



August 16, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
12th 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

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME & TIDINGS

Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come to the house of the Lord, you who are weary and heavy laden;

All: **Come to the house of the Lord, and you will find rest and reprieve.**

Leader: For the mercies of the lord are endless, abounding in steadfast love.

All: **The joy of the Lord comes with the morning; let it be so today.**

Leader: Be gracious and slow to anger, be kind and ready with compassion.

All: **For this is the path where we walk in the light of the Lord.**

*HYMN 403 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

UNSER HERRSCHER

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

May we who are quick to judge give time for grace to speak.

May we who make our way with worry learn to abide in peace and hope.

May we who gather stones cast empty our hands of ridicule.

May we who take delight in downfall lift those who have fallen.

May we who fear the truth step into the light of the noonday.

God of mercy, forgive our sins. 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

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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

*GLORIA



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

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nursery care is available in Room 107.

BLESSING OF THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TEAM

LISTENING

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Lamentations 1:1-6 (Old Testament page 762)
This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

Glenn Merritt

SOLO Let All the World In Every Corner Sing

Calvin Hampton

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 19:45-47 (New Testament page 83)
This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Why the Tears?

Rev. Dr. Fred. G. Garry

RESPONDING

SETTLING OF THE WORD

*HYMN 792 There Is a Balm in Gilead

BALM IN GILEAD

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

Clerks of Session, Charlie Day and Sandy Slobodien

*CONFESSION OF FAITH (from the *Brief Statement of Faith*)

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

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 triune 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

Guests and visitors are invited to complete the orange Welcome Cards located in your pews.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

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 not fall into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, forever.

Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 286 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Marilyn Avery
from her husband Ron, son Gordon and daughter Laurieann.*

*Our greeter this morning is June Young, and the ushers are Amy Bellisano,
Sandra Laluw, and Andrene Sinclair-Pennix.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Lamentations 1:1-6

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become subject to forced labor.

She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers, she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies.

Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations; she finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate; her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.

Her foes have become the masters; her enemies prosper because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:45-47

Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there, and he said,

"It is written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of robbers."

Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him, but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty 403

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so
 3 Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be

en - ter there, where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me; where we find thee and a - dore thee,
 done in - deed; may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee,

waits for God who an - swers prayer; O how bless - ed
 there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O
 while thou dost thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace.
 en - ter thou; let it be thy tem - ple now.
 foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

In the first stanza "Zion" is not a general synonym for Jerusalem but a reference to the part of the city where the Temple stood. It prepares the way for the interior temple of the heart in stanza two. The pre-existing tune is by a prominent German Reformed hymnwriter.

