



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Second Sunday of Easter • April 12, 2026 • 10:00am
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Grace and peace to you, and welcome!

As you prepare for Worship, please sign the red welcome pad found at the center of each aisle so that we will know you worshipped with us. Then pass it to your neighbor. The last person to sign the pad should pass it back to the center of the aisle. We suggest you prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for Worship.

**PLEASE STAND IN BODY AND/OR SPIRIT.*

THE GATHERING

Prelude: Praeludium und Fuge c-Moll, BWV 847 (from *Das Wohltemperierte Klavier I*)
Johann Sebastian Bach
Terence J. Flanagan - harpsichord

***Call to Worship** The Rev. Scott Herr

Leader: Great is the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

All: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

***Hymn No. 257:** The Risen Christ *Woodlands*



1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound - ed
2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound - ed
3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound - ed
4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and



feet from gar - den tomb through dark - ened cit - y
side, breathes out his Spir - it on them to a -
hand the bread for those who fail to un - der -
stand with the op - pressed in this and ev - ery
street, un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear, and
bide whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve; new
stand, re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - gering tears, en -
land, till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be, re -
speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Minute for Mission – Meals on Wheels

Michele Sloan, President
(Meals on Wheels of New Canaan)

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Leah Saulsberry

Call to Confession

Jennifer Frazer

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Let us confess our sin before God and one another, trusting in God’s gracious promise of forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

Confession of Sin (unison)

Jennifer Frazer

Eternal God, your Word teaches us that whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. Forgive us for forgetting your gracious promise of life. Forgive us for living in fear, thinking death and destruction has the final say. Forgive us for following our own ways rather than your life-giving path in Jesus Christ. Help us again to put our trust in you who has the power of life over death. We believe, Lord; help our unbelief.

(silence for further individual reflection and repentance...)

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead never to die again, we pray.

All: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Jennifer Frazer

Leader: The Scriptures teach: “If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” We confess that Jesus is Lord and we believe and celebrate the good news that God raised him from the dead. Trust in this good news:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous. Amen!**

***Gloria Patri**

Gloria Patri

Terence J. Flanagan

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
6 Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be,
11 world with - out end, A - men. A - men.

***Passing of the Peace**

Jennifer Frazer

Leader: Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, by making peace through the blood of the Cross. May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please share Christ's peace with one another.

Congregation greets one another and shares the peace of Christ

THE WORD

Prayer for illumination (unison)

Jennifer Frazer

Almighty God, we know that all Scripture inspired by you is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to you may be proficient, equipped for every good work. As we hear the good news this Easter season, may we come to believe more and more that Jesus is the Messiah, your Son and that through believing we may have life in his name. Amen.

First Lesson – 1 Peter 1:3-9

Jennifer Frazer

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem:

With a voice of singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

FPCNC Choir

Second Lesson – John 20:19-31

The Rev. Scott Herr

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Genuine Faith

The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 256: These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

Kedron

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of
2 The vi - sion of his skep - tic mind was keen e -
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, the grain of wood, the heft of
 nough to make him blind to an - y un - ex - pect - ed
 live when one had died, un - til his fin - gers read like
 ris - en Christ re - ceive, whose raw im - print - ed hands reached

stone, the last frail twitch of blood and bone.
 act too large for his small world of fact.
 Braille the mark - ings of the spear and nail.
 out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

Prayers of the People

The Rev. Scott Herr

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Call for the Offering

The Rev. Scott Herr

Leader: Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. With glad and generous hearts, let us present our tithes and offerings.

Offertory Solo:

Rise up, my heart, with gladness

Johann Sebastian Bach

Rise up my heart with gladness, And hear the news today.
 Now let all gloom and sadness, Be gone without delay.
 Lifeless our Saviour lay, So, too, shall we one day.
 But we shall know God's love, and rise to heaven above.

With joy the foe had shouted, When Christ was laid in the tomb.
 But now the foe is routed. His joy is turned to gloom.
 Christ gains the victory. Through Him we all are free.
 He who was born to save has triumphed over the grave!

Devin Mitchell – bass

***Doxology (No. 606)**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Jennifer Frazer

Gracious and loving God, we bring our tithes and offerings to you in celebration and thanksgiving for the good news of Easter. Give us your wisdom and grace to use what you have given us for ministries of love and compassion that will share the love of Jesus Christ for all people. Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn No. 817:**

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Dunlap's Creek



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - jice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

***Benediction**

The Rev. Scott Herr

***Choral Amen**

***Ringing of the Church Bell**

***Postlude:**

Allegro moderato maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

CCLI #11412435 / ONE LICENSE, License A-734274

***Join us in the Common Room after worship for a time of fellowship,
coffee/tea and snacks and our next Adult Forum with Daniel DeLoma.***

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to Worship on this Second Sunday of Easter! We are glad that you are with us and invite you to reflect today more deeply on what is “genuine faith”? We will explore how Thomas, one of the disciples who questions and doubts the fact of the resurrection is met by the crucified risen Lord and drawn into a deeper conviction of faith. What are forms of faith that are not so genuine? We pray that during our time together you will experience the grace of God’s welcome and be spiritually refreshed and socially oriented for the week.

The additional flower arrangement next to the Lectern in Church today is given by his family in loving memory of John Fulkerson.

