



Linoleum block print by Elizabeth Steele Halstead

Lord's Day

April 28, 2024

10:15 am

*Welcome to worship at Fox Valley Presbyterian Church;
we're so glad you've joined us!
You come to us not as a stranger but as a friend in Christ.*

*In our order of service, the congregation speaks words in bold type.
The asterisk* indicates when you are invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

Large print bulletins and hearing assist devices are available from the ushers.

We Gather To Worship God

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 22 and John 15

We will tell of your name, O God.

In the midst of the congregation, we will praise you!

Praise God, all who stand in awe of God's grace.

We honor and glorify God's name.

We have no life apart from Jesus, the life-giving Vine.

We are his branches - sustained, nurtured, and pruned by love.

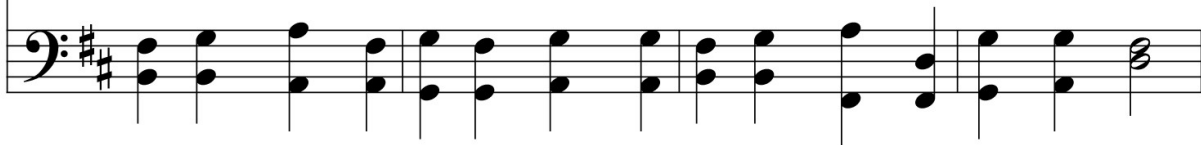
At home in God's love, let us worship together.



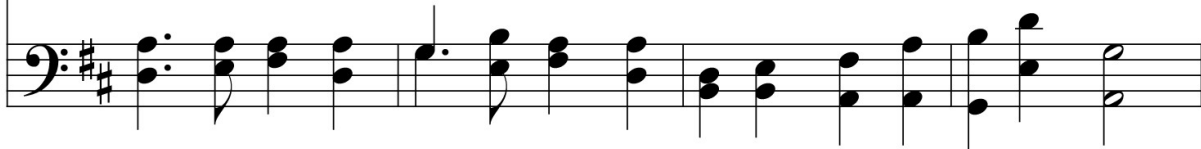
1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.
Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.
Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.



***CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The seeds of grace, hope, joy, and love are planted deep with us, so they can bear fruit in our lives. But we resist staying connected to the Vine, thinking we can flourish on our own. Let us confess our sins, so we can once more feel God abiding deep within us. Please join me as we pray, saying,

Compassionate One, we fragment ourselves into a million selfish pieces; your children of love, we insist on the right to despise our siblings; because your Perfect Love was broken by us, we are afraid to give of ourselves to the world. Forgive us of our sins, so we may live boldly, love fearlessly, and proclaim unceasingly that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

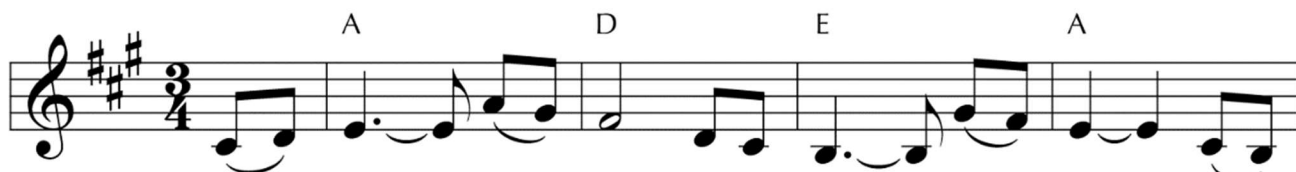
Silence is kept

Abide in us, Vine Grower,
that knowing your grace and love, we may bear its fruit in the world. Amen.

