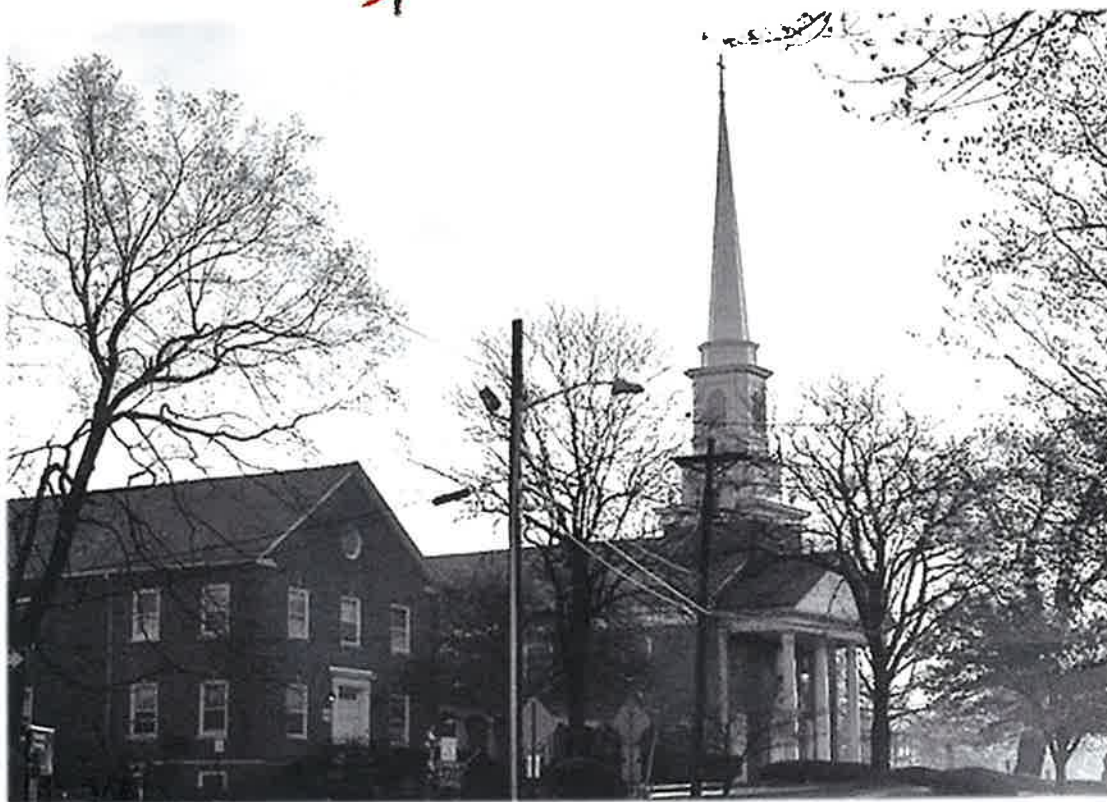




**First Presbyterian Church  
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN**

### **VISION**

To be an inclusive, connected, and loving community mobilized to serve Jesus Christ.

### **MISSION**

We are a welcoming and diverse congregation that serves God by improving the spiritual, the mental and physical well-being of people in our community and beyond through worship, education, fellowship, music, and mission outreach.

**January 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**Livestreamed on our website and Facebook/FPC Metuchen**



Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry  
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer  
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas  
Director of Music Ministries: Jordan Klotz  
Minister of Music Emeritus: Brenda Arnold Day  
Director for Christian Education: Nancy Leardi  
Youth Director: Seminarian Hanna Halleck Richards

## ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD

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

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### GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME/ TIDINGS

Seminarian Hanna Halleck Richards

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jim Thompson

Leader: For God alone our souls wait in silence, for our hope is from God.

God alone is our rock and our salvation, our fortress; we shall not be shaken.

On God rests our deliverance and our honor; our mighty rock, our refuge is in God.

Trust in God at all times, O people; let us pour out our heart before God; God is a refuge for us. Selah

**All: Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion;  
in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.**

**Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase,  
let us not set our hearts on them. Once God has spoken; twice have we heard this:  
that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.**

**\*HYMN #410** God is Calling Through the Whisper

W ZLOBIE LEZY

#### \*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison

Lord of mercy hear our prayer. We come asking your Holy Spirit to keep us rooted in your divine love. We confess that it is easy to grow weary in this world where loss, tragedy, and destruction are so constant. May we grow increasingly watchful of the way you are working in our churches, neighborhoods, schools, and community so that our spirits may rediscover the everlasting hope which can only be found in you O Lord. Amen.

