



# FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at  
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County  
February 11, 2024

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## TODAY

### QUIET BEGINNINGS...

As we enter the sanctuary each week to gather for worship, we enter in a spirit of prayer and quiet preparation. Remember that your neighbor may be hoping for a quiet moment to center themselves, listen to the prelude, and prepare for worship. Take a breath – leave the busy, noisy, hustle-bustle world at the sanctuary doors and listen - God is ready for you!

### 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, you may appear on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.

### FOR OUR 10:30 a.m. ONLINE CONGREGATION

**FIRST CALL - Online Worshippers.** Please gather on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. for 10 to 15 minutes to say good morning, meet each other, and check in before the 10:30 a.m. worship service. (*See details under Worship, Arts and Music News.*)

The link for worship will open around 10:20 a.m. This Sunday, February 11, is Transfiguration of the Lord. The liturgical color is **white**. Pick up a copy of the bulletin so you can join in the liturgy at home. You can find this week's materials on the website: [www.firstpreshc.org](http://www.firstpreshc.org) or in the Friday email.

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

At 10:30 a.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 Ms. Virginia Callegary 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 the bags to the ushers at the end of the service.

**FLOWERS THIS WEEK** are given to the Glory of God by Martin and Caroline in celebration of family members' birthdays in February – Diane (sister) on 2/1, Myrna (mother) on 2/4 and Nathan (son) on 2/13; and by Kathy and Tom in loving memory of Kathy's Mom's birthday today.

### TODAY WE WELCOME GUEST SOLOIST Alexandria Crichlow at the 10:30 service

Bajan - African American Soprano Alexandria Crichlow is known for her captivating stage presence and smooth timbre. For more information go to her website: <https://www.alexandriacrichlow.com>

### TODAY WE SEND OUT OUR 2024 GUATEMALA STOVE PROJECT TEAM

*Thursday, February 15 through Tuesday, February 20, 2024:*

Joe, Woody, Pat, Matt, Debra, Brett, Thomas, Becky.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR, Sundays following the 10:30 a.m. service**

*Sunday, February 11, 2024* – Celebrate First Presbyterian Church's 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with cake and fellowship!

# PRAYER LIST FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 2024

**Please pray for:** Ruth, Lea, Dave and Jane, Dylan, Bob, Ken, Stacy, Bob and Sarah Jo, Bob and Carol, Maria, Jim, Ann and Family, Dename and Family, Dan, Scot.

**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:** Chris and Matt, Mona, Dan, Maria, and Baby Hailey, Francine and Mary, Armand, Terry, Kathy, Kris, Dean, Al, Barbara, Jane, Aaron, Eyley, Rita, Halle, Matt, Tom and Sherrie, Mitzi

**Care Center:** Virgie, Margaret, Paul, Barbara, Lois, Beth

**Bereaved:** Arnold & Elisha, Bob

**PCUSA Mission Coworkers:** Jeff and Christi Boyd in Congo, [www.PCUSA.org/jeff-and-christi-boyd](http://www.PCUSA.org/jeff-and-christi-boyd); Jed and Jenny Koball in Peru, [www.PCUSA.org/jed-koball](http://www.PCUSA.org/jed-koball); Leslie Vogel in Guatemala, [www.PCUSA.org/leslie-vogel](http://www.PCUSA.org/leslie-vogel)

*Please contact Pastor Ken Page, [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org) or 420-730-3545 x25 with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share or in case of an emergency.*

*Friends & Family names are listed for 8 weeks unless requested otherwise.*

**Today we are celebrating the 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of The First Presbyterian Church. Our congregation was chartered on February 13, 1839 as the First Presbyterian Church of Ellicott City. Our roots are in the company mill towns along the Patapsco River, in the communities of immigrant mill workers from Scotland, Northern Ireland and England.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

The National Theme for Black History Month this year is *African Americans and the Arts*. Black contributions to the visual arts have often been ignored leaving a rich tapestry of art to be rediscovered and enjoyed. American forms of music are largely built on the contributions of African Americans. From spirituals, to gospels, to rock and roll to hip-hop, to rap, America has been greatly enriched by Black musicians. While it's very difficult for FPCHC to secure the rights to display visual art by famous Black artists, we can secure the rights to perform music by Black composers. Most of the works performed in worship this month are by Black composers. Ask Margaret to tell you more!

# WORSHIP, ARTS AND MUSIC NEWS

## CHOIR NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- \* The Chancel Choir invites members of the congregation to join us for Lent, Easter and beyond. We'll be journeying through some amazing music. Since Lent begins mid-February, we're starting rehearsals for the music right away. We'd love to have you as part of our delightful group of humans!
- \* We'll be starting rehearsals soon for our new instrumental ensemble, Geniá, in late February. Geniá is an intergenerational instrumental ensemble open to high school musicians and beyond. If you play(ed) in high school or college, currently play in community groups, or make music at the professional level, you are most welcome to join our fun-loving band! Rehearsals begin *Thursday, February 29 at 6:30 p.m.* and we'll play in worship on Palm Sunday (March 24). You'll need to speak to Margaret so we have music for you and your instrument at the first rehearsal.
- \* Calling all librarians! We're currently in the middle of a large music library overhaul. We'd love a few alphabetically minded people to help with this ongoing project to make sure our library and catalogs are up to date and in order. No music or music reading experience is necessary!

## WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS TODAY:

*Liturgist:* Alice (10:30)

*Ushers & Greeters:* Nancy (10:30)

*Tech Crew:* Tracy, Jacob, Jonathan, Margot

## CHOIR REHEARSALS

Handbell rehearsal: *Wednesday, February 14, 2024* after Ash Wednesday Service

Chancel Choir rehearsal: *Thursday, February 21, 2024* at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Margaret McGillivray,

[churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org) for more details!

## SIGNUP FOR SANCTUARY FLOWERS in 2024

Interested in flowers for 2024? **Flowers are needed for February 25.**

Here's the link to signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/flowers2024>

The flowers cost \$35. Please send a check to the church office or via [PayPal](#).

Questions? Contact Church Administrator, [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org)

## FIRST CALL AT 10:00 a.m. – Click on the link below

Our weekly Zoom gathering for those worshipping online. Say hi, leave a prayer request, and greet others who are coming to online worship.

Here's the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89326301087?pwd=WnpGTEU1SXpLYnlMQ1I4WTh0cGtoZz09>

Meeting ID: 893 2630 1087 Passcode: peacebwyou

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP HOURS on Sundays

following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service in Lyle Buck Hall

- \* *Sunday, February 11, 2024* – Celebrate the First Presbyterian Church's 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with cake!
- \* *Sunday, February 18, 2024* – hosted by Marie and Ron Duvall
- \* *Sunday, February 25, 2024* – hosted by the Deacons

# ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

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



**GRAB AND GO COFFEE** is available on Sunday mornings at the Wake Up Station on the second floor across from the Parlor until 10:20 a.m. Get a cup of coffee and head to class! Please return the cups to the drop off bins.

**THE BIBLE IN DEPTH** *facilitated by Doyle*  
Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor

## **COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES FOR FIRST PRES**

*Sundays, February 11 at 9:30 a.m. in Branch Hall*

New church branding, social media use, new website sneak-peek, and more! Come find out how the church—and you—can reach out more effectively to share our church's story. Join Kathy, Nan, and Virginia for this class.

## **MAKING SPACE FOR GOD - taught by Bruce**

*Sundays, February 18, 25, March 3, 10, 17 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 258*

This class will center around practicing today's science-based mindfulness, known as Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR). MBSR has been used since 1970 as a method for relieving stress as well as helping persons with extreme chronic pain and depression. Tim Stead's book, Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality will be the major source for our practice and discussion. Stead is an Anglican priest and also a trained teacher of mindfulness.

Class members will also be asked to alter a life habit during Lent as a means of enhancing daily mindfulness of the season. The book, Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality is now available for purchase from DCE Virginia Callegary for \$15.00 and will be essential for class participation. Please let Virginia know if you would like a book but cannot afford it.

## **WEDNESDAY STUDY GROUPS**

*Wednesday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor*

### ***On the Way with Jesus - The Gospel of Mark***

*with Rev. Rosemary Noga Welton and Rev. David Welton*

We are exploring the Gospel of Mark. This study will continue through Easter, so come when you can as we journey "on the way" with Jesus.

*Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom*

### **Jesus' Alternative Plan: The Sermon on the Mount** *by Richard Rohr*

*We will take a break on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024*

### **Register in advance for this and future meetings:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qc-6vqTstGNdMbW4UBdwAfUcwDJiHjXW>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** for children, youth and adults of all ages takes place every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be this summer during the week of *July 22-26, 2024 (Monday through Friday)* from 9:00 a.m. until Noon. Children age 3 through current 4<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible to attend. We also need lots of volunteers! Mark your calendars now because you don't want to miss it!

# STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

## OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES DOING GOD'S WORK

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Actual Income as of February 6, 2024   | \$120,349.89       |
| Actual Expenses as of February 6, 2024 | <u>59,503.34</u>   |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>\$60,846.55</b> |

It takes an average of \$2,274.17 to fund the daily budgeted operation and mission of the church.  
The total surplus/deficit shown above is 27 days ahead/(behind).

## PER CAPITA FOR 2024 - The amount is \$40.00

The "Per Capita" is each church member's share of the expenses of the larger church – the Presbytery, the Synod and General Assembly of the PCUSA. Our congregation is required to pay this amount for each member of the church. For more info go to <https://baltimorepresbytery.org/per-capita/>  
*Have you paid your per capita?! Thank you to those 42 people who have paid it!*

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SPRING CLEANING!

The **Administration & Facilities (A&F)** Unit (f/k/a STC) will be Spring Cleaning the Kitchen on **Saturday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
We are looking for volunteers to help with this effort. If you can join us for all or part of the time, please contact [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org) Thank you!

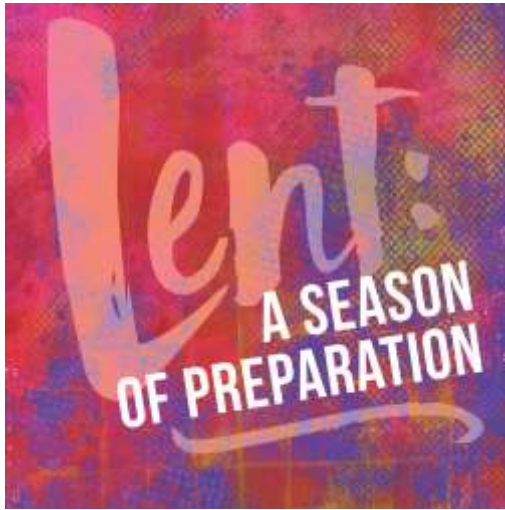
# CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

**THE CHURCH STAFF WILL HAVE A HOLIDAY** and the Church Office and Building will be closed on *Monday, February 19, 2024* in observance of Presidents' Day.

For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check our website at [www.firstpreshc.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org) by **Thursday, February 15, 2024 for March 2024 events.** Then watch your inbox every week!



## LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK



**SHROVE TUESDAY, February 13, 2024**

**Pancake Supper** in Lyle Buck Hall

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. | Suggested Donation: \$5 each/\$10 per family

If you are available to help with set-up, clean-up, or preparing pancakes please contact Lynne or Woody Collins.

**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14, 2024**

**The Beginning of Lent**

*Worship in-person at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary*

*A service of prayer, song, and ashes.*

This is a service of prayer, meditation, song, and the traditional imposition of ashes to help us mark the beginning of Lent as a congregation, and as individual disciples of Jesus. Lent is a time for self-reflection as we make ready for the journey inward and journey outward moving toward Easter.



### LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

**For Families with Children** – This year each family with children can pick up a copy of *'Twas the Season of Lent* by Glenys Nellist. *'Twas the Season of Lent* is a 40-day devotional and storybook that explores the life, words, and works of Jesus and encourages families with children to draw closer to God during the Lenten Season. Each story and accompanying prayer prompt encourages children to try to be more like Jesus and do what God calls them to do. Pick up your copy of the book in the Harris Upper Commons starting TODAY Sunday, February 11.

**For Youth and Adults** – This year's Lenten devotional is from the *Presbyterian Outlook*. Through the devotional you are invited to explore and observe new and familiar places in your community. Each daily reflection, beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating on Easter Sunday, will combine personal reflection, Scripture and prayer. What will God reveal to you when you pause, ponder and reflect? Pick up your copy in the Harris Upper Commons starting TODAY Sunday, February 11.

Email Virginia Callegary – [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org) – if you would like an electronic or mailed copy.

## DEACONS NEWS

### ***JUST ONE CAN...PLUS!!! – February – Fight Against Cold***

This month Deacons salute our church's commitment to the Cold Weather Shelter. Cold weather is difficult enough without a roof over your head, much less warm food. Thousands of people are going hungry in our area despite the hard work of the Howard County Food Bank and other food pantries. Please demonstrate your support of their tireless efforts by donating hearty, nutritious and filling foods that benefit the homeless, the hungry and the struggling.

**Suggested items: beans – dried or canned, canned meat/tuna/chicken, canned soups, stews, pasta, oatmeal**

Please leave your regular contribution – and “plus” items - in the “Just One Can” cart next to the Welcome Center in the Harris Upper Commons. Thank you on behalf of the Deacons and the Food-Stressed of Howard County.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

### **JOIN THE BLUE OUT!**

**Wear your blue NEXT Sunday, February 18!**

The first Sunday in Lent every year is designated “Wear your blue t-shirt to church Sunday” as a testament of one of the ways *One Great Hour of Sharing* makes a difference.

Participate by sending your Blue Shirt Selfies to [pda@pcusa.org](mailto:pda@pcusa.org)!

Will you be a part of this joyful manifestation of hope? Share this message on your personal Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other social media outlets. Help us remind others that gifts to [One Great Hour of Sharing](#) support disaster recovery efforts in the United States and around the world.

Please take a photo of your Blue Out creativity! Send it to [pda@pcusa.org](mailto:pda@pcusa.org) so we can share with others.

Together let's tell the story of hope out of chaos.

### **MEDICAL SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Mt. Paran Presbyterian Church in Randallstown is collecting medical supplies for the Presbyterian work in Cameroon (our church donated supplies in the fall too). Please see Chrissy if you have supplies to donate (expired supplies are ok), by *Sunday, February 25*.



# WEEKLY CALENDAR

## Sunday Morning Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for Children and Adults
- 10:00 a.m. First Call on Zoom
- 10:30 a.m. Worship – In-person & Livestream
- Nursery Care for ages 4 and under available 8:15–11:45 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m. – Fellowship Hour

FACEBOOK [www.facebook.com/firstpreshc/live](http://www.facebook.com/firstpreshc/live)

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

Links can also be found on the Website [www.firstpreshc.org](http://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.)

## FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**GUATEMALA STOVE MISSION TRIP – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15–TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

### Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

SENDING OUT – GUATEMALA STOVE MISSION TRIP

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service – In-person
- 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. Nominating Committee Meeting (Library)  
Interim Ministry Committee (Room 258)

### Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>

CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

### Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

SHROVE TUESDAY | SUPER TUESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Administration & Facilities Meeting  
Mission Meeting  
WAM Ministry Meeting

### Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

ASH WEDNESDAY

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

- 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Study Group
- 1:00 p.m. Knitting Ministry
- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- 8:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

TIDINGS ARTICLES DUE

- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

FRIDAY EMAIL WITH SUNDAY BULLETIN SENT OUT

- 1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded

### Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service – In-person
- 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. Nominating Committee Meeting (Library)