

Ministry Updates

January 14, 2024

Office Schedule - Please note that the church offices will be closed on Monday, January 15, in recognition of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

New Members Class - Our next class will be Sunday, February 4 from 11:30 am-1 pm in the Chapel. If you'd like to find out more about membership at First Presbyterian, please reach out to Elizabeth Hess (ehess@firstpreswc.com).

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.

Youth Paint Party - All youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to our youth paint party! Join us for a fun evening with a paint instructor TONIGHT, January 14, from 4-5:30 pm. No skills required, just come have fun. We would love to see you there for a great night.

Egg Hunt Ministry Team - Picking up a tradition that began in 2005, First Pres will again be offering a free Community Easter Egg Hunt in Everhart Park this year! If you'd like to take part in a short-term volunteer job, we'd love to have you join the team that plans this event! We'll meet once or twice in February/March but most can be done over email until the day of the event (March 30, 10 am). Please reach out to Elizabeth Hess (ehess@firstpreswc.com) if you'd like to help.

Church-Wide Winter Book Study - The first discussion for our church-wide winter book study will take place this Wednesday, January 17 from 7 - 8:15 pm over Zoom. This discussion will focus on Part 1 (Chapters 1 - 7) of David Brooks', *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*. A reading guide is available at the Welcome Center, and some questions will be used to foster conversation during the Zoom discussion. Please sign-up through the sign-up tab of the church's website if you plan to attend the discussion and the Zoom link will be sent to you ahead of time. Contact Sara Pantazes with any questions.

First Pres Parents Fellowship - First Pres parents are invited to kick off the Mardi Gras season together on Saturday, January 27 starting at 7 pm. Jennifer and Jon Beckman will be hosting this gathering at their home featuring some traditional culinary delights from Louisiana and great conversation. The buffet will have a little something for everyone, none of it spicy but with options to turn up the heat if you desire! This event is specifically for parents with kids from babies through high school. Babysitting will not be provided but we do have a list of church youth who are experienced babysitters. Contact Sara Pantazes for that babysitter list or other questions about this event. Please go to the sign-up tab of the church's website to sign up to attend.

Children's Spring Musical - Each year the children's choir at First Pres spends the winter and spring months preparing a musical that is shared in worship. This year's musical is titled, *Oh, Jonah!* Of course, a whale will be featured in the musical, but more importantly, it tells the story of how Jonah was a prophet who learned the hard way how to follow God and that God's message of love is for everyone. **Now is the time for your children to join the musical fun!** All children ages 4 years old - 5th grade are welcome to participate. Rehearsals happen every Wednesday from 5:15 - 6:15 pm at church. If you have any questions, or are planning to join for the first time, contact our children's choir director, Amanda Erno, at aerno@firstpreswc.com.

New Men's Bible Study - The Thursday Evening Men's Bible Group will be undertaking "No Other Gospel - Paul's Letter to the Galatians" as their winter/spring study. We will commence the study starting on January 25th at 7:00 pm. The group meets virtually. Please contact Phil Heaver at Fivormor59@aol.com or 610-310-0388 if you would like to join the study or if you have any general questions.

Spiritual Connections - After an Advent pause, the Spiritual Connections group will resume discussion on January 15, starting at 6:30 pm, of the insightful *Book of Joy* with the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Any women who are interested in joining the discussion should obtain a copy of the book. For information about chapters being discussed, any questions, or to obtain the Zoom link, please contact Ellen Endslo at eendslo@verizon.net.

Decoration Deconstruction - Help is needed for church Decoration Deconstruction as the Christmas season passes the baton onto the season of Epiphany today after the 10:45 am worship service. We hope you will join us to take down our festive decorations and store them for the future. Many hands will make light work! Thank you in advance for your help.

Seats Still Available - Day Trip to Washington, DC - On February 15, 2024, the Donegal Presbytery's Racial Justice Task Group is sponsoring a trip to visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture. This is a special opportunity to learn, dialogue, and travel for the day with church friends. One of the buses that has been chartered to drive us to and from the museum is leaving from Westminster Presbyterian Church, or people can arrange their own transportation and meet the group at the museum. If you have questions about the trip, talk to Sara Pantazes. If you would like to sign up to attend, contact Pastor Bob Bronkema at bbronkema@straspres.org or 717-799-0777.


**Foundations of
Fatherhood**

Wednesday Evening
January 24 - March 13, 2024
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church
130 W. Miner Street
West Chester, PA 19382


FREE, LIGHT DINNER PROVIDED

The Character of a Man
Improving Communication
Healthy Adult Relationships
Anger, Shame and Guilt
Stages of Child Development
Developing Your Support System
Involvement
Your Child and Your Legacy



Facilitator: Ken Winston

For more information, email:
info@papal995.org



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Greeters 9:00: Suzy DeGeorge, Barbara Lade; **10:45:** John Abernethy

Coffee Deacons: Nancy Ferdik, Charlie Myhre

Livestream 9:00 & 10:45: Joe Tang & Pete Galloway

