



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard
County
September 22, 2024

TODAY

8:30 a.m. EARLY SERVICE in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. MORNING WORSHIP (in-person and livestream)

Our in-person and livestream congregations share worship together. This worship service is being livestreamed to the internet. If worshipping in the sanctuary, you may appear on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. If you are joining from home, the link for worship will open around 9:50 a.m. You can find this week's materials on the website: www.firstpreshc.org or in the Friday email.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: All worship begins in the sanctuary.

At 10:30a.m. After the Children's Prayer and Lord's Prayer:

Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to Godly Play. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

Older children, grades 2-5, may go with **Mrs. Cathy** to The Worship Bridge. They will return to the sanctuary later in the worship service.

WORSHIP BAGS: Worship bags are available to enhance the worship experience for children. Please return everything (except the bulletins) to the bags and return your bags to the basket at the end of the service.

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the Glory of God by Janet in celebration of Jay's second birthday!; Jean in honor of her immigrant grandfather, Sam, who in his retirement years built many churches, always offering his skills as an architect and builder gratis.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS TODAY:

Liturgist: Akua

Ushers & Greeters: John, Mispa

Tech Crew: Matthew, Tracy, Jacob

PRAYER LIST FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

Please pray for: Lea, Dave, Dylan, Bob, Ken, Bob and Sarah Jo, Bob and Carol, Maria, Jim, Ann and Family, Dename and Family, Carol, Chuck

And also for: everyone living in Charlestown, Encore, Millers Grant, Riderwood and Vantage House; the people of Ukraine.

Non-Resident Members: Frank and Betty, Barb

Friends & Family: The Downey-Handy Family, John & Judy, Theresa, Kathy, Peg, Al, Dave, Barbara, Jane, Aaron, Eyler, Matt, Susan, Judy, Gudeta, Anne & Nate and family, Evelyn, Bruce, Bart, John, Joe, *The Beisler Family*

Care Center: Virgie, Margaret, Lois

Recovering from Surgery: Nana, Trey, Margot, Pat, Harriet

Bereaved: Dave, Bob; Joe & Marla and family, Woody and Carol, Natalie and Jeff, Wayne and Sharon, McKissick Family, Eric & Lisa and family, Hilda and family, Jan and family, Lois, *Agnes & Family, Blondell*

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; Leslie Vogel in Guatemala, www.PCUSA.org/leslie-vogel

*Please contact Pastor Ken Page, kpage@firstpreshc.org or 602-799-7643
with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share
or in case of an emergency or to arrange homebound Communion.
Friends & Family names are listed for 8 weeks unless requested otherwise.*



DISCIPLESHIP & CARING

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOUR

TODAY *Sunday, September 22nd at 11:30 a.m. service*

Hosts are: The Deacons

Please enjoy coffee and snacks in fellowship in Buck Hall immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. If you'd like to bring snacks one Sunday, please check the SignUpGenius link for more

info: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DACA2BA0FCC52-51327460-coffee>



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL BREAKFAST

Presbyterian Women will gather THIS Saturday morning, September 28th at 10:00 for Breakfast and Fellowship. Catch up with friends new and old. The cost is \$15. Please RSVP to Debbie, Carol, or you can sign up in the Lower Commons. And remember, even if you do not participate in a circle, you are a Presbyterian Woman.

VIRTUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

This year we invite you to a digital observance of Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 13. We encourage you to submit pictures of your pets, past and present. Join us as we declare, "How manifold is the work of God. In wisdom, the Lord made them all." Please send a picture of your animal to Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org) by Sunday, September 29.

WORSHIP, ARTS AND MUSIC

PROGRAM YEAR FOR MUSIC IS STARTING THIS WEEK!

Rehearsals for Handbell Choir and Chancel Choir Have started! Handbells are on Wednesday's at 7:30 p.m. & Chancel is on Thursday's at 7:30 p.m.

For more information about the Music Program contact Margaret McGillivray, Director of Music Ministries, mmcgillivray@firstpreshc.org

DATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR SANCTUARY FLOWERS in 2024

Oct 27 & Nov 10 & 17. Go to www.signupgenius.com/go/flowers2024#/

The flowers cost \$35. Please send a check to the church office or via [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com).

Questions? Contact, churchoffice@firstpreshc.org

NEW 8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE Our new service is intimate and participatory. We will worship in a circle around the communion table. Participants will lead the liturgy: i.e., "Would you be willing to read the Call to Worship today?" Music will be more piano and less organ with occasional guitar. Sermons will lead into a brief discussion session. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper every week. We are encouraging all our members to come and try something different at least once. Then, we will reassess the 8:30 service in December with an eye towards continuing or refining what we do.

HOCO PRIDE 2024

First Presbyterian needs your help in staffing a booth at the Howard County LGBTQIA+ Pride Festival on Sunday, October 13th from 12noon-4pm (after worship!). The festival is held in Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods. If you are interested in helping to set up the booth, in staffing the booth, and/or in helping take down our booth and cleaning up afterwards, please sign up at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/hocopride2024>



Want to help us out before Oct 13? We will be making luggage tags and working on decorating ideas. Contact Amy if you are interested.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOUTH GROUP NEWS: Our next youth group is on Wednesday, September 25 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. 5th through 12th graders are invited to bring your own dinner and join us for fun and fellowship. Text @fpchcsm to 81010 to receive occasional text messages about youth events. Questions? Email Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org).

CONFIRMATION CLASS

This year's Confirmation class is starting on Sunday, October 6, 2024. Confirmation is open to students in eighth grade and older. An informational email was sent at the end of July. If you did not receive an email and would like information about this class contact DCE Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org).

TRUNK OR TREAT – Sign up NOW to help!

We are planning our third annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 26 from 4 to 5 pm. Anyone in the church is invited to decorate their car trunk for Halloween. If you can't commit to decorating a trunk we would love for you to dress up and come to "trick or treat" to each car trunk. Please contact DCE Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org) to sign up to decorate a trunk.

MISSION

Celebrating 20 Years of Compañerismo: Sunday, September 29

You are cordially invited to join the celebration in Buck Hall after worship to commemorate the church's 20 years of covenant relationship with Presbiterio La Unión Maya Quiché Boca Costa. The festivities will include Guatemalan snacks and refreshments; two decades worth of photos, stories, and memories; an update on the activities of the compañerismo (partnership); and a video showing highlights of the recent trip that included three days of joyous celebrations with most of the presbytery's 1,600 members across eight churches.

Guatemala Scholarship Fundraising Campaign

Fundraising has begun for our Guatemala Scholarship Program. The goal is to continue funding 94 students in grades 7-12 and up to four university students in the school year that starts in January 2025. A full scholarship for grades 7-12 costs \$485 and a university scholarship costs \$1,000. All contributions are welcome; you don't have to fund an entire scholarship. You can donate using the QR code or by placing a check in the collection plate. Please make checks payable to FPCHC and write "Guatemala Scholarship Fund" in the memo line.



Young adult members of First Pres are warmly invited to join PC(USA)'s free annual Young Adult Advocacy Conference, "Jesus and Justice: Believe! Pray! Act!," October 18-20 in Charlotte, NC.



CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

WHERE'S OUR CHURCH STAFF?

Our Director of Christian Education, *Virginia Callegary*, will be on vacation *Monday, September 16th through Tuesday, September 24th*. She will return to the office on *Wednesday, September 25th*.

Online Directory Photos

Thank you to the many friends who visited the photo booth during the Ministry Fair. We added/updated photos for 15 families! If you missed the photo booth, you can email your picture and I will upload it to the directory. Please let me know if you have any difficulties accessing our directory.
Nancy R.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SEEKS

The Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee is looking for...

1. ...people interested in restarting Conversations on Race (CoR). The person(s) taking on this project would collaborate with the Peacemaking Team to help to organize conversations, book studies, classes, etc. around the topic of race and racial justice.
2. ... people interested in Woman's Justice. The person(s) taking on this project would collaborate with the Peacemaking Team to help to educate the congregation as well as organize events to help the congregation to participate in advocacy and local change.

If you have an interest in being a part of these initiatives, please talk to or email DCE Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org).

ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION HOUR, 9:30-10:25 a.m.

QUILTS, COVID, AND THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR led by Catherine
September 22 at 9:30 a.m. in **Branch Hall**.

Covid prompted some of us to consider new ways to enhance the visual impact of our on-line worship services. We have had banners in our sanctuary for decades. Come hear how we added quilts and other paraments to make our worship space more colorful.

Current Events - Presbyterian Style!

Sunday, September 29 at 9:30 a.m. in **Room 258**

This class will explore today's issue from participant's perspectives, as well as, from a Biblical and Presbyterian polity perspectives. This class will be a moderator led discussion format with one pre-selected topic per class. There are no right or wrong perspectives. Bring an open mind as diversity of thought makes for richer understanding.

WEDNESDAY STUDY GROUPS

The Wednesday Morning Study Group begins Wednesday, September 18th, 9:30-11:00 am, led by Rev. Rosemary and Rev. David.

HOLY GOD & UNHOLY NATION: the message of Isaiah

The prophet Isaiah speaks God's Word to a weary, discouraged people, offering words of challenge and hope. ***How does Isaiah speak to our weary world today?*** Join us as we look for sources of renewal and abundant life in the book of Isaiah. Hope you will be with us on September 18th. And please invite others to join us!

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00-8:30 p.m. via Zoom with Andrea

Join us in reading *Renovation of the Heart* by Dallas Willard, 'a realistic guide to discipleship and the real challenges of Christian formation.' We read, discuss, study related scripture, and adventure with Christian formation practices. The pursuit is the Christian's journey in 'love of God with all of the heart, soul, mind, and strength, and of the neighbor as oneself.'

Register in advance for the Zoom link here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qc-6vqTstGNdMbW4UBdwAfUcwDJiqHjXW>

STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES DOING GOD'S WORK

Actual Income as of September 10 2024	\$598,171.91
Actual Expenses as of September 10, 2024	<u>578,402.53</u>
Total	\$19,769.38

It takes an average of \$2,277.72 to fund the daily budgeted operation and mission of the church.
The total surplus/deficit shown above is 9 days ahead/(behind).

DEACONS

JUST ONE CAN...PLUS! – September – “Food Staples”

The Board of Deacons is campaigning for additional donations of grains and beans as part of our continuing efforts against hunger in Howard County.

Recommended items are: rice, pasta, dried or canned lentils, dried or canned beans, packages rice/pasta side dishes.

Please leave your regular contribution – and “plus” items - in the “Just One Can” cart next to the Welcome Center in the Upper Commons or in the storage box by the back entrance (near the mailbox). And please don’t forget your regular JOC food donations, as hunger is an on-going concern for too many of our neighbors. Thank you on behalf of the Deacons and the Food-Stressed of Howard County.

RECYCLING

UPDATE! 909 pounds of plastic has been collected. Please Help Stevens Forest Elementary School! The Community Action Team at Stevens Forest, located in Columbia, is collecting plastic bags and other items between now and November 2024. FPCHC can help by donating clean plastic bags and film. Please check the list of acceptable plastics below before donating:

<https://nextrex.com/view/educate>

Please drop your items in Lower Commons. If you have any questions, please ask Kipton or Megan. Thank you for all your support and we will keep you updated on our progress!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship – In-person & Livestream Worship

Nursery Care for ages 4 and under available 8:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/firstpreshc

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

Links can also be found on the Website www.firstpreshc.org

The Church Office is Open Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

(The outside doors may be locked, please call upon arrival for entry.)

GUATEMALA SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN – SEPTEMBER 8 – OCTOBER 13, 2024

Sunday, September 22nd

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service – In-person & Livestream

Godly Play & Worship Bridge

11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour

11:45 a.m. Active Shooter Threat Training

Monday, September 23rd

CHURCH BUILDING OPEN MON-FRI– 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Tuesday, September 24th

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 25th

9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Study Group

1:00 p.m. Knitting Fellowship

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsals

Thursday, September 26th

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 27th

FRIDAY EMAIL WITH SUNDAY BULLETIN SENT OUT

1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded

Saturday, September 28th

10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women's Fall Breakfast

Sunday, September 29th

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service – In-person & Livestream

Godly Play & Worship Bridge

11:30 a.m. Guatemala 20 Year Celebration

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. Also, check your inbox for the weekly issues of Tidings by Ministry Area.

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 announcements to: churchoffice@firstpreshc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.*

*To submit articles for Tidings, the church's newsletter sent out weekly by Ministry Area, please send articles by email to: churchoffice@firstpreshc.org by **Thursday, October 10, 2024** for **November 2024** events. Then watch your inbox every week!*