



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Raleigh

FIRST PRESS

## First Press Volume XXX, Issue 13

Mar 29 - Apr 5, 2026

### Stay Connected at First Presbyterian Church!

From meaningful worship and small group opportunities to fellowship gatherings, and special seasonal events, God is moving in powerful ways throughout our church family. Read below to discover what is coming up and how you can get connected.

## Worship this Sunday

March 22, 2026

Join us for Worship at 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

Sermon Title: Marks of A Disciple: Courage

Scripture: Matt 21:1-11 | Phil 3:14-4:1

[Click here for our live stream and worship resources](#)

[Click here for our YouTube Channel](#)

From Tara's Desk

Dear Church,

As I write this, I am preparing my sermon for this Sunday. This Sunday is Palm Sunday, and it marks the beginning of Holy Week.

The Lenten season has focused on our sinfulness and our need for God's grace and redemption. Sometimes it feels like Lent goes on just a bit too long; after all, no one likes to look at the darkness within themselves for an extended period of time. Holy Week is much the same, for it can be difficult to remember the Last Supper and the Cross. To fully understand the gift of the empty tomb, however, we must first understand Maundy Thursday's pain and Good Friday's horror. But it is necessary to remember these things because, by the time Easter arrives, we should be longing for its promise. It is Holy Week that gives us a complete picture of the Gospel story.

So, I hope you will join us this Sunday to hear about the joy of Palm Sunday. And I hope you will join us next week for all the services of Holy Week. Our Lenten journey has almost ended for this year.

In faith, hope, and love,

Tara

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger, Senior Pastor

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## News:



The 2026 Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the office of Elder and Deacon, Class of 2029. To make nominations, [click here](#). If you would like to submit a paper nomination, one is available in the Lisa Ham Gathering Space or the Edge Lobby. Please place the completed form(s) in the box found in the Lisa Ham Gathering Space (near the photos of our ministers) or in Cindy Elderkin's mailbox on the 2nd floor of the Edge building.

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At the beginning of the year, we introduced Realm, our new church management system, to help us stay connected as a congregation. We invited all members to create profiles so you can access the church directory, as well as stay informed about upcoming news and events. Since we are no longer using our previous directory, it is especially important for everyone to complete their Realm profile so we can continue building and maintaining strong connections within our church community.

Some of you may have received notifications from our Financial Assistant | Office Manager, Melani Harrison indicating that your privacy settings were updated. Please do not be alarmed—these adjustments were made to ensure you are included in the church directory.

If you are experiencing any difficulties setting up your account, please reach out to our Director of Communications, Jean Suber at 919 821-5750 or [jsuber@fpcraleigh.org](mailto:jsuber@fpcraleigh.org) for assistance.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us stay connected!



### **Flower Dates Available**

The beautiful flowers that you see each Sunday in our worship service are sponsored by members and other friends of the church. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. Dates available for 2026: May 10, 17, 24, 31; July 5, 19; August 9, 16, 23, 30; September 13; and November 29. Contact Kathy Kesterson, texting or calling 919 414-0763, or email [kfk1809@gmail.com](mailto:kfk1809@gmail.com)

Presbyterian Campus Ministry of Raleigh  
**Spring Soiree Fundraiser**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**MAY 16, 2026**  
**6:00 - 8:30 PM**



Limited admission-\$15 tickets  
50/50 raffle fundraiser

Heavy hors d'oeuvres & Mocktails



**VENUE: A PLACE AT THE TABLE**  
**300 WEST HARGETT STREET #50**  
**RALEIGH, NC**

Scan here to purchase raffle tickets, event tickets,  
or to make a donation to PCM

## This Week



**SPRING LANDSCAPING DAY:  
PREPARATION FOR HOLY WEEK**

### **Spring Landscaping Day: Preparation for Holy Week**

Join Russell Clark, Facilities Manager and the Property and Insurance Committee on Saturday, March 28 from 9- 12 pm in preparing our church grounds for Holy Week. Areas of focus will be weeding, mulching and planting around the church grounds. All are welcome and if you have wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes, please bring them with you. Thank you for helping us care for the place we share in worship and community.

