



FIRST DAY!

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
November 9, 2025

TODAY

8:30 a.m. (in-person) in Branch Hall

10:30 a.m. (in-person & livestream) in Branch Hall

Our in-person and livestream congregations share worship together. This worship service is being livestreamed to the internet. If worshipping in Branch Hall, you may appear on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. If you are joining from home, the link for worship will open around 10:20 a.m. You can find this week's worship materials on the website: www.firstpreshc.org

CHILDREN BEGIN WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY. After the children's prayer during 10:30 worship, children ages 4-7 may go to Godly Play with Ms. Kathy Moore. Children who go to Godly Play can be picked up by a parent/guardian following worship. Older children may go with Ms. Virginia Callegary to Worship Bridge.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS are available in the Upper Commons.

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the Glory of God by Lynne in celebration of my granddaughter Nayeli's birthday; and by WAM.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS TODAY:

Liturgist:

10:30 a.m. John

Ushers & Greeters:

10:30 a.m.: Nancy & Emma, Steve, Mispa

Tech Crew: **8:30 a.m.:** Barry, Margot

10:30 a.m.: Jonathan, Francois, Tracy

FELLOWSHIP HOUR TODAY

Host: Ruth Circle

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ANNUAL BAKE SALE

Time to order!

November 9-22 pre-order bake sale items

December 6 pay and pick-up items

The PW Bake Sale order form is ready! You can find it at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/pw-bakesale-2025>



Place your order for your favorite homemade cookies, brownies, scones, mini pies, cakes, breads, jams, and more for your holiday enjoyment.

Sign up early since the items are limited. Thank you for your support.

STEWARDSHIP



Please join us this Sunday, November 9th for our Commitment Sunday. We will be completing our estimates of giving as an act of Worship. Then celebrate with us on November 16th at our Thank and Tell Luncheon after the 10:30 service.

PRAYER LIST FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 2025

Please pray for: Lea, Dave, Dylan, Bob, Bob and Sarah Jo, Maria, Chuck, Karin, David, Dot, Jeri, Steve, Barb, Natalie, Louisa, *Harriet*

And also for: everyone living in Charlestown, Encore, Millers Grant, Riderwood, Vantage House, and Morningside House.

Non-Resident Members: Frank and Betty, Barb

Friends & Family: Pastor Juan, Adolfo, Dan & Kathy, Mitzi, Priscilla, Pastor Timoteo, Saleem, Monika, Mechelle, Naina, Knut's family, Carole, Lorraine, Sharon, Bruce, Marybeth, Sharon, Jerry, *Anthony & Nico*

Care Center: Virgie, Margaret, Lois

Recovering from Surgery: Richard, Chuck, Darlene, Dan

Bereaved: Wade & Monta, Amanda, Catherine and family, Doyle & family, Khalid & family, Johanna & Rob and family, Martin & Caroline and family, Cathy and family, Bob and Nancy, Natalie and family, Evelyn & Family, Stacey & Family, *Trey and family*

*Please contact Pastor Ken Page, kpage@firstpreshc.org or 602-799-7643
with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share
or in case of an emergency or to arrange homebound Communion.
Friends & Family names are listed for 8 weeks unless requested otherwise.*

✠✠✠

STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES DOING GOD'S WORK

Actual Income as of November 4, 2025	\$1,139,372.64
Actual Expenses as of November 4, 2025	<u>1,021,243.26</u>
Total	\$118,129.38

It takes an average of \$2,381.21 to fund the daily budgeted operation and mission of the church.
The total surplus/deficit shown above is 50 days ahead/(behind).

PER CAPITA FOR 2025 - The amount is \$42.00 For more info go to

<https://baltimorepresbytery.org/per-capita/>

Have you paid your per capita?! Thank you to those 57 people who have paid it!

*Mckissick Bequest without restrictions received \$50,000.00

*Insurance Claim Fire

Insurance Claim Revenue received	\$374,608.47
Contractor Payments made Fire	<u>(\$287,245.56)</u>
Balance Remaining from Insurance Check	\$87,362.91

All monies are added into the above balance

ADULT EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS TODAY, 9:30-10:25 a.m. Grab and Go Coffee is available on Sunday mornings.

