First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA
November 15, 2026 | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary

Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dan Snyder
The Rev. Claire George-Drumheller

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music
Matt Weaver, Organist
Stephan Englehart, Children's Choir Director
The Children's Choir
The Chancel Choir
Violinists:
Jennifer Sternick, Anthony Scheuerman, Fabian Salamanca,
Nicholas Mauro, Fereshteh Mauro

Welcome Visitors!

We would love to reach out and say hello!
Write your contact information on the back of an orange prayer card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to any volunteer with a nametag. We are grateful you have joined us for worship and hope you will come back again soon and often.

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given in loving memory of Dorothy & Orin Stambaugh by their daughter, Anne Meeder.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE ***When in Our Music God Is Glorified*** arr. Albert Travis

WELCOME

INTROIT ***I Will Give Thanks*** Thomas Matthews

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

ONE: The day of the Lord is near.

ALL: We lift our eyes to you. We raise our voices in praise.

ONE: The day of the Lord is near—

ALL: Approaching like a thief in the night.

ONE: The day of the Lord is near.

ALL: God has destined us not for wrath, but for salvation through Jesus Christ.

ONE: The day of the Lord is near.

ALL: As we watch and wait, we will continue encouraging each other and building each other up.

ONE: The day of the Lord is near.

ALL: Let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN # 667 ***When Morning Gilds the Skies*** LAUDES DOMINI

*CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: As children of God, we come to God in our joys and sorrows, in our fears and guilt. Knowing that God loves us and embraces us, let us bring our confessions to God.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of abundance, you have given us so many gifts. You bless us with talents, resources, skills, and knowledge, and yet we hide them under a bushel. We hoard these gifts, instead of following you and sharing with those in need. We have been poor stewards of all you have given. Forgive us, and help us grow what we are given, that it might be returned in service to you.

(silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (from 1 Thessalonians 5:9)

ONE: God has destined us not for wrath, but for salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that we may live with him.

ALL: Praise be to Christ! Alleluia! Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE ***Do Lord*** Traditional African-American Spiritual



CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANTHEM ***Lord of the Harvest*** Jancis Harvey

Lord of the harvest, Lord of the field,
Give thanks now to God in nature revealed.
Give thanks for the sun, the wind and the rain,
and thanks for the crops that feed us again.
The corn safely cut is gathered inside,
We thank you, O Lord, that you can provide.
Lord of the harvest, Lord of the field,
Give thanks now to God in nature revealed.

WORSHIP ARTS BLESSING

Children through 7th grade can meet their Worship Arts teachers at the front of the sanctuary.

God be with you here.
God be with you there.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ALL: Holy God, in your word, lead us to abundant life. By your Spirit, teach us your truth. Through Christ, the Living Word, show us your love. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: **Psalm 90:1-8** (pg 421 OT in the pew Bible)

After each reading:
ONE: The word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: **Matthew 25:14-30** (pg 22 NT in the pew Bible)

SERMON

*HYMN #821 ***My Life Flows On*** HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM ***The Heavens Are Telling (from The Creation)*** Franz Joseph Haydn

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament.
Today that is coming speaks it the day,
The night that is gone to following night.
In all the lands resounds the word,
never unperceived, ever understood.
The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament.

During this time of music, you are welcome to come forward to present your offerings, to leave a prayer request, or to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

*HYMN #4 ***Holy God, We Praise Your Name*** GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE **'Mid All the Traffic** John B. Dykes

'Mid all the traffic of the ways, turmoil without, within,
Make in my heart a quiet place, and come and dwell therein. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

POSTLUDE ***Voluntary on "Grosser Gott"*** Jeffrey Blersch

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Mission Volunteer Opportunities

Those interested in volunteering, please email: beth@fpclancasterpa.org

Crispus Attucks Food Pantry

(every second & fourth Wednesday of the month)
Please note, dates in November are adjusted for the holidays:
Wednesday, November 18 | 12:45-3:45 p.m.
Volunteer parking lot-412 Locust Street or Carpool from Wegman's lot

A free choice food distribution pantry at 404 S. Duke St.
Neighbors register for a scheduled shopping time.

