



[HOME FOR GOOD]



When I think about the church, my thoughts travel back over 45 years. My family joined the church when I was only five years old. My aunt and uncle, Mary and Denton Sims, were already members so we were warmly welcomed. I attended kindergarten at FPC. My husband and I were married in this church. Both of our families have been members since we were young. I have had the privilege of

servicing on the Diaconate, as an adult Sunday School teacher, and as co-chair of my circle. Recently I was in the congregation on a summer Sunday when we received communion by intinction. As I watched the members make their way to

the table, I had an overwhelming sense of a faith family. I saw faces I have known for a lifetime. I saw faces I have come to know as an adult, who studied the Bible with me, who brought my family a meal in time of need. I saw faces of young families, and realized that I am now in a position to help them on their faith journey. The best gift my parents gave me was being raised in this church. This is my church home and my church family and I will always be grateful. God is in this place.

GOOD FOR MY FAITH.

By Kathryn Burnett Elliott

YOUR PLEDGES MAKE FAITH-BASED PROGRAMS POSSIBLE.

- David R. Freeman Lecture Series
- Young Adult Ministry (Small Groups)
- VIPs (Very Important Presbyterians)
- PW (Presbyterian Women)
- Sunday Schools
- Vacation Bible School
- PYF (Presbyterian Youth Fellowship)
- Nursery
- Advent Devotional

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GOOD FOR MY FAMILY.

By Julia and Scotty Jimenez

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First Presbyterian Church warmly welcomed us as a young couple and immediately encouraged us to participate in the happenings of the church's daily life. Through the young adult groups, women's circle, and Sunday fellowship, the church has opened doors to friendships that meet and encourage us at each new phase of life. These relationships provide social, emotional, and spiritual support to our growing family and will be invaluable sources of guidance as we raise our daughter. This church is a deep-rooted and vibrantly active piece of the Oxford community and the family of Christ. We have been blessed and challenged by our membership and hope that others will come and share the experience.

YOUR PLEDGES HELP FAMILIES GROW IN FAITH.

- First Sunday and Summer Lunches
- Shepherd Groups
- Prayer Chain and Prayer Shawl Ministries
- Mardi Gras Pancake Supper and Parade
- FPC's Got Talent
- Church Picnic
- Trunk or Treat
- Double Decker Caroling

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GOOD FOR MY COMMUNITY.

By Dorothy Lou Aldridge

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As I reflect on the years our family has been part of the FPC family, I can't help but think of the many ways that FPC has given us a home and a church family. FPC is a church that has roots deeply embedded in the history and making of the Oxford community through its members actively working in the community. With the passage of each year at FPC, we've seen our church family evolve into who we have become today – still a strong, caring congregation whose members are reaching out into the community. Today we still strive to become involved in the community around us, and we are making great efforts to help those in need. FPC has been the channel for many of us to meet those needs. Each time I assist a client at the Pantry or serve someone at More Than A Meal, I am humbled by their overwhelming gratitude. Gratitude not only for the food, but gratitude for the hospitality, the kindnesses shown, and the respect given to each person. At times I am

astonished by the unfortunate life experiences that have brought people to the doors needing help, yet I am more amazed by their happy dispositions and grateful hearts. FPC's outreach is truly an example of how our church is good for our community.



YOUR PLEDGES MAKE OXFORD A MORE COMPASSIONATE PLACE.

- U-Kirk College Ministry
- Doors of Hope
- Pantry
- Interfaith Compassion Ministry
- Love Packs
- More Than A Meal
- Memory Makers
- Scout Troop 45
- Camp Hopewell
- Advent Concerts (Free to the Public)



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GOOD FOR MY WORLD.

By Rosie and Robert Cooper

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We went to Puerto Rico this summer where we visited with Michelle Muniz of the PCUSA of Puerto Rico. She took us to see the Rosa Gonzalez PCUSA Church. Hurricane Maria had devastated the sanctuary roof as well as the roof of the Sunday School/Clinic/Shelter building. Through hard work and dedication, the congregation had repaired the sanctuary roof and raised about half the funds needed to repair the other building. We presented our findings to our own FPC Session which voted to supply the \$5,000 needed to complete the roof, thus saving the building from deterioration. This, we believe, is a good example of FPC reaching out as Christians to help people in a time of need.

YOUR GIFTS MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Special Offerings such as *One Great Hour of Sharing*, *Christmas Joy Gift*, and *Peace & Global Witness*
- Haiti Mission Trips
- Rosa Gonzalez PCUSA Church/Puerto Rico



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GOOD FOR MY CHURCH AS IT DOES GOD’S WORK.

By Carmille Hovious

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Our two great commandments tell us that we should love God with all our being and our neighbors as ourselves. Through pledging, we are being stewards of the many blessings and assets God has shared with us. Our pledges are important because they make it possible for FPC to spread His Word and to care for our neighbors in Oxford and beyond. A portion of a prayer in my mother’s Bible says it all: “May you find us faithful when you look at what we have done with what we have been given.”

WHY IS IT GOOD TO PLEDGE?

The church requires money to exist, to continue our education programs, and to do important mission work in our community and beyond. The church functions more efficiently when our financial officers know how much money they can expect to receive so they can budget more accurately. Think of it this way: to make a family budget, you need to know what your income will be. Your church is no different. To plan effectively, our leaders need to know what our income will be.

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?

As always, our pledge goal is 100% by church members. Remember, it is not how much you pledge but that you show your commitment to this church by pledging. A commitment card and self-addressed envelope are enclosed for your prayerful consideration. Or you can bring your card to the church on Commitment Sunday, November 11.

No pledge is too small to be thankfully received.

Pledges are confidential, known only to our financial leaders and the office administrator, and can be adjusted simply by calling the church office. No questions will be asked.

Can the church count on you?





First Presbyterian Church

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