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**\*HYMN # 581** Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

### THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

**ANTHEM** *Set the Sun Dancing*

Junior Choir, Piano: Elaine Hansen

Helen Kemp

#### CHILDREN'S TIME

Jennifer Thompson

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children Pre-K to 7<sup>th</sup> grade will go to Room 109 after the children's message for Lego Sunday. Grades 8<sup>th</sup> and older will remain in worship.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Jim Thompson

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

**ANTHEM** *When We Are Singing*

Westminster Choir

arr. Padwerski

Piano: Elaine Hansen

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Mark 1:14-20

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

**SERMON**

"Modest Beginnings"

Seminarian Hanna Halleck Richards

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD****SETTLING OF THE WORD****\*HYMN # 721**

Lord You Have Come to the Lakeshore

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Seminarian Hanna Halleck Richards

**OFFERTORY****\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, 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**

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.

**\*HYMN # 720**

Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

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

*Today's greeter is June Young, and the ushers are Tom Giordano with Garth,  
Gilly McKie, and Yunus Ruhukay.*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are from Grace Hammesfahr,  
given in loving memory of her brother, Col. David T. McKnight.*

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

### 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

### Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea--for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

## January 21, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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### #410 GOD IS CALLING THROUGH THE WHISPER

1- God is calling through the whisper  
of the Spirit's deepest sighs,  
through the thrill of sudden beauties  
that can catch us by surprise.  
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder;  
hush of stillness, rush of wonder:  
God is calling – can you hear?  
God is calling – can you hear?

2- God is calling through the voices  
of our neighbors' urgent prayers,  
through their longing for redemption  
and for rescue from despair.  
place of hurt or face of needing;  
Strident cry or silent pleading:  
God is calling – can you hear?  
God is calling – can you hear?

3- God is calling through the music  
through the hymns of earth and angels,  
and the carols of our hearts.  
Life of joy and gift of singing;  
Days and nights our praises bringing:  
God is calling – and we hear!  
God is calling – and we hear!

### #581 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.

### #721 LORD YOU HAVE COME TO THE LAKESHORE

1- Lord, you have come to the lakeshore  
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;  
you only asked me to follow humbly.

#### **Refrain:**

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

2- You know so well my possessions;  
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;  
you will find there my nets and labor. **Refrain.**

3- You need my hands, full of caring  
through my labors to give others rest,  
and constant love that keeps on loving. **Refrain.**

4- You, who have fished other oceans,  
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,  
my loving friend, as thus you call me. **Refrain.**

*Text, English Trans. & Music © 1979, 1987, 1989 Cesareo Gabarain  
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### #720 JESUS CALLS US

1- Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth  
saying, "Christian, follow me."

2- Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more."

3- In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love me more than these."

4- Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,  
Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thy obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.

## OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

The First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen, NJ has adopted a policy in compliance with the enactment of the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) agreeing that a member has the right to have their health and personal information kept private and secure. This means that an individual must give permission to have their name publicly shared with the congregation. PLEASE 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 and then be removed. If you wish to have a loved one on the prayer list for a longer time, please contact Vicky Lacson (vlacson@fpcweb.org) in the Church Office.

Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)  
Peggy Anastos (*friend of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)  
James Angley (*Lynne Angley's son*)  
Marilyn Avery  
The Bellini family (*friends of the Brennan's*)  
Gemma Bertelsen (*Sister-in-law of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)  
Abigail Bilworth (*Granddaughter of Marcia Archer*)  
Alliyon Blair (*Marcia Archer's granddaughter*)  
Natalie Charles (*cousin of Tom Messina*)  
Pat Collelo (*friend of Elaine Hansen*)  
Giovanni Colon and his family (*family of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)  
\*Beverly Cummings  
Bob Cushing (*friend of Cathy Wolpin*)  
\*Mary Kay Dangremond  
Lisa De La Fuente (*friend of the Kozo/Mollison family*)  
Robert Doeg (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)  
\*Tracy Donahue  
\*Ruth Endicott  
Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)  
Carol Franklin (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)  
\*Marie Freeman  
Leah French (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)  
Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)  
Garrett Glass (*Julie Bourne's brother*)

