

# First Things—September 6, 2020

## We're Everybody's Church.

### What does that really mean?

As Everybody's Church, we strive to be a faithful, open and inclusive community. We welcome the participation of all people of any ability, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other life circumstance.

### Statement of Discipleship

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we live and grow in God's Word as peacemakers, faithful stewards, and compassionate neighbors.

### Worship Online at 10:00am ET Every Sunday

**\*\*We will be holding worship online until further notice.\*\***

All you have to do is go to our webpage, [www.everybodyschurch.org](http://www.everybodyschurch.org) and on the home page find the Church at Home and Sunday Livestream button. If you miss a sermon, or have one you would like to hear or see again, you can do that as well. Go to our website, find the Worship tab and then on the drop down menu, find Recent Sermons. There you will find the sermon text and the audio and video.

**We are also livestreaming on Facebook Live.** Go to our Facebook page to see the livestream. If you can't participate at 10:00AM ET, you can view the service anytime after worship concludes on Facebook and just a few hours later on YouTube.

**All services are being recorded and can be viewed on our YouTube Channel: [everybodyschurch1](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m) on YouTube.com.**

### ZOOM Coffee Hour after Sunday Worship

You can join on any computer using the link provided on the website or in the emails from church. You can use the app with the meeting ID # 237 226 3743. Or you can call in with 1.929.436.2866 and enter the meeting ID # when prompted. The Zoom Password is 2020.

### Classes by Dr. John Judson on Genesis

*Saturdays, 8:00AM and Mondays, 10:00AM on Zoom*

All are welcome to join these classes at any time. This class meets through a Zoom call and if you would like to join, please email [johnjudson@everybodyschurch.org](mailto:johnjudson@everybodyschurch.org) for the Zoom link.

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study is now "Being Centered in Times of Stress"

*September 22, October 6 and 20 and bimonthly after at 9:00am on Zoom*

If you are interested in joining, please contact Mary Gholz at [mgholz@aol.com](mailto:mgholz@aol.com).

### Did You Know?

1. **Stax Chips Containers Needed:** Carla Jordan is in need of Lays "Stax" potato chip containers. The tall plastic packaging is perfect for making instruments for her elementary students. If you would be willing to purchase some Stax chips, you get to enjoy the snack and can drop off the empty containers at the church.

Dollar Tree has Stax chips too! She needs 300 of them, one for each child due to COVID! There are bins outside Eagle entrance to collect them.

### 2. FPC Needs Disinfecting Wipes and Gloves (L,XL)

As we all know, disinfecting wipes and gloves (L & XL) are two of the hardest items to find right now and since all vendors limit the quantity that can be purchased, it is even more difficult to get them. If you are shopping and see them, please consider purchasing some and donating them to the church or we would be happy to reimburse you.

### Backpack Packing Drive Thru Event

*Tuesday, September 8, 5:00-7:00pm*

Join us in the church parking lot for a back to school blessing, family photo, backpack packing mission project, and Fall Sunday school supply handout. Masks will be required and please maintain safe social distancing.

### Holy Imagination + Race

*Join the Webinar on September 15 at 2:00pm ET*

There is no denying what history makes clear: Systemic racism in America is deeply entwined with the history of the institutional church. Even today, the church must look at our complicity — which at times has been overt, and other times the product of mere silence. The good news — and there is good news — is that church is in the business of redemption and prophetic imagination. That means that the church can lead toward a more just world that truly resembles the realm of God. Look on the website under Events to register.

### For Adults - Confirmation: Again

*Online classes: Tuesdays, 7:00pm*

*September 29, October 13, 27, November 10, 24, December 15*

Ever wish you could revisit some of the theology you learned in confirmation? Have a student who went through confirmation or will be soon? Ever wonder what a Presbyterian actually is? Want to write a new faith statement? This is the class for you! This course will consist of 5 weeks of learning and discussion using the curriculum our youth go through for confirmation. We will take a break to give us time to write our own faith statements and come together again in December to read what we have discovered about our faith. Contact Rev. Bethany Peerbolte for more information.

### It's Time to Pay Per Capita

Every church in the Presbyterian Church (USA) shares the expenses of the Presbytery, the Synod and the General Assembly. Your contribution of \$30 per adult church member in your family will help cover FPC's share of these costs. You can pay online by going to the home page of the website and clicking on the "Pay Per Capita" button. Bethany did a video on per capita that you can find on our YouTube channel. If you have questions, please contact Martha Smith, Financial Administrator at [marthasmith@fpcbirmingham.org](mailto:marthasmith@fpcbirmingham.org) or call her at 248.644.2040 x 148.

