



VINE & BRANCHES

Newsletter of Front Royal
Presbyterian Church

A Fond Farewell

Comedienne Carol Burnet used to end her weekly TV shows with a song that went like this:

“I’m so glad we had this time together, just to have a laugh and sing a song. Seems we just get started, and before you know it, comes the time we have to say, ‘So long.’”

The time has gone so quickly, and we have done some great work together, including connecting with the Lord and one another. In 2 years, we’ve baptized 3 babies, confirmed 4 youth, received 5 new members, and moved to a 6-member Session, *and* said good-bye to 6 very long-term friends who moved away to be near family: Ron and Althea, David and Donna, Bill and Sallie, and I know this particular set of changes has been difficult.

With the Session’s blessing, Treasurer Ruth and I have worked hard on a few projects to make monthly financial reports more clear and to give the church consistent payroll reports while also providing interactive online payroll processing (while also cutting costs).

The Session has also worked very hard. We recently completed a draft Handbook of Administrative Operations for Session review and approval. This handbook is required by the PC(USA) Book of Order. Hats off to Joan Brubaker for her foundational work to get this started. By the way, on the heels of Joan’s, and then Donna Jordon’s, good and faithful service, we have transitioned to a new Clerk in the person of Malissa Horton, whom some have said shows the promise of evolving into a clerk of the caliber of Adrian Burt!

You also refreshed the pastoral office suite for your new pastor! I spent much of last summer working in the Parlor while the updates took place, but the result was worth it.

Some of us studied the Bible together - having read cover-to-cover during 2025. (Well, we went a few weeks into 2026.) We talked about spiritual gifts and then turned to a quick run-through of tried-and-true Bible study methods.

Your leaders are growing. You are adding to your number of adults, children and youth. You are blessed to be a blessing. You have blessed me, and you have blessed Keith, too. Thank you for your generous send-off. I will always remember you through the prism of this last glorious Sunday, when we had so much to celebrate in worship.

Pray for Pastor Cobus, as he prepares to step in, and always.

What’s Inside

- 2 Upcoming Events
- 3 Tithes & Offerings
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Blessings to you all,

Pastor Jaci

I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.
Eph. 1:15

Welcome to FRPC, Rev. Jacobus "Cobus" Greyling!

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

I want to extend my thanks to the Pastor Nominating Committee for their careful and discerning work over the past months, and for the hospitality they have extended to me. It has been a privilege to learn more about Front Royal Presbyterian Church throughout this call process.

A few words of introduction seem to be in order. My name is Jacobus Greyling (think "Jacob" with a Dutch ending!), and just "Cobus" for short. I grew up in South Africa, but my wife and I have lived in the United States for 29 years. Except for a short stint as congregational pastor in South Africa, most of my ministry has been that of chaplain and educator in hospital and hospice settings. I am very excited to step back into congregational ministry!

Please know that you are in my prayers. My hope is that together we will continue to seek God's will, trusting the Holy Spirit to guide us with wisdom, faith, and hope.

In Christ's service,
Rev. Jacobus "Cobus" Greyling



Sunday Mornings at FRPC

Sunday School (adults only during summer): 9:30 a.m. (Parlor)

Pastor Cobus plans to restart the class that morning and will spend the coming week getting to know the group's interests as he considers the direction of future studies. Join us in the Parlor!

Worship: 10:30 a.m. — All are welcome!

Children's Church: Children leave following the Faith Builders message and return before the last hymn. (Room 102)

UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

July 12 – Welcome Rev. Jacobus "Cobus" Greyling to FRPC!

July 19-22 – Mark your calendars for a joint VBS with FBC and others. See more, below!

July 21 (Tues.) – Meal prep for Feeding Our Neighbors, formerly Dinner Together, in the FRPC Kitchen at 12:30 PM

July 23 (Thurs.) – Feeding Our Neighbors

Load up at FRPC – 3:00 PM

Assemble meals at First Baptist – 3:30 PM

Serve meals from 5:00–6:00 PM

Brief cleanup to follow.

Meal: Chicken Salad Sandwiches, Side & Dessert

Donations Needed: Hamburger buns — nine packs of 8-count buns.

