

LIFE TOGETHER This Week

Week of October 28, 2025 Vol 186 Real Faith For Real Life



As we complete our plans for our Thanksgiving meals, let's help our neighbors experience the joy of a full Thanksgiving meal with their friends and family as well.

The week before Thanksgiving, our partner, All Peoples Church, provides two kits to those served by their food pantry. One kit contains items for the meal and the other is full of hygiene products that are often in short supply. They expect to provide kits to over 100 families this year as their weekly pantry numbers continue to grow.

FPLC has signed up to supply 20 of each of these bags and up to 25 frozen turkeys, turkey breasts or chickens. The items are due back Wednesday, November 12 by 4 pm.

You can sign up through the link here, on our website or in Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacia Hickey; 414-352-8990 or stacia@foxpointchurch.org.

Click Here →

Sign Up

Food Kit Items

Two 6 oz boxes or one 12-16 oz bag of Turkey Stuffing Mix

3 boxes Jiffy cornbread mix

1# elbow macaroni noodles

1# Velveeta or generic cheese; NOTE: This is found on the grocery shelves; it is NOT refrigerated

2-14.5 oz or one 27oz Glory Mixed Greens (often found at Walmart or Meijer, or corn if you can't find it)

1 box instant mashed potatoes

12-16 oz turkey gravy

24-30 oz canned sweet potatoes

5-7 oz hot sauce

10-12 oz Uncle Bens or Rice-a-Roni rice

14 oz whole berry cranberry sauce

Hygiene Kit Items

Hand Soap – bar or liquid

Deodorant

Lip Balm

Toothpaste 8 oz

Toothbrush - single

Dental Floss

Body Lotion – 6 oz

Band-aids

1 pair of warm socks

Wash Cloth

Frozen Poultry Items

Turkey (12-14 lb), turkey breast or chicken

IMPORTANT Delivery Instructions

Place all your items in one bag. Clearly label it either FOOD or HYGIENE and put your last name on the bag so we can make sure we have all the bags. Place them in the cart in the Welcome Area.

If you are buying a turkey, turkey breast or chicken, please put it in the freezer in the kitchen pantry and check your name on the list provided on the freezer door.

All items are due back by November 12 at 4 pm.









Gratitude Sunday Sunday Morning Pie Social Sunday, November 23

Who doesn't love a piece of pie?! Come and enjoy; all are welcome!

This is a special day of gratitude and we look forward to enjoying some pie after each service.

If you'd like to donate a pie(s) for this event, our pie social could use your sweet treats! We would love help serving the pies that day too. Simply click the pie below to indicate that you'd like to donate a pie, or help serve pie on Sunday, November 23.

Times: After the 9 am & 10:30 am services!

Location: FPLC Fellowship Hall Questions: Email Diane Knapp; diane@foxpointchurch.org





Don't play an instrument?
Enjoy the music after services on December 14
while you have coffee and donuts!!









Donate Blood at FPLC October 30; 1 - 5:30 pm

Some patients with breast cancer need blood transfusions to recover from chemotherapy, while others need transfusions during surgery.

Date: Thursday, October 30 **Time:** 1 pm – 5:30 pm

Location: FPLC's Fellowship Hall

Registration: Click Sign Up: <u>Donate October 30</u>



Women's Book Club

This casual and fun book club meets every 6 weeks on a Monday from 7 pm – 8:30 pm (approx.)

and take turns leading the discussion and bringing snacks. Here are the books they'll be reading this year. If you have any questions or would like to join (even if you can't make every date), email or call Joanne Ginster; jmginster@yahoo.com or (414) 491-8939.

Dates and Books:

December 1: *Absolution* by Alice McDermott January 12: *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi February 23: *The Best Minds* by Jonathan Rosen April 6: *Every Note Played* by Lisa Genova May 18: *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick



High School Youth Group!

