you!

One major reason our expenses are lower than budgeted is that our part-time Operations Director position remains unfilled. Following our 2020 staffing restructure—which eliminated the full-time Business Manager role—accounting was transitioned to a contracted accountant, while **Pastor Paul** took on day-to-day facility operations alongside his pastoral duties.

Drawing on his prior background as an Executive Pastor, Pastor Paul intentionally learned our building systems and processes so he could eventually hand them off to a dedicated Operations Director. The vacancy of this position has kept personnel costs down, though it underscores our ongoing need for increased giving to support operations.

Overall, our primary challenge remains regular giving, which continues to trail our budgeted expenses, which include the vacant Operations Director position.

To make giving simpler and more flexible, Session has approved online giving through Zeffy. Watch for details soon in the next edition of *The MAP* and Sunday's *Journey Notes*.

For a deeper look at the Operations Director role, Pastor Paul's workload, our Campus Care Deacons, and Session's staffing discernment, read *"Supporting the Ministry of the Church"* using the button below.

CLICK HERE

Advent Bible Study

For Retirees

Retirees are invited to gather each Wednesday at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room of the Administration Building for Bible study, fellowship, and spiritual encouragement. The group is currently completing a study of Hebrews.

Beginning December 2, Pastor Paul will launch a special four-week Christmas series designed specifically for retirees, focusing on what God's Word teaches about living faithfully, purposefully, and joyfully in the later seasons of life.

Sign Up Here!

Order your Poinsettia Plants!



Poinsettia plants can be ordered to enhance the Sanctuary's beauty for Christmas Eve. Cost is $13.00 for a 7" 2-stem plant. Order envelopes are available in the Church Entryway. **orders start on Sunday, November 15th till Sunday, December 13th**. **Plants may be taken home** after the Christmas Eve Service or the following Sunday!

Lighthouse Christmas Toy Shoppe

Donate new, unwrapped toys for children ages Newborn-12.

You may also donate $25 gift cards for children ages 13-17

Deliver to the collection box in the Church Entryway from Sunday, November 15th till Sunday, December 6th.



Women's Christmas Luncheon
December 6 @11:30 PM

Angel Gifts for Hosanna Industries Clients



All women are invited to the Women's Christmas Luncheon on **Sunday, December 6, at 11:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.** Join us for a joyful afternoon of fellowship as we celebrate the Christmas season together!

Guests will enjoy a special Chalk-Talk presentation by Doug Bartley of Valencia, who will create an inspiring seasonal artwork while sharing the Christmas message in a unique and memorable way.

As part of this year's luncheon, Circle 4 invites women to participate in the Angel Gifts initiative by selecting a person from ***Hosanna Industries*** *2026* client list. To choose a client and learn more about the ministry, please contact Linda Smith at the church office. **Gifts should be brought with you to the luncheon. If you are unable to attend, gifts may be dropped off at the church office by Thursday, December 3.**

Please RSVP with Linda Smith at the office by calling 724-443-1555 (option zero).

Chorale Christmas Concert



Circle 4: Visiting the Knead Community Cafe

For their November 5 meeting, Circle 4 went on a field trip to the **Knead Community Cafe in New Kensington** to learn more about its food ministry.

This organization is Western Pennsylvania's first pay-what-you-can cafe which opened Feburary of 2017 by Kevin and Mary Bode to address food insecurity.

It operates on a pay-what-you-can, pay-it-forward, or volunteer-to-work-off-a meal system so no one is turned away **regardless of financial means.**

So, if you know anyone struggling with food security tell them about this amazing establishment!



Group Meetings This Week

SUN., Nov 15th

Sunday Gathering
(Worship)
10:00 AM
Sanctuary

MON., Nov 16th

All Dads Bible Study*
6:00 AM
*For location contact Pastor Jeremy at **collins@fpcb.org**

Church Office is Closed on Mondays

Monday Community Bible Study @ St. Barnabas Village
Bldg. A., 5th Floor
1:45-2:45 PM

TUE., Nov 17th

Tues Women's Bible Study
10:00-11:30 AM
(Genesis)
Admin Bldg

TOPS
(Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)
3:30- 4:30 PM
Church Café

WED., Nov 18th

All Moms Bible Study
(John)
Westminster Rm

Bible Study for Retirees
(Hebrews)
9:30-10:30 AM
Admin Bldg,
Conference Room

FRI., Nov 20th

Fri Men's Bible Study
7:00 AM
Eat 'n Park, Gibsonia

SAT., Nov 21st

NOT MEETING DUE TO PRESBYTERY MTG
Sat Men's Bible Study
(Nehemiah)
8:30 AM
Church Cafe

SUN., Nov 22nd

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 AM
Our service begins at 10 AM

You may access worship directly at 9:55 AM 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 AM - 3 PM

To subscribe to our emails, sign up on our website (Click Here) or call 724-443-1555. Choose option "zero" to speak with Linda.

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