



the Messenger

✻ THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA ✻ ESTABLISHED 1698 ✻

The Work of Easter

Many of you may be familiar with Howard Thurman's classic poem, *The Work of Christmas*.

I have referred to it in this space before, and it is a devotional classic in the month of January. If you've never seen it, I recommend looking it up. In it, Thurman presses the faithful to think of our worship not simply as what we do on the high holy days of the church, but to remember the commitments we make in worship in the very everyday details of life, admonishing us to do these things:

To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.

As I contemplated this space, I began to wonder what *The Work of Easter* would look like. (Thurman did not write a corresponding poem for this day.) So, with apologies to poets everywhere, I took a crack at it, after the style of Thurman, and with a nod to Wendell Berry:

When the alleluias have faded,
And the flowers have wilted,
When the organ has fallen silent,
And the worshippers have gone home,
The work of Easter begins:
To proclaim good news to those in pain,

To break the bonds that hold hope captive,
To share treasure where treasure is needed,
To value others as Christ does.
To practice resurrection,
That our alleluias may again ring true.

While I have obviously cribbed the style, and frankly the content from others, the sentiment is my own, and I suspect yours as well. And it is a challenge for us all to consider. The truth is, I LOVE (all caps) everything about Easter worship: seeing people together, singing robustly, the extra musicians, the flowers everywhere — who doesn't love a good celebration! But since I have been talking about Mark's Gospel, and preached from it on Easter, I'd be remiss if I didn't mention *one* more time that detail about the temple curtain being rent asunder at the death of Jesus.

It means God wants *all* of us. God wants our whole lives. Compartmentalizing worship into what we do on Sunday is the opposite of what God wants. And it is the opposite of what God gives. There is never a moment when God is absent from us, no matter what we feel.

So let us practice resurrection, that our alleluias may ring true.

—Baron Mullis

2024 Earth Day Sunday, April 21 at 9:45 AM

— Talk with Doug O'Malley, Director, Environment New Jersey

Coming off the hottest year on record, and one of the warmest winters on record, climate change has become an ever-present factor in our lives. But how much progress are we making at the state and national levels? And how much can our individual actions impact a clearly global problem? Doug O'Malley, Director with Environment New Jersey and FPC member, will do a run-down on progress made over the last year on both the state and federal level. Doug will break down impacts of climate change on everything from our drinking water, our insurance rates and the pace of single-use plastics in our lives. He will also do an Earth Day tune-up on green plans made in past years and provide some key tips for all of us to incorporate into our daily lives, from young parents to grandparents. Come join Doug O'Malley in the MacColl Room between services on Sunday, April 21, as part of this year's Earth Day teach-in.

— Concurrently, for the Kids:



See the Children's Ed. article on page two.



LECTIONARY

APRIL 7
Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:32–35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1–2:2
John 20:19–31

APRIL 14
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:12–19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1–7
Luke 24:36b–48

APRIL 21
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:5–12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16–24
John 10:11–18

APRIL 28
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 8:26–40
Psalms 22:25–31
1 John 4:7–21
John 15:1–8

Missions Committee Update

In the midst of blossoming trees and warm weather, we celebrate a time of renewal and rejoicing. Spring is also a time for planning and purpose. In early March, the Missions Committee met to plan for various events in the upcoming months. The dinner we hosted for students from Howard University was a huge success! The congregation connected with about fifty students who participated in the Howard University Alternative Spring Break Program, which celebrated its thirtieth anniversary (see photo). Also in March, Joe Lipuma from Stand with Iraqi Christians (SWIC) joined the Missions Committee meeting to share important updates, including changes in staff and progress in projects, and plans to visit the congregation for a minute for Mission.

At the end of March, the congregation graciously participated in One Great Hour of Sharing during the Easter services. The donations collected are designated for hunger relief through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, to promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and to assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The Lenten donation drive supporting **Philly House** will continue through **April 7** (see graphic).

Here are additional opportunities to support mission partners:

• William Way

William Way will be hosting the Way Forward Breakfast on May 18th at 11:00 AM. Discussion will include providing support and engagement within the community. For more information and an RSVP to attend, please contact Dave (dave.huting@fpcphila.org).