FOURTH SATURDAY WALKING GROUP



The Fourth Saturday Walking Group will meet at Glen Eden Pilot Park at 9 am on Saturday March 28th to walk for an hour on the House Creek Trail. All are welcome, bring a friend. Contact Alan Jessup at 919-906-7632 or [ajessup07@gmail.com](mailto:ajessup07@gmail.com) with questions.

## Next Week

*Holy Week at First Presbyterian Church*



*Palm*  
SUNDAY  
March 29  
8:30 am & 11:00 am



*Maundy*  
THURSDAY  
April 2  
7:00 pm



*Good*  
FRIDAY  
April 3  
12:00 pm & 7:00 pm



*Easter*  
SUNDAY  
April 5  
8:30 am & 11:00 am

Join us in preparing our hearts  
for the Risen King!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
**Raleigh**



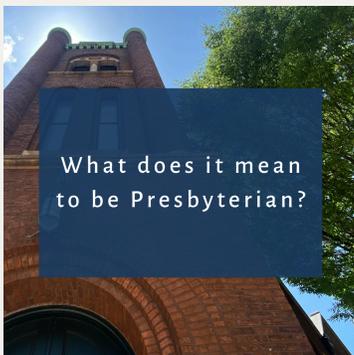
## Easter Egg Hunt & Resurrection Celebration

Children and families are invited to join us on Easter Sunday as we celebrate our Risen Lord!

When: Sunday, April 5 at 9:45am. Meet in the Sanctuary to hear the Easter story! Following the story, we'll walk over to the Capitol grounds to hunt for eggs. Be sure to bring a basket!

When the eggs have all been hunted & family photos have been taken, we'll come back to Memorial Hall for a Resurrection Celebration and enjoy snacks and Easter-themed crafts.

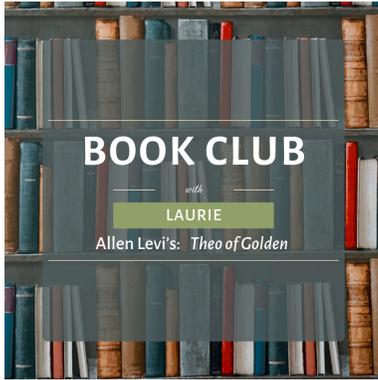
# Coming Soon



Designed for folks  
new to the

All are welcome! Class will be held at 9:45am in the Parlor (Just off the Lisa Ham Gathering Space) on Sunday April 12, 19, 26 and May 3.

denomination or those looking to refresh their memory, this four week Sunday school class will explore the theology and practice of Presbyterians.



## Book Club with Laurie

Join us as we discuss the popular book, "Theo of Golden," by Allen Levi. With themes of connection and neighborliness, as well as curiosity about how we really know people, this book is a delightful read and begs to be discussed. Join us on Wednesday, April 29 at noon for an in-person discussion, or at 7pm for a zoom conversation. All are welcome!

[Click here to register](#)



## By Still Waters: Praying Through Psalm 23

*By beloved coastal waters, come to find stillness using the beloved words of Psalm 23. Are you seeking time away in beloved Christian Community? Are you searching for ancient*

## TRINITY CENTER

Pine Knoll Shores, NC  
trinityctr.org

### NOV. 6-8

Arrive: 4p.m.-6p.m. Friday  
Depart: 1p.m. Sunday

### COST:

\$295/Shared Room  
\$335/Private Room

Your fee covers your room for 2 nights and 6 meals as well as a portion of the guest speaker's fees.

**Register online April 12 - April 19**  
**We will have a help desk in the Edge Lobby on April 12 & April 19, from 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM.**

**Registration & Payment Options**

*wisdom amid a chaotic world? Are you longing for an encounter with the wild and living God we call our Good Shepherd? Join us as we explore the words of this most memorized Psalm and encounter how it guides us deeper into union with our marvelous and magnificent God.*

Facilitator: Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

Register & Pay Online:

go to [fpcraleigh.org/events](http://fpcraleigh.org/events)

*\*PW will cover online payment fees*

Register in Person & Pay with Personal Check:

Write check to FPC, memo line "PW-Women's Retreat 2026"

Paper Registration is also available at the Edge Lobby Reception Desk.

### **Questions?**

Pam Jones | [p3jones@yahoo.com](mailto:p3jones@yahoo.com)  
(404) 668-0420

*Sponsored by FPC Presbyterian Women*



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