

Welcome to

The First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 5, 2026

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

10:30 a.m. Indoor Worship in Sanctuary



OUR MISSION

FRC stands at the intersection of faith and life in our community. Our mission is to create experiences that connect us with Christ and inspire us to serve.

We Live That Through...

OPEN DOORS

Located at the intersection of faith and life, our congregation practices open doors, appreciating our differences, yet also valuing our oneness in purpose. We welcome all people regardless of race, ethnicity, ability, orientation or identity. We also welcome people with different cultural and political understandings. Our unity is found not in our uniformity, but in our desire to live and learn as followers of Christ.

OPEN HEARTS

We envision a community where every human being awakens to God's love, trusts this love, working in us, among us, through us, and even as us. Our path is Christ. We seek to live our lives loving others as he did himself, wholeheartedly and unconditionally. We gather regularly to open ourselves to further transformation in Christ, helping ourselves and others find deeper meaning and a clearer sense of purpose.

OPEN HANDS

Everything we do is through God's love. We intentionally partner with and serve the Pequannock Township area as agents of Christ's light, life and love in our neighborhoods and beyond. Our hope is to actively build a renewed, peaceful world here, that includes social justice and fosters peace through God's radical love for humanity.

Welcome

TODAY IN WORSHIP

We will continue with our summer sermon series, *She Is Called*. This week we will review the powerful Old Testament story of Esther. Esther responded with great courage in order to save her people. God moved through Esther in an amazing way. As we reflect on the birth of our nation, we should consider the following question: What is the nature of your partnership in the work that God is doing in our nation and around the world? Are you contributing to the project? Are you watching God work? Or, are you focused mostly on your own life and work? Pastor Dave will be preaching from Esther chapters 4,5 and 7. The message is entitled, "Relief and Deliverance Will Rise."

WELCOME GUESTS

We are grateful for your presence and would love to connect. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself. For more information about our church, fill out a connection card located on the table and visit our website: www.firstreformedchurch.com

WELCOME SPARK KIDZ

Activity packets for children to complete during the service will be provided. Nursery care is available during the 9 AM service throughout the summer in the Ministry Center Building for children age 4 & under. Contact Janet Chardavoyne janet@frc-pp.org

SUMMER FUEL YOUTH GROUP

The full calendar of summer FUEL events for middle school and high school youth is on our website. Our brand-new 6th graders are encouraged to attend, and our grads can keep coming over the summer, too. Contact Dave Sippel dave@frc-pp.org

- July 8 – Parents Night Out. 6:00 to 7:30pm. Youth offer babysitting for younger children at FRC.

WEBSITE & LIVE STREAM OF SERVICE

When traveling, watch the service live at 9 AM on our website www.firstreformedchurch.com or on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/frcpomptonplains>

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS & ONLINE DONATIONS

<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		
	Week Ending	
	6/28/2026	6/29/2026
Sunday Collection	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 8,618.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 5,143.30	\$ 4,948.50
Total Weekly Contributions	\$ 6,693.30	\$ 13,566.50
Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)*	\$ 717,863.84	\$ 665,510.00
Weekly Goal*	\$ 13,805.07	\$ 12,798.27
Weekly Collection Surplus/Deficit	\$ (7,111.77)	\$ 768.23
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (95,108.96)	\$ (85,652.36)



PRELUDE

Traci Bopp, Keyboard

INTROIT "Star-Spangled Banner" *Francis Scott Key & John Stafford Smith* *Vocal solo, Paul Larsen*

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

Rev. Stacey Duensing Pearce, Pastor of Worship, Care and Strategic Leadership

Expansion of Our Hearts

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

O sing to the Lord a new song;

sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Declare God's glory among the nations;

tell all the people of God's marvelous works.

Say among the nations: The Lord is sovereign!

God will judge the peoples with equity.

Let us worship God.

*GATHERING SONG "God of Our Fathers"

Brenna Tesauro, Song Leader

God of the Ages whose Almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise

Thy love divine hath led us past
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast
Be Thou our Ruler guardian guide and stay
Thy word our law Thy paths our chosen way

Refresh Thy people on their toil some way
Lead us from night to never ending day
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine
And glory laud and praise be ever Thine

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE *(responsive)* (9:00 a.m.)

Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.

**We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

*PASSING THE PEACE (9:00 a.m.)

May the Peace of Christ be with you all! **And also with you!**

Reception of God's Word

PREPARATION FOR READING

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scriptures. **Our hearts and minds are open.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

 Esther 4:10 to 5:4, 7:1-5

Eileen Bundz (9:00 a.m.), Reader
Joann Warner (10:30 a.m.), Reader

10 Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai: 11 "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that, if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law: to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days." 12 When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, 13 Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." 15 Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, 16 "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish." 17 Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

5 On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace. 2 As soon as the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won his favor, and he held out to her the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the top of the scepter. 3 The king said to her, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be given you." 4 Then Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to a banquet that I have prepared for the king."

7 1 So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. 2 On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." 3 Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. 4 For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." 5 Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?"

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God**

MESSAGE "Relief and Deliverance Will Rise"

Rev. Dave Sippel, Pastor of Discipleship, Mission, and Outreach Leadership

Transformation of Our Lives

COMMUNION

Native American Flute, Chris Woods

Meaning of the Sacrament

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all Majesty,

We give you thanks this day for welcoming us at your table.

Your table is wide.

Here, your feast of love and grace meets hungry souls. All are welcome here. You welcome the joyful, the mourning, the weary, the rested, the faith-filled, and the doubting.

Your table is wide

Your table spreads to all people: across nations, cultures, and places. Today by your Spirit we commune with your church in Africa and Asia, in Europe and South America, in Antarctica and Australia, and here in North America. We commune even with the saints in heaven.

Your table is wide.

We thank you for the wide encompassing love of Jesus which embraced our faults and the sin of all humanity. Through his life, death and resurrection he has shattered the powers of evil, sin and death. In his love, your love and life are freely offered to all who believe.

We come to this table to today by his command. We remember his sacrifice and his last commandment to love each other as he loves us.

Your table is wide.

By your Holy Spirit, spiritually feed us today at your table. Transform our souls with the resurrection love and joy of your kingdom that we might love like you, serve like you, live like you. Here at your table, bind us in unity with your whole Church across the globe that our witness might shine your light bright.

Your table is wide. Amen.

Words of Institution

Invitation

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dave Sippel, Pastor of Discipleship, Mission, and Outreach Leadership

INVITATION FOR CONNECTION & CONTRIBUTION

Compassion for the World

***SENDING SONG "God Bless America" by Irving Berlin**

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

***BENEDICTION**

This time of worship has ended.

Let the service begin!

***POSTLUDE**

Prayers & Concerns

Prayers for peace in the Middle East, especially between the United States, Iran, Israel and Lebanon. Prayers of protection for US service members who are deployed.

Prayers for **Rev. Linda** serving the hungry and homeless in Lebanon who are displaced due to war. Linda is connected in mission to us through our Classis and Ponds Reformed Church. Pray for her ministry

Ada Smith, mother of David Smith, is in the hospital with a compression fracture of her vertebrae. Prayers for healing.

Nancy Bayda-Hall, friend of Barbara Livingstone, fell and broke her knee. Hospitalized at St. Joe's Paterson. Prayers for healing.

Jane Young, has returned to Care One in Wayne. Visitors welcome.

Colleen Erickson, niece of Rose & Frank Chara, starting a clinical trial with new medication for her cancer. Prayers for good test results and comfort.

Prayers for the son of **Pat & Charlie Cunningham** who is recovering from a roadway accident.

Amy Patterson, (who had surgery June 15) giving thanks for not only a successful surgery but also clear test results. She asks continued prayers for a smooth recovery and gives thanks for all of the support & prayers. Cards to: 420 Newark Pompton Tpke, Pompton Plains NJ 07444

Katie Wilson, is resuming cancer treatments. Uplifting / funny cards are welcome at 130 E Hartwell Ln. Philadelphia, PA

William DeBell, Susan's husband, health concerns

John, Linda Wilson's sister's husband, whose muscular dystrophy has progressed to the point that he needs hospice

Linda Wilson's good friend **Mary** who just started a clinical trial for her cancer that has returned after 7 years in remission.