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## *Mission: What Can I Do to Help?*

### **Deacons Support COTS with School Supplies**

Please consider purchasing the following school supplies for COTS (Creating Opportunities to Succeed). You can place these supplies in a bin outside the Eagle Entrance. Their most needed supplies: #2 Pencils, Pencil Cases, Pens (Red, Blue and Black), Highlighters, Crayons, Colored Pencils, Pink Erasers, Washable Markers, Scissors (adult and child proof), Pocket Folders, Notebooks, Looseleaf Paper, Hand Sanitizer, Construction Paper, Calculators, Headphones (to plug into computer for virtual learning), Rulers, White-out, Index Cards, Planners

### **COVID-19 Relief Fund**

The Session approved the establishment of a COVID-19 relief fund for anyone who is in need of assistance with rent, utilities, groceries, medical expenses, etc., during this crisis. A total of over \$50,000 has been donated and over \$25,000 has been disbursed so far. This fund is managed by the Deacons. If you would like to donate to this fund or if you would like to apply for funds, please go to the COVID relief fund page under *Serve* on our website. We still have significant monies in the COVID-19 fund. Please let others know if they need assistance to apply. You can listen to two stories of people whom the fund has helped in Dr. John Judson's May 27 Video Update on our YouTube channel.

### **Forgotten Harvest Food Delivery**

We continue to deliver food from Forgotten Harvest every Thursday throughout the fall. At least eight teams of dedicated drivers deliver the food to 16-18 families from Alcott Elementary School in Pontiac who have been identified as food insecure by the school social worker. These are the same families our Shop 'N Drop program serves. Contact Cindy Merten to help.

### **Partnering with Angels' Place to Provide for Urgent Needs**

If you could purchase extra of these supplies while you are shopping and leave them in bins outside the Eagle entrance, they will be delivered to Angels' Place Headquarters. They need paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissue, laundry detergent, dish soap, dishwasher detergent, liquid hand soap, and antibacterial wipes or spray.

### **Face Masks STILL Needed for Foster Families**

This week marks a total of over **3,000 face masks** made by members and friends here and a total of over **4,400** have been donated through Faith Communities Coalition. If you'd like to donate more, please contact Lyn Martens at [lynmartens@wowway.com](mailto:lynmartens@wowway.com) or Kate Thoresen, [katethoresen@fpcbirthingam.org](mailto:katethoresen@fpcbirthingam.org) for details. On behalf of the hundreds who continue to need these, Thank you!

### **Support Camp Skyline by Purchasing Delicious Food!**

Skyline is now offering frozen meals, cooked from scratch in their kitchen, for purchase. Soups, chilis, lasagna, bread and more, with a Birmingham pickup at our Church Parking Lot on WEDNESDAYS, 11:00am-Noon. Find

information on the website under *Serve, Skyline Meals*. Please choose only the WEDNESDAY dates at the BIRMINGHAM location, Order period closes on Monday at 11am.

## *Community*

### **Weekly Schedule of Zoom Meetings**

Please let us know if your group is meeting via Zoom Contact Dawn Swarouth at [dawn@fpcbirthingam.org](mailto:dawn@fpcbirthingam.org). For Zoom calls, the Password is: **2020**

#### **Sundays**

11:00am Zoom Coffee Hour  
2:00pm Sunday Afternoon Book Club (2nd  
Sundays

In September-November), \*outside

Sep. 13

3:00pm Parent Book Discussion about WPF on  
September 23

5:00pm Middle & High School Youth

8:00pm Young Adults (18-22)

#### **Mondays**

10:00am Genesis Class by Dr. John Judson

7:30pm AAIM Parents

#### **Tuesdays**

9:00am "Being Centered in Times of Stress"  
Sep. 22, Oct. 6 & 20

#### **Wednesdays**

7:00pm SAIL (3rd Wednesdays only)

#### **Thursdays**

10:00am Covenant (2nd & 4th Thursdays)

#### **Saturdays**

8:00am Genesis Class by Dr. John Judson

## *Additional Information*

### **Staying Connected**

Please give us your email! If you are not receiving emails, please email Dawn Swarouth at [dawn@everybodyschurch.org](mailto:dawn@everybodyschurch.org). This is the primary way we are communicating with the congregation at this time.

We are happy to mail copies of bulletins to anyone who needs a copy. Give names and addresses to Jan Peters. Bulletins can be downloaded from the website on the Church at Home/Livestream page.

### **Many Ways to Give at FPC**

Please continue to donate to FPC:

1. Mail your check to the church.
2. TEXT your contribution to 248.600.4919.
3. Contribute online visit the giving tab (using the QR code below or [www.everybodyschurch.org](http://www.everybodyschurch.org))