***HYMN 578**

O Lord, Have Mercy

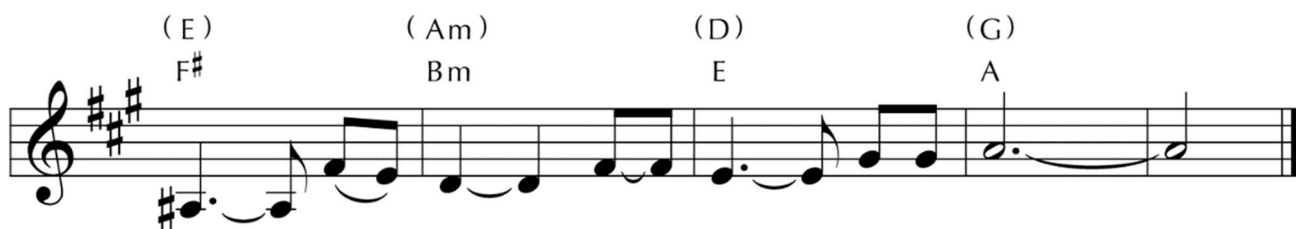
ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ



1 O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O
2 O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O

Greek 1 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son; Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son; Ky - ri -
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son; Chri - ste e - le - i - son; Chri -

Guarani 1 O - ré po-ria - jú ve-re - kó, Ñan-de - ya - ra. O -
2 O - ré po-ria - jú ve-re - kó, Je - su Cris - to. O -



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.
Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

e e - le - i - son; Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
ste e - le - i - son; Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

ré po-ria - jú ve - re - kó, Ñan-de - ya - ra.
ré po-ria - jú ve - re - kó, Je - su Cris - to.

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

"Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement." (1 John 4:17) With confidence in God's grace and mercy we know we are forgiven and can be at peace.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN 587

Alleluia!

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Musical notation for the Celtic Alleluia. The piece is in 6/8 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Chord progressions above the staff are: A, E, D E A, D E, A, E, Bm E A, D E A.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

As God's forgiven people we know true peace and can share that peace with others. May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share Christ's peace with those around you.

We Listen for God's Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children through fifth grade, please come forward at this time; parents are welcome to come, as well.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 6:5, 8-11

If we have been united with Christ in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So we also must consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION – DISABILITIES MINISTRY

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Instructions for giving online may be found on the "My Offering Today" card in the pew rack.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.* Amen.
*or Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

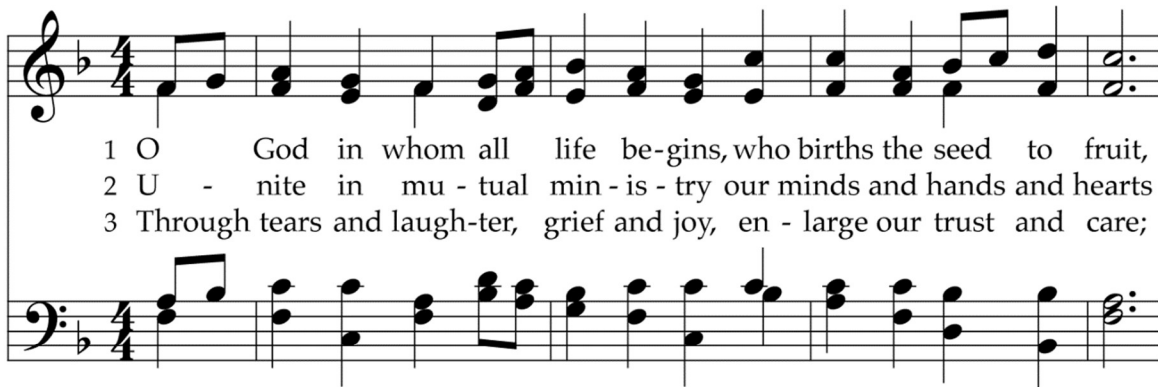
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Depart To Serve God

