



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
August 29, 2021

TODAY

9:00 a.m. OUTDOOR SUMMERTIME WORSHIP

Continues on the front lawn, weather permitting. Thirty good minutes of prayer, song and a Bible Lesson. The Park and Ride provides the most convenient parking. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket, and please wear a mask. There are self-service chairs available. Humidity season is on the rise. It's OK to bring water/coffee/tea! Check the website for weather updates on murky Sunday mornings.

9:35 a.m. LEMONADE ON THE LAWN EVERY SUNDAY (Weather permitting)

Last day for Lemonade on the Lawn is next Sunday, September 5.

Everyone is invited for a glass of lemonade and a chance to see each other after 9:00 a.m. worship or on the way to 10:00 a.m. worship. We haven't seen each other in over a year, and we're all wearing masks – so it's OK to ask people their names. See you on the front lawn!

10:00 a.m. SUMMER WORSHIP, HYBRID STYLE!

Our in-person and our online livestream congregations now share worship together! ***To worship in the Sanctuary, please watch your email box on Mondays for the link to [SignUpGenius](#), or go to the [church's website](#), so you can reserve a place in the Sanctuary.*** We have about 75 spaces for the time-being, and we'd love to have all seats filled every week! We'll keep wearing masks and observing physical distance in the Sanctuary so we can pray and SING together safely, and make sure there is a place for *everyone* – all ages, all families, all friends – to worship through the summer months.

FOR OUR 10:00 a.m. ONLINE CONGREGATION

Here's a few ideas about how to make a home worship space. Include a candle and matchstick, so you can light the Christ Candle in your house. The current liturgical color is GREEN, so find some green or rainbow cloth, or a green plant. Pick up a copy of the bulletin so you can join in the liturgy at home. You can find the week's materials on the church's website: www.firstpreshc.org

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS AND CRAYONS are available. Please keep your crayons and save them for next time or use them at home.

REMEMBRANCE CANDLE – We light a candle every week during the Covid-19 crisis to remember those who have died from this virus.

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the Glory of God by Sara in celebration of birthdays for her sister Margot, her husband Jim, and her mom Jan; and by Debbie wishing a Happy Birthday to Stephanie.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:

Liturgist: Ginny (10:00)

Song Leaders: Ben, Sara, Melissa (10:00)

Ushers & Greeters: Alice (9:00); Chrissy (10:00)

Tech Crew: Francois, Margot

ZENTANGLE® ARTIST: Thanks to Ginny for the Zentangle® art in this week's worship bulletin.

GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 2021

(THIS INFORMATION IS CURRENT AS OF AUGUST 20, 2021)

Please pray for: Virgie, Burta, Dave, Jane, Hilda, Dylan, Natalie and Jeff, Paula, Blessing and Obinna, Mil, Rose, Evelyn and Stacy and Family, Rhydeil, Bob, Doris, Maria, Pat, Barb, Ruthie and Family, Shirley, Shirley, Beth; for everyone living in Charlestown, Millers Grant, Riderwood and Vantage House; those in our congregation who have tested positive for Covid-19; healthcare workers and essential employees working during Covid-19 pandemic; those in the congregations of the Union Maya Boca Costa Presbiterio in Guatemala who have tested positive for Covid-19.

Members and friends who are staying home during the Corona Virus outbreak.

Non-Resident Members: Frank and Betty, Vivian, Barb

Friends & Family: Bob, Catherine, Tony, Andrew, Mary, Sarah, Tony, Michelle, Louise, Eli, Myrna, Evan, Barton, Sam, Akhtar, Rosalie and George, Rosemary, Al, Marilyn, Liam, Aaron, Eyler, Julian and family, Peggy, William, Hattie, Matt, Charles, Chuck, Trey and Piper.

Care Center: Carol, Paul, Barbara

Bereaved: *Bruce*, Louisa, Mike; *Mispa*, Victoria and Jeff, *Doria*, Suzie and Joe and Family

Seminarians: Blake, Emma

PCUSA Mission Coworkers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in Congo, www.PCUSA.org/jeff-and-christi-boyd; Jed and Jenny Koball in Peru, www.PCUSA.org/jed-koball

Please contact one of the Pastors: Morton Harris, 443-824-3768 or Sue Lowcock Harris, 443-824-4305 with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share.



PEOPLE ON THE WAY

Fiacre (*d.* 670) This Irish hermit accepted an invitation to build a hermitage in France, where he drew hundreds by his presence to learn about God. Seeing their homeless plight. Fiacre chopped down trees to build a hospice, and planted a garden to provide food and medicinal herbs. Through his simple example, the whole district accepted Christianity. Fiacre is the patron saint of gardeners, and his statue is in many gardens. His saint day is celebrated on September 1.

