

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



September 8, 2024

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

Strengthening families;
Sowing friendships;
Serving community;
In the name of Jesus Christ

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

What do we seek in this life? Songs tell us of our longing. Our minds roam day and night.

Underneath it all our hearts long for you, God.

Our worship and intention belongs to God.

God is the One we seek. As Jesus' disciples we live into the kingdom of God. Let us worship the One who sought us first.

***HYMN**

Come, Worship God

386

Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor;
enter God's presence with thanks and a song!

You are the rock of your people's salvation
to whom our jubilant praises belong.

Ruled by your might are the heights of the mountains;
held in your hands are the depths of the earth.

Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them,
God above all gods, who gave us our birth.

We are your people, the sheep of your pasture;
you are our Maker, and to you we pray.

Gladly we kneel in obedience before you;
great is the one whom we worship this day!

Now let us listen, for you speak among us;
open our hearts to receive what you say.

Peace be to all who remember your goodness,
trust in your word, and rejoice in your way!

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM:

His Eye is on the Sparrow

Senior Choir Torey Ravo, soloist

(If you'd like to follow the lyrics, they can be found in our hymnal #661)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Heleluyan*

**BLESSING OF BACKPACKS, CHILDREN, YOUTH
AND CHILDREN**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God, we confess we are spiritually short sighted, we only see what is right in front of us. You want us to see You at work in the world but we cast our hopes in our own power and it is never enough. We want to be set free, to find a place in your work in the world, but find it hard to walk through the door. Nudge us one step at a time to see and respond to your kingdom at work. Give us the eyes of the kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

By the power of God we are forgiven and made whole, Amen!

***GLORIA PATRI**

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 146

Matthew 6:31-36

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

***HYMN**

Seek Ye First

175

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, Alleluia!

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Confession of 1967

We believe that in Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared human needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. In giving himself for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which all people stand convicted. We believe that God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

The Open Bible

***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.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

***CLOSING HYMN**

Praise, I will Praise You, Lord

628

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. O
God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart. O
God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart. O
God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound vs. 1 766*
The church of Christ cannot be bound by
walls of wood or stone. Where charity and
love are found, there can the church be known.

POSTLUDE *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* **St. Anne**

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: MaryAnn Simmons

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Video: Jean Zetterberg

Greeting: Ginny & Brielle Plumbo

***The cards this week on the piano for you to sign are for our friends:
Sandy Archer & Barbara Henning***

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Interested in joining our church as a member? We would love to talk more with you about our ministry here. Feel free to fill out a visitors card and hand it to one of our ushers or Pastor Erin and we will make sure to reach out to you!

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding in the window of the door to Pastor Erin's office. Did you find him? This week, Stewie has moved again. The Stew's Clue is treasure.

SEPTEMBER SECOND SUNDAY!

TODAY! Our September Second Sunday begins at 11:30 in the chapel. We'll be hearing the story of the Wise Man and the Foolish Man, and then make sand art projects, and have some science fun with sand. If you did not have a chance to register we still have room for you.

MUSIC ENSEMBLES ARE BEGINNING AGAIN!

The Senior Choir, FPCH Ringers, Joyful Noise Bells, Unity Chimes, and Little Lights Sunday School Choir, have returned to rehearsals. The Senior Choir's (7:30-8:30pm) and the FPCH Ringers' (6:30-7:15) rehearsals have started, but you can still join us. There are no auditions, and no experience necessary - we'll teach you. If you'd like to give either the choir or bell ringing a try-speak to Lorinda, or just show up for rehearsal! Kids ensembles will begin their rehearsals on Sept. 15 following Sunday School.

THANKS FROM THE DEACONS

This summer, the Board of Deacons asked for your help in collecting diapers and wipes for distribution at our Free Market later this month, and you responded! We will have 52 packages of diapers and 23 packages of wipes to give away to those in our community who need them. Thank you for responding so generously!

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to send a special thank you to Ray & Laleeta Sookhoo who donated the freezer for the chapel kitchen. Many people will be blessed because of your generosity!

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY DINNER

Our next Community Dinner will be held next Saturday, **September 14** at 5:30pm in the Chapel. If you would like to help prepare the meal, set tables, or serve the dinner please see Ryan Van Orden. Many hands make light work.

OUR FREE MARKET IS COMING

On **September 21**, the Deacons will be holding their very popular Free Market, which is the very definition of a "win-win"! Do you have things in your home that you no longer use, but don't just want to throw away? Donate them to the Free Market instead, where they will find a new home with someone so grateful to have it! We accept household items, clothing, baby and children's toys, and nursery items, sporting equipment, jewelry, and holiday decorations. We are not able to accept large furniture, electronics. We'll be collecting items in the chapel on Friday, **September 20** from noon-6 pm. More information to come, but if you have questions, check in with any of our Deacons.

SAVE THE DATE!

We will be hosting the Roast Beef Dinner on **October 19** in the Chapel. Watch for more details in future bulletins.

FYI-INFORMATION

9/1/24	In Person Attendance	71
	Virtual Attendance	161
	Offering	\$3,241.40

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

Sunday	10:00 am
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm
	7:30-8:30 pm

September 8 - 14, 2024

Worship
Church Office Open
Heaven Sent Nursery School
FPCH Ringers rehearsal
Senior Choir Rehearsal

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - September 8- 14, 2024

Today	11:30-1:30	Second Sunday
Monday	10:30-11:30 am	AA Step by Step
	7:00-9:00 pm	Jazz Band
Tuesday	7:30-9:00 pm	NA Change or Die
Wednesday	7:30-9:00 pm	Stone Soup Symphony
Thursday	10:30-11:30 am	AA New Beginnings
Friday	Storage use only	Colonial Musketeers
	7:00-9:00 pm	Colonial Musketeers Sr.
	7:30 pm	GA Meeting
Saturday	5:30-7:00 pm	Community Dinner
	7:00 pm	12 Steps



FOR PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook Cell:908-963-8341
Email: revehayes@gmail.com
Call the church office at: 908-852-4011
Church email: fpchnj@gmail.com
Church Website: www.fpchackettstown.org