LONG TERM CONCERNS:

Marlene (Jo Bradford's cousin), **Tom Larkin**, radiation treatments, **Ann** (friend of Eileen Bundz), **Lois Wickham**, **Michael Angelucci** (son of Gail Trappe's friend), **Michele Brauman** (sister-in-law of Joanna Minassian & Meg Sturm), **Jamie Spillane** (college classmate of Karen & Tom Kamp), **Jennifer Carpentieri**, **Cindy**, **Anna Miller** (future daughter-in-law of Kathy & John Shea and future niece of Judy Shivy) **Joyce Gruzdis**, **Michael Clark** (Sharon Hollick's son-in-law), **Peggy Biondi** (friend of Amy Muller) receiving chemo, **Beverly Adams** (Jennifer Adams' mother) blood cancer, **Carol** (friend of Leeanne Leck) pancreatic cancer, **Sue Rayner**, lung cancer, **Kristen**, vision issues, **Christopher Martin** (Pat Lento's relative) myocarditis, **Steven Janowicz** (son of former members Joyce and George), **Colleen Erickson** (niece of Rose & Frank Chara), **Lorraine Nichols**, **Judy Napoli**, **Karen Milligan**, **Heather** (Tony's daughter-in-law), **Nancy Crefeld** (Pete's mom), **Kathryn Dontje** (Barbara Ball's daughter), **Brenda** (Barbara Ball's daughter), **Judy Lento** (Pat Lento's sister in law), **Charles Cunningham**, **Jim**, (Lynn Rayner's brother), **Candace** (Jane Young's sister), **Amy Griffith**, **Adele Ebert** (Shell's mom), **Johanna Clark** (sister of Michael Clark)

Announcements

COMMUNION OFFERING THIS SUNDAY WILL SUPPORT MARKET STREET MISSION: The Market Street Mission meets critical needs like food, shelter, clothing, and other necessities as well as deeper needs through programs designed to help men overcome their struggles with addiction, homelessness and poverty. Their mission is to surround our homeless, hungry and those struggling with addiction, with God's love and everything they need to get back on their feet – food and shelter, counseling and job training, spiritual guidance and Bible study – to live stable, productive lives in our community. To donate, you can mail in a check, place it in the collection kiosk during worship any week in July, or donate online securely through our website on the line item: "Mission of the Month." Make checks payable to FRC and note "July Communion" in the memo line.

JULY BIBLE STUDY: In concert with the *She Is Called* sermon series for the summer, our Seminary Intern, Chloe Roberts, will be leading a Bible study in the month of July. The study will dive deeper into the stories of women in the Bible by addressing four additional stories that are not a part of the sermon series. We will meet at 6:30 pm in the Blue Room on Monday nights (July 6, 13, 20, and 27). An information and sign-up page is available on the church website under "Grow" or call the office to sign up.

BLOOD DRIVE AT FRC: Donations save lives! We are hosting a blood drive through the New York Blood Center on July 23 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-933-BLOOD or visit <https://tinyurl.com/frc-ppjuly23> or scan the QR code. Walk-ins are still welcome, but appointments are preferred! Can we make it to our goal of 40 donors? Spread the word to friends and co-workers.



"FOOD & SCOOP" ICE CREAM SOCIAL - July 19 at Noon: An Ice Cream Social to benefit the Pequannock Food Pantry will be happening on Sunday, July 19 from noon to 3:00 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Here's the *SCOOP*: Each person who brings one of these items: shelf stable milk, brew & instant coffee (instant regular or decaf 8 oz size), corned beef hash, fruit in cans (no mandarin oranges), hair conditioner, or paper products like tissues, paper towels and toilet paper, will be given the opportunity to take a brief tour of the food pantry and then make an ice cream sundae or float. Monetary donations are also much appreciated. Feel free to spread the word and bring a friend. The Congregational Life Team is looking for donations of Coke, root beer and sundae toppings. They can be dropped off in the labeled box by the coffee bar.

