



# Newtown Square Presbyterian Church

[www.newtownsquarepres.org](http://www.newtownsquarepres.org)

February 22, 2026



# NSPC Weekly

February 22, 2026

The NSPC congregation extends a warm welcome to those who are visiting with us today. If you are in search of a new church home, we invite you to make that home with us. Please check the appropriate column on the pew pad if you would like to visit with the pastor or would like more information about the church. Include your phone number and/or email address. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Gathering Room following the service.

**Worship Leader:** Marg MacDonald

**Ushers:** Rob Gray, Capt; Crystal Gray, Jack Chidester

**Acolyte:** Camille Impriano

**Acolyte Guide:** Jane Fioravanti

**Fellowship Hosts:** Paul Florence & Jack Chidester

## ***Sunday School Attendance – Let your teachers know you are here!***

Sunday school is for children Pre-K through grade 4. The teachers are in their rooms preparing for class. By signing in, they know you are here and are expecting you! *(This also saves time with not taking attendance in class.)* Scan the QR code here:



## ***Are you visiting us today?***

We would love to get to know you!  
Please sign in using this QR code:



# THE LORD'S DAY

## First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

10:00 AM

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Moment for Rise Against Hunger**

Joe Marchesani

May the peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you.*

### PRELUDE

Excerpt from *Organ Sonata in D Minor, Op. 65, No. 6* .....Mendelssohn

Paula Seo, Organ

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 32:6-7):

Let all who are faithful offer prayer to you, O God;

In times of distress, do not let the rush of mighty waters  
become overwhelming.

*Lord, you are a hiding place for me;*

*you preserve me from trouble;*

*you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.*

### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

### \*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WELCOMES US TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 23.....PLEADING SAVIOR

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*God of mercy,*

*you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.*

*We confess that we have strayed from you*

*and turned aside from your way.*

*We are misled by pride,  
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,  
and great when we are small.  
We have failed in love,  
neglected justice,  
and ignored your truth.  
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.  
Return us to paths of righteousness  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.*

*(Please offer in silence your personal confession.)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, believe the good news:  
*In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!*

**\*GLORIA PATRI 581**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE.....** Kristi Schaub  
*(Children are dismissed for Sunday school following the Children’s Message;  
youth remain in worship.)*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

NT Page 35 .....Mark 1:12-13

This is the Word of our Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**ANTHEM** .....*Solemn Prelude Op. 73* .....C. Callahan  
Paula Seo, Organ

Lyrics for reflection

Hymn 167 *Forty Days and Forty Nights*, verses 1, 2, 4, &5

*Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;  
Forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.*

*Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,  
Fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?*

*So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;  
Round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.*

*Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by your side,  
That with you we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

NT Page 326.....First Kings 19:1-15a

This is the Word of our Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON** ..... **Rev. Bill Searight**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*The Apostles’ Creed*)

*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.*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 65.....CWM RHONDDA**  
“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.

*We lift them up to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*It is right to give our thanks and praise...*

## **The Lord’s Prayer**

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.

## **WE BRING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD**

To give electronically, scan this QR code on your smart phone. Please feel free to give in-person as well.



**OFFERTORY .....*If with All Your Hearts.....*Mendelssohn**  
*(Aria No. 4 from Elijah, Op. 70)*  
Jerry Schauer, Solo; Paula Seo, Piano

**\*DOXOLOGY 606**

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*CLOSING HYMN 366** .....HYFRYDOL  
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*VI. Poco Vivace from Organ Works 9* .....H. Schroeder  
Paula Seo, Organ

*\*Congregation standing in body or spirit, as able*

***A heartfelt thank you to Paula Seo, our guest musician, for blessing our worship service with her beautiful musical gifts.*** Paula M. Lee Seo earned her Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from Wheaton College, her Master of Music from The Juilliard School, and her Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Michigan. She has served as Music Director and Organist in churches across Michigan and California and has performed in recital series throughout the U.S. and Korea. Paula has over 20 years of experience as a private piano teacher and church musician. She currently teaches piano and organ at Neumann University in PA and is active as a substitute organist in the greater Philadelphia area. In Fall 2025, she began her term as a Member-at-Large on the Executive Board of the American Guild of Organists, Philadelphia Chapter.