• Christian Association Dinner

On April 24, members of FPCP will gather for dinner and discussion at the Christian Association at University of Pennsylvania. For more information, please reach out to Laura (laura.colee@fpcphila.org) or Jordana (jordana.woodford@fpcphila.org).

• Sojourner Truth Walk

FPCP will be putting together a team for the Sojourner Truth Walk on Saturday, May 4 at 10:00 AM in support for the summer activities at Camp Sojourner. You can support our team by sponsoring our team or by joining our team at the walk. For more information, follow this link: www.wizathon.com/sojourner-truth-walk/102144

• Souls Shot Exhibit

In collaboration with the Missions



Committee, Gun Violence Prevention Task Force and Adult Christian Education, FPCP will be hosting the Souls Shot Portrait Project Exhibit in May, starting with a reception on May 5. This project links artists with friends and families of victims of gun violence to tell their story and promote gun violence prevention awareness.

• Volunteer Opportunities with Zia

Zia needs your help! Zia is in need of paper grocery or shopping bags to put meal kits in. If you have extra paper bags, please drop them in the marked box next to the 21st street entrance by the umbrella stand. Volunteers are needed to either help deliver produce and groceries to the church on Friday mornings; pack meal kits; or deliver meals to families in Philadelphia on Saturday mornings. For more information, visit the website ziafood.org to sign up directly or reach out to Rose at rose@ziafood.org.

• Accommodations for Patients

Hosts for Hospitality is looking for people to accommodate patients and their families who are staying in the Philadelphia area. They are seeking those who have space in their homes or second properties so patients and their families can stay in the area while they are being treated. Please, visit their website hostsforhospitals.org if you are interested in hosting.

Please continue to check the website and weekly announcements for events coming up in the month of April.

—Jordana Woodford, Co-chair

Lenten Donation Drive

February 18 - April 7
supporting

PHILLY

HOUSE

During the season of Lent, the Missions Committee is sponsoring a drive to support **PHILLY HOUSE**, a shelter for men that provides temporary housing and comprehensive services to support transitions to long-term housing.

Items to donate are listed below. Donations can be dropped off in designated locations at the church. Items may also be purchased online from the Amazon Wishlist. (Amazon Wishlist items will be shipped directly to Philly House.) Scan the QR code for more information.

Items to Donate

- New combs for men
- New hair picks for men
- New men's T-shirts (all sizes)
- Men's sneakers (all sizes)
- Men's adjustable canvas belts (all sizes)
- Men's boxer underwear and stretch boxer briefs (all sizes)
- Down alternative pillows
- Men's loose fit shorts (all sizes)
- Socks (all sizes)
- Lightweight waterproof backpacks



Penn's Village Celebrates Volunteer Appreciation Week April 21 - 27

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Penn's Village as well as the mainstay for all that we do to provide programs and services to our members. Our volunteers often say that they gain as much as they give when supporting our members. They gain a sense of purpose and they enjoy the connections they make with members.

Penn's Village volunteers contribute several hundred hours each month and at the estimated value in Pennsylvania of \$29.78 per hour, we're talking about nearly \$10,000 each month in volunteer contributions of their time. One example is the contribution of the volunteers who write and edit our monthly newsletter, *The Village View*. Collectively they contribute 90 hours, for a total monthly volunteer contribution of time of nearly \$2,700. Another is the planning and organizing of thirty-three volunteers by the Marketing & Communications Committee for the five Welcome videos on the home page of our website. They also contributed nearly 90 hours of their time to this multi-month project. Let's also give a "shout out" to volunteers on other Penn's Village committees who volunteer their time and expertise — Fundraising, Finance, Membership & Welcoming, Inclusiveness & Diversity, Member Services, and Program — and volunteers who serve as companions, tech experts, drivers, shoppers, handymen, health pals, and office assistants.

Volunteers are the driving force behind Penn's Village and its philosophy of neighbors helping neighbors. Won't you join our incredible team? To learn more about volunteer opportunities, with Penn's Village click on this [link](#).

www.pennsvillage.org
215-925-7333

Souls Shot Portrait Project Returns to FPCP on May 5

The exhibition of portraits that will greet you when you enter Old Buttonwood Hall on the first Sunday in May are of loved ones lost to gun violence, created by local artists in conversation with grieving families. Each portrait evokes a life and invites you to reflect on what has been lost to our community because of a bullet. Begun at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill by member and artist Laura Madeleine, Souls Shot Portrait Project (SSPP) is in its 7th year. Each year the exhibition of new portraits travels from churches, synagogues and mosques to city and state rotundas. Our hope on May 5 is to have Mayor Cherelle Parker with us to share her plans for addressing gun violence in Philadelphia. Our hope is also that your encounter with these souls will lead you to take action (see the invitation to travel together to Harrisburg with Ceasefire PA on May 7).