"RAINFOREST FALLS" VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - REGISTRATION ENDS JULY 1:

Volunteer Guides Needed

As we make our final preparations for our 2026 VBS program, we ask that you prayerfully consider joining our team. Volunteers are needed to help kids explore our colorful rainforest, and what it means to be rooted in a relationship with their creator, a safe place in life's storms. If you can join us for a day, or two, or the whole week, please sign up online. Station Leaders are especially needed, as well as assistant leaders, and crew leaders to shepherd the kids to each station. Join us for this exciting adventure. Sign up online at <https://vbspro.events/p/e2c542> or contact Janet Chardavoyne at janet@frc-pp.org for more information.

VBS Volunteer Training

Our VBS volunteer training session is scheduled for Sunday, July 26 at 10:30 AM in Keator Parlor. Volunteers are asked to join us for this brief informational gathering. Snacks and door prizes included!

VBS Donations

Looking for a way to support our VBS program? Be sure to check out the donation board at the back of both worship spaces. Pick a tag and return the item and tag by 7/26.

Rainforest Falls VBS Closing Program

Everyone is invited to join us for our Rainforest Falls VBS closing program on Friday, August 7 at 11:45 AM. Come and see a little of what the kids learned during their rainforest adventure.

JOIN OUR SPARK KIDZ TEAM: Love God and Kids? Consider joining our Spark Kidz team. Schedules are flexible and all materials are provided. There are opportunities to serve as a teacher (you do not have to be a school teacher), as a classroom helper, or as an occasional substitute. Currently, our greatest need is a **teacher (or two) for our 1st grade class**. Contact Janet if you feel God calling to serve in children's ministry.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP & SUMMER SERVICE TIMES:

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Service in the Backyard of Friendly Manse (w/Livestream)

10:30 a.m. Indoor Sanctuary Service (Shorter Service, No Livestream)

The first service will gather outdoors at 9:00 a.m. (livestreamed) in the backyard of the Friendly Manse. Chairs are available, but you are also welcome to bring your own. During the first service, a simultaneous stream will run inside Friendship Hall for those who need a break from the heat, bugs, or a space for children to run. A second, shorter service will be offered in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. In the event of rain, the early service will be held in the sanctuary.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: We will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m. - Noon. This schedule continues through Labor Day.

PEQUANNOCK FOOD PANTRY CURRENT NEEDS: *Packaged milk, especially 1% and 2%, *Hot chocolate, *Tomatoes – stewed, whole, diced or paste – NO SAUCE please, *Conditioner, *Pickles and olives in jars, *Icing, *Sardines, *Rice Sides and Pasta Sides, *Jelly (variety), *Beverages of all kinds, esp. juice, *Ketchup, *Coffee – regular, decaf, and instant, *Toothbrushes, *Rice in microwavable cups, *Sugar, 1-2 lb bags, Salad dressing, esp. French and vinaigrette, Beef broth, box or cans, Canned or pkg fruit especially apricots & pears, Microwavable meals, esp. Nissen bowls, Cereal, Pudding and Jell-O cups, Shampoo, Dish detergent, Canned Chicken, Spam and Vienna sausages, Cleaning Products
Paper goods, Snacks, especially chips, pretzels and crackers, Nuts and dried fruits. *Indicates most needed

RCA DENOMINATIONAL COVENANT SHARE - \$125 PER MEMBER: Covenant Shares are the



annual contributions RCA churches make as part of their shared commitment to ministry and mission. These funds support the denomination's work as a global Reformed community focused on discipleship, multicultural ministry, and spreading God's love locally and worldwide. Through the RCA, congregations participate in mission efforts in 40 countries, benefit from shared theology, and join stories of churches helping neighbors, supporting refugees, planting new congregations, and witnessing people come to faith. Covenant Shares fund the RCA's daily operations and provide resources that strengthen churches—such as leadership development, revitalization support, worship materials, and children/youth ministry tools. FRC has directly benefited through grants for youth mission trips. Funds also support racial-ethnic councils and new ministry initiatives that impact thousands. We ask that you prayerfully consider contributing towards this expense. Your contribution of any amount towards FRC's Covenant Share is greatly appreciated. To donate, use one of the Denominational Assessment envelopes in the back of each worship space and place donation in the kiosk, mail your check to the office in care of Ann Marie Ziffer, Finance Manager, pay online through our secure website www.firstreformedchurch.com, or scan this QR code to set up the contribution.