

THE OPEN DOOR



AN EASTER PEOPLE

A message from Pastor Tim

Welcome to the month of May, people of the Resurrection! As I draft this on Maundy Thursday, I am anticipating Easter joy and being reminded – daily – of the reason for our identity in the Risen Christ. May will bring many reminders of who and Whose we are.

April 27th we will welcome Natalie Lowry into membership and baptize Maxwell – on the anniversary of Natalie and Will’s wedding AND Natalie’s own baptism.

May 1st the Roxbury Clergy Council sponsors this year’s Community Day of Prayer at Horseshoe Lake Pavilion. Join us at 5pm as the interfaith community gives thanks and expresses hope together. This year, I will offer the Prayer for Our Houses of Worship.

May 4th we will celebrate “Earthfest” as our worship theme, recalling and living into all the ecological stewardship messages we received at the beginning of worship during Lent.

That evening at 5pm, we will return to our Messy Church spring theme of Growing in Faith. Plan to participate in sharing a meal, time of worship, and a craft activity that inspire!

Mother’s Day May 11th will be extra special as we welcome into membership Betty Lou DeCroke, Kelly, Madison, and Rhiannon Van Orden!

Two weeks later, on May 25th, Bevin Robertiello will be welcomed into membership as we baptize her daughter, Alexandria Kusik.

All of these wonderful things – and so much more! – are happening because there is LIFE at FPCS! The new and abundant and eternal life promised by the Risen Jesus. We live differently because of what the Lord has done for us! We are, every day, an Easter People!

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AT THE OPEN DOOR

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By May 19, 2025



LECTIONARY

Sunday, May 4

Acts 9:1–6 [7–20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11–14
John 21:1–19

Sunday, May 11

Acts 9:36–43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9–17
John 10:22–30

Sunday, May 18

Acts 11:1–18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1–6
John 13:31–35

Sunday, May 25

Acts 16:9–15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5
John 14:23–29 or John 5:1–9



MONDAY MORNINGS

Monday Morning Bible Study: May 5 and 12

All are welcome to Bible study on Monday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our current study is on the Acts of the Apostles. Come share in the discussion led by Pastor Tim. You may be surprised what questions are raised and where the conversation goes! We meet person, but a Zoom option is available if you wish to participate virtually. Please contact Kathy Ritchey, kritchey@optonline.net if you need more information.

VACATION DATES - TAKE NOTE!

Pastor Tim and Debbie with both going to be away in May. Debbie will be gone from May 12th through May 19th. The office will be closed Wednesday & Thursday the 14th & 15th.

Pastor Tim is on vacation the following week – May 18th. He'll be back for worship on the 25th.

EARTH FEST 2025

MAY 4TH FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Games
Crafts
Education
Food
and a mini
Easter Decoration Swap



FPCS Earth Fest!

Sunday, May 4th

Following worship, we'll celebrate Earth Day with games, crafts, education, activities, and- of course- food, as we praise God for His awesome creation!

We'll also have a mini swap meet for Easter decorations. So as you're packing them up this year, set aside any that you're ready to part with and bring them along to swap for something new to you! **God calls us to be stewards of His creation!**



Prayers & Joys

Prayers needed for:

Kate Morgan	Kathy Murphy	Jennifer	Jan H
Doris	Denise	Trudy S	Emily
Cheryl	Haynes Family	Diane	Ginny Branchfield
Barbara Peters	Bruce Vane	Greg C	Fabian

In sympathy with the families of:

The family of Diane Spinner
The family of Robert Zarro; Georganne's family on the passing of her sister-in-law; Jane's family, upon the passing of her sister Elaine; The family of Sally Struz, past Moderator of Presbyterian Women; and The family of Dee Borbotti.

Joys for:

Linda Smith and her daughter honored by the DAR; Joyce Dyrness's birthday; Madison V's birthday (April 20th); The Sunrise Easter Service; and Resurrection Day and the beautiful music.

