



# FPC News

## May 2026

### Sunday Worship

10:15 am in person and  
online

### Phone 479.273.5450

(answered Monday -  
Friday 8am - 4pm)

### Email

[info@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:info@fpcbentonville.org)

### Website

[www.fpcbentonville.org](http://www.fpcbentonville.org)  
(church calendar found  
under My FPC)

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 4:00pm

Each week, the FPC Food  
Pantry sets up Fridays at  
9am, and is open  
Saturdays from 9-11am



## Here's What's Happening

### May 3 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

J St. Kids, 8:45 am; Adult Faith Formation, 9:00 am  
Worship with the Lord's Supper, 10:15 am  
Handbell rehearsal, 11:30 am  
Youth Bowling and Ice Cream, 3:30 - 6:30pm

### May 6

Choir Practice, 6:30 pm

### May 7

W.O.W (Women of the Word) Bible Study, 9:30 am

### May 9

Helping Hands Thrift Store work day, 10am-4pm  
FPC Food Pantry work day, 1pm-4pm

### May 10 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Adult Faith Formation, 9:00 am  
Worship, 10:15 am  
Handbell rehearsal, 11:30 am

### May 13

Choir Practice, 6:30 pm

### May 14

Presbyterian Women Horizons study, 9:30 am  
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am

### May 17 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

Adult Faith Formation, 9:00 am  
Worship, 10:15 am  
Deacons meeting, 11:30 am  
Handbell rehearsal, 11:30 am

### May 18

Blood Drive, 1:30-5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

### May 20

Choir Practice, 6:30 pm

### May 21

W.O.W (Women of the Word) Bible Study, 9:30 am  
Elizabeth Circle, 6:00 pm

### May 24 - Pentecost

Adult Faith Formation, 9:00 am  
Worship, 10:15 am  
Handbell rehearsal, 11:30 am  
Hello Summer Party, 11:30am - 2pm

### May 25 - Memorial Day

My Friends and Me Learning Center closed  
Church office closed

### May 26

Stated Session Meeting, 6:00 pm

### May 27

Choir Practice, 6:30 pm

### May 28

W.O.W. (Women of the Word) Bible Study, 9:30am  
J.O.Y. Group (Just Older Youth), 11am

### May 31 - Trinity Sunday

Adult Faith Formation, 9:00 am  
Worship, 10:15 am  
Newcomer Gathering, 11:30 am

## Congratulations Class of 2026!

It was a joy to celebrate our graduating high school seniors in worship on April 26.



## **Do you have a graduate in your family? We would love to celebrate with you!**

Along with our high school graduates, we know many others are graduating this spring, too. We'd love to celebrate with you! Please send the name, area of study/degree, and school information of your family to Amanda in the church office ([administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org)) by Friday, May 22, and we will include them in our June newsletter.

## **Join Us for our next Newcomer Gathering, Sunday, May 31, after worship!**

### **NEW TO THE CHURCH?**

If you are somewhat new to the church, we invite you to a Newcomer Gathering on **Sunday, May 31**, after worship in the church Library. Join us for an informal conversation to learn more about the mission and ministries of our growing church family, and ask questions in a relaxed setting with pastors and church members. Light refreshments included. Extended nursery care is available by reservation. You can RSVP by calling or emailing the church office: 479-273-5450, [administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org)



## One Great Hour of Sharing - Thank You!

Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$2,578 for One Great Hour of Sharing. These gifts support disaster relief, hunger, poverty, climate, and migration/refugee assistance, serving individuals and communities in need.

Thank you for your support and for the care you show to communities in need.

## Helping Hands Thrift Store Celebrates 50 years of Ministry!

First Presbyterian Church of Bentonville was one of the founding partners when Helping Hands was established in 1976. We were invited to participate in a 50th anniversary celebration on April 23, 2026. Cathy Rogers, Michael and Janice Zoller, and Pastor Georgia represented our church. Helping Hands Inc. is a non-profit organization operated as a partnership of 24 churches throughout Benton County. They operate a thrift store located at 2602 SW D St in Bentonville, Arkansas. Proceeds from the thrift store are then used to meet the needs of Benton County residents who require assistance in times of hardship. This vital ministry has now provided help to those in need for 50 years.

