



## Ministry Updates September 17, 2023

**First Crew 20th Anniversary Celebration** – Today we are recognizing a large number of dedicated volunteers of First Crew for 20 years of service to others. Over the years, First Crew has worked with mission partners to serve the elderly, victims of national disasters, those in need of support for housing or food and many projects at First Pres. We'd love to have you get involved. For more information about First Crew, please contact Jim Serum (610-793-1920 or [jwserum@gmail.com](mailto:jwserum@gmail.com)).

**Mission Fair** - In between services, please stop by Fellowship Hall to find out more about the mission partners of First Pres. Seventeen of our local mission partners will be there to share information about volunteer opportunities and other ways we can support them. We're also celebrating the 20th Anniversary of First Crew with cake and coffee!

**Cards for Joe** – Church member Joe Fabiani (28y/o) has been hospitalized for several months with respiratory issues and is now regaining strength in a rehab center. He would love cards from his church family. Cards may be sent directly to Joe at: Room 105, Montgomery Subacute and Respiratory Center, 251 Stenton Ave, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

**Wednesday Lunch Program** - In 2022, First Pres began serving a no-cost warm meal to our unhoused neighbors. The hope was to build authentic connections in an atmosphere of warmth and respect. Over the summer we paused the lunches to create policies and procedures and to establish regular teams of volunteers. If you're interested in serving one day a month, please go to the Sign-up section of the church website or email Pastor Caroline at [ccupp@firstpreswc.com](mailto:ccupp@firstpreswc.com).

The specific volunteer needs are listed in the sign-up as well. An additional need is to simply come and eat, ready to support those who need a listening ear. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend or co-worker who is not already part of First Pres but wants to make a meaningful impact in the community.

**Church Library Survey** - Do you use the church library? What do you enjoy finding there? What resources do you use to learn and grow in faith, and do we have them in our library? We would greatly appreciate your input on a survey to help us redefine what the purpose of First Pres's library should be moving forward, making sure it best meets the needs of our current congregation. The survey can be completed online (through the Sign-up tab of the church's website) or paper copies can be found in Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact either Paul Reussille, First Pres Librarian ([prreuss615@aol.com](mailto:prreuss615@aol.com)) or Sara Pantazes, Director of Faith Formation ([spantazes@firstpreswc.com](mailto:spantazes@firstpreswc.com)).

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**Greeters 9:00:** Howard Lebold, Rick Mars, Doug Sherman, Art Zadrozny  
**10:45:** Scott and Becky Gamble

**Coffee Deacons:** Jean Frick, Linda Haake

**Livestream 9:00:** Nolan Prochnau; **10:45** – Ann Dickey, Nolan Prochnau

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GIVE to FPC

**Christian Faith & Issues Returns** - The Christian Faith & Issues class resumes next Sunday with a focus on education. This fall's discussion will focus on major decisions that were made regarding education in Pennsylvania this year. We will consider the state Supreme Court's decision and its implications using *Schooled*, a podcast that gives the insider's story of America's public schools, through the eyes of the students, parents, and educators. CF&I meets for 45 minutes next Sunday, September 24, and again on October 8 at 10:30 am in the Conference Room. To receive emails about this and other topics, contact Dan Campbell at [campbelldt@verizon.net](mailto:campbelldt@verizon.net).

**Young Justice Builder's Club** - The Young Justice Builder's Club returns this fall with a new mission – to learn about creation care! The first lesson will take place on Sunday, October 1 and focus on air. We'll explore where breath shows up in the Bible, learn some basics about air pollution, and think about what we can do in our lives to appreciate and care for the air around us. This program is offered to elementary aged kids and their grown-ups on Sunday afternoons from 11:45 – 12:45 pm. Please let Sara Pantazes know if you plan to attend.

**Women's Potluck Dinner:** All women are invited this Wednesday, September 20 from 6 - 7:30 pm to a dinner and small service project. We'll be collecting items for the care bags, specifically: deodorant, women's hygiene items, toothbrushes, travel-sized toothpaste, and travel-sized pain reliever; there will be a table set up in Fellowship Hall to collect items. Sign up to attend using the sign-up tab on the church website or reach out to Elizabeth Hess ([ehess@firstpreswc.com](mailto:ehess@firstpreswc.com)). ***Please drop off your care bag items no later than Monday, Sept. 18.***

**Women's Fall Bible Study:** All women are invited to join us for a Bible study; we'll meet from 9:30 - 11 am from Sept. 27 – November 8 in the Chapel. This 7-session study, called "When You Pray," will showcase six Bible teachers who will help us study prayers in the Bible that can inspire our own. Use the Sign-up tab on the church website or reach out to Elizabeth Hess ([ehess@firstpreswc.com](mailto:ehess@firstpreswc.com)). You don't need to be a Bible study "pro" to attend this group – we learn together and connect with each other through laughter and conversation, too!

**Stitch Group:** If you enjoy knitting, crocheting or any needle art, come join the First Pres knitting group! We will meet in the Lounge after the 9:00 service on the second and last Sundays of the month, beginning today.

**Women's Tennis Group:** If you enjoy playing tennis, you're invited to join a women's First Pres Tennis Group. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 4:30 – 6:00 pm at Brandywine Racquet Club, starting Sept. 19 through April 23, 2024. Join a great group of women looking for exercise and fun! We have half and full contracts available. Please call Nancy Haughton (484-883-0297) for more information.

**Column Classics Returns** – The Chester County Choral Society Chamber Ensemble will offer their program "The Music of Life" on Sunday, October 15 at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The concert will feature our own Sándor Kádár on the organ. A free will offering will be taken.

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## First Presbyterian Church of West Chester

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