First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen



November 8, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

24th 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 Improvisation on St. Anne

WELCOME & TIDINGS Rev. Khayla J. Henry

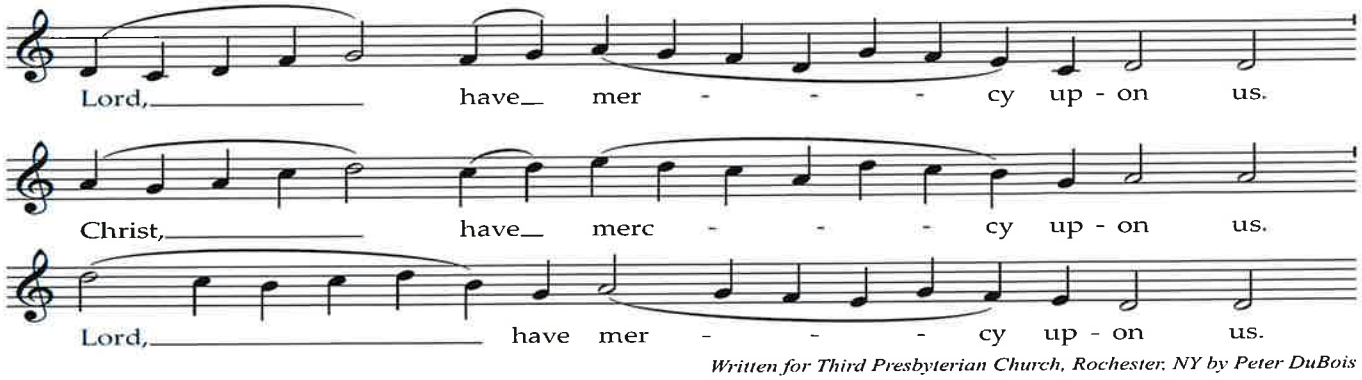
INTROIT If Ye Love Me Senior Choir Thomas Tallis

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Khayla J. Henry
Leader: This is the house of God, a house of prayer.
All: Here we make our petitions and our confessions.
Leader: This is the house of God, a house of song.
All: Here we lift our voice as one to give praise.
Leader: This is the house of God, a sanctuary and refuge.
All: Here the outcast is welcome; here the lost are found.
Leader: Let us worship God in prayer and song.
All: Let us join our hearts and make peace on earth.

***HYMN 301** Let Us Build a House TWO OAKS

***OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION**
God of mercy, hear our prayer.
Give us eyes to see the generations before us.
Let us see those:
who built a prayer house atop a gentle hill,
who built a new house of prayer,
who saw slavery's end and a nation restored.
Give us eyes to see the last century.
Let us see those who built a new life
from the ashes of war and walked on the moon.
Give us eyes to see the future.
Let us see those who will come after us,
who will give thanks for what you called us to do.
God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

***KYRIE**



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

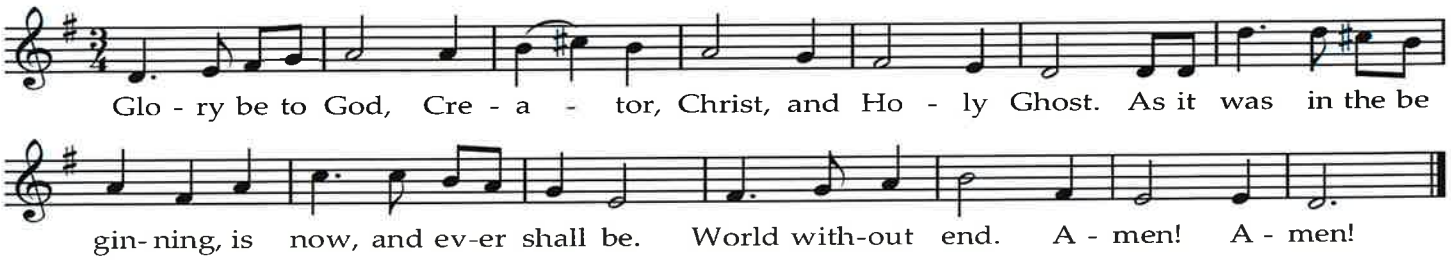
***Please rise in body or spirit.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Rev. Khayla J. Henry

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 Nancy Leardi & Kim Ryder

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children in Pre-K through 6th grade are invited to the GLOW Room for LEGO Sunday with Mrs. Fischer.

