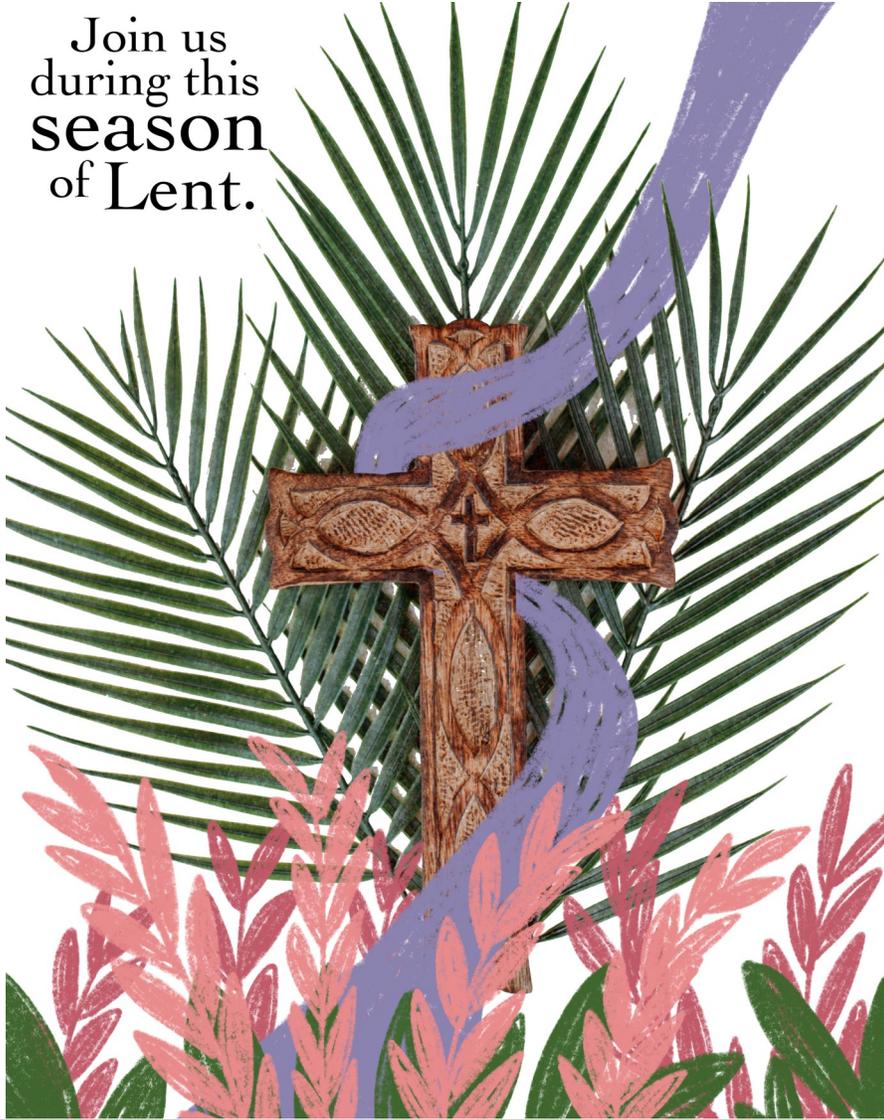




First Presbyterian Church

meets at
292 West Main Street · Newark, DE 19711
302-731-5644 · firstpresnewark.org

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.



This Week's Worship— March 1, 2026

Ushers: Vickie Pierson-Perry, Phyllis Biddle, Sarah Huckleberry, Paul Biddle
Liturgist: Jim Pierson-Perry
Closer: Paul Biddle

FEBRUARY 27, 2026



Worship Grow Serve

You Tube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMqrt0yHvgOjUPphSOFgxxA>

Website

www.firstpresnewark.org

Church Calendar

[click here](#)

Online giving through PayPal



Next Week's Worship— March 8, 2026

Ushers: Wade Catts, Bob Wunder, Mimi Lovelace, Pam Wunder
Liturgist: Kim Raff
Closer: Wade Catts
Counters: Matt Reyne, Clinton Nanji

Office Hours

Tuesday–Friday

9:00 am—12:00 pm

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DONATED BY

THE GLORY OF GOD



ALTAR flowers

Flowers can be dedicated **in honor** or **memory** of family member, friend or loved one. You may keep or donate them. You can sign up on the form located in the Narthex.

