



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH *of* RIDGEWOOD

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church *of* Ridgewood!

We are glad you have chosen to worship with us!

Pastor Bruce can be reached at 215-337-5623 and via email:

pastorbruce@firstpresridgewood.org.

He encourages you to reach out to him should you need pastoral care.

Interest Items Sunday, April 28, 2024

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS for THIS WEEK:
TUESDAY – FRIDAY (9:00 AM to 12:00 PM)

8 HABITS OF EVANGELISM

When you hear the word *evangelism*, what may come to mind is a street preacher exhorting listeners to “get saved” or Christians going door to door, passing out tracts and talking to anyone who will listen. And while those approaches have their place and indeed have brought many into a relationship with Christ over the years, most of us would not be comfortable engaging in those practices.

Evangelism, simply stated, is sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others. And the Office of Theology, Formation & Evangelism of the Presbyterian Mission Agency has developed an education series entitled *8 Habits of Evangelism*, which is designed to take a more holistic approach to sharing the good news.

The good news is about a God of love, who has a loving purpose for the world, and there are multiple ways in which a faith community can live out that good news and enable others to experience it.

During the month of May, on three Sundays following coffee hour, we will hold a gathering to explore three of the eight habits. Each gathering will begin with a short video focused on a particular aspect of holistic evangelism, followed by a discussion. And each gathering will take place in the Minnema Room.

Three Habits of Evangelism

Sunday, May 5

Sunday, May 19

Sunday, May 26

Worship

Teaching

Generosity



On these three dates, please plan to grab a cup of coffee and a bite to eat, then join us for stimulating and thoughtful conversation. Your participation will serve as one building block in our endeavor to build congregational vitality here at First Pres.

In the words of presenter Tod Bolsinger, “These exercises are meant to be done in groups of people who want others to come to the table.” We hope you will come and be part of this group!



FIRST PRES EVENTS

Easter Sunday, April 28 – Sunday, May 5

Please go to our website at www.firstpresridgewood.org,
click on the **EVENTS** tab for our **full** calendar.

SUNDAY, April 28

10:00 am Worship
10:30 am Trinity Worship
5:00 pm Living Water Church

SANCTUARY
Chapel
Chapel

MONDAY, April 29

TUESDAY, April 30

11:00 am Staff Meeting

Library

WEDNESDAY, May 1

THURSDAY, May 2

12:00 pm Property Committee

Library

6:00 pm Walk & Talk

Ridgewood Duck Pond

FRIDAY, May 3

SATURDAY, May 4

SUNDAY, May 5

10:00 am	Worship	SANCTUARY
10:30 am	Trinity Worship	Chapel
11:30 am	8 Habits of Evangelism	Minnema Room
2:00 pm	Ridgewood Singers Concert	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Living Water Church	Chapel
7:30 pm	Holocaust Memorial Service	Temple Israel

BULLETIN BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2024

“LENTEN SUPPERS AND FAITH JOURNEYS”

Faith Journeys by George Kritzler, Bonnie Brooks, Sandy Santangelo and Diane Eliya.

“EASTER BLESSINGS”

Celebrating Easter and the children’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

“MORE GOOD NEWS”

Events and activities during the last month.



Following worship on Sunday mornings, most of us enjoy the coffee, pastries and fellowship during Coffee Hour in the Auditorium! In order for Coffee Hour to continue running smoothly, we could use some help. If you are able to come to the church at 9:00 a.m. to cut and plate pastries and/or stay for a few minutes after Coffee Hour to help clean up, your help will be appreciated! Just stop by the sign-up sheet (across from the elevator), pick a Sunday, and sign up. Thank you!

St. Paul's Shelter ~ Monthly Meal ~ First Sunday of Every Month ~

On the evening of April 7th, the Torielli family embarked on a culinary crusade, delivering a delectable dinner crafted with care by the compassionate souls of First Pres Volunteers to the gentlemen residing at St. Paul's shelter.

The menu boasted tantalizing delights such as Oven Fried Chicken by the culinary virtuoso Bobbe Kutcha, Ziti with a touch of perfection from Linda Strickland, Suzy McDevitt's savory Salisbury Steak, Laura McGrath's crisp and refreshing Fresh Coleslaw, and Dana Feeney's delightful Fruit and Bread ensemble.

Heartfelt gratitude is extended to these volunteers for their generosity, invaluable time, and culinary prowess. Their efforts not only nourished bodies but also warmed hearts. Amidst the exchange of food and conversation with the shelter staff, a sense of camaraderie and compassion flourished.

While the men at the shelter expressed profound gratitude for the feast bestowed upon them, the mission continues, and more hands are needed to uphold this noble cause. Opportunities beckon for volunteers to join in this endeavor, with slots awaiting fulfillment in May.

If you feel called to partake in this journey of kindness and sustenance, please reach out to the Torielli family via email at Torielli@hotmail.com or via text at 201-661-1452. Your contribution, no matter how small, can make a world of difference in the lives of those in need.