We also remember: August 28, 1963 is the date of The March on Washington is remembered by most people for the famous address *I Have a Dream*, given by The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More than 200,000 people, both black and white, gathered on the mall around the Lincoln Memorial for a peaceful demonstration to promote civil rights and economic opportunity for African-Americans. We remember not only the leaders of the March, but all the people who came and walked, sang and listened together.

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE focuses the prayers of Christians week by week, so that over the year all the countries of the world are prayed for.

This week we pray for *Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal*
We pray for:

- Those people in these societies who continue to live in abject poverty.
- An end to politics, systems, and cultural practices that continue to exploit and marginalize some groups.
- Faith communities witnessing and working together for the common good.

For more information about the Prayer Cycle,
visit the website of the World Council of Churches: www.oikoumene.org

GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 2021 (CONTINUED)

OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP PRAYER CYCLE FOR 2021

We pray for the mission of our congregation.

Boca Costa Presbytery Mission Partnership: *Iglesia Nueva Jerusalem (New Jerusalem Church) and Iglesia Las Palmas (Church of the Palms) two small, rural congregations.*

Howard County Public Schools: 77 schools (42 elementary schools, 20 middle schools, 12 high schools, and 3 education centers), 57,293 students and 4,749 classroom teachers and a total staff of 8,570. School begins on August 30!

WORSHIP, ARTS AND MUSIC NEWS

PANSIES FOR AKWAABA!

Akwaaba Sunday is **September 12, 2021**

Help us decorate the sanctuary with colorful pansies!

Deadline for ordering is TODAY **Sunday, August 29.**

\$5.00 each for a 4 inch pot.

[CLICK HERE](#) to order Pansies on SignUpGenius. Be sure to hit the submit button so your order is processed.

Contact: janicebga@aol.com if you have questions.



COME SING IN CHOIR!

The fall 2021 season of Chancel Choir begins soon! No experience necessary.

- Begins: *Thursday, September 9, 2021*
- Rehearsals: Thursdays, 7:30PM - 9:00PM
- *Please wear your mask & be fully vaccinated to participate.

Contact Matt in the Music Office (mmay@firstpreshc.org) for more information and/or to participate.

BELL CHOIR BEGINS SOON!

The fall 2021 season of the bell choir begins soon! No experience necessary.

- Begins: *Wednesday, September 8, 2021*
- Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:30PM - 9:00PM
- *Please wear your mask & be fully vaccinated to participate.

Contact Matt in the Music Office (mmay@firstpreshc.org) for more information and/or to participate.

THE TECHNICAL SERVICES MINISTRY needs YOUR help.

We are looking to add AT LEAST 20 new audio and video techs, as well as more power point operators to our ranks, so we can accommodate future needs. Training will be provided. For more info or to sign-up, please contact technicalservices@firstpreshc.org

AVAILABLE DATES FOR SANCTUARY FLOWERS

There are a few openings available on Sundays for November 14, 21, 28, and December 5, 12. Please go to [SignUpGenius](#) to reserve flowers for the above dates or on any available Sunday in 2021.

Summer

WORSHIP

SUMMER WORSHIP

Continues through **Sunday, September 5, 2021**

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

9:35 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn

10:00 a.m. In-person & Livestream Worship
from the sanctuary

Go to www.firstpreshc.org and click on links

FALL WORSHIP

Begins on **Sunday, September 12, 2021 - Akwaaba**

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - In-person only

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship - In-person & Livestream
from the Sanctuary

Go to www.firstpreshc.org and click on links



A WORD ABOUT SHARING COMMUNION NEXT Sunday, September 5, 2021.

In order to do this, you will need to have a few things in your home: wine or grape juice, and bread. The bread can be any kind – a slice of sandwich bread, a roll, tortilla, naan – it can be gluten free or with gluten. You will want a napkin or a plate for the bread, and something to hold the wine or juice – a wine glass, a juice glass, even a coffee mug would be fine. Please use bread and wine/juice.

- Place your bread and wine on a table or stand in the middle of the room where you worship, so your worship is around the table – just like it is when we gather in the Sanctuary.
- When it is time to break the bread, choose someone to lift the bread with Pastor Morton and break it, and then lift the cup with Pastor Sue. When we share the bread, you can pass it and tear a small piece of the common loaf/slice. When we share the wine/juice you can share by common cup (everyone takes a sip from the same cup) or by intinction (dipping the bread into the wine or juice) or individual glasses. When all have shared, place everything back on the table for the rest of the service.