Today’s Minute for Mission – Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels of New Canaan, Inc. (MOW) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1972 dedicated to providing nutritious meals to residents of New Canaan whose physical, emotional, mental, medical or social condition makes it difficult to provide these meals for themselves, regardless of their ability to pay. (Use the QR Code below to access their website.)

- MOW delivered 16,798 meals to our 65 clients in FY 2024-25
- The professional chefs at Waveny Care Center’s kitchen prepare and package healthy and delicious meals
- Dedicated volunteers deliver the meals
- One hot & one cold meal costs \$14/day—paying clients pay \$9/day, 72% of our clients are fully subsidized
- Individual donations make up over 57% of our funding, with another 19% coming from grants from local organizations and special events
- MOW is highly cost efficient, with over 92% of the budget used for meal-related expenses
- The majority of our clients are seniors; many are longtime residents of New Canaan
- Clients may receive meals on a short or long term basis and choose which weekdays to receive meals
- For many clients, our volunteer drivers are windows to the community, as often they are the only person the client sees during the day



Sunday School! Join us as we explore Bible stories and all our questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the world around us. We will explore these themes through discussion, crafts, music, and other visual media. Children begin Worship in the Sanctuary with their families then following the Blessing for Young Disciples, we move to our Sunday School classes upstairs in the Bliss House and then return to the Sanctuary towards the end of Worship.

If your child is participating in Sunday School, please fill out this very short form so that we have up-to-date family contact numbers, and you can provide us with any information about your child that will help us minister to them: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/2024SundaySchoolStudents>

TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

Adults or older teens who want to come be part of the fun of Sunday School, we need you! Join us and bring your own sense of wonder and joy as we learn together what it means to be part of God's big family. Let us know of your interest by filling out this form: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2024-25>, or reach out to Leah Saulsberry at leahs@fpcnc.org.

Children are warmly welcome to stay in Worship! For children who stay during Worship, the **Pray-Ground** can be found in the area in front of the back pew bench. The Pray-Ground is a designated place in the Sanctuary where young children can experience worship through age-appropriate worship materials and tools that will help keep them engaged in what is happening. We will continue to rotate books and coloring materials on an ongoing basis. Although it can seem counter-intuitive to adults, children are often able to process what they hear more effectively when they have something to do with their hands.

Any child worshipping in the Pray-Ground should bring their grown-up with them to the Pray-Ground. Including young children in worship can sometimes feel a little daunting, especially on days when they're feeling a little extra fidgety, but we don't need to be discouraged from keeping children in the Sanctuary. There are many important things that children learn while in Worship, even when we're not sure if they're paying attention. Young children learn by observing the adults around them. Children acquire the "language" of worship by listening to and observing the words the adults around them say, much like how they learn their native tongue. Quite simply, children learn to worship by regularly being in Worship. **So families with little ones should feel free to worship together in the Pray-Ground!**

FPCNC also offers childcare during our Sunday Service provided by Saturnina Greaves and Lizz Reyes from Wee Care Nanny Agency. Our Nursery is located just off our Common Room vestibule down the long hall from the Sanctuary and is available between the hours of 8:45–11:30am. **Parental and guardian sign-in is required and we do ask that you pick up your child promptly after the Service.**

Have a prayer request? Prayer Cards are located in the back of the church adjacent to the Sanctuary entrance. Before worship, please give the completed Prayer Card to either Scott, Mary or one of the Ushers. These requests will be included in our Prayers of the People for that Sunday. You will have the option to exclude your prayer from the communal prayer if you prefer. All prayers will be held and prayed over in confidence. Any questions or concerns, please contact Mary (marythies75@gmail.com).

Cents-Ability – The Cents-ability jar is in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. Please drop your spare change into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you're at church. You can also take home a small cents-ability bank to collect change. All change collected will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support to the New Canaan Food Pantry.



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning, our prelude music is played on the harpsichord. We hear one of **Johann Sebastian Bach's** (1685–1750) preludes and fugues from the *The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846–893*, two sets of preludes and fugues in all 24 major and minor keys written for keyboard. In the composer's time clavier referred to a variety of keyboard instruments, namely the harpsichord, the clavichord and the organ, but not excluding the regal and the then newly-invented pianoforte. Bach gave the title in 1722, composed "for the profit and use of musical youth desirous of learning, and especially for the pastime of those already skilled in this study". 20 years later,

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC (Cont'd)

Bach compiled a second book of the same kind which became known as *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Part Two*. Modern editions usually refer to both parts as *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1* and *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 2*. The collection is generally regarded as one of the most important works in the history of classical music.

Our FPCNC Choir's anthem is composed by **Martin Edward Fallas Shaw** (1875-1958), an English composer, conductor, and theatre producer. His over 300 published works include songs, hymns, carols, oratorios, several instrumental works, a congregational mass setting, and four operas including a ballad opera. Shaw was the eldest of nine children, son of the Bohemian and eccentric James Fallas Shaw, composer of church music and Organist of Hampstead parish church. He was the elder brother of the composer and influential educator Geoffrey Shaw and the actor Julius "Jules" Brinkley Shaw. He studied under Charles Villiers Stanford at the Royal College of Music, together with a generation of composers that included Gustav Holst, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Herbert Howells, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, and John Ireland. He began his career as an Organist, serving at Emmanuel Church, West Hampstead, from 1895 to 1903. He took posts as Organist and Director of Music, first at St Mary's, Primrose Hill, 1908 or 1909 – 1920, later at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London 1920 – 1924. He was also Master of Music at the Guildhouse, London. His nephew was the actor Sebastian Shaw, who played the unmasked Darth Vader and the ghost of Anakin Skywalker in Return of the Jedi.