LISTENING

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Nehemiah 4:1-6 (Old Testament page 433) Cameron Hayes-Durina

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

ANTHEM O God, Our Help In Ages Past Senior Choir Mark Miller

SECOND SCRIPTURE Luke 21:20-24 (New Testament page 85)

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

SERMON Seventeen Times Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

RESPONDING

SETTLING OF THE WORD

***HYMN 769** For Everyone Born FOR EVERYONE BORN

***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 Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OFFERTORY Rhosymedre — Ralph Vaughan Williams

***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 8** Eternal Father, Strong to Save — MELITA

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Toccata — Johann Pachelbel

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of David Welsh from BJ and Taylor Welsh, and in loving memory of Jim Kozo on his 85th birthday from his family.

The flowers in the Niche are given by Mimi in honor of her beautiful granddaughter Cameron Dawn whose birthday is on November 6, and GG's birthday on November 9.

Our greeters this morning are the Puniello family, and the ushers are Andrene Pennix, Betty Kopetz, and June Young.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 4:1-6

Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he mocked the Jews. He said in the presence of his associates and of the army of Samaria, "What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they restore it by themselves? Will they offer sacrifice? Will they finish it in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish—burned ones at that?" Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, "That stone wall they are building—any fox going up on it would break it down!" Hear, O our God, for we are despised; turn their taunt back on their own heads, and give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. Do not cover their guilt, and do not let their sin be blotted out from your sight, for they have raged against the builders.

So we rebuilt the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:20-24

"When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it, for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the nations, until the times of the nations are fulfilled.

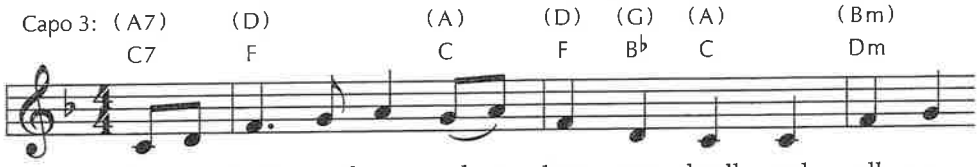
SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.
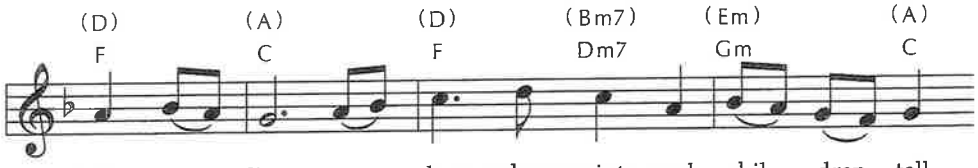
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301 Let Us Build a House

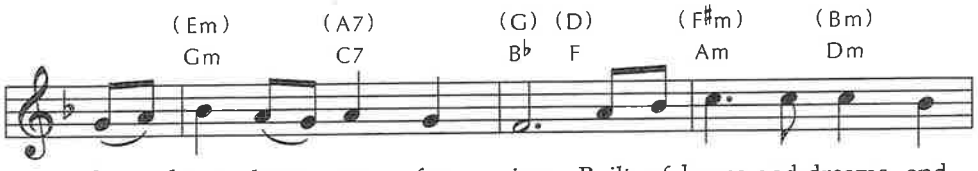
All Are Welcome
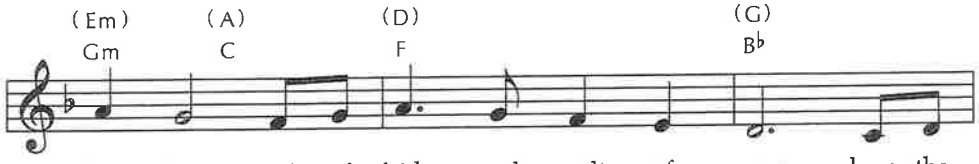


