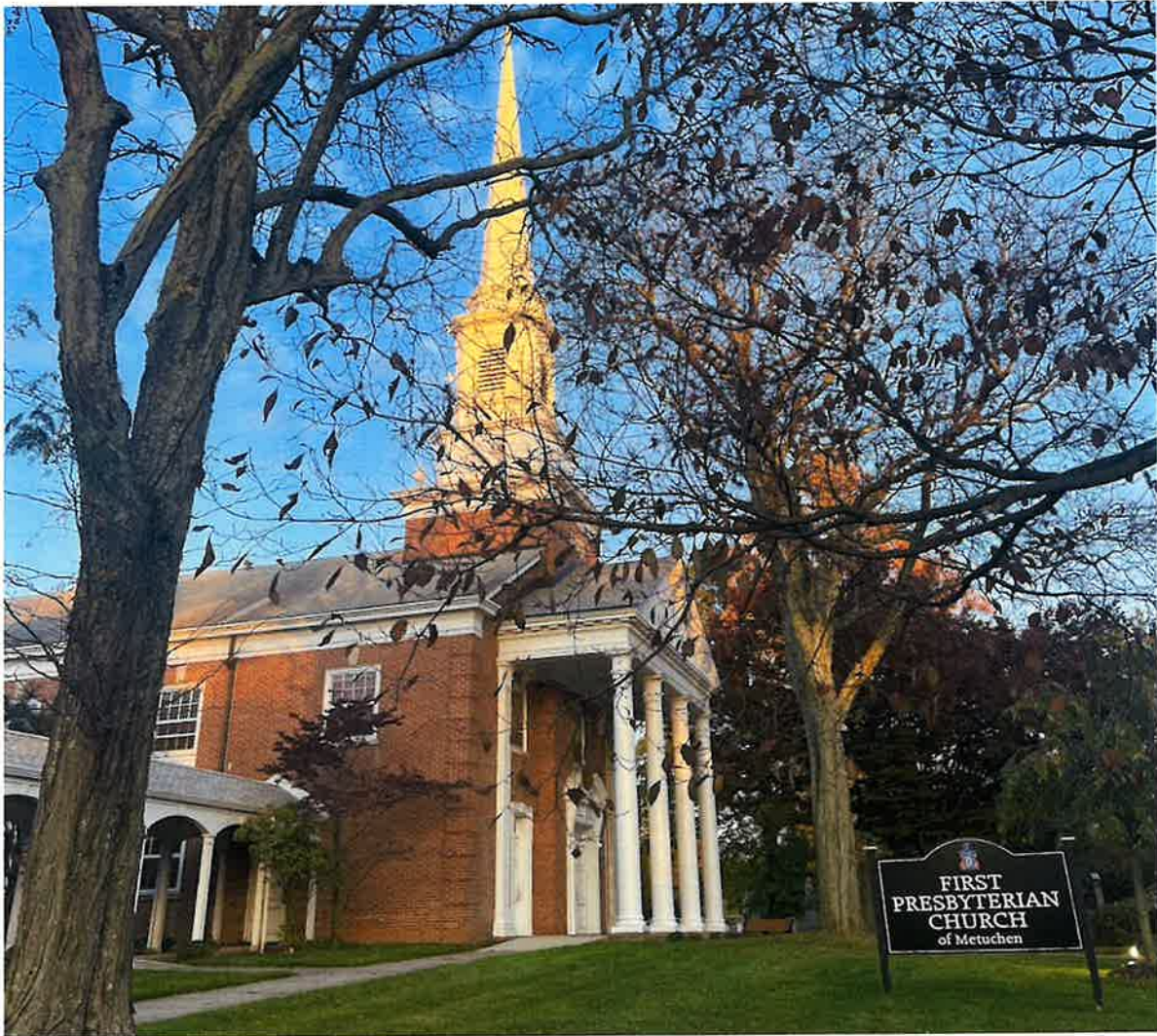




**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

September 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

15th Sunday After Pentecost

**Our vision is to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

Livestreamed on our website and Facebook/FPC Metuchen

270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

www.fpcweb.org

(732) 491-2300

GATHERING

ENTRANCE OF CHRIST'S LIGHT

The Ryder Family

Candles are lit to represent the presence of Christ, offering a moment to center ourselves to worship.

PRELUDE Ricercar

Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME/TIDINGS

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 50, adapted

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

Leader: Our God speaks and summons the earth.

All: The perfection of beauty shines forth.

Leader: We are found by God in the silence;

All: God abides with us in the whirlwind.

Leader: The night sky declares the wonder of creation.

All: Our prayers and songs echo in refrain.

Leader: This is the house of the Lord.

All: Let us worship our God.