BIBLE IN DEPTH: Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor, facilitated by Doyle
Each week we explore the literature of the Old Testament together.

HISTORIES AND MYSTERIES: THE HOUSE OF DAVID with Bill

November 9, 16, & 23 in Room 154

The Hebrew Testament portrays King David as a complicated, flawed, and incredibly important historical figure to Judaism, an importance later inherited by Christ and Christianity.

Bill Burris will discuss the archeology, history, and controversy of the House of David.

Week 1) Introduction to the Biblical King David.

Week 2) Great King or Hill Tribe Chieftain?

Week 3) What does David have to do with the Israeli-Palestinian politics?

WEDNESDAY STUDY GROUPS

Mornings at 9:30-11:00 am in the Parlor, led by Rev. Rosemary and Rev. David.

Reading the Bible Again for the First Time: The Bible is “the Word of God,” so how do we read and understand it faithfully? With Marcus Borg’s book, *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, as our guide, we will take a fresh approach to reading the scriptures. Join us on Wednesday mornings as we seek to take the Bible seriously, but not literally.

Evenings at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom with Rev. Andrea.

Reading: Better Ways to Read the Bible by Zach W. Lambert

The Bible has been used to subjugate women, justify racism, bash LGBTQ+ people, cover up abuse, and exclude those who speak out against such injustices. The stories are interesting, the reading is elective.

The link can also be found in the weekly email. Register in advance:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ0qc-6vqTstGNdMbW4UBdwAfUcwDJiqHjXW>

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

TODAY at 9:30 a.m. Here is some helpful info:

Ark Sunday School (age 2 through 1st grade) starts with singing in Branch Hall. Children will be picked up in Room 150 at 10:25 a.m.

L.I.F.E. Sunday School (grades 2-5) starts with singing in Branch Hall. Children will be picked up in Room 106 at 10:25 a.m.

Youth Sunday School (grades 6-12) gathers in Room 204.

We hope to see you here!

YOUTH GROUP NEWS: All 5th -12th graders are invited to our next Youth Group on Wednesday, November 12 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. We will provide dinner. Text FPCHCYOUTH to 84576 to sign up for occasional texts about youth events.

Questions? Email Virginia Callegary - vcallegary@firstpreshc.org

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT! All 5th–12th graders are invited for a fun movie night on Friday, November 14 at 7:00 pm! Bring a snack to share (dinner not included) and come enjoy a great evening together! Questions? Email Virginia Callegary (vcallegary@firstpreshc.org)

MISSION

WARM FOR WINTER - Saturday, November 15th

We will welcome families served by Luminus for our Warm for Winter event in just a few weeks, so we have begun collecting donations of new/gently used: coats, blankets, cold weather gear, children's books (especially in Spanish), children's clothing, and household items in *excellent* condition. You can drop off items anytime in the marked bins in the Harris Commons. Or drive up and drop off donations on



GUATEMALA MISSION SUMMER TRIP: Consider joining the trip to Guatemala July 1-10, 2026. Up to 20 participants can be part of activities with our partners: meeting the scholarship students, visiting coffee fields, and conducting a mini VBS and a women's event, followed by visits to Antigua and Tikal. Trip cost is ~\$2,250; financial aid is available. Minimum age: 14 years. All minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Applications are available at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Deadline for registering is noon, Sunday, Dec 7, 2025. Questions? Send an email to guatemala@firstpreshc.org, or ask Becky, Brett or Mandy.

CALLING ALL PAINTERS FOR ANOTHER PAINTING PALOOZA

Bridges to Housing Stability has a 3 bedroom single family home that needs every surface painted. We will be holding a number of painting days in the month of October and November on week days and weekends. If you want to help (regardless of skill level) we need you. Please contact Brett. If you are not familiar with Bridges' mission, check out their website at www.Bridges2HS.org.

DURING THIS "LOOMING NATIONAL HUMANITARIAN CRISIS" in our country, PC(USA) has asked members to contact Congress and the President with four requests: **1)** Ensure uninterrupted SNAP benefits, **2)** Release winter energy credit to low- and moderate-income households, **3)** Extend and safeguard ACA protections, **4)** Preserve and expand affordable housing tax credits. These essential safety net items are critical to preserving life and health. Use this link (<https://www.votervoice.net/PCUSA/Campaigns/131312/Respond>) or you can find Congress email addresses on the FPCHC website <https://www.firstpreshc.org/serve-nationally>.

