

FCC GUIDE

TO SEASONAL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



JANUARY through APRIL 2026

Life Together | Service Opportunities
Small Groups | & More!

Welcome to the Season!

from your SMT

We feel blessed to ring in the New Year with our church family. Our hope is to **Prepare The Way** together, as we journey with Jesus. This season begins with the birth of Our Savior, follows His earthly life and ministry and finishes with an empty tomb.

As we journey throughout the season, we want to highlight our Soup for the Soul events, bringing awareness to our all our FCC ministries. We are planning a congregation-wide Lenten Bible Study called The Fruition Project, which is written by our own Pastor Justin. It is our hope that more small groups will blossom through this experience. Along with all these new ideas, we will continue traditions like our Ash Wednesday service, Maundy Thursday Seder meal, Easter Sunday breakfast and Egg Hunt. Toward the end of our season, we have some Spring events planned (HINT: golf outing).

Please join us in **Preparing The Way**.

Vikki & Bob Chilton (chairs)
Kimberly & George Bowden
Barbara & David Dennis
Carol Ann Dennis
Cindy & Hal Gill
Gail & Doug Olney
Cyndy Spinder

Sermon Themes *for the season*



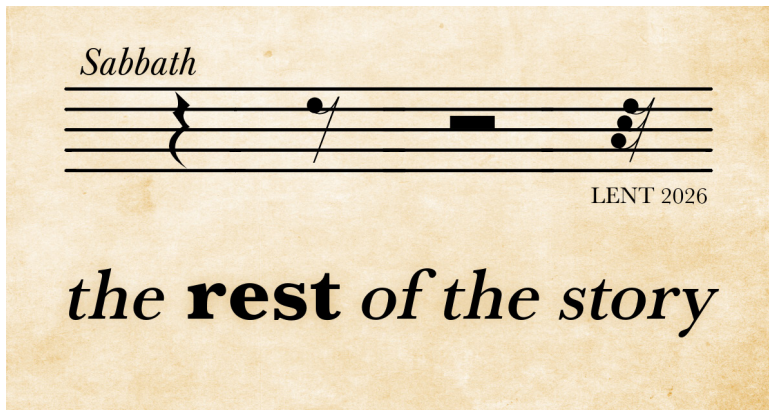
Wonder of Wonders

Christmas invites us into wonder: not just for a day, but as a way of life. In Wonder of Wonders, we slow down and pay attention: to new beginnings, to light that keeps shining, to a world that speaks of God, and to the questions that change us. This sermon series is about learning to see, seek, receive, and respond to the God who is still at work among us.



Memento Mori

Memento mori means “remember that you must die.” In this series, we explore what that remembering can teach us: about grief and surrender, about letting go, about baptism and new life. As we approach Lent, we tell the truth about death in all its forms, trusting that God meets us not only at the end of life, but in every place where something must be released so that something new can begin.



Sabbath: The Rest of the Story

LENT 2026

Lent isn't just about giving things up, it's about being invited into God's restorative rhythm. The Rest of the Story explores how Sabbath (as rest, liberation, attention, and covenant) can transform our lives, our communities, and our souls.

In addition to this sermon focus, there are many special ways to embrace the season of Lent in the life of the church. Read more later in this guide!



The Turn: Transformed in Christ

EASTER SEASON 2026

Easter is just the beginning. In The Turn: Transformed in Christ, we explore what it means to turn, to be made new, and to live differently in the light of Christ's resurrection. From hearts awakened to God's presence, to lives shaped by Spirit and love, this series invites us to see, receive, respond, and walk in the new way God is calling us.

The Season of Lent *with FCC*

This is a new idea we're trying out this season. The goal is to provide creative worship experiences in new spaces outside the church building.



SUNDAYS AT 10AM: THE FRUITION PROJECT LENTEN STUDY

Our Lenten Study this year is something special: our very own Justin Jeter is releasing The Fruition Project, his timely vision for reimagining and living with purpose. Our February “Soup For the Soul” Life Together event will be a kickoff party for this study, where we will together explore stories of becoming.

SHROVE TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2026

The day before Lent begins is known by many names: Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday, Shrove Tuesday. One tradition we enjoy is a pancake dinner celebrating Shrove Tuesday.



We hope you'll join us at 5:30PM for our All-Church Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner!