Volunteers needed to stock shelves and serve as shopping assistants to those visiting the pantry.

Mission Giving

Supports our Mission Partners and the services they provide to the local Community

Our fourth quarter mission giving supports non-profit organizations in our community that serve youth and education.

The Mix offers a structured after-school program for children and youth in first through twelfth grades—addressing their social, academic, spiritual, and physical needs, plus summer programs. Located at 520 North St., The Mix serves 200 to 250 students per year.
www.themixlancaster.org

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) recruits, trains, and supports volunteers to advocate for neglected and abused children in the foster care system. CASA, 120 N. Shippen St., serves more than 200 youngsters in Lancaster County annually through more than 100 volunteers.
www.casalancleb.org

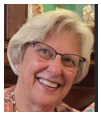
Milagro House is the only residential program in the county that is focused on helping mothers experiencing homelessness attain education so they can get jobs that pay family-sustaining wages. Based at 669 W. Chestnut St., it houses up to nine women with up to three children each.
www.milagrohouse.org

Congregational Meeting Today

Call to elect officers
Votes will be taken immediately following each of the worship services.

SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR THE CLASS OF 2027-2029

ELDERS



Louise Feroe (1st term)
Louise is married to Russ Feroe, a retired Presbyterian pastor. They are the parents of two children and are enjoying five grandchildren. They moved to Lancaster (Willow Valley Communities) about a year and a half ago, after a short six-year residence in Florida. Most of their adult lives were spent in and around New York City. Louise has had a long career in higher education—teaching philosophy, and then in administration, serving two colleges as president. As part of her church life, she has served as elder in three Presbyterian churches and is looking forward to being a part of the ministry at First Presbyterian, Lancaster.



Justin Inners (1st term)
Justin has been a member since 2017.

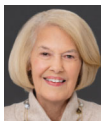


Doug Phillips (1st term)
Doug Phillips is a long-time member at FPC with a deep-rooted history of leadership and service to our congregation, having previously served as an FPC Elder. Over the years, he has shared his musical gifts as the drummer for the Cherry Street Praise Band and has a heart for missions, notably accompanying his youngest daughter, Emily, on a youth mission trip to Haiti. Professionally, Doug is a licensed architect with a solo practice in Lancaster and is currently semi-retired. He and his wife, Kay, have been happily married for 52 years. They cherish their family time with their two daughters and their families: Chelsea, her husband Owen, and granddaughters Aria and Gia; and Emily, her husband T.J., and their dog, Thor. In his free time, Doug enjoys pursuing his private pilot certificate, writing music, spending time at the beach in Ocean City, Maryland, and taking walks with their dog, Timmy. Humbled to be nominated once again, Doug looks forward to utilizing his professional leadership experience and his lifelong dedication to FPC to faithfully shepherd and support our church family.



George Zook (1st term)
George is a retired Director of Instructional Technology Services for IU13 and IU12 and is currently a financial advisor. He was an adjunct professor at Millersville and Wilkes Universities. He has degrees from Millersville, Indiana University Bloomington, and University of Pennsylvania. He developed a spiritual course for FPC. George and his wife, Linda, have traveled extensively in the USA (all 50 states), in 15 European countries, and in 12 countries in Asia. He has two children and four grandchildren.

DEACONS



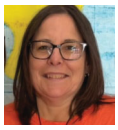
Carol Aastad (2nd term)
Carol joined First Presbyterian Church in 2023 and has always been impressed with the friendliness of the congregation and the warmth and sincerity of Pastor Dan and Pastor Claire. She especially loves the mission focus of FPC. She and her late husband, Andy, moved to Willow Valley in 2008 from North Carolina, but prior to that they lived in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. They have two wonderful sons, Scott and John, who live out of state. Carol and her family enjoy a big family gathering at her house each Thanksgiving. She loves golf, pickleball, and shopping at the Lancaster Central Market.