Checks *clearly identified for chancel flowers* may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office.

Chancel Flowers \$31.00

Help Needed on the Buildings and Grounds Committee

Session recently created a Buildings and Grounds Committee with responsibility to oversee the care and repair of our buildings and grounds at First Pres, as well as conduct long-range planning for upcoming needs or opportunities. This committee reports to Session and is chaired by Don Tancredi. It will fill a gap previously covered by the Trustees.

We now need church members to join the committee and volunteer their time and talents. While folks with practical knowledge of





The Clerk's Corner

A periodic update from your Session . . .

Session has gotten off to a busy start in 2026. The January meeting included approval of the 2026 budget as well as approval to hire a broker to find rental clients for our newly renovated Westminster House. We expect to start showing Westminster House to prospective renters very soon.

Also in January, Session approved moving forward with a project proposal from Girl Scout Troop 15 to convert the old playground area into a community garden. This would serve as their Silver Award project and be a huge benefit to the church and our local community. The plan includes donating some of the produce from the garden to our Food For Success ministry. More details will be coming later—including the opportunity for church members to volunteer to help with the construction and operation of the garden.

In response to reports of leaks in the narthex area, Session approved a minor project to replace the narthex roof (small roof as you enter the sanctuary building). This should be done in May.

Pastor Dan has been meeting with some students from the University of Delaware, as well as the new campus minister for the PEACE Center at UD, Rev. Dr. Rachel Herbert. The PEACE Center (Presbyterian Episcopal Alliance for Campus Engagement) is an ecumenical initiative to foster greater outreach into the campus environment. We plan to have Rev. Herbert visit First Pres in the near future to describe her ministry and share in our worship.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about these or other Session activities.

Jim Pierson-Perry

Clerk of Session

Cell: (302) 545-7566

Email: statedclerk@firstpresnewark.org

Thank You Newark Morning Rotary Club!



The Newark Morning Rotary Club held a “Stuff the Truck” food collection for the benefit of our Food for Success food pantry. Their goal was 50 grocery bags - and they may have exceeded their goal. On February 12th they delivered to us the following items. We are truly blessed and thankful.

NEWARK MORNING ROTARY CLUB DONATION

GROCERY		HOUSEHOLD	
Count	Item	Count	Item
25	Boxes of Cereal	173	Rolls of Toilet Paper
48	Individual servings Cereal	8	Detergent - 411 Pods
7 boxes	Oatmeal - 82 packs	6	Scotchbrite sponges
6	Single serve pancake mix	1	Ziploc storage bags
23 boxes	Granola Bars - 437 bars	PERSONAL SUPPLIES	
8	Tea - 782 bags	Count	Item
1	Hot Chocolate - 30 count	86	Toothbrushes
7	Keurig - 320 pods	225	Floss Picks
3	Ground coffee	86	Travel Bar Soaps
8	Snacks/Pretzels/Crackers - 132 servings	50	Combs
5	Peanut butter/fruit butter	50	Chapsticks
28	Vegetables/meat	18	Deoderant
22	Tuna	28	Tooth Paste
26	Spaghetti/Chili Sauce	Misc. travel size personal items	
61	Soup		
9	Pasta		
2	Apple sauce		
8	Jiffy Corn Mix		
1	Crisco shortening		

Dinanga Update

We received the following information from Pastor Tshibua as an update to what was provided for our 2025 annual report.

Development Plans for 2026

After surveying and analyzing the problems faced by church members, most of them opted for income-generating activities to meet their daily needs. These are primarily women, young people, and some men.

These are mini-projects such as:

- Raising chickens for meat production to be sold in 3 or 4 months, and then starting another cycle.
- Raising laying hens for egg sales.
- Making artisanal soaps from palm oil or palm kernel oil.
- Production of bacteriol or detergent. A youth initiative. Products to be sold at the church, to church members, to schools, and to anyone interested in the neighborhood.

How will this be done?

- Two-day training on the activities to be undertaken.
- Training on group dynamics: how to work synergistically.
- Work in small groups (selected activities will be done in groups of 6 to 10 people).