There Is a Balm in Gilead 792

Refrain

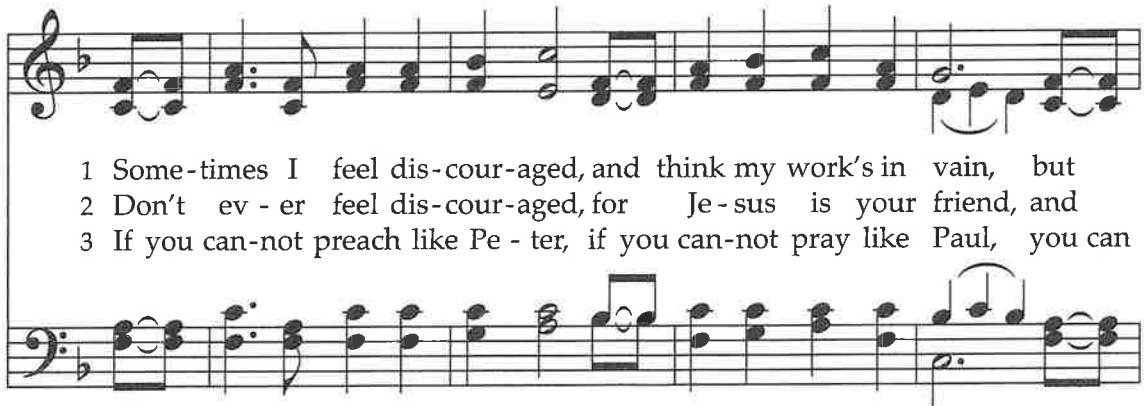


There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

Fine

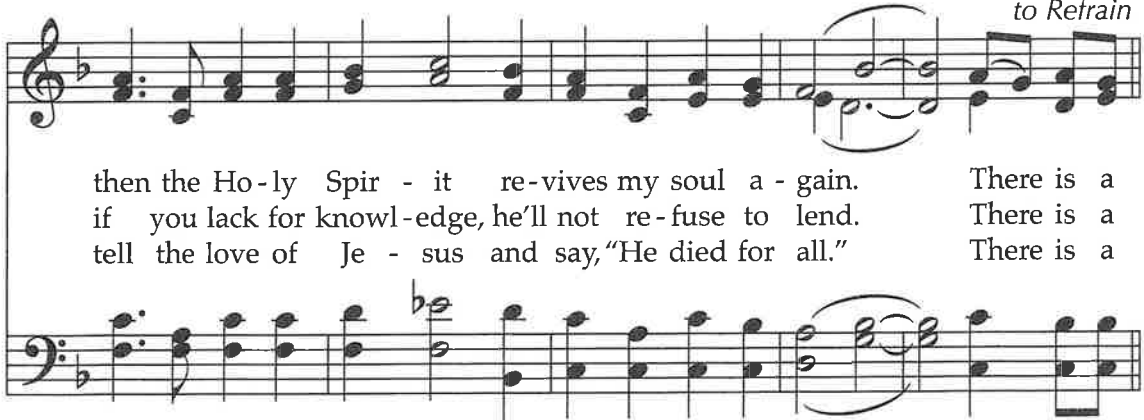


there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged, and think my work's in vain, but
 2 Don't ev-er feel dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend, and
 3 If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can