[PRAYER REQUESTS](#)

[Click Here](#)

[BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES](#)



Tithes & Offerings

SUPPORT THE MISSION OF FRPC IN 2026

As we continue through the summer, we invite members and friends to prayerfully and faithfully support the ongoing ministries of FRPC. Your generosity sustains vital work, including worship, outreach, feeding ministries, and the care of our church and staff.

Ways to Give:

- **In-person:** Bring your gift to the 10:30 AM Sunday service.
- **By mail:** Send a check to the church office.
- **Office drop-off:** Visit during office hours.
- **Online:** Make a secure gift or set up recurring donations through our church [website](#).
- **Bank auto-pay:** Arrange automatic giving through your bank.
- **Tax-advantaged giving:** Consult your financial advisor to explore options like securities or required minimum distributions.

Online giving also allows you to manage your contributions and schedule automatic donations at your preferred frequency.

Your faithful support enables us to continue the work God has called us to—creating a welcoming space, extending our outreach, and sustaining programs that bring hope to our community.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact [Ruth Younk](#) (Treasurer) and cc [Misty Bordner](#).

Thank you for your generosity, and may God continue to bless you and FRPC.





Music News



Welcome to July! Often over the summer, activities in the Church slow down a bit, but not this year! As we welcome a new pastor on July 12, I'd like to take a few minutes to reflect on one of Marty Haugen's many hymns. "Here in This Place (Gather Us In)" is a prayer (the entire text is addressed to God without a single reference to Him by name or in the third person). By juxtaposing opposite characteristics, Haugen's text leads us to pray for God to call all of humanity to Himself: the weak with the strong, the young with the old, the proud with the humble. We are also able to bring to Him opposing experiences in the form of fears and dreams. We'll sing "Here in This Place" as the opening hymn on July 12 as we welcome a new pastor and remind ourselves to welcome all people, even those who might seem to be different from us—something FRPC has always done well and will undoubtedly continue to do.

1. Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
gather us in - the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young - our lives are a mystery,
we are the old - who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in - the rich and the haughty,
gather us in - the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place, the new light is shining;
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in - and hold us forever,
gather us in - and make us your own.
Gather us in - all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Blessings,

Heather



Faith Builders



Happy July! June went by very quickly. The Faith Builders had a busy month. We have continued talking about how to pray. We love tossing the beach ball and finishing the prayer prompt we get. We have been talking about the ways we can grow and share our faith with others. The ways we discovered are: praying, serving, helping, sharing, loving others, attending church, forgiving, and reading the Bible. We plan to continue discussing these areas and finding fun ways to use them.

Vacation Bible School

The excitement is building for our VBS program. Children from Kindergarten through Grade 6 are welcome to attend. The program will be held at First Baptist Church from 5:00-8:00 PM. Dinner will be served during the first hour. We have lots of fun activities planned to help the children find the treasure of God's amazing grace. Pre-registration is recommended. You can use the QR code in the attached picture. However, you can register when you arrive at the church for VBS.

We are still looking for volunteers to assist during the sessions. The volunteers would be doing things like be a group leader or assistant that would stay with a group of children and guide them to the different activity stations, helping to serve meals, assisting the station leader with activities. Ms. Marisa is leading the crafts and could use several extra pairs of hands to help the children complete their crafts in the amount of time allotted.

Ms. Marisa

The poster is designed to look like a piece of old, yellowed parchment with a blue background. At the top, it says "AHOY MATEYS! Join us for a VBS Adventure!". In the center, the words "PROOF PIRATES" are written in large, colorful, stylized letters. Below that, it says "Finding the treasure of God's Amazing Grace". At the bottom, there's a white box with the church name and address, a QR code, and a pre-registration deadline. A small boat is visible at the bottom right.

AHOY MATEYS!
Join us for a VBS Adventure!

PROOF PIRATES

Finding the treasure of God's Amazing Grace

Date: July 19-22 • Time: 5:00-8:00 PM • Age Level (5-12, Kindergarten–6th Grade)
Contact info: Kodie Weatherholtz, (540) 532-7001
For more information email: k.weatherholtz@icloud.com

PRE-REGISTER HERE
BY JULY 6:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
14 WEST 1ST STREET FRONT ROYAL

The materials and activities described herein are not sponsored or endorsed by Warren County Public Schools.

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Give online—easy, secure,
and convenient.



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