*HYMN 263 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION — Unison

Rev. Khayla Johnson

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Loosen our grip on fading glory,

our confidence without merit;

empty our hearts of clutter,

chase away thoughts stealing our time.

Be for us a path of freedom

where we keep what we must not lose,

and lose what we must not keep.

God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

*KYRIE

Lord, have mercy up - on us.

Christ, have mercy up - on us.

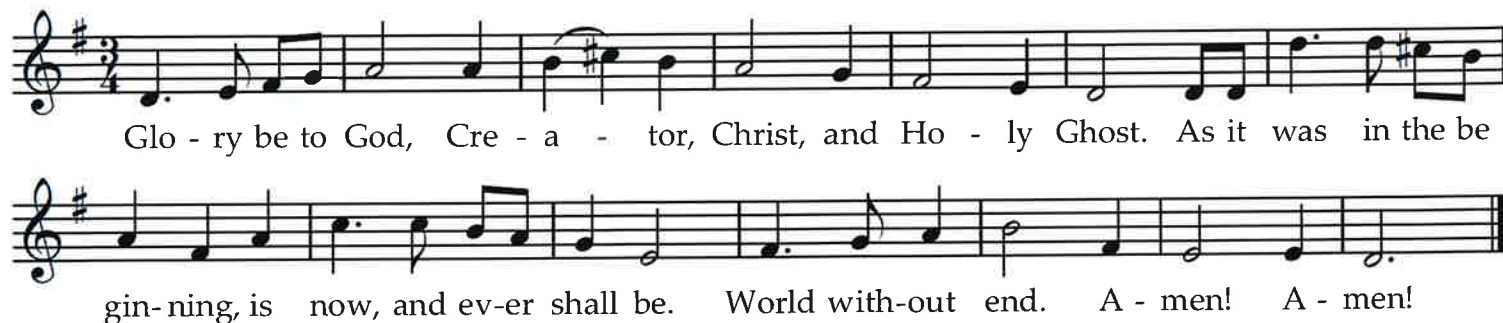
Lord, have mercy up - on us.

Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by Peter DuBois

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Khayla Johnson

*GLORIA



Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by James Kealey

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nancy Leardi, Jordan Klotz

Nursery care is available in room 107. Children will exit the sanctuary to the GLOW room.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 5:18-23 (Old Testament page 635)

Sue West

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

ANTHEM Canon of Praise

Senior Choir

Natalie Sleeth

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 12:22-34 (New Testament page 74)

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

SERMON

"More Worry the Better"

Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

***HYMN** 756 O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

***CONFESSION OF FAITH** *from the Brief Statement of Faith* — **Unison**

Rev. Khayla Johnson

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one true God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed,
and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Khayla Johnson

OFFERTORY Improvisation

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Khayla Johnson

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Khayla Johnson

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . And also with you.

*RESPONSE

Choir: All:



When they build walls we will build bridge-es, o - pen up a dif-f'rent way, when they
close their eyes, we will sing, whe-ther you're a friend or a stran-ger, one
world we're travel - in' through, whe - ther you're
fear - ful or in dan - ger, peace be with you.

Written by Penny Stone (adapted)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER — Unison

Rev. Khayla Johnson

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
And let us fall into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Moderato Maestoso

Philip G. Kreckel

*Please rise in body or spirit.

*Our greeter this morning is June Young, and the ushers are Andrene Sinclair-Pennix,
Nancy Regan, and Beth Russian.*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of their mother, grandmother and
great-grandmother Lucy Aileen Corbalis from the Corbalis, Moriarty, Nolan, and Megill families.*

September 21, 2025 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#263 ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

1- All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!

2- Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!

3- Let every kindred, every tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!

4- O that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!

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KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by Peter
Dubois All rights reserved. Used by permission*

GLORIA

Glory be to God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen! Amen!

*Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by James
Kealey. All rights reserved. Used by permission*

#756 O GOD OF EVERY NATION

1- O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us,
and heal our strife-torn world.

2- From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station
and blindness to your way,
deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray!

3- Lord, strengthen all who labor
that we may find release
from fear of rattling saber,
from dread of war's increase.
When hope and courage falter,
Lord, let your voice be heard;
with faith that none can alter,
your servants undergird.

4- Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and justice reign,
and Christ shall rule victorious
o'er all the world's domain.

*Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope
Publishing Company)*

RESPONSE

When they build walls, we will build bridges,
Open up a different way,
When they close their eyes we will sing,
Whether you're a friend or a stranger,
One world we're travelin' through,
Whether you're fearful or in danger, peace be with you.

Written by Penny Stone All rights reserved. Used by permission

#39 GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

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.

Refrain: 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!

