

Welcome to
The First Reformed Church
of Pompton Plains



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 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

On this special Sunday, we celebrate the virtues of wisdom and faithfulness. God, with infinite wisdom, chose Deborah to lead the people of God. In choosing her, God's faithfulness was fulfilled. The people of God experience victory over their enemies. Deborah also displayed great faithfulness in God, and wisdom in leading God's people into battle. Pastor Dave will preach from Judges chapter 4 and 5. The sermon is entitled, *Wisdom and Faithfulness*.

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 29 – Morristown Game Vault - 6:30 to 8:30pm.
- August 5 – No FUEL Meeting – Vacation Bible School.
- August 12 – Movie Night! Time is TBD
- August 19 – Pool Party, Cookout, and Smores! 5:30 to 8:00pm.
- August 26 – Trivia Night and Memes!! 6:30 to 8:00pm.

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

Give Electronically: Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically. Visit our website or use the QR code. It is safe & secure.

Cash or Check Donation: If you prefer to give cash or check, please place your donation in the collection kiosk or drop at the office during business hours.



WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

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

Expansion of Our Hearts

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

Whenever we feel disrespected or overlooked, let down by others;

Resting and praying, we affirm that God sees us.

In those times when we feel lost or unsure, seeking God's presence in our lives;

Listening and singing, we remember that God leads us.

As we worship, we share our worries and concerns, craving answers and support;

Praising and reflecting, we recognize that God works through us.

Together we remember that our God is a God of surprises;

Working in surprising places through surprising people, loving us in surprising ways.

***GATHERING SONG "Creator"**

Brooke Burgin, Song Leader

by Phil Wickham, Bryan Fowler & Kristyn Getty

Verse 1

Praise Him all you creatures great and small

Praise Him summer winter spring and fall

Howling wind rushing streams

Rolling hills and crashing seas

Lift your voice and worship your Creator

Verse 2

Praise Him gleaming moon and burning sun

Praise Him all you spinning spheres above

Shining stars golden beams

Choir made of galaxies

Lift your voice and worship your Creator

Chorus

Holy

You are holy

Earth and heaven

Sing forever

Holy

You are holy

All creation

Praise Creator

Verse 3

Praise Him who stepped into what He made

Paid our debt and pulled us from the grave

Every heart He set free

Every soul that's been redeemed

Lift your voice and worship your Creator

Verse 4

This my great and everlasting hope
I've been saved and heaven is my home
I can't wait for that day
When I see You face to face
For I was made to magnify my Maker
Yes I was saved to walk beside my Savior
I'm created to worship my Creator **[CHORUS]**

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

Prayer of Confession

We know within our hearts, in our souls, that not one of God's good promises has failed.

Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed.

Even when we break the promises that we have made - when we have not loved God with our whole hearts.

We have served other gods. We bow down to power, to money, to time.

When we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have failed to love others. We have not cared for the poor. We have not been peacemakers. We have not pardoned those who have sinned against us.

[Silence.]

Even when we break the promises that we have made, we know within our hearts, in our souls, that not one of God's good promises has failed.

Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed. Thanks be to God!

Assurance of Forgiveness

Our faithful God has promised that as far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us.

Thanks be to God!

Today's Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness was written by Katy Matejka Kroondyk

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

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

SPECIAL MUSIC (9:00 a.m.) "There Is a Fountain"

arr. by Patti Drennan

*Amy Patterson, Brooke Burgin, Traci Bopp, Kim Lampe, Vocal Quartet
Karen Kamp, Violin*

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 Judges 4:1-5, 5:6-7 (NIV)

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

Judges 4:1-5

Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, now that Ehud was dead. 2 So the Lord sold them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. Sisera, the commander of his army, was based in Harosheth Haggoyim. 3 Because he had nine hundred chariots fitted with iron and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years, they cried to the Lord for help.

4 Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time. 5 She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to have their disputes decided.

Judges 5:6-7

6 "In the days of Shamgar son of Anath,
in the days of Jael, the highways were abandoned;
travelers took to winding paths.