Our church's next volunteer day at Helping Hands is Saturday, **May 9**. If you can serve any amount of time that day (stocking shelves, unloading donations, working the cash register, etc.), please sign up at church after worship on May 3, or show up to Helping Hands on May 9 from 10am-4pm. Thank you for supporting this vital ministry in our community!



## **Help Wanted: Strong Arms and Joyful Hearts**

The Food Pantry is looking for some strong arms & legs! Thanks to the NWA Food Bank, our garage is being insulated & an HVAC system will be installed next month. That means we will be moving the items necessary for our weekly mission to Fellowship Hall during this update. Come join us on Saturday, 5-9-26, from 1-4 pm

### **As our community grows.. So does the need**

Thank you for  
volunteering your time and talent on Fridays and Saturdays  
your financial support  
your donations of food and personal care items

From January to April, we have served 572 households and 1915 persons. This is an increase of 17% over the same time last year.

We need volunteers on Saturdays to speak with our neighbors, entering their information on tablets on Oasis software. We are happy to train you. You can sign up to work whenever you choose. Please sign up with our signup genius here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4FADA72CA57-57990261-greeter#/>

If you would like to donate items, please choose from these:

Toilet Paper  
Deodorant – Men & Women  
Toothpaste  
Female Hygiene Products  
Liquid Laundry Detergent

Place in the bins under the pantry bulletin board in the welcome center.

Next year, due to the federal bill (OBBB), states will need to allocate more funding to the SNAP program. The proposed state budget does not allow for these additional expenses – 18 million in 10/2026, 27 million more in 10/2027. This could disenfranchise 240,000 of our neighbors. Please speak with your state legislator – pantries and food banks cannot meet this increased need.

# Adult Faith Formation

**Adult Sunday School 9:00 am in the church Library All are welcome**

For the month of May, the Adult Sunday School Class will continue reading "*The Present Word: Spring 2026 Social Teachings of the Church*"

This is an intriguing study of social issues that faithful Christians confronted in the early 1900s and gives opportunity to consider how the church brings Christ to bear on these issues in our day and time.

Unit I, "Fulfilling Our Obligations to Neighbors"

Unit II, "Fulfilling Our Obligations to Family and Community"

Unit III, "Fulfilling Our Obligations to God and Society"



# Presbyterian Women

## Thursdays at 9:30am in the Bird's Eye Room

All women of the church are warmly invited to join our Presbyterian Women's Bible studies! Whether you've attended before or this would be your first time, we'd love to have you with us. Come and see what it's all about—you might find it's just what you've been looking for!

"Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ"  
by Rev. Dr. Raschell Hunter.

We will meet the 2nd Thursday @ 9:30am in the Bird's Eye Room. Bible study books are available in the church office.

We will again offer a casual Elizabeth Circle covering the same material as the Rachel Circle if we have interest in a nighttime circle. This meets on the 3rd Thursday at 6pm in the Library.



### W.O.W. (Women Of The Word) Bible Study

The WOW (Women of the Word) Bible Study group is an informal group of women looking for meaning, heartfelt understanding, and application of Scripture. We share what we discover and question in the lesson.

We continue to meet on Thursday mornings, 9:30-10:30, in the Birds Eye Room, except for the second Thursday of the month when PW meets. All women are invited to join us. Contact Carol Ritchie for more information.

### Men's Fellowship Group

Gather with us on Thursday, May 14, at 9:30 am in the church library. Enjoy our lively stories, discussions, and prayers. Doughnuts and coffee will be provided. All are welcome.



## J St. Kids

J St. Kids will meet on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:45–10AM in the children’s wing for K–6th graders. We will be packing hygiene kits to send to Ferncliff’s Disaster Assistance Center. After May 3<sup>rd</sup>, J St. Kids will be on summer break.

