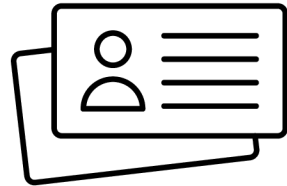
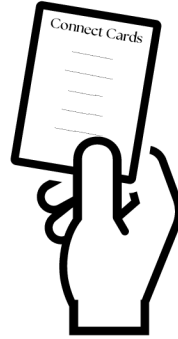


# Church Family News

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

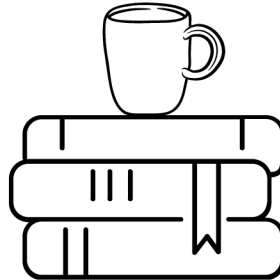
- Contact: Kevin Olandt
- All are welcome and child care is provided!

Adult Sunday School

- Verse by verse Bible Study

Pre K - 12<sup>th</sup> 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

ACTS 1:8

**YOU WILL  
BE MY  
WITNESSES**

April 5, 2026

701 Wesley Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226  
609.399.1833 | [www.firstpresocnj.net](http://www.firstpresocnj.net)

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Kim Murphy

We Enter God’s Presence

Organ Prelude

“Alive”

(Arr. Fettke/Holck)

Responsive Call to Worship - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Elder Kim Murphy

Leader: For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:

**People: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,**

Leader: that he was buried,

**People: that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,**

\*Hymn No. 234

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

(EASTER HYMN),

\*Hymn No. 235

“Christ Arose!”

(CHRIST AROSE)

(chorus only)

\*Prayer of Invocation & The Lord’s Prayer

Elder Kevin Olandt

Scripture Reading - Deuteronomy 4:1-14

Brad & Breanna Young

\*Hymn No. 238

“Because He Lives”

(RESURRECTION)

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Risen Lord Jesus, you have called us to be your witnesses. You have commanded us to obey your word, so we might be a light to those around us. However, our witness has faltered. Our light is dim. We are more concerned with our own goals than with proclaiming your Gospel. Forgive us. Open our mouths to speak the Good News of your resurrection. Amen.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

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

Assurance of God’s Pardon - 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

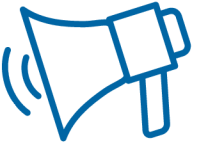
## A NEW WAY TO STAY CONNECTED! CHECK OUT OUR NEW CHURCH APP AND WEBSITE!

We’re thrilled to share that a brand-new church website and app are here!  
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

### TO DOWNLOAD THE APP:

- Go to your Google or Apple App Store
- Search “First Presbyterian Church OCNJ”
- The image on the app is the PCA logo
- Download
- Create Account
- Here you will be able to watch sermons, make prayer requests, connect, read the bible and have access to online giving.



### THE WEBSITE:

www.firstpresocnj.net will continue to be our website!  
It just has a new and improved look!

**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:** Mary Wilson & Cherie Arias

**Ushers:** Carol Evans, Frank Gillet, Shane Gillet, Bob Krayner, Gregg Matis, Jane Shea

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

### Children are a gift from God!

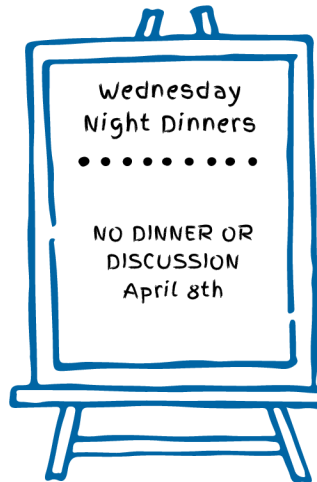
We celebrate the birth of Leena Carmona. Daughter of Karl and Sindhu Carmona, granddaughter of Rick Carmona. Born, March 29, 2026.

### Next Week's Sermon:

Micah 6:1-8  
What Does God Require?

### Did you know we have fresh coffee downstairs in the welcome center off the parking lot entrance?

Join us before and/or after service for a fresh cup of coffee and fellowship to connect with your Pastor, elders, new and old friends!



