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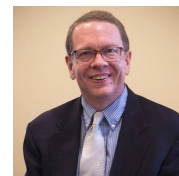
June 2026

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Next Issue
Please consider
adding content to
this newsletter.
Thank you!
Deadline June 26
2026



2026



Dear Friends,

In the church's year, May has been the time to work through the ongoing meaning of the Cross – and to move into Pentecost. In Pentecost, we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit into our midst, and now in June and beyond, we make the Holy Spirit seen and known in how we live together as a church.

In worship, we will continue learning from the New Testament book of Acts. We started right after the miracle of Easter and the disciples' recognition that we serve a Risen Savior, Jesus Christ. In Acts, we witness the birth of the church. As one body of holy Christ-like faith, we open our eyes to see how the Spirit starts the church, and how we can continue the work of being the church in the present, right here in this place.

Now that we know the power of the Holy Spirit, God enables us to do so much abundantly more than we know, even more than we could imagine. The Holy Spirit both pushes us forward and guides us into a new life together. As one church formed by God, we find a new direction. With simple acts of compassion, enthusiasm, cooperation, inclusion, and the sheer joy of being together, the church both deepens and grows every day. We see it all around.

You may see some of the other ways we're growing. We now have a Bible Study on Sunday mornings at 9 am. About a dozen people are attending weekly. We're studying the biblical Book of Genesis – starting at the very beginning of the heavens and the earth. The group will consider every person's questions and opinions. We are moving slowly enough to get the depths of Scripture, so we have time for the beginners, too. When we see different ways to interpret, we consider those together, talking about pros and cons without saying who's right or wrong. There's no reason to be afraid to speak up. So please join us.

We are already seeing members returning to Ocean City, and it's exciting to catch up with them. Some of our regular seasonal friends are coming back to see us, along with several first-time visitors each week. (They are really interesting people!) CRU and the international students will be with us in just a few days. So – be sure to introduce yourself, and go out of your way to help people feel not just welcome, but truly accepted into our church family. And please invite them to join us for fellowship too, and for the weeks ahead.

In Christ, Pastor Jon



Women of Worship (WOW)

Page 2

Women of Worship met on May 19 and enjoyed a Bible study led by Jackie Bates. We enjoyed a potluck luncheon following the Bible study. WOW will take a break until September 15h. Enjoy a safe and healthy summer. See you in September!

Missions

On Wednesday, May 27, 2026, Elders Christopher Greenwood and Mabel Rogers attended a luncheon meeting at St. Pauls by the Sea Episcopal Church. The meeting was to present their mission of providing housing for the unhoused. They have transformed their Dewees Hall (fellowship hall) into a huge bedroom. They have a low barrier shelter and accept both men and women area divided. They accept anyone but they must abide by the rules. The attendees are treated to dinner at 7PM and breakfast prior to 7AM as the shelter is open 7PM-7AM. Most nights they have 30 people.

There were 19 people at the meeting from various churches in the area. Salisbury, Berlin, Bethany and Lewes were represented. What they would like is for people to become involved in various ways from helping in the food pantry to providing meals. These can be fresh or frozen. See Bulletin Board in hall for more information on this worthy cause!



"What you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

Eleventh Commandment

*Thou shall keep the kitchen clean!
Please!*

Seen outside the kitchen at St. Paul's by the Sea

DATES TO REMEMBER

Deacons meeting The Deacons will meet on Sunday June 21st, following worship in the small room off of Fellowship Hall.

Session Meeting The session will meet on June 16, 2026 at 1PM in Fellowship Hall.

Adult Bible Study Weekly on Sunday Morning at 9AM

Adult Bible Study

It was 9AM on one of the previous Sundays and "lo and behold" we commenced learning about the creation of God's Earth. No one ever told me that Adam named the animals and that Day One, in the beginning, could have been any amount of time.

Of course I had never read the bible until I joined First Pres. Church.

Our esteemed mentor is more well versed in the doings of the Old Testament than I will ever be. But, progress is being made. He is able to solicit conversation without saying, "Do you have anything to add to what I've said?" Actually, we have a rather responsive group. That's not to say we must agree with each other. You won't find "my way or the highway" with us. Many times we go by faith alone or by the little we do know. It may be some time until we reach the end of Genesis.

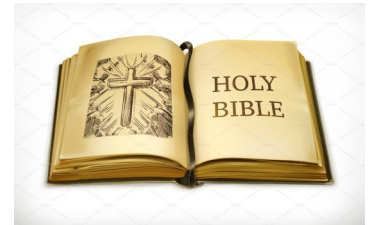
Why don't you join us. I am amazed at what I don't know about this venerable piece of literature. We're on Chapter 3 and have learned so much in such a short period of time about events that have taken place.