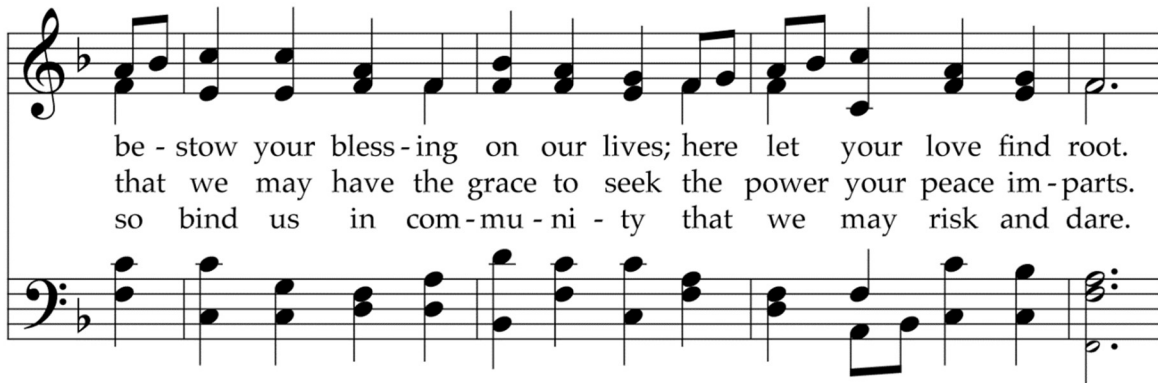
*HYMN 308

O God in Whom All Life Begins

NOEL



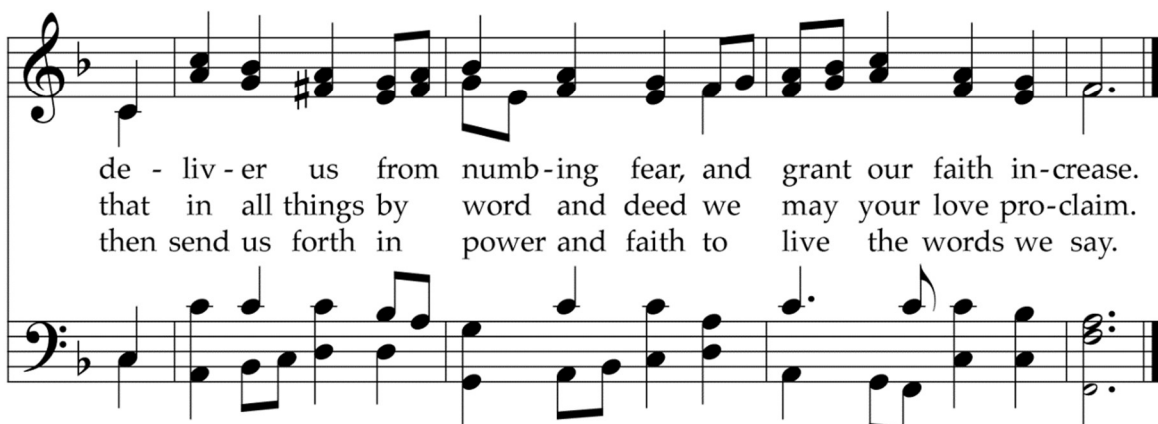
1 O God in whom all life be-gins, who births the seed to fruit,
2 U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts
3 Through tears and laugh-ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;



be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.
so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.



Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;
So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your Name
Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray;



de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.
that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

END OF WORSHIP.....BEGINNING OF SERVICE

Rev. Stephanie E. Anthony, *Pastor and Head of Staff*

Rev. Michelle M. Hwang, *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*

**Revs. Allan Dempsey, Melinda B. Hinners-Waldie, Lucas King and Loy Williams,
*Parish Associates***

Christopher Jackson, *Music Director* John Stombres, *Organist*

Dr. Chiayi Lee, *Accompanist*

Pam Curry, *Director of The Growing Place Preschool*

Liturgist

Beth Jahoda

Greeter

Julie Sperry

Ushers

Chris Olechowski, Marie Dovin, Mike Sims,

Kurt Wachter

Nursery and child care assistant

Deb Mengler

Fellowship Hour host

Mission Committee (Pat Sage)

Card and flower delivery Deacon

Laurel O'Brien

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Liz Holding in memory of her parents, Elton and Fern Holding.

PRAYERS FOR THE GROWING PLACE PRESCHOOL. One of the best ways that we can support our students and teachers at The Growing Place Preschool is to keep them in our daily prayers as they learn and grow. This week we pray for Andrew, Hannah and Reagan (students in the three-year-old class) and their teacher, Miss Heather H.; and Gus, Emmett and Everly (students in the four-year-old class) and their teacher, Miss Heather S.