## Children’s Church

### CHILDREN’S CHURCH

May 3rd - No Children’s Church

May- 10th- The Ethiopian Man

May 17th - Saul Meets Jesus

May 24th - Pentecost

May 31st - Cornelius

Children’s Church takes place on most Sunday mornings directly after the Children’s Message for children age 3-2nd grade. This time includes an activity, storytime, and snack. Children’s Church does not meet on Communion Sundays, so that children can fully participate in our Communion service.

## Children's Church Volunteer Meeting

# CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEER MEETING

We have a growing number of young children in our church community and the Children's Team is need of additional volunteer support to better serve our church families. We will be offering a Children's Church volunteer informational and training meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-2pm in-person at the church. Childcare will be provided with advanced notice. If you are interested in attending either of these meetings, please let Katie McKenzie know by May 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Summer Youth Group



# YOUTH SUMMER CALENDAR



MAY 2ND	FOOD PANTRY	8:30-11AM
MAY 3RD	BOWLING AND ICE CREAM	3:30-6:30PM
MAY 24TH	HELLO SUMMER PARTY	11:30-2PM
JUNE 6TH	FOOD PANTRY	8:30-11AM
JUNE 7TH	SACRED SHAKES	2:00-3:00PM
JUNE 13-20TH	HIGH SCHOOL MONTREAT	
JUNE 28TH	SACRED SHAKES	2:00-3:00PM
JULY 5-10TH	FERNCLIFF CAMP	
JULY 12TH	POOL PARTY	5:15-7PM
JULY 15-19TH	MONTREAT MIDDLE	
JULY 26TH	SACRED SHAKES	2:00-3:00PM

**Give the Gift of Life on May 18, 2026**



**Blood Drive**  
**First Presbyterian Church**

Fellowship Hall  
901 NE J St  
Bentonville, AR 72712  
Monday, May 18, 2026  
**1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**



Click [here](#) to register

**Hello Summer!**

# *Hello Summer Party!*

Children, youth, and their families are invited to join us on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:30AM-2PM for an afternoon of summer fun! We'll have a hot dog lunch, a special visit from Kona Ice, an inflatable water slide, and all sorts of water and outside themed fun!

This is a free event and everyone is invited! We hope to see you there!

## **J.O.Y. GROUP**

**Next gathering: Thursday, May 28 at 11:00am,  
in the church library**

J.O.Y Group, or Just Older Youth (roughly retirement age and older), is a lunch gathering on the 4th Thursday of each month. Of course, people of any age are always welcome. You are invited to bring a dish to share, enjoy great fellowship, and experience some type of program. Questions, contact Jeanne Boehmler at 479-366-5904.

Chris Kennon with Vera Lloyd will present our program



## United Campus Ministry

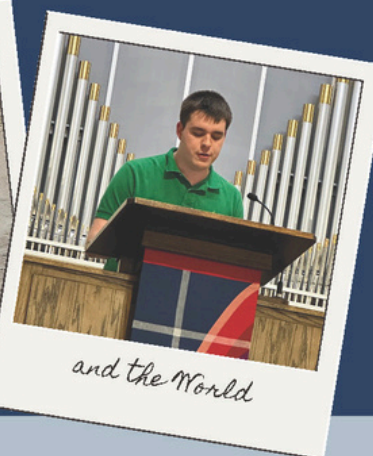
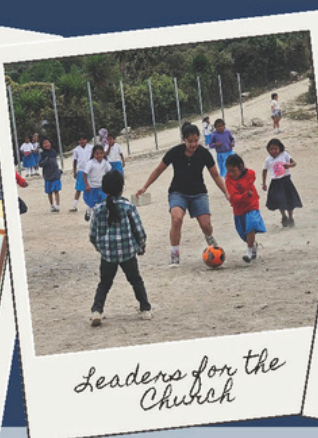
# United Campus Ministry

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME FOR  
STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

### UCM Quick Facts

- UCM is your Presbyterian ministry on campus at the University of Arkansas.
- UCM is a faith-based community that welcomes everyone.
- UCM offers weekly opportunities for students to connect around the table.
- Throughout the year UCM creates experiences for students to grow and develop their faith and leadership.

*"The community of support and love was my favorite part of UCM. Everyone deserves to have someone supporting them, and UCM was that support system for me through the huge transition of college."  
recent graduate Mason Pfeiffer.*



## UCM Spring Fundraiser

### MOVE WITH MOVE-A-THON AND SUPPORT UCM UNTIL JUNE 19

Each spring since 2017, United Campus Ministry students have invited others to join them as participants and sponsors in an activity to raise funds and awareness for the ministry. Would you join them either as a sponsor or by getting a group of friends together to run, hike, bike, swim or any other activity to support UCM?

This fundraiser creates sustainability and support for regular programming at UCM. Weekly programs like Dinner & Discussion are the backbone of what UCM offers for students along with internships and student-led programming. Please consider supporting the Move-A-Thon Spring Fundraiser to enable UCM to continue to offer life-changing programming for students.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support as we engage, equip, and empower leaders for the church and the world.

For more information email Kristi Button,  
[ucmkristi@gmail.com](mailto:ucmkristi@gmail.com) or go to

[UCMUARK.ORG/SUPPORTERS](http://UCMUARK.ORG/SUPPORTERS)

## **Pastor Nominating Committee Update**

The PNC met several times in April. The committee is now in the process of evaluating potential candidates for our new Pastor/Head of Staff. Interviews are being set up.

At this point, there will be very little information that the committee can share going forward due to the confidentiality of the process.

Please pray that God will help bring our new pastor to us in his time.

“Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish,<sup>15</sup> and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him...” – 2 Peter 3:14-15

Pastor Nominating Committee: Cie Cochran (chairperson); Roy Horan (vice chairperson); Kim Dixon (recording secretary); Aaron Hall; Denny Rogers; Janet Atwood; Joe Metzger; Dacia Johnson; and Devan Brice (representing youth).

Save the Date - FPC Night at the Ballpark

**\$1 HOT DOG NIGHT**  
**FPC NIGHT AT THE**  
**BALLPARK**

**GATES OPEN AT 6:00 PM & GAME STARTS 7:05 PM**

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 3, 2026**

*Location: Arvest Ballpark, Springdale*

**NWA NATURALS**

**VS**

**MIDLAND ROCKHOUNDS**

**TICKETS ARE \$10 EACH**

**PLEASE CALL THE FPC BENTONVILLE  
CHURCH OFFICE WITH THE NUMBER  
OF TICKETS YOU WANT**

**#479-273-5450**

**YOU MAY PAY BY CHECK OR ONLINE AT  
[FPCBENTONVILLE.ORG/GIVING](https://fpcbentonville.org/giving)  
(SELECT "BALL GAME" FROM THE DROPDOWN)**

**TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AT A  
TABLE BY THE ENTRANCE BEFORE THE GAME  
PARKING \$6+TAX (PAYABLE AT THE PARK)**

**ORDERING DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2026**

**JOIN US TO SING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM  
BEFORE THE OPENING PITCH ON THE FIELD  
ARRIVE BY 6:00 PM IF SINGING**

## **Two-Thirds of the Way to New Chairs!**

We are grateful to the generous sponsors who have contributed over \$10,500 toward the purchase of new portable chairs for use at congregational events. Thank you! We are still seeking sponsors for the remaining \$4,500 that we need to replace 150 of the church's portable chairs. Any contribution will help! There is a drop-down tab on the giving menu on the church website, or you can mark your contribution for "chairs."



## Providing Hope

You can be a part of the vital ministry of our church's Emergency Response Fund in several ways:

- Support the ERF (Emergency Response Fund) of the church through direct contributions to that fund. This is a non-budgeted fund, dependent upon designated donations.
- Donate gift cards to the church for fast food restaurants or Walmart/Harps/etc., (small amounts, please, \$25 dollars or less each). We give these to individuals and families who stop by the church in crisis situations. It's amazing how much difference that makes to them.
- Join the ERF committee! Please contact the church office if interested.
- As unexpected needs arise in our church family and community, God continues to work through the generosity of this congregation. Thank you for your support.



