



NEWSLETTER OF FPC:ENDICOTT

# FIRST PRES PRESS

SEPTEMBER 2018 EDITION



You Tube

Popular on YouTube

**YOUTUBE OR  
YUUDO?**

**PUTTING INFORMATION  
INTO PRACTICE**

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# *A Note from the Pastors*



## **YouTube Faith or YouDo Faith?**

*But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.*

*For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. — James 1:22-25*

This summer, Jan dropped her phone into water. After quickly rescuing the phone, the first thing she did was run to the computer to find a YouTube video so that she could dry it out correctly. (The video was helpful, but unfortunately, her phone was old enough that it was not even water resistant...)

Got a problem you need to fix? Just YouTube it! Chances are, someone out there has recorded a video that will give you step-by-step instructions to solve the issue. There are millions of these tutorial videos. Most YouTube videos are produced by average people who have learned a skill and want to share it. For those of us who are mechanically inept, this crowdsourcing of expertise makes it possible to fix a faucet, change a tire, or install a washing machine. **Of course, all this instruction depends on the viewer's willingness to experiment and put the information into practice.** Without that, it's just another way to waste time on the internet.

People in the ancient world obviously didn't have YouTube. Early Christians learned how to live their faith by personally watching and imitating their mentors, by asking questions face to face, or by receiving a letter from a distant instructor. Protestants believe that James was one of Jesus' brothers (Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3, Galatians 1:19, Jude 1:1), who came to faith after the resurrection and became the leader of the church in Jerusalem. He wrote a letter to Jewish Christians who had been scattered by persecution, encouraging them to remain faithful in the midst of trial and to demonstrate consistent Christian character in the midst of temptation. James's letter reads like a series of random tutorial videos on Christian discipleship, but in the passage above, James made it clear **that no amount of instruction matters unless it is put into practice.** James wanted Christ-followers to become experts not only in hearing the instruction (word of truth), but in doing the instruction as well. That requires practice. *"But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves" (v. 22).*

If I need to fix my leaky faucet, I really need to set up my phone next to the sink and follow along step by step with the video. If I just watch the video and say, "I'll get to that sometime," I'll quickly forget everything that I learned in the tutorial. James says the same thing happens when we only *hear* the Word of God and don't put it into practice. It's as though we look at ourselves in a mirror briefly and then walk away, almost instantly forgetting what we look like. Putting our faith into practice is much easier when we develop authentic fellowship within a community of believers. As good as YouTube tutorials are, it's way better to have others standing beside you to show you how to do something or to learn with you. That's how we best learn to be a follower of Jesus—together. So as the Fall calendar of activity starts up again in your lives, we invite you to come and invest in this community of faith—so we can learn and do the Word of God together. We hope as you read this month's newsletter, you will choose to invest in some of the many opportunities we have to do faith together!

# AMONG OUR PEOPLE

## Please pray for:

**Pastor Nissi**, who was briefly hospitalized | **Jesse Paff**, who celebrates her brother's marriage | **Dawn Weber**, who had surgery | Former member, **Blanche Gardner**, whose son, **Clifford**, recently passed away | **The Wilson family**, as they grieve the death of Jordan's maternal grandmother | **Erica (Eiche) and Manny Gallo**, who were married on 7/7 | **Jack Campbell**, who was in the ER for breathing issues | **Paul Everett**, who is doing better in his recovery from a stem cell transplant. He is grateful for all the cards, calls, etc. | **The Schrader family**, as they mourn the death of Jamie's grandfather | **Barry and Ann Driggs**, as Ann struggles with dementia and mobility issues and Barry cares for her | **Lynn Barsigian**, who injured her back | **The Devine family**, who gives thanks for prayer and support during Jan's mom's last days | **Lorie Sholett**, who is healing slowly following surgery and complications | **Wendy Buffington's mother**, who is recovering well from her surgery | **Shirley Wennegal**, who spent time in the hospital | We celebrate the faith commitments of four of our girls in Children's Ministry: **Jocelyn Adams, Corinne Beatty, Colleen Beatty, and Faith Castoro!** | **Nancy Slater**, who is having treatments for breathing issues | **Bev Conklin's cousin, Welly**, who is dealing with serious health concerns | **Brenda Ripley's 96-year-old aunt, Frieda**, who fell and broke both legs | Doug Kerr shared the blessing of 57 people at **July's Sticky Faith Gathering** at his cottage. He thought the best part was the conversation his 10-year-old

granddaughter had with Ede Sornberger | **Virginia Ulsh**, as she grieves the death of her brother, **Bill**, after a long illness | **Ruth Harrison**, as she grieves the sudden death of her brother | Praise that **Erin Schrader's son, Justin**, is home and doing better | Praise for the success of our **first summer Kids Club!** | **Brenda Reibson**, who has received a call to Mountain Presbyterian Church and will begin Sept 2 | **Erica Barney**, who left to work for AmeriCorps in Colorado for three months | **College students**, as they begin a new year of their education | **William Wilson**, as he leaves for military service in Texas | **Carole Cockrell**, who fell and hurt her ankle and is recovering | **Carole's friend Eleanor's grandchild**, who is having health issues | **Claudia Delafield**, who has fluid buildup around her heart | **Claudia's friend, Christine Snyder**, who has stage 3 cancer | **Carol Sweeney**, as she grieves the death of her sister, **Christina Mellema** | **Bob King**, who was transferred to the Cleveland Clinic | **Helen Jephson**, who was transferred from Lourdes to Good Shepherd Fairview for rehab | **Dr. Bajwa**, who is facing serious and life-threatening complications since heart surgery last month | **The Kerrs' grandson, Callen**, who had his tonsils removed | **The Preisendanz family**, who celebrates the birth of **Jack Hooley Preisendanz** | We give thanks to God that **Jon Yerger** has been weaned off the vent, is making good progress, and will be able to start rehab soon



Bryan (left) and Sharon Early pose with regional volunteer coordinator Jon Stone in front of the trailer load of supplies they transported from upstate New York to aid flood victims.

## DEVOTION

**E**lder Chris Galli wrote and led our opening devotion at this meeting, calling it: "What Is Your Biblical Mantra?" He shared his own personal biblical mantra (2 Timothy 4:7-8), which took on new meaning recently for Chris as he trained for and competed in a triathlon. The experience reminded him that many times our lives consist of several challenging events at the same time, just like a triathlon. Whether it is struggling with our children, dealing with problems at work, relationship struggles, dealing with an addiction or health issues, all of these struggles are part of life's triathlon. But how do you keep the faith? Just like preparing for a triathlon, we have to train and look to the Word of God to give us the answers we need. Training helps our faith grow stronger and brings us into closer fellowship with our Lord. The stronger our faith, the easier it will be to finish the race.

He then asked the elders to share their own Biblical Mantras. Here are some that were mentioned:

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).*

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer (Romans 12:12).*

*Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts (Psalm 139:23).*

*When I am afraid, I put my trust in you (Psalm 56:3).*

## LINDA WILLETS CLERK OF SESSION

Each month, Linda provides an overview of the work of our Session. Keep an eye out on this page to see what God is doing through the work of our leadership.



## BUSINESS

**T**he Personnel Committee continues to work on the Sexual Conduct/Safe Sanctuary Policy.

Session approved the use of the New Programs portion of the Endowment Fund to pay for the 2018 "Sticky Faith" Gatherings, up to \$2,000.

Session granted permission for Communion to be celebrated at Kristen Devine and Ben Loughridge's wedding on October 20, 2018, officiated by Tim/Jan Devine and Chris/Marian Loughridge.

Session approved up to \$1,000 from the Outreach portion of the Endowment Fund, to purchase supplies and resources for the Summer Tennis Program, if needed.

Session approved that Stacey Rundle and Sarah Early be removed from the active membership roll because they are active in other churches. Letters were sent to each with the blessing of the Session.

## VISIONING

**E**lders read chapter 3 from the book, *Gospel Centered Church*, together followed by discussion.

Elders prayed together and closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.



# CONNECT



*DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS  
WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE  
RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU  
WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE  
WHAT GOD'S WILL IS— HIS GOOD, PLEASING,  
AND PERFECT WILL.— ROMANS 12:2*

This summer I was able to attend two different churches with my daughters while I was visiting them in Colorado, and it was amazing how in synch they were with messages I needed to hear! Both sermons revolved around resting in God and regularly starting our day with Him. That's definitely not a new concept, but it's one I constantly struggle with. As has happened before, I felt convicted that this **NEEDS** to be part of my routine but found I very quickly struggled to change my patterns of behavior once again.

Why do I share this? Because I know I just can't do it on my own. I need others in my life encouraging me and holding me accountable. I want to be transformed and to discern God's will for my life, but when I don't allow margin in my life for God to be at work, I miss many opportunities to hear His voice. One of the sermons had us looking at our calendar and examining how we spend our time. Many things consume our time and they can be good things. But, if we are not intentional about creating space for God to work, our lives will be transformed by the society around us because that is what fills up our calendar and claims our attention.

As you prepare your schedule this fall, be intentional about making being part of a group a reality in your life. Starting mid-September, we will begin a six-week series on Sticky Faith and how being part of community helps all of us, not just our youth, have a faith that "sticks" no matter where life takes us. Are you willing to make it a priority to be transformed in your thinking concerning community, the role that faith plays in our life, and your role within our faith community?

