

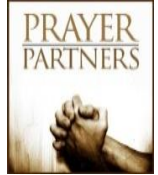


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of RIDGEWOOD

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, March 23, 2025

BASKETS OF HOPE

**WE ALSO
NEED
VOLUNTEERS
TO HELP
RUN
THIS EVENT!
NO SKILLS
NEEDED!**



SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GYM

FREE THROW CONTEST

CHURCH SCHOOL FAMILIES • BOYS & GIRLS • AGES PRE-SCHOOL TO ADULT

PRIZES

TOP PLAYER IN EACH AGE DIVISION – MOST BASKETS MADE
OVERALL TOP PLAYER

- ✓ WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM JERSEY TO CHURCH SERVICE
- ✓ BRING AN EASTER BASKET ITEM TO DONATE TO A FAMILY IN NEED
- ✓ RSVP BY MARCH 23 TO MARYELLEN CASTALDO

marecmt@aol.com or 862-686-8956.

2025 Winner BEST Preschool

First Presbyterian Nursery School is honored to be the 2025 WINNER for Best Preschool in Bergen County.





CHANCEL FLOWERS: DONATION & DELIVERY

The Flower Chart is located to the left of the bulletin board in the hall. Please choose an open Sunday to give the Chancel Flowers.

Available dates are:

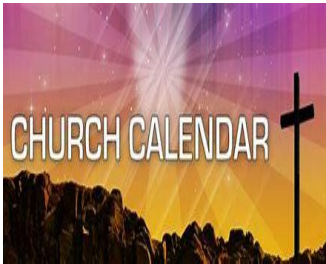
May 11 ~ May 18 ~ June 8 ~ June 29 ~ July 6 ~ July 13 ~ July 20

The price is \$60 or you may share the cost with another family. You can pay via cash, check or Tithely. Dana Feeny will include your dedication (s) of the Chancel Flowers in the Sunday Bulletin. You may celebrate anything you wish, and memorial dedications are welcome as well. Flowers are delivered to members and friends by the Deacons as part of their Flower Ministry.

Can you spare some time after Sunday worship? Do you enjoy making someone feel special? Then we would welcome your help in providing delivery of the Chancel Flowers on a Sunday. As you may be aware, each week Chancel Flowers are delivered by the Deacons to a member of the congregation who is hospitalized, in rehab or assisted living, experiencing a recent loss, birth, etc. If you feel that you could help the Deacons out with a delivery, please contact Rita Infante at infanterr0114@gmail.com or 201-739-5994.



FIRST PRES EVENTS



Sunday, March 23 – Sunday, March 30

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

SUNDAY, March 23

10:00 am	Worship	SANCTUARY
10:30 am	Trinity Worship	Chapel
11:30 am	Understanding Dementia	Minnema Room
5:00 pm	Living Water Church	Chapel

THURSDAY, March 27

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

FRIDAY, March 28

9:30 am	Men's Breakfast	Tom Sawyer Diner
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SATURDAY, March 29

SUNDAY, March 30

8:30 am	Get Acquainted Breakfast Gathering	Minnema Room
10:00 am	Worship	SANCTUARY
10:30 am	Trinity Worship	Chapel
11:30 am	Baskets of Hope	Gym
5:00 pm	Living Water Church	Chapel

MONDAY, March 24

Church Office is closed.

TUESDAY, March 25

11:00 am	Staff Meeting	Sacristy
7:00 pm	MPSR Meeting	Via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, March 26

6:00 pm	Lenten Supper	Auditorium
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Palm Sunday, April 13



Easter Sunday, April 20



Dear Friends,

One of the highlights of the church year, for me, is our Lenten Supper Series. We gather for a simple meal, followed by a brief worship service. And during worship, we are privileged to listen as members and friends of our faith community share some portion of their faith journey with us. I am always inspired as I listen to their stories, and I am always surprised as I learn something new about someone I thought I knew well. I hope to see you at the suppers! Details below.

Grace and peace,

Bruce

2025 Lenten Supper Series: Journeys of Faith



During Lent, please join us at 6:00 p.m. each Wednesday for supper and afterward for worship. During worship, members and friends will share a portion of their faith journey. The evening will conclude at 7:00.

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Meal Preparation</i></u>	<u><i>Speaker</i></u>
3/26	Trinity Presbyterian Church	Lindsay Wall
4/02	First Pres Deacons	Rita Infante
4/09	First Pres Session	Carol Eliya

Dinner & worship will take place in the Auditorium. A free-will offering will cover the cost of the meal. MaryEllen Castaldo will offer an activity for children during worship.

*Come and receive food for body and soul.
One more thing: Invite a friend to join us!*

We are asking for candy donations for our Easter egg Hunt. Small foiled chocolate eggs, jolly ranchers, any small candies that are individually wrapped that will fit in a small plastic egg. NO NUTS PLEASE! There is a designated box in the hall outside the Collentine Room.





