



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

4815 FRANKLIN PIKE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37220-1121

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## FPC's Generosity Story: The Church Meets Here

As the 2020 year brought new and very different challenges to everyone, the people of First Presbyterian Church Nashville prayerfully considered how to be the church in this time of pandemic, economic downturns, and loss of connection to each other. Seeking new creative ways to fulfill our mission: "To Know Christ, and to make Him known, and to exhibit His love in worship, education and service," FPC placed a stake in the ground affirming that **The Church Meets Here.**

### HERE IN THE HOMES OF FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS

Expanding our technology resources and capabilities, FPC provided worship through recorded video reaching 800-1,000 people each week, livestreamed in-person services, podcasts with book discussions, Hymns with Friends, and Communities of Belonging, Bible Study, and Grief Support groups via Zoom. There were Daily Devotionals online and 2,000 Barnabas calls to FPC members. The Children's Ministry hosted virtual Sunday School, Staycation Bible School, and delivered Pentecost bags to 240 families. The Youth Ministry organized 45 small group Bible studies, Zoomed Sunday school classes, produced video devotionals, and held dozens of small group in-person activities.

### HERE IN THE NASHVILLE COMMUNITY

Needs usually met by Missions Ministry projects became even more critical, and FPC found innovative ways to reach out to our community. The 15:25 Project raised some \$92,000 through 400 donations, helping provide food, shelter, and healthcare through Missions partners. We delivered food, clothing, and more for tornado relief. We continue to provide volunteer and financial assistance to our 37 local Missions partners.

### HERE IN THE WORLD BEYOND OUR BORDERS

While our ability to sponsor the mission trips so meaningful to many at FPC has been limited this year, the Jamaica mission trip happened in February with church construction and dental services. We have continued to support our 30 national/ international partners.

### HERE WHERE THE SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY ENABLES FPC TO ENACT THE LOVE OF CHRIST

The generosity of FPC members is nothing less than inspiring as we navigate these difficult times. As the church plans for the coming year, please join us in supporting our mission by participating and increasing your generosity. Every gift expresses our joy in responding to God's generosity to us. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of your own generous support in 2021 as our church continues to move forward, finding new ways to say "The Church Meets Here".





The Rev. Dr. Ryan Moore  
Pastor

*Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.*

LUKE 18:16

It is one of those beautiful late September days. The window to my office is open. And a gentle breeze is carrying the sounds of children – laughter, running and jumping, and the occasional cry from a skinned knee. It’s magical.

These days at First Church there are lots of children playing on the grounds. Oak Hill School and the FPC preschool are back in session. Given the pandemic, they are spending more time outdoors than ever before. There are confirmands playing pickle ball on the front drive. Our youth are holding Sunday school under the branches of trees that have seen that passage of many seasons. And the great joy of my week has become our Sunday afternoon worship on the Porch. With the sun setting, young and old gather to lift voices in praise and prayer to Jesus under the Cross-capped spire over the sanctuary.

Though we’re in a pandemic, there is something liminal right now about life on this hallowed ground at 4815 Franklin Pike. The space between heaven and earth seems particularly thin.

G. K. Chesterton famously wrote, “The true object of all human life is play.” We are made in the image of a God—Father, Son, and Spirit—whose playful Triune life brought the cosmos in to being. Gerald Manley Hopkins reminds us that “Christ plays in ten thousand places.”

The children playing outside my window on the broad spaces of this beautiful property are not there simply to put a smile on my face. They are modeling Christian maturity. They are reminding me, reminding all of us, that God has arranged the greatest play date of all. It is the joining in joy and adventure with His risen and ascending Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ...who is on the loose and on the move.

# events

## October - December

### GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN

To give or pledge an estimate of giving, visit [fpcnashville.org/onlinegiving.org](http://fpcnashville.org/onlinegiving) or fill out a pledge card and drop it in the offering basket in the narthex or the mail.

## Sundays in October

### WORSHIP ON THE PORCH

5:30 p.m. | Front Sanctuary Porch  
Join us for this casual outdoor evening service.  
Come early at 4:45 p.m. with a picnic for family fellowship.

## Oct 2 at 2p.m. & Oct 4 at 3p.m.

### FACEBOOK LIVE CONCERTS

## Oct 4

### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Home worshippers can pick up communion packets at the church office the week before during office hours, or on Saturday, October 3, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon under the porte-cochere outside the children’s wing.

## Oct 4-Nov 21

### FALL COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING

COBs will read and discuss the book *Glittering Vices: A New Look at the Seven Deadly Sins and Their Remedies* by Rebecca DeYoung. To learn more and sign up, visit [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).

## Oct 11

### GRILLE SUNDAY

4:30 p.m. | FPC Front Lawn  
We’re firing up the grill! Hot dogs and hamburgers will be cooked by our FPC grill masters. Bring your chairs or blankets and your own sides. Enjoy food and fellowship then stay for Worship on the Porch.

## Oct 25

### REFORMATION SUNDAY

## Nov 1

### TRUNK OR TREAT

3:00-5:00 p.m. | FPC Front Sanctuary Lot

For more event information and registrations, visit [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org) or sign up for our weekly Parish News email by emailing [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org).