FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Raleigh

FIRST PRESS

October 25 - November 1, 2026

Worship this Sunday

October 25, 2026

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

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger
Partners in Christ's Service
Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:13-19 | Ephesians 2:4-10

Click here for our live stream and worship resources

Click here for our YouTube Channel

The pastor on call for the month of October 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,

In the October 4, 2026, episode of David Brooks' podcast *The Permanent Questions,* he spoke with author Jonathan Haidt. They discussed artificial intelligence and the concerns both men have about its use in our society.

Haidt said, “One of the most profound effects that I think (AI) is already having is that we don’t need each other as much. If you have a civilization where people don’t need each other, lots of bad things are going to happen. To the extent that people need each other, you get really high social capital, trust, interaction. People build institutions together.”

The concern that we may live into a future where people don’t need each other is frightening. But the concern made me grateful to be a part of this community, our church community.

Our church community is a place where we know we need one another. We need one another for support as we follow in the way of Jesus, for care and love as we walk through life together, and we need one another to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world. Alone, I am capable of little, but together we are capable of much. The church may be the last place in our society where we remember and celebrate these things.

This Sunday is Consecration Sunday, a time to turn in our pledge cards and consecrate our offerings to God and God’s work in the world. It is also a time to celebrate the church and all it offers us: connection and care in a sometimes lonely world—something no artificial intelligence could ever replace.

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

Coming Up

Consecration Sunday

Sunday, October 25, 2026

To the church in Corinth, Paul wrote: “The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is

able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.

This scripture reminds us of all the blessings we have received and the abundance we enjoy. It also asks us to share with others. FPC serves as Christ's hands and feet in a world that needs the fortunate to care for those who are in need. Our church also nurtures all of us with spiritual guidance, fellowship, and a sense of belonging. Please share your treasure by submitting your Estimate of Giving this coming Sunday, as we place our cards with estimates for 2027 in the McPheeters basket or offering plate. You can also give by going to Realm, clicking "Giving" and then "Pledge" in the upper right- hand corner; and, of course, by returning your card through mail or the offering plate.

Experience the JOY of GIVING!

Stewardship Committee
October, 2026

Making Room: A Collaborative Advent Devotional

This Advent, we're creating something special together, and we'd love for you to be part of it!

Instead of ordering a preprinted devotional this year, we're inviting members of our church family to help write our very own Advent devotional. We're looking for people willing to share a short reflection on Scripture.

You don't have to be a professional writer or theologian. You simply need a willingness to share a bit of your faith and help encourage others during this season of waiting and wonder.

If you'd like to contribute a devotion, ***sign up today***! More information and writing guidelines will be provided to everyone who signs up.



On the 24th we will walk for an hour on the Crabtree Creek Trail, park at 2940 Claremont Rd., Raleigh, 27609. It's near Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Everyone is welcome; please bring a friend.



Join us in the FPC parking lot on Sunday, October 25 at 5:00 p.m. for our fun-filled evening of decorated trunks, sweet treats, and community! We will also have hotdogs and drinks! To help us prepare enough food please ***register here*** or sign up in the reservation book at the Edge Lobby desk.



Where to live as you age
A special Lunch and Learn with Liisa Ogburn

We're delighted to have Liisa Ogburn join us on Sunday, November 8 at 12:15 for a Lunch and Learn. Liisa will share information about CCRCs in the Raleigh area, as well as information about home health care. Liisa is widely respected and has led presentations around Raleigh and helped individual clients. Come learn about options for thoughtful aging for yourself, your parents, or other loved ones. Continuing Care Retirement Communities.

You can ***register here*** or go to fpcraleigh.org/events. You may also add your name to the Event Registration Book located as the desk in the Edge Lobby.



Check out *Clear*, by Carys Davies from the church library or your local public library and start reading this tale that takes place on a remote Scottish Island. Then make plans to join us Tuesday, November 10 either at noon in person, or at 7pm on zoom.

You can ***register here*** or go to fpcraleigh.org/events. You may also add your name to the Event Registration Book located at the desk in the Edge Lobby.



On Thursday, November 12, we are headed back to the Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory and we'd love for you to come along!

After lunch, we will head to Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory in Bear Creek, where you can browse a wonderful selection of delicious treats, holiday gifts, and, of course, their world-famous fruitcakes.

It's a perfect opportunity to get a head start on your Christmas shopping while enjoying the sights, smells, and tastes of the season.

Invite a friend and make plans to be part of this joyful outing!

Transportation will be provided. Bus departs FPC Parking Lot at 10:30 a.m.

Join us for this special trip that is always a favorite!

We'll stop for lunch on the way (we're hoping to try a new place this year).

Register Here, call the church at 919 821-5750, or sign up in the event reservation book at the desk in the Edge Lobby by November 9.

The FPC Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership Committee is currently seeking nominations for Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women PC (USA). Nominations are due by November 25th. There will be hard copies of the nomination form located in Sunday School classes as well as the Lisa Ham Gathering Space. The nomination form includes a list of past recipients for reference. Please contact ***Becky Glendy***, HLM Committee Moderator with any questions.

Nomination Form



Bicentennial Ornament $10



Notecards (10-pack) $10



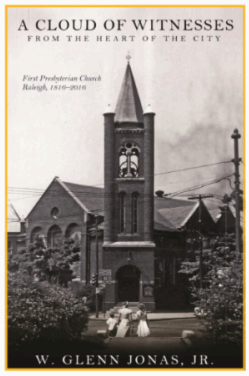
Cross Ornament $10



Butterfly Ornament $15



'FPC' Apron $5



Bicentennial History $15

FPC Gifts & Stocking Stuffers

Visit our PW sales display in the Edge Lobby

Sundays:

November 15 | November 22

December 6 | December 13

Proceeds will purchase wish-list items for our FPC kitchen and dining.

There will be a selection of other new ornaments; (Stars - $15) and (Fish - $15) for sale this year as well.

Presbyterian Women, please sign up to help at our desk.



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

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

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.

Click to learn more and to register!

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

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