THE 2024 FLOWER CHART IS READY TO BE FILLED

The Flower Chart is located to the left of the bulletin board in the hall. Please choose an open Sunday to give the Chancel Flowers. The price is \$60 or you may share the cost with another family. You can pay via cash, check or Venmo the church @FirstPres-RidgewoodNJ.

The following dates are available:

May 26 ~ June 2 ~ June 23 ~ July 14 ~ July 21 ~ July 28

Dana Feeney will include your dedication (s) of the Chancel Flowers in the Sunday Bulletin.

You can celebrate anything you wish, and memorial dedications are welcome as well.

Flowers are delivered to members and friends by the Deacons as part of their Flower Ministry.

Walk & Talk

Do you enjoy the outdoors? Do you enjoy walking? Do you enjoy stimulating conversation? Join Pastor Bruce and your First Pres friends for an hour of fresh air, exercise & fellowship! We'll walk & talk on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 at the Duck Pond in Ridgewood!



Thursday, April 25 - Thursday, May 30
See you at the flagpole near the front parking lot @ 6:00!



Invites you to the

**Ridgewood Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service
at Temple Israel on Sunday, May 5 at 7:30pm.**

Keynote speaker:

Reverend Peter Pettit

**"Letting the Holocaust Change Me:
Now is the Time"**



- Reverend Peter A. Pettit, Ph.D. is a Lutheran minister (ELCA) and teaching pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport, Iowa.
- He is a former Research Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute where he was a co-director of the Institute's Theology Conference since its inception in 1984.

The Ridgewood Interfaith Choir under the direction of Dr. Tamara Freeman will sing *plea(sed)* in its world premiere composed by Elliot Roman. The piece is based on a poem by Mordechai Gebertig (1877-1942), a beloved Yiddish poet and composer who perished in the Holocaust. Mr. Freddie Kotek will be the narrator of the piece.

The Ridgewood Singers present...



One Voice:

Songs of

Sunday
May 5, 2024
2:00 pm

Susan LaFever
Director - Conductor

Ryan Bridge
Pianist - Assistant Conductor



General Admission: \$20

First Presbyterian Church 722 E. Ridgewood Ave. Ridgewood, NJ

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 School Year

Enrolling Now

Come visit our school.

Call for a tour.

201-445-2552

5 days/week for children 2½ - 5 years of age

Highlights of our program include:

- Half Day/Full Day Options
- Music Classes
- Gym & Spanish Classes
- In-house field trips



First Presbyterian Church Nursery School

"Building the foundation for a lifetime love of learning"

722 E. Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood NJ 07450 • 201-445-2552 • www.fpnsr.com

Director: Julia A. Bolt



"SAVE THE DATE"



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRAM AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH/722 E. RIDGEWOOD AVE.

MONDAY - THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH TO THE 8TH
9:00AM TO 11:30AM!



"Camp Firelight"

FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 7
COST: \$30.00 PER CHILD

REGISTRATION FORM AND MORE INFORMATION
WILL BE SENT IN JUNE!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Vacation Bible School 2024



Monday, August 5th – Thursday, August 9th, 2024

Time: 9:00AM–11:30AM

We NEED Volunteers to help with Shepherding, Crafts, Snacks, Music and Activities. Please prayerfully consider helping with this amazing children's program to make this a great success.

Please contact: MaryEllen Castaldo, email at marecmt@aol.com.
Text or call: cell#862-686-8956



Scholarships Available for Summer Camp at Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center

Johnsonburg has been hosting memorable, fun, overnight summer camp programs in Northwestern NJ for 64 years. Sessions are designed for campers to be engaged, challenged, educated and kept safe throughout their week of fun games, silly songs, amazing moments and unforgettable activities.

The 2024 Summer Camp season features six one-week sessions that begin on Sunday and end on Friday. This is an overnight Christian camping program that is lots of fun and designed to provide faith-building in a way that meets campers where they are.

When campers leave at the end of the week, they'll be tired, but all smiles. Campers return home feeling more confident in themselves, stronger in their faith and having learned spiritual practices and made new friends.

The First Presbyterian Church Mission, Peace and Social Righteousness Team is offering five \$300 Camp Johnsonburg scholarships to children of the church on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information regarding summer camp sessions at Johnsonburg, go to the camp website: [Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center | Summer Camp NJ \(campjburg.org\)](https://www.campjburg.org)

For more information regarding the scholarship, you may speak with Pastor Bruce.





Family Planting Day
Sunday, May 19, 2024

In order to maintain our Bicentennial Garden, we are holding a 2024 “Family Planting Day” event with our church school families on Sunday, May 19, 2024, after worship/coffee hour. Come to church in your jeans! A day of sprucing up our garden!

If you would like to help fill our garden with annual & additional perennial plants and flowers, you can donate toward the purchase of flowers, plants and mulch needed to keep our Bicentennial Garden looking healthy and beautiful! Our garden is located on the East Ridgewood Ave. side of our church building. Please help us to continue to beautify our “Bicentennial Garden.”

Name: _____

I will send my donation in the amount of \$_____ to the church.

Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood.

On your check, please write “Bicentennial Garden” in memo:

You can donate using VENMO. Please indicate “Bicentennial Garden” in your comment!

Thank You!