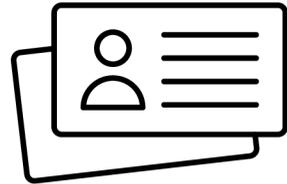


Church Family News

God plants us like trees beside streams of living water, provided by Jesus himself (Psalm 1:3)

Welcome Visitors! Glad you could join us. Please fill out the **CONNECT CARDS** located in the pews. We want to connect with you, pray with you, and welcome you to church. Please place them in the offering plate or in the basket in the Narthex. If you are visiting for the first time, please ask one of the ushers for a **first-time visitor's packet**.



First Pres Business Cards are in the Narthex, please take some and hand them out to invite family, friends and others to join us in fellowship here at First Pres!

Sunday School

Sunday School for children and adults meets every Sunday at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall

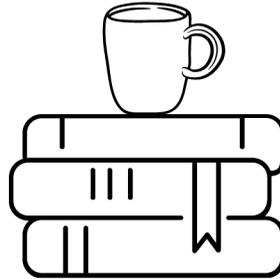
- Contact: Kevin Olandt
- All are welcome and child care is provided!

Adult Sunday School

- Verse by verse Bible Study

Pre K - 12th Grade

- Spring Session
 - The Gospel Project - The Son Has Come!



****Childcare is provided** during the 10:30am Sunday Church Service.

There is a fully stocked and staffed nursery downstairs for newborn - 3 years old.

Children's Church (4 - 10 years old) is after Praise and Worship.

Please contact Connie Young for more details!

Our vision is to see our Church and our communities delighting in God, passionately following Jesus, and loving all people.

Luke B. Bert, Senior Pastor | Kim J. Murphy, Director of Music and Family Ministry
Renee Tobias, Organist and Choir Director | Dan Ahmad, Tech Manager
Jack Shea, Custodian | Breanna Young, Secretary

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City



March 8, 2026

701 Wesley Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226
609.399.1833 | www.firstpresocnj.net

Welcome and Announcements

Kim Murphy

We Enter God's Presence

Organ Prelude

“Let Not Your Heart be Troubled”

(Paxton)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 44:22-26

Kim Murphy

Leader: Yet for your sake we are killed all the day long;

People: we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.

Leader: Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?

People: Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!

Leader: Why do you hide your face?

People: Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?

Leader: For our soul is bowed down to the dust;

People: our belly clings to the ground.

Leader: Rise up; come to our help!

People: Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!

*Hymn “The Steadfast Love of the Lord”

(McNeill)

*Hymn No. 126 “O Come, Let Us Adore Him”

(EDESTA FIDELES)

*Prayer of Invocation & The Lord's Prayer

Elder Kevin Olandt

Scripture Reading - Romans 8:18-28

Rebekah Bert

Unison Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, we know that the suffering in this life is part of your plan. We know you plan to redeem us from suffering and make your new creation. And yet, we are weak. We do not bring everything to you in prayer. We give in to our own doubts. Forgive us. Help us to hope in what we do not see. Give us the strength to be patient as you work out your plan. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

In a word or phrase, you may share a confession to God quietly.

Assurance of God's Pardon - Romans 8:37-39

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Check out our website at www.firstpresocnj.net See copies of recent bulletins and newsletters. Stream our sermons on our website, Facebook, and YouTube. Make sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Spotify! [@firstpresocnj](https://www.instagram.com/firstpresocnj)

LEARN MORE



A New Way to Stay Connected!

We're thrilled to share that a brand-new church website and app are on the way! This exciting tool will make it easier than ever to:

- Find contact info for fellow members and church leadership
- View a full calendar of church events and gatherings
- Share and respond to prayer requests in real time

It's designed to help us grow closer as a church family, stay informed, lift one another up, and deepen our fellowship. Keep an eye out for updates in the coming weeks!



Prayer Group meets Tuesdays at 2:30pm in the classroom near the parking lot entrance. Join us as we pray for our church among other needs. All are welcome.



Contact Us:

Senior Pastor: Pastor Luke Bert - PastorLuke@firstpresocnj.net

Secretary: Breanna Young - Hello@firstpresocnj.net

Director of Music and Family Ministry: Kim Murphy - Kim.Murphy@firstpresocnj.net

Tech Manager: Dan Ahmad - Tech@firstpresocnj.net

Greeters: Maria White & Renee Laielli

Ushers: Carol Evans, Bob Krayner, Allan Matthews, Linda Matthews, Jack Shea, Jane Shea

Bulletin Announcements & Newsletter Please be sure to email all bulletin announcements, newsletter articles, and updates to Breanna at hello@firstpresocnj.net.



Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026 at 10:30am

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026 at 7:00pm

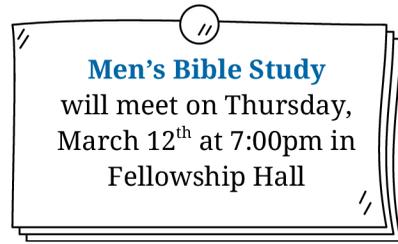
Good Friday * Joint Service

Potluck to follow

April 3, 2026 at 5:30pm

Easter Sunday

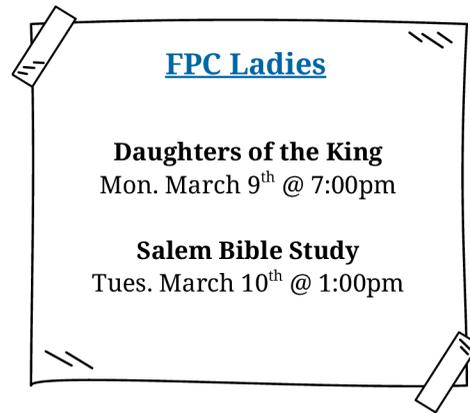
April 5, 2026 at 10:30am



Next Week's Sermon:

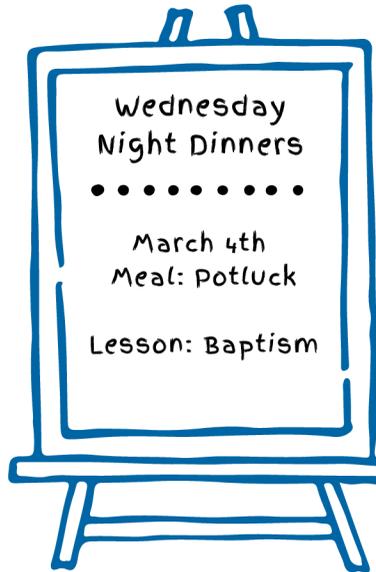
Micah 5:1-6

"The Shepard King"



Membership and Evangelism Committee Meeting

March 16th at 6:30pm in the room next to the parking lot.



Volunteers Needed

Join Our Children's Ministry Team!

We are currently seeking volunteers to serve in Sunday School, Children's Church, and in our Nursery. Guiding our children is one of the most important and rewarding ways we can serve our church family. Whether you can help weekly, monthly, or as a substitute, your time and care can make a lasting difference.

If you feel called to support our youngest members or would like more information about how to get involved, please contact Connie Young or Kristen Ali.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity to serve!



ONLINE GIVING SCAN HERE >>

OR AVAILABLE ON CHURCH WEBSITE



Tithes and Offerings French Horn Solo: Amazing Grace (arr. Overly)

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication Elder Kevin Olandt

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.

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Luke Bert

*Songs of Worship "Sovereign Over Us" (MW Smith)

"Christ Our Hope In Life and Death" (Getty/Kauflin/Papa/Boswell/Merker)

(At this time, children may leave to attend Children's Church led by Cherie Arias)

Sermon

Micah 4:6-13 - In that Day Pastor Luke Bert

Installation Ceremony (BCO 24-6) TE Luke Bert

- Statement re: Ordination and Installation
- Questions of Ordination and Installation
- Question for the congregation
- Prayer and Laying on of hands
- Right Hand of Fellowship
- Pronouncement of Office
- Exhortation to new officers and congregation (RE Joe Laielli)
- Closing Prayer (RE Kevin Olandt)

*Hymn No. 517 "The Solid Rock" (SOLID ROCK)

We Leave to Serve in God's World

*Benediction Pastor Luke Bert

*Postlude "Praising the Almighty" (Broughton)

*Congregation will please rise

Note: Please take this bulletin home with you. Please do not leave it in the pew.

After worship service, there will be Church Elders available to pray for you and with you in the Prayer Room (drum room) up front on the left side of the Sanctuary.

The Ordination and Installation of



Ruling Elder

Kim Murphy

Deacon

Solomon Griffith

Neil Jordan

David Laielli

David Newsome

Ordination Vows

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will, on your own initiative, make known to your Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?
3. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America, in conformity with the general principles of biblical polity? Do you accept the office of ruling elder (or deacon, as the case may be) in this church, and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof, and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your life, and to set a worthy example before the Church of which God has made you an officer?
4. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord?
5. Do you promise to strive for the purity, peace, unity and edification of the Church?

Congregational Vow

Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers as a ruling elder and deacons, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitles them?