\*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura*)  
\***Margaret Hathaway**  
\*Michelle Karst  
Liz Lee (*Larrie Servino's Sister-in-Law*)  
Michael  
Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)  
Ricardo Mollison (*Caitlin Mollison's brother*)  
\*Doris Moskal  
Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)  
Deanna Rogers (*cousin of Dawn Adam*)  
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehbler*)  
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)  
\***Rose Serio**  
\*Lorraine Sheaffer  
\*Deb Sorensen  
Cindy Thompson (*Jim Thompson's sister*)  
**Vince Tavormina (*friend of Elaine Hansen*)**  
Maureen Washington (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)  
Richard Watson (*Nancy Gurzo's friend*)  
Megan Weingarten (*Bill Marquard's niece*)  
Ginny West (*related to June Keehbler*)  
David Wong  
\*Lynn Hendricks Wong

**Names highlighted in boldface were recently added**

\*Members of the church

### FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Codyann Archer with the 215 peacekeeping soldiers in the Middle East (*Marcia Archer's daughter*)  
MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*son of Elaine Hansen*)  
EM3 Cody Harmon, U.S. Navy, Hawaii (*Sue Harmon's nephew*)  
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, USAF – Lakenheath AFB, UK (*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*)  
First Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)

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## THIS WEEK

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm**

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Lego Sunday – Room 109  
After Worship Refreshments – Room 109 . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Youth Comm. Meeting – Office Conf. Rm. . . . . 10:45 a.m.  
Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary . . . . . Noon

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 22

Men's Breakfast – Dining Room . . . . . 7:30 a.m.  
B & G Meeting – PW Lounge . . . . . 8:30 a.m.  
DBSA Support Group – Room 109. . . . . 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

Jubilee Choir – Choir Room. . . . . 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.  
AA Support Group – Room 109 . . . . . 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

Bible Study (Pericopes of Luke) – PW Lounge . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Lunch and Games – Dining Room . . . . . Noon – 3:00 p.m.  
Westminster Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 6:15 p.m.  
Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 6:45 p.m.  
Youth Group – Room 201 . . . . . 7:15 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Concord Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 9:30 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 p.m.  
Senior Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 8:00 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

Women's AA Support Group – Room 109. . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

Taco & Trivia Night – Dining Room . . . . . 7:00 p.m.

## COMING SOON

Jan 28 Sunday Book Club – PW Lounge – 11:00 am  
Feb 1 Junior Club – Auditorium – 5:30 – 6:15 pm  
Feb 3 Youth Day of Service – 9:00 – 11:00 am  
Feb 5 Horizon Bible Study – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm  
Feb 6 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday – Room 109 – 4:30 – 5:00 pm  
Feb 6 Deacons Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm  
Feb 8 Local Mission Meeting – Auditorium – 11:45 am  
Feb 10 Orientation for Community Dinner – Social Center  
Kitchen – 9:00 am - Noon  
Feb 13 Unicameral Board Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm  
Feb 15 Mission Volunteer Night – Auditorium - 7:00 pm  
Feb 18 Blood Drive – Social Center – 9:00 am- 2:00 pm  
Mar 3 Community Dinner – Dining Room – 5:00-6:00 pm

## TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

**Will return next week.**

### Here are ways to give your offerings.

**Direct** Cash or check in the plate are always welcome!

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

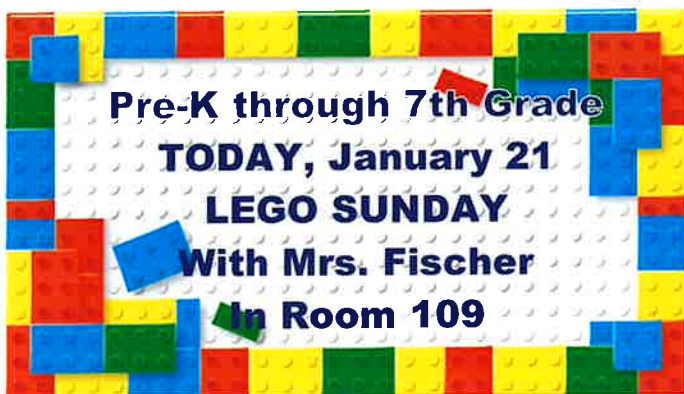
**Thank you for your generous support!**



### PASTORAL CARE:

If you or someone you know needs our support, or is in the hospital, please feel free to contact Rev. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours: Monday to Friday: 8:30 am -4:30 pm.