7 Villagers in Israel would not fight;
they held back until I, Deborah, arose,
until I arose, a mother in Israel.

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

MESSAGE "Wisdom and Faithfulness"

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

Transformation of Our Lives

SONG OF RESPONSE (9:00 a.m.) **"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Verse 2

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love **[CHORUS]**

Verse 3

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**INVITATION FOR CONNECTION & CONTRIBUTION**

Compassion for the World

***SENDING SONG "Oh God Our Help in Ages Past"**

O God our help in ages past
Our hope for years to come
Our shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal home

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Still may we dwell secure
Sufficient is Thine arm alone
And our defense is sure

Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame
From everlasting Thou art God
To endless years the same

Our God our help in ages past
Our hope for years to come
Be Thou our guide while life shall last
And our eternal home

***BENEDICTION**

This time of worship has ended.
Let the service begin!

***POSTLUDE**

Prayers & Concerns

FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE:

For the family of **Marlene Coviello**, Jo Bradford's cousin, who passed away last Friday.

WITH APPRECIATION

"To my FRC family - Thank you all so much for the prayers, cards, messages, meals, and support during my recent surgery & ongoing recovery. I am truly grateful for your care and kindness."

Love, Amy Patterson

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

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

Jo Bradford, broke her wrist. Prayers for healing

Frank Chara, having tests and procedures this past week. Prayers for good test results.

Craig, Joann Warner's brother, prayers of healing for health issues.

Dee Patrick, undergoing testing. Prayers for good results. Cards to 31F Lancaster Court, Wayne, 07470

Brian Farley, prayers during cancer treatments.

Gloria Krueger, healing for her arm after a fall. Cards to 262 Robertson Way, Lincoln Park 07035

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, at Care One in Wayne. Prayers for answers to health issues. Visitors welcome!

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

William DeBell, Susan's husband, health concerns

John, Linda Wilson's sister's husband, in a facility on hospice with muscular dystrophy

Linda Wilson's good friend **Mary**, struggling with the side effects from treatment

LONG TERM CONCERNS:

Katie Wilson, cancer treatments, **Colleen Erickson**, **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

***THIS FRIDAY*YOUNG ADULTS WORSHIP NIGHT:** Join us for a classis-wide **Young Adults**



Young Adult Worship

Worship Night in our outdoor worship space on July 31 at 6:00 p.m.! It will be an evening of fellowship and music, and we will have pizza! Please let us know you're coming by filling out the Google Form at the following link or by scanning the QR code! <https://forms.gle/dAn6bLMAQswafcJK6>
Feel free to email our seminary intern, Chloe Roberts, at chloe.roberts@frc-pp.org with any questions.

LEAD REMEDIATION AT THE FRIENDLY MANSE: Pastor Stacey and her family will be moving out of the Friendly Manse for at least a month (in August) for lead remediation. Their son Aidan tested positive for lead exposure in a routine test at his one-year-old doctor's appointment. Aidan's lead levels were high enough that the Department of Health was automatically notified but low enough that his doctor assured the family there would be no permanent damage to his development. Consistory has made the decision to remediate the extensive lead paint in the Friendly Manse for the health and safety of both the current occupants and any future pastors that will live in the Manse. The cost for the remediation and moving the family (all their belongings) is around \$125,000. These funds will be taken from the Dovey Fund (our endowment). At the same time, Consistory would also like to ask the congregation to give toward this project. To give you can go online to our website and select "Lead Remediation in the Friendly Manse". Pastor Stacey and her family would welcome your prayers as they prepare to move out (and back into) their home. They are grateful for all the support they receive from Consistory and from members of the congregation.

QR Code for
Lead Remediation in the Friendly Manse



CHLOE'S LAST SUNDAY: AUGUST 9TH: Chloe Robert's last Sunday with us will be August 9th. We are grateful for her leadership this summer as our summer seminary intern in preaching, leading a bible study, and doing some pastoral care. We will have a moment in worship on that day to honor her and there will be some treats after the 9:00 a.m. service. You can help say "thank you" and "best wishes" to Chloe by writing her a note. Grab a blank Hershey kiss paper at the back of the worship space and write an encouraging note for Chloe as she continues on her pastoral journey. All notes should be returned to the basket in the back of the worship space no later than Sunday August 2nd.

LAST DAY OF JULY BIBLE STUDY TOMORROW: 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 27).

SERVICE SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 13 @ 8:30 A.M: What if, instead of attending a Sunday worship service, you could be the very hands of Jesus by serving others? On September 13, you and your family will have that opportunity. That Sunday, instead of returning to a regular worship schedule after the summer, we will combine Kick-Off Sunday with Service Sunday. We

will begin that day with an early service at 8:30 a.m., shortened to about 15 minutes with a blessing and send off. Participants will have 3 hours to “serve” on the various service projects, returning to the church between 12 - 12:30 p.m. for a BBQ lunch. Projects are being identified by the Mission Team for people of all ages and abilities. There will be construction, sewing, gardening, clean-up and craft opportunities, to name a few. We are currently looking for project ideas. All projects will be listed on the FRC website where you can register for the one that interests you. Sign-up sheets will also be available in Friendship Hall during the month of August. Look for more information in the weekly bulletins. Contact Bob Nixon robertnixon9@hotmail.com or Bonnie Holmes bonnie.l.holmes@gmail.com if you have a project that you would like to have listed. This is an exciting opportunity for us to “be the church” and serve others!

SERVICE SUNDAY PROJECT FOR CHILDREN: On Service Sunday (Sept. 13), there will be a special project for children. We would like them to participate by assembling hygiene kits for Bessie Green. Hygiene kits provide essential tools for this community to maintain personal cleanliness and restore dignity. By fulfilling basic daily needs, these kits improve physical health, boost self-esteem, and help remove social barriers to housing and employment. We need your help to make this project a success. The Mission Team would like to collect the items listed below so that we can have a packing event on that day, when individual items are packed into kits to be delivered to Bessie Green and distributed to the community there.

Small or Travel Size items needed are deodorant, shampoo, bar soap, shower gel, razors, toothpaste, toothbrush, feminine hygiene products, lotion, tissues, and wash cloths. There is a collection bin by the church office, and one will be placed outside for the early summer service. If you have any questions about the collection, please reach out to Seth Burgin – sburgin13@gmail.com

“RAINFOREST FALLS” VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING SOON!

As we make our final preparations for our 2026 VBS program, we ask that you prayerfully consider joining our team. Sign up online at here or contact Janet Chardavoyne at janet@frc-pp.org for more information.

VBS Donations-Last Week to Grab a Tag!

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. Our greatest need is cases of ***water bottles (any size), Gatorade or other refreshing drinks.***

Volunteer Guides Needed:

Games Leader - Friday
Games Assistant - Monday - Friday
Crew Leader - Monday & Tuesday
Crew Leader - Thursday

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!

Save the Date-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 schoolteacher), 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.

PEQUANNOCK FOOD PANTRY CURRENT NEEDS: Summer has arrived and pantry donations have dropped off as is typical this time of year. Thanks to your past generosity. Below is a list of items we are low on or running out of. *Indicates most needed

*Spam, *Packaged milk, especially 1% and 2%, * Shampoo and Conditioner, *Sardines, *Toilet paper, *Hamburger Helper, *Jelly (variety), *Beverages of all kinds, esp. juice & small waters
*Ketchup, *Coffee – regular, decaf, and instant, Toothbrushes, *Deodorant, *Pancake syrup, *Odd canned vegetables: Beets, esp. whole / Peas & Carrots / Asparagus / Lima beans / Potatoes, *Relish, *Sauerkraut, *Sugar, 1-2 lb bags, Icing, Pasta sauce, Tomato soup, like Campbells, Rice, not brown, Canned or pkg fruit especially apricots & pears, Complete meals or Microwavable meals, esp. Nissen bowls, Cereal, Pudding and Jell-O cups, Toothbrushes, Dish detergent, Boxed potatoes, Canned Chicken, Vienna sausages, Hot chocolate, Cleaning Products Tissues & Paper towels, Snacks, especially chips, pretzels and crackers, Nuts and dried fruits

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. *(In the event of rain, to be held in the sanctuary)* Chairs are available, but you are also welcome to bring your own. During the first service, a simultaneous stream will run inside Friendship Hall. A second, shorter service will be offered in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m.

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.

MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR JULY 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. 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.