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. **[Refrain]**

3- Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **[Refrain]**

Text & Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing House.

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OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

To be added in the weekly Prayer List, individuals must give permission for their names to be included. CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE – 732-491-2300 to add a person to the prayer list. Persons requested to be on the prayer list will remain for one month, unless requested to keep for a longer period.

Dey Adam (*Dawn Adam's sister*)
Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)
James Angley (*Lynne Angley's son*)
John Bertelsen and family (*Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
Pat Byrne (*Sue Harmon's brother-in-law*)
Dorothy Canary (*aunt of Sue Harmon*)
Luis Canton (*Laurie Toth's father*)
*Lois Crespy
*Mary Kay Dangremond
Jean Delancey (*friend of Nancy Leardi*)
*Henry and Rita Dengah
Lisa De La Fuente (*friend of the Kozo/Mollison family*)
Darla Dimatteo
Robert Doeg (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)
*Ruth Endicott
*Fenner and Walter Family
Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)
*Judy Fuller
Marc Gale (*Marie Gale's husband*)
*Marie Gale
*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)
*Margaret Hathaway
*Ellen Haulenbeek

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

*Members of the church

Jan Johnson (*Gunsser's family friend*)
Teresa Prete-Kaltenbach (*friend of the Hajjar family*)
*Susan Kozo
Jetty Mailangkay (*wife of Rev. Herby Moningka*)
Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law*)
Patricia Maktal (*friend of Messina Family*)
*Ed Meyer
Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)
Michael Murach (*Kristina Scoglio's cousin*)
Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)
Jeremy Njuguna (*Son of Loise Kiru and Joe*)
Marian Pflaumer (*Cook Family relative*)
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehler*)
*Dave Ryder
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
Karen Scoglio (*Kristina Scoglio's mother*)
*Tomara Situmeang
Cindy Thompson (*family of Jim & Jen Thompson*)
Crystal Smith Williams (*friend of the Food Pantry*)
David Wong
*Lynn Hendricks Wong

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS OF COMFORT

For Jim Thompson and family on the passing of his sister Cindy Thompson on September 11.

PASTORAL CARE:

If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact Rev. Dr. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590 or Rev. Khayla Johnson at (843) 312-7288. **Hospitals no longer contact clergy when a parishioner is admitted.** We are more than ready and glad to visit. Please contact us even if it is to pray for you. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

David Garry, Coast Guard Cutter Bear, Philadelphia, PA (*Son of Fred & Kathy Garry*)
MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*Son of Elaine Hansen*)
MC1 Kevin Leitner, U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)
Lt. Cmdr. Krista Marquard, U.S. Public Health Service, Lawrence, KS (*Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law*)
Major Matthew McQueeney, Pilot & DO, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho (*Son/Stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano*)
LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Pennix Family friend*)
*CPT Bradley Shaver, U. S. Army – Ft. Carson, CO (*Brother/Son of Greg and Julie Walton Shaver*)
CPT Julia Harris Switzer, MD USAF (*Granddaughter of Grace Hammesfahr*)
Petty Officer 1st Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

And by appointment for other times

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual 9:30 a.m.

After Worship Refreshments – Deacons Room . . . 10:30 a.m.

Youth Commission – PW Lounge 10:30 a.m.

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

DBSA Support Group – Deacons Room 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Carol Choir – Choir Room 4:00 p.m.

AA Support Group – Deacons Room 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Pastoral Study: Pericopes of Luke – PW Lounge . . 10:30 a.m.

Lunch & Games -Dining Room Noon – 3:00 p.m.

Westminster Choir – Choir Room 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Concord Ringers – Bell Loft 9:30 -10:15 a.m.

Junior Choir – Choir Room 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Joy Ringers – Bell Loft 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Covenant Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Senior Choir – Choir Room 8:00 - 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Women's AA Support Grp – Deacons Rm. 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Mission Volunteer Saturday-Auditorium. . . . 9:00-11:00 a.m.

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:

Scan the QR code or visit our website

<https://bit.ly/4emWby6>



COMING SOON

Sep 27 Mission Volunteer Saturday – Auditorium -9:00 am

Sep 28 Second Hour: Cathedrals – Chapel – 10:30 am

Sep 28 Westminster Choir College Concert – Sanctuary
3:00 pm

Oct 1 Youth Group BBQ Kickoff – Soc. Ctr. – 6:00 pm

Oct 2 Health & Wellness Fair – Auditorium – 10:00 am

Oct 4 Indonesian Fellowship – Deacons Rm – 4:00 pm

Oct 5 Blood Drive – Dining Room – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Oct 5 2nd Hour: Malawi – Chapel – 10:30 am

