



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of RIDGEWOOD

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood!

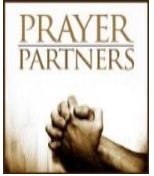
We are glad you have chosen to worship with us!

Pastor Bruce can be reached at 215-337-5623 and via email:

pastorbruce@firstpresridgewood.org.

He encourages you to reach out to him should you need pastoral care.

Ours is a congregation which believes in prayer. Each Friday we email the Prayer Partners newsletter. If you would like to have a prayer of concern, joy or thanksgiving included in the next issue(s), or if you would like to begin receiving Prayer Partners, contact the church office at Dana.Feeney@FirstPresRidgewood.org.

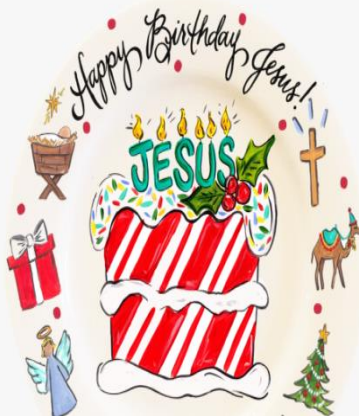


CHURCH OFFICE HOURS for THIS WEEK:
TUESDAY – FRIDAY (9:00 AM to 12:00 PM)

Interest Items Sunday, December 8, 2024

“BIRTHDAY PARTY 4 JESUS” All are invited today after worship in the auditorium for coffee hour and celebrating the birth of our savior! Games & prizes, a story time, craft time for our youth and birthday cupcakes and snacks in addition to our regular coffee hour! Let’s Celebrate!

This event is held in loving memory of Diana, Kristina and Jennifer Collentine.



FIRST PRES ANNUAL BAKE SALE

~ December 15 @ 11:00 am ~

Proceeds go to

Family Promise ~ Camp Lots of Fun!



Today, Sunday, December 8th & December 15th all church school students will have an opportunity to shop at no cost for their families and friends at our Christmas Mart located in the Auditorium!

FIRST PRES EVENTS

Sunday, December 8 – Sunday, December 15

Please go to our website at www.firstpresridgewood.org,
click on the **EVENTS** tab for our **full** calendar.



SUNDAY, December 8

10:00 am	Worship	SANCTUARY
10:30 am	Trinity Worship	Chapel
11:00 am	Birthday Party for Jesus	Auditorium
11:00 am	Christmas Mart	Auditorium
11:30 am	Adult Mission Trip Meeting	Minnema Room
2:00 pm	Ridgewood Singers Concert	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Living Water Church	Chapel

MONDAY, December 9

Church Office is closed on Mondays.

7:00 pm	Chancel Bells	Sanctuary
7:45 pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary

TUESDAY, December 10

12:00 pm	Woman's Guild Luncheon	Fiona's Restaurant
2:30 pm	Nursery School Committee	NS
7:15 pm	Boad of Deacons	Minnema Room

WEDNESDAY, December 11

7:00 pm	Orpheus Rehearsal	Sanctuary
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THURSDAY, December 12

7:00 pm	Mission, Peace & Social Righteousness Team	Via Zoom
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FRIDAY, December 13

9:15 am	FPNS Concert	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	From the Top Recital	Sanctuary

SATURDAY, December 14

3:00 pm	Orpheus Concert	Sanctuary
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SUNDAY, December 15

10:00 am	Worship	SANCTUARY
10:30 am	Trinity Worship	Chapel
11:00 am	Bake Sale for Camp Lots of Fun	Auditorium
11:00 am	Christmas Mart	Auditorium
5:00 pm	Living Water Church	Chapel/Dining Room

*Thank you to Dwight and Jo-Ann Massey
for providing the wreaths on the front doors of the church!*



Advent Devotional booklets

for Adults, children and families

*are on the tables outside of the Collentine room
and on the table in the Cloister as well!*

**Woman's Guild will meet
Tuesday, December 10
at 12:30 at Fiona's Restaurant
in Midland Park.**



Coffee Hour ~ Help Needed

Following worship on Sunday mornings, most of us enjoy the coffee, pastries and fellowship during Coffee Hour in the Auditorium! In order for Coffee Hour to continue running smoothly, we could use some help. If you are able to come to the church at 9:00 a.m. to cut and plate pastries and/or stay for a few minutes after Coffee Hour to help clean up, your help will be appreciated! Just stop by the sign-up sheet (across from the elevator), pick a Sunday, and sign up. Thank you!