World, National, Community Prayers:

For all those dealing with natural disasters

For all navigating struggles of body, mind, and spirit

All dealing with health issues, especially those with cancer

All dealing with the horrors of war; prayers for peace and for world leaders to act with integrity, respect, and dignity

Families of those lost and recovering from the tragic car accident in Randolph, and the first responders



SESSION SNIPPETS:

From the April Session Meeting:

Upcoming Events:

- Messy Church Dates:
- May 4, 5-7 pm

- Welcome to our new members. Session received into membership:
- Betty Lou DeCrocce

- Kelly Van Orden
- Madison Van Orden
- Rhiannon Van Orden
- Natalie Lowry
- Bevin Robertiello

- A Community Connections committee was formed to share with the community our church doings and events.

New Business:

- Next Session meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm.



ROXBURY SOCIAL SERVICES

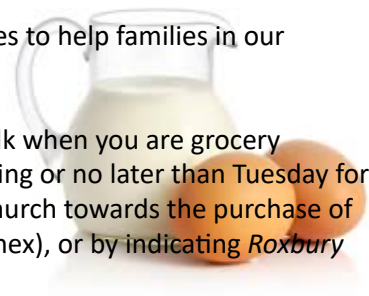
Give Milk and Eggs to Feed Hungry Families

Wednesdays, May 14 and May 28

Help Roxbury Social Services Feed Families in our Community!

We are making regular donations of milk and eggs to Roxbury Social Services to help families in our community who continue to struggle with providing food for their families.

Here's how it works: Simply pick-up an extra dozen eggs and ½ gallon of milk when you are grocery shopping. Put your donations in the refrigerator at church on Sunday morning or no later than Tuesday for our Wednesday delivery. You may also make a monetary donation to the church towards the purchase of milk and eggs by placing it in a *Roxbury Social Service envelope* (in the narthex), or by indicating *Roxbury Social Services* in the memo line on your check. Thank you!



Serve at the Faith Kitchen

Thursday, May 29 – 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Your help is needed to prepare and serve a meal for the guests who frequent the Faith Kitchen in Dover. We will determine the main course by mid-May. There are many ways you can lend a hand!

Before Sunday, May 25: Donate non-perishable ingredients for the meal, oranges or bananas, pre-packaged snack/ desserts. Please label and leave in the Fellowship Hall kitchen. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please indicate Faith Kitchen on the memo line of your check.

Wednesday, May 28: 6 pm: Cooks of are needed to prepare the meal in the Fellowship Hall kitchen.

Thursday, May 29: 8:30 am-1:00 pm: Serve the meal at the Faith Kitchen, 123 Blackwell Street, Dover. (Located in the Trinity Lutheran Church building.)

Join our FPC mission team in this effort! Faith Kitchen servers must be age 16 or over. More information to come. Look for an email sign-up, check our church Facebook page, or contact Kathy Ritchey at kritchey@optonline.net.

SUMMER MISSION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Our Summer Mission Adventure is changing! Instead of a week- long mission experience we are offering a few ways to be engaged with mission and outreach in our congregations and community. So mark your calendar and stay tuned for more information to come!

July 14 – 18: Vacation Bible School at Union Hill Presbyterian Church: Volunteers are needed! All ages welcome. Join us for the week or a day at a time. Contact Amy Clarkson for more information.

August 4: America's Grow a Row - We will be harvesting produce to be distributed to area food banks. To learn more about them visit <https://americasgrowarow.org>,

TBD - Church clean-up day and Table of Hope volunteer day.

**TRI
HARDER**
Kids Triathlon Series



TRI Harder Event at Horseshoe Lake Park

Thursday, June 26th

We will again help with registration starting at 4:30 at the Horseshoe Lake Recreation Office and cheer on the participants beginning at 6:00.

Help is needed from about 4:45 until 7:30.

If you can help, contact Cindy Medici (cjmedici@gmail.com or 570-460-0871).

First Presbyterian Church

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