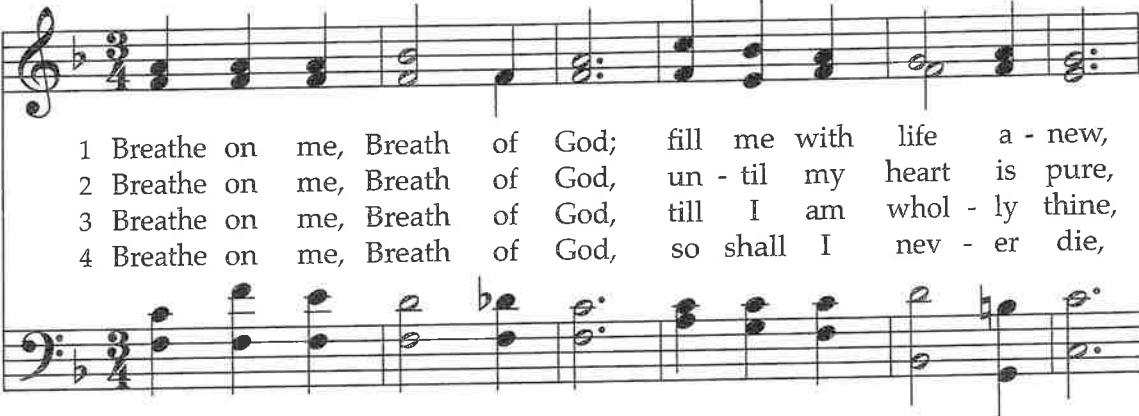
to Refrain



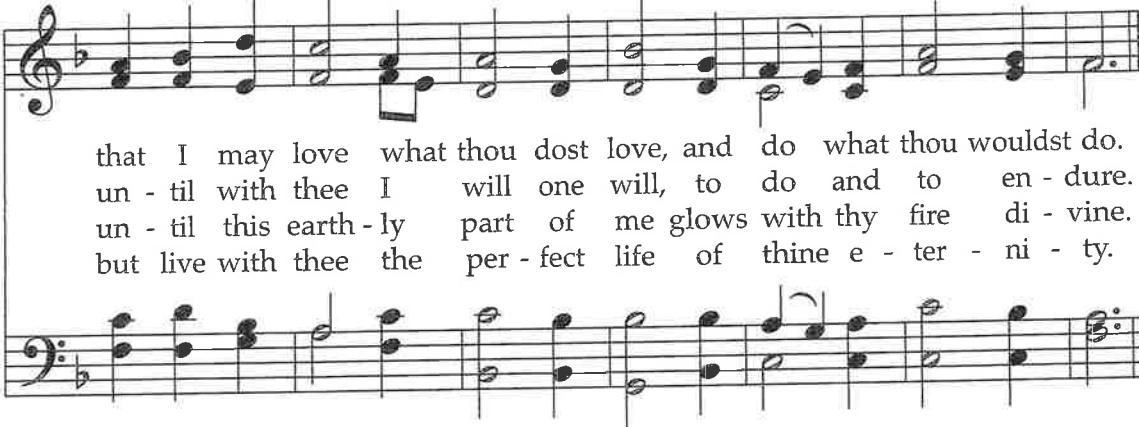
then the Ho-ly Spir - it re-vives my soul a - gain. There is a
 if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll not re-fuse to lend. There is a
 tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all." There is a

This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."

Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286



1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,



that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
 un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
 un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
 but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878
 MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM
 SM

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.

Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)
 *Lynne Angley
 John Bertelsen and family (*Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
 Linda Burr (*June Young's sister*)
 Pat Byrne (*Sue Harmon's brother-in-law*)
 *Helen Burr-Cackowski
 Dorothy Canary (*aunt of Sue Harmon*)
 Luis Canton (*Laurie Toth's father*)
 Diane Cassidy (*Susan Kozo's cousin*)
Michael Cook (*Dan Cook's brother*)
 Sophie Culton (*friend of the Reed family*)
 *Mary Kay Dangremond
 George Doerbecker (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)
 Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)
 *Judy Fuller
 *Doris Gulotta
 *Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)
 *Margaret Hathaway
 *Noah Haulenbeek
 Teresa Prete-Kaltenbach (*friend of the Hajjar family*)
 *Brad Keller
 *Susan Kozo

Jetty Mailangkay (*wife of Rev. Herby Moningka*)
 Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law*)
 Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)
 Joseph Neupauer (*Marie Hoffsommer's brother*)
 Alvin Newton (*Virginia Shaw's brother*)
 Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)
 Dorothy Pennix (*Mother-in-law of Andrene Sinclair-Pennix*)
 *Javier Robles
 Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehbler*)
 *Dave Ryder
 Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
 Katie Strittmatter (*friend of Kozo-Mollison family*)
 Art Wegg
 Bud Wilson (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)
 Janice Wojcik (*sister of Karen Keithler*)
 David Wong
 *Lynn Hendricks Wong

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

*Members of the church

PASTORAL CARE: If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact Dr. Rev. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590 or Rev. Khayla J. Henry 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:

Jeremy B., US Air Force, Stationed in Arkansas (*Son of Andrene Pennix's co-worker*)
 PFC Daniel Eide, stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona (*grandson of Mary Ann Eide*)
 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, Chicago, IL (*Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law*)
 Lt. Col. Matthew McQueeney, USAF, Commander, Kadena AFB, Okinawa (*Son/Stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano*)
 LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Pennix Family friend*)
 Mark Robinson, 82nd Airborne Division, deployed (*son of Steve and Moggie Davis's 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, AUGUST 16

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

After Worship Refreshments – Chapel 10:30 a.m.

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

Capital Campaign Team Meeting – Dining Room/PW Lounge

. 7:00 p.m.

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

Men's Breakfast – Dining Room 7:30 a.m.