GET ACQUAINTED BREAKFAST GATHERINGS

Sundays March 30 and April 6 & 13 @ 8:30 a.m.

in the Minnema Room Are you a regular on Sunday mornings at First Pres? Are you interested in becoming a member of the congregation? Or would you like to learn more about the church as you consider becoming a member? If so, you are invited to attend a series of three Get Acquainted Breakfast Gatherings on Sundays, March 30 and April 6 & 13, in the Minnema Room (lower level). Sponsored by the Growth Committee, the breakfast gatherings provide a convenient way to get acquainted with

the church, some of its members and staff, as well as various First Pres ministry and mission opportunities. Please contact Pastor Bruce at 215.337.5623 or email pastorbruce@firstpresridgewood.org if you have any questions or if you plan to attend.

Bulletin Board Highlights ~ March 2025

The Inquiring Reporter:

Members reveal what they might like to see more of at First Pres.

What Happens In Worship:

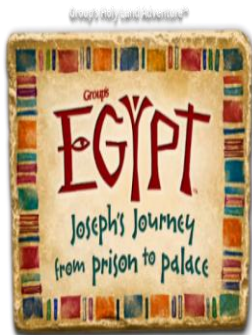
A photo glance at Presbyterian Worship.

Luck Has Nothing To Do With It:

Hard work and showing up make luck happen.



SAVE THE DATE!



Vacation Bible School will be held August 4th through 7th Monday thru Thursday, from 9:00am to 11:30am. We need volunteers to run snacks, crafts, activities and shepherds who bring children from one activity to another (no teaching involved). We ask that you prayerfully consider helping this year! If interested and available please contact MaryEllen for more information! marecmt@aol.com or text at 862-686-8956.



First Pres Church's 2025 Lenten Mission Campaign to Help City Relief in Paterson

City Relief is an organization that has pop-up care centers where staff and volunteers provide their outreach guests on the streets of Paterson with the essentials to survive a day - serve hot meals, distribute hygiene kits, socks, and pray for the needs of the people.

How You Can Help!

Donate travel size items for hygiene kits:

- toothpaste & toothbrush
- dental floss
- shaving cream & razors
- shampoo & conditioner
- body wash
- deodorant
- hand sanitizer
- soap

Donation Drive starting Ash Wednesday, March 5.

On Palm Sunday, April 13th during coffee hour,
people of all ages -children, youth, Woman's Guild,...
will come together to package the hygiene kits.

Questions: contact Donna Flagg



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



Nothing brings people together like a home-cooked meal, and in March, several generous families and individuals stepped up to make sure those in need had a warm, delicious dinner.

The **Wall family** went all in with homemade **lasagna**—and not only that, they also **delivered the feast, hot and ready to serve!** The **Torielli family** kept things fresh with a crisp, **green salad** to round out the meal.

Adding to the feast, **Sue Sofka** contributed a savory **hamburger casserole**, while **Carrie Werner** delighted taste buds with her flavorful **tortellini with peas and ham**. And no meal is complete without fresh-baked goodness—**Rebecca Burger** delivered **fresh bread and fruit**, bringing the perfect finishing touch.

A huge thank you to all who contributed! Your kindness and generosity are making a real difference, one meal at a time.

If you'd like to get involved please see the link to signup:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0845ACAE2BA7F49-51100449-stpauls>

Thank you for your continued generosity.



A Mission Fundraiser ~ for One Great Hour of Sharing!

Fish (or Chicken) and Chips Dinner ~ provided by ~ Tastefully British

Date: Tuesday, April 1st (rain or shine)

Time: 5 PM to 7 PM

Where: Food truck will be in the front church lot
(unless you require handicap parking please
park in the back parking lot
or on Circle Avenue)

Cost: \$20.00 for Fish or Chicken, French Fries and Coleslaw



****ALL fish or chicken orders must be received by Sunday, March 26th****

To order email joandavies916@gmail.com or fpoffice@firstpresridgewood.org

or call the church office at 201-652-2504.

You can pre-pay by check, Tithe.ly (Fish and Chips) or pay at pick up.

Please note: Once you place an order we are obliged to pay for your dinner! All meals are cooked to order once you arrive & it takes only 5 minutes.

You can dine in the Auditorium or take the food home!

If you are picking up more than one meal to go, please bring a bag.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From the initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. **The need is great and so is our calling, please support this cause!**



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT



Tithe.ly



2025 EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER AN EASTER FLOWER?

***PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION***

office@firstpresridgewood.org

OR

201-652-2504

Name _____

I would like to order _____ flowers to be used in the Sanctuary Easter Sunday.

In Memory
of _____

In Honor
of _____

I will send my donation to the church _____ (\$12.00 per plant).

I will pick up my plant after the 11:00 am Easter Service of Worship. _____

or I would like my plant(s) to be taken to a homebound member. _____

Last day to order is SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH – Palm Sunday

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

**First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood
and indicate Easter Flower in the Memo section.
You can also use Tithe.ly. Please select Easter Flowers.**