David Bennett (2nd term)
David is 37 years old and is a third generation member of First Presbyterian Church. His grandparents, Don and Sue Goldstrom, joined in the 1950's and David has been attending his whole life. He will be serving his second term as a Deacon. He also served a term from 2014-2017. During his membership at FPC, David has served as a Youth leader and currently serves as a greeter/usher as needed. Outside of church, he loves to travel, especially to national parks, spending time with family, and cheering for Philadelphia sports teams, especially the Phillies.



Marsha Bowen (1st term)
Marsha grew up in Berks County, where she attended Schwarzwald United Church of Christ. After attending the University of Wisconsin, she joined the army. When Marsha and her husband, David, first lived in Lancaster, they attended First Presbyterian of Strasburg. The have returned to Lancaster after living in Virginia and joined FPC in 2026.



Michelle Brubaker (1st term)
Michelle joined FPC in 2025.



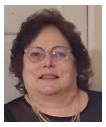
Elaine Fisher (1st term) and Peter Fisher (1st term)
Originally from Connecticut, Peter and Elaine Fisher moved to Lancaster about five years ago from New Bern, North Carolina. They live in Willow Valley, where Pete enjoys pickleball, bowling, and bike riding. Elaine participates in line dancing, pickleball, and enjoys her reading and card groups.They have attended First Presbyterian since their arrival and officially became members last year. They have a daughter and grandchildren who live in Apex, North Carolina.



Carol Good (1st term)
Carol has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since she was four years old! Carol and her husband, Doug, have two married daughters and four grandchildren. She has been a Stephen Minister and supervisor for at least 12 years. She is an artist, painting mostly watercolors, and has participated in outdoor art shows and gallery shows for many years. Vacationing in Chincoteague every summer, going to grandchildren's soccer games, and playing pickleball every week is how she hopes to stay healthy and active.



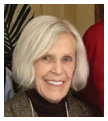
Carol Hargan (1st term)
Carol was born in Havre de Grace, Maryland, and has lived in Lancaster County for 66 years. She grew up attending Methodist churches, but met her husband, Steve, in a non-denominational church in the late 70's. They've been involved in mostly non-denominational churches during the 48 years they've been married, serving in areas such as children/youth, community outreach, and coordinator of special events, among others. They live in the LS school district and Carol owns a salon near their home. They have two married daughters who attend FPC, as do their three grandchildren. Carol loves her aforementioned family members, as well as her soon to be 90-year-old dad and extended family members. She loves a wide variety of music, theater, all things that bling and/or sparkle, fashion, and learning other people's life stories.



Susan Kirk (1st term)
Susan was born and raised in Lancaster and has been a part of the FPC family since her baptism. When she walks through the doors, she says she truly feels like coming home. Susan is deeply grateful for FPC's wonderful community and the incredible music program



Lisa Murray (1st term)
Lisa moved to Lancaster from Western Pennsylvania with her husband, Don, and their three sons, Reese, Ben, and Luke. They were drawn to FPC because of the many mission service opportunities they saw here. Also, the music program is incredible and they enjoy that so much!



Sandy Reed (1st term)
A career educator, Sandy was first a music teacher, then a public school administrator, and finally a member of the Penn State Harrisburg Department of Education faculty until her retirement. She enjoys caring for her 19th century home, playing piano, and backyard birding.



Jacquelyn Strybos (1st term)
Jacquelyn was born in Michigan but was raised in Ontario after her family moved to Canada when she was in primary school. She met her husband, Bill, in high school and moved to Lancaster with their young family following a job transfer almost 40 years ago. They were invited to First Presbyterian Church by one of Bill's work colleagues and felt right at home attending a city church known for welcoming and supporting its neighbors. They have been members of FPC since 1988, and their three children were raised here. In retirement, she enjoys walking, hiking, playing bocce, knitting, sewing, reading, working puzzles, traveling, and spending time with friends and family, including their seven grandchildren.

TRUSTEES



Tom Falk (2nd term)
Tom is the owner of Tom Falk Plumbing and Heater, Inc., a family-owned business started by his father and mother in 1961. He and his wife, Deborah Anson Falk, have two daughters: Amy Wiker (husband Trevor) and Julie Safran (husband Ben). Deb and Tom have three grandchildren, Everett, Callan, and Hayes. Tom has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since childhood.