I have been pretty excited this week to discover monarch caterpillars this year in my garden. They are unique looking as a caterpillar, but when they go through the transformation process, they become one of the most identifiable butterflies that people are excited to see. In the same way, may our Christian walk be so transformative that those around us are excited to be part of our lives and desiring to know what makes us different!



# COMPASSION BUILDERS

*DEREK WASHBURN*

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We were able to complete 2 projects in the last few weeks helping out people in the community. Here are a few pics of some of our young people helping out on the demo and rebuilding of a shed roof. It was great to see these young men serve their neighbor.



# CM

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

“THANK YOU FOR CALLING  
TECH SOLUTIONS. WHAT SEEMS  
TO BE THE PROBLEM?”

“I’ve just bought the latest and greatest tech device but it  
won’t turn on.”

“Is it plugged in and charged up?”

“...Oh...Thank you. Have a great day.”

Just like all our tech devices, our faith only comes to life once it is plugged in and charged up.

Our ultimate source of power comes through a personal, daily walk with Christ. But our secondary source of power comes through Christian community. We are blessed to be in a church where there is no shortage of opportunities for community (as you can see by flipping through this newsletter!).

In the world of Children’s and Youth Ministry, we have a place for you to plug in whether you are a child, student, parent or willing volunteer. Take a look at what we have going on this fall:

Sunday Morning Children’s Ministry – Beginning September 16. Each Sunday children gather at 10:30am in the Treehouse Room for singing, dancing and learning about the Bible. At 10:50 children are dismissed into age-appropriate small group classes to continue studying Scripture.

### SEP. 16

#### FAMILY DAY KICKOFF

Children and families meet at 10:30am in the Treehouse Room. Join us as we celebrate what we learned last year, get some sneak peaks into this year’s lessons and enjoy some snacks and fellowship time together.

### SEP. 23

#### ELIJAH CONFRONTED EVIL AHAB (1 KINGS 18)

Through a unique challenge between Elijah, a prophet of God, and the prophets of Baal, God demonstrated his incredible power and proved that he is the one true God.

### SEP. 30

#### ELIJAH RAN FROM JEZEBEL (1 KINGS 19)

Elijah’s life was threatened because of what happened at Mount Carmel. Elijah ran away, hid in the wilderness and doubted God. By revealing himself to Elijah, God reassured Elijah that he was not alone and that God would never abandon him.

## JOIN THE TEAM

Have you ever considered volunteering in Children’s or Youth Ministry?

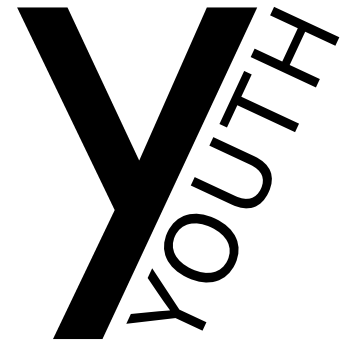
Now’s the time to get plugged in! You can serve by: becoming part of a teaching team (weekly commitment), joining the registration team (monthly commitment), volunteering for the youth ministry team (weekly and monthly opportunities).



# ROCK MOUNTAIN FALL OVERNIGHTER

OCT. 19-20

Open for anyone in grades 3-6. Cost: \$20/child.  
To sign up, see Tina Ide for registration forms.



## JR. HIGH (6-8) AND SR. HIGH (9-12) SMALL GROUPS

These groups meet on Sunday mornings from  
10:30-11:50.

## YOUNG LIFE

Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to  
participate in our local Young Life Club  
which will be starting in September. Keep  
your eyes open for announcements about  
when and where they will be meeting.

## YOUTH GROUP

STOUGHTON FARMS CORN MAIZE | SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Immediately following Children's Min (about noon). Pizza lunch served before heading over to the farm. Students, grades 5-9, are invited to join us. Cost: \$5/student. See Tina for more details or to sign up.

## STICKY FAITH GATHERINGS

The entire church, young and old, will be meeting on October 27 for our next Sticky Faith Gathering. These are a great time for getting to know each other and building relationships that span the generations.





# FPC:E COMMUNITY

Look here for  
opportunities to  
serve the Kingdom  
and grow in your faith  
through the missions  
and ministries of  
FPC:E

Analise Farrell at:  
[toothdr13@aol.com](mailto:toothdr13@aol.com).