Staying in Touch

Meetings with the following staff members are by appointment. Please contact them directly via email to make an appointment:

Stephanie Anthony, Head of Staff – santhony@foxvalleypres.org

Michelle Hwang, Associate Pastor of Discipleship –
mhwang@foxvalleypres.org

Jill Reilly, Financial Administrator – jreilly@foxvalleypres.org

STAFF NOTES: *Pastor Stephanie's* day off is Monday. *Pastor Michelle's* day off is Friday. *Jill Reilly*, Financial Administrator, works on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On Mondays and Fridays, she works from home, and you may reach her on her cell phone, 630-564-1101. On Wednesdays, Jill is in her office at church. *Gerry Reed*, Office Administrator, is in the office during office hours.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday; 9:00 am-noon, Friday.

Our current topic: *Stories of Creation*



We will explore the creation stories throughout the Bible - not just in Genesis.

How do these stories inform our theology?

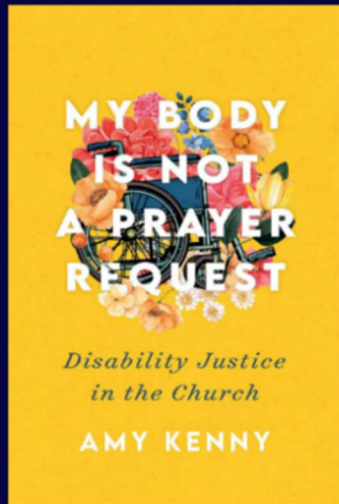
How do creation and evolution live together in our theology?

adult education class
meets on Sundays

9:00 am in Rooms 2 and 3

Pastor Michelle is the facilitator

Drop-ins are welcome!



BOOK STUDY

And Discussion

SUNDAY MORNINGS

APRIL 7 - MAY 19

9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM

For more information please visit the
Disabilities Ministry page on our website:
<https://foxvalleypres.org/disabilities>



Adult Ministries is offering an educational study and discussion on the topic of disabilities awareness and the church. Our weekly topics include references to the book by Amy Kenny, *My Body Is Not A Prayer Request*.

Please join us as we learn more about how disabilities impact individuals and families, and how the community can be more inclusive. Classes meet on Sunday mornings in the Conference Room, 9:00-10:00 am, now through May 19.

Copies of *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request* are available for purchase for \$12.00. For more information, please contact Angie Bateman at abtmn95@gmail.com.

New!

DISABILITIES MINISTRY

Did you know that 1 in 5
people live with a disability?
(U.S. Census Bureau)

CONTACT US

✉ abtmn95@gmail.com
(Angie Bateman)



**Our Disabilities Ministry
Classroom is located in
Room #4 and is open on
Sunday mornings from
10:00 - 11:15 am.**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Middle and High School

9:00 am in the Youth Lounge
Breakfast provided!

Children 5th grade and under

10:30 am
after the *Children's Time* in worship

Three-year-olds through kindergarten - Room 1
First through fifth graders - Room 2



Youth Sunday School
Sundays at 9am

The
CHOSEN

Join us
in the Cafe
after our
10:15 am worship service
for
our Fellowship Hour



April 28 at 5:30 pm
**CONFIRMATION
DINNER**

**Confirmands, their mentors and parents will join
Session members for dinner and discussion**



GriefShare®

Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement
after the death of a loved one*

At a GriefShare group, you'll find understanding, guidance, relief, and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us!

