



August 23, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.  
13<sup>th</sup> 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

# GATHERING

## ENTRANCE OF CHRIST'S LIGHT

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

**PRELUDE** How Firm a Foundation

arr. Emily Maxson Porter

## WELCOME & TIDINGS

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We give thanks to God with our whole heart.

**All: We give thanks for God's steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Leader: Though high above all things, God sees the lowly.

**All: Even when we are in deep trouble, God makes us live again.**

Leader: The love of God lasts forever.

**All: Let us worship God together**

**\*HYMN 463** How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

## \*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Merciful God,

we confess that we have been distracted  
by the ways of the world.

We think too highly of ourselves  
and forget others.

We praise power and possessions,  
instead of praising you.

We let conflicts prevail over grace  
and divisions over harmony.

Have mercy upon us, we pray.

Forgive and transform us,  
that we may be holy and acceptable to you,  
discerning and doing your will.

Through Jesus Christ we pray. 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*

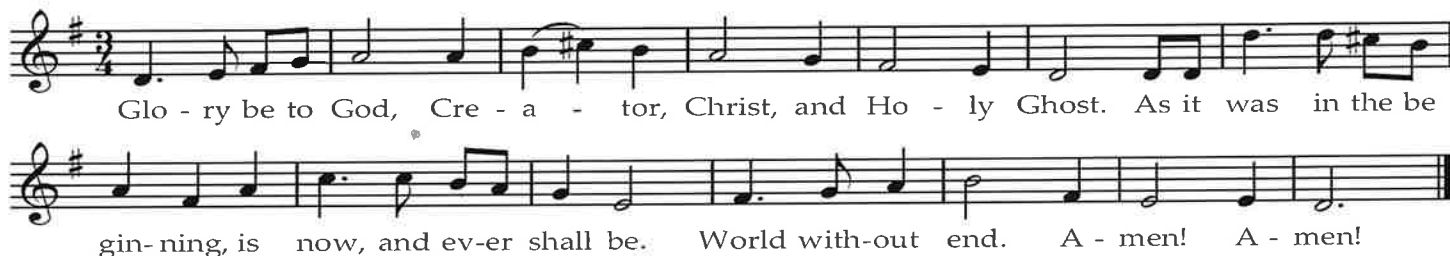
**\*Please rise in body or spirit.**

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

All: Thanks be to God.

## \*GLORIA



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

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Nursery care is available in Room 107.

## LISTENING

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 138 (Old Testament page 577)

Sue West

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

ANTHEM Christ Has Broken Down the Wall

Summer Choir

Mark Miller

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Romans 12:1-8 (New Testament page 161)

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

SERMON

One Plus One

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

## RESPONDING

### SETTLING OF THE WORD

\*HYMN 321 The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

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

Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

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

**OFFERTORY** Improvisation on Aurelia

**\*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**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

**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 733** We All Are One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Fugue in c minor

Johann Pachelbel

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

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are from:*

*Niall Corbalis given in loving memory of his Mom and Dad, and  
Deb Teall, with gratitude for the Capital Campaign Team for their vision and faith.*

*The flowers in the Niche are from the Bedeneks given in honor of their Mema, Jeanette Lipp,  
in celebration of her 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday.*

*Our greeter this morning is Sue West, and the ushers are Andrene Sinclair-Pennix,  
Joan Kenyon, and Heather Casey.*

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

### Psalm 138

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. On the day I called, you answered me; you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me. The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

**SCRIPTURE READER:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

### Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**SCRIPTURE READER:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

## 463

## How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

## The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord.  
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has un - ion with God, the Three in One,

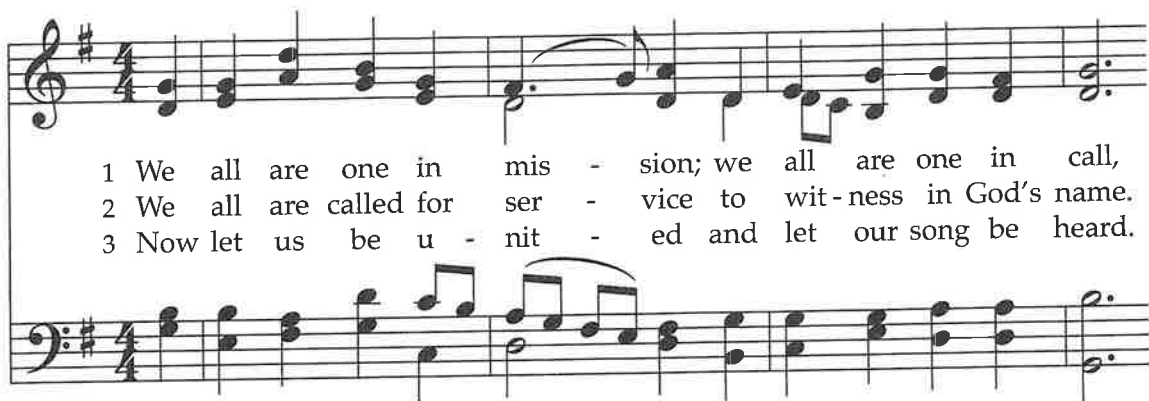
She is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more:  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride.  
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.  
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

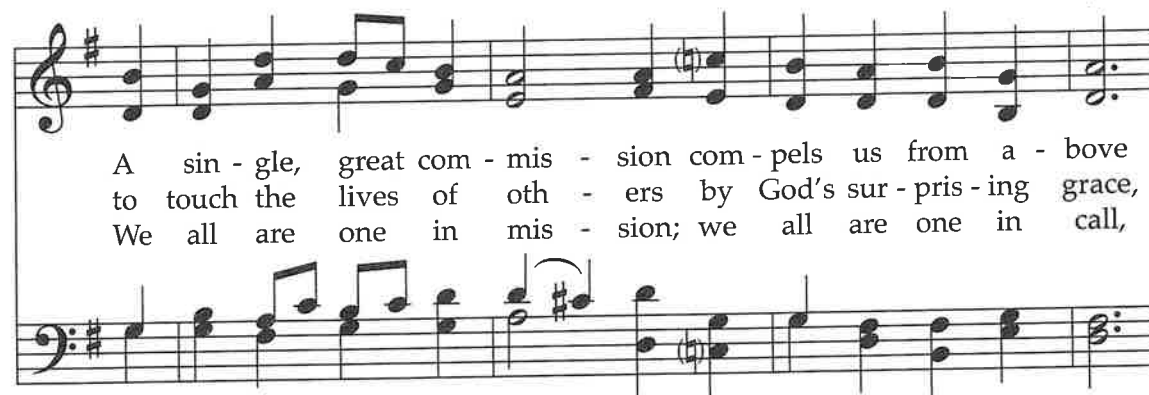
## 733 We All Are One in Mission



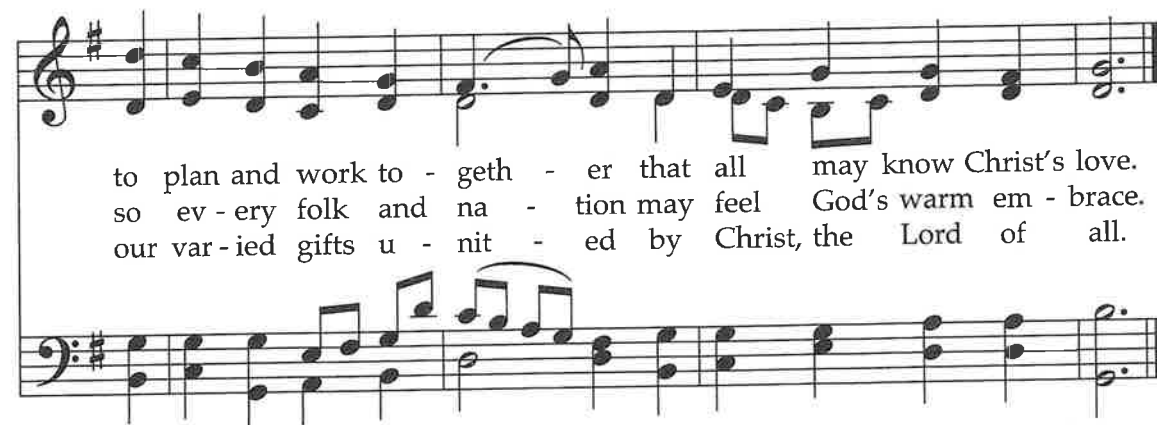
1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
 2 We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.  
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
 Our min - is - tries are dif - ferent; our pur - pose is the same:  
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing word.