1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed
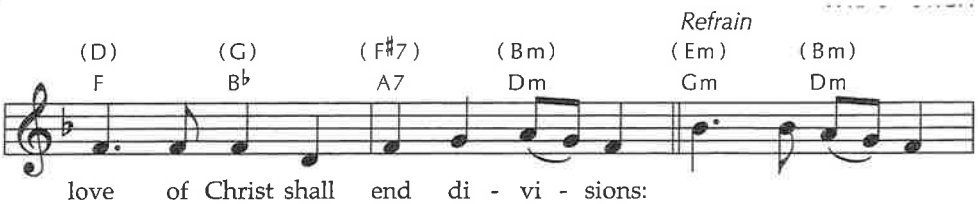


how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

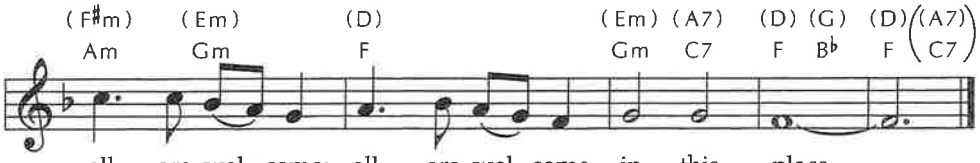


vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Refrain
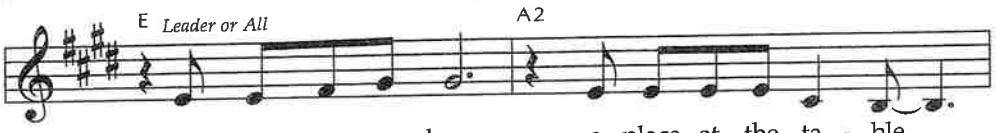


love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

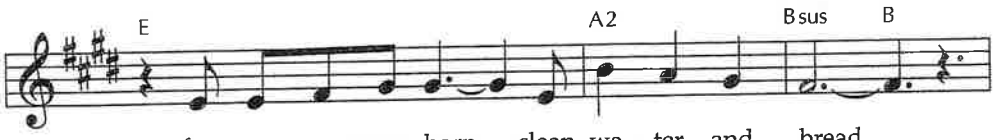


all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.
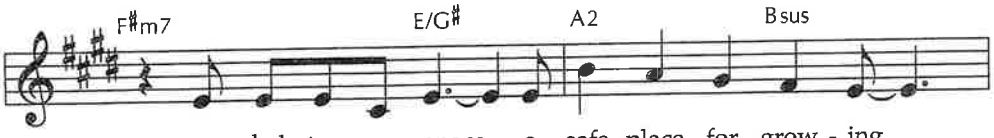
769 For Everyone Born
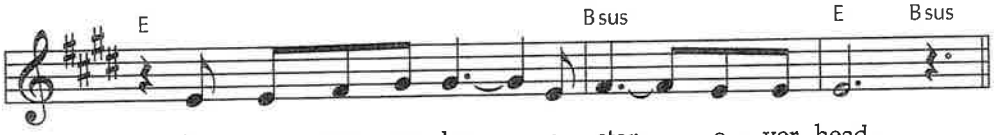


1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
for young and for old, the right to be - long,
for just and un - just, a new way to live,
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,
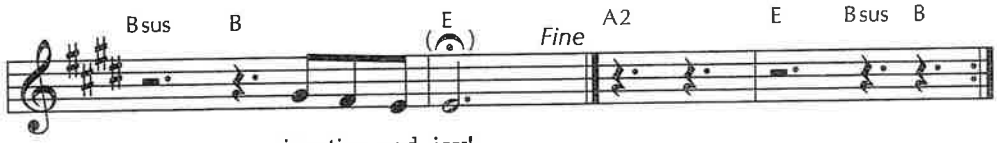


and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,
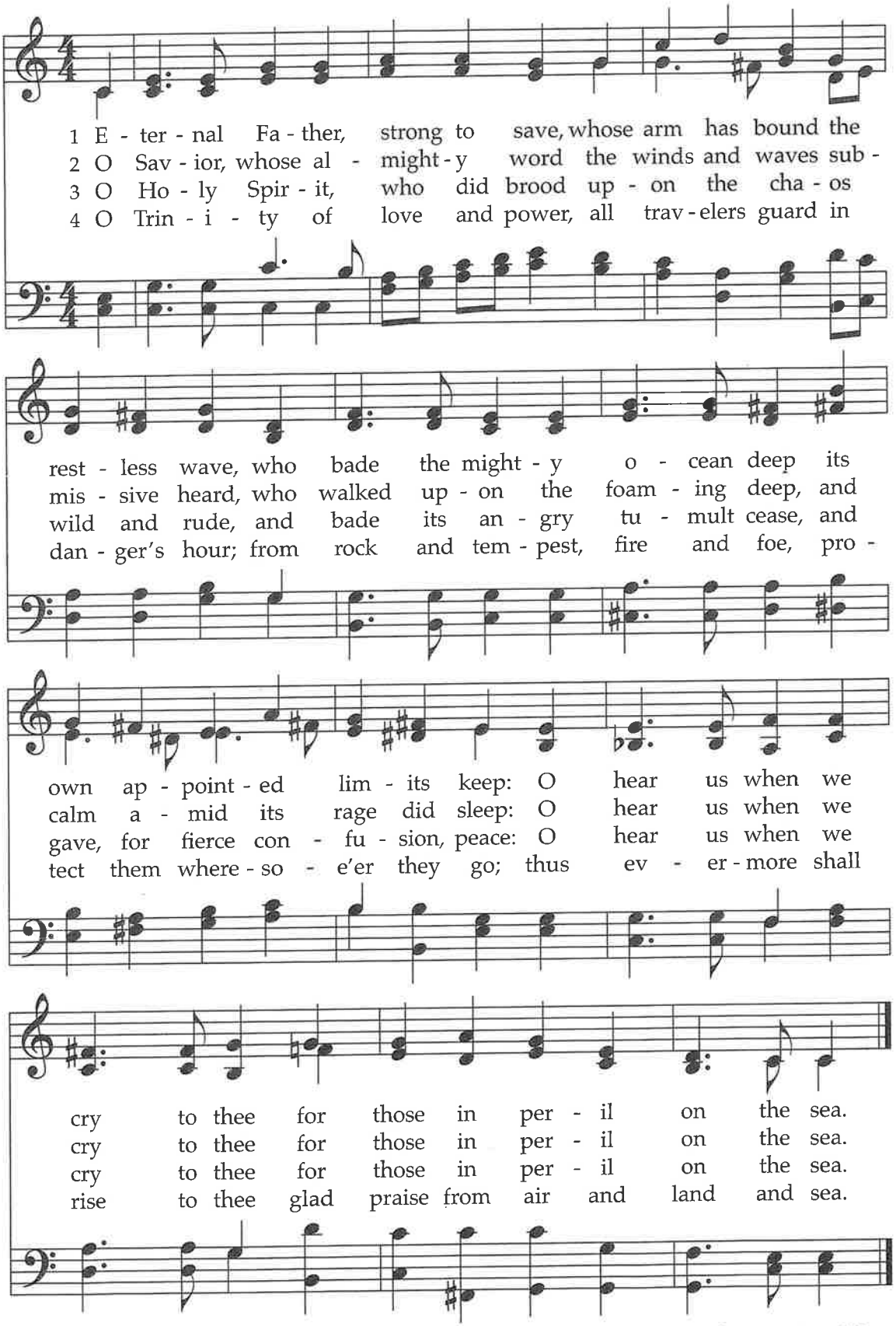


God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!