# UPCOMING EVENTS. *This Week @ ASPC*

## **Today, Sunday, February 22, 2026**

10:00 AM	Worship Service
10:15 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Fellowship Hour
3:00 PM	Youth Group "Bowling & Karaoke"
4:00 PM	Community Concert

## **Monday, February 23, 2026**

10:00 AM	Knitting Group
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## **Tuesday, February 24, 2026**

8:00 AM	Men's Christian Fellowship
1:00 PM	Last Tuesday Book Club

## **Thursday, February 26, 2026**

6:00 PM	AA
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## **Saturday, February 28, 2026**

10:00 AM	ACA
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*\*The Lenten Quiet Morning on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> is cancelled!*

### ***Office Hours:***

*Monday - Thursday*

*9:00 – 3:30*

*Friday Closed*



## Worship Notes



The chancel flowers this morning are given to the glory of God.

The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission from the Book of Common Worship, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved.

## Prayer Requests



Please share your prayer concerns! Trusting that God hears our prayers, we want to pray with and for you!

**This week, please pray for:**

- Eric Jones & his family
- Randy Keaton & family (Lauren Snyder's father)
- CB (Coworker of Sara Cuccia)
- John Spaeder & Family
- Helen Walter (friend of Joe Falcon)
- Dennis White (friend of Joe Falcon)
- David Bryan (Brad Impriano's uncle)
- Jim Shea, Sr. (father of Jim Shea)

# Announcements



## Community Concert Help Needed

TODAY at 4 PM, NSPC will be hosting another community concert, "An Afternoon of Opera". The concert will again have a reception to meet the artists following the concert. Help is needed with finger desserts or munchies to put on the buffet table. If you are willing to help, please sign up on one of the sheets during the coffee hour or let Sue Bechtold know. If you can help with set-up or clean up, please also sign up on the fellowship hour forms. Thank you very much.



ONE GREAT  
HOUR OF SHARING

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The money raised, through **One Great Hour of Sharing**, serves individuals and communities in need. This work provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Typically received during the season of Lent, this Offering helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The envelopes are in the pews. Please make checks payable to NSPC with OGHS in the memo line. If you are contributing electronically, please note NSPC on the form. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



Our ***Rise Against Hunger Packaging Event*** is just around the corner. Sunday, March 8th from 2:45-5PM. Please sign up to be a worker at this fun event. We hope to pack 20,000 meals. Preschool

age is the youngest and there is no oldest age. Sign-ups after church in the Gathering room or email Joe Marchesani: [ghpizzajoe@gmail.com](mailto:ghpizzajoe@gmail.com)



As we look ahead to spring, the Building & Grounds Committee is planning a **Spring Cleanup Day** on Saturday, March 14 from 9-12 (Rain date: March 21) to help freshen up our church building and grounds after the winter

months. This will be a simple, hands-on morning focused on light outdoor cleanup, tidying common areas, and taking care of small projects that make a big difference in keeping our church welcoming and well cared for. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. No special skills are required—just willing hands and a few hours to serve together. You're welcome to stay for as much or as little time as you're able. More details will be shared soon. Thank you for helping care for our church home. Many hands truly make light work! — B & G Committee

**Let us know you are coming:**



***Every pint donated makes a difference!*** Our next blood drive is scheduled for April 29th 2:00 PM—7:00 PM. Registration is open:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Newtown%20Township>



Open registration for the **Nursery School** has begun. Call 610-356-4711 for details! Feel free to share with your family and friends.

# Youth Announcements

## Youth Group Schedule

- 2/22 Bowling & Karaoke Outing (2:30 PM)
- 3/1 Topic: Coffee with Jesus Series (PM)
- 3/8 Rise Against Hunger (2:45-5)
- 3/15 Breakfast Club (AM)



The Youth Group is going bowling! And trying some Karaoke! **February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Round1 in Exton from 3-5 PM.** We will leave the church at 2:30 and return at approximately 5:30. RSVP by using the QR Code. It will be a fun time!



***Little Lights*** will meet on **March 15th from 11:15-11:45** in the youth room downstairs. All Preschool through 4<sup>th</sup> grade children are invited to be a part of Little Lights at NSPC – a faith-filled time to grow, play and shine together! ***Grab a snack after Sunday School and then head down to the Youth Room!*** We will enjoy crafts, songs, and games. Join us as

we learn to shine God's light together!



## Register Now!

VBS returns June 22-25 from 9 AM -12 PM.

Registration began on February 2nd. We look forward to welcoming you back!

Email [youth@newtownsquarepres.org](mailto:youth@newtownsquarepres.org) with questions.



We plan on hosting our **Annual Easter Egg Hunt** on **March 29th**. We are looking for easter egg fillers.

These could be individually wrapped kisses or chocolate eggs. We are also looking for easter stickers, erases, bracelets, and bouncy balls these could be purchased at oriental trading or a monetary donation could be given to the church office with the memo Youth Egg Hunt. All candy and non-candy items need to be small enough to fit into a plastic egg. All donations should be left in the box in the gathering room that is Labeled "Youth Egg Hunt". ***We would like to have all donations by March 15th*** so we can start filling eggs. Thank you so much.

***Church Officers:***

**SESSION/BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Moderator: The Rev. Bill Searight

Class of 2026

Ed Arraya  
Buff Biddle  
Jane Fioravanti  
Joe Marchesani

Class of 2027

Sue Bechtold  
Sara DiGirolamo  
Jennifer Gries  
Doug Tase

Class of 2028

Lynne Corle  
Joe Falcon  
Rob Gray  
Laurie Lynch

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Moderator: Margie Garwood

Class of 2026

Sara Cuccia  
Kathy Donovan  
Margie Garwood  
Marg MacDonald

Class of 2027

Bob Arnold  
Nicolle Arraya  
Paul Florence  
Andy Tucker

Class of 2028

Jack Chidester  
Pat Deluca  
Rich Digby  
Karen Shea

# *Reflections*



## ***In Ministry Together at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church:***

Pastor .....	The Rev. Bill Searight
Parish Associate.....	The Rev. Dr. Nancy Holt Timothy
Director of Music.....	Vacant
Director of Youth & Families .....	Kristi Schaub
Church Office Manager .....	Heather Impriano
PreK-2nd Sunday School Teacher .....	Beth McCarry
3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School Teacher .....	Debbie Villano
Nursery Attendants .....	Grace McCarry & Sadie Kazanjian
Spiritual Director .....	Jacki Tase
Co-Director, NSPC Preschool.....	Jane Fioravanti
Co-Director, NSPC Preschool.....	Meghan Kazanjian
Clerk of Session .....	Buff Biddle
President, Board of Trustees .....	Jim Shea
Moderator of Deacons.....	Margie Garwood
Co-Treasurer .....	Rich Digby
Co-Treasurer .....	Heather Impriano
Head Usher.....	Grant Snyder
Communion Coordinator .....	Carol Guest
Presbyterian Women.....	Ginny Berman

***Plus...all the members of NSPC***

## **Church Contact Information:**

Church Phone:.....	610-356-8063
Rev. Searight e-mail: .....	<a href="mailto:pastor@newtownsquarepres.org">pastor@newtownsquarepres.org</a>
Kristi Schaub e-mail: .....	<a href="mailto:youth@newtownsquarepres.org">youth@newtownsquarepres.org</a>

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