- An-  
nouncing  
Chancel Choir—  
Rehearsals begin Thurs-  
day, September 7, 7:00 pm in  
the Choir Room. Our rehearsals  
are casual and fun-filled. No  
audition is required! For more  
information, contact Larry Hoey  
or e-mail:  
[larryhoey.music@gmail.com](mailto:larryhoey.music@gmail.com).
- Samaritan Supper begins a new  
season on Sep. 11. If you are  
able to help with this important  
ministry, help is always needed  
and greatly appreciated. If you  
are interested, please contact
- The weekend of September  
15 and 16, there will be an  
interest meeting about the  
2019 mission trip to Kenya.  
Stu Ross will be visiting to  
speak with anyone who is  
interested in the work being  
done there and possible  
participation in it. Please  
mark your calendars!



# SEPTEMBER

02

10:00am Worship Service  
(Sanctuary)  
10:00am Worship Service  
(Chapel)

03 **Labor Day**  
**Office Closed**  
7:30pm AA Meeting

04

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
6:15pm Worship Team  
6:15pm CM Teacher  
Training  
6:30pm AA Meeting

05

6:00am Men's Group  
7:00pm Session  
7:30pm AA Meeting

06

7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:00pm AA Meeting

08

9:30am CM and Youth  
Ministry Meeting

9

**Communion**

9:00am Worship Service  
10:45am Worship Service

10

7:30pm AA Meeting

11

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan  
Supper  
6:15pm Worship Team  
6:30pm AA Meeting  
7:00pm Deacons

12

6:00am Men's Group  
7:30pm AA Meeting

13

7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:00pm AA Meeting

16

**CHOW Walk**

9:00am Worship Service  
10:30am Children's  
Ministry  
Family Day  
10:45am Worship Service

17

4:00pm Endicott Proud  
7:30pm AA Meeting

18

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan  
Supper  
6:15pm Worship Team  
6:30pm AA Meeting

19

6:00am Men's Group  
7:30pm AA Meeting

20

7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:00pm AA Meeting

23

**Peace and  
Evangelism  
Sunday**

9:00am Worship Service  
10:30am Children's  
Ministry  
10:45am Worship Service

24

1:00pm Women's Club  
7:30pm AA Meeting

25

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan  
Supper  
6:00pm NS Board  
Meeting  
6:15pm Worship Team  
6:30pm AA Meeting

26

6:00am Men's Group  
7:30pm AA Meeting

27

7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:00pm AA Meeting

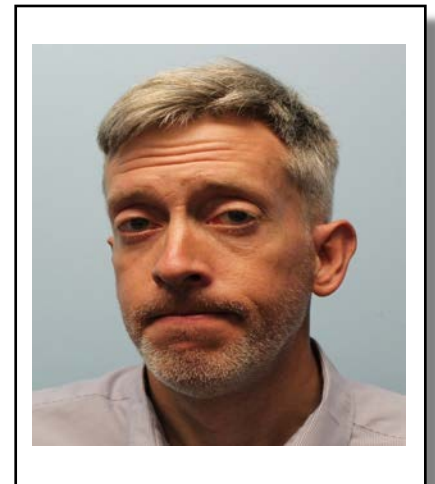
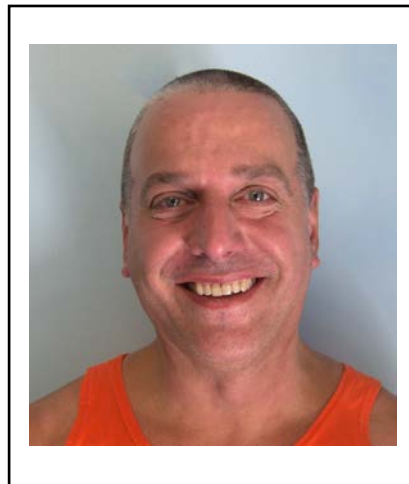
30

9:00am Worship Service  
10:30am Children's  
Ministry  
10:45am Worship Service  
12:00pm FPC:Youth @  
Corn Maze



# CHECK IT OUT!

Our unsung heroes— Lou Pasquale, Joe Knapick, and Steve Disbro— have made some wonderful improvements to EFPNS over the summer. Our sincere thanks to you!



## **2018-2019 Parent Council Officers**

Tracy Adams— Co-President ([adams.tracy@gmail.com](mailto:adams.tracy@gmail.com))

Annie Dotson— Co-President ([adotson623@gmail.com](mailto:adotson623@gmail.com))

Lauren Niquette— Treasurer ([lauren.niquette@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.niquette@gmail.com))

Judy Gleason— Newsletter ([gleason12112@gmail.com](mailto:gleason12112@gmail.com))

Open— Secretary

Each year, fundraising efforts help support the nursery school's Janet Cook Scholarship Assistance Program. 2018-19 sees us awarding \$18,000 in tuition assistance already! We are striving for a healthy village raising healthy children.











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