

Forest Park Church

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Hope • Purpose • Belonging

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

DAVID WILLIS

In 2017, 400 musicians gathered for an extraordinary performance titled *Symphony for a Broken Orchestra*. The musicians ranged from children to seniors and included amateurs, professionals, and even members of a world-class orchestra. What made the concert remarkable was this: every instrument was broken. Trumpets were taped together. Violins were missing strings. Bows were worn thin. Cellos barely held their shape while playing.

These instruments had come from public school music programs that lost funding. Music teachers saved the broken instruments, hoping they might someday be repaired. Instead, the composer chose to use them exactly as they were, and invited musicians to see what kind of music broken things could still make.

At first, many instruments were silent. Slowly, sound emerged in unexpected ways: tapping keys, scraping wood, turning pegs. Some players could only manage short bursts of sound. Others struggled to stay together. Yet over time, the fragments formed harmony. What emerged was not chaos, but music that was playful, rich, and alive. The performance ended with the thin, fragile squeal of a broken clarinet, and it was enough.

Ash Wednesday reminds us that the church looks much like that orchestra. We come marked by ashes; shaped by wounds, regrets, exhaustion, and fear. On our own, what we offer may feel off-key or incomplete. But gathered together under the direction of the Master Composer, God takes our brokenness and forms something beautiful. This is our hope as Lent begins: the God who exchanges beauty for ashes.

Isaiah 61:3 NKJV

“...console those who mourn in Zion... give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.”



Church Emails:

If you want to receive emails from Forest Park Church, please email Patty Mausert at pmausert@yahoo.com to be added to the database.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITE A FRIEND FEBRUARY!

The simple act of inviting friends and acquaintances can impact their lives for eternity. As God puts people in your life pathway, will you intentionally invite them? Here are some simple strategies to invite people to church.

1. Invite your Facebook friends to come to church and "Meet them at the Door".
2. Make a commitment to invite people that you encounter each week, such as a boss, teacher, friend, relative, nail tech, hair stylist, food server, mail carrier, yard guy, or neighbor.
3. Walk your dog, jog, or stroll and invite people you meet along the way.
4. Invite people in community organizations or groups you are affiliated with such as book club, PTO, golf league, exercise group or college class.

We have business cards to hand out or leave places that will help you in our INVITE A FRIEND FEBRUARY initiative! They will be located on Faith's desk and in other locations around the church. Start thinking about who you will invite to Forest Park Church in February!

FEBRUARY'S COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS:

Transformational Recovery Mission

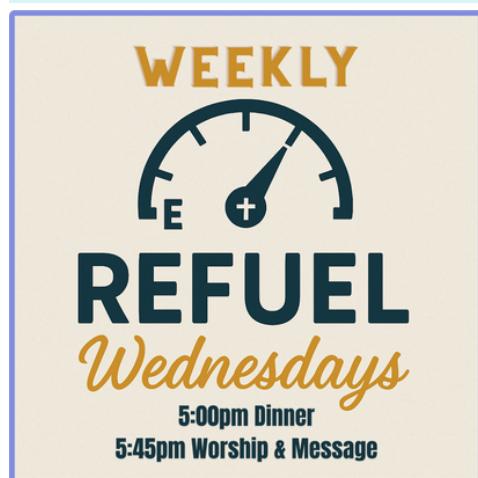
An outreach ministry of Hiland Park UMC. Their mission is to provide a safe haven for homeless women and children while offering spiritual guidance, recovery support for the addicted, hope for the marginalized, and the support of a compassionate church family.

MENS MINISTRY

Men's Breakfast:
Wednesdays | 7am-8am
in the Fellowship Hall



FOOD & FELLOWSHIP



CONVERSATIONS OVER COFFEE:

Donna Allen, a certified Christian Women's Counselor, is available to offer prayerful guidance and support. She can be reached at (850) 381-2489.



GOLF FUNDRAISER

FPC Golf Tournament Fundraiser- Saturday, February 21st at Nature Walk Golf Course. Info flyers are in the gathering area.



850-785-6296



1401 W. 23rd St., Panama City, FL 32405



info@fpcpc.org



www.fpcpc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



YARD SALE!

Friday, March 6th and Saturday, March 7th from 7am to 11am. Please drop items Sunday, March 1st through Thursday, March 7th during church office hours. Please, no mattresses or large furniture. Proceeds to benefit FPC Mission Fund.

Galentine's Day Tea!

Sunday February 8, 2026 2:00-4:00pm

Grab your bestie and come celebrate your love for them at the Galentine's Tea on Sunday, February 8th, 2:00-4:00pm.

Lots of scrumptious goodies and hot tea served with great fellowship and music.