Local Mission Volunteer Luncheon – Dining Room

. 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Support Group – Chapel 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

Pastoral Bible Study – PW Lounge 10:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

Blood Drive – Dining Room 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:

Scan the QR code or visit our website

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



COMING SOON

Aug 23 New Member Class – Chapel – 10:30 am

Aug 29 Joint Elders and Deacons Retreat – Social Center
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Aug 30 New Member Class – Chapel – 10:30 am

Aug 31 CARE Team – Office Conference Room – 3:00 pm

Sep 13 First Meeting of Confirmation Class

Sep 13 Community Dinner – Dining Room – 5:00 pm

Sep 20 Rally Day / Blessing of the Backpacks

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received August 9

Pledge	\$ 4,793
Non-pledge	\$ 555
Cash	\$ 163
Deacons	\$ 110
Other funds	\$ 70

TOTAL: \$ 5,691

OTHER RECEIPTS \$1,230

(Parking and Building Rental)

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 J. Henry

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

Donate Blood

IN HONOR OF NOAH

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, August 22, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

FPC Social Center Dining Room

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW!

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or
visit RedCrossBlood.org

Enter: FPCM to schedule an appointment

Streamline your donation and save up to 15 minutes by
using RedCrossBlood.org/Rapid Pass. 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



Donors receive a \$20 Amazon gift card
by email.



Questions? Contact Deacon Wendy Kukowski.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TEAM

With much gratitude, we introduce to you the
Capital Campaign Team, and we ask for your prayers
and support for the big endeavor ahead.

Amy Bellisano

Jordan Klotz

Bob Rosko

Kevin Trolaro

Brenda Day

Rev. Khayla Henry

Cathy Ostermueller

Rev. Leksmana Leonard

Colleen Walker

Lori Kellner

Dan Cook

Maggy Cook

Deb Teall

Margo Gunsser

Rev. Fred Garry

Nancy Leardi

Gary Ostermueller

Niall Corbalis

Heather Koball

Paul Gunsser

Jane Meyer

Virginia Shaw

METUCHEN CARES

(Community Action for Recovery, Education, and Support)



5th Annual Overdose Awareness Day

Monday, August 31st at 7:00 PM
at the Metuchen Borough Hall*

* Watch out for announcement in case of inclement weather

By recognizing addiction as a disease and understanding its symptoms and
consequences without judgment, we can overcome the stigma, isolation, and
destruction that afflict those with a substance use disorder and their families.

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- A featured speaker who is in long-term recovery and offers a story of HOPE!
- A Candlelight Vigil to remember those who have lost their lives to this disease
- Informational pamphlets and resources
- Free NARCAN kits will be available at 6:30 PM
- Ice Cream treats provided by What's the Scoop

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Families with children in middle school, high school,
and beyond are encouraged to attend.

There were 69,973 overdose deaths in the United
States in 2025.

METUCHEN IS NOT IMMUNE TO THIS DISEASE!

For more information about Metuchen CARES, as
well as addiction, recovery, and prevention, please
visit www.metuchennj.org, then go to "Boards and
Commissions" and click on "CARES".



Family at First Pres

RALLY DAY SUNDAY

September 20, 2026

9:30 AM

Join us on Rally Day for an intergenerational worship, Blessing of the Backpacks, Gaga Pit and Coffee Hour.

Something for Everyone

FIRST TUESDAY CLUB (From K-2nd Grade)

JUNIOR CLUB (From 3rd-6th Grade)

YOUTH GROUP (7th-12th)

Carol Choir (Age 4 to 2nd Grade)

Junior Choir (3rd to 6th Grades)

Joy Ringers (3rd to 6th Grades)

Westminster Choir (7th to 12th Grades)

Trinity Ringers (7th Grade to Adults)

Habitat for Humanity

Vacation Bible Camp

Your family has a home at FPC Metuchen, a friendly and welcoming church that believes in and lives Jesus' teachings of love, caring, and inclusion. All levels of faith are welcomed - questioning, visiting, and firmly established.



Register for Children and Youth programming online using the QR code below. Or download from FPC website <https://fpcweb.org/resources/forms/> and submit to the church office.



Contact

Youth Group: Rev. Khayla Henry
(732) 491-2302 | kjohnson@fpcweb.org

Music Programs: Jordan Klotz
(732) 491-2266 or jklotz@fpcweb.org

Christian Education: Nancy Leardi
(732) 491-2264 or nleardi@fpcweb.org