



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Raleigh

FIRST PRESS

May 3 - May 10, 2026

Worship this Sunday

May 3, 2026

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

Guest Preacher: Jeff Gray

Scripture: Psalm 30 | John 21:1-14

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

[Click here for our YouTube Channel](#)

The pastor on call for the month of May is The Rev. Laurie Taylor Weicher. She can be reached at 919 714-7213 or at

lweicher@fpcraleigh.org.

From Tara's Desk

Dear Church,

In January, the elders and deacons of the church attended a leadership retreat here at the church. The retreat focused on the *Seven Marks of Vital Congregations*, which were developed by our denomination a few years ago. At that retreat, the church officers examined each of these marks of vital congregations,

evaluated how we are doing on each, and set goals for how we might do them better in the future.

The first mark of a vital congregation is that the church engages in Lifelong Discipleship Formation. Throughout a person's life, the church should meet them where they are and seek to form them into better disciples. As you might imagine, discipleship formation happens over the whole length of a person's life. As a church, we are to be intentional in how we help people in this endeavor.

This past Sunday, Youth Sunday, we saw discipleship formation in action. To have so many youth who understood how to lead worship and did so in such a beautiful and meaningful way, I feel as if it is a testament to this church's commitment to and formation of our youth. The youth's discipleship was on display for all to see, and it was wonderful! I can't wait until the next Youth Sunday.

May we all grow in our discipleship, and may we be a community of faith that grows together!

In faith, hope, and love,
The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

This Week

Approved Session Minutes March 2026



Explore Realm: Your Gateway to Giving, Connection, and More

Are you having trouble registering for or navigating Realm? We're here to help! Realm is FPC's convenient online platform—available on both

desktop and mobile—that keeps you connected and engaged with church life.

Need assistance getting started? Members of the Stewardship Committee will be available at the Help Desk in the Edge Lobby after both worship services **this Sunday, May 3**. Stop by—we'd be glad to walk alongside you and help you make the most of Realm.
Stewardship Committee, 2026



FPC will be at First Friday in Moore Square on Friday, May 1 from 5-9 p.m. and we would love for you to stop by and see us!

There will be lots to do for the whole family:

- pinwheels for the kids
- food vendors
- movie ("The Incredibles" which begins at 7:30)
- live music
- vendor markets
- art galleries and studios to visit in the area

Bring your blankets and chairs for the movie and enjoy the evening in downtown Raleigh!

Coming Up



Interest Meeting in Ed Greer Classroom: Sunday, May 3 following 11:00 a.m. worship service

FPC Raleigh Adult Mission Trip led by The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger & Kathy Johnson

We are looking for 10-15 participants (Youth welcome with a parent).

Sunday, June 28 - Saturday, July 4, 2026

Renoysa, Mexico

Cost is approximately \$1,000 (includes airfare, lodging, food).



Adult Fellowship Lunch & Bingo
**CINCO DE
MAYO**



Grab your sombreros and your lucky bingo cards—it's time for a fiesta! Join us for an afternoon of food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo.

When: Tues, May 5 | 11 - 1 p.m.
Where: Memorial Hall

Bring your appetite, your competitive spirit, and maybe a little flair—bright colors and festive hats encouraged! Invite a friend or two—because everything's better when we celebrate together.

There is no cost to attend but we do need you to register. [**RSVP**](#) by May 1. You may also sign up at the reception desk in the Edge Lobby in the Event Registration book.



Presbyterian Women
Birthday Celebration
and Annual
Meeting/Luncheon

May 18, 2026 | 12:00
p.m.

Speaker: Katie
Lowek, Executive
Director,
Diaper Train

Location: Memorial
Hall

Cost of Meal: \$10

RSVP by May 12

~In April/May Circle meetings or call
the church office~

FPC members who are not part of a
PW Circle are encouraged to
attend! Please join us and call the
church office at 919.821.5750
to rsvp.

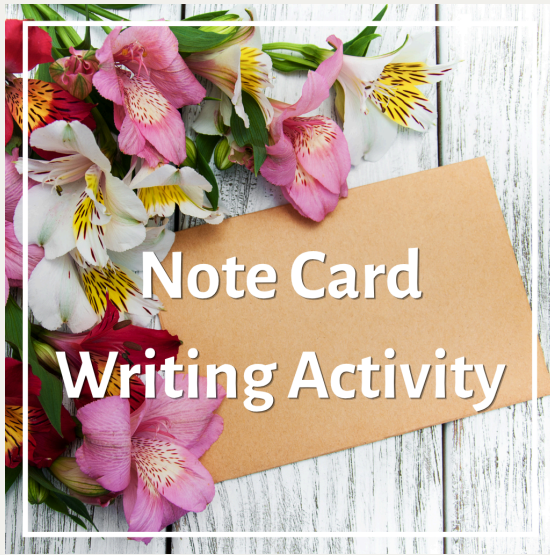
PAYMENT:

At the door on day of the event with
cash or checks written to FPC,
check memo line:
PW Birthday Luncheon

*If you are no longer able to attend,
please cancel your reservation.
Payment will be required for all
reservations not cancelled by
May 13.



Beginning Sunday, May 24 we
will move to our one-service
summer schedule. Join us each
week for Sunday School (all
ages): 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Worship:
at 10:30 a.m.; Community
Building Activity: 11:30 a.m. We
hope that you will be able to join
us throughout the summer!



Share God's Love Through a Simple Card

Join the Congregational Care Committee on Sunday, May 24 after worship for a special card-writing activity for our homebound members. A simple note of encouragement can brighten someone's day and remind them that their church family is thinking of them.

Cards, envelopes, pens, and stamps will be provided for this activity. All you need to bring is your kindness and a few moments of your time.

Come help us share love, encouragement, and connection with members who are unable to join us in person.



**Mon. & Wed. | 1 - 3 p.m.
Starting May 27**

Looking for a fun way to move, laugh, and connect? Our church is starting a pickleball group, and we want you to be a part of the fun!

Join us on **Monday and Wednesday afternoons** for some lighthearted competition, great conversation, and plenty of encouragement—whether you've played for years or have never picked up a paddle before. This is all about fellowship, fun, and staying active together. No

experience required—just bring yourself and a willingness to give it a try!

We'll be sharing more details soon about organizing teams.

All are welcome—we'd love to see you there!

Registration for the 2026 FPC Women's

Retreat Closes Thursday, April 30!



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 wisdom amid a chaotic world? Are you longing for an encounter with the wild and living God

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 30

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

Register & Pay Online:

go to fpcraleigh.org/events

**PW will cover online payment fees*

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 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
(404) 668-0420

Sponsored by FPC Presbyterian Women

[**Register Here!**](#)

Reminders



Would you like to be more involved in Sunday worship service? Sign up to be a lay reader and contribute in a deeply meaningful way as a voice of the congregation. What will you do? As a lay reader you will be reading the opening scripture in your choice of either 8:30 am or 11:00 am service. Scared of those crazy Bible names? Don't be! You've got this and we've got you! Contact Melani Harrison at 919-821-5750 to sign up or [**sign up here!**](#)



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