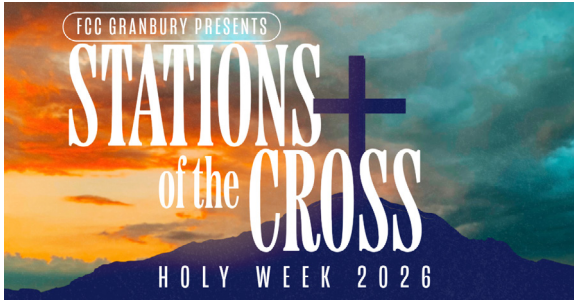
ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday is the official beginning of the season of Lent, and many practice the imposition of ashes in remembrance that “from dust we come and to dust we shall return.”

We will have one Ash Wednesday service with the imposition of ashes at 6PM. There is traditionally the imposition of ashes at our Wednesday Men's Prayer Breakfast as well.

Celebrating Holy Week *with FCC*

The final week of Lent is known as “Holy Week.” The week begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Easter Sunday. Between, we have events planned for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The Stations of the Cross art exhibition will be viewable all week.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This is a creative experience of the story of Jesus’ final days through art. It is a self guided experience available to you anytime between the conclusion of worship on Palm Sunday and sunrise on Easter Sunday.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER

APRIL 2, 2026

One of the newer traditions around FCC that has become quite popular is our annual Maundy Thursday Seder Meal. Together, we will enjoy a meal while telling of the Jewish Passover story. Because of the time, financial and labor costs associated with providing the Seder meal, we ask that you RSVP by Palm Sunday to allow us to prepare enough food.



GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE

APRIL 3, 2026

On Good Friday, we host a special worship service remembering the death of Jesus Christ. Music and scripture combine with a gradually darkening sanctuary to create a powerful connection to this important moment in our collective faith story.

HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER VIGIL

APRIL 4, 2026

From Saturday sunrise to Easter Sunday sunrise, sign up for a slot in our 24-hour prayer vigil. You can pray from home (or wherever you are) or from the FCC sanctuary.



April 5: Easter Sunday *with FCC*

We often say that as Christians, we are an “Easter People.” This is the day to celebrate our story. We offer 3 opportunities to worship and several ways to fellowship and celebrate the holiday and its special traditions.



7AM SUNRISE WORSHIP

Join us at the Outdoor Worship Center on the lawn behind FCC as we welcome the day. This relaxed worship service is a favorite of many. In the event of inclement weather, we will meet in the Gathering Area.

9AM MODERN WORSHIP

At 9AM, our Praise Team will lead the music as we celebrate our the Risen Christ on Easter morning.

11AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

At 11AM, our Chancel Choir will lead music from our hymnal as we celebrate our the Risen Christ on Easter morning.

ANNUAL EGG HUNT

We will host our annual children's Egg Hunt on the back lawn at 10AM (with plans for the gym if weather insists).



Want to help stuff the eggs? We will be filling them on Sunday, March 22nd after worship!

EASTER BREAKFAST

We will have breakfast available for all who would like between 8AM and 9AM.

Seasonal Special Events

This is a new idea we're trying out this season. The goal is to provide creative worship



FCC COFFEE HOUSE

MARCH 6, 2026

Join us for an evening of music, poetry and more as we transform FCC into a “Coffee House.”

FCC GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 21, 2026

Look for more information later in the season, and start practicing your swing for the FCC Golf Tournament!



MIRACLE DAY

APRIL 25, 2026

We have a tradition of bringing the whole church together once a season for some sort of service activity. Together, we can make a Miracle for Hood County. Look for more details later in the season!

Life Together *with FCC*

Life Together is the name of our flagship fellowship event. Usually we host these events once a month on a weeknight evening around some sort of theme. There is a meal that **starts at 5:30pm** and the event concludes by around 7.

Soup for the Soul

We're introducing a new series called "Soup for the Soul" of fellowship events during the winter months.



MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

Together we'll enjoy a soup dinner starting at 5:30PM. This evening, we'll take a look at the variety of ministries within the church.



LENTEN STUDY KICKOFF

Lenten Study Kickoff: Introducing The Fruition Project by Justin Jeter



LIFE SKILLS

Life Skills Sessions will focus on practical knowledge many of need to navigate today's technological world (and more!)

and for Spring...



SPRING CHICKEN

Look for more details later in the season for what we have planned for our April event that we're calling "Spring Chicken!"

FCC 101

a 4-week series for newcomers

The FCC Staff and Wayfinding Team are planning a new 4-week program designed to help newcomers learn more about the church and find your place and ministry with us. We're calling it "FCC 101," and it'll happen three times per year, in January, May, and September.

