



# Forest Park Church

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Hope • Purpose • Belonging

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK DAVID WILLIS

As we step into this new year, my heart is full of gratitude for all God has done among us. In 2025 we witnessed lives being touched, faith being strengthened, and community deepening as we sought to follow Jesus together. At Forest Park Church, our calling remains clear: to make disciples by sharing hope, helping people discover purpose, and offering a place of belonging in God's family.

As we begin 2026, I'm especially excited to invite you into our new sermon series, *Home: Building Faith Where Life Actually Happens*, launching in January. We'll explore how faith is formed not in ideal conditions, but in everyday moments, around kitchen tables, in carpools, during hard conversations, and in the ordinary rhythms of life. Whether you're part of our 8:00 a.m. traditional service or our 10:30 a.m. contemporary service, this series is designed to meet you where you are and help you grow where you live.

No matter how long you've been part of Forest Park, or if you're just beginning to explore faith, know this: you matter to God, and you matter here. My prayer for this year is that we would walk together with renewed devotion, deeper trust, and greater love, inviting others to find their home in Christ and in this community.



### NEW TO FPC:

New to our church, or have questions about who we are and what we believe? Start Here is a four-week class designed for new members, those considering membership, and anyone wanting to learn the basics of our church. The class runs January 11 – February 1, 2026, on Sunday mornings from 9:15–10:15 (sharp) in The Annex. We'd love for you to join us and take your next step with confidence and clarity. Sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area, or online at [www.fpcpc.org](http://www.fpcpc.org) under the "Events" header.



### FROM OUR STAFF:

Thank you for your generosity and care shown through your contributions to our Christmas bonuses! Your kindness is a meaningful reminder that we are supported, valued, and loved by our church family. It is truly a joy to serve alongside such a gracious and faithful congregation.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU!!!

A BIG thank you to everyone who planned, volunteered and participated in A December to Remember! It was a blessing to see so many people enjoying the variety of activities, making new friends and connecting with old ones. And the culminating activity of a church-wide Christmas party and neighborhood outreach made it truly special. A grateful shout-out to our committee who put time and planning into the various activities. Please thank these people if you get a chance. They are Paula Waller, Penny Lovett, Gwen Ollie, Linda Grizzard, Vickie Handrop, James Rainey, Pattie Franko, John Rotenberger, Vicki and Pat Ahearn. It was truly a December to Remember! Thank you all! Chris

Love Came Down: A Christmas Celebration of Hope, Purpose, and Belonging...

Thank you to all who attended the Christmas Program on December 14th. A big thank you to Stephanie Houser who wrote and directed the production and to Cindy Rainey who directed the adult choir. Many hours of preparation and practice went into bringing the presentation to fruition, and I truly appreciate everyone's efforts, including the choir, children, tech team and band. It's amazing what we can all do together for the glory of God! Thank you to all who participated and who attended! ~Chris

## JANUARY'S COMMUNION OFFERING SUPPORTS:



## Fall Retreat

RETURNS January 7th!

WEEKLY



REFUEL

Wednesdays

5:00pm Dinner

5:45pm Worship & Message

## CONVERSATIONS OVER COFFEE:

Donna Allen, a certified Christian Women's Counselor, is available to offer prayerful guidance and support (850) 381-2489.

## MENS MINISTRY

Men's Breakfast | Wednesdays | 7am-8am  
in the Fellowship Hall



850-785-6296



1401 W. 23rd St., Panama City, FL 32405



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www.fpcpc.org



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## WINTER 2026 SMALL GROUPS

Choose from 6 small groups: **The Purpose Driven Life**, **Calm Over Chaos**, **The Daniel Dilemma**, **Bible Archaeology**, **Feasts of the Bible**, and **Anxious for Nothing** beginning on January 12th. Visit our website and click on the SMALL GROUPS button for details.



## Galentine's Day Tea!

Sunday February 8, 2026 2:00-4:00pm

Grab your bestie and come celebrate your love for them at the Galentine's Tea on Sunday, February 8th, 2:00-4:00pm.

Lots of scrumptious goodies and hot tea served with great fellowship and music.

Wear your best dressy attire in pink, red, or white. Bonus if you match your best friend!

Registration opens Jan 8th.

Table hostesses needed to set a table, contact Penni Beitzel 850-819-6659 for details.



## 6-WEEK SERMON SERIES

~beginning Sunday, January 11, 2026~

## Home:

Building Faith Where Life Actually Happens—because faith is formed in everyday, real-life moments.

850-785-6296

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## FP KIDS WORSHIP TIMES

**Sunday School 9:15-10:15 AM**  
**Kids Church: 10:30 AM**

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## FP YOUTH WORSHIP TIMES

**Sunday School 9:15-10:15 AM**  
**Sunday Youth 4-6 PM**

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## FP YOUNG ADULTS WORSHIP TIMES

**Sunday School 9:15 - 10:15 AM**  
**Thursdays 6:30-8 PM**



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# FP STUDENTS

January 2026



## LESSON TOPICS

### Sunday Mornings:

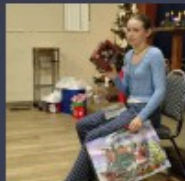
Jan 4 - 2 Kings 2: 1-18  
Jan 11 - Hosea  
Jan 18 - Isaiah 6: 1-8  
Jan 25 - 2 Kings 17, 18, 19

### Sunday Evenings:

Jan 4 -  
Jan 11 - Into to Sermon on the Mount  
Jan 18 - Matt 5: 1-10  
Jan 25 - Matt 5: 11-16

### Wednesday Evenings:

Jan 7 -  
Jan 14 - Who Is God?  
Jan 21 - What is Christianity?  
Jan 28 - When am I right with God?



## Student Leadership Team:

We are looking to build a student leadership team for students who are interested in serving their peers, and want to be invested in the growth and health of the ministry. Please be in prayer about if this is right for you/your student. Applications will be accepted though January 25th.

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day:

School is out Monday the 19th, but the Student Center will be open to students, 8:30- 3:30pm.

[www.fpcpc.org/ministries/student-ministry](http://www.fpcpc.org/ministries/student-ministry)



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# Happy Anniversary

Gerald & Robbie Laver  
Kara Sathmary & Judy Riviere  
Steve & Sarah Thomas  
Sam & Villy Reyes  
Jason & Amilea Sork  
Danny & Linda Grizzard  
Mickey & Babs Bevis  
Skip & Kat Skipper  
Shane & Shawn Bobo

January 1st  
January 2nd  
January 6th  
January 11th  
January 14th  
January 16th  
January 18th  
January 19th  
January 24th

# Happy Birthday

**January 1**  
Steve Bauer

**January 2**  
Debbie Dixon  
Matthew Eggimann

**January 6**  
Tom Beitzel

**January 7**  
Breanna Peeples

**January 9**  
Wendy Harris

**January 10**  
Craig Large  
Verna Payne  
Jean Toms

**January 11**  
Duke Harris  
Tim Toms

**January 13**  
Luke Grzywacz  
James Rainey

**January 16**  
Rebekkah Heaton  
Ross McPherson

**January 17**  
Loretta Lunsford  
Linda Slaugh

**January 18**  
Logan Grzywacz

**January 19**  
Bobby Weaver

**January 20**  
Maverick Frye

**January 21**  
Carol Howell

**January 22**  
Don Durham  
Beth Miller

**January 24**  
L.J. Burton  
Janice Munn

**January 27**  
Amy Masker

**January 28**  
Rachel Williams

**January 29**  
Mark Strickland  
Kara Szathmary

**January 31**  
Eloise Russell

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS