

### ***Connect and Serve***

*Please see the website (firstpreswc.com) for a complete list of programs and ways to connect.*

**The Rosebud** is to the glory of God and in honor of the birth of Richard Wendell Burke III, born September 24, 2025, child of Ryan and Ellette Burke and grandchild of Tracy and Rick Burke.

**State of the Church** - Please mark your calendar for Sunday, October 19, for the 2025 State of the Church remarks by Pastor Andrew. He will share some highlights from the past year as well as thoughts and visions of what God has in store for our congregation in the coming year. The remarks will begin at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary, immediately after the 9:00 am service. We hope Traditional worship attendees will stay and Contemporary worship goers will come early to hear this important information. Activities will be provided for children so parents can be present.

**Bible Book-It** - Get excited - Bible Book-it begins today! Designed to encourage people of all ages to read their Bibles, participants will set their own weekly Bible reading goal, check-in each Sunday to report their progress, and hopefully be encouraged, inspired, and blessed by spending time in God's Word. Visit the table in Fellowship Hall for more details, including weekly reading suggestions, or talk with our Director of Faith Formation, Sara Pantazes.

**Fall Adult Study: The Bible With and Without Jesus** - This fall all are invited to join a new Midweek Journeys study titled *The Bible With and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently*. The study will lead us on a tour of the most popular Hebrew Bible passages quoted in the New Testament to show what the texts meant in their original contexts and then how Jews and Christians, over time, understood those same texts.

This study will be offered in a hybrid format, meaning participants can attend in person or via Zoom, on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8 pm beginning October 8 and concluding on November 12. Books to accompany this study are available in Fellowship Hall and cost \$12 or however much you are able to contribute. Talk to Sara Pantazes with any questions.

**Community Trick or Treat** - Happy Fall, Y'all! A highlight of the fall season at First Pres is offering a loving and safe place for trick-or-treating. This year on Friday, October 24 from 6 – 7:30, we hope to welcome hundreds of church and community members. We need many volunteers to help make it happen! If you have interest in helping us decorate, answer doors, greet, or anything else that evening, please use the sign-up tab on the church website or contact Elizabeth Hess (ehess@firstpreswc.com). Candy donations are also needed (we hope to collect several hundred bags); a drop-off bin is in Fellowship Hall.

**Decorating for Outreach Event** - On Sunday, October 19 at 11:30 am, we'll be decorating the hallways, Herron Lounge and classroom/office doors for that Friday's Trick or Treat. This is a quick and fun all-ages opportunity to serve. If you and/or your family can decorate, please contact Elizabeth Hess (ehess@firstpreswc.com) or use the sign-up tab on the church website.

**Wednesday Lunch Supply Drive** - Thank you to all who donated supplies to our Wednesday Lunch ministry. Your gifts are deeply appreciated and will be put to good use at our meals each week. If you still wish to participate, please reach out to Pastor Caroline at [ccupp@firstpreswc.com](mailto:ccupp@firstpreswc.com).

**Moms Group** - All moms of babies through high schoolers are invited to our monthly moms' gatherings, starting today at 4 pm. Childcare is provided! We'll continue to meet on the first Sunday of every month from 4-5:30 at the church. If you're not already on the email list, reach out to Mary Hambleton ([emham@verizon.net](mailto:emham@verizon.net)) to get the reminders each month. We'd love to connect with you!

**First Pres Travelers Trip** - The First Pres Travelers was able to get a larger bus, 56 passenger-coach, and additional Radio City Christmas and Rockettes show tickets. We now have 12 additional seats available. Even if you aren't going on the trip, we'd appreciate you spreading the word to those with whom you interact during your day. Charge is \$206 which covers an orchestra section seat, bus transportation, driver tip, tolls and fees. The only other charge would be any snacks/food you would purchase. If you are interested, contact Thom & Irene at [psuthom@verizon.net](mailto:psuthom@verizon.net).

