



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Raleigh

FIRST PRESS

August 16 - August 30, 2026

Worship this Sunday

August 16, 2026

Join us for Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

Sermon Title: Tell Me A Story: Children's Bible Stories for All

Scripture: Psalm 32 | Luke 19:1-10

[Click here for our live stream and worship resources](#)

[Click here for our YouTube Channel](#)

The pastor on call for the month of August is The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger. She can be reached at 919 714-7206 or at tbulger@fpcraleigh.org.

From Tara's Desk

Dear Church,

It feels as though, over the past few months, we have lost some cherished church members. Loss is never easy, and though they may not have been family members of ours, they are a part of our Christian family, and we feel the loss too.

There are two things I try to say at every funeral I officiate. The first is that the promises of God are true. In the face of death, grief, and loss, I remind those assembled that the promise we have in Jesus, the promise of new life and resurrection, is true. I do not know what resurrection looks like at the end of our days, but I know I trust completely the one who promised it. Therefore, in every funeral sermon I give, I remind us of the greatest hope we have.

Secondly, I remind the grieving family and friends of what the apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 13: that all things pass away, but love never ends. The love of those who have died does not leave us; it remains, and it never ends. Their love has marked us all, and it will endure. We have hope because the most important part of the person who has left us, their love, will remain with us for all time.

These are the greatest truths I know to share with our community in the midst of loss. The deceased have gone on to new life; they have joined what we call the Church Triumphant. We take comfort from that. But we are also comforted by the love that remains.

I am grateful for every saint of the church, past and present. And I hope these words bring you some comfort today and in the days ahead.

In faith, hope, and love,

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger
Senior Pastor

Coming Up

This Changes Everything:
Faith & Everyday Life
All Church
Adult Sunday School Class

To join by Zoom, [click here](#).

Meeting ID: 821 0304 8331

Passcode: 1816



Mahjong Sundays

Starting Sunday | July 5 | 12:00 P.M.

1st & 3rd Sundays

Do you miss playing Mahjong?

Starting Sunday, July 5th, we will resume Sunday Mahjong on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month in the Edge Lobby following the post-worship community-building activity.

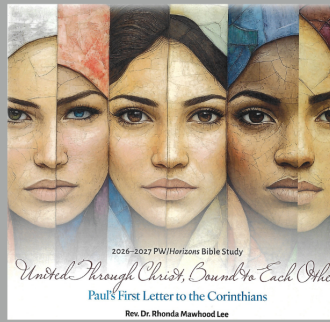
All are welcome! No sign-up necessary. If you have a Mahjong set and pad, please bring.

For all other days and nights, FPC Mahjongers can organize their own pop-up events.



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First Presbyterian Church | 112 S. Salisbury Street | Raleigh, NC 27601 | fpcraleigh.org



Horizons Bible Study Book and PW Yearbook Distribution

**United Through Christ,
Bound to Each Other:
Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians
By Rev. Dr. Rhonda Mawhood Lee.**

On Sunday, August 16, 2026, PW Bible Study Books and PW Yearbooks will be available in the Edge Lobby from 9:00AM - 10:30 AM ONLY. There will be no distribution following worship on August 16.

Bible Study Books are \$14 for regular print and \$20 for large print. Please pay only by cash or check payable to First Presbyterian Church with Circle number and "Study Book" in the memo line. Remaining books will be distributed to Circle Leaders at the PWCT August 16 luncheon meeting for leadership. Further distribution and payment will be made at Circle meetings.

FPC PW Yearbooks (printed) are available for no charge, if you ordered one. They are also available digitally.



The Fourth Saturday Walking Group will meet at 9 am at Lake Lynn on August 22nd, 7921 Ray Rd., Raleigh 27613. Meet in the lower parking lot at the trailhead. All are welcome and bring a friend. Contact Alan Jessup with questions, 919-906-7632 or ajessup07@gmail.com.



Saturday, August 22, 8am

- Honeycutt Creek Trail to Mountain to Sea Trail
- Greenway map- <https://cityofraleigh0drupal.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/drupal-prod/COR24/raleigh-greenway-map.pdf>
- Meet at Honeycutt Park, 1032 Clear Creek Farm Road Raleigh, NC 27615
- We'll walk along the Honeycutt Creek trail and then join the Mountain to Sea trail along Falls Lake



Sunday, August 23, 4pm with dinner option following

- We'll have an evening hike and optional dinner afterwards.
- House Creek Trail along the Raleigh Greenway
- Park at Whole Foods in Ridgewood Shopping Center, Wade and Ridge Road.
- Distance 6 miles- 3 miles north on the Greenway Trail and 3 miles back
- Optional dinner at Whole Foods after the hike.

Sunday, August 23

Join us in worship at 10:30 and bring your backpack. Anyone who wants a backpack blessing will be invited forward during the Children's Moment.

We will be collecting backpacks and supplies for children in need. Thank you for considering these children when you do your back-to-school shopping.



Adult Fellowship: Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral Tour

**On Tuesday, August 25, we have
scheduled a tour of
Our Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.
We'd love for you to join us!**



**Sunday, August 30, at 9:15am,
everyone is invited to a Fall
Kickoff Potluck Brunch & Open
House in Memorial Hall to kickoff
the new program year together!**

We will meet at the Cathedral, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh NC 27606, at 11:15 for our 11:30 tour. After our tour we will head to the NC State Farmer's Market, 1240 Farmers Market Drive Raleigh, NC 27603, for lunch at 1:00.

We are limited to the number of people for the tour so please **RSVP** by Thursday, August 20.

If you have questions, please contact Carol Anne Moehring.

Witness a milestone moment as our Kindergartener and 2nd/3rd Graders are presented their Bibles!

At 10:15am, our Adult Sunday School Classes will resume their sessions and every class will have representatives in the Edge Lobby for an Adult Sunday School Open House! If you do not currently have a regular class, please join us to hear about each class & get to know their leaders!

Come enjoy good food and learn about the many opportunities for worship, learning, service, and fellowship planned for the fall season.

Bring a favorite dish to share, invite a friend, and join us as we kick off an exciting new season together!



**REALM
HELP DESK**

Explore Realm: Your Gateway to Giving, Connection, and More

Having trouble registering for or navigating Realm?

We're Here to Help!
August 30, 2026 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.

With Realm, you can:

- Upload photos
- Register for events
- Make gifts and track your giving
- Access the church directory
- And much more

A picture is worth a 1,000 words. Let us help you enter your picture in the Church Directory which is only accessible through Realm. Just bring your phone for getting help registering for Realm and/or adding your picture.

Sponsored by the Stewardship
Committee



Sunday, September 13
After 11:00 am Worship

Summer may be winding down, but the fun of being together is just getting started!

After our fall kickoff and the return of our church programs, let's take some time to simply be together.

Join us in Memorial Hall for a welcoming congregational meal—a chance to reconnect with familiar faces, meet someone new, catch up on what happened over the summer, and enjoy good food and even better fellowship.

Bring your appetite, your stories, and your neighborly spirit. We'll bring the welcome!

Come celebrate the start of a new season together. We'd love to see you there!



Join us on Monday, September 14 at noon in person, or at 7pm via zoom as we discuss the book, James, by Percival Everett. [Click here](#) to register for the Zoom meeting.



The festival is a popular downtown community event that attracts more than 150,000 people to enjoy music, art and food. Artists play bluegrass, Americana, folk, gospel, norteno, R&B, and other genres whose roots run deep. It's about celebrating music that comes from the heart and brings people together.

Two shifts available: 11:30 - 3:30 P.m. & 3:30 - 8:00 P.M.

Join us in Fellowship and Fun!

Join in the Fun and Help Raise Money for FPC Presbyterian Women during the Wide Open Music Festival on October 3rd. We are conveniently located just 1 block from the Pinecone Stage. You Can Help: Volunteer for a shift and Park for Free, then enjoy the Festival. Or Pay to Park at FPC and enjoy the Festival; Spread the Word for your Friends to Park at FPC. Festival Hours are from 12pm - 11pm.

Contact Pam Jones if you have any questions at 404-668-0420 or via email p3jones@yahoo.com

[Click here](#) to register to volunteer



2026 FPC WOMEN'S RETREAT

By Still Waters: Praying Through Psalm 23

By beloved coastal waters, come to find stillness using the beloved words of Psalm 23. Are you seeking time away in beloved Christian Community? Are you searching for ancient wisdom amid a chaotic world? Are you longing for an encounter with the wild and living God we call our Good Shepherd? Join us as we explore the words of this most memorized Psalm and encounter how it guides us deeper into union with our marvelous and magnificent God.

Facilitator: Rev. Lara Musser Citterer

TRINITY CENTER

Pine Knoll Shores, NC
trinityctr.org

NOV. 6-8

Arrive: 4p.m.-6p.m. Friday
Depart: 1p.m. Sunday

COST:

\$295/Shared Room
\$335/Private Room

Your fee covers your room for 2 nights and 6 meals as well as a portion of the guest speaker's fees.

Last Chance to Sign up for FPC Women's Retreat to be held Nov 6-8th at The Trinity Center in Pine Knolls Shores. Trinity currently has a limited amount of rooms still available. If you would like to attend, contact Pam Jones ASAP at 404-668-0420 or p3jones@yahoo.com to get you registered and secure your room. RSVP by September 15.

Sponsored by FPC Presbyterian Women



Join us for a long-held tradition at FPC, the All Church Retreat at Montreat! February 12-14, 2027

The Rev. Dr. Tara Bulger will be our keynote speaker!

Our theme is "To be a Christian" and will explore 4 different themes throughout the weekend.

Activities include:

- Keynotes
- Small groups
- Free time in Montreat
- Talent show
- Worship
- and more!

Register by November 10.

This event has been held for over 30 years, but after a hiatus due to the pandemic & Hurricane Helene, we're thrilled to be BACK!

Click to learn more
and to register!



On Sunday July 19 FPC members who attended the Community Building Activity built a working pipe organ! [See photos and videos](#) of the project and hear the finished instrument being played.



First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh | 112 South Salisbury Street | Raleigh, NC 27601 US

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