8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save



The year after this text was written for a student sailing to America, it was included in the most influential British hymnal of the 19th century. The tune especially composed for it preserves the ancient Roman name of the island where Paul was shipwrecked, now called Malta.

TEXT: William Whiting, 1860, alt.
MUSIC: John Bacchus Dykes, 1861

MELITA
8.8.8.8.8.8

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
Nicole Bellisano (*sister-in-law of Amy and Pete Bellisano*)
Christine Whalen Bender *(friend of Allison Brennan)*
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)*
Sophie Culton *(friend of the Reed family)*
*Mary Kay Dangremond
George Doerbecker *(friend of Kristina Scoglio)*
Hank Frank, Jr. *(Deb Teall's partner)*
Timothy Freeman *(Marie Freeman's son)*
*Judy Fuller
*Doris Gulotta
*Joey Hale *(Son of Matt and Laura Hale)*
*Margaret Hathaway
*Noah Haulenbeek
Ed Kopetz *(Betty Kopetz's brother)*
*Susan Kozo
Jetty Mailangkay *(wife of Rev. Herby Moningka)*

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law)*
*Jan Margolis
Elliot Miller *(Larrie Servino's brother)*
Jean Miller *(Allison Brennan's aunt)*
*Joe Njuguna and family
Joseph Neupauer *(Marie Hoffsommer's brother)*
Alvin Newton *(Virginia Shaw's brother)*
Virginia Newton *(Virginia Shaw's mother)*
Joan Niederer *(friend of the Gunsser's)*
Jeff Rubin *(friend of June Keehbler)*
*Dave Ryder
Angela Sampoli *(friend of Dawn Adam)*
*Sanger Family
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
*** Young Family**

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS OF COMFORT

For Larry and Kelsee Young on the sudden passing of wife and mother, Kim Young, on November 4.
A funeral service is planned for November 10. Please call the office as details are still being finalized.

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, On deployment from 6 to 9 months *(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, NOVEMBER 8
Worship Service - Sanctuary and Virtual . . . . . 9:30 a.m.
Confirmation Class – Senior High Room . . . . . 10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hour – Chapel . . . . . 10:30 a.m.
2nd Hour with Rev. Beringer – Room 106/Zoom . . 10:30 a.m.
Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary . . . . . Noon
Community Dinner – Social Center . . . . . 5:00 p.m.

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Carol Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
1st Tuesday – GLOW Room . . . . . 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Unicameral Board Meeting – Dining Room . . . . . 7:30 p.m.
Support Group – Chapel. . . . . 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Men's Breakfast – Dining Room . . . . . 7:30 a.m.
Pastoral Bible Study – PW Lounge . . . . . 10:30 a.m.
Westminster Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Creative Giving – Church Office/Zoom . . . . . .7:00 p.m.
Youth Group - Room 201 . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Local Mission Meeting – Food Pantry . . . . . Noon
Junior Choir – Choir Room . . . . . .4:15 - 5:00 p.m.
Joy Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . .5:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Support Group – Chapel . . . . . .6:30 -8:30 p.m.
Covenant Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Senior Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Women's AA Support Grp – Chapel . . . . . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:
Scan the QR code or visit our website
https://bit.ly/4emWby6

COMING SOON

Nov 15 Launch of Advent Angels
Nov 15 Capital Campaign Commitment Celebration – Social Center – 10:30 am
Nov 17 Personnel Meeting – Zoom – 7:30 pm
Nov 17 Social Justice Meeting – PW Lounge – 7:30 pm
Nov 18 Finance Commission – Office Conference – 7 pm
Nov 18 Prayer Shawl Circle – Session Room – 7 pm
Nov 18 Youth Friendsgiving – Dining Room
Nov 19 Junior Club – GLOW Room – 5:30-6:15 pm
Nov 19 Stargazing – Ballfield behind Social Center
Nov 21 Mission Volunteer Day – Auditorium – 9:00 am
Nov 22 Advent Family Workshop – GLOW Room – 10:30 am
Nov 23 Thanksgiving Packing – Auditorium – 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Nov 24 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution – 9:00-11:00 am
Nov 25 Lunch and Games – Social Center – Noon -3:00 pm