Oct 5 Candlelight Concert – Sanctuary – 7:00 pm

Oct 6 Horizon Bible Study – PW Lounge – 6:00 pm

Oct 7 Deacons Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm

Oct 9 Local Mission Meeting – Auditorium – 11:45 am

Oct 12 Food Pantry Ribbon Cutting – Social Center
11:00 am - Noon

Oct 14 Unicameral Board – Chapel/Zoom – 7:30 pm

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received September 14

Pledge	\$ 9,654
Non-pledge	\$ 933
Cash	\$ 311
Deacons	\$ 60
Food Pantry	\$ 418

TOTAL: \$ 11,376

OTHER RECEIPTS \$ 160 (Parking)

HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

Direct Cash or check in the plate are always welcome!

Online From our website fpcweb.org/give, click on the **Give Online** button. This will redirect you to the Vanco app to set up your donation.

Thank you for your generous support!

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

Associate Pastor: Rev. Khayla Johnson

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer

Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas

Indonesian Pastoral Supply: Rev. Leksmana Leonard

Director of Music Ministries: Jordan Klotz

Minister of Music Emeritus: Brenda Arnold Day

Director for Christian Education: Nancy Leardi

YOUTH GROUP & JUNIOR CLUB

BBQ

KICKOFF



SOCIAL CENTER



1ST OF OCTOBER

6 PM

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of the year with food, fun and fellowship! For more information contact Nancy Leardi or Rev. Johnson.



Health AND WELLNESS FAIR

Hosted by the:

FPC Food Pantry &
Social Justice Committee

Thursday Oct. 2, 2025
10am – 1pm
in the Social Center

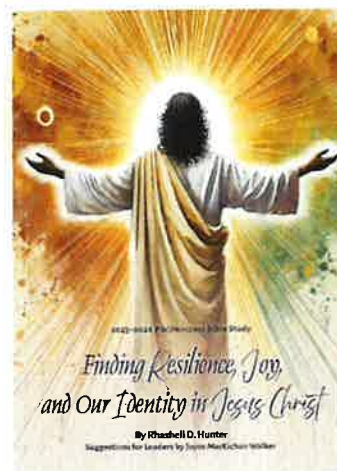
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Take advantage of this free event hosted by the Food Pantry and the Social Justice Committee.

HORIZON BIBLE STUDY

Who doesn't need
some JOY?

Join the new PW
Horizons Bible Study
and begin "*Finding
Resilience, Joy and Our
Identity in Jesus
Christ!*" We start with
Resilience on **Monday,
October 6, at 6:00 pm,**
in the PW Lounge.



Mary Kay Dangremond will facilitate the study and will challenge us to explore the story of Mary Magdalene, "a towering witness to the resurrection."

We continue on to find Joy and Identity on the first Monday of every month through June 2026. We welcome all in person or via Zoom.

The Study is available online or in paperback. Email Deb Teall for more information: debteallditor@gmail.com

Phantom of the Opera

SILENT FILM WITH LIVE ORGAN IMPROVISED SOUNDTRACK

Sunday, October 5 | 7:00 PM
First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen

Jordan Klotz, organist

Grant funding has been provided by the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners through a grant award from the Middlesex County Cultural and Arts Trust Fund.



Our Candlelight Concert Series begins October 5 with a presentation of the 1925 film, Phantom of the Opera. Our Director of Music Ministries, Jordan Klotz, will be improvising the soundtrack from the organ in real time.

Suggested donation: \$22/adults, \$15/seniors, and 17 & under/free.



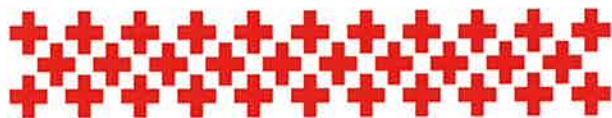
Sunday, September 28th 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us as we host Grammy award-winning conductor, Donald Nally, and the Westminster Choir of Westminster Choir College for this free concert. The Westminster Choir will also be our guest choir during the 9:30 a.m. worship service on September 28th.



American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives



BLOOD DRIVE

**First Presbyterian Church of
Metuchen
Social Center**

Sunday, October 5, 2025

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW!

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: FPCM to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation and help more patients. If you are an eligible type O, B– or A– donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component. Streamline your donation experience to save up to 15 minutes by using [RedCrossBlood.org/Rapid Pass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass). Use the QR codes below to schedule your appointment and use Rapid Pass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history.

Scan to
Register



Scan for
RAPID PASS



Come to give blood Sept. 22 – Oct. 19 for a \$10 Amazon gift card by email! See rcblood.org/fall.

Questions? Contact: Wendy Kukowski
(732)9832457 / wkukowski14@gmail.com