**[CLICK HERE TO GIVE NOW](#)**

If you are a church member in need of assistance, please contact Pastor Georgia confidentially.

For other requests, please contact the church office, 479-273-5450

[administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org)

## Session Highlights

At the Stated Session meeting on April 27, 2026, regular reports of committees and task forces were received. Marty Verdoorn was the deacon delegate to this meeting; Melissa Monroe was welcomed as the moderator of the search committee for the next Director of Music Ministries.

The following actions were taken by the Session:

- Updated the rolls of the church, removing Arlene Warner due to her death on April 13, 2026.
- Recorded that the monthly minutes of the deacons will continue to function as the official record of deacon ministry, as required for annual Session Records Review
- Approved up to \$45,000 for exterior painting of the church from the existing Arvest Line of Credit, which was pre-approved in building improvements prior to specific bids
- Approved consolidation of certain designated funds that have been inactive
- Approved the job description for Director of Music Ministries
- Approved increase of AV/Tech hours in that job description
- Approved release of scholarship funds for this year's recipients
- Approved upcoming baptisms

There was also an electronic (called) meeting April 10 -11 to approve edits to our Privacy Policy.

The next Stated Session meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

# Save the Date - Kids Wild Life Camp

## WILD LIFE CAMP

July 29th and 30th

A faith, fun, and service focused day  
camp for rising K-6th graders

### Wednesday Schedule

9:00AM-Check-In  
9:30AM- Morning Worship  
10:00AM- Splash Pad Trip  
11:30AM- Lunch  
12:00PM- Chill Time  
12:30PM- Service Project  
1:30PM- Tie Dye  
2:30PM-Afternoon Worship  
3:00PM: Pick-Up

### Thursday Schedule

9:00AM- Check-In  
9:30AM- Morning Worship  
10:00AM-Scavenger Hunt  
11:30AM- Lunch  
12:00PM- Chill Time  
12:30PM- Service Project  
1:30PM- Pottery Painting  
2:30PM- Afternoon Worship  
3:00PM- Pick-Up

Register Here By  
July 15th :



We thank you and appreciate the collaborative effort that goes into publishing our monthly newsletter. We could not do it without your contribution. If you have an article, announcement, or image you would like included in our next monthly newsletter, please send your submission to Amanda Hayes via email to: [administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org) by June 22, 2026.

Again, we appreciate the support of all members of our congregation in every ministry.

Thank you,  
FPC Staff

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
901 NE J Street – Bentonville, Arkansas 72712  
Office: (479) 273-5450 Fax: (479) 273-5452  
Website: [www.fpcbentonville.org](http://www.fpcbentonville.org)  
E-mail: [administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:administrative.assistant@fpcbentonville.org)

Associate Pastor, Acting Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Georgia Senor  
Parish Associate: Rev. Dennis Ritchie  
Director of Music Ministry: Open  
Director of Children and Youth Ministry: Katie McKenzie  
Financial Manager: Hannah Cheeseman  
Facility Maintenance Manager: Mike McGinley  
Administrative Assistant: Amanda Hayes  
Interim AV Tech and Communications Support: Alex Brice  
Nursery Coordinator: Zinnuh Cooper  
Custodian: Anthony Farrar  
Clerk of Session: Virginia Breshears

To reach any of our staff by email, contact [info@fpcbentonville.org](mailto:info@fpcbentonville.org)

## OUR MISSION

Trusting, Growing, Caring and Serving Together In the Name of Jesus Christ

The mission of First Presbyterian Church is to help people come to:

- 1) **Trust** in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of their lives;
- 2) **Grow** and mature in their understanding and experience of that faith;
- 3) **Care** for one another, allowing Christ's love to live in them as we journey through the "mountains" and "valleys" of life; and
- 4) **Serve** the needs of "the least of these", our brothers and sisters, in the name of Jesus Christ.