Here are the basic details for the January session:

When: Sundays in January, 10 AM

Where: FCC Room 1

Who: Designed for newcomers, but everyone is welcome!



Session 1 (Jan 4): FCC's Story & Mission - Who are We?

Session 2 (Jan 11): How FCC Works, and How You Fit In

Session 3 (Jan 18): Resources for Growing in Faith and Understanding

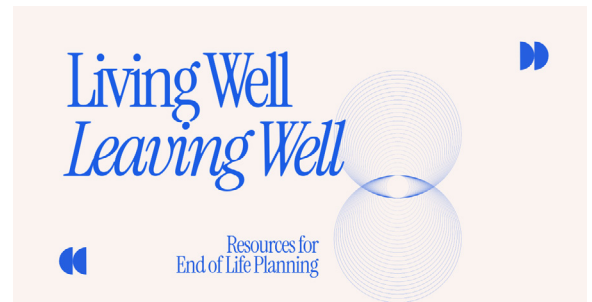
Session 4 (Jan 25): Finding Your Ministry With Us

We hope to see you on January 4!

Living Well, Leaving Well

End-of-Life Planning

In this 3-week series, we are going to take a look at end of life planning.



Pack the Pantry

This season,
our Pack the
Pantry Sunday
dates are:



the Angelita Best Food Pantry
@ La Reunión

sunday
JANUARY
25th

sunday
FEBRUARY
22rd

sunday
MARCH
29th

sunday
APRIL
30th

FCC has a long history of supporting the Anjelita Best Food Pantry located in Oak Trail Shores at La Reunión. The last Sunday of each month, we collect food donations which we deliver to the food pantry. These items are delivered to the pantry the following Thursday, so you can bring items early in the week if you can't bring them Sunday. You can find the running list here, in our newsletter, or available in the gathering area of the church.

This is an extremely important ministry that feeds many individuals and families who do not have the means to buy groceries. This is a clear, practical way to offer Christ into our world. We hope that you might consider bringing along a copy of the Pantry Shopping List on your next grocery run!

We also have opportunities for volunteers to transport the groceries and/or to distribute them to families. Read more about this in our directory of ministry opportunities at the end of this guide!

Food Pantry Shopping List

- ☐ Dried pinto beans
- ☐ Canned tuna
- ☐ Hot and cold cereal
- ☐ Canned soup
- ☐ Canned corn
- ☐ Canned fruit
- ☐ Ramen noodles
- ☐ Instant potatoes
- ☐ Spaghetti and sauce
- ☐ Box Hamburger or Tuna Helper
- ☐ Mac & Cheese
- ☐ Peanut butter
- ☐ Jelly
- ☐ Powdered Milk

FCC *youth & students*

In addition to Sunday School during the 10 o'clock hour on Sundays, we have Wednesday Evening youth group, a monthly service day, and other special events planned for fellowship for students.

Also, you'll see information on the midwinter retreats hosted at Disciples Crossing for students across our region. Talk with Pastor Austin to learn more about camp! These retreats are a great way to see if you are interested in summer camp!

LET'S GO TO CAMP AT DISCIPLES CROSSING!



Registrations for Midwinter Retreats are open now! Talk to Emily or Austin, or check out <https://disciplescrossing.org/>.

JYF- Jan 30-Feb 1, 2026

Chi-Rho/CYF: Feb 20-22, 2026



Summer Camp registrations will open up during this season. Talk to Austin or Emily if you're interested in learning more about ministry opportunities with Disciples Crossing camp in Athens, Texas.

Want to Know More?

DIRECTORY OF MINISTRIES

Our website online is the best source of ministries in the church at any time. You can also ask any member of our Wayfinding team about various ministry opportunities to get involved!

COFFEE & CONVERSATION WITH A PASTOR

In addition to our new FCC 101 series, we host Coffee and Conversation with a Pastor.

About once a month (usually the 2nd Sunday), join a pastor (or two) in Room 7 for a conversation about the church, getting more involved here, or really just about anything! This season we'll be meeting on:

sunday
FEBRUARY
8th

sunday
MARCH
8th

sunday
APRIL
12th

CALL (OR STOP BY) THE CHURCH OFFICE

Our church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 to 5. We love to see new faces around the office.

You can also schedule a meeting with a Pastor during those hours.

WANT TO CONTACT A CHURCH MEMBER?

You can get a copy of the directory at the church in the narthex or in the office. There is also a reasonably updated version on the church website (fccgranbury.org, under resources).

You can download a printable version or access Breeze where you can view an online and always up-to-date directory.

Contact the church office for the password if you need access.