Missions and Education

- Assistance to the most vulnerable prisoners (Easter in prison)
- Assistance to widows - Assistance to orphans
- Support for schools
- and annual support for students (primary school, secondary school, and university)

Dinanga School Report: 2025-2026

Secondary School

- Total Student Enrollment: 165
- Boys: 72
- Girls: 93

Graduating Students in 2025:

- 20 students in 6th grade preparing for state exams
- 36 students in the orientation cycle
- Achievements Last Year 2024-2025
- 20 diplomas
- and 36 certificates

Staff Number 2025-2026

16 teachers

School Fees

vary between \$6 and \$10 per month per student, not including those who pay half fees.

Primary School

Total Student Enrollment: 160

Boys: 72

Girls: 88

Graduating Students for this school year 2025-2026:

25 students in 6th grade taking the National Primary School End Test

Achievements Last Year 2024-2025:

25 certificates

Staffing 2025-2026:

- 8 teachers including the school principal.

School Fees:

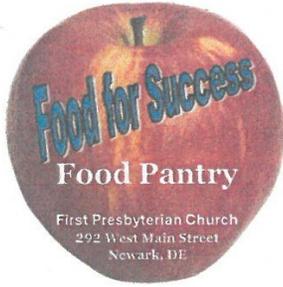
- Varying from \$5 per month per student.

- Cases of insolvency are numerous.

The school's enrollment is declining due to the free education policy implemented by the Congolese government 7 years ago.

This photo is from Pastor Tshibuabua's visit in 2007





Monday and Friday
2nd and 4th full week
of each month
4:00pm to 6:00pm
Memorial Hall
(behind the church)

For weather related closings go to www.firstpresnewark.org

Food for Success Open Dates for 2026

Dates circled in Green are holidays—Food for Success pantry is closed

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31											

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						2	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				26	27	28	29	30			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
31																				30	31						

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			

foodforsuccess@firstpresnewark.org

An Equal Opportunity Provider

A choice pantry in partnership with the Food Bank of Delaware



March 7th
Session

Deacons

How They
Serve and
Strengthen
the Church

The Board of Deacons is concerned with the special needs of our congregation, with welcoming visitors and providing fellowship opportunities for the congregation. **Please let the Deacons know if there is a need for a home or hospital visit, a meal delivery or ride to an appointment.** Since care of our congregation should not be limited to the Deacons, we hope you will consider putting your name on a list showing your willingness to visit someone in need, provide a meal or offer a ride. **You can contact Ann Roybal, the Care Coordinator, or sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. We all know from experience that both the doer and the receiver will be blessed. Ann Roybal may be reached at 302-368-8539 or at ann.roybal@gmail.com.**

LENTEN MUSICAL MEDITATIONS
THURSDAYS @ 1 PM IN THE SANCUTARY
STARTING 2/19

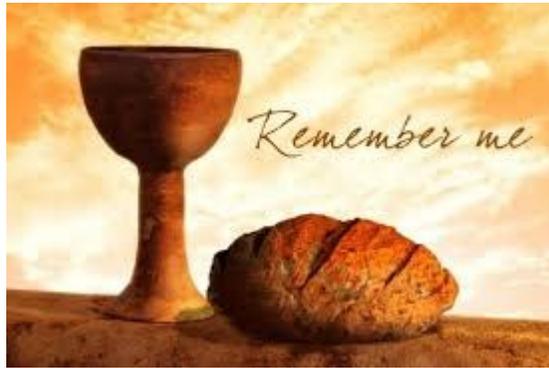
A time for reflection and meditation, the Lenten season is upon us. As we seek solace and contemplation in solitude and quiet, so can we in music and gathering. This year, First Presbyterian is offering a weekly series of Lenten Musical Meditations, hosted by the Director of Music, Christian Hendricks hosted by the Director of Music, Christian Hendricks, with Pastor Dan McKenty leading in opening and closing prayers.

On Thursdays at 1 pm during Lent, folks are invited to come to the Sanctuary for music of contemplation and solace, thought and feeling. Participants are invited to engage as they need; music will include some hymns and chants, so you may sing either with your voice, or silently in your hearts. Each gathering will last about half an hour or so.

