



# THE NEW LEAF

September 2023



May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**2 Corinthians 13:14**





Please remember to pray for the individuals on our prayer list included in the weekly bulletin. If someone wishes to be added to the prayer list, please contact a deacon or the church office. Names will remain on the list for one month, unless a request for continuation on the list is received by the church office.

*God hears our prayers!*

## THE NEW LEAF

### First Presbyterian Church of Bridgeton

119 West Commerce St.  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302  
(856) 455 - 0809  
[www.fpcbridgeton.org](http://www.fpcbridgeton.org)

#### Rev. Norlita Kaul

(248) 342-6190

[bridgetonfpcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetonfpcpastor@gmail.com)

In office at FPC 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Monday thru Thursday

(other times available by appointment)

#### Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9 am – 2:00 pm



**Christine Sever**

**Admin. Assistant**

[fpcbridgeton@gmail.com](mailto:fpcbridgeton@gmail.com)



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like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/FPCbridgeton>

Please check the website

[www.fpcbridgeton.org](http://www.fpcbridgeton.org)

### Your help is needed!

The death toll from the Hawaii's wildfires continues to increase. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is already reaching out. You can contribute by check or online:  
[pda.pcusa.org/situation/hawaii-wildfires/](http://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hawaii-wildfires/)



From the Missions/Outreach/Promotion Team:



Presbytery has designated the month of September as a time of **Peace & Global Witness**. A special offering will be received October 1 during the Worldwide Communion service. Look for more information on this effort in your weekly bulletin.



**Deacon Ministry**

The deacons have continued to pray for and reach out to our congregants in need.

## News from Session

The Session hopes everyone has had a rejuvenating summer and is ready for the church to be back in full swing.



**The Personnel Committee, with thanks to God, is pleased to announce that beginning Tuesday, September 5, the church will have a new administrative assistant, Christine Sever. Please make Christie feel welcome.**

### Notes from the June meeting of Presbytery for Southern New Jersey

- celebrated the ministry of Rev. Wendy Boer, retiring after serving 9 years as Stated Clerk
- welcomed Rev. Diane Curtis as Interim Stated Clerk
- celebrated the Honorable Retirements of Rev. Dr. Joseph Beggs, Rev. Dr. Scott Morschauer and Rev. John Sheldon
- examined Margaret Brungard for ordination and affirmed her ministry as pastor in Bordentown
- began thinking about upcoming transitions of staff in the Presbytery
- approved the sale of the building of Collingswood Presbyterian Church who will be continuing as a community of faith and affirming mission ministries




### WORSHIP NOTES

The Worship Committee hopes you were able to join us for worship services in Old Broad Street Church to connect not only with God but also with the history of Presbyterianism in Bridgeton. **The final Sunday service in OBSC will be September 3.**

Services will return to the church sanctuary on Commerce St. on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. We will have a "Welcome Back to Church School" and a "Blessing of the Backpacks" during the service. We hope you'll join us to support our youth.

*Deerfield Recital Series*  
**Evelyn Larter**  
piano & organ



**Celebrating Twenty Years as Director of Music at Deerfield Presbyterian Church**  
A free concert of classical and sacred music  
with special guest  
**Emilie Park, violin**

**Sunday, September 10, 2023, 4:00 PM**

A freewill offering will be received  
Sanctuary handicap accessible  
Reception to Follow

Information & directions at [www.deerfieldpres.org](http://www.deerfieldpres.org) (856) 455-1222  
Deerfield Presbyterian Church  
530 Old Deerfield Pike, Deerfield Street, NJ

## Revelings For September

As Fall now draws near and the dog days of Summer have passed, we remember the promises of God by covenant to Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebekah, Jacob & Leah, & Rachel. Our Summer Sermon Series took us through the Book of Genesis, the first book in the Old Testament of God's Holy Word.

Recently I read a devotional that you will find below, I found very helpful when considering our own First Presbyterian Church family as we go forward into the future, over these next months of Fall. The changing of the tree colors, the flowers of summer fading, the crisp air to come, all remind us of just how temporary everything is. Where is God leading us as a congregation? How is God calling us to be faithful? Both of these questions are now ones I'm asking for us all to pray about, not only as individuals, but for our church. We will sit with these questions over the next year. May we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, whispering to us, as we ask them in prayerful contemplation.

I look forward to hearing what the Spirit is saying to you, and to/for our church. Blessings to you and yours, and to our congregation in this month of September!

Hebrews 11:8-16

8-10 By an act of faith, Abraham said yes to God's call to travel to an unknown place that would become his home. When he left he had no idea where he was going. By an act of faith he lived in the country promised him, lived as a stranger camping in tents. Isaac and Jacob did the same, living under the same promise. Abraham did it by keeping his eye on an unseen city with real, eternal foundations—the City designed and built by God.

11-12 By faith, barren Sarah was able to become pregnant, old woman as she was at the time, because she believed the One who made a promise would do what he said. That's how it happened that from one man's dead and shriveled loins there are now people numbering into the millions. The Message (MSG) Copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson  
Eyes on the Prize -By Dan Jongsma (<https://todaydevotional.com/>)

From the time he received God's call, Abraham became a sojourner. He lived in tents and frequently moved around. While Abraham appreciated the blessings of God, he came to realize that everything on this earth is temporary. Everything has an expiration date. Over the years Abraham grew in perspective. He began to desire an even greater reward that comes by faith—an eternal home "whose architect and builder is God."

Abraham didn't live long enough to see all of God's promises fulfilled. Neither do any of us. Yet throughout his life, Abraham kept moving forward, following after God. By faith, he knew that the best was yet to come. He looked forward to enjoying life with God in a city that God would build—a reference to the New Jerusalem (see Revelation 21-22). Abraham came to believe that the promised land was more than a plot of dirt in the land of Canaan. It was not only a place where Abraham and his descendants could live but also a place where God's Spirit dwells in all his glory. Abraham believed in having life with God in heaven, and that made all the difference while he was here on earth.

We too live as sojourners on this earth. We experience partial fulfillments of God's promises. And, like Abraham, we keep our eyes on the glorious prize that awaits us someday—when Jesus will return and make all things new.

Lord Jesus, we can get so distracted in this world. Help us to look forward to life with you in your kingdom when it fully comes. Amen.

Faithfully,

Rev. Norlita

# News You Can Use

DATE: Sept. 10

Fall Kickoff – Join us for a fun fellowship time!

Choir practice begins Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 7:30.

Anyone wishing to join should feel welcome to come.

## UPCOMING SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

DATE: Sept. 7            **Session**  
          Sept. 11           **Deacons**  
          Sept. 18           **Trustees**

## SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

### DATE

### USHERS

### COUNTERS

Sept 3        **Team 1:** Curtis Homan, Debbie Homan

**Team A** Debbie Fooks & Sherry Macpherson

Sept 10      **Team 2:** John Ambrose, Bruce Carll, Ken Freitag

**Team B** Marion Carll & Heather Newkirk

Sept 17      **Team 3:** Heather Newkirk, Marie Dunham, Joyce Ireland

**Team C** Yvonne Custis & Debbie Homan

Sept 24      **Team 4:** Bruce Hankins, Frank Pillsbury, Bill Freitag

**Team D** Marie Dunham & Joyce Ireland

**Volunteers Needed**

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP FLOWERS

September 3: Rev. Norlita Kaul  
September 10: In memory of our benefactor  
                    Robert Minch  
September 17:  
September 24: Anne Sheppard

## FELLOWSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

September 3: Caroline Owens  
September 10: Parish Life and Christian Ed  
September 17:  
September 24:

As there are blank spaces for flowers and fellowship, would you consider helping us to fill them in? It takes a village...Thanks!

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Sept. 5    Joyce Ireland  
Sept. 12   Kyle Stiffler-Zwil  
Sept. 16   Johnson Frazier  
Sept. 17   Richard Husted  
Sept. 21   Nancy Collins  
Sept. 26   Ken Freitag

## SAVE THE DATE Lunch Bunch

Date: Tuesday, September 19

Time: 12 Noon

Place: Towne Tavern

Please RSVP to the office (856)455-0809 by Sept. 18



Back to School

# SEPTEMBER 2023

*National Suicide Prevention Month*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship 10 AM Old Broad St.	4 Labor Day 	5	6 Choir Practice 7:30 PM 	7 Session Mtg 6:30 PM	8	9
10 Worship 10 AM Sanctuary <b>Communion</b> Blessing of the Backpacks Welcome back celebration	11 Worship Team Mtg 1:00 PM  Deacons Mtg 7:00 PM	12	13 Choir Practice 7:30 PM 	14	15	16
17 Worship 10 AM Sanctuary	18 Trustees Mtg 7:00 PM	19 Lunch Bunch 12 Noon Towne Tavern	20 Choir Practice 7:30 PM 	21	22	23
24 Worship 10 AM Sanctuary	25	26	27 Choir Practice 7:30 PM 	28	29	30

First Presbyterian Church  
119 West Commerce St  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Return Service Requested



**Regular Sunday Schedule**  
10:00 am Worship Service

**Pastor's Office Hours**  
At FPC  
Mon thru Thurs  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Appointments also available  
as need/desired

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday -Friday  
9:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Pastor's Sabbath**  
Friday and Saturday  
(in emergencies, please call/text  
Pastor's cell #)

Our newsletter is available electronically by email.  
Please contact the church office at [fpcbridgeton@gmail.com](mailto:fpcbridgeton@gmail.com) or 856-455-0809, to notify us.