Mondays (excluding the first Monday)

April 22-August 19th

6:30-7:30pm, Adult Lounge

RSVP to Michelle, mhwang@foxvalleypres.org

workbooks \$10

griefshare.org



Confirmation Sunday - May 5

*Congratulations to
our confirmands*

Charles Conboy
David Jahoda
Maren Williams
Avery York



FVPC Youth
Spring Flower
FUNDRAISER

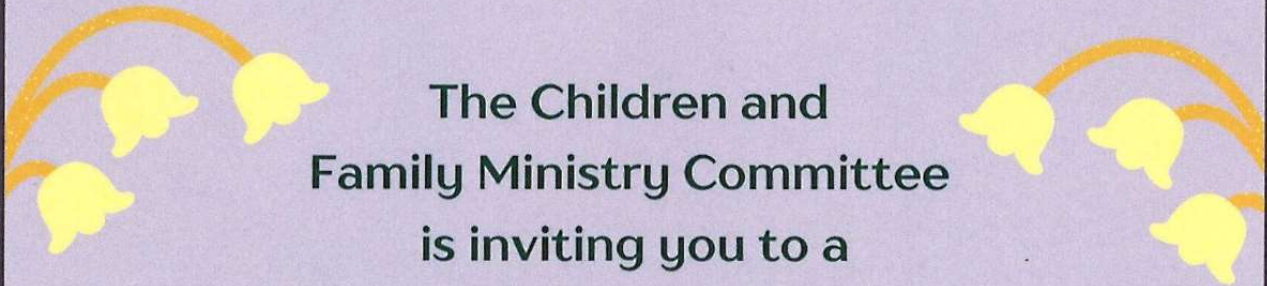
Pick up on
Sunday, May 5
11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Orders due by April 19

Order online by scanning the QR
code below or at
foxvalleypres.org/youth



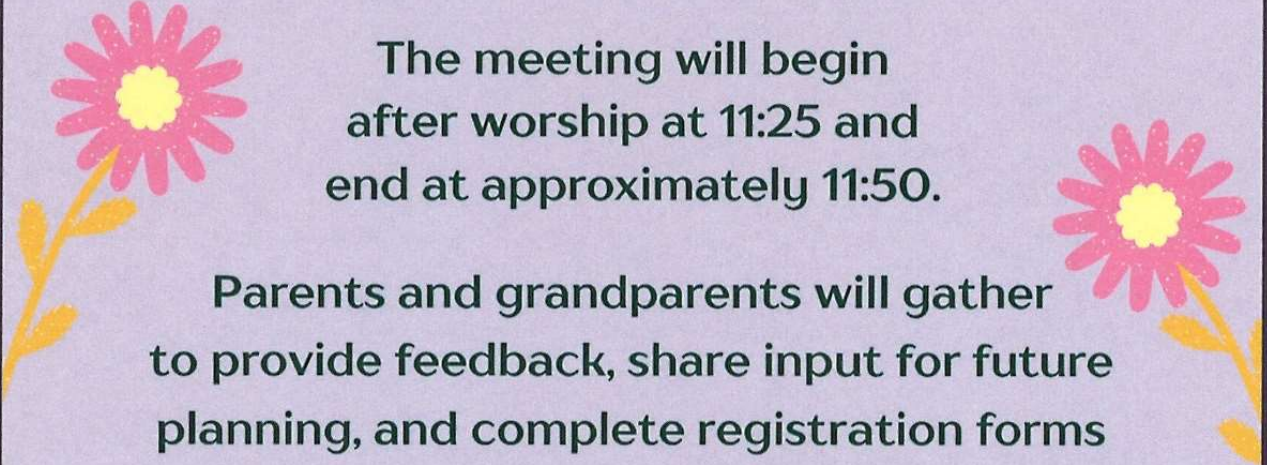
Printed order forms located on the
children and youth ministries table
in the Lower Gathering Space.



The Children and
Family Ministry Committee
is inviting you to a

**Sunday School Family Feedback
and Fellowship Meeting**

Sunday, May 5th in rooms 2-3.

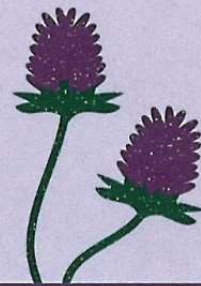
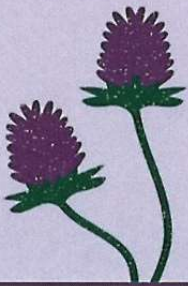


The meeting will begin
after worship at 11:25 and
end at approximately 11:50.

Parents and grandparents will gather
to provide feedback, share input for future
planning, and complete registration forms
for the next school year.