The praise team is seeking a drummer to join us on Sunday mornings. We gather at 8:45 AM for rehearsal. The church has a digital drum set that we use during services and for our weekly YouTube videos.

If you're interested in sharing your talents, please contact Larry Benson at praiseleader@firstpresnewark.org.

Peace,
Larry



The congregations of First Presbyterian Newark and St. John's A.M. Church will be worshipping together at a Maundy Thursday agape feast and Tenebrae service Thursday, April 2nd, 2026, in Memorial Hall West from 5-7 p.m. It will be an evening of prayer, sacrament, scripture, and song. A wonderful agape dinner is planned, and we are so blessed to be able to share this evening with the congregation of St. John's A.M. church who will be our guests for the evening. The church will supply the fried chicken and meatballs and the good folks from St. John will be bringing the drinks and desserts. You all will be supplying the sides and salads. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. Last year's dinner and service were very well received, and we look forward to a time of fellowship with St. John's as we journey together with our Lord to his passion and glorious resurrection.



First Presbyterian Church will be holding its Good Friday service April 3rd, 2026, at 7p.m. in the sanctuary. Come hear the testimony of witnesses to our Lord's passion and crucifixion, sit in silent meditation, and join in singing hymns from the Taizé community of Brothers in France. This deeply spiritual and moving service is dedicated to our Lord's sacrifice and prepares our hearts and minds for the joy and the glory of Easter morning.



We are looking forward to welcoming 26 EFL (English as a Foreign Language) teachers from 22 different countries on a Department of State-sponsored Exchange program in March! **One goal of their program is to experience different US cultures and lifestyles through one of the most universal forms of hospitality - hosting a meal in a home!**

We are looking for families who would be willing to host 1 or more participants for a meal in their home.

When: Friday, March 13th (exact timing TBA, but pick up around 6pm)

Where: Your home! (pick up & drop off at the [Hyatt on Main Street](#)) Participants will be staying at the Hyatt on Main Street.

If you are interested in hosting, or have any questions, please respond to Rebecca Johnson (becalee@udel.edu). Please share this request with others who may be able to help out, and thank you!

Thank you for your support, which makes vital programs like this possible for ELI.

Nigel

PS - In case you have any special connections or requests, here's the complete list of countries represented: Albania, Algeria, Belarus, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Russia, Taiwan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Senegal, Central African Republic

Wakako (Pennington) Yamasaki

Instructor/Academic Development Specialist

English Language Institute

189 West Main St., Rm 301 Newark, DE 19716

University of Delaware

+1-302-831-2674

+1-302-831-1174 (Direct)

www.udel.edu/eli

wakapen@udel.edu



Help proclaim God's Word by volunteering to be a Sunday worship liturgist! Any and all are invited to help lead our worship service! No prior training or experience is required, and Pastor Dan will answer any questions you may have. Helping to lead worship is a wonderfully fulfilling experience and a great way to deepen your relationship with the congregation and our Lord. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex, and you can also call or text Pastor Dan.

Presbyterian Women invite all Women of FPCN to join us for an afternoon of Painting & Fellowship



Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Where: Painting with a Twist
400 Suburban Drive
Newark, DE 19711

What: 16x20 Canvas of Painting shown

Cost: \$40.00 (which is \$5 off)

Must Pre-register by Feb. 12th

How: Contact Laura Sievert

302-545-6736

lauralsievert@gmail.com



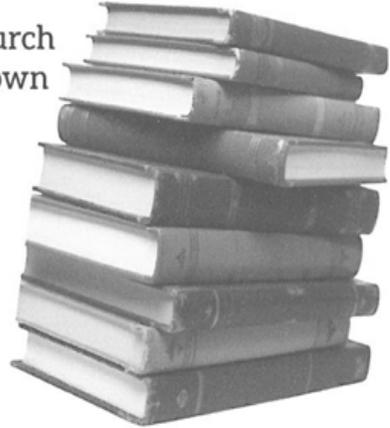


Presbyterian Women

Supporting a United for the Nations project by collecting gently used books in support of education in a sensitive region of North Africa.

UFTN builds long-term trusting partnerships with local church leaders as they accomplish projects to commission in their own contexts. They are helping to :

- Start a Christian College
- Continue bible translation in 30 languages
- Distribute radios and audio bibles
- Catalyze a radio station in a difficult location
- Strategize to fulfill the Great Commission



For more information about United for the Nations go to:
www.unitedforthenations.org

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and Memorial Hall

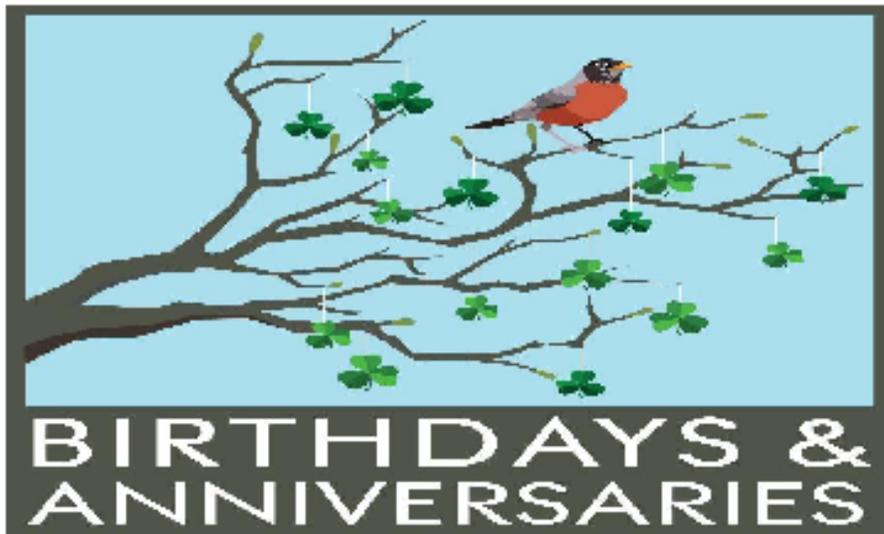
Thank you for supporting PW in this mission.

Contact:
 Sandy Wenner
 302-753-5347

Specific Book Categories for Christian College Books

Bible Atlas	Historical Theology
Books of Law	History of the Church
Christian Apologetics	Homiletics
Christian Counseling	Methods of the Bible Teaching
Christian Discipleship	Missions
Christian Education	OT/NT Commentaries
Christian Ethics	OT/NT Dictionaries
Christian Leadership	OT/NT Introduction
Christian Marriage and Family	OT/NT Survey
Christian Music and Worship	OT/NT Theology
Christian Philosophy	Pastoral Counseling
Church Administration	Pastoral Letters
Church Planting and Missions	Personal Ministry Preparation
Conflict Management and Resolution	Preaching
Cross Culture	Spiritual Formation
Encyclopedia (historical and theological)	Synoptic Gospel
Evangelism and Church Growth	Systematic Theology
Guides to the Bible	Theology of Doctrines
Hermeneutics	Wisdom Literature

MARCH



Gwen Angalet	March 06
Marilyn Kincaid	March 06
Conner Dube	March 08
Nora Malgiero	March 08
Tyler Dube	March 09
Ted Koser	March 11
LeeAnn Powell	March 11
Mark Sisk	March 11
Jane Nickle	March 14
Jynx Stevenson	March 14
Jim Annett	March 18
Laura Tuttle	March 18
Charlean Ruiter	March 23
Joe Huggins	March 24
Bob Wunder	March 25
Marian Leibfried	March 26

