

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Contact Natalie Raygor (natalie@firstonthird.org) for more information.

Nursery (infant through three-years-old) Loving care is provided during the Sunday School hour and Worship Service.

Summer Stories: This summer our children will have the opportunity each Sunday to leave the service after the Time with Children to go to "Summer Stories" in Room 208 for their worship service (instead of Worship and Wonder). The Summer Stories will focus on stories of finding Peace with God from the beginning to the end of the Bible and a simple craft project each Sunday. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on our website or Friday newsletter.

Growing in Grace Children's Sunday School Class – *Will resume on September 20th.*
(four-years-old through 5th grade) Meets at 9am in the Grace Space, at the foot of the stairway to Gilmour Hall.

Top Dogs (3rd-5th grade) – First meeting is Sunday, September 27th @ 4pm for an off-site adventure. More details to come.

Youth Group (6th-12th grade) - Meetings will resume in September! Rising 6th Grade Parent/Youth meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 13th @ 5:30pm. Youth/Parent Kickoff is scheduled for Sunday, September 27th @ 5:30pm.

Donuts with Davis (6th-12th grade) - will resume October 11th @ 9am. Meetings are the 2nd & 4th Sundays in Room 305.

Youth Volunteer Opportunity for Upper Elementary & Middle School Students: Do you enjoy working with children? Children's Ministry has a new Jr. Assistant position available each Sunday to assist with the Children's Worship & Wonder class starting September 13th. Please check the Weekly Update to sign-up or contact Natalie Raygor for more information.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES — 9AM SUNDAY

“Bible 101” meets in Room 101. Bible 101 studies and discusses the scripture that will be preached that morning. All are welcome. Good discussion group that will continue to meet throughout the summer.

Journey Class meets in Room 303. *Will resume September 20th. Stay tuned for details!*

The Village Class meets in the Session Room. *Will resume September 20th. Stay tuned for details!*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle One (service): 6:00pm on 9/14 at 3209 Amber Drive Wilmington, NC 28409

Circle Two (Bible study): 11:30am on 9/14 in the Gathering Place

Circle Three (book study): details to be shared soon

Circle Four (study of self-care): 7:00pm on 9/14 at 389 Whispering Creek Drive

Circle Five (book study): 10:00am on 9/14 in the Library

Circle Ten (new circle-details will be shared soon)

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES/FELLOWSHIP

Knitting Ministry: Meetings are resuming on Wednesday, September 9th @ 1:30pm in the Ladies' Parlor and will meet the second Wednesday of each month (9/9, 10/14, 11/11, and 12/9).

Women on Wednesdays: Starting Wednesday, September 16th, Women on Wednesdays will meet twice a month from 10:30am-11:30am in the Session Room.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

First Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry congregation. If you would like to receive support from a **Stephen Minister**, please call one of our pastors at 910-762-6688.

ONLINE GIVING

Use this QR code to give securely to the general fund. Looking for other ways to give? Visit the website, firstonthird.org/give, for more information.



FPC CONNECT

An email has been sent from FPC with a Google form requesting help in updating your information. Please respond so we can update our records with correct data. If you have not received the email or need assistance, please reach out to Laura Tingelstad (laura@firstonthird.org) or call the office at 910-762-6688. We are happy to help!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, 9/6:

9:00am	Bible 101 Sunday School Class	Room 101
	Choir Practice	Choir Room
10:00am	Combined Service	Sanctuary

Monday, 9/7:

Office will be closed for Labor Day.

Tuesday, 9/8:

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, 9/9:

4:00pm	StepUp / CareerUp	Boney Hall
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Thursday, 9/10:

7:45am	Men's Breakfast	Cape Fear Club
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Friday, 9/11:

Office closes at 3pm (please note time change)

4:00pm	Keel Wedding Rehearsal	Sanctuary
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Saturday, 9/12:

Church Closed

4:00pm	Keel Wedding	Sanctuary
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Sunday, 9/13:

9:00am	Rally Day	Gathering Place
	Choir Practice	Choir Room
10:00am	Combined Service	Sanctuary
11:00am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
5:30pm	Rising 6th Grade Youth/Parent Meeting	Hi-Wire
		Brewery

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Monday, September 14th: PW Circle meetings resume. Check the calendar for details.

Sunday, September 20th:

Adult and Children's Sunday School classes return @ 9am in various locations.

Combined Service @ 10am returns with Traditional in the Sanctuary and Blended in Gilmour Hall.

FPC 101 begins @ 9am in the Library. This is a wonderful introduction to learn more about FPC, membership, and how to become more involved with the church community. Please email Laura Tingelstad at laura@firstonthird.org or call the office (910-762-6688) to receive more information and/or register! We are excited to have you join us.