At Youth Group, our vision is to create an atmosphere for high schoolers to grow, connect, worship and serve. We welcome all! Whether you go to church every Sunday, or have never stepped foot inside FPLC, if you're interested in exploring your faith, fellowship and having some fun—come join us! The group is for those who are currently in 9th-12th grades.

We'll be gathering in new and fun ways, and we are adding some incredible leaders to our team. Here's a peek at some of the 2025 events we have scheduled so far, so mark your calendars! RSVP

links will be provided before each event. More information is provided below, but please do not hesitate to reach out to the team if you have additional questions.

Jake Brewster

Youth Group Coordinator Jake@foxpointchurch.org

Hannah Knapp

Youth Group Director Hannah@foxpointchurch.org **Pastor Bill**

Senior Pastor
Pastorbill@foxpointchurch.org

SUNDAY November 16Spread the Joy Scavenger Hunt!

• Time: 6 – 8 pm

• Location: FPLC and around town (Drivers Needed)

Our scavenger hunt is more than just a game; it's an opportunity to make a positive impact on our community and brighten people's days. Armed with enthusiasm and kindness, we'll be setting out on a mission to spread joy.

SUNDAY December 21 FPLCYG Christmas Party!

• Time: 6 – 8 pm

• FPLC

Come celebrate this special time of year and connect with your FPLC friends and family. We will have a feast, gift exchanges, ugly sweater contest, and so much more fun!

Scavenger Hunt RSVP







Women's Club

Congregation Shalom Overview & Tour; Men Invited

Hear from Rabbi Noah Chertkoff, Senior Rabbi, about Congregation Shalom and the Jewish Faith. Gather in Fellowship Hall for Fellowship and lunch. Afterwards we'll go over to Congregation Shalom for a tour.

Date: Wednesday, November 12

Time: 11:30 am

Cost: \$15

Location: Fellowship Hall then Congregation Shalom

Sign up: Sign up in Fellowship Hall, on our website or <u>HERE</u>.

Contact: Patty Roberts, 262-278-7005,

paroberts63@yahoo.com.

Men's Club—Women Invited FPLC's Tanzania Partnership

Come hear about FPLC's 21-year Outreach Partnership with three Lutheran parishes in Tanzania's Meru Diocese. We'll share how this long-standing relationship has supported more than 80 college students and many secondary school scholars, the lasting impact of medical mission trips in 2010 and 2012, and reflections from the team's visit this past January. All men

and women are Karibu

(welcome)!

Date: Thursday, Nov. 20

Time: 11:30 am

Cost: \$15

Location: Fellowship Hall

Sign up: Sign up in
Fellowship Hall
Contact: Jim Kimmel;

jim.kimmel42@gmail.com





Men's & Women's Clubs Coat Sorting & Luncheon

Thursday, Nov. 6 • 11 am – 1 pm All members of the Men's and Women's Clubs—and anyone else who would like to join in—are

welcome to help sort the coats and accessories collected through the Winter Wear Drive. We'll pack items for delivery to our partner organizations and then enjoy a hosted lunch together as a community.

Date: Thursday, November 6

Time: 11:00 am

Cost: None! Thank you for your help! **Sign-Up:** Click here: <u>COATS</u> or sign up in

Fellowship Hall

Contact: Stacia Hickey, stacia@foxpointchurch.org;

414-352-8990

We appreciate your time and look forward to serving and sharing a meal together!







Serenity Inns Dinner Fellowship Great for ages 7th Grade and Up!

Why is Dinner Fellowship So Necessary?

Serenity Inns is a residence for men in recovery from alcohol and/or drug abuse in Milwaukee. FPLC members provide a meal (home cooked, store bought or a combination of both) then share a meal and conversation. This enables the men to tell their stories with others, feel the compassion of a caring community and build their communication skills that have suffered during their times of isolation and addiction.

What to Expect When Volunteering

- Make or purchase (see info below) dinner and take it warm to the Inn by 5:45 pm (for a 6 pm start time). The men will carry your items inside. You're usually on your way by 7 pm.
- Any cookware you bring will be washed by the men.

- You receive an email a week before your date with the number of residents (usually between 9 and 12). You provide food for yourselves, the men and the innkeeper.
- Two families, friends, small group members, etc. can volunteer together to share the meal prep and dining experience.
- This is a popular SOP for Confirmation students (with their parent(s)).

How To Sign Up and Ask Questions

Sign up on the website or on the signup in Fellowship Hall.

Do you have questions? FPLC member and long-time SI volunteer, Lorraine Buehler, is happy to answer any of your questions; lcbuehler@cs.com.



Serenity Inns: 2825 W. Brown St.

Cooking for a crowd: Stressful? Time-consuming? Not your thing? That's okay!

If you are too busy to cook, it's JUST FINE to buy a good dinner and bring it to share with residents. Here are several possible suggestions, but you can pick your own! Two of the residents' faves are KY Fried Chicken and Mac & Cheese. You can just add salad and dessert! Buy a meal or parts of it from the following or a place of your choosing:

Costco
Out & Out Catering; Cedarburg
Bunzel's Meat Market
Kentucky Fried Chicken
Metro Mart Deli
Woodman's

Sendik's
Karl's Country Market
Qdoba
Piggly Wiggly
Jimmy John's
Jersey Mike's

Volunteers Needed:

Signup sheets have dates through March, 2026

Click here to sign up!







Sheepshead Group at FPLC!

Dates: November 14 & 28

Declared the official card game of Milwaukee in 1983, Sheepshead is a staple

to Wisconsin card players.

Are you interested in joining a group of Sheepshead players to meet at church for some friendly competition? We play in Fellowship Hall, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We will have "learning aids" available to help with the basics, and experienced players to guide you.

We are looking forward to sharing the fun! Interested or would you like more information? Contact Jim Schmidt at schmidtyjim@aol.com.

Share Your Military Service

Every year for Veterans Day we publish a list of our members who have or are serving in the US Military in order to honor and recognize their service.

If you have served in the military, please share your service information with us! Aren't sure if you've already shared it with us? That's ok, just fill out the Service form through the link below and we'll double check what we have.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacia Hickey at stacia@foxpointchurch.org.

Thank you!





Bayside Garden Cards

It's time for garden cleanup, fall florals, and seed for the birds!
Bayside Gardens has you covered!

Bayside Gardens helps us send teens in Tanzania to high school—an FPLC commitment of \$10,000 a year. All you have to do is purchase Bayside gift cards at church (NOT at the garden center). We retain 15% of each card's cost, which helps us keep our promise to our partner dioceses in Tanzania.

Cards can be purchased at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.



Caregivers Support Group

Led by FPLC member Susan Halling, a marriage and family therapist, this group is for caregivers dealing with changes in family dynamics. Challenges

include: role reversal, juggling responsibilities, handling dementia, loss and transitions as we move into uncharted territory. The group meets every Friday at 10:30 am in FPLC's first floor Heritage Room. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please contact Susan Halling; halling@wi.rr.com.



Hospital Visits

If you or a loved one is hospitalized and would like a visit or call from a pastor (or just for them to know you are hospitalized), please call the church office;

414-352-8990. Due to HIPAA rules, hospitals are not allowed to share with us that you are a patient.



Fall Time Change

Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour the night of November 1—**this Saturday**. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!





A Big Thank You From Our Friends In Tanzania!

This year, you are providing positive futures for people in our very poor partner villages in Tanzania by enabling them to get an education!

College

Through your generosity, we met a challenging goal, raising the number of our college scholarship students this fall from 15 to 18—three more eager and grateful young people with exciting academic and professional goals.