For those who are new to the congregation, below is an introduction to the vision, mission and values of SSPS from their website (soulshotportraitproject.org).

OUR VISION

Souls Shot Portrait Project envisions a community free from gun violence.

OUR MISSION

The *Souls Shot Portrait Project* uses the transformative power of art to bring an end to gun violence. Artists, working with families, create portraits to honor the souls shot. By exhibiting the resulting artwork to the public, we invite the community to recognize what has been lost and to take action to end gun violence.

OUR VALUES

The primary values of the *Souls Shot Portrait Project* are:

- ◆ Respect for all lives affected by gun violence
- ◆ Belief in art as a powerful tool of advocacy and transformation
- ◆ Diverse representation among leadership, artists, and victims of gun violence
- ◆ Commitment to artistic integrity and quality

—*Cynthia Jarvis, for the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force*

Get on the Bus!

As Christians, we look for opportunities to bring compassion and support to those in need, and we at First Church do partner with numerous charitable agencies in our city.

We are all aware that the magnitude of gun violence in Philadelphia is alarmingly high, especially in black and brown communities. In May, we will again be bringing the poignant Souls Shot Portrait Project, and we encourage you to reach out to friends, neighbors, and colleagues to come for this transformative experience.

In addition, CeaseFirePA's major annual event, End Gun Violence: PA Advocacy Day will take place at the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg on Tuesday, May 7, and we hope that you will consider signing up and getting on the bus with us. More information on the day and registration can be found at www.ceasefirepa.org under "upcoming events".

I will be happy to speak with you and answer any questions you may have about May 7. Please give this your heartfelt consideration.

—*Diane Rogers, Gun Violence Prevention Task Force*

Twenties & Thirties Group – April 2024

This past month, we volunteered with Books Through Bars and then a few of us went out for Quizzo at Loco Pez. (We came in last place, but the true Quizzo were the friends we made along the way ❤️). Then on March 17, a solid crew of 13 went to Hart of Catering for brunch following the 11:00 AM service.

We'd love to have you join us for upcoming events! Here's what's on the schedule:

▶ **Thur., April 11 – Barcade Night, 5–8 PM**

Meet up with some other T&Ts at the Center City Barcade (1326 Chestnut Street). We'll be hanging out there from 5-8 PM so come by when you can. Bring some cash so we can play some classic video arcade games and enjoy a beverage together. If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to Laura (youngadults@fpcphila.org)!

▶ **Sunday, April 21 – T&Ts Hot Sauce Tasting Lunch, ~12:30 PM**

After worship on Sunday, April 21, we'll be gathering in Old Buttonwood Hall to taste test 10 hot sauces from Season 13 of Hot Ones over chicken and fries. We'll also be asking one another Hot Ones inspired questions. Please RSVP to Laura (youngadults@fpcphila.org) so we know how much food to order.

▶ **Wednesday, April 24 – Dinner at the Christian Association at UPenn, 6:30 PM**

FPC folks are joining the Christian Association at UPenn (118 S. 37th Street) for dinner on Wednesday, April 24 at 6:30 PM. We'll be having Thai food take out and spending time in conversation with UPenn students and with the wonderful Rev. Megan LeCluse. Everyone is



T&Ts at our March brunch on March 17, 2024

welcome!! Please RSVP to Laura (youngadults@fpcphila.org) so we know how much food to order.

▶ **Saturday, May 4 – Books Through Bars Volunteering, 11:30 am-1:30 PM**

Join us as a group of T&Ts volunteer at Book Through Bars. We will be filling requests for reading materials for incarcerated individuals in PA and throughout the tri-state area. If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to Laura (youngadults@fpcphila.org)!

One more event to put on your radar: we're planning for the T&Ts to go to a Phillies Game on Thursday, June 27. The game starts at 6:20 PM and there will be fireworks afterwards. Tickets will be \$18-20. Please let Laura know if you're interested and we'll start buying tickets!