What do you think about a snake walking on legs? Come & let us know your opinion.

Your neophyte Bible reader,
Nancy Wright

Adult Bible Study– Sunday mornings at 9AM

Pastor Jon's Bible study began right after Easter, and 12 people were present for the second week. It's at 9 am on Sundays, in the Fellowship Hall. The style is discussion, and every question or interpretation is welcome. We study to affirm each other in faith. We will work through Genesis slowly, so that everyone has time to hear answers to their questions. The class is for brand-new beginners, and for those who already know the Bible well. You are not too late to start! The whole class will catch you up. Our goal is for you to deepen your own faith, in the presence of the community of believers.



Prayer Alert



Don't ever forget it is a wonderful privilege the Lord has given us, to lift anyone in prayer in the Name of Jesus, Who is the GREAT Physician. Praise His Holy name!

Our Lord wants to hear from us daily, so remember our prayer list as you pray daily! If you have a prayer request (no prayer is too big or too small for our Lord and King) please contact Beth LaBrunda at 862-266-6939.

Blessings, Beth

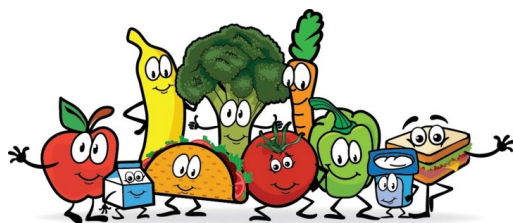
New Scripture Translations Available

Pastor Jon is providing us with fresh translations of the Bible in both scriptures through our worship. He works from the original languages from the time of the Bible, just as it was first written, and offers a translation that is closer to how we speak today. This means that it may sound different from what you have known earlier.

If you'd like a copy of his translations, we'll have a print version available at the back table. Feel free to take one - to follow along or to read more carefully at home. And if you have a question, feel free to talk with Pastor Jon. He's not always right, but he always wants to listen.

Please don't forget our 3rd Sunday collection for Samaritan

Shelter! We will be collecting household supplies on Sunday, June 21, 2026 to take to Samaritan Shelter in Pocomoke City. This has been a monthly activity of our church for many years. Household items such as dish soap, laundry soap, bath tissue, paper towels, zip loc bags, aluminum foil, etc. Anything that you need to maintain a household will be welcome! Personal items are also requested.. So please remember this when you are grocery shopping. Nancy and Rich Wright will be taking the items to Pocomoke to the Samaritan Shelter the following week. Thank you, Nancy and Rich!



Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on June 23 at 11:30AM at On the Way Café, 38555 Dupont Highway Selbyville DE. Come and join us! We welcome newcomers and men don't be shy, you are more than welcome! Call Jan Phillips at 410-600-5631 and plan on

being there. Bring a friend and join the lunch bunch on June 23rd at 11:30AM.

WOW International Student Breakfast At FPCOC

Beginning on Wednesday, June 3rd from 7:30AM-9:30AM breakfast will be served in fellowship hall. There will be three teams working on this project rotating through July 29th. The captains for the 3 teams are: Jonelle Jones, Jan Owens and Nancy Wright. If you would like to serve on a team contact Betsy Kipila at 667-288-1360. During the breakfast, we serve breakfast casseroles, French toast casseroles (a favorite), juice, coffee and so much more. They are sent home with a bottle of water and our blessings for a good week. Come and share God's love with these young people so far away from home.

Sanctuary flowers

Baskets of flowers and bud vases of 3 roses are available any time. Chancel vases \$30.00 each. Basket of flowers \$40.00. Vases of 3 roses \$24.50.

Chancel vases available for dedication-:

June 7th...one

June 14th...one

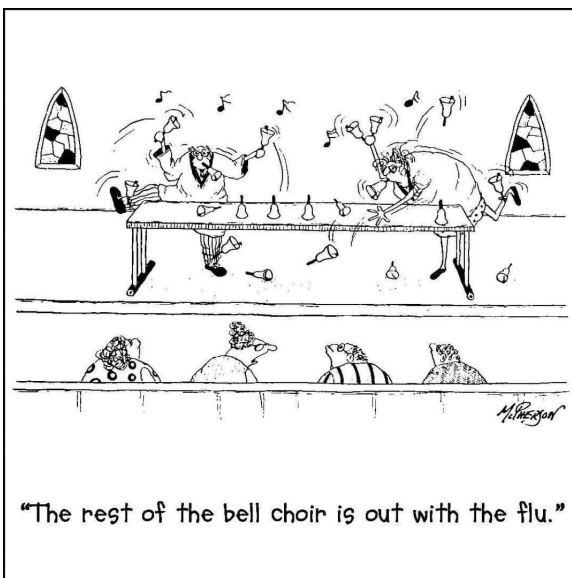
June 21st...two

June 28th...two

Completed forms may be given to Marty Cropper. Thank you for helping make our sanctuary a place of beauty to worship with flowers praising God and honoring loved ones. Flowers are yours to take home.