All the scholarship recipients come from families with little money and could not go to college without scholarships to cover most of the costs. *Now, 84 students FPLC has supported have received degrees!* Several of them traveled long distances to surprise and thank Pastor Bill and his group during their trip to Tanzania in January. They also had the chance to meet some of their grateful families too. Their children hold the future of their families and their country in their hands!

Thanks again to your generosity, we are trying something new this year! The students are very humble—no extra requests—but we have now learned that some of our college students have not been able to afford computers, decent housing or even enough food. We have developed a one-time only Help Fund and are sending \$1500 to each of the three districts we work with to have on hand when they learn about a student in critical need. We'll assess the results for future consideration.

High School

We're also very thankful for your support on Tanzania Sunday—a fun and important event. The auction and your financial gifts brought in an amazing \$17,744! Part of those proceeds will be used to help their diocese pay their high school teachers. Because the families are so poor, they can't offer tuition, so the teachers and staffs at their high schools have been working without pay for many months. Our team is currently gathering details on how much money is needed to provide back pay for at least part of that time.

Dear Fox Point Lutheran Parish Scholarship Committee, greeting in Jesus Name. Thank you for your email.

I am very happy to see the response to the contribution you gave me for the year 2025-2026 to fulfill my dreams. I must say thank you so much and I will strive to fight with all efforts to achieve my dream. I will also continue to provide updates on my progress.

Please, pray for me Yours Miriam Simon Losieku



Gregg Sadlon, Jos. Sauer, Miriam Losieku and John Krueger outside Miriam's home in January of 2025.

All Saints Day November 1, 2025

(Commemorated during services on November 2)

Laura Dossett
November 12, 2024

Cory Zamora
November 16, 2024

Brenda Boie Trier
February 2, 2025

Therese "Terry" Ann Witt
February 6, 2025

Curt Claus February 8, 2025

Louise E. Dieck February 22, 2025

Mary Ellen Resenhoeft-Bloomquist March 13, 2025

Robert "Bob" L. Seidell
March 18, 2025

Linda Cole April 3, 2025

Ann "Cookie" Goris
April 7, 2025

Guy O. Theune May 23, 2025

Weslyn Fleming
May 29, 2025

Esther Pastene
June 21, 2025

Craig Allen Driscoll
June 24, 2025

Thomas "Tom" Klug July 28, 2025

Roger Harlyn Schroeder
September 6, 2025

Paul Erickson September 8, 2025

Camilla "Cammy" Claire Endres September 11, 2025

> Kelly Roecker September 19, 2025

Patrick D. Lawless
September 21, 2025

Walter Schoenfeld
October 22, 2025







Welcome To Kids' Church!

We are so happy to have your child join us for a year of games, crafts, special outreach projects, and kid-appropriate videos—all designed to help your child learn about the Bible and grow their relationship with God and Jesus.

Kids' Church is held during our regular worship services at 9:00 and 10:30. Our kids are taught by specially screened and trained teaching staff so that you can sit back and enjoy worship!

Please take a minute to register for Kids' Church even if you have enrolled in previous years. Visitors and guests are always welcome to join Kids' Church and our nursery. If you are a member or more than an occasional visitor, we ask that you register so that we can plan for our class sizes and teacher and supply needs. If you are registered, you will also be able to receive emails that will keep you informed about current kids' (and church) events and programs.

Questions? Contact our Director of Childrens' Ministries, Julie Schlifske.

Email Julie

Nursery

(birth to 3 years)

Drop your little one off any time before the service in our nursery, which is located in the lower level. Relax and enjoy worship. We can text you during the service if we need you!

> **Nursery** Registration

Preschool

(age 3 by Sept. 1 - 4K)

A special name tag is available for registered kids at our preschool table just inside the front entrance to the church. Grab a name tag and bring your child down to our preschool classroom when kids are released to Kids' Church after the pastor's Junior Sermon. The preschool classroom is in our lower level near the main staircase on the south side of the building. Please pick up your child after worship concludes.

> Preschool Registration

Faith Builders

(5K - 6th grades)

Our elementary kids meet in the lower level in the far north hallway. Just turn left at the bottom of the main staircase.

Faith Builder Registration

First Communion Workshop—Save the Date! 2026 Registration Coming Soon

Our First Communion Workshop will be the morning of Saturday, January 10; 8:45 am -12:15 pm. The First Communion service is on Sunday, January 11 during both services. First Communion instruction provides a wonderful way for the 5th graders to explore their faith more deeply and to get to know one another!

Have questions? Email Julie Schlifske, our Director of Children's Ministries, julie@ foxpointchurch.org.



Meru Coffee at Home! Support Mt. farmers

by purchasing Mt. Meru Coffee (beans, ground, regular, decaf, Seasonal Premium Mt. Meru coffee, k-cups) at church to brew at home.



The coffee is delicious and your purchase helps support the growers running small coffee farms in the Meru District of Tanzania. Stop by the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings or in the office during the week to make your purchases.





always



on Sundays. You are still able to attend the church service! Families are welcome to volunteer with their kids too. It's also a great Service Opportunity for our Confirmation students (with an adult). Please sign up with the link below or contact Lori Barrieau in the church office if you have any questions; lori@foxpointchurch.org or 414-352-8990.



Christmas Service Ushers Needed

Yes, it's early—but Christmas Eve will be here before we know it! Help us make our busy services warm and welcoming by signing up to usher. Regular ushers and

newcomers alike are welcome! Scan the QR code and scroll to Dec. 24 to sign up. Questions? Contact Lori Barrieau at lori@foxpointchurch.org.



MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary's Fantastic Fridays Lunch

Serve hands-on alongside MBHS staff and volunteers, and witness the impact of offering a warm meal in an inclusive, welcoming space.

Two Ways to Help

1. Provide Meal Components

(Cooking or Grocery Shopping)

- On the signup page, choose a meal item (main course, 2–3 sides, or homemade cookies).
- Main course volunteers receive a recipe about 3 weeks in advance; sides are assigned then too.
- Reimbursement available—just let Stacia Hickey know.
- Drop off food in FPLC's kitchen by Thursday, December 11 at noon.

2. Serve the Meal In-Person

- Join us Friday, December 12, 11:00 am 1:30 pm.
- Serve lunch, chat with guests and volunteers, and take part in the prayer and sharing circle—an uplifting, low-stress experience.

Sign Up

Use the link below, visit the "Serve in the Community" page on our website, or scan the QR code at the signup table on Sundays.



Questions?

Contact Stacia Hickey — 414-352-8990; stacia@foxpointchurch.org







The Piecemakers' handiwork from years past.

Piecemaker's Silent Quilt Auction; Sundays, November 9 & 16

Quilting is a gift of love that takes patience, time and money. This year, our silent auction will feature eight of the group's most special quilts. The money raised from the auction will be used to purchase materials needed to keep our Ministry going!

This past year, quilts

have been donated to Lutheran Social Services for their Refugee program as well as for families who are moving out of homeless shelters into community housing and also to The Memory Care Unit at Luther Manor, and The Salvation Army Emergency Shelter. Quilts are also given every year to our own High School Seniors during a heartwarming tribute to them at a service in May.

The quilts will be available to bid on Sunday, November 9th and Sunday, November 16th. The bidding will close at noon on November 16th. You may pick up your quilts at that time (checks or cash, please) or if you are not available at that time, arrangements can be made to pick them up at the church office during the week or at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings. These quilts will make great gifts for special occasions or the holidays!



The Basics of Baby Massage: A Parent/Infant Class

Best for babies 2 weeks to under 12 months and their parent(s)/ guardian(s). Infant massage can relieve fussiness, pain and

discomfort for the baby as well as help babies fall asleep sooner and sleep more restfully. Bring your baby, a blanket and wear comfy clothes to class as we will be on the floor. Handouts will be provided.

