



First Presbyterian Church

513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005

(973) 334-3535 www.fpcboonton.org

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @FPCBoonton

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

* = Please stand in body or in spirit

WELCOME! We are glad you can join us for worship here and online.

Visitors, please sign the guest book located in the narthex.

Please *remember to turn off all devices as we turn towards God.*

GREETINGS TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

PRELUDE

"Panis Angelicus"

César Franck

* PRAYER OF CONNECTION: (In unison)

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

CHORAL INTROIT

"O Magnify the Lord"

arr. Tom Fettke

* CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

One: In Christ, we are made new, and filled with hope.

All: In God, we belong to a new community, discovering we are friends, sisters and brothers in Christ.

One: In Christ, the old ways have lost their glitter and appeal, for we have turned toward the new light.

All: In God, we receive a new name and a new call. We are God's beloved, and we carry on the ministry of reconciliation.

One: In Christ, we are a new creation.

All: The old is passed away, and we live as signs of reconciliation and love. Together, let us worship God.

* HYMN # Blue 430

"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"

John Darwall

INVITATION TO SEEK GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER SEEKING GOD'S GRACE: (In unison)

by Rev MaryAnn Rennie

Lord, make us more than sour grapes and unripe olives. In the hardships of the world may we look beyond the brokenness to find Your love at the core of our relationships. May our branches bow with the weight of the fruit you have bestowed. Help us to look beyond our own needs, to recognize those who are hungry for food, love, and justice. May we offer others the shelter needed under the weight of Your branches so they find a rest from the cold and darkness, the hatred and loneliness of this world. May our leaves soak up Your light. When we meet those who are worn down with illness, loneliness, grief and abandonment, may the light of Your presence shine so that all might know Your compassion.

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Pastor: The Rev. Carie Morgan
Organist/Choir Director: Sarah Jane Zollner
Guest Organist: Robin Van Dyk
Lay Reader: Jill Segulin
Ministers: All the People of the Church

PLEASE WELCOME AS OUR GUEST ORGANIST: Robin Van Dyk – Robin studied organ as a child under the instruction of Winifred Hogan, and her mom, Myrtle Jacobs, who was organist and choir director at Mine Hill Presbyterian Church for 49 years. Robin graduated from Farleigh Dickenson University in Elementary Education and has been substituting at various churches for 30 years. She lives in Stillwater, NJ with her husband Geary and their son Tyler.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

April 28 – May 4 ~ *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour (Library)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
Wednesday	10:30 am	Bible Study (Library)
	3:00 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	4:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
Thursday	6:30 pm	Handbell Choir (Choir Room)
Saturday	8:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	9:00 am	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	10:00 am	Scouts (Library)

May 5 – May 11 ~ *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour (Library)
	11:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
Monday	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
	6:30 pm	NA PIC Meeting (Reighart Hall)
	7:00 pm	LG Board Meeting (Choir Room-Whitley)
Tuesday	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Deacons (Library)
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts (Reighart Hall)
	10:30 am	Bible Study (Library)
	3:00 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	4:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts (Reighart Hall)
Thursday	6:30 pm	OPS Meeting (Library)
	1:15 pm	Second Thursday (Library)
	7:00 pm	Cub Scouts (Reighart Hall)
Saturday	8:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	9:00 am	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	11:30 am	Phyllis Lehr Memorial Service

*The calendar can also be found on our website under news and events

Announcements

We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

HEARING AIDS/RECEIVERS – We have hearing aid receivers available during the worship service. Please ask an usher if you would like to use one. **PEW PILLOWS** – are available during worship for those of you who would like additional back support. Feel free to pick one up or have an usher bring one to you!

LAY READER – **Jill Segulin** lives in Scotch Plains and has been a member of the church since February 2023. She was ordained as a PCUSA elder in 2012 and has served in various capacities including homelessness ministries and in stewardship education as well as being the executive director for a local refugee assistance nonprofit organization. She is interested in writing, contemplative reflection, and adult spiritual formation.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by the Croziers in honor of the Deacons for all they do throughout the year.