For our offertory music, we will hear once again music composed by **Johann Sebastian Bach**. Devin Mitchell, bass, will offer a solo. Johann was better known as a virtuoso organist than as a composer in his day. His sacred music, organ and choral works, and other instrumental music had an enthusiasm and seeming freedom that concealed immense rigor. Bach's use of counterpoint was brilliant and innovative, and the immense complexities of his compositional style -- which often included religious and numerological symbols that seem to fit perfectly

together in a profound puzzle of special codes -- still amaze musicians today. Many consider him the greatest composer of all time. Bach became Kantor of the Thomas School in Leipzig in May 1723 and held the post until his death. It was in Leipzig that he composed the bulk of his religious and secular cantatas.

Our organ postlude is composed by **Felix Mendelssohn** (1809-1847), a German composer, pianist, organist and conductor of the early Romantic period. Mendelssohn's compositions include symphonies, concertos, piano music, organ music and chamber music. His best-known works include the overture and incidental music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the Italian and Scottish Symphonies, the oratorios *St. Paul* and *Elijah*, the *Hebrides Overture*, the mature Violin Concerto, the String Octet, and the melody used in the Christmas carol *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*. Mendelssohn's *Songs Without Words* are his most famous solo piano compositions. Felix was recognised early as a musical prodigy, but his parents were cautious and did not seek to capitalise on his talent. His sister Fanny received a similar musical education and was a talented composer and pianist in her own right; some of her early songs were published under her brother's name and her Easter Sonata was for a time mistakenly attributed to him after being lost and rediscovered in the 1970s. Mendelssohn enjoyed early success in Germany, and revived interest in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and he became well received in his travels throughout Europe as a composer, conductor and soloist. His essentially conservative musical tastes set him apart from more adventurous musical contemporaries, such as Franz Liszt, Richard Wagner, Charles-Valentin Alkan and Hector Berlioz. The Leipzig Conservatory, which he founded, became a bastion of this anti-radical outlook. He is considered among the most popular composers of the Romantic era.



Easter Flowers



In Loving Memory Of

Their parents, **George & Emilie Thompson**, and **Perry & Midge Bartlett** by Dede and Jim Bartlett
Sonya Hamln, Lily Ann Hoge, Gayla Lindquist, Geoffrey Bell dear friends of Dede and Jim Bartlett

Steve Benko, beloved husband, father and public servant by the Benko family

My son **Scott Kiernan** and my husband **Julian Brix** by Kay Kiernan Brix

Robert Brownley by Anne and family

Loved ones, family and friends by Peg and Sherman Bull

Roger E. Clark by Kate (Clark) Boldon, his children, and grandchildren

Andrew M. Clarkson by his family

John A. Edwards Jr. and her **parents Milton & Connie Coe** by the Edwards family

Robin Beckett Emmons by Thomas Emmons

Peter R. Adams and David B. Findlay, Jr. by Mimi Adams Findlay

Great-Grandmother **Arlene W. Young** and Grandparents **Terence J. Flanagan, Allen & Elitia Besecker**
by Terence J. Flanagan

My dad **Thomas Arthur Duncan** by Lisa Flanagan

Our loved ones gone from our families but not forgotten with love, Len and Cindy Graziano

Chuck Gulden, Alan Wentzel, and loved ones by the Gulden/Wentzel family

Our parents, **Lois & SL Swenson**, and **Betty & Paul Hanson** by Karen & Peter Hanson

Elizabeth Smith by Scott Herr

Lanah's parents, **Gordon and Marilyn Jones** and her brother **Robert Wynne Jones** by the Holden family

George Hooker by his family

My mother, **Mary Ann Marston Jackson** by Lynn Jackson and family

John Lanaway by Janet Lanaway and family

Her parents, **Betty & Clement Brown** by Mary Lee Lesko, and his parents, **Jean & Ted Lesko** by Jim Lesko

James Emory and Thomas Pater by Jessica Lister

Our parents, **James & Phyllis Russell** and **Reginald & Noreen Martin** by Linda and Paul Martin

George H. Megrue and Kevin S. Megrue by Suzanne Megrue and family

Len Nerenburg and Fannie & Peter Marrone by Jo Ann Nerenburg

Constance & Donal O'Brien, Donal O'Brien, Jr., Donal O'Brien III and **Nancy & George Slight** by their families

Her mother, **Cathleen Licero** by Bonnie Peterson and family

Roy Sumner Pfeil, George & Linda Post by The Rev. Susan M. Pfeil and Anneliese Pfeil Posen

Maxine & Tracey Mackle and Rodger Reeves by Julie, Michael, Spencer, Kate and Vivi Reeves

Helen & Louis Dahle, Julia & James Riehl Sr, David Kispert Sr, Dominique Schieck, and Charles Stewart by Riehl family

Kathryn & Charles Cunningham by their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren

Robert Schneider by his family

Her husband, **Peter Schurman**, and her brother, **Don Calhoun** by Judy Schurman

Anne Kniffin by Ellen Taylor Sisson

Roger C. Smith and their parents by Nell Smith

Craig Tate, William & Hazel Graham, Elizabeth & Richard Krebs, and John & Evelyn Tate by Sherry Tate

Her parents, **Margret & William Marple** by Mary Marple Thies, and his mother, **Eleanor Kamphoefner** by Armin Thies

Joyce Thompson & James Marcotte by the Van de Graaf Family

Ronald Watkins by his family

In Honor Of

In loving honor of our parents by Kim and Scott Herr

Betty Lou Reeves by Julie, Michael, Spencer, Kate and Vivi Reeves

Pat & Coby Van de Graaf and **David Thompson** by the Van de Graaf Family

Barbara Wentzel on her 85th Easter Birthday by her family

TODAY



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

DANIEL DELOMA

VISITING NURSE/HOSPICE AND WAVENY LIFECARE NETWORK
CHAPLAIN, M.TH., MSPC, PC, APBCC-HPC

APRIL 12, 2026

178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN CT

10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

11:30 AM ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING: INTEGRATIVE
APPROACHES IN PALLIATIVE
AND HOSPICE CARE:
ENHANCING COMFORT,
PRESENCE, AND
CONNECTION

LUNCH AND
CHILDCARE
PROVIDED



ALL ARE WELCOME!

MUSIC HAPPENINGS

Our old pipe organ console has been removed...

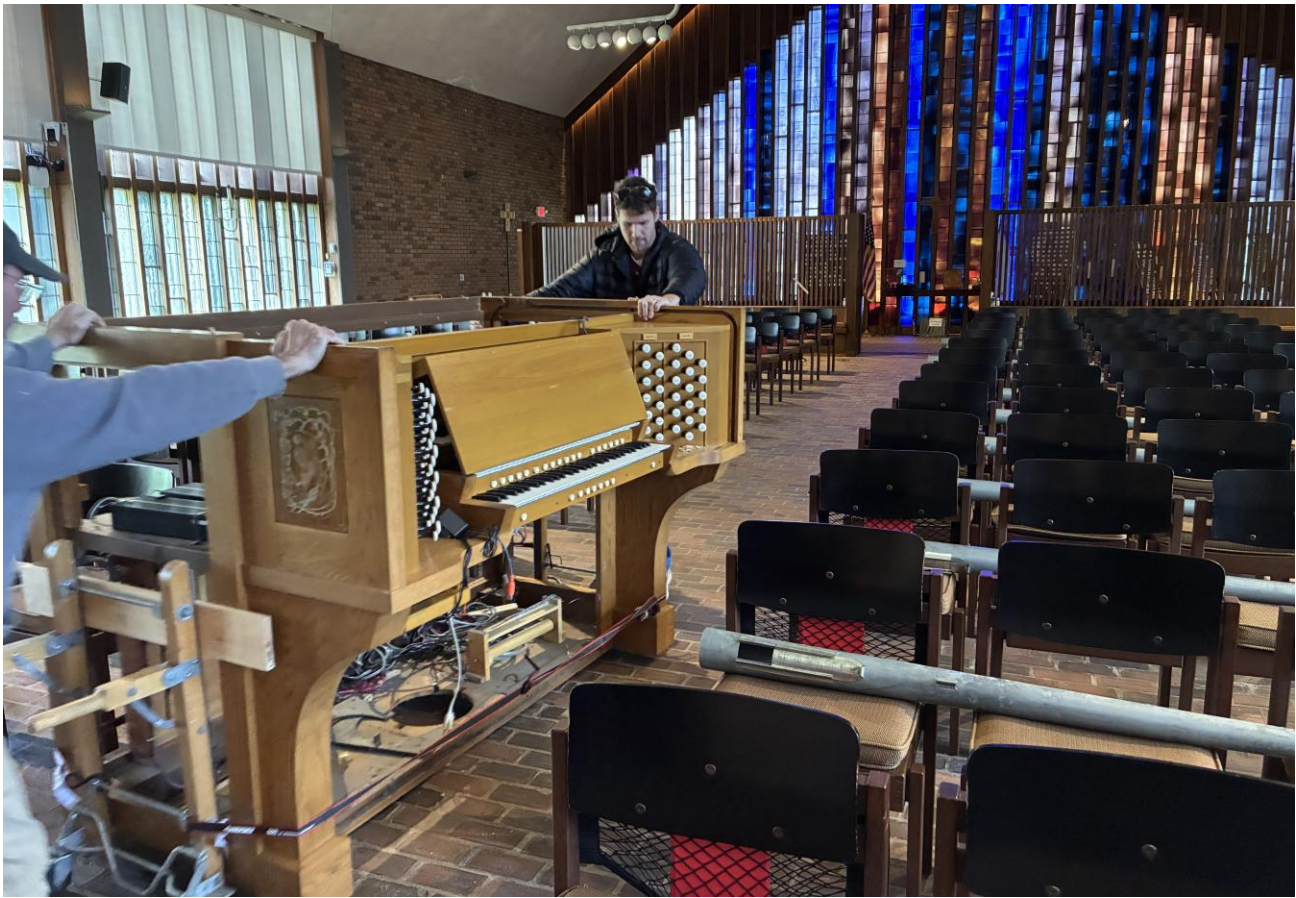
from the Sanctuary. This past Tuesday, I was joined by Austin Organs, and we took the next step in the process of replacing our existing organ console – we disconnected and removed the original console. Along with this, we removed the pedal reed pipes (photo #2) to be both overhauled and used for the voicing process of our new pedal pipes which extend what we have pitch-wise downward. You will notice, and hear, a loaner organ which will be used for a few weeks while the work is finished.

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts



Photo #2





THIS WEEK @ FPC

Wednesday Weekly Bible Studies, led by Darlene Harmon, meets every Wednesday from 10:00am-11:30am. We are currently studying Genesis. Please come at 9:45am to share a cup of tea/coffee and snack in the Parlor/Library. We hope you can come join us! Everyone is invited!

FPC Office Hours:

Monday, April 13 – Thursday, April 16: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Friday, April 17: *Office Closed*

CONCERT THIS WEEK @ FPC



New Canaan Chamber Music
Andrew Armstrong, Artistic Director

Clarinet Meets Classical Accordion!



Yoonah Kim, clarinet



Ryan Corbett, accordion



Andrew Armstrong, piano

Thursday, April 16 at 3:00 PM | Friday, April 17 at 7:00 PM
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan
newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets

EDITOR'S NOTES

Knobloch Scholarship: Thanks to the generosity of one of our distinguished members, Bill Knobloch, the First Presbyterian Church is offering to any Fall 2026 matriculated college student who is a member of the congregation the opportunity to apply for a \$2,500 scholarship to be used for college or university study costs. Application forms are available by contacting Wendy in the church office (203-966-0002 ext. 1 / wendy@fpcnc.org). **Application deadline is May 15th.**

Thank you everyone for donating towards another successful **Annual Lenten Food Drive**. We collected over **61 bags of food** and they were delivered to the NC Food Pantry at St. Mark's this past Wednesday, April 1.



Thank you to everyone that submitted a Congregation Assessment Survey. We know this took time out of your busy schedules, but we received a great number of responses. We will have an adult forum later in May or early June after the Session meets with Holy Cow to get their assessment on our collective responses to the survey.

News from the Worship, Music and Fine Arts Committee

With the arrival of Spring we are thankful to those who continue to sign up to assist during Sunday morning worship. However, we are always in need of ushers, greeters, readers and communion servers as we continue through April following Easter and then move into the month of May. Please consider logging into Sign-Up Genius found on the church website (www.fpcnc.org) to find a Sunday that works for you. To find out more about how you can help, please speak with Jan Lucie, Linda Martin or Armin Thies of the Worship Committee or call Wendy in the church office.



Please consider logging into Sign-Up Genius found on the church website (www.fpcnc.org) to find a Sunday that works for you. To find out more about how you can help, please speak with Jan Lucie, Linda Martin or Armin Thies of the Worship Committee or call Wendy in the church office.

SIGN UP here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

We are grateful for all your kind assistance and always welcome new participation!

SAVE THE DATE



Spring Stroll!

Please join us for an easy, Spring Stroll on wide, smooth pathways, great for kids through seniors and every age in between!

Greenwich Point Park/Tod's Point
Saturday, April 18

9 am – meet at FPC parking lot for carpool

10 am – stroll starts if you drive yourself

11-11:45 am – coffee/treats provided by Congregational Life

RSVP to church office by **April 16** So we can provide food.

As of 3/31, Dogs are unfortunately no longer allowed in the park.

For those who may be concerned with the number of steps, we're happy to bring a wheelchair to stroll with you! Contact the church office.



GINA BLUM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STAYING PUT IN NEW CANAAN

APRIL 19, 2026

178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN CT

10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

11:30 AM ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING:

THERE'S

NO PLACE

LIKE HOME:

STAYING PUT IN

NEW CANAAN

LUNCH AND
CHILDCARE
PROVIDED

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Open Mic Night

FPCNC Open Mic: Diverse Expressions
Featured Performance by Anne Marie Menta Trio

Thursday, April 23

Open Mic, 7-8:30 pm

Featured Performance, 8:30-9 pm

2 song limit and a 7-minute
max time allowance

You must **sign up** before the
event or in person the
night of the event
between 7-8 pm

Contact Nick Depuy at
nickdepuy@gmail.com to
sign up

178 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan CT



SAVE THE DATE (Cont'd)

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN**

Scottish Sunday

May 3rd @ 10 AM

Mount Kisco Scottish Pipes & Drums
Highland Dancers
Kirkin' o' the Tartans and Kilts
Shortbread and Haggis
Bouncy Castle
Great Scot!

Mark your calendars and invite family and friends
to this year's big event!



For additional information or to join the Scottish Sunday Committee, contact
Nancy nancydllabadie@gmail.com or Patty pvonjena@gmail.com.

MISSION & OUTREACH

**NEW
COVENANT
CENTER**

focused on
hunger prevention
and social services
for a better life

A PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

New Covenant Center – Saturday, May 2!

Can you help with prepping and/or serving a meal at New Covenant Center in Stamford, CT? **For May 2nd we need**

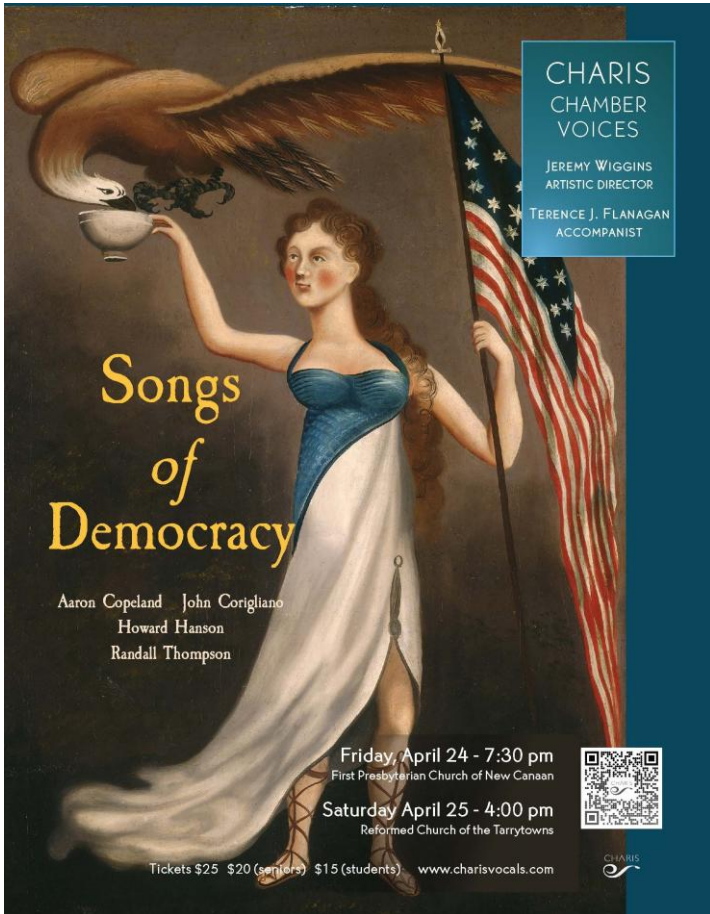
your help – we're looking for 4 people to help cook the meal from 2:00-4:00pm and 5 people to help serve the meal.

Sign up here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A44A5AE28A7FF2-newcovenant>, or contact Wendy in church office or Steve Van de Graaf stevevdg01@gmail.com. Mark your calendars and reserve your spots for Fall NCC cooking and serving on Saturdays Sept 9, Oct 3 and Nov 7.



Photo (L to R): Stan Jaworowski, Paul Van de Graaf, Allison Gurley, and Tom Emmons

UPCOMING CONCERTS @ FPC



Songs of Democracy


Aaron Copeland John Corigliano
Howard Hanson
Randall Thompson

Friday, April 24 - 7:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

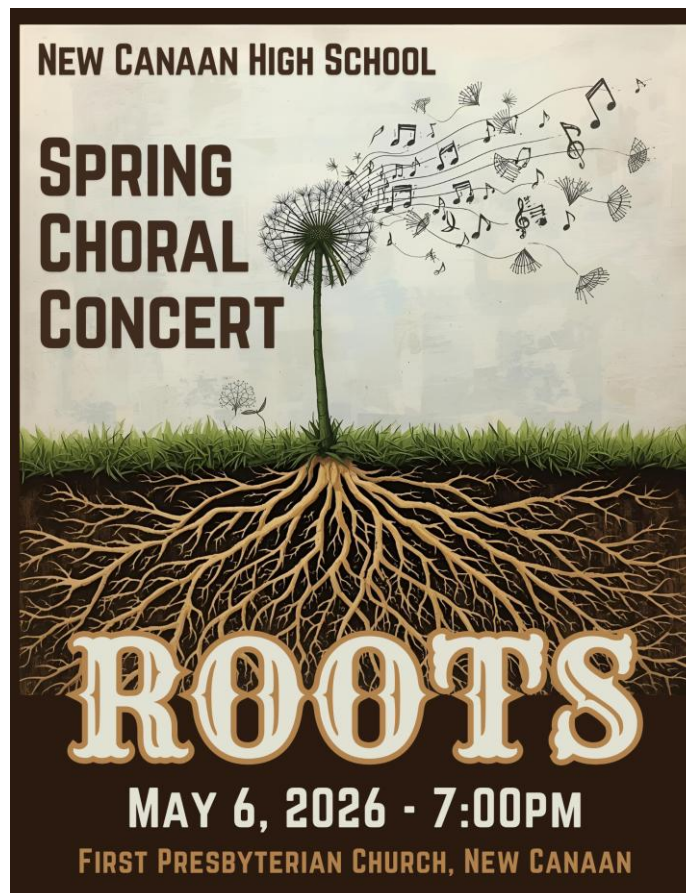
Saturday April 25 - 4:00 pm
Reformed Church of the Tarrytowns

Tickets \$25 \$20 (seniors) \$15 (students) www.charisvocals.com

CHARIS CHAMBER VOICES
JEREMY WIGGINS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
TERENCE J. FLANAGAN
ACCOMPANIST



On Friday, April 24th at 7:30pm, Charis Chamber Voices will perform their final concert of the season. Accompanied by FPCNC's own Terence J. Flanagan, *Songs of Democracy* marks the approaching 250th anniversary of the United States through music that reflects the American spirit and the many voices that shape it. From the folk sounds of *Zion's Walls* and *Shenandoah* to the powerful poetry of Dylan Thomas in John Corigliano's *Fern Hill*, this program explores themes of memory, hope, and community. Works by Howard Hanson, Roy Ringwald, André Thomas, Randall Thompson, and Cecil Effinger draw on American texts and ideals, offering moments of reflection, celebration, and gratitude for the freedoms we share. FPCNC staff singers Nik Brennan, Lisa Flanagan and Devin Mitchell are part of the group. You might also see a colonial soldier (Terence D. Flanagan) as you pass through the doors. Charis's famous wine and cheese reception will follow each concert. Obtain your tickets via the QR code to the left or at the door. Thank you for your support!



NEW CANAAN HIGH SCHOOL

SPRING CHORAL CONCERT

ROOTS

MAY 6, 2026 - 7:00PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NEW CANAAN

COMMUNITY

**LET'S TALK
NEW CANAAN**

A Community Conversation Across Political Differences

Saturday, May 16
9:00AM – Noon
Lapham Center

A guided morning of deep listening, storytelling, and connection across political differences.

- Build empathy
- Strengthen community
- Open to all New Canaanites

Led by
Rev. Dr. Allen Hilton

*Come curious.
Leave connected.*

Sponsored by The New Canaan Clergy Association



New Canaan Announces America250 New Canaan Celebration

As the nation prepares to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the Town of New Canaan is launching a community-wide celebration to honor this historic milestone. The New Canaan 250th Planning Committee is organizing a series of events from June 14 – November 11, 2026, highlighting the Town's history, civic leadership, and enduring community spirit as part of America's Semiquincentennial celebration. Local organizations, businesses, and community groups are invited to participate by hosting events and activities that reflect New Canaan's rich heritage and patriotic tradition.

Signature Events – Two major community-wide events anchor the celebration:

- **NC250 Parade – June 27, 2026, at 9:30am** (Rain date: June 28, 2026, 1:00pm) For more information on the parade contact Parade Co-Chair Lisa Melland at (203) 966-5016.
- **Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular – July 4, 2026, at Waveny Park.** Tickets will go on sale in June!

You can contribute in two ways:

- 1) Supporting the Celebration **Donate via PayPal:** <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/MZNXVGA2F3Q6G>
- 2) Tax deductible donations may be made to the NC Chamber of Commerce Charitable Foundation by mailing a check to: New Canaan Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 214, New Canaan, CT 06840

 WILTON CANDLELIGHT CONCERTS
presents the third concert of our 78th season

Jiji, guitar, and Danbi Um, violin

April 26, 2026

The duo will present a varied program including works by Corelli, Amy Beach, Albeniz, and Paganini. “A graceful and nuanced player... Jiji presented an intimate, captivating performance” — Kansas City Star. “Utterly dazzling” — The Strad on Danbi Um



Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. at the Wilton Congregational Church
located at 70 Ridgefield Road (Route 33), Wilton CT 06897.

Tickets available at the door or at our website www.wiltoncandlelightconcerts.com
Tickets \$35 on line; \$40 at the door; students FREE. 203-417-7203



Waveny Lifecare Network's

NAVIGATOR

Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan

Providing support and guidance to those impacted by Alzheimer's and dementia in New Canaan

All Communications Confidential

- 24/7 access to dedicated Alzheimer's and dementia specialists
- Complimentary grant-based program
- Exclusive respite apartment
- Exclusive social model adult day programming
- Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- Access to trusted resources outside of Waveny
- Wellness checks and safety assessments
- Education on disease progression and healthcare resources available
- Assistance with insurance and public benefits
- Coordination of care, advance care planning, discharge planning
- Emotional support
- Alzheimer's and dementia caregiver support group
- Dedicated mobile app

Contact us for a consultation
Phone: 203-594-5289
Email: Navigator@waveny.org

In collaboration with



NEW CANAAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



**SAVE THE NUMBER
SAVE A LIFE
CALL OR TEXT 988**



Add this number to your phone now.
It could save a life later.

nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention

Save the number, save a life. Add the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988) to your phone now—it could save a life later. Trained crisis counselors are available to talk 24/7/365.

NEW CANAAN
Behavioral Health
ALLIANCE

Finding the right behavioral health support for yourself, family member or a friend can feel overwhelming. The New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance (NCBHA) is excited to announce the launch of its website. New Canaan Human Services, NCCF and Silver Hill Hospital have partnered with over 30 local agencies and organizations to encourage, develop and support a greater community awareness of behavioral health issues and resources in our area. To talk directly to someone that can help navigate available resources, or just to see what behavioral health events are happening around the area, visit www.newcanaanbha.org.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.

New prayers and concerns: for the family and friends of Bonnie Hicks (Barbara Wentzel's close friend) died on Tuesday, April 7.


Continued prayers and concerns: Judy Bentley; Amber Lowman Bullen, CMDR US Navy (Nancy LaBadie's niece and goddaughter); Mary Dillon (Barbara Wentzel's sister) who had a stroke; Betty Drew (Sue Dishart's mother); Kristen Englund recovering from transplant surgery; Chris Harris (Dede Trefts' lifelong and beloved friend) is in the last stage of a very long battle with cancer; Dan Hodges; Sue Hoffman (Peg and Sherm Bull's friend) diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer; David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Denise Lynch; for the family of Marguerite Lynch who died on Monday, March 30; Josephine Markell (Jim Riehl's 106-year-old aunt); Missy (Sarah Robinson's sister-in-law) and her two daughters, Lexi and Maggie. Missy has been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer; for the family of Emily "Sandy" Nissley who died on Tuesday, March 31; Anne Palmer recovering from shoulder surgery; Howard Palmer; for the family and friends of Vive Palmer, Maxine's cousin, who died on March 18; John Robinson (Darlene Harmon's brother) who has lung cancer; Mindy Starr-Pfahler (Wendy Starr's cousin); Ken Stringfellow (Kate Stringfellow-Ziance's brother); J. Stuart Stringfellow (Kate Stringfellow-Ziance's father).

We continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims who have been affected by gun violence.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is our presence around the world when disasters happen. Through them we are on the ground around the world, responding to the enormous needs following wildfires, hurricanes and earthquakes and during war. PDA Giving: <https://pcusa.org/giving/stewardship-funds-development/ways-give>

PSNE Community Prayer: For the following PSNE Clergy: Dana Lindsley, Heather Little Andrade, Cory Loder, Melodie Long, Ross Ludeman, Donald Lundgren, Skip Macaulay, Deborah Mahaney, Patricia Marion, Rachel Mastin, William Maxwell, Laurie McKnight, and Marilyn McNaughton.

GROW IN FAITH

 SILVER HILL HOSPITAL If you know of someone in urgent need of mental health support, please remember the resource that our town has in the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. The town, in partnership with Silver Hill Hospital, is prepared to offer psychiatric assessment and tailored referral for ongoing care. The Program serves children, teens and adults who are New Canaan residents free of charge. To schedule an intake call, email NCUA@silverhillhospital.org or call Silver Hill Hospital admissions at 1-866-542-4455 and indicate that you are asking about the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. For more details use this link: <https://silverhillhospital.org/new-canaan-urgent-assessment-program/>

Pastoral Care Team:

Do you know of someone who might appreciate a phone call or visit, someone who is lonely or mourning? Our congregation has a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members who are facing a life crisis. They may be in declining health, shut-ins, living in a care facility, grieving, or struggling with a significant change in their circumstances. Our Pastoral Care Team, made up of Ferial Aldag, Peg Bull, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, Barbara Wentzel and The Rev. Mary Thies, is ready to provide pastoral care to church members who are dealing with such a situation. If you know of someone who could benefit from this ministry or if you have questions about the work of the team, please call the church office 203-966-0002 (ext 1).



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

CALENDAR – UPCOMING WEEK

SUNDAY, April 12

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service
11:15 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Adult Forum – Daniel DeLoma
(Waveny LifeCare/Hospice)

MONDAY, April 13

2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
3:30, 4:30 Jumpin’ Jams (Tate Barn)
7 pm Deacons Meeting (Zoom)
7 pm Purple Heather Dancers

TUESDAY, April 14

9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin’ Jams (Tate Barn)
10:30 am Staff Leadership Weekly Meeting
7 pm Session Meeting (Common Room)
8 pm Men’s A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, April 15

10:00 am Weekly Bible Study
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
4:30 pm FPC English Handbells Rehearsal
6:30 pm RAM Council (Common Room)

THURSDAY, April 16

12:30pm NC Rotary Lunch/Meeting (Common Room)
3 pm NC Chamber Music Concert
3:30 pm Special Church (Tate Barn)
7 pm FPC Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

FRIDAY, April 17

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin’ Jams (Barn)
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
7 pm NC Chamber Music Concert

SATURDAY, April 18

9 am Spring Stroll (Tod’s Point Greenwich, CT)
9:15 am A.A. Group (closed)
10:30 am A.A. Group (open)
2-5 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

SUNDAY, April 19

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service
11:15 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Adult Forum – Gina Blum
(Staying Put of New Canaan)

CALENDAR – APRIL Thru MAY

Thursday, April 23, 7:00pm	Open Mic Night
Friday, April 24, 7:30pm	Charis Chamber Voices Concert
Sunday, April 26, 11:30am	New Members’ Orientation Class (Parlor)
Saturday, May 2, 2:00-6:00pm	New Covenant Center (Prep and Serve Meals)
Sunday, May 3, 10:00am	Scottish Heritage Sunday
Sunday, May 10, 3:00pm	Orchestra Lumos Concert (<i>Rescheduled from February 22</i>)
Tuesday, May 19, 7:00pm	Session Meeting (Common Room)
Wednesday, May 20, 6:00pm	Deacons InPerson Meeting & Dinner (Common Room)
Wednesday, May 27, 6:00pm	RAM Council (Common Room)
Wednesday, May 27	Holden Evening Prayer (St. Michael’s Lutheran Church)
Thursday, May 28, 7:00pm	Open Mic Night

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

The First Presbyterian Church Choir with:

Lisa Flanagan – soprano, Jaime Ratcliffe – alto, Nikolas Brannan – tenor, Devin Mitchell – bass

Greeters: Peg and Sherman Bull

Lay Reader: Jennifer Frazer

Ushers: Janet Lanaway and Jennifer Van de Graaf

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

The Reverend Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor • The Reverend Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate

2025-2026 SESSION ELDERS AND DEACONS

SESSION ELDERS

Bob Spangler and Jennifer Van de Graaf (Co-Clerks) • Barb Achenbaum • Tom Butterworth • Jim Ely
Angela Johnson • Nancy LaBadie • Janet Lanaway • Jan Lucie • Mark Magnusen • Bonnie Peterson
Mike Peterson • Charlie Sulkowski (Youth) • Steve Van de Graaf • Patty von Jena • Stephan von Jena

DEACONS

Dan Mason and Kathy Edwards (Co-Moderators) • Ferial Aldag • Sue Benko • Carole Clarkson • Chris Cluett
Sue Dishart • Lisa Flanagan • Terence D. Flanagan (Youth) • Julie Fowler • Jo Ann Nerenburg • Debera Prosek

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts • Jim Riehl, Business Administrator
Leah Saulsberry, Sunday School Director • Wendy Starr, Office Manager
Emily Johnson, Communications Assistant • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers
Terence D. Flanagan, Sunday Audio Technician

SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

<p>Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:</p>  	<p>DONATE:</p> 	<p>FPC YouTube Channel:</p> 
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