

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 23, 2025

**Our Lenten Sermon Series LENTEN ROADS continues.** As we journey to the cross with Christ, we will learn from Bible stories about roads traveled along the way. Today, Stewart will be preaching about “**The Road to Damascus.**” It’s a story of how an encounter with Christ changed an individual and their life went in a very different direction.

**A new Spiritual Growth Group for adults and youth** on Sunday mornings titled “**The Gospel According to Dr. Suess**” has begun meeting. The class is led by Stewart Smith and will use the book of the same title written by James W. Kemp. Each Sunday, the class will discuss a different Dr. Seuss story so feel free to join the group when you can. The group meets in Upper Witherspoon on Sunday mornings at 9:00am.

**Camp registration for 2025 is officially open for Ferncliff summer camp!** Kids from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade can explore the great outdoors, make new friends, and discover their faith through hiking, swimming and engaging Bible studies. With day and overnight camps from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup>, there is the perfect adventure for everyone! Ready to join the fun? Visit [ferncliff.org/about-camp](http://ferncliff.org/about-camp) to see dates and rates. Contact Kristi or Amanda for a 30% discount code.

It is so fun to knit and chat with friends. Come join a **new hand knitting/crocheting group which will meet in the evening.** Learn new stitches and work on your favorite project with technical support from experienced hand crafters. Beginners are welcome! Contact Carol Van Scyoc for more information. Let her know which day and time would work best for you. Pick up your stitches and do not delay! If you wish to sign up for this group or any other connection(small) group online, the link is in the Weekly Update.

**Are you looking for a summer job or know someone looking for one?** Working on Ferncliff’s summer staff offers the opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the lives of children while spending the summer hiking, swimming, paddleboarding, stargazing, making s’mores, and more! As a member of our dedicated staff team, you’ll have the chance to grow personally and professionally (possibilities for First Aid, CPR/AED, and lifeguarding certifications through the Red Cross!), gaining valuable leadership and teamwork skills in a welcoming and affirming Christian community. Head to our website at [ferncliff.org/about-camp/summer-staff/](http://ferncliff.org/about-camp/summer-staff/) if you are interested.

The congregation is invited to an **INTERFAITH CLIMATE “RETREAT”** being held at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, March 31, April 3 and April 7 from 6:30-8:30pm. Flyers are available in the Gathering Place and online (see Weekly Update for link).

**A confirmation class for youth will begin soon.** If you have a youth, 6th grade or older that is interested, please reach out to either our Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Amanda McDonald or Director of Christian Education, Kristi Button. Eleven of our youth are signed up!

**MISSION POSSIBLE 2025** the presbytery’s hands-on service weekend for youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) is coming up April 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup>. The event is being hosted by First Presbyterian Bentonville and the cost is \$75. Contact Amanda McDonald for more information.

Lent has just begun but it is not too soon to begin thinking about **HOLY WEEK.** Please save these dates:

- April 13 – **Palm Sunday** Worship Service with Palm Parade
- April 17 – **Maundy Thursday** Worship Service with Communion 6:00PM
- April 18 – **Good Friday** Tenebrae Worship Service 6:00PM
- April 20 – **Easter Sunday** (Brunch, Children’s Gathering, and Worship)

A print **Lent/Easter newsletter** was mailed to the congregation. If you did not receive it, additional copies are available in the Gathering Place.

There are lots of **resources for Lent** (e.g. a devotional book, suggested spiritual practices calendar and One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks) in the Gathering Place.

**ARE YOU NEW TO FUPC?** We would like to get to know you. Please use the QR Code **on the back of this page** or type [fupcfay.org/links](http://fupcfay.org/links) in your browser. You will see a menu of buttons. Please select the button that says, “New to FUPC?” Let us know how to contact you and how we can best help you. Thank you!

**CONTACT INFORMATION** can be found in the Instant Church Directory App. If you need assistance with connecting with a church member or information about the app, please **call the Church Office (442-4411)** and the church staff will be happy to assist you.

**Blessing Bags** are available in the Gathering Place. These bags contain items needed by the unhoused. Pick up a few and bless those you see who are in need.

**COOPERATIVE EMERGENCY OUTREACH (CEO) CURRENT NEEDS: dish soap, laundry pods, shampoo and conditioner ALWAYS NEEDED: saltine crackers**

**Has your contact information (phone, email or address) changed?** Please be sure to let the Church Office know (442-4411 or officemanager@fupcfay.org) We want to be able to stay in touch with you!

There are several ways to make **FINANCIAL GIFTS** to the church. One is by texting GIVE to 479-323-2609. More information and options can be found at [fupcfay.org/give](http://fupcfay.org/give).

Please submit any announcements for **the bulletin or Weekly Update** to Amy Rossetti (Communications@fupcfay.org) **by Thursday at noon.**

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:** (more information about these organizations and how you can help can be found in our weekly email newsletter, The Weekly Update.)

- **CEO needs volunteers!** They are looking for **volunteer receptionists and substitutes** for their regular volunteers. If you are interested, please call or text David Clay.
- **Circles of NWA needs volunteers** to assist with Wednesday evening meal prep and cleanup at FUPC. If you are interested, there is a link in the Weekly Update to sign-up or call Elizabeth Houle.
- **Canopy NWA is continuing to help** local legal refugees become thriving engaged residents even though new refugee arrivals are paused. They need financial donations. More information is available at [canopynwa.org](http://canopynwa.org).

**NEED A LINK?** Use the QR code to the right or type [fupcfay.org/links](http://fupcfay.org/links) in your browser. You will see a menu of buttons to access:

- Worship Guide
- Announcements
- Giving Form
- Contact Information Form for Visitors
- Current Issue of Weekly Update (contains sign-up links and details)



### Calendar for March 24-28

**Note: Due to Spring Break there is no Chancel Choir, no Young Adult Dinner and no Youth Group.**

<b>Monday</b>	7:00pm	Alcoholics Anonymous (Fellowship Hall)
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:30am	Covenant Book Group (Church Library)
	Noon	Men's Fellowship Lunch (Whole Hog Café)
	4:00pm	Bells on the Hill Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	5:30pm	Stewardship Ministry Team (Library and Zoom1)
	7:00pm	Gambler's Anonymous (Lower Witherspoon)
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:30am	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Village Inn)
	2:00pm	Deacon's Communion Prep (Calvin 201)
<b>Friday</b>	10:00am	Hooks and Needles (Upper Witherspoon)