WORSHIP FLOWERS NEEDED You can sign up on the chart by the Sanctuary doors. One or both of these arrangements are delivered to the sick and homebound each week and bring connection and cheer. The office will contact you regarding the \$40 flower donation and bulletin dedication.

MISSIONS - We are always accepting Mission Donations through Breeze or they can be mailed to or dropped off at the office.

COFFEE HOUR – is hosted today by The Croziers and Keoppels. Please join us in the Library to enjoy this time of fellowship. **Next Sunday is Leftover Sunday** – remember to bring something yummy from your pantry! *Please consider **sponsoring or hosting** coffee hour. You can sign up on the board next to the office (or consider donating to the jar in the library). CL will provide coffee.

MEAL TRAIN is an opportunity to provide a meal for a person or a family in their time of need. Please email Martel Roberts at martelroberts@gmail.com or call or text 973-216-0787 if you would like to volunteer to provide a meal or if you are in need of a meal.

2024 PER CAPITA – Each year, congregations pay an annual amount of money per church member to their respective presbyteries. It is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together, by sharing the benefits of the system of government and operational expenses. The per capita amount is a combined total of requests from the presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly. **We ask all those who are able to consider covering your per capita charges for 2024.** The Presbytery Per Capita fee is \$42.50 per member. This includes youth who have been confirmed. Ex: For a couple, the per capita amount is \$85 and for family (where 1 youth is also a member) the per capita would be \$127.50. **Every per capita cost that is not paid comes out of the overall endowment (or savings) of the church.** By paying your per capita will allow us to allocate all of our donations to the missions of this church. You may use the special envelopes in your offering boxes or you can simply mark your contribution with the words “Per Capita.”

-Mission Interpretation & Stewardship Committee

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: Thursday, May 2 at 12:00 @ Boonton Town Hall. Pastor Carie will be preaching.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY joins together at 10:30am in the FPCB Library. We will be watching a short video by Rob Bell, followed by conversation. Zoom link is available.

SECOND THURSDAY Adult Group will meet at 1:15 in the library and on zoom on May 9th.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON in the evening – sign up sheet in the Library.

NEWS - The monthly ‘Inspire’ Newsletter is now a weekly email called *The Weekly Inspire*. Please read this email to keep up to date with church events and updates on our discernment study.

DISCERNMENT TEAM UPDATE

We have finished two parts of the Discernment Study. This study is a process that we need to do in order to put together a search committee and job description for a new pastor. Over the next month, we will be holding small group conversations of 6-10 people. These conversations will be offered at various times and days. We hope that everyone will participate. All voices of the congregation are important during this time of discernment.

Save the Date: Sunday, June 23 from 10-12 - Discernment Gathering followed by lunch in Reighart Hall. We will gather in the sanctuary for a simple worship service followed by a conversation focused on our future: Where is God calling us? We hope everyone will join us for this gathering.

1. Demographic Study - here is just a brief summary - What Is God doing in our Neighborhood?

First Presbyterian Church (FPC) of Boonton Profile:

-FPC has 120 active members that come from at least 17 different towns. There are approximately 9 households of active members (22 members) living within a 1-mile radius of the church.

Neighborhood Connection opportunities:

-Offer programs geared to attract 55+ local residents, such as programs for retirement and connection with adult children. This is a large group in our local community and many of that cohort were raised in a church so may be amenable to outreach.

-Create church programs that support, along with school and YMCA, previous married parents transitioning to single parenthood (whether through separation, divorce, or death of spouse) and overworked single parents.

-Celebrate Boonton as a safe and supportive town to connect with LGBTQ + community.

-Host a volunteer recognition or Mission Sunday and specially invite L&F/Gateway volunteers. Host a community mission Sunday, honoring first responders (volunteer FD and/or EMS).

-Participate in First Friday events by hosting music, guest speakers or some other activity to attract visitors to the church. The location of the church is one block from Main Street and has parking (which can be limited on First Friday events).

-Lack of growth within the Town of Boonton may indicate the Church will need to cast a wider geographical net to grow.

-submitted by the demographics team: Bruce Middleton, Natalie Pisarcik, Kathy Pizar, Roxanne Tavakkol,