Date: Friday, November 21; it's a one-session class, but

come more if you would like! **Time:** 11:00 am – 12:00 pm **Limit:** 6 families per session

Registration: Contact Angie Biersach to RSVP, 414-207-2808 or angiebiersach@gmail.com.



Quilters/Piecemakers

Join us as we make quilts for those in need. New members are always welcome and we'll teach you what to do. Bring your lunch and enjoy a break with other quilters. Come and

go as your schedule permits. And don't forget to stop by and see (and bid on?) our quilts at the Quilt Auction in November (see story above).

Date: Tuesday, November 18

Time: 9 am – 1:30 pm Location: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Ellen Feider: 414-435-8440 efeiderwi@gmail.com





Fox Point Moms—2 Groups!



Tuesday Evenings

This adult group offers a safe, open space to support moms of any age. This will be a time to mentor and support each other and discuss parenting and family

issues—learning realistic and supportive faith-based advice for today's busy moms. Spread the word, this will be a great group! Join us any time!

Leaders: Mary Beth Scalise and Meghan Langlois **Dates:** November 4 & 18. Regular sessions are the 1st & 3rd Tuesday evenings of most months.

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Location: Heritage Room (main level) **Signup:** Use the QR code or click <u>HERE</u>. No need to RSVP for each session.



Fox Point M&ms Daytime

Friday Mornings

This group is open to all moms of any age and provides a safe, supportive environment. We will focus on a devotional and

discuss it at each session. Whether you are a mom or not, please help us spread the word by sharing this opportunity to get together. Join any time!

Leaders: Angie Biersach & Tracy Christenson

Date: November 14 & 28. We meet the 2nd and 4th

Fridays of the month. **Time:** 9:30 – 11:00 am

Location: FPLC, lower level in the room

next to the Point Cafe.

Signup: Use the QR code or click <u>HERE</u>.

No need to RSVP for each session.





CONFIRMATION

Confirmation SOP

Frozen Pies Needed for All Peoples!

All Peoples Church is one of FPLC's Partner Parishes. We have supported them by working in their community garden, by providing school supplies & winter wear and keeping their food pantry stocked.

- How to Help (and fulfill an SOP)
- Prepare 1–2 pies for their Thanksgiving Meal Kits
- Apple, pumpkin, or sweet potato pies only
- Bring pies **FROZEN** to the FPLC kitchen freezer
- **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 12 by 4 pm
- Check your name on the sheet on the freezer door
- Sign up using the link below

Delivery Help Needed:

- We need one volunteer to deliver pies to All Peoples on November 15 or 16
- Please sign up using the link below

Pie Signup!

Info and Workshops

Our website is the place to go for all things confirmation! Use the link below to find everything you need. If you have any questions, contact Lori Barrieau; lori@foxpointchurch.org or 414-352-8990.

Wednesday Workshops

Our workshops take place on Wednesdays from 7 – 8:30 pm. Schedule changes due to weather or any other reason will be communicated to parents. To see the dates for the entire year, please see our website.

November 5 December 3 November 19 December 17

Check the dates, publish signup and include link

Confirmation





Food Needs Continue to Rise

Cuts to several food assistance programs are projected to affect 48 million Americans. Some of the organizations supplying food to pantries we serve are federally funded, and they have less food to share with the pantries.

If you are able to donate, our pantries prefer items from this list—especially the items listed in bold.

Note: We cannot accept any expired foods; please check labels. We are looking for filling and culturally-appropriate foods, not specialty items. If you have any questions, please contact Stacia Hickey; stacia@foxpointchurch.org.