	Name	Term	Current Term Ends *Final Term 1 year break required	Phone	Email
Moderator	Pastor Jon Berquist		Pastor	443-856-0162	pastorjonberquist@gmail.com
Elder	Bob Brenner	2	2027	443-497-3020	rbren12201@aol.com
Clerk	Vicky Cairns	2	2026	302-222-6039	vcairns50@gmail.com
Elder	John Eberle	3	2028	302-988-2844	johnweberle@comcast.net
Elder	Karen Eberle	3	2028	302-988-2844	kieberle9099@gmail.com
Elder	Chris Greenwood	3	2026	410-726-4101	cwg00713@gmail.com
Elder	Steve Hales	2	2027	410-251-5970	ste-phen.hales1942@outlook.com
Elder	Barbara Kipila	3	2027	667-288-1360	bkipila@yahoo.com
Elder	Jan Owens	3	2026*	410-641-4919	jtorph@comcast.net
Elder	Mabel Rogers	3	2026	410-641-5883	thimbly@comcast.net
Deacon	Dawn Butler	3	2026	303-519-1317	dawnevebutler60@gmail.com
Deacon	Cindy Evans	3	2027		
Deacon	Beth Fisher	3	2028	443-235-7026	eqfisher@gmail.com
Deacon	Ann Hales*	3	2026	410-430-7085	annhales914amh@gmail.com
Deacon	Jonelle Jones	3	2027	443-366-5680	beach122000@outlook.com
Deacon	Logan Rogers	3	2028	410-726-8819	7blueangels@gmail.com
Deacon	Nancy Wright	3	2028	410-208-9119	ocean.pines6@yahoo.com



Bell Choir is on hiatus until fall. It is not too late to join us. Let Betsy Kipila know if you would like to be a member of our choir.! We would love to have you.

Fellowship

Regular attendees of FPCOC know that every Sunday, we have an amazing fellowship following worship. The preparation is shared by various women of the church. They provide the basis for the shared refreshments. Though this started as a “coffee and cookie” time, it has evolved into much more. The hostess would welcome any contributions that you may wish to share. Please let the hostess know if you are bringing something.

Hostesses for June:

June 7 Jan Owens

June 14 NO FELLOWSHIP Air Show

June 21 Marci Russell

June 28 Mabel Rogers



Blessing Box

The deacons have requested that all donated items be brought into the church and put on table by refrigerator in the back room near cabinets in fellowship hall. They are trying to work out some temperature control issues and do not want things to spoil. Personal items welcomed. Thank you for your donations and people are finding our blessing box.

Jonelle Jones, Chairman of Deacons

Book club Theo of Golden by Allen Levi **All are welcome Men and Women 6/16 at 12N**

One spring morning, a stranger named Theo arrives in the small Southern city of Golden. He doesn't explain much about where he came from or why he's there—but when he visits the local coffeehouse, where pencil portraits of the people of Golden hang on the walls, he begins purchasing them, one at a time, and giving each portrait to the person depicted. In exchange, he asks only for the person's story. And so portrait by portrait, person by person, secrets are revealed, regrets are shared, and ordinary lives are profoundly altered.

A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, *Theo of Golden* is an unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder.



Articles and content (pictures) are always welcome!
Please contact Mabel Rogers if you would like to share!

See page 1 for deadline



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Jan Owens BD	3 Int. Breakfast 7:30AM	4 Buzzy Bayles BD	5	6
7 <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 9AM Worship 10:30AM Bill Owens BD	8 Jan/Don Phillips Anniversary Merle Fisher BD	9	Int. Breakfast 7:30AM	11	12 	13
14 <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 9AM Worship 10:30AM	15 Carol/Bob Reese Anniversary	16 <i>Book Club 12N</i> <i>Session 1PM</i>	17 Int. Breakfast 7:30AM	18	19	20 Sarah/Cliff Dypsky Anniver- sary
21 * <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 9AM Worship 10:30AM Samaritan Sunday Deacons Mtg	22	23 Lunch Bunch 11:30AM	24 Int. Breakfast 7:30AM	25	26	27 Bob Bates BD
28 <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 9AM Worship 10:30AM	29	30	June 21 * Nancy/Rich Wright Anniver- sary			