

Growing In Faith And Life

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver. – Proverbs 16:16

I have heard it said that wisdom is knowledge that passes through the heart. So much of our deepest understanding begins in the mind and grows through our life experiences and the deeper movements of the heart in a life sincerely lived. If this life is considered the ground for growing that wisdom, then knowledge can be thought of as the nutrients or the elements needed for that growth.

One of the amazing things about this knowledge is that it can be immensely helpful for our lives, even in small doses. It may even be most powerful in small portions, absorbed consistently, habitually over time. There are other examples of things for which this is true. It is far better to take a multi-vitamin each day than it is to take a handful of them occasionally. If one wants to learn to play a musical instrument, it is more helpful to practice for 20 minutes each day, than it is to practice for two hours once per week. If we devote a little bit of time each day to learning more about the stories and traditions and insights of this Christian faith we share, if we make such devotional time a regular habit of heart and mind, the cost to us is small while the benefits and blessings are astounding.

To that end, I want to encourage you to make daily spiritual learning—in the form of a simple daily devotional—a part of your everyday life, and watch for the wisdom and strength of spirit that will over time grow and flourish.

There are all sorts of daily devotional resources available to support you, in various formats. I will offer you a heaping handful here and invite you to reach out to me if you are looking for more ideas.

- *My Utmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers, a timeless classic
- *Listening to Your Life*, by Fredrick Buechner, literary and insightful

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building faith forward

Construction Update!

Things really took a large step forward last week! Our foundations are backfilled and the pre-cast floor decks are set. (See Pr. Bill's Facebook video [here](#)!) These are huge milestones as they mark the transition between working below ground to now building up above the ground.

AGM Erecting completed the lower-level framing ahead of **Spancrete** including a last-minute change that arose. **Cardinal Fabricating** rushed the material order for the change, fabricated and delivered the steel and then AGM had to return to install these last-minute pieces to keep us on schedule with Spancrete. Thanks to the team efforts, everything came together perfectly!

Chenery Brothers completed the application of the waterproofing system to the newly poured foundation walls. They will need to return for select portions of existing walls where we will be reworking grades, but all new walls are now complete.

Cornerstone Plumbing continued their work in the new additions as well as in the existing spaces. All subfloor work in the new addition has been completed. They are tying in to the north and south existing plumbing as well.

D & L Grading completed grading the basement floors and backfilling the stoops and the balance of the foundations where the waterproofing had been completed. They completed backfilling the top portions of our foundation walls now that the pre-cast plank have been set, pinned, and grouted.

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Pure Mechanical continued work on the split system (which supplies both heating and cooling) in the Memorial Chapel. The new unit is now installed in the mezzanine and the new ductwork is in place in the ceilings.

JC Building Systems assisted with construction cleaning, installing temporary sump pumps, and reworking wall bracing ahead of Spancrete.

Lyons Electric re-fed power to existing storm pumps ahead of the wet weather and continued to work on new overhead conduit installation in the lower-level.

Paun Construction ran up the new structural block walls in the north addition ahead of Spancrete. We'll see them back again this week to begin the above-grade structural block walls.



Spancrete is responsible for the largest visible change on-site last week. They delivered and set our new pre-cast floor-deck plank Wednesday. They returned with a larger crew to pin, grout, and weld the plank securely in place. Everything fit perfectly!

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- *Grace for the Moment*, by Max Lucado, accessible and heartfelt
- *God Pause*, a daily email devotional brought to you by the alumni of Luther Seminary, [God Pause](#)
- Richard Rohr's daily devotional email, emergent and timely, [Daily Meditations](#)
- And last but not least, *Christ in Our Home*, the daily devotional that our congregation has offered for many years. It is released quarterly, and there are copies in the office if you want one.

This is certainly not an exhaustive list. There are devotionals out there to fit every type and temperament. These are simply ones that I cannot help but recommend, so that learning in faith may become a part of your daily habit and bring with it step by step the wisdom that is needed for living well with God. Blessings, knowledge, and wisdom to you all.

Pr. Bruce

This is the second article in Pastor Bruce's four part series on the importance of learning for growing in faith and spirituality.



Service Day is BACK!

Like everything else in the last year, it's a little bit different this year with COVID precautions in place, but we can do it! Two of our partners are holding their workdays on the same weekend—Serenity Inns and All Peoples Church.

SI is looking for 7-8 folks to clean carpets, ceiling fans, etc. and 4 more to work in the yard on May 15 from 9 am – noon. To sign up or ask questions, please contact FPLC member Lorraine Buehler; lcbuehler@cs.com.

All Peoples has something for just about everyone! Bed prepping, planting, weeding, painting, garden repairs, laying wood chips and even some trash pick up! Their work days are split up into 3 half-day shifts to enable people to spread out: Saturday, May 15 am or pm and Sunday, May 16 pm. To sign up or ask questions, please contact FPLC member Mark Smith; markskimail@aol.com.



How Did We Get Here?

During a year of uncertainty and upheaval, FPLC has presented a series by guest speaker Reggie Jackson and recently held a discussion of the film *Just Mercy*. Our goal is to learn about American social/political history and its effect on our current situation.

The prevailing question has been, "How did we get here?" Here to this place of unrest and upheaval, incivility and injustice, distrust and discord. People have been harmed. Lives have been lost. What led us to this point and what can we do, with the guidance of our faith, to make things better going forward? What does our faith call us to do?

FPLC's social justice committee will be hosting a book discussion of *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. There are more details and a sign-up to come, but get your copy of the book now and start reading! We look forward to another round of education and excellent discussions.

Garden Sale!

Mark your calendars for dates to purchase beautiful flowers at FPLC. You'll have colorful flowers for your home and at the same time support FPLC's Tanzania Scholarship Fund!



NOW through May 8—Come choose

a lovely multi-colored pansy bowl for your patio or for someone special. Pansies are hardy and will hold up well in the cool days/nights of May in Wisconsin! On sale now at the church office Monday-Thursday from 8 am – 3 pm. Price: \$20/ea. (If we sell out prior, we won't hold the sale on Saturday, May 8.)

Saturday, May 22—We'll have an assortment of gorgeous hanging baskets. This later date helps ensure that the weather will be a bit warmer for the more delicate plants.

In addition to purchasing plants, the proceeds of which go to the Tanzania Scholarship Fund, we will also accept cash donations.

NEW this year: We'll also be selling our terrific Mt. Meru coffee at the plant sales. Support our Tanzania programs and have some delicious home-brewed coffee each day! (Also makes great gifts for the coffee lover in your life!) The coffee is also available for purchase in the church office.



Bread of Healing Vaccination Help Needed

The Bread

of Healing Ministries health clinic at Cross Lutheran Church is administering Covid vaccines to eligible people in the community surrounding their church. They are recruiting people to help. If you are willing to volunteer please go to their information and sign-up page at [Bread of Healing Vaccination Help](#).



Who's Ready for Some Golf?

Our Golf Classic committee is hard at work planning our 19th annual event. Social distancing works well with golf, so we hope to resurrect all the fun the Classic has to offer for serious golfers and novices alike – think fun games, sponsorships, a raffle and prizes. At the same time, the Golf Classic serves as a major source of funding for our outreach programs that impact many in our community and beyond. After missing last year, we have lots of funds to raise! Our plans are to hold it on a Friday with a morning start similar to what was done in 2019.

But We Want to Hear From YOU! Please click the link below for a *very brief* survey. We need to know how the Golf Classic fits in your plans this year—whether as a golfer, volunteer and/or sponsor—and which month you can attend. [Fill Out the Survey!](#)



Volunteer at The Gathering!

The Gathering is committed to serving their guests, even during Covid-19. They've adjusted their methods of sanitizing, preparing & distributing food to ensure safety. They need your help!

If you are healthy and willing, they'd love to have your help packaging bag lunches. This is a great opportunity for Confirmation students to give to their community. We request that an adult either volunteer with each student or that you arrange for them to join another Confirmation family attending the event who can get them home or stay with them until they are picked up.

The FPLC dates fill up quickly but check for cancellations: [FPLC Volunteer Dates](#).

If these dates are full, volunteer on dates that aren't specifically for FPLC by going to their website: [Community Volunteer](#).

Infant Massage

Learn to connect and bond with your baby through the power of Infant Massage. This one-hour class is a wonderful way for parents and their babies from birth to 6 months old to connect. Please be prepared to Zoom—all you need is yourself in comfy clothes, your baby(s) and a blanket.

You'll be taught the head-to-toe infant massage techniques that parents need to comfort, reduce irritability, help baby sleep faster and sleep longer, and to overall connect with baby in a positive loving touch in this one hour complementary class. The class is limited to 6 parents per date. Please contact Angie Biersach, FPLC member, parent, and certified infant massage instructor with questions or to RSVP for the class (see contact info below).

Dates: April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 22, November 19, December 17

Time: 2 – 3 pm

Fee: No charge

Instructor: Angie Biersach, MA, CCLS, CFLE, CIMI;
angiebiersach@gmail.com or 414-207-2808



Dinner Fellowship

Do you have a great recipe that feeds a group? How about doubling that? You'll have a great meal for yourself AND you can take the meal to the men at Serenity Inns so they have a filling, delicious meal too! Volunteers can eat with the men or you may drop off dinner due to Covid-19. They follow Covid-19 protocols if you choose to stay to eat. Not a cook? No problem—order out and have it delivered to them or get takeout and take it to Serenity.

Serenity Inns provides a safe home for men in Milwaukee to recover from their addiction to drugs or alcohol. FPLC volunteers provide 3 dinners a month for the residents. To sign up and learn more about the Covid-19 protocols click [Make a Meal](#). Do you have questions? Lorraine Buehler, FPLC member & long-time Serenity Inns volunteer can help! Email Lorraine at lbuehler@cs.com.



See our webpage for all information regarding virtual worship, outreach, and children & youth programs. Click →



Fox Point Church

High School Youth Group

April 18; 7 pm
Soul Searching

April 25; 7 pm
Soul Searching

May 2; 7 pm
Soul Searching

We hope you join Stephanie weekly for the Soul Searching unit. We will continue to answer the questions:

- What is a soul?
- Why is my soul important?
- How should I take care of my soul?
- How does my soul impact people around me?

Feel free to contact Stephanie with any questions at stephanie@foxpointchurch.org.

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://iu.zoom.us/j/89693578820#success>

Confirmation

Service Opportunities

Bay Bridge is another group making lunches on

a monthly basis for Just One More Ministry (JOMM) food bank. Their spots are going quickly so you will likely be looking at dates in June or later. Sign up while they are still available! For information and to sign up: [Bay Bridge JOMM](#)

If you are looking for information on opportunities through church, click [HERE](#). Check occasionally as we try to put new opportunities here as they come up.

Confirmation Workshops

6: April 13 / 14

7: April 20 / 21

8: April 27 / 28

For more detailed information, see our website: [Confirmation](#).

Peeps Academy

Peeps Academy is the scholastic support program at All Peoples Church. The information here covers the basics of what they are doing and how you can support their students as they grow in knowledge, wisdom and experience!

Summer Reading & Tutoring: A team of tutors from FPLC will be working with some of the Peeps students on Mondays and Wednesdays. This outdoor program will include specific support for students in identified areas of need as well as general FUN with reading. Little ones will explore the world as voyagers in their reading boats. Maps, log books, writing adventures and treasure are all in the plan. (Giant Rubbermaid containers with lids are the "boats" – each child will have their own boat. If you are interested in joining the group as a tutor, contact FPLC member Debbie McGregor, 414-405-1558 or Mrs.Debbie.Mcgregor@gmail.com.

Little Free Libraries: All Peoples' Little Free Libraries need a little TLC, which should happen at their Spring Garden Work Weekend (May 15/16), which is our Service Day. This summer, they want to fill their 3 libraries with a variety of books like cookbooks (especially featuring vegetables), Bible story books, books about nature, activity books for children.

Book Reading Videos: All Peoples is creating a small bank of read-aloud videos to use with their younger Peeps Academy children. Record a short book--about 15 minutes and upload it to their Google drive. Click [Here](#).

Back-to-School Book Bags: All Peoples' kids were busy learning at home during most of the 2020-2021 school year. Whatever the place, whatever the mode, our kids will need a little help in order to be ready to do their best in a new year. FPLC is partnering with Winkies Toys and Variety! again this year to purchase school supply packs. We also hope to donate backpacks and scientific calculators. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!





PRAYER LIST

All in The Family

We will see you again on Sunday, April 18, for a virtual Service!

If you or your family need anything we can help you with, call the office at 414-352-8990 or email church@foxpointchurch.org!

Carlynn Alt
Lucy Art
Bernie
Cameron
Chad
John Chamberlain
Jane D.
Pr. Dan
Dana
Deb
Sheila Dlugi
Doreen
Mary Beth Duggan
Cammy Endres
John Endres
Erin
Jessie Etheridge
Lu Farwig

Rick Frank
Gene
Jerry Gildner
Joan Gildner
Bill Haker
Lori Heinrich
Steve Heronemus
Elnamae Heyman
Jack
Charlie James
Jan
Jim
Joan
Don Jones
Julia
Chuck Knapp
Nadene Kramer
Ludvik Krejci

Barbara Kuehn
Pat Lawless
Ken Lein
Leslie
Alison LoCoco
Lynn
Mary
Andy Meser
Michael
Michael
Ned
Bill Nell
Robert Palmer
Perry
Riley
Grace Root
Geoff Rose
Suzy Shaw

Peter Stauber
Stephen
Teri
Tim
Tom
Brenda Trier
Katie Tyk
Zuza

Military

Alex
Cooper
David
Grant
Ian
Matthew

Prayer Requests

Now you can make a prayer request through our website. Click [Prayer Requests](#) to submit a form or submit a request through email—church@foxpointchurch.org.

Condolences

Our sympathy, thoughts and prayers be with Mary Beth Scalise, Michael and sons John & Luke in the unexpected passing of her beloved mother. May God's loving care and strength give them all peace and comfort only He can provide.



Monday Food Drives

When: Every Monday; 10 am – 2 pm

Location: The cart is outside the office!

PLEASE, no glass jars! We need nutritional, non-perishable foods, diapers, personal care products & hand crank can openers.

Bags Needed Again!

Cross Lutheran's food pantry needs grocery bags *with handles*. They prefer paper bags.

Bags can be left in our food donation carts on Mondays from 10 am – 2 pm.



Are you thinking about what annuals, perennials or garden tools you might need this year? Before you shop, stop in the

FPLC church office to pick up a Bayside Garden Center gift card, (which cannot be purchased at Bayside Gardens).

We receive 15% of the proceeds from every card we sell, for our Tanzania scholarship fund!

Don't have a garden? No problem! Bayside has lovely indoor plants and decorations for you or to give as gifts!

FPLC Office Hours
Monday–Thursday from 9 am–2 pm

See our webpage for all information regarding virtual worship, outreach, and children & youth programs. Click →



Fox Point Church



*This devotion, written by FPLC member Mary Buscher,
was originally sent by email on April 7.*

Happy Easter!

*"Christ is risen, alleluia, Risen our victorious head,
Christ is risen, alleluia, Christ is risen from the dead."*

Can't you just hear these wonderful words resounding throughout every Christian church on the planet on Easter morning? I can! The darkness departed...the light illuminating the world! Our loving union with the Holy One forever transformed...our Redeemer lives! Connections promised, connections forever assured!

"Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and...has crossed over from death to life." – John 5:24

Recently, a family member of ours was hospitalized and just to connect and resolve issues I needed 6 to 7 phone numbers for everything from the hospital, to a health insurance carrier to the social worker and that didn't even include the patient's own cell phone number! Our Loving Father has made the process much easier for us. He has given us the gift of grace and love. He has mapped out directions for us to spread the Good News to connect with the rest of creation. Connections. God so wants us to secure, nurture and hold fast to connections and more than that, love, big love with and for one another!

Let's pray-

God, we thank you for our first breath, our first light, and the first prayer on our lips. Thank you for the Easter promise made real. Please keep reminding us of your grace, your mercies, and your extravagant love guiding us through each moment. We pray for those close to us and those miles away, that their needs would be met by you today. Amen.

Let's continue to reach out to others this week with big love! – Mary