ANNIVERSARIES

Judy and Barry Baker March 7th

Joseph and Mallory Kowalski March 9th

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Sacrament of Communion 10-11am Worship(Sanct) 11:30-12:30pm Adult Spiritual Development 11:30-12pm Congregational Special Mtg -</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6 7pm Girl Scout #15 (YR)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10-11:30am PW CT Parlor 6:30pm-8:30-BSA Cub Pk Meeting (YR)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9-10am Prayer Group- Zoom 12pm-1pm Band of Brothers (Library) 7pm-8:30pm BSA Troop 56 Mtg (YR)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9am-12pm Library Reserv 7pm-8pm Choir Practice-Choir room</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9-11am Finance/ Bill Pay - Zoom 6:30pm - 8:30pm Cub Pack 56 :PINEWOOD DERBY WKSP</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10-11:am Worship(Sanct) 11:30am-12:30pm Adult Spiritual Dev.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12- 1:00pm Hope Dining Rm 4-6pm Food For Success 6pm-7pm Girl Scout #15- (YR)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30pm- 8:30pm BSA Cub Pack - Den Mtg(YR) 7-9pm Deacon's - Libr - Zoom 7-9:30pm Finance Mtg. - Zoom</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9-10am Prayer Group- Zoom 12pm - 1pm Band- Brothers- Library 7-8:30pm BSA #56 Mtg (YR)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9-12pm Li- brary 3-4pm HR Team Library 7-8:00pm Choir Practice-Choir room</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am - 11:00am Finance/Bill Pay - Zoom 4:00pm - 6:00pm Food For Success</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30-1:00pm BSA Cub Pack #56 Pinewood Derby Race</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10-11:00am Worship(Sanct) 11:30-12:30pm Adult Spiritual Dev 1-3:00pm Girl Scout#157 Mtg 1- %:00pm Newark Community Band (Sanct) -</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6: 7pm Girl Scout Troop 15- (YR)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10-12pm Rachel Cir C MH Gliwa & Ruth Cir- Parlor- Hybrd 1-3pm Eliz Cir - Parlor 6:30-8:30pm BSA Cub Den Mtg (YR) 7-8:30pm Lydia Cir Zoom/ Parlor</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9am-10am Prayer Group- Zoom 12 - 1:00pm Band- Brothers- Library 7-8:30pm BSA #56 Meeting (YR)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9-12pm Library Re- served 7-8pm Choir Practice-Choir room</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9-11am Finance/ Bill Pay - Zoom</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:00am - 2:00pm Cub Pack Lock IN 3-9pm NAWROZ Cel - JFS (MHW & Kitchen) 7-8pm Chesapeake Band Spring Concert Sanctuary</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10-11:00am Worship(Sanct) 11:30-12:30pm Adult Spiritual Development</p>	<p>4 - 6:00pm Food For Success 6-7:00pm Girl Scout Troop 15- (YR)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7-4pm PW Painting With Twist (400Suburban Dr, Newark) 6:30-8:30pm BSA Cub Pack Mtg (YR)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9-10am Prayer Group- Zoom 12-1:00pm Band- Brothers(Libr) 2-4pm UD/FDC/ Community Engagmt - Parlors 7pm-8:30pm BSA #56 Mtg (YR)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9-12pm Library Re- served 7-8pm Choir Practice-Choir room</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9-11am Finance/ Bill Pay - Zoom 4-6:00pm Food For Success</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1 -5:00pm Shirley Hills Birthday Party - West & Kitchen</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10-11am Worship (Sanct) 11:30- 12:30pm Adult Spiritual Dev</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6-7:00pm Girl Scout # 15- (YR)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30-8:30pm BSA Cub# 56 - Pack Mtg M</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9-10am Prayer Group- Zoom 12-1pm Band of Brothers- Library 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop 56 Meeting (YR)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9-12:00pm Library(Resrvd) 5-7pm Maudy Thurs. Agape Feast 8pm Choir Prac- tice Choir room</p>	<p>3</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY (Holiday - Office clsd 9-11:00am Finance/Bill Pay - Zoom</p>	<p>4</p>

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Email: MFolks@firstpresnewark.org

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Email: officeadmin@firstpresnewark.org

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Harvey Conner

Email: financesec@firstpres.org

Treasurer Allen Sievert

Email: treasurer@firstpresnewark.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Christian Hendricks

Email: musicdirector@firstpresnewark.org

PRAISE TEAM LEADER: Larry Benson

Email: praiseleader@firstpresnewark.org

VIDEO/MEDIA TEAM: Andre Corbitt, Kaitlin Douglas, Dave Evers, Kerry Slinkard and Jim Pierson-Perry

WEBSITE: www.firstpresnewark.org

PHONE: 302-731-5644

EMAIL: fpchurch@firstpresnewark.org

PRAYER EMAIL: prayers@firstpresnewark.org

ONLINE GIVING:: <https://fpcplayground.org/giving/> (Copy link to your web browser)

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK: First Presbyterian Church of Newark

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

If you are thinking of joining
our church, we would love to
have you!
Please contact Pastor Dan at
302-731-5644 or 484-557-9983