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received November 1

Pledge	$ 9,186
Non-pledge	$ 195
Deacons	$ 241
Other funds	$ 305
TOTAL:	**$ 9,927**

OTHER RECEIPTS $975
(Parking & 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



Discovering Together: The Secret of Their Greatness

Today, November 8
10:30 am
Room 106 & Zoom

Led by Rev. Bob Beringer

Our Pastor Emeritus Rev. Bob Beringer will be joining us remotely by Zoom to share on two extraordinary 20th century women whose lives of faith have inspired him. Rev. Beringer will talk about Corrie Ten Boom and Frances Perkins with whom he shares a personal connection.
May this time with Rev. Beringer "touch the heart, address the will, mold the mind and instill holy habits."

Join us in person in Room 106 or zoom in using this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81437594741 or go to Zoom and enter meeting ID: 814 3759 4741

Our Hope *for* Years to Come

In prayer, we find strength, courage, and peace. God illumines the right path when we pause, reflect, and pray.

In gratitude for all God has done for us and for our congregation, we humbly ask you to join in our prayer, **"God, what do you want to do through me?"** Let us remember God's faithfulness to each of us as we walk this journey together.

Be sure to check out our resource materials in the narthex or by scanning the QR code below.

Please join us after worship on Sunday, November 15 for a catered brunch to celebrate our progress! Children's activities, delicious food, and more are in store for our festivities!

Questions? Please reach out to our campaign chairs or the church office. Our goal is that every member feels fully informed.

First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER



TODAY
November 8
5:00 pm
Social Center Dining Room
270 Woodbridge Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Join us in community and fellowship as we feast on roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, salad, crusty rolls and apple and pumpkin pies for dessert.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

WE HAVE A PLACE AT THE TABLE FOR YOU.

CREATIVE GIVING



IS OUR VISION.

Learn how.

We are happy to welcome the Ministry Relations Officer of the NE Region of the Presbyterian Foundation, the Rev. Dr. Rose Niles, as she presents ways you can use different assets and resources to fulfill your annual pledges and capital campaign contributions.
A life-long Presbyterian, Rev. Rose loves working with churches and individuals to help them flourish in their stewardship of resources. Join in-person or by zoom.



November 11, Wednesday
7:00 p.m.
Church office or Zoom
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/826888241(
6?pwd=Rxs5LmjHQ5NpUTbQs0kMXYpb:
7VLWC.1 Use meeting ID: 826 8882 410(
and passcode: 278226

Questions? Contact Kevin at ktrolaro@fpcweb.org or (732) 491-2303

From the MISSION COMMISSION

The Mission Commission would like to share and express their gratitude to the church family for their support and generosity.

In last month's celebration of World Communion Sunday, a total of $1,645 in donations was received that will be directed toward local and global mission.

Secondly, a total of $1,775 was raised at last week's Hunger Walk which aims to fight food insecurity.



FPC Metuchen was represented by 13 walkers in the MEAICA-sponsored Hunger Walk



Calling All Bakers!

We invite you to donate your baked sweets for the PW Holly Fair on Saturday, December 5!

At Coffee Hour each Sunday from November 8 to 29, sign up and pick up your FREE baker's boxes. You are welcome to drop off your baked goods between December 1 to 3rd in the Social Center kitchen, and marked "PW."

Questions? Contact Cindy O'Neill or Deb Teall.



Supported by Princeton Theological Seminary, the Crossroads Project offers a welcoming fellowship designed to explore how children with autism experience and express their faith. Open to anyone, this initiative invites participants to learn directly from neurodivergent perspectives and foster more inclusive spiritual communities.