If you had a fun time at the choir's Fall Trivia Night, you won't want to miss Tacos and Trivia Night on Saturday, January 27th, at 7:00 PM. In addition to a taco bar and a fun game of trivia, try your hand at a guacamole contest! Cash prizes await winners of both trivia and the guac contest.



The Senior Choir will be selling soup after worship on Sunday, February 4th. \$8/quart or \$15/two quarts. Come and stock up for the cold winter days! If you would like to donate homemade soup, please contact Laura Draper at [lauracubbagedraper@gmail.com](mailto:lauracubbagedraper@gmail.com).

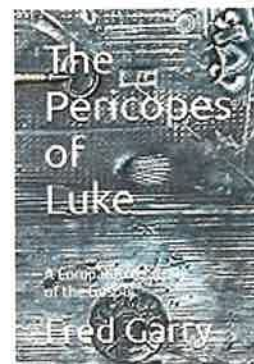
## PASTORAL BIBLE STUDY

**Wednesdays**

**10:30 am**

**PW Lounge**

**with Rev. Garry**



Rev. Garry's weekly Bible study is back. If you haven't made it to this study, you can still join in this journey through the book of Luke, and therein gain a devotion to the teachings of Jesus. Get a free copy of the book from the foyer of the church office.

## LUNCH AND GAMES

The deacons are hosting an afternoon of lunch and games on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, from 12 to 3 pm in the Social Center Dining Room, starting with January 24th. Everyone is invited to bring a brown bag lunch and beverage. If you have a favorite game (or a deck of cards) bring it along. Games will also be available to share. If you are interested, please call Sue West – 732-556-7511. (Or, if you forget to call, come anyway!) If you would like to come but need a ride, please call, we have volunteers willing to drive others.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Monday, January 22nd @ 7:30 am**

**Social Center Dining Room**





## COMMUNITY DINNERS ARE BACK!

The Deacons are delighted to re-launch our *FREE* community dinners starting in March.

Enjoy a home-cooked meal.  
Gather in community fellowship.

Once a month on  
Sunday evenings at 5:00 p.m.  
Social Center Dining Room  
March 3 | April 7 | May 5

We have a place for **EVERYONE!**

Together we can make this a success. Share your time and talent in many ways - help prepare food, set up or clean up, or be a greeter or server. Can you spare an hour or two to help? Stop by during fellowship hour to check out the many opportunities.

Interested? Email: Gilly McKie [gilly@mckie.com](mailto:gilly@mckie.com) or call 908 405 2299. Also, feel free to call the church office.

FPC Metuchen Youth Group presents

## FLASH FOOD DRIVE

*ONE AMAZING HOUR OF FOOD COLLECTION POWER!*



**Saturday, February 3rd**  
**10am - 11am**  
**FPC Metuchen Social Center**

As part of the FPC Youth Group Service Day, we're asking people to flood the Social Center with cars filled with donations for the Food Pantry!

Every car gets an entry to guess the total weight of food donations collected over the hour - winner gets a gift card to a local business!

What are you waiting for?  
**Start shopping!**



## BLOOD DRIVE

**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Social Center Dining Room**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
METUCHEN**

**SIGN UP NOW at**  
**[www.rcblood.org/heart](http://www.rcblood.org/heart)**

### Give blood and warm the hearts of those in need!

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients. Consider making a Power Red donation if you are an eligible type O, B- or A- donor.

Here are ways to schedule your appointment now!

- Call 1-800-733-2767 (RED CROSS)
- Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: FPCM for this blood drive
- Use the QR code to access this blood drive through the Red Cross website

Streamline your donation experience to save time by using the Rapid Pass on the website.

**All who come to give will receive a \$20  
Amazon.com gift card by email.**

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Deacon Jen O'Neill  
Email: [jenoneill06@gmail.com](mailto:jenoneill06@gmail.com)