Wherever two or three are gathered – there Christ is in the midst of us

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

TODAY IS THE DAY! Let's get ready for school to start by blessing backpacks! During worship we will bless backpacks, briefcases, lunch boxes – any type of bag. There's no need to bring your actual bag because we'll give you a tag to attach to it to remind you it has been blessed. If you aren't able to attend the blessing in person, feel free to pick up a backpack/bag tag from a container near the kitchen starting after worship on *August 29*. If you can't make it to church let us know and we'll mail your tags. Questions? Contact Virginia Callegary – vcallegary@firstpreshc.org.



FREE TO A GOOD HOME!

Check out the table in Branch Hall with lots of goodies on it free for the taking! Please help yourself! Have fun and decorate your home or office with these fabulous fall items!

NURSERY IS OPEN!

The Nursery is open for children age 4 and under during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Children age 3 and up are encouraged to wear a mask. Other Covid health and safety protocols will be followed. Please note that this is subject to change. For more details or questions email DCE Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org).

SECOND GRADE BIBLES

Every year we give new Bibles to the second graders of the church. This year second graders and their Bibles will be blessed during worship on *Sunday, September 19, 2021*. Bibles will be delivered to families who are unable to attend worship that morning. Check with Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education, to make sure your child is on the list. Watch your email for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is starting back up in person and we couldn't be more excited! Here's what you need to know:

- Sunday School starts at 9:30 a.m. on *Sunday, September 12*.
- Children's classes (age 2 – 5th grade) will begin the year meeting outside.
- Adult classes will meet inside. Please wear a mask.
- Watch your email for more details.

FALL YOUTH GROUP

5th through 12th graders are invited to gather twice a month on Wednesdays for youth group. Here's what you need to know:

- Dates and time: September 8 and 22, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Bring your own dinner and we'll provide water and dessert.
- We'll stay outside so bring a chair and please wear a mask.
- Questions? Email DCE Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP

CHURCH PICNIC SEPTEMBER 12TH: A NEW TWIST ON AN OLD TRADITION

Covid-19 has turned our lives inside out, including our church traditions. We usually have the church picnic before summer starts; this year we're holding it on September 12th when summer ends. We usually grill hotdogs and hamburgers and invite you to share a dish; this year we're serving pre-made wrapped sandwiches from a local restaurant and other wrapped individual foods that you'll serve yourself. We usually crowd together around picnic tables; this year bring your own chairs or blankets and spread out. We'll still have fun and play Covid-safe games that will keep you laughing. Come to the 10:30a.m. church service on September 12th and stay for the picnic. All we ask is that you sign up ahead of time so we can get a head count to order sandwiches. Look for a future email with a SignUpGenius link or contact Caroline Smith, Church Administrator, fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org to let her know you plan to attend. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 8th.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Breakfast will be catered.

The cost is \$15.

Breakfast will be outside weather permitting.

The Rain Plan is to move to the Upper

Commons/Branch Hall. All doors / windows will be opened for air flow.

R.S.V.P. to Carol, woodrowcollins@verizon.net

Pay upon arrival.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

GUATEMALA SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE

Since 2006, the First Pres partnership with the Union Maya Quiche Boca Costa Presbytery in rural southwest Guatemala has included a scholarship program for students in grades 7-12. The Guatemala Scholarship Fund Drive for the 2022 Guatemalan school year will run *September 12-October 3* this year. Their school year begins in January. During the months of November and December, registration and planning for each student takes place. Did you know the Executive Committee of the Boca Costa presbytery keeps a detailed record of all expenses with receipts, even down to how much is spent on pencils? Last year, our church funded 90 scholarships. Study continued in new ways thru the pandemic. Our goal is to maintain that number so that all of last year's scholarship students will be able to continue their education and new students can be chosen to replace graduates. The cost of a full scholarship is \$460, but contributions of any size are welcome. Pay on the church website www.firstpreshc.org through the church PayPal account or mail a check to First Presbyterian Church of Howard County, 9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia, MD 21045. Don't forget to indicate "Guatemala Scholarships" in the note section. For deferred or installment payments, contributions in memory or in honor of someone, or questions, please email guatemalasholarships@firstpreshc.org

JUST ONE CAN...PLUS! – August – Paper the Town Day

The Board of Deacons' is campaigning in August for donations of – PAPER PRODUCTS. This is part of our church's continuing efforts against Hunger in Howard County. Food Stamps do not cover paper products so struggling families must spend their dwindling cash for such things. Recommended items are: paper towels, toilet paper, gallon size Ziploc bags, aluminum foil, plastic wraps, any household paper products. **There is a real need right now for food and paper products, please remember your neighbors!** Drop off your items - plus Paper Products - and place them in the storage box by the back entrance (near the mailbox). Thank you on behalf of the Deacons and the food-stressed of Howard County.

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH (STC) WORK DAYS

Saturday, September 11 and/or Saturday, October 16th at 9:00 am.

If you cannot attend the Church Work Day and are willing to help out around the church another time, please contact Debbie or Margot. We will be happy to give you a project and have you volunteer in accordance with your schedule.

MISSION TRIP to MASSANETTA

Calling all volunteers who would like to travel to Massanetta Springs Camp & Conference Center for **all or part** of *Thursday, September 23 through Sunday, September 26, 2021*. We will be winterizing the Petersburg Cottage. Contact Debbie if you are interested. High and Middle School participants are eligible if accompanied by an adult. NOTE: You must be vaccinated for COVID-19 to participate (12 & older).

Watch for details regarding an upcoming organizational meeting.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIVING TO THE CHURCH

Since we can't pass the offering plate as usual, many people have asked about other ways to make their contributions and pledges. [FIND OUT](#) other ways we can continue to give. **PLEASE NOTE: The letter drop in the Bell Tower doors will be removed beginning Tuesday, August 31, due to increased foot traffic inside the Church.** In-person worshippers may leave their offering in the basket in the Upper Commons after the worship service. Thank you for all the ways you support the Church!

OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES DOING GOD'S WORK

Actual Income as of August 18, 2021	\$529,033.00
Actual Expenses as of August 18, 2021	<u>511,269.17</u>
Total	\$17,763.83

It takes an average of \$2,156.74 to fund the daily budgeted operation and mission of the church. The total surplus/deficit shown above is 8 days ahead/(behind).

(Information current as of August 20, 2021)

GENERAL INFORMATION

BUILDING REOPENING UPDATE

Session approved the following Recommendation for the opening of the church:

Recommendations: The church building be re-open based upon the following:

1. Church groups may schedule meetings and meet inside the Church after July 1 in designated rooms. Use of masks is required through September 30, 2021, and until further notice. Room reservations must be made through the church office.
2. Outside groups may schedule meetings and meet inside the Church after October 1 in designated rooms. Use of masks is recommended until further notice. Room Reservations must be made through the church office.
3. Osher Institute may schedule use of rooms after September 15, 2021.
4. Inspirit Counseling may schedule use of their office space at any time.
5. Church and outside groups may schedule use of the church grounds through the church office.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday, August 31 – Session Meeting at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Monday, September 6, 2021 **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED** for Labor Day.

This is a holiday for the Church Staff, and they will not be working, the office and building will be closed. Enjoy your holiday as safely as you can!

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Morton Harris, Co-Pastor: mharris@firstpreshc.org

Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor: sharris@firstpreshc.org

Virginia Callegary, Christian Educator: vcalleary@firstpreshc.org

Matt May, Director of Music Ministries: mmay@firstpreshc.org

Caroline Smith, Church Administrator: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org

Pat Travers, Bookkeeper: bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org

Woody Collins, Church Sexton: sexton@firstpreshc.org



The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County
9325 Presbyterian Circle
Columbia, MD 21045
410.730.3545
www.firstpreshc.org

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday Morning Schedule

(through September 5)

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

9:35 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn

10:00 a.m. Worship – Hybrid Worship

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/firstpreshc/live

YOUTUBE <http://www.youtube.com/c/firstpreshc>

LINKS CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE www.firstpreshc.org

THE CHURCH OFFICE AND BUILDING ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

CHURCH STAFF CAN BE REACHED VIA EMAIL, SEE LISTING IN FIRST DAY

CHURCH OFFICE IS OPEN TO CHURCH MEMBERS

TUESDAY - SATURDAY BETWEEN 10:00 A.M. AND 2:00 P.M.

(CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE OR WOODY'S CELL PHONE WHEN YOU ARRIVE)

OR BY APPOINTMENT

Sunday, August 29th

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

9:00 a.m. Outdoor In-person Worship Service

9:35 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn

9:45 a.m. Infant and Toddler Care

10:00 a.m. Worship – Hybrid Service ([registration required](#))

Tuesday, August 31st

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 1st

1:00 p.m. Knitting Ministry

Friday, September 3rd

FRIDAY EMAIL WITH SUNDAY BULLETIN SENT OUT

Sunday, September 5th

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

COMMUNION

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE – LAST WEEK

9:00 a.m. Outdoor In-person Worship Service

9:35 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn

9:45 a.m. Infant and Toddler Care

10:00 a.m. Worship – Hybrid Service ([registration required](#))

The Church Office and Building are currently closed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Please contact the Church Administrator, fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org if you need access to the church building. For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check our website at www.firstpreshc.org for the weekly issue of First Day or the current issue of Tidings. A Weekly Email is sent every Friday, if you would like to receive it please contact the church office. To submit news or events for the weekly bulletin First Day! please email to: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. To submit articles for Tidings, our monthly newsletter, please send articles by email to: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org by Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. for the October 2021 Issue 9.