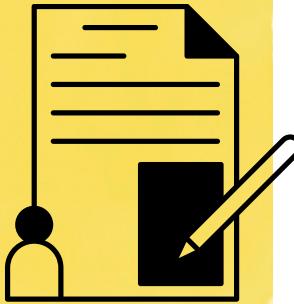
Wear your best dressy attire in pink, red, or white. Bonus if you match your best friend!

Registration opens Jan 8th.

Table hostesses needed to set a table, contact Penni Beitzel 850-819-6659 for details.

SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

A brief one-issue church conference will be held on Sunday, February 8th at 10:15 AM in the sanctuary.



SAVE THE DATE



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FPC KIDS, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT



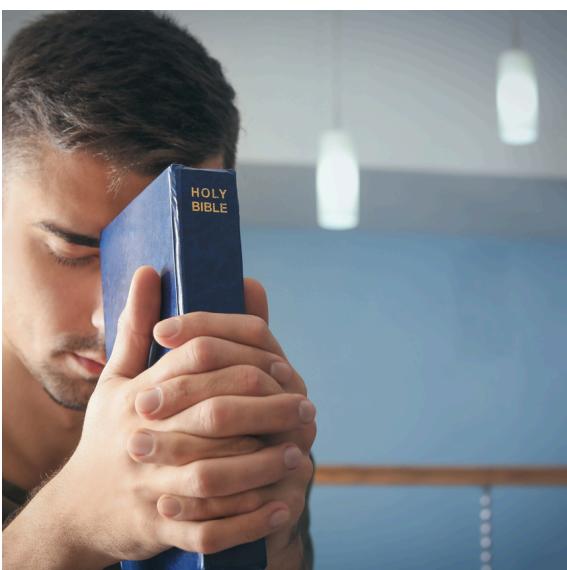
FP KIDS WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday School 9:15-10:15 AM
Kids Church: 10:30 AM



FP YOUTH WORSHIP TIMES

Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 PM
Sunday School 9:15-10:15 AM
Sunday Youth 4-6 PM



FP YOUNG ADULTS WORSHIP TIMES

Tuesdays 6:30-8:00 PM



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FP FAMILY MINISTRY



Bible Buddy Brunch

February 15th during Children's Church for Pre K - 5th grade. Valentine's snack and activity, plus sharing Bible Reading Journeys.

COINS FOR CHRIST

On the 3rd Sunday every month, our kids will collect coins for Christ to provide a better understanding of serving and giving to our community. At the end of 6 months, they will decide where they want to donate the funds they have collected.



Valentine's Date Night



This Valentine's Day, drop the kids off and have a night to yourself! Drop off starts at 5pm, must be picked up by 9pm! Drop off and Pick up in the Gathering Area. Only \$5 per kid or \$15 per family! We will provide dinner and kids are welcome to come in jammies so you can put 'em straight to bed after! You can [register online](#) or see Kat for help registering. Must register by 2/12!

FP STUDENTS

Lent & Pause Campaign February 18th - April 5th

We will challenge students to participate in Show Hop's Pause Campaign, which provides students with the opportunity to respond to Jesus' call to care for waiting children. Students will engage with devotional material that educates them on the needs of orphans and mobilizes them to make a difference.

Presidents Day:

School is out Monday, February 16th, so why not join us as we go serve at Taunton Family Children's Home. Meet at the church at 9:00 AM, we will return by 3:00 PM. Pack a lunch.

Ash Wednesday: February 18th

Escape Room: February 22nd

Q&A/Trivia Night: February 25th



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Happy Anniversary

Jerry & Glynis Frye
Ken & Janet Davis
Jay & Cynthia Gardner
David & Susan Riley
Don & Janilyn Durham
Jim & Beth Miller
David & Charlene Messer

February 9th
February 11th
February 20th
February 22nd
February 28th
February 28th
February 29th

Happy Birthday

February 1
Natalie Ryan

February 2
Ava Dickerson

February 3
Candace Keller

February 4
Charlene Messer

February 5
Jack Wooten
Jace Zahara

February 6
Ann Akin
Susan Appling
Mokey McCormick

February 7
Tonda Silva

February 10
Melissa Ryan

February 12
Beverly Scribner-
Richardson

February 13
Hannah Crooke
Paulette O'Connor

February 14
John Rotenberger

February 15
Tiffney Adkins
Barbara Cupp
Larry Kinsey

February 16
Glynis Frye
Joan Payne

February 17
Marianne Walker

February 19
Don Foreman

February 20
Nancy Gillis
Rosa Lewis

February 21
Billy Gore

February 22
Josh Crooke

February 23
Wyatt Adkins
Kenny Dixon

February 24
Doreen Allen

February 27
Ryan Goodwin

February 28
Delores Barron
Scott Tolbert

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS