



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
March 10, 2024

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, March 10, is The Fourth Sunday in Lent. The liturgical color is **purple**. 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 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 Sarah in loving memory of Web Brenner; by Doria who is grateful for friends; and by Carol, Blake and Kelsey, Bridget, Daniel and Adriana in celebration of Woody's birthday today!

WE WELCOME Francis Rittermann as our guest musician this morning.

Francis X Rittermann is Music Director Emeritus of Christ Episcopal Church (Columbia), having served as organist and choir director for seven years. He has been a lifelong church musician and a member of the Baltimore Chapter of the Guild of Organists. He is a CPA and is married with 3 children and 7 grandchildren.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS TODAY:

Liturgist: John (10:30)

Ushers & Greeters: Sara, Alice (10:30)

Tech Crew: Tracy, Jacob, Margot

PRAYER LIST FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 10, 2024

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

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: *Andy's parents, John & Judy;* Terry, Kathy Hilton, Kris Holmes, Al, Barbara, Jane, Aaron, Eyler, Rita, Matt

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

Recovering from Surgery: *Janet, Margaret, Jonathan, Ann*

Bereaved: Bob; Angela and Trey and Family, *Ellen and Doyle and family*

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

Please contact Pastor Ken Page, churchoffice@firstpreshc.org or 410-730-3545 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.



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MARCH FELLOWSHIP HOURS on Sundays

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

- * Sunday, March 10, 2024 – hosted by the Choir
- * Sunday, March 17, 2024 – hosted by ROMEOS
- * Sunday, March 24, 2024 – hosted by the Deacons
- * Sunday, March 31, 2024 – Easter Breakfast, 7:00-10:00 a.m.



For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check our website at 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 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 by **Thursday, March 14, 2024 for April 2024 events.** Then watch your inbox every week!

WORSHIP, ARTS AND MUSIC NEWS

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Handbell rehearsal: *Wednesday, March 13, 2024* at 7:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir rehearsal: *Thursday, March 14, 2024* at 7:30 p.m.

Geniá rehearsal: *Thursday, March 21* at 6:30 p.m. in Branch Hall

Contact Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Margaret McGillivray,
churchoffice@firstpreshc.org for more details!

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

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

Here's the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89326301087?pwd=WnpGTEU1SXpLYnlMQ1l4WTh0cGtoZz09>
Meeting ID: 893 2630 1087 Passcode: peacebwyou

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 4th graders are eligible to attend. We also need lots of volunteers! Mark your calendars now because you don't want to miss it!

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. in Lyle Buck Hall. The next meeting is *Wednesday, March 13*. Dinner will be provided. All 5th – 12th graders are welcome!

Questions? Email DCE Virginia Callegary – churchoffice@firstpreshc.org

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

MAKING SPACE FOR GOD - taught by Bruce

Sundays, March 10, 17 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 258

Using Tim Stead's book, *Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality* we'll learn about today's science-based mindfulness therapy, known as Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR), and how it also can be part of a practice of Christian spirituality. Stead is an Anglican priest and also a trained teacher of mindfulness, who believes mindfulness can instruct and deepen our prayers and daily living.

Copies of Stead's book will be available from Christian Education Director, Virginia Callegary, and will be helpful for class participation. Donations of \$15 for those interested in owning a copy are appreciated, but not required.

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

with Rev. Andrea Lee Taylor

The Good and Beautiful God, by James Bryan Smith

Focusing on the Gospels, James Bryan Smith invites us to examine our ideas about God to see if they match up with what Jesus himself reveals about God. We delve into the narratives of the Lord he knew and the kingdom he proclaimed and explore spiritual exercises that guide growth in the knowledge of our good and beautiful God.

The Good and Beautiful God is available on Amazon.com

Register in advance for this and future meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qc-6vqTstGNDMbW4UBdwAfUcwDJiqHjXW>

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

DEACONS NEWS

JUST ONE CAN...PLUS!!! – March – Breakfast

Let's help the hungry start the morning right with a good breakfast. Our special request for March is donations of cereal (including instant oatmeal), which is the most requested food item month after month in food pantries. There is a limit of one visit per family per month to the Howard County Food Bank, where the quantities given out must be strictly rationed to meet demand.

Please leave your regular contribution – and “plus” items - in the “Just One Can” cart next to the Welcome Center in the Upper Commons or in the storage box by the back entrance (near the mailbox). Thank you on behalf of the Deacons and the Food-Stressed of Howard County.

MARCH FOOD DRIVE FOR HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

Through the Howard Community College campus food pantry, the Fueling Dragons program at HCC is helping students who are experiencing food insecurity. Fueling Dragons is a series of programs designed to increase students' knowledge about nutrition, support students in making healthy choices, and provide access to healthier food options through meal kits, recipes, education, and workshops. We invite you to join us by donating the most-needed items on the list (please see the list on the Deacons' bulletin board or the Friday email). Place your donations in the Black & Yellow Bins labeled for HCC in the Harris Upper Commons or outside the kitchen door near Lyle Buck Hall. Please bring food by **Sunday, March 31**. If you would like to help or have questions please contact churchoffice@firstpreshc.org

MISSION NEWS

FROM THE BALTIMORE PRESBYTERY:

“As a Matthew 25 congregation, the In the Loop (ITL) Ministry Group and the Dismantling Racism Team (DRT) of the Presbytery of Baltimore invite you to join us during this election cycle in a **postcard writing campaign**. Individuals are asked to handwrite a colorful postcard to a voter of color (either in Georgia or Virginia)

who has not voted recently, encouraging him/her to get to the polls. We see this effort as a direct action to fight structural racism in our electoral process.” This is a nonpartisan activity. If anyone is willing to write postcards, Sara Watson will pick up supplies (you’ll need to pay for the stamps) at the Presbytery Gathering and distribute them, so let her know *by Monday, March 11* **how many** you will write.

GUATEMALA STOVE TRIP UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who generously supports the Guatemala Stove project with your prayers, time, talent and treasure. We have now installed 236 stoves in the homes of Presbyterian families in Union Maya Quiche Boca Costa Presbytery (PUMQBC). ONIL stoves are very efficient wood burning cooking stoves that use 65% less wood than dangerous open fires and have piped chimneys to vent the smoke out of the cooking area.

This year 7 participants traveled from February 15 through February 20, to install 36 stoves with our Guatemalan Brothers from the presbytery’s Executive Committee. The joy and benefits these stoves provide are life changing to both the recipients and First Presbyterian members who participate on the trips.

We are truly blessed to have this partnership with our Guatemala brothers and sisters and we are always impressed and amazed by how grounded in faith our friends in the PUMQBC are and how humbling this trip makes us.

We plan on installing 36 more stoves next year, *January 16 – 21, 2025*. Look for more details in fall.

FROM BRIDGES TO HOUSING STABILITY:

We cannot let the development of County-required affordable housing be lost or delayed in the library site discussions and decisions. Please attend one of the following feedback sessions and ask how each site will address the construction of the 150 affordable housing units currently tied to the new Library. Ask whether the housing will be included in the development of the two lakefront and Mall sites; and if not, where and when will the housing be developed.

- Thursday, March 14 from 2-4 p.m., in-person at HCC’s Monteabaro Recital Hall
- Saturday, March 16 from noon-2 p.m., in-person at HCC’s Galleria
- Thursday, March 21 at 6 p.m., virtually. Register to join this virtual meeting. <https://tinyurl.com/marchbridges>

STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES DOING GOD’S WORK

Actual Income as of March 5, 2024	\$173,315.58
Actual Expenses as of March 5, 2024	<u>143,647.47</u>
Total	\$29,668.11

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 13 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 52 people who have paid it!

PREPARING FOR EASTER

EASTER LILIES

Help decorate the sanctuary for Easter.

The cost is \$20.00 per plant.

Deadline to order is NEXT Sunday, March 17.

[CLICK HERE](#) to order Easter Lilies on SignUpGenius
or go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/EasterLilies2024>

Easter lilies can be picked up at the church after the last
Easter morning worship service on Sunday, March 31
– **OR** – leave your lily to be delivered by the Deacons.

For more information or questions, contact:

Church Administrator, Caroline Smith, churchoffice@firstpreshc.org



EASTER BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 31, 2024

7:00 - 10:00 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall

All are welcome to enjoy a hearty breakfast of pancakes, eggs and sausage
as we celebrate Easter Sunday!

A wonderful way to enjoy Easter with family and friends!

Suggested donation: \$5.00 per person/\$10.00 per family

If cost is a problem, please come anyway.

HELP HIDE EASTER EGGS

On Easter morning, *Sunday, March 31*, we need help hiding the eggs for the
Easter Egg Hunt. If you are available please contact DCE Virginia Callegary at
churchoffice@firstpreshc.org

Help make Easter magical for the children of the church!

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

PLEASE NOTE: Due to staff vacations and schedules, **the Church Office will be closed on Monday, March 11, 2024.** However, the church building will be open because Osher and outside groups will be meeting.



Holy Week

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24, 2024

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

No Church School

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in-person in the sanctuary

Worship at 10:30 a.m. in-person in the sanctuary and livestream

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

7:00 p.m. Long Table Communion, in the Sanctuary

Good Friday, March 29, 2024

Mid-day worship at Noon in the Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service, Fauré Requiem, in the Sanctuary

The Chancel Choir, organist Kathie Metz, and violinist Madalyn Navis will be offering Gabriel Fauré's Requiem as part of our observance of Good Friday.

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service in the Woodlands Chapel

7:00 – 10:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast in Lyle Buck Hall

Easter Worship at 8:30 a.m. in-person in the sanctuary

Easter Worship at 10:30 a.m. in-person in the sanctuary and livestream

Childcare in the Nursery available at 8:30 & 10:30

Godly Play available at 10:30

No Church School; No Worship Bridge

On Easter Morning, we'll celebrate the Resurrection with trumpet, voices and song!

At the 10:30 worship service, we're looking forward to welcoming back Alexandria Crichlow as our soprano soloist in works by Handel and Haydn as well as Kathie Metz on organ and Paul Lindenmann on trumpet. The Chancel Choir will be singing *The Heavens are Telling* by Haydn and *Gaelic Alleluia* by Craig Courtney and members of the congregation are invited to come up and join the choir in singing the *Hallelujah Chorus* from the *Messiah* at the close of the service.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter Egg Hunt for children is on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024 following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Children 5th grade and under – grab your Easter baskets and join the hunt!

Easter Monday, April 1

Holiday for Church Staff.

The Church Office and Building will be closed.

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

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

Links can also be found on the Website 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.)

March is Women's History Month

Sunday, March 10th

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MINUTE FOR MISSION – COFFEE RUN & FUN

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

- 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 Support Committee (Room 258)

Monday, March 11th

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, March 12th

SUPER TUESDAY

- 6:30 p.m. Discipleship & Caring Ministries via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Administration & Facilities Meeting
Christian Education Committee via Zoom
Mission Meeting via Zoom
WAM Ministry Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 13th

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE

- 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Study Group
- 1:00 p.m. Knitting Ministry
- 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening Study Group via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 14th

TIDINGS ARTICLES DUE

- 10:00 a.m. Baltimore Presbytery Meeting via Zoom
- 12:00 p.m. Christian Educator's Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 15th

FRIDAY EMAIL WITH SUNDAY BULLETIN SENT OUT

- 1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded

Sunday, March 17th

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MINUTE FOR MISSION – COMMUNICATION & STRATEGY TEAM

- 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)