Childcare will be provided in room one.

If you have questions, please contact
Bridget Wachter at bkwachter@sbcglobal.net.



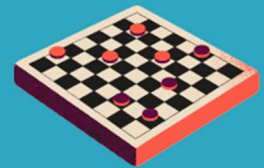
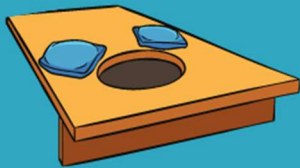


INCLUSIVE GAME NIGHT

FOR TEENS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES
FRIDAY MAY 10, 2024 6-8PM

Fox Valley Presbyterian Church
227 East Side Drive
Geneva, IL 60134

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT ANGIE BATEMAN
ABTMN95@GMAIL.COM**



Teens and adults with disabilities are invited to join us for a FREE evening of fun, games, snacks and community! This event is hosted by the Disabilities Ministry at Fox Valley Presbyterian Church every second Friday of each month. All participants must register/RSVP monthly. For more information or to sign up, visit foxvalleypres.org/disabilities.

Help Fox Valley Presbyterian Church

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In Guatemala

SPONSOR A MISSION

TRANSPORTATION

BUS RIDES FOR THE TEAM

SCHOOL SUPPLIES
LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WIDOW PACKS

\$15 EACH

INCLUDES:

***FLOUR**

***BEANS**

***RICE**

***TOILETRIES**



[HTTPS://PUSHPAY.COM/G/FOXVALLEYPRES](https://pushpay.com/g/foxvalleypres)

Our Community Garden

a hidden gem

We are preparing our garden for the season

If you wish to help with garden prep or want a garden plot, please contact Jeff Mengler at 630-204-8377 or jlmen9ler4@gmail.com



Did you know that we have a church/community garden here at Fox Valley Presbyterian Church? Are you interested in having a raised bed or a plot in that garden? For your own use or for the community? If you have an interest in a garden bed or plot, or in helping with our garden, please let us know. You can be in on the ground floor, as we are just getting started with preparing the garden for the next growing season.

Please contact Jeff Mengler (630-204-8377 or jlmen9ler4@gmail.com) to indicate your interest as an individual, a group, or a family. We will reach out to you soon with details.

Summer Sunday School

Starting June 2!

Three year-olds through kindergarteners -
"Summer Story Series" in Room 1

1st - 5th grade -
"Brick by Brick" in the Conference Room



**Sunday,
June 2,
after our
indoor
worship**

Church picnic



Bounce house,
tent,
hot dogs and
beverages
provided by
the Deacons

Bring a side dish/dessert for our
potluck buffet in the Great Hall -
and chairs/blankets
for outdoor dining
Eat indoors or outdoors!

SAVE THE DATE

**OUR
VOICES**

**Summer Sundays
June 2, 9, 16 and 30
July 7, 14, 21
August 4, 11, 18
11:15 am
Conference Room**

Pick up a beverage and a treat at our Fellowship Hour
and join us for more fellowship -
watch this space and upcoming church publications for details

FREE
SUMMER
TUTORING PROGRAM

THURSDAYS 9AM - 7PM
JUNE 6 - AUGUST 1

Reading, Writing, & Math

CALL/EMAIL DORENE TIECHE
ABOUT REGISTERING YOUR CHILD
OR VOLUNTEERING TO BE A TUTOR

BOOKS AND BAGELS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN THE SUMMER
9:00 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM



June 23

How To Know a Person, by David Brooks



July 28

Horse, by Geraldine Brooks



August 25

Poverty by America, by Matt Desmond

Bring your own books and come prepared for
lively discussion (and snacks)



Here's your link to the church calendar, which includes church meetings and community group meetings.



FOX VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Mission and Ministry Partnerships



We're a
MATTHEW 25
church
pcusa.org/matthew_25



Church email



Website



Facebook page



YouTube channel

THE GROWING PLACE PRESCHOOL
Pam Curry, Director

FRUTO DE VIDA IGLESIA CHRISTINA
Fernando Mira, Pastor