Items currently most needed are in bold:

Hygiene

Shampoo; full size Conditioner; full size

Lip balm

Body wash; full size

Vaseline

Toothpaste; full size

Lotion Deodorant

Feminine products

Vaseline

Nail clippers (new) Diapers size 4-6

Throat lozenges

Protein

Sardines; canned

Chicken; canned Tuna; canned

Beef Stew; canned

General Food Items

Canned corn Baked beans

Cereal

Pancake mix and syrup

Jelly

Peanut Butter Oatmeal

Tuna Helper Canned fruit

Pasta and canned pasta sauce White rice (1 lb bag or instant)

Hamburger Helper

Canned greens (collard, turnip)

Salmon; canned

Meatball Spaghetti-O's Canned pastas w/meat

Peanut Butter





Jenny G.

PRAYER LIST All in The Family

Join us on Sunday, for the 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!

We encourage you to keep these people in your prayers during the week.

Kathy G. Bonnie L. & Alex Ioan Gildner Family Dave Rotter Anna Woody Barksdale Gillian Leslie L. Kathy S. Kim Bell **Bob Lick** Grant Lynn S. **Jav Blair** Makenna M. Ruth Schmidt Gregg Steve M. Jerry Schoenike Candee Sue Hiller Cheryl Harlow James Matt Stephen Roger Matzke Sweet Family Richard Choi Jim Michael Rosie Conaway Ioan Iane T. Mike Pr. Dan Iohn Terry Dan C. Ion Nadine Mike Umland Donna Jordahl Rick Frank Nancy Wavne Freeze Family Randy K. Curt Nash **Bob Wiese** Andrea G. Kath Robert Palmer Al Z.

Rebecca

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.

Military

Alex Grant
Cameron Ian
Cooper Jonah
Danny Kyan
David Matthew



Corrine Kraus

Congratulations

Wedding

Congratulations and best wishes to Lauren Padgett and Thomas Lombardo who were married on October 18.

Birth

Congratulations to Abby and Trent Beachy on the birth of their daughter Vivian Grey Beachy on October 18. Vivian is also welcomed by siblings Harlow, Ryker, and Silas!

Condolences

Our support and prayers are with the friends and family of Walter Schoenfeld, who passed away October 22.

Prayers and condolences for the family and friends of Sarah Mattingly, who passed away on October 23.



Written by FPLC member, Mary Buscher. This devotion was first shared on Wednesday, October 22. If you would like to receive Mary's devotion on a weekly basis, please sign up here: Weekly Devotion.

Hello!

"All who listen to my instructions and follow them are wise, like a man who builds his house on solid rock... But those who hear my instructions and ignore them are foolish, like a man who builds his house on sand." – Matthew 7: 24, 26

Our homes are our safe havens. Whether it's the house itself or the warmth of family and hearth, where we dwell reflects a unique style and puts the us... in us! After an initial design, a foundation plan is the crucial next step. Concrete, whether block or poured or slab offers superb strength – of great importance since it will be supporting everything else! Detailed drawings that architects and designers like my architect husband drew for his clients ensure that structural integrity once begun, is maintained. In today's scripture from Matthew, our Lord Jesus, a carpenter by trade, offered up the ultimate how-to guide for reliable building...including our souls!

"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given to you." – John 15:7

Whether built from ancient clay or current emerging materials, all home designs require skill and imagination. All must take the long view and see what is not there, as well as what could be there. All must be built on a sturdy and reliable foundation. So, all of us must also build our lives on Christ's sure foundation to endure the storms we encounter with courage and strength. We will all have different kinds of lives, partners, personalities and lifestyles, but our tapestries have one common thread to them—a firm foundation with the God who invites and offers us love and grace. We can all hear the word of God... we may all listen to it...but following it, using that deep and abiding love that He imparts to us...that is the difference between the wise man and the foolish one. Our Lord's instructions raise intention...and with good intention...wisdom.

Let's pray-

Dear Lord, help me to keep my eyes on you as I navigate the steps of my path today. You have given me gentle instructions and a rock-solid foundation on which to rely. Thank you for walking with me from the beginning of my journey, I need not look elsewhere—your grace alone fulfills all my needs. Amen.

Have a wonderful week! - Mary