DEACONS NEWS


DEACONS: Together Through Every Season: Support from the Deacons Compassion Fund. As we navigate this challenging season together, we want to remind you that you are not alone. Our **Deacons Compassion Fund** is here to **support members of our congregation** who may be facing financial hardship. Whether you're struggling with grocery bills, utilities, medical bills, rent, or other essential expenses, this fund exists to offer tangible help and hope. The Deacons are committed to serving with discretion, compassion, and care. If you or someone you know in our church family could benefit from assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out. All requests are handled confidentially and with prayerful consideration.

We understand that **asking for help can be difficult**, but **please know** that **this fund reflects God's love and the generosity of our church community**. It's one way we live out Galatians 6:2 — *"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."*

To **inquire about support or learn more**, please **contact the church office** or speak directly with **one of our Deacons** in person or via phone, email or text. Don't know a Deacon? We've got you — we'll be wearing our name tags in church, or you can find the Deacons' names and contact information in the online directory under "Groups".

DEACONS 2025 THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE: Sunday, October 19th – Sunday, November 16th

Join us in spreading holiday cheer! Together, we'll provide:

 **Thanksgiving Food Baskets for families served by *Bridges to Housing Stability***

 **Giant Food gift cards for families supported by *Luminus***

We welcome your donations of non-perishable food items (see the special insert in each First Day through November 16th or check out the News & Updates section on Home Page of the First Pres website: [Deacons 2025 Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive](#))

If you're unable to donate food, cash contributions are also gratefully accepted and will help us fill in the gaps.

Questions? Contact Deacons Chrissy; Kaye; or Joyce

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of this meaningful outreach!

Help Fill a Christmas Stocking – Share the Joy! Join the Deacons in bringing holiday cheer to families in need by filling a Christmas stocking for a child this season! Stockings will be distributed through Columbia Community Care (CCC) and the Salvation Army, helping spread warmth and joy to our neighbors.

- **Pick up a stocking** in the Upper Commons beginning **Sunday, November 9**.
- **Return filled stockings with unwrapped gifts by Sunday, December 7** — no later!

CCC asks that items be **gender-neutral** and **non-religious** to honor the diversity of families served.

Need suggestions for a mix of **practical and festive items**? Check out the **First Day Special Insert** or the or the **News & Updates** section at the bottom of the home page of church website: [First Presbyterian Church of Howard County | PCUSA church in Columbia MD](#)

If you'd like to participate but can't pick up a stocking, or have questions, please reach out to:

- Bridget
- Barb
- Lisa

Let's come together to share the joy and make this season brighter for every child!

WORSHIP, ARTS AND MUSIC

DATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR SANCTUARY FLOWERS – There are openings available on the following Sundays: November 16 & 30. Here's the link to signup:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/flowers2025>


The flowers cost \$35. Please send a check to the church office or via [PayPal](#). Questions? Contact, churchoffice@firstpreshc.org





Deacons 2025 Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive: October 19th – November 16th

Join us in spreading holiday cheer! Together, we'll provide:

 **Thanksgiving Food Baskets for families served by *Bridges to Housing Stability***

 **Giant Food gift cards for families supported by *Luminus***

We welcome your donations of non-perishable food items (see list below). If you're unable to donate food, cash contributions are also gratefully accepted and will help us fill in the gaps.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of this meaningful outreach!