Elizabeth McGuire Installation @ 4:00pm in the Sanctuary. Reception to follow in Gilmour Hall.

Monday, September 21st: Handbell Choir practice resumes. If you have an interest in learning more about this program, please contact John Tabler at john@firstonthird.org.

Sunday, September 27th: Top Dogs Geocaching Off-site @ 4:00pm Youth/Parent Kick-off @ 5:30pm. Stay tuned for details!

Sunday, October 4th: Music@First @ 5:00pm in the Sanctuary featuring Domonique Launeey on piano.

Sunday, October 11th: Totluck Potluck @ 11:00am.

Sunday, October 18th: First at the Farm @ 3:00pm.

Sunday, October 25th: Kirkin' o' the Tartan in the Sanctuary



First Presbyterian Church

Growing in Faith and Love

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

The music of the Opening Voluntary draws us from the outside world into the presence of God. In preparation for worship, you are invited to use this time for prayerful reflection.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C

Gourdon Young

Voluntary on Old 100th

Henry Purcell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Please pass the friendship register down the row for each person to sign. Visitors, we are grateful you are here this morning to worship with us. We encourage you to stop by the Gathering Place to receive a blue visitor bag and mingle with our pastors and congregants. Thank you for visiting FPC!]

CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

We come with gladness, for God has called us together.

Worship the Lord with joy; come into God's presence with singing.

We bring our different voices, stories, gifts, and hopes- and God gathers us as one people.

Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us, and we are God's people.

We are the people of God, the sheep of God's pasture, beloved and held in God's care.

We do not come alone. We come as children and elders, friends and neighbors, newcomers and longtime members.

We give thanks because God is good. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us worship the God who calls us, claims us, and makes us one people.

+ HYMN 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

OLD HUNDREDTH

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our God is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

God is close to all who call on him in truth, listening to their cries for help.

Knowing that God hears our prayers and knows our hearts,

Let us bring our confession before God and one another.

[+ You are invited to stand. For each hymn, please stand as the last line of the introduction is played.]

[You are invited to recite the bold words printed in the bulletin.]

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and eternal God, you have made us and you love us; we are your people, and the sheep of your pasture. Yet we confess that we often wander from your ways. You call us to serve you with gladness and come before your presence with singing, but we come with grumbling, worry, and reluctant hearts. We forget your goodness and withhold our gratitude. Forgive us, O God. Gather us again into your care, renew our joy in your presence, and teach us to serve you with gladness. Through your enduring love and faithfulness, make us whole..... (our silent prayers of confession) As the beloved people of God, we pray, **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: The Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness is for all generations. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and restored.** We belong to God--the people of God's pasture--and nothing can separate us from God's faithful love. **Thanks be to God! Amen**

+GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX
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.

+PASSING OF THE PEACE
The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!
And also with you!

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH
Children are invited to come forward, place their offerings in the plate, have a short message and prayer with the minister, then go to Room 208 for their worship service called Summer Stories.
(Please note starting on Sunday, September 13th, Worship and Wonder will return during Time With the Young Church. The age range will now be four-year-olds through 2nd Grade.)

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 100
Pew Bible, OT p. 552

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to the Lord.

SERMON Elizabeth McGuire

“God’s People, God’s Joy”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

+ HYMN 612
We Praise You, O God KREMSER

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles’ Creed)
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP AND GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
Now Let us All Praise God and Sing Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; that we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia. All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever. Sing Jehovah's mighty power, praise Him forever. Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever.

+ DOXOLOGY
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.

WE GO IN GOD’S NAME

+ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.**

+ HYMN 643
Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

+ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY
Cathedral Windows Op. 106 Sigfrid Karg-Elert
No. VI Lauda Sion Salvatorem
(Zion, to Thy Savior Sing)

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of his mother, Doris Pait Skipper, and his uncle, George Tim Pait, by Pait Skipper.

Leading in Worship	
Dan Lewis, Senior Pastor	Natalie Raygor, Associate Pastor
Elizabeth McGuire, Associate Pastor	Jim Morgan, Parish Associate
John Tabler, Director of Music and Organist	Benjamin Horrell, Associate Director of Music and Choir Director
FPC Choir	

THANK YOU to all of you who have joined us for worship this Sunday, here and at home. We hope that you find your experience of worship to be uplifting and meaningful. Any usher (designated with a name tag) will be glad to assist you and answer your questions. If you need a large print copy of today’s bulletin and hymns, please notify an usher. A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. If you would, please let us know you were here with us by signing the Friendship Register in the pews or by emailing our church office at hello@firstonthird.org.