



What's Happening at First Pres Week of January 29, 2023

Welcome! Whether you are here for the first time, the fifteenth, or the fifteen hundredth, we hope you find a warm welcome and a sense of God's presence as we seek to live out the divine commandment: **Above all, love.** (see 1 Peter 4:8-11) Visitors and members are encouraged to sign the attendance register; visitors may also complete a visitor's card found in the pew rack.

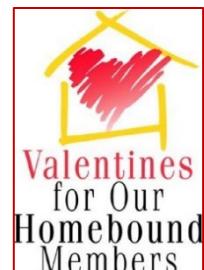
In Memoriam – Ella Kester, member of First Presbyterian Church from September 28, 1955 to January 20, 2023. Our sympathy and prayers are with the family of Ella Kester.

Our prayers and sympathy are with Amanda Blevins and family in the death of her father.

Welcoming Dr. Natalia Marandiuc to the Pulpit: Dr. Marandiuc received her Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Yale University and has authored several acclaimed theological books. She is currently on the faculty at United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia, as well as co-chair of the Christian Systematic Theology Unit within the American Academy of Religion. Dr. Marandiuc's religious roots lay in the Anabaptist church of her native Romania, and she is a lay leader in the Episcopal Church (USA).

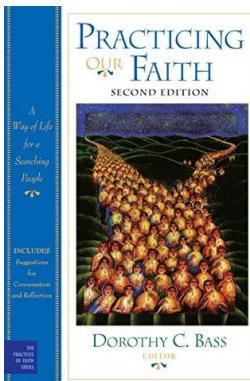
Coming soon: The Rev. Tara Woodard-Lehman will be joining First Presbyterian this week as part time Bridge Pastor until a permanent Head of Staff arrives. Tara will be responsible for preaching, liturgy, and worship preparation three weeks of the month. She will also run the Wednesday Bridge study, and will attend worship and staff meetings remotely. (Rev. Cupp will continue to lead the staff and moderate the Session.) Tara is eager to meet our church members and develop relationships in the congregation. She will be spending three days a week in West Chester; her husband and teenage sons will remain at their home in Pittsburgh.

Valentine's Cards: We hope to send some love to our homebound members. In Fellowship Hall you'll find Valentine's cards on the tables; please take a moment to sign your name and/or a short note to some of our First Pres friends. The cards will be out today and next Sunday. "...God is love." 1 John 4:8b



Legacy Giving: Generous living is about approaching each day with an open heart, an open mind, and an open hand. What can you do today to live more generously? What generous living choices can you make today that will make a difference in the future? Support First Pres's Legacy Fund; find more information at the newly revised website page www.firstpreswc.com/legacy-giving.

New Members Class: If you're interested in joining First Pres or learning more about membership, please join us for the next New Members class **tonight**, January 29. We'll meet at 6:30 p.m. over Zoom. Please reach out to Elizabeth Hess (contact info on back) to sign up.



Spiritual Connections starts a new book on Monday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. *Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for Searching People* edited by Dorothy C. Bass. How can we live faithfully and with integrity in a world where the pace of existence is so fast and life's patterns are changing all around us? Can we conduct our daily lives in ways that help us not just get by but flourish—as individuals, as communities, and as a society in concert with creation and in communion with God? This book stimulates the imagination. All women are encouraged to join the discussion to consider and reflect. Meetings are held via Zoom on the first and third

Mondays at 6:30 p.m. A limited number of copies of the book are available through Carol Sinex Schmidt (carolsinex@gmail.com). Contact Ellen Endslow with questions or to obtain the Zoom link (eendslow@verizon.net).

Women's Bible Study: All women are invited to a five-week winter study that will meet beginning this Thursday, February 2 in the Chapel. Come for coffee and pastries at 9:15, and we'll start the study at 9:30 a.m. We'll be reading through Jen Wilkin's *In His Image*. Please sign up using the sign-up tab on the website.



Lenten Study: First Presbyterian Church will hold a Lenten Study Series beginning February 21 and continuing for six weeks via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8 p.m. This study is for everyone: men and women, young and old. We will follow the life of Jesus leading to the cross and the resurrection, using *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws* by Adam Hamilton, a noted minister. It will be facilitated by Glenn Burkland and other members of the Tuesday Men's Bible group. All are welcome; there is a sign-up in the tab on the website.

Sanctuary Flowers: On the first Sunday of every month there is an opportunity to place flowers on the chancel in memory or in honor of a special person or persons, group, or event. The cost is \$50 per dedication; there can be more than one dedication per month. In order to participate, you may fill out the website form or call the church office.



Greeters 9:00: Karl and Vicki Schroeder ♫ **10:45:** John Abernethy

Coffee Deacons: Richard and Susan Smith

Livestream 9:00: Greg Ondo, Nolan Prochnau ♫ **10:45:** Ann Dickey, Nolan Prochnau



First Presbyterian Church of West Chester

FirstPresWC.com | 610-696-0554

Caroline Cupp, Executive Pastor | ccupp@firstpreswc.com

Sándor Kádár, Director of Music | skadar@firstpreswc.com

Elizabeth Hess, Director of Engagement | ehess@firstpreswc.com

Sara Pantazes, Director of Faith Formation | spantazes@firstpreswc.com

David Teager, Office Administrator | dteager@firstpreswc.com