First Presbyterian Church of West Chester

October 5, 2025



### **Order of Worship for World Communion Sunday**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

Prelude                      Celebration No. 5  
Chatter with the Angels  
arr. Mark Arnold

Call to Worship\*  
People will come from east and west;  
**they will come from north and south,**

All will feast together at the table of God.  
**Thanks be to the Lord for welcoming us home.**

Hymn 511\*              Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven

Welcome

Prayer of Confession  
**As we come today to your great table, O God,  
we realize how small we have made our own.  
Our vision of your grace is too narrow.  
Our awareness of your mercy is too limited.  
Our understanding of your kingdom always falls short.  
We fail to measure up to live as the people  
you have called us to be.  
Hear our prayers and forgive our shortcomings.  
Raise our eyes, lift our hearts, and expand our spirits,  
so that we may live joyfully and abundantly  
in the manner of Jesus. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness  
God’s forgiveness is relentless, seeking us out  
again and again with boundless mercy and abundant grace.  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven to live anew. Amen.**

Response\*  
**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.**

Passing of the Peace\*

Presentation of Bibles to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Students

First Scripture Reading        Isaiah 56:6-8        OT p. 696

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory                            At This Table                    Allen Pote

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*After the prayer, children are invited to join their teachers  
for a short lesson in the Chapel.  
They will return to their families after the sermon for  
Communion.*

Second Scripture Reading    Galatians 3:26-29    NT p. 189

Sermon                            What’s Your Rock? Week 6  
Caroline Cupp

Hymn 530\*                        One Bread, One Body

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise! ...**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Communion of The Lord’s Supper  
*Communion will be served using the ancient practice of intinction.  
Beginning with those in the front rows,  
please come down the center aisle to receive the bread and cup.  
If you would prefer to be served where you are seated,  
please notify a server  
and the elements will be brought to you.  
The bread is free of gluten, nuts, egg, and dairy.*

Communion Music        Air from Suite in D        J. S. Bach

Prayer After Communion

Hymn 503\* Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

Blessing\*

Postlude                        Postlude in Classical Style  
Gordon Young

*Assisting in worship today:*  
Hailey Strzelec, Flute  
The Miner Street Bell Connections  
The Chancel Choir

*All are welcome in worship. We are a community of people of  
all ages who cry, vocalize, stim, fuss, stand, sit,  
and come and go as needed.  
The sounds of people are the joyful noise of God’s creation.*

*Audio amplifiers are in a basket at the back of the sanctuary.  
There are also screens in Fellowship Hall that stream the service if  
you need to step out.*

*The nursery is available for children ages 0-3 years. Please ask a  
greeter if you would like additional information  
about Sunday School or children’s programming.*

**Officer Nominating Process** - The church's Nominating Committee is looking for nominations for the offices of Elder and Deacon. Elders are elected by the congregation and are the decision makers for the congregation along with our pastors. Deacons are elected by the congregation and serve to support the pastors and our church members in congregational care. If you know of a member who may feel called to serve in one of these roles, including yourself, please use the QR code below or click the "Elder and Deacon Nominations" tab across the top of the church website to submit their name. Thank you for your participation in this important process for the life of our congregation.



*First Presbyterian Church Staff*  
**Rev. Andrew Esqueda**, Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Caroline Cupp**, Senior Associate Pastor  
**Sándor Kádár**, Director of Music  
**Sara Pantazes**, Director of Faith Formation  
**Elizabeth Hess**, Director of Engagement  
**Amanda Erno**, Children’s Music Director  
**Ann Ellis**, Choir Accompanist  
**Kiana Rivera**, Lead Singer, Contemporary Band  
**Jennifer Rosenberg**, Preschool Director  
**Greg Ondo**, AV Tech  
**Claire Kramer**, Office Administrator  
**Peter Galloway**, Director of Operations  
**Sara Ford**, Facilities Manager

*Emails at [firstpreswc.com/staff](mailto:firstpreswc.com/staff)*