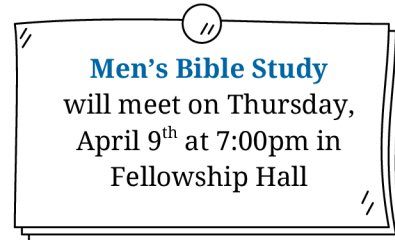
### Volunteers Needed – Children's Ministry

We're looking for volunteers to serve in Sunday School, Children's Church, and the Nursery. Whether you can help weekly, monthly, or as a substitute, your time can make a lasting difference in the lives of our children.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Connie Young or Kristen Ali. Thank you for prayerfully considering serving!

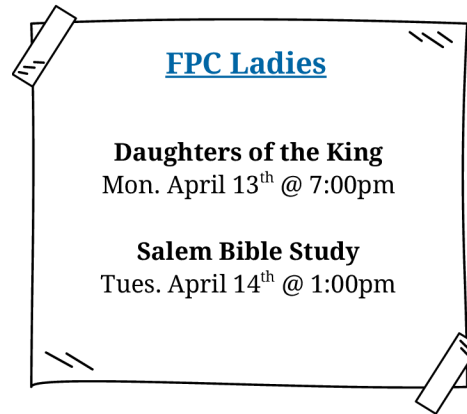
### Small Groups Are Back!

Starting again April 12th - May 23rd. If you would like to join or change your small groups; contact your leader. If you would like to host a new small group, see Pastor Luke!



### After Worship Refreshments are back!

Join us April 26th in fellowship hall for after worship refreshments. Sign ups are on the app and downstairs on the bulletin board.



**ONLINE GIVING  
SCAN HERE >>  
OR AVAILABLE ON CHURCH WEBSITE**



Tithes and Offerings "Easter Acclamation" (Green/Schrader/arr. Allen)

\*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.**

Scripture Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 Brad & Breanna Young

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Luke Bert

\*Songs of Worship "Our God Reigns" (Smith)  
"Easter Song" (Herring/Schrader)  
"He Is Lord"

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

### Sermon

Acts 1:1-11 Resurrection: A Call to Missions Pastor Luke Bert

\*Song of Praise "Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed" (Cash/Getty)

### We Leave to Serve in God's World

\*Benediction Pastor Luke Bert

\*Postlude "He Lives" (Ackley/arr. Lorenz)

\*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.

# Tithes and Offerings “Easter Acclamation”

Christ has died  
Christ is risen  
Christ will come again

This is the threefold truth  
On which our faith depends  
And with this joyful cry  
Worship begins and ends

Made sacred by long use  
New minted for our time  
Our liturgies sum up  
The hope we have in Him

On this we fix our minds as  
Kneeling side by side  
We take the bread and wine  
From Him the crucified

By this we are upheld  
When doubt or grief assails  
Our Christian fortitude  
And only grace avails

This is the threefold truth which  
If we hold it fast  
Changes the world and us  
And brings us home at last

Fred Pratt Green, Jack Schrader, Lanny Allen  
CCLI Song #5979729

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# E A S T E R L I L I E S

Given to the Glory of God and in  
memory or honor of loved ones

## Given By:

Luke & Rebekah Bert  
Luke & Rebekah Bert  
Carol & Will Evans  
Frank & Kate Gillet  
Frank & Kate Gillet  
Pat & Gregg Matis  
Pat & Gregg Matis  
Pat & Gregg Matis  
Meredith Neely  
Wilson Family  
Wilson Family

## Given By:

Tom & Phyllis Martinson  
  
Pat & Gregg Matis  
Pat Matis  
Meredith Neely  
Renee Tobias  
Bob & Fran Woolery

## In Memory of:

Matthias K. Bert (Luke's Brother)  
Mary Jane Dye  
Kathryn & Roland Evans  
Frank & Ruth Gillet  
Charles & Jane MacDonough  
Baby Geoffrey Matis  
Ronald & Lois Weaverling  
Charles A. Williams  
Elwood & Isabel Neely  
John & Anna Wilson, Nancy Simons  
Russell & Eleanor Bird

## In Honor of:

Patrick, Sydney, Emma, Parker,  
Tommy & Alexandra  
Geoff & Denise, Trisan & Julian Matis  
Gregg Matis  
Gregg & Pat Matis  
Our talented and faithful choir members  
Mom Mom Lamkin for her 103rd birthday