Lexie Rutt (1st term)
Lexie is honored to serve as an officer at FPC. She has been a member of the church for four years and is grateful for the sense of community, fellowship, and faith it has brought to her and her family. Professionally, she works in global communications and public relations, where she enjoys telling stories, building connections, and helping her organization share what makes them meaningful. Outside of family, work, and church, she enjoys travel, reading, and any opportunity to be outside. She looks forward to serving the congregation and contributing to the continued growth and life of the church.



Brian Rutter (1st term)
A Lancaster native, Brian grew up at First Presbyterian Church, where he was confirmed as a young teenager. After graduating from Franklin & Marshall College, he moved away from the Lancaster area to pursue career opportunities in various parts of the country. When he returned to Lancaster in early 2018, he was eager to again become a member at FPC. Brian served on the FPC Board of Trustees for two terms from 2019 to 2025, serving as co-president in his final year. For the past year, he has served as president in an ex-officio capacity. He has also chaired FPC's Gratitude Committee (giving) since 2018 and previously held a role on the Information/Communications team. Brian brings experience in nonprofit leadership, strategic planning, and board governance to his service at First Presbyterian. He is Senior Vice President, Chief Communications and Brand Officer at Acts Retirement-Life Communities and was previously Chief Marketing Officer at Willow Valley Communities. He also serves as president of the Hamilton Club of Lancaster, where he has helped lead a capital campaign to renew Club facilities. He holds an MBA from Emory University.



Allen Tate (2nd term)
Allen joined First Presbyterian Church in 2020. He served on the recent Capital Campaign committee and currently serves on the Mission Funding committee. Allen graduation from Elizabethtown College with a B.A. Degree in English, Communications, and Education. Professionally he has held various corporate positions in communications, marketing, fundraising, non-profit administration, and management consulting. He retired from Thaddeus Stevens College in 2018 as Director of Advancement. Active in the community, he has served on numerous Lancaster Community Boards of Directors. Allen and his wife, Nancy, have lived in Lancaster County for over 50 years and reside in Homestead Village, Lancaster.



Janet White (1st term)
Janet has been a member of FPC for approximately eight years. During this time she has served as an elder, sung in the Chancel Choir, assisted with sound system at the early service, and participated in various social, service, and study groups. She has felt embraced by the community of FPC throughout this time. Janet recently retired as a mathematics professor at Millersville University and is enjoying travel very much.

CLASS OF 2027 NOMINATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT LARGE

Jon Hess
Ryan Stadel



Advent Dinner & Discipleship

Sundays, December 6, 13, & 20
5:30–7:15 p.m. in Shirk Hall

This Advent, join us for Dinner & Discipleship, a new Sunday evening opportunity for all ages to gather around the table, share a meal, and grow in faith. Each evening begins with a potluck dinner. Bring a dish to share that fits the evening's menu (stay tuned!) and come ready to enjoy good food and even better company. After dinner, children and youth will head to age-appropriate activities, led by Katie Kindig and Family Ministry volunteers, while adults remain around the tables for an Advent study led by Pastor Dan and Pastor Claire. Nursery care will also be available.

There is something for every age, and everyone is welcome. Please sign up in advance so we know how many to expect. Come for one Sunday or join us for all three as we make space in the midst of Advent to eat, connect, learn, and grow together.

If you can't be with us in person, we hope you will engage Scripture and build community with the Advent Zoom Connect Small Group.

Advent Zoom Connect Small Group

Wednesdays, December 2, 9, & 16, 7:00 p.m.

Advent is a season of waiting for the God who comes to us—remembering Christ's birth in Bethlehem, anticipating Christ's coming again, and learning to recognize Christ's presence among us now. This Advent, the Zoom Connect Group will meet for three weeks to engage Scripture and to build community. Use the QR code to register or email the church office (info@fpclancasterpa.org). Join us!



The Giving Tree

Begins November 22



The Giving Tree will once again provide Christmas gifts for students served by five organizations within the School District of Lancaster.