Ridgewood Singers Concert
TODAY at 2:00 pm.
First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood
www.ridgewoodsingers.com



Orpheus Men's Club Chorus ~ Holiday Concert
Saturday, December 14 at 3:00 pm.
First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood
www.ridgewoodorpheusclub.org



Caring Cooks is a vital ministry that was originated almost 20 years ago. We are a group of volunteers who will cook a meal and deliver it to a member of the congregation who may be in need. We are called upon if someone has had surgery, an illness, a hospital stay or a death in the family. Caring Cooks has been a blessing to many in our congregation, and we always welcome new members to join in our work. Please email Nancy Walters at momksj14@msn.com. Also if you are in need of a meal for any reason, please contact Nancy.



Bulletin Board Highlights December 2024

“FAVORITE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS”:
Members share what puts them in the Christmas spirit.

“WE WORSHIP TOGETHER”

What’s happening in worship.

“ACTIVITIES MAKE THE CHURCH GO-ROUND”

Recent events get us together.



St. Paul’s Shelter ~ Monthly Meal ~ First Sunday of Every Month ~

The spirit of giving came alive on December 1st at the homeless shelter, where a delicious array of comfort foods and thoughtful treats warmed both hearts and bellies. Joan arrived with a hearty pan of baked ziti, accompanied by a treasure trove of snacks lovingly repurposed from the mental health luncheon program—a gesture of both care and resourcefulness.

Sue brought the perfect cold-weather remedy: a steaming pot of chili paired with fluffy rice, a duo sure to bring smiles. Barbara followed with a nostalgic classic, hotdogs and beans, evoking memories of simpler, carefree times.

Suzy added her touch of nourishment and sweetness, delivering fresh bread and a colorful assortment of fruit. But it was her second gift that truly stole the show: handcrafted, beautifully decorated cookies, each one a tiny edible work of art that reminded everyone of the season's joy and kindness.

It was a feast not just for the body but for the soul, as each offering represented the love and dedication of a community coming together to share warmth and care.

Want to join this delicious cause? Click the link to sign up and make a difference.

Thank you! Sign up here! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0845ACAE2BA7F49-51100449-stpauls>



Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus
with food & friends in fellowship!
Sunday, December 22nd
Reservations are not required.
Free will donation only!



Christmas Blessings

Do you have friends and family members on your Christmas gift-giving list for whom buying is difficult?

We are often so blessed that there is no 'thing' that we really need.

The Endowment Committee is introducing our 'Christmas Blessings' campaign which provides the perfect gift for the person who has everything.

For a \$25 donation to Endowment, you will receive a 'Christmas Blessing' greeting card which says 'A donation has been made in your name to benefit The Endowment Fund of First Presbyterian Church'.

There's plenty of room for you to add your own greeting as well. Also included is an insert which explains our Green Umbrella program and its relation to the Endowment Fund.

Stop by the Endowment Fund table at Coffee Hour each Sunday in December to purchase your 'Christmas Blessings' cards. You can make your payment using cash, check or tithe-ly.

If you are unable to get to church, you can email Laura Magrath (magrath@optonline.com) to arrange for delivery!

A graphic with the words "JOY", "LOVE", "PEACE", "BELIEVE", and "CHRISTMAS" stacked vertically in a red, serif font. A red star is positioned above the word "JOY".



*Join us at
First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood
for our
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:30 pm.*



Enrollment for the 2025-2026 School Year

Enrolling Now

Come visit our school.

Call for a tour.

201-445-2552

5 days/week for children 2½ - 5 years of age
Highlights of our program include:

- Half Day/Full Day Options
- Music Classes
- Gym & Spanish Classes
- In-house field trips



First Presbyterian Church Nursery School

"Building the foundation for a lifetime love of learning"

722 E. Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood NJ 07450 • 201- 445-2552

Director: Julia A. Bolt

www.FPNSR.com

 First Presbyterian Nursery School



2024 CHRISTMAS FLOWER ORDER FORM

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER _____ POINSETTIA PLANTS TO BE USED IN THE
SANCTUARY DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AND PLACED

IN HONOR or MEMORY OF:

****WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH WILL BE
THE LAST DAY TO ORDER****

Attached is my donation of _____ or
I will send my donation to the church _____
(\$12.00 per plant but more is welcomed)

I will pick up my plant after **JANUARY 1** _____

I would like my plant to be taken to a shut-in family _____

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD.**

*Checks and forms can be placed in the offering plate,
mailed to the Church Office or put in the church mail slot,
or please use [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) and choose Poinsettia.*



 Tithe.ly



 Tithe.ly

A Service of Hope and Healing



**First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood
Wednesday, December 18, 2024
7:00 p.m. in the Chapel**

During the Advent and Christmas season, we are surrounded by sparkling decorations and cheerful music. It seems as if everyone is caught up in the joyful spirit of Christmas. For many people, however, the holiday can be difficult, sad and lonely.

The Service of the Longest Night will be held on the Wednesday evening before the longest night of the year. The "longest night" has become an expression for the spiritual journey of grief, loss and loneliness – a loss of a loved one, friend, relationship or a job. Our time together will be especially appropriate for those who have experienced a significant loss in the past year or years.

In this time of worship, you are invited to a quiet refuge of prayer, music and remembrance. We will acknowledge our losses and ponder the everlasting hope that shines like a light in the darkness. Therefore, we hope that this evening can be a gift to individuals and the community alike, providing a space of calm, quiet, and healing. You are invited to bring someone who may need prayer and encouragement.

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**Following the service,
you are invited to share a meal together at the Ho-Ho-Kus Inn
Ho-Ho-Kus Inn Menu <https://hohokusinn.com/menu/>**

**If interested in Joining us for the meal, please RSVP by Friday, December 13 to
Pastor Bruce: PastorBruce@firstpresridgewood.org
Donna Flagg: flaggbda@gmail.com**



Advent and Christmas Happenings at First Pres Church

Sunday, December 1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd - Advent Candle Lighting During Worship - Join us in the sanctuary or online for this meaningful service, which will include the traditional lighting of the Advent Candle(s).

Sunday, December 1st - Celebration of Light and Tree Lighting 6:00 p.m. - Come and gather with others to celebrate the lighting of our evergreen tree, sing some carols, enjoy refreshments and have fun at the craft table.

Saturday, December 7th - Santa Songsters Caroling at Sunrise Senior Living Facilities - Enjoy caroling with others to bring cheer to residents at Sunrise in Franklin Lakes at 2:00 p.m. and Sunrise in Woodcliff Lake at 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 8th - Church School Celebrates Savior's Birth - Come celebrate our Savior's birth during Sunday School and coffee hour as we talk about the birth of Jesus, decorate cookies, enjoy crafts, games and cake.

Sunday, December 8th & 15th - Church School Students Christmas Mart - Children and youth are invited to shop at no cost for their families and friends at the Christmas Mart located in the Sacristy,

Sunday, December 15th - Annual Christmas Bake Sale to Support Camp Lots of Fun - Join us following worship to purchase and enjoy delicious baked products. Proceeds will fund scholarships for homeless children to attend Camp Lots of Fun during the summer. Bakers and buyers needed!

Wednesday, December 18th - Longest Night Service in the Chapel 7:00 p.m. - Come to this special service that can provide a glimmer of light and hope for those who are feeling sad and/or have experienced losses in their lives. During this time of worship and contemplation, you are invited to a quiet refuge of prayer, music and remembrance. As you step into this space of calm, quieting and healing, we will acknowledge our losses and ponder the everlasting hope that shines as light in the darkness.

Sunday, December 22nd - Annual Christmas Pageant 10:00 a.m. - Don't miss this annual tradition as our talented children lead us in worship. It is one of the very special services of the church year highlighting the musical and performing talents of the children. **Christmas Brunch** - Come and enjoy fellowship time over brunch after worship.

Tuesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30 p.m. - Come and have your spirit nourished during this traditional service of Lessons and Carols ~ a service rich with familiar readings and beautiful music!

Sunday, December 29th - Carol Sing During Worship Service - Come for worship and a Christmas Carol Sing! Enjoy with others as we sing our favorite Christmas Carols, a perfect way to continue to celebrate Christmas with a festive spirit!