



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Raleigh

FIRST PRESS

August 30 - September 6, 2026

Worship this Sunday

August 30, 2026

Join us for Worship at 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

Hebrew 101: Ruach

Scripture: Luke 4:14-21 | Isaiah 61:1-11

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

[Click here for our YouTube Channel](#)

The pastor on call for the month of September is The Rev. Laurie Taylor Weicher. She can be reached at 919 714-7213 or at lweicher@fpcraleigh.org.

From Tara's Desk

Dear Church,

One of the things I identified early in my ministry here was the need to revamp our church website. A church website is often the first place visitors go to learn more about who we are and what we offer. For the past year, we have been working toward this new website, and I am happy to say it has finally launched!

Visit fpcraleigh.org and take a look at our new digital presence! I think you will find a pleasing interface and information that represents us well. Many consider our digital presence the new “front porch” of the church; I think our new website is a warm welcome for those looking to learn more about us. It is also a great place for church members to learn more about what is going on around the church.

If you notice anything amiss on the website, please let Jean Suber, our Director of Communications, know by emailing her at jsuber@fpcraleigh.org.

In faith, hope, and love,
The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger
Senior Pastor

Coming Up

This **Sunday, August 30, 2026**, we will be returning to our regular schedule. **Early Worship Service at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9: 45 a.m., and Late Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.**





A little over a year ago, our church family said goodbye to a deeply loved member, Jonibel Willis, who passed away at the age of 80. For more than 40 years, Jonibel was a faithful and devoted member of First Presbyterian Church. Her presence among us was marked by kindness, quiet strength, and a deep commitment to her faith. Jonibel often spoke of how much this church meant to her. It was here that her relationship with Christ was nurtured and strengthened. It was here, too, that she formed friendships that brought her joy, encouragement, and a sense of belonging throughout her life. She cherished those relationships and the ways in which they reflected God's love.

Although we mourn the loss of a dear friend, we are deeply grateful that Jonibel chose to leave a generous gift to the *Foundation of the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh, Inc.* where it will be carefully stewarded and used for projects that advance Christ's work through our congregation.

Her gift was a testament to a life shaped by faith, community, and a desire to give back.

We give thanks to God for Jonibel Willis—for her life, her faith, and her enduring generosity.

**FPC Staff will be taking a field trip to Meals on Wheels
on Thursday, August 27.**

All FPC offices will be closed for the morning.



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!

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!



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navigating Realm?

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



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 Critter

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!



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

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