

Invitation to Discovery

MISSION

To provide spiritual and Christian education on what it means to be a Christian

Guests, Recent Members and Lifetime Members

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE DISCOVERY CLASS!

The Discovery Sunday School Class is designed for anyone wishing to discover more about our church history, home, and family. We meet during the Sunday School hour starting at 10:00 AM in the conference room next to the church office. The 9-week series of sessions is repeated four times a year to help church visitors and members discover why God has called us to serve Him here at First Presbyterian Church.

Session 1: Welcome Home! Let's discover what brought each of us to this church home and the FPC family. What are we searching for in our relationship with God and Christ's church at this stage in our lives? What makes us Christians? Why are we here at FPC?

Session 2: 191 Years Young! Let's discover the history of this church since its founding in 1827—191 years ago. How has this church changed, survived, and evolved with the times? Let's tour our current church facilities to get a better understanding of what is where and how to get to it.

Session 3: Our Protestant Roots in Europe! Let's discover the historical roots and many different branches of the Protestant Reformation in Europe, from caveman experiences up through the 1500s. Why did the Protestant Reformation develop and take on so many different forms? What challenges, struggles, and atrocities did the early reformers experience?

Session 4: Personalities of the Protestant Reformers! Let's discover the life stories and personal characteristics of key reformers in the Protestant Reformation as we learn what being Protestant means. What insights can we gain about their achievements from a closer look at them as people who were called and inspired by the Holy Spirit?

Session 5: Our Protestant Roots in America! Let's discover the spread of Protestant groups

and denominations in our country from the 1500s to today. Where did different Protestant groups settle in the New World and why? What was the "Great Wagon Road" story? Where was FPC-Gainesville in that 1800s expansion of Protestant churches in Georgia?

Session 6: Being a PC(USA) Church! Let's discover what distinguishes the Presbyterian Church (USA) from other Presbyterian churches and other denominations. How does our church governance structure operate differently? What are the *Book of Order* and *Book of Confessions*? What is our Reformed tradition? How does our sanctuary reflect what we believe?

Session 7: A Mission-Minded Church! Let's discover more about the ministries and missions of FPC-Gainesville. What are the distinguishing features of our church's commitments to missions and service? What are our goals in "FPC's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan for Advancing Missions"? How do we organize our church's ministries and missions activities? How can church members become engaged in these ministries and missions?

Session 8: A Loving Church Family! Let's discover more about FPC-Gainesville's exceptional commitments to loving God and loving neighbors. What makes this church so welcoming and friendly? How is Christ the head of our church? How important is congregational care for one another? How do we strengthen fellowship in our church family? How do we celebrate life and life eternal?

Session 9: Windows to God's Glory! Let's conclude this series in FPC's main sanctuary to discover insights about how the sanctuary's contemporary and intentional design honors God, and how its seven windows tell God's story from creation to the ongoing church of Christ. Thanks be to God for this beautiful and holy place of worship!

Call on me and I will answer you... Jeremiah 33:3

2018 DISCOVERY SERIES SCHEDULE

SERIES 1

Jody and Barry Sanders (Sessions 1-9 Hosts)

January 7	Session 1	<i>Welcome Home!</i>	Rev. Lee Koontz	Susan Hosford
January 14	Session 2	<i>191 Years Young</i>	Rev. Shon Peppers	Ed Rugg
January 21	Session 3	<i>Our Presbyterian Roots in Europe</i>	Sam Marley	Roscoe McMillan/Marvin Locey
January 28		WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE		
February 4	Session 4	<i>Personalities of the Protestant Reformers</i>	Sophie Shoults	Marvin Locey/Roscoe McMillan
February 11	Session 5	<i>Our Protestant Roots in America</i>	Hope Testament	Roscoe McMillan
February 18	Session 6	<i>Being a PC(USA) Church</i>	Ali Thompson	Cleda Locey
February 25	Session 7	<i>A Mission-Minded Church</i>	Dallas Thompson	Ed Rugg/Jack & Linda Spencer
March 4	Session 8	<i>A Loving Church Family</i>		Betty White/Beth Kesler
March 11	Session 9	<i>Windows to God's Glory</i>		Dick Inglis

SERIES 2

Gale Starich and Paul Gaertner (Sessions 1-9 Hosts)

March 25	Session 1	<i>Welcome Home!</i>	Rev. Lee Koontz	Susan Hosford
April 1		EASTER		
April 8	Session 2	<i>191 Years Young</i>	Rev. Shon Peppers	Ed Rugg
April 15	Session 3	<i>Our Presbyterian Roots in Europe</i>	Sam Marley	Roscoe McMillan/Marvin Locey
April 22	Session 4	<i>Personalities of the Protestant Reformers</i>	Sophie Shoults	Marvin Locey/Roscoe McMillan
April 29	Session 5	<i>Our Protestant Roots in America</i>	Hope Testament	Roscoe McMillan
May 6	Session 6	<i>Being a PC(USA) Church</i>	Ali Thompson	Cleda Locey
May 13	Session 7	<i>A Mission-Minded Church</i>	Dallas Thompson	Ed Rugg/Jack & Linda Spencer
May 20	Session 8	<i>A Loving Church Family</i>		Betty White/Beth Kesler
May 27	Session 9	<i>Windows to God's Glory</i>		Dick Inglis
June 3		NEW MEMBER COFFEE		

SERIES 3

Marlyn Mortland and Nancy Mortland (Sessions 1-4 Hosts) Sharon and Ed Rugg (5-9 Hosts)

June 24	Session 1	<i>Welcome Home!</i>	Rev. Lee Koontz	Susan Hosford
July 1	Session 2	<i>191 Years Young</i>	Rev. Shon Peppers	Ed Rugg
July 8	Session 3	<i>Our Presbyterian Roots in Europe</i>	Sam Marley	Roscoe McMillan/Marvin Locey
July 15	Session 4	<i>Personalities of the Protestant Reformers</i>	Sophie Shoults	Marvin Locey/Roscoe McMillan
July 22	Session 5	<i>Our Protestant Roots in America</i>	Hope Testament	Roscoe McMillan
July 29	Session 6	<i>Being a PC(USA) Church</i>	Ali Thompson	Cleda Locey
August 5	Session 7	<i>A Mission-Minded Church</i>	Dallas Thompson	Ed Rugg/Jack & Linda Spencer
August 12		RALLY DAY		
August 19	Session 8	<i>A Loving Church Family</i>		Betty White/Beth Kesler
August 26	Session 9	<i>Windows to God's Glory</i>		Dick Inglis

SERIES 4

Mary Katherine Ennis (Sessions 1-4 Hosts) Stacy and Andy Morley (Sessions 5-9 Hosts)

September 16	Session 1	<i>Welcome Home!</i>	Rev. Lee Koontz	Susan Hosford
September 23	Session 2	<i>191 Years Young</i>	Rev. Shon Peppers	Ed Rugg
September 30	Session 3	<i>Our Presbyterian Roots in Europe</i>	Sam Marley	Roscoe McMillan/Marvin Locey
October 7	Session 4	<i>Personalities of the Protestant Reformers</i>	Sophie Shoults	Marvin Locey/Roscoe McMillan
October 14	Session 5	<i>Our Protestant Roots in America</i>	Hope Testament	Roscoe McMillan
October 21	Session 6	<i>Being a PC(USA) Church</i>	Ali Thompson	Cleda Locey
October 28	Session 7	<i>A Mission-Minded Church</i>	Dallas Thompson	Ed Rugg/Jack & Linda Spencer
November 4	Session 8	<i>A Loving Church Family</i>		Betty White/Beth Kesler
November 11	Session 9	<i>Windows to God's Glory</i>		Dick Inglis
November 18		NEW MEMBER COFFEE		

We Embrace, Equip and Empower in Christ!