2025 Thanksgiving Food List:

- Boxed Stuffing Mix (like Stovetop)
- Instant Mashed Potatoes (boxes or packets)
- Jars of Turkey Gravy or Dried Gravy Mix Packets
- Canned Yams
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Veggies (green beans, corn, peas)
- Cornbread Mix
- Canned Pumpkin or Fruit Pie Filling
- Pie Crust
- Evaporated Milk
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Boxes of Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned Fruit
- Macaroni & Cheese Mix
- Boxed Cake Mix & Frosting
- Cans of Tuna
- Cans of Soup
- Juice
- Coffee & Tea
- Hot Chocolate Mix

Questions? Contact Deacons Chrissy; Kaye; or Joyce

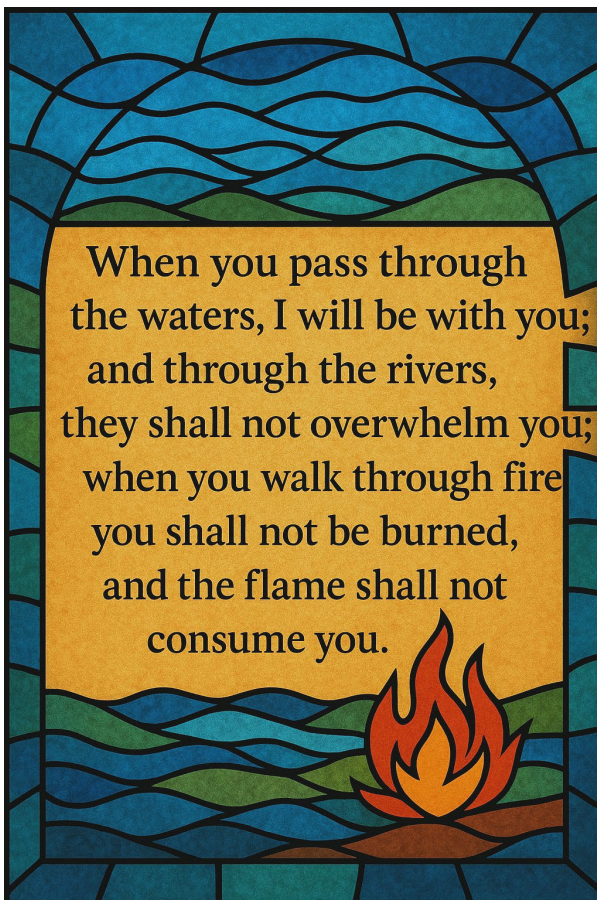
ADMINISTRATION & FACILITIES

Building Update

Progress continues with the restoration work on the building. This week the upper and lower area of the Harris Commons were repainted. In order to make way for the repairs to the floor trusses in the sanctuary, the carpeting, ductwork and three sprinkler heads in Buck Hall have been removed. Pending the issuance of a Permit from the County, repairs to the floor trusses will begin early next week. If all goes according to plan, there will be gas heat in the building next Sunday (11/16).

The Fire 400 Campaign

What do all of the following things have in common: worship, fellowship, Bible studies, choir, Only One Can, Thanksgiving Baskets, community outreach, the Kipton Project, Warm for Winter, Faithful Circle Quilters and OSHER, etc.? All of these groups use the Church building. Just like your home, over time equipment needs to be replaced. In the Harris Commons you will find the pew envelopes to donate to the Fire 400 Campaign. The red number in the left corner of the envelope is the amount you are contributing to the campaign. You make the choice on the amount. If the envelope that you would like to contribute is not available, you may creatively combine envelopes to equal that amount. Please take the envelope and place the donation in the collection plate, drop it off at the office, or make an online contribution through the church website (www.firstpreshc.org). The campaign will end on the 30th of November. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday Morning Info

Nursery Care for ages 4 and under available 8:20 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/firstpreshc

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.)

THANKSGIVING BASKETS – 10/19-11/16/2025

Sunday, November 9th

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. Ruth Circle Meeting

Monday, November 10th

CHURCH BUILDING OPEN 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 11th

SUPER TUESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Christian Education Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Discipleship & Caring Ministries Meeting via ZOOM
- 7:00 p.m. Mission Meeting via ZOOM
- 7:00 p.m. Worship, Arts, & Music Ministry Meeting

Wednesday, November 12th

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE

- 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Study Group
- 1:00 p.m. Knitting Fellowship
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening Zoom Study
- 7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsals

Thursday, November 13th

- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 14th

FRIDAY EMAIL WITH SUNDAY BULLETIN SENT OUT

- 1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Movie Night

Saturday, November 15th

CHURCH BUILDING OPEN 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Warm for Winter Event

Sunday, November 16th

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 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

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, November 13, 2025 for December 2025 events.** Then watch your inbox every week!*