A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
 so ev - ery folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

A Lutheran pastor wrote this text in response to a bishop's letter that said, "Our mission is to touch the lives of others with Christ's love." This theme is made stronger by recognizing that shared purposes do not require the denial of diversity but are enriched by it.

## 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*)

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

**Ed Kopetz (*Betty Kopetz's brother*)**

\*Susan Kozo

Jetty Mailangkay (*wife of Rev. Herby Moningka*)

Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law*)

Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)

**Jean Miller (*Allison Brennan's aunt*)**

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*)

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, 82<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 23

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

New Member Class – Session Room . . . . . 10:30 a.m.

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

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary . . . . . Noon

### MONDAY, AUGUST 24

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

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

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

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

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

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

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

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

Joint Elders/Deacons Retreat – Social Center

. . . . . 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:

Scan the QR code or visit our website

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



## COMING SOON

Aug 30 New Member Class – Session Room – 10:30 am

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

Sep 10 Local Mission Meeting – Food Pantry – 12:00 pm

Sep 13 First Meeting of Confirmation Class

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

Sep 16 B & G – PW Lounge – 8:00 am

Sep 16 Finance Commission – Office Conf. Room – 7:00 pm

Sep 17 Mission Commission – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm

Sep 17 Mission Volunteer Night – Auditorium – 7:00 pm

Sep 20 Rally Day / Blessing of the Backpacks

## TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received August 16

Pledge \$ 7,893

Non-pledge \$ 370

Cash \$ 224

Food Pantry \$ 200

Other funds \$ 406

**TOTAL: \$ 9,093**

## OTHER RECEIPTS \$303

**(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](https://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

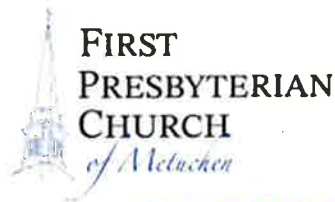
**Parish Associate** Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas

**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



# FREE COMMUNITY DINNER



**Sunday, September 13**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Social Center Dining Room**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN**

270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

Join us in community and fellowship as we feast on roast BBQ pork, mac and cheese, coleslaw, green salad, and a delicious homemade dessert.

**WE HAVE A PLACE AT THE TABLE FOR YOU.**

The Deacons are excited to bring back the free community dinners. If you would like to help in any way – before, during or after the dinner – please let us know. Call or email the church office: (732) 491-2300 and [fpc@fpcweb.org](mailto:fpc@fpcweb.org)

## METUCHEN CARES

(Community Action for Recovery, Education, and Support)



## 5th Annual Overdose Awareness Day

**Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.metuchennj.org), then go to "Boards and Commissions" and click on "CARES".



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](mailto:kjohnson@fpcweb.org)

Music Ministry: Jordan Klotz  
(732) 491-2266 | [jklotz@fpcweb.org](mailto:jklotz@fpcweb.org)

Christian Education: Nancy Leardi  
(732) 491-2264 | [nleardi@fpcweb.org](mailto:nleardi@fpcweb.org)



## Family at First Pres

### RALLY DAY SUNDAY

### September 20, 2026

### 9:30 AM

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

## Something for Everyone!

First Tuesday Club (K-2nd Grade)

Junior Club (3rd-6th Grade)

Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)

Carol Choir (Age 4-2nd Grade)

Junior Choir (3rd-6th Grade)

Joy Ringers (3rd-6th Grade)

Westminster Choir (7th-12th Grade)

Trinity Ringers (7th-12th Grade)

Habitat for Humanity

Vacation Bible Camp

Your family has a home at FPC Metuchen! We are an open and affirming church that believes and lives Jesus' teachings of **love**, **caring**, and **inclusion**. Whether you're a lifelong Christian, a first-time visitor, or curious to learn more, you are welcome!