You're invited to join the T&T Facebook Group [facebook.com/groups/FPCtandTs](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FPCtandTs) or email Laura Colee (youngadults@fpcphila.org) to stay informed about upcoming events!

You can also be added to our T&T Whatsapp chat here: chat.whatsapp.com/JsNRBOANKal311nRdP5fdE

—Rev. Laura Colee

Children's Education

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt on Easter morning!

FPC Kids' Night on Friday, April 19

FPC Kids' Night is back! On **Friday, April 19** from 5:00 to 8:00 PM, we are inviting kids to join us at First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia for pizza, snacks, crafts, games, and a movie. While your kids hang out with us, parents and guardians are able to have a night to themselves.

Here's the info for the event:

- ♦ The event is for children two years old and up.
- ♦ There will be a maximum of 20 children at the event.
- ♦ We will have three to four certified adults leading the event, including Pastor Laura.
- ♦ This event is free for FPC members and regular attendees.

If you're interested in having your child/children attend the Parents Night Out Event, you are invited to register here: <https://forms.gle/PVLBe7ctgZG8yUTt9>

Special Earth Day Sunday School

Join us for a special Earth Day Children's Sunday School on **Sunday, April 21, from 9:45 to 10:30 AM in Old Buttonwood Hall**. We will explore together how God calls us to take care of the earth. We will then complete an Earth Day service project. Children of all ages are invited to join! *Parents and guardians are invited to attend the Adult Education Earth Day program in the MacColl Room at this time.*

Become a Sunday School/Nursery Volunteer

We'd love to have you **volunteer with our children's Sunday School or in our Nursery program**. If you are interested in helping lead Sunday School with Pastor Laura or volunteering the nursery a few times a year, please reach out at laura.colee@fpcphila.org.

—Rev. Laura Colee

Guitar Concert with David Russell

Join us for an extraordinary concert at First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia on Saturday April 13, at 7:30 PM. The concert, organized by the Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society, is open to the public.

A 20% discount is being offered to the First Church community (use code FPCP2024 at checkout). Click [HERE](#) for tickets and more information or go to www.phillyguitar.org.


Classical guitarist [David Russell](#) is world renowned for his superb musicianship and inspired artistry, having earned the highest praise from audiences and critics alike. In recognition of his great talent and his international career, he was named a Fellow of The Royal Academy of Music in London in 1997.

After winning the 2005 GRAMMY award in the category of best instrumental soloist in classical music, David Russell went on winning many other awards and recognitions globally, including Honorary Doctorate in Music by the University of Arizona in Tucson in 2014 and induction to the Hall of Fame of the Guitar Foundation of America in 2018.


David Russell spends his time touring the world, appearing regularly at prestigious halls in main cities, such as New York, London, Tokyo, Los Angeles, Madrid, Toronto or Rome. Concert-goers everywhere are in awe of his musical genius and inspired by his captivating stage presence. His love of his craft resonates through his flawless and seemingly effortless performance. The attention to detail and provocative lyrical phrasing suggest an innate understanding of what each individual composer was working to achieve, bringing to each piece a sense of adventure.

The New York Times wrote about his performance: "... Mr. Russell made his mastery evident without ever deviating from an approach that places musical values above mere display. It was apparent to the audience throughout the recital that Mr. Russell possesses a talent of extraordinary dimension."

The Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society
Presents
Grammy Award Winner
DAVID RUSSELL
Guitar



April 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia
(21st and Walnut St.)

Information and tickets at www.phillyguitar.org or 

The Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society (PCGS)

Founded in 1967 as not-for-profit 501c3, the Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society (PCGS) is a volunteers-led community dedicated to supporting and encouraging the promotion of classical guitar music and education in the greater Philadelphia region. PCGS presents monthly concerts from October to March and the Annual Classical Guitar Festival in April with renowned artists, national guitar competition, student recitals, masterclass, workshops etc. For more information about PCGS visit www.phillyguitar.org.

**FPC
KIDS NIGHT**
FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH | 5-8PM



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA
REGISTER ONLINE

CALLING ALL CYCLISTS!

Are you interested in doing some bicycling? Fellow cyclists would like to consider (small) group rides in the greater Philadelphia area this spring; we can start by organizing a ride or two on one of the local bike trails. This would be casual riding only — extreme cycling skills NOT required. Contact Mac McLarin (mac.mclarin@fpcphila.org) if you're interested.



Member News

Baptisms

Sydney Jane Roan, daughter of **Chris and Emily Roan**, sister of **Marty Roan**, was baptized on Sunday, March 3 during the 9:00 AM Celebration service.



Freya Van Stolk, daughter of **Heather Van Stolk and Elaine Rasnake** was baptized on Sunday, March 10 during the 11:00 AM service.



Fellowship Group Events

GenX Group

The GenXers (born between 1965-1980 give or take) enjoyed their first ever FPC Gen X Brunch after worship on Sunday, January 28! A good time was had by all! If you are part of Gen X, and you would like to help organize events for the group, please contact Laura Colee (laura.colee@fpcphila.org).



Band of Boomers

Join the Band of Boomers on Sunday, April 14 after church for a visit to Penn Museum, including a highlight tour. Home to over one million extraordinary artifacts and archaeological finds, the Penn Museum has been uncovering our shared humanity across continents and millennia since 1887. In bridging archaeology (the study of objects made by humans), with anthropology, (the science of humanity), it charts a course for finding one's own place in the arc of human history.

The highlight tour features several of the signature galleries, and is led by one of the Museum's Graduate Guides. Discover highlights of the Museum's collection and how archaeologists use them to understand the past.

Meet at 1:30 at the Museum (3260 South Street), which is a 30 minute walk, a short bus ride (42 bus) or a quick drive (parking is available next door) for the highlight tour. The cost for admission and the tour for seniors (65+) is \$20.00, and \$22.00 for younger Boomers. Lunch is available at the café beforehand. Please RSVP to Shellie Unger (shellieunger@mac.com).

fpcQ Does GayBINGO — May 11

Join the fpcQ group for an evening of GayBINGO on Saturday, May 11, for loads of fun that also supports a good cause. The event is held at Congregation Rodeph Shalom (615 N. Broad St). Doors open at 6:00 PM and GayBINGO begins at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$40 each and can be purchased via this link: www.aidsfundphilly.org/gaybingo. When you buy your ticket please write in "First Presbyterian Church-fpcQ" as the table name and we will be grouped together. Contact Larry Slagle (lrsagle@gmail.com) for more information.

GayBINGO is a fundraising event for AIDS Fund. AIDS Fund conducts a variety of programs throughout the year to increase public awareness about the impact of HIV on our communities. AIDS Fund's mission is to educate about, and increase public awareness of, HIV / AIDS and to provide emergency financial assistance to people living with HIV disease and organizations providing HIV services in our communities.



The First Church Deacons' Retreat

How does a new deacon learn what is needed to prepare fellowship hour or serve communion, or any of the other myriad of deacon responsibilities?

At First Church's Annual Meeting in February, eight deacons were elected to join the board in June. Many of these eight have never been deacons. To improve the future functionality of the board, a day-long workshop was held at the church on Saturday, March 16. The workshop was attended by nine current deacons and six deacons-elect.

The workshop had three goals:

- to become better acquainted with each other
- to develop a team culture
- to become familiar with First Church amenities and practices

The workshop began with the story of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr and his theory on the "black death of childbed fever." (If you are unfamiliar with the story, look it up.) This story was used to illustrate that an automatic response to any new and fresh ideas should **NOT** be dismissed with "... that's not the way we do it at First Church!" Attendees were encouraged throughout the day to channel their inner Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

Attendees got to know each other, listening to answers to such questions as:

- What is one superpower from one of your grandparents that you'd like to have in your life?
- Why did you say YES to becoming a deacon?
- What unique skills do you bring to the Board of Deacons (and First Church) that will build up God's church?

A team building activity involved coloring a picture of the Somerville window that had been converted into an outline form. That picture was cut into 20 pieces (for ALL of the deacons and deacons-elect) and 15 pieces were randomly handed out to those present. Without anyone knowing what the full picture was, each person worked independently to color in their piece. These pieces were then pasted onto a master sheet. There were five missing pieces on the master sheet, for the five deacons / deacons-elect who were not present. Because everyone worked independently, there was no color coordination and although the resulting work was very colorful, it