Beginning Sunday, November 22, stop by the Giving Tree in the foyer outside the sanctuary and select a gift tag. Instructions and gift information will be provided when you pick up your tag.

Gift tags will be available on November 22 and November 29, with gifts due by Sunday, December 6.

Thank you for helping bring joy to local students during the Christmas season through this much-loved FPC tradition!

Questions can be directed to Beth Horst in the office.
Thanks so much for your generosity

Washington Elementary School has over 400 students. Last year, the school provided 250 gifts to students, and we are helping them reach that number with 20 gifts from First Presbyterian this Christmas season.

The Milestones School provides academic and therapeutic support for students aged 5-21 who face social, emotional, educational, and behavioral challenges. We are providing gifts for specific students and gift cards for their families.

The Apartment School at SDOL is a simulated apartment in a classroom that helps special needs students develop independent living skills.

Lafayette Elementary is specifically helping refugee families this season with gift cards from Weis and Walmart.

FIT (Families in Transition) supports students and families experiencing housing insecurity by removing obstacles that prevent them from having a positive educational experience. Services include connection with agencies, transportation, and providing necessities including school supplies. We will provide gift cards to the families.

Christmas Eve Poinsettia Dedications

Poinsettias will be displayed on Christmas Eve.
You can take your plant(s) home with you following the 8:00 p.m. service.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Given By: _____

In Memory of _____

OR

In Honor of: _____

Cost: $20

Deadline November 21

Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church "Poinsettias" in the note section.
Or order/pay online via Realm - Select "Flower Fund" in the drop-down list, write "poinsettias" in the memo space, and email your dedication to laura@fpclancasterpa.org.

FPC TOGETHER HOSTED BY FAMILY MINISTRY

ADVENT FUN DAY

Saturday, December 5

Drop in between 10:00 a.m. through Noon in Shirk Hall

(parking is available in both the church lot and the Cherry Street lot)

Friends and neighbors are welcome to come celebrate the season of Advent.
We will have special live Christmas music, Christmas crafts, and a photo booth.
Live greens and candles will be provided so you can make an Advent wreath to take home,
and we will have apple cider, coffee, and doughnuts for you to enjoy.

This is a peanut free event. Vegan & gluten free options will be available.

katie@fpclancasterpa.org





Family Ministry

Katie Kindig
Director of Family Ministry

Celebrating Children at FPC

Dear parents of young children,

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house! All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, musicians, etc.

Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember, the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.

Dear church members,

The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Sunday Mornings

The Nursery

Suggested for 6wks up to 4yrs
Second Floor, open 9:00-11:30 a.m. / Professional Staff

Nursery students engage in free-play, a short Scripture lesson and organized activity time.

We ask that you assist with your student's hand-washing upon arrival. We have hand sanitizer stations as well.

A nut-free snack is provided. Please bring a labeled water bottle and alternative snacks if needed. A changing table, with quiet room are also available.

Worship Arts Faith Formation

Suggested for 4yrs through grade 7

Worship Arts begins with a combined lesson and then splits to separate age-appropriate groups to study. A peanut free snack is offered.

Taught by FPC volunteer teachers, we study Scripture through reading, dramatic play, storytelling, and song.

Students begin worship in Shirk Hall (9:00 a.m.) OR the sanctuary (10:30 a.m.) with their families.
Teachers will escort students who wish to participate in Worship Arts to the upper level following the "Worship Arts Blessing."

Parents attending the 9:00 a.m. service - Students will be escorted back to you before the end of the service.

Parents attending the 10:30 a.m. service - Students will return to the sanctuary at the end of worship or can be picked up in the lobby.

Youth Ministry

Designed for grades 6-12 (unless otherwise noted) and led by Family Ministry staff and volunteers. Direct questions to katie@fpclancasterpa.org

Sunday, Nov. 15, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Service project & games @ FPC

Sunday, Nov. 22, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Study @ the Habitat ReStore

Sunday, Nov. 29, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Study @ the Lytch family home

Guest WIFI Password:
Welcome2FPC

Large-print hymnals are available. Please alert an usher or greeter if you would like one for today's service.

Online prayer request here: