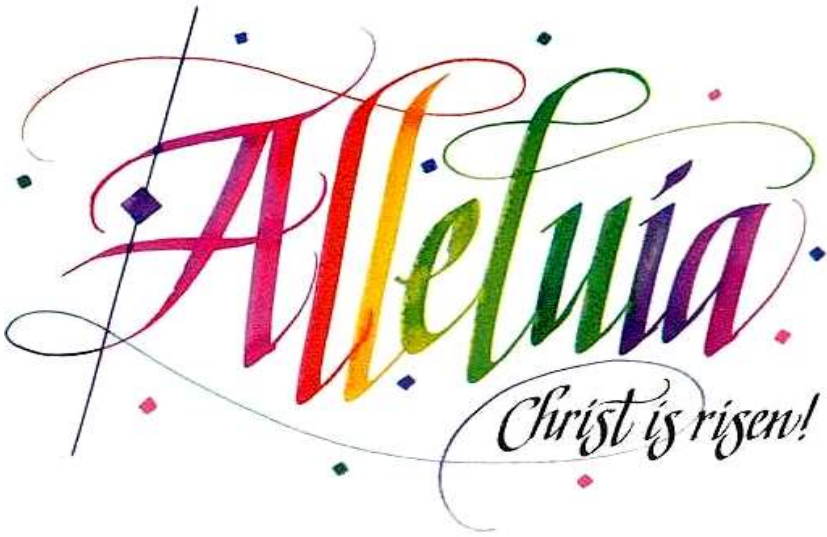


FirstPress

March 2024

Rev. Dr. Andrew Kort & Rev. Mihee Kim-Kort

Co-Pastors



HOLY WEEK

March 24 Worship 8:30 + 11:00 am
with 9:30 am Hands & Feet
Palm Sunday Celebration

March 28 Worship 7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday / Good Friday

March 31 Easter Worship 9:00 + 11:00
with 10:15 am Egg Hunt

Worship

Lois Lander

Worship is at 8:30 and 11:00 am on Sunday with Education at 9:30 and Fellowship at 10:30 am. Communion is offered the first Sunday of the month, and Crossroads for children aged 5 through 5th grade each Sunday (except on Communion Sundays). The nursery is open all morning for children 4 and under. There is free parking at the Hillman Garage until 2:00 pm.

One Great Hour of Sharing



During this Lenten season, the Stewardship & Finance Committee is asking FPC to once again participate in the annual *One Great Hour of Sharing* (OGHS) special offering. This year's theme is "Repairing the Breach" from Isaiah 58 and will provide funds that provide relief from natural

disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. As a *Matthew 25* church, this special offering offers FPC the opportunity to do a little which will add up to a lot! Look for bulletin inserts and pew envelopes this month.

March 3 - 3rd Sunday in Lent; Communion; Baptism

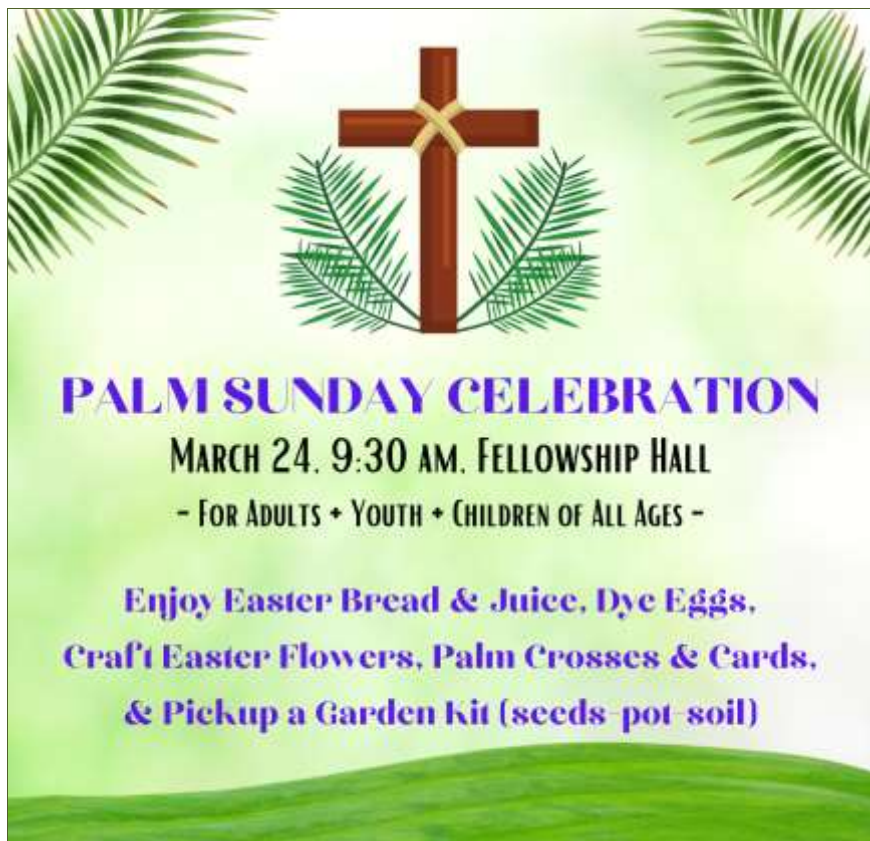
Pastor Mihee will preach from Psalm 19 and John 2:13-22. Communion will be served and William Coffey, baptized.

March 10 - Service for Healing + Wholeness; 4th Sunday in Lent

A Service for Healing & Wholeness, Pastor Mihee will preach from Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, John 3:14-21. Crossroads offered. Chuck Dixon will give a Minute for Mission on the *One Great Hour of Sharing* special offering.

March 17 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Pastor Mihee will preach from Psalm 119:9-16 and John 12:20-33. The Bell Choir will ring. Crossroads is offered.



Save the Date: March 24 at 9:30 am

March 24 - Palm Sunday; Hands & Feet Celebration

Pastor Andy will preach. Crossroads is offered. The Bell Choir will ring. Hands & Feet for all ages at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday / Good Friday Worship @7:00 pm; Communion

At 7:00 pm, Pastor Mihee will preach from John 13:1-17, 31b-35, 18:1-19:42. The Lord's Supper will be served.

March 31 - Easter Worship @9:00 + 11:00 am

Pastor Andy will preach. A children's egg hunt will be held in the courtyard from 10:15-10:45 am. (Fellowship resumes 4/7.)

Ushers

We are always looking for ushers to welcome people to worship at the 8:30 and 11:00 am services, as well as special services such as on Maundy Thursday at 7:00 pm and the need for extra ushes on Easter at 9:00 and 11:00 am. Please signup online at <https://fpcannapolis.link/usher> and/or contact **Bob Foye** (Robert.Foye@gmail.com).

Planned Giving: Now Accepting Applications for \$5,000 Youth Moran Scholarship

Mike Shultz

The Connie and Mark Moran Scholarship application is now open for the 2024-2025 school year and high school seniors and college age members of First Presbyterian Church are invited to apply.

Each year the Moran scholarship provides \$5,000 to a student for education at an accredited college, a military academy, Anne Arundel Community College, or an accredited vocational education institution. Applicants will be reviewed holistically, but priority shall be given to *students who have shown strong involvement with the church's programs and activities, demonstrate financial need, rank in the top third of their class, are involved in school or community service, and possess strong moral character*. Email Miss Good (miss@annapolis-presbyterian.com). Application deadline: April 24. Decision date: May 1.

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation

Judi Dunn

PWC Continues to be Busy!

Our gracious host, **Chris West**, held a tea at her home to celebrate **Nancy Lear** as Nancy prepared for her move from Annapolis to Mount Joy, Pennsylvania. In spite of the weather, more than 35 members were present to say our goodbyes. A special thanks to **Bernie Wulff** and **Jack Dryden** for braving the snow and cold to assist with parking. (The rest of us just made sandwiches and cookies!) Chris offered guests a variety of teas in beautiful teapots. Pastor Mihee presented Nancy with "bread for the journey" and a beautiful plate from the Czech Republic.



Tea for Nancy Lear and memorial reception for Janet Berry (2024)

On February 8, we prepared and served a memorial reception for **Janet Berry**. Nick and his daughters met with many friends, relatives, and church members in Fellowship Hall after the service. Visitors to our church are always very complimentary of FPC's services and receptions.

March brings the awakening of the Memorial Garden with spring cleanup and garden mulching before the bulbs begin to bloom. Our hard-working gardeners will also spread mini pine bark nuggets in the open space where visitors walk. We appreciate their hard work to keep this treasured space beautiful.

Spiritual Formation

Pat Foye

Join a Lenten Circle: Wholehearted Faith

1. **Sunday Lunch** @12:15 on March 3+10 with Jane Hudiburg (janehudiburg@gmail.com)
2. **Education Hour** Sundays @9:30 am on March 3+10 in KC4a with debmitchell1026@comcast.net
3. **Parents of Youngins** Sunday at @9:30 am on March 3, 10, 17 with Vanessa Forisha (vanessaforisha@gmail.com)
4. **Monday Nights** @7:00 pm on March 4, 11, 18 in Shaw Chapel with Pat Foye (patricia.p.foye@gmail.com)
5. **Wednesday Bible Study** @Noon on March 6, 13, 20 on ZOOM with Pastor Mihee (mihee@annapolis-presbyterian.com)
6. **Men's Group** Thursdays @7:00 pm on March 7+21 in KC4a/ Zoom with Todd Pikel & Bill Hughes: wLhughes1@verizon.net

It's never too late to join -- please email the leader directly to join the your circle!



Lenten Circles from years past!

Adult Education in KC4a



The KC4a adult Sunday School class is currently working on the Lenten series study *Wholehearted Faith*, by Rachel Held Evans, spending time wrestling with what faith means to us and how it informs our lives, both

(KC4a Adult Ed, 2014) personally and in the broader context of our work in the world. We will conclude this study by Easter.

Following Easter, we will be reading *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor. The renowned and beloved New York Times bestselling author of *An Altar in the World* and *Learning to Walk in the Dark* recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching the world's religions to undergraduates in rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations. In *Holy Envy*, she contemplates the myriad ways other people and traditions encounter the Transcendent, both by digging deeper into those traditions herself and by seeing them through her students' eyes as she sets off with them on field trips to monasteries, temples, and mosques. Come join us as we broaden our perspective on The Holy One.

Fellowship of the Bean, in the ZW Dining Room



The Bean continues to examine a different topic each week, including recent lively discussions of artificial intelligence and reparations. We look forward to a three-

(Fellowship of the Bean, 2022) week session that Mihee will lead on February 25, March 3 and March 10.

Archives Project

Tom Goodridge, Chris West, Bernie Wulff

About the Archives Project

The Archives Project's primary goal is to retain and organize information about our church's history in a way that allows easy retrieval for all of us and for future generations. We invite members to visit the Archives Project room on the fourth floor of the Kinhart Center, using the Index to search for any church-related historical information of interest that might be contained in our files, including PWC records stored in the PWC Archives room on the fifth floor of the Kinhart Center.

Help Solve This Mystery!

Or just ask one of us. Recently, a member of the congregation who was born in 1946 and baptized in our church soon after, expressed an interest to know if our baptismal font might have been used for their baptism. The undated inscription at the base of the font identifies the donor...



**DONATED BY
MRS. LOUIS KIEFER
IN LOVING
REMRANCE OF**

MY DAUGHTER ANNA LOUISE KIEFER

The font appears in a photograph on file with a note penciled on the back indicating that it was taken in the 1960s but, so far, in searching membership records, memorial gifts records, Session/trustee meeting minutes, and online ancestry records, we have not been able to find the year that it was donated. Any clues from a long-time member will be appreciated.

Congregational Life

Barbara Jacobs

Photojournalism Workshop: New Date March 7



RSVP h.foxwell@att.net. Perfect for teens + adults.
BYO camera or smartphone. Learn to tell your story.
*Participation in earlier workshops NOT necessary.

Palm Sunday Hands & Feet Celebration: March 24

Help us celebrate and rejoice at this special "Hands & Feet" event sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee.

The 9:30 hour will include various stations to dye eggs, create Palm crosses, design cards for homebound members, make Easter flowers, and pickup a "garden kit" complete with seeds, pot and soil. Easter breads and juice will be served.



Palm Sunday (2023)



Palm Sunday Worship (2023)

Needed: Donations + Bakers!

Kindly collect and donate your (clean) pantyhose; onion skins for the March 24 traditional Easter egg dyeing craft; and your baking skills! RSVP to **Barb Jacobs** if you are able to bake a loaf of bread or two for this special morning in March (bjacobsrn@gmail.com).

Older Member Recognition: April 7

Help us celebrate and recognize the senior members of our congregation in worship on April 7. We will have the opportunity give thanks for the older members of our church community.

NOTE: If you or someone you know in the congregation is 85 years of age or older, please contact elder Barbara Jacobs.

Spring Pickleball

Look for dates in weekly congregational emails. Or RSVP to mskempton@hotmail.com.

Mission

Lizi Schilder

Update on ACT Housing Work

After FPC members and residents around the county indicated attaining affordable housing was a major problem in the county, the Anne Arundel Connects Together (ACT) Attainable Housing Research Team became heavily engaged in education and outreach to members and public officials -- focusing on two legislative bills introduced by the Anne Arundel County Council (October) to provide elements of affordable housing. Yet despite repeated testimony from affected residents and community leaders supporting the enactment of these bills, each was defeated by one vote.

However, ACT does not believe this is the end to getting this important legislation enacted. Leveraging the work of the past months, the Housing team has set a goal of seeing new housing legislation (Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit -- MPDU -- and redevelopment) introduced. This work includes:

- ✚ Reaching agreement with stakeholders on the contents of MPDU and legislation to achieve affordable housing.
- ✚ Expanding the much-needed education to a broader audience about affordable housing and building a coalition through ACT's website resource section.
- ✚ Working with county officials and staff on additional policies required to integrate moderate-cost housing in mixed-use redevelopment projects.
- ✚ Reaching subject matter experts to define the components needed to implement a countywide affordable housing plan.

FPC members indicated that lack of affordable housing was a problem facing them, their children or grandchildren, as well as the general community. By joining the ACT Housing Team, you can

help make a difference. The ACT website (Anne Arundel Connecting Together, actaaco.org), maintains a portal of resources on how to achieve moderate-cost housing, including Housing Team meeting dates, education sessions on the county planning approval process, and sessions with experts in the housing field. Please join us in our work to make affordable housing attainable for all county residents and eliminate the discriminatory practices that currently exist. Additional information, please contact Linda Hanifin Bonner, ACT Housing Team chair with FPC.

Haiti Update

In last month's newsletter, we read about a young woman in the Reforestation Mentoring Program. Here is another example of how dedicated young people are making this program succeed.

"Faude Recruits Others"

by Michael Anello, Executive Director

I am simply blown away. Again.

I've been telling you about the group of young people who have finished the Reforestation Mentoring program. One of them is Faude, who just out of high school, was not, shall we say, at the top of his class. But, it is clear he just hadn't found his spot yet.

After our program ended and we handed out certificates, Faude declared that his hope for the future is to plant trees.

*That's well and good for a young person in the graduation moment. Here's the thing, however. The next thing I knew, Faude came to me with a **three page plan for building a zone and nursery and the names of 26 people** he has recruited who want to be reforestation workers!*

We took his idea to the Animators, and they are ready and willing to have him join the CODEP work. They can mentor him further but, from what we can see, he's launching himself. What a terrific result from our inaugural program. He's setting the bar pretty high and we all couldn't be more delighted.

Committee on Antiracism + Racial Equity (CARE)

Deb Mitchell



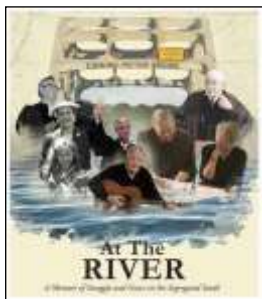
The Banneker-Douglass Museum, downtown Annapolis

CARE has been hard at work lining up some great educational programs for the congregation. In February, we teamed with One America to work on ways to have difficult conversations with those with whom we disagree. In March, mark your calendars for a private tour of the Banneker-Douglass Museum immediately following the 11:00 service on March 24. Meet in Fellowship Hall (snacks provided) and from there we will walk over to the museum. The tour should take one hour. Space is limited. RSVP with email to debmitchell1026@comcast.net.

Did You Know...?

The Museum is named for Benjamin Banneker and Frederick Douglass and was dedicated on February 24, 1984. Benjamin Banneker was free born on a tobacco farm in Baltimore County, and was the first African American man of science and mathematics. Among his scientific achievements are crafting the first wooden striking clock in America, writing several widely popular almanacs, and assisting with surveying Washington, DC. Banneker also protested against slavery. In a bold 1791 letter to Thomas Jefferson, Banneker compared the righteous fight for freedom by the Colonists to the plight of the enslaved person in

America. Since Jefferson's response seemed to acknowledge Banneker's reasoning, he wisely published their correspondence in one of his almanacs. Come discover this gem practically in our own backyard!



On April 14, we will feature an encore viewing of the “At the River” film showcasing the experiences of Presbyterian ministers in the Deep South during the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. Deeply moving and beautifully crafted – you don’t want to miss it!

Trustees

Randy Habeck, Chair

Emergency Response Team

Since 2020, under the auspices of the trustees, the Board of Trustees' Emergency Response Team (ERT) has provided lifesaving procedures and security training for FPC during its services and activities. The ERT works with the State Homeland Security, FBI and AAC police on these important measures for houses of worship. Plans are underway to begin in March providing important updates and training for the following:

1. Stop-the-Bleed (intensive first-aid)
2. CPR and use of the defibrillator
3. Security procedures and intruder training

We will begin with an open Zoom session providing an overview of the church's emergency management plan and procedures. Onsite training will be scheduled for specific procedures.

These sessions are open to all members. Additionally, we also need to expand the ERT and begin new information and security procedures for large-group activities. At each large event, there should be an opening announcement identifying the location of emergency equipment, designated refuge and exit areas, and what to do if an incident occurs. These procedures are also required by our liability insurance provider.

Participating on the ERT means being someone during a service who monitors activities and coordinates with the pastors on a response needed for a health / other incident. For information contact **Linda Hanifin Bonner** or **Todd Pikel**.

Anne Arundel County Migrant Shelter

Maryland, designated as a sanctuary state, anticipates that in the near future buses with migrants will arrive in Annapolis. A plan to manage this process is in place, and FPC has a role.



In response to the request and information provided by state and county officials, FPC has agreed to be an interim shelter for a group of migrants. As part of its mission, FPC will provide shelter in Fellowship Hall for women and children for a two to three-day period, until more permanent housing can be provided.

Officials have a well-defined management plan providing bedding, food, medical services and security. They only need the use of our facilities. A briefing on this plan is being made to church leaders and will be made available. FPC has also consulted with its insurance company, and because of the security procedures in place, are in compliance. These requirements also apply to Winter Relief. For more, contact **Linda Hanifin Bonner** or **John Elstner**.

Family + Youth Ministry

Miss Good, Mindy LeBlanc

Crossroads...

Crossroads continues at the 11:00 am service for kindergarten through fifth-graders every Sunday (2nd-5th) with the exception of first Sundays of the month (children remain in worship for communion). Children gather on the third floor of the main church building following the children's message. Please pick up at this location after worship concludes.



... and Crossroads Choir



Children's choir is led by our talented Director of Music, Jill Woodward. Children gather the first Sunday of the month after the children's message, then return to the sanctuary to share a song in worship.

Youth Fellowship



During the month of March, the youth will gather on March 3 and 17, 5:00-7:00 pm. Includes dinner. Youth will focus their efforts on planning Youth Sunday, April 28. Be a part of this long-standing tradition at FPC. We need *your* voice!

NOTE: one service at 10:00 on Youth Sunday, April 28!

Easter Sunday



Easter Morning Egg Hunt @10:15 am

An egg hunt is offered for both young children and older youth. Young children should meet in the courtyard and youth in the Conduit, both at 10:15 am.

Summer 2024

Vacation Bible School: A Whole New Look!

Please join us for three days, August 19-21, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. A \$20 fee per child is requested to cover the cost of lunch each day. Scholarships are available!

Youth Jr. Counselors needed! Email Miss Good to help: miss@annapolis-presbyterian.com.



Montreat Youth Conference

High school youth are invited to attend Session 3 (July 7-13), "Planting Peace." Visit <https://montreat.org/events/myc-24>. Contact Miss Good to reserve your spot and enjoy this long-standing summer tradition: miss@annapolis-presbyterian.com.

March Birthdays (not listed online)



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Reporters Members
Photography Roger Krone, Ted Foster
Editors Pastors, Chris West, Susan Gross

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News of Members + Friends

Note these updates or contact the office for a PDF directory.

A funeral was held February 8 for **Janet Berry**, who died January 13. Son **William John**, son of **Matt and Emily Coffey**, will be baptized on March 3, with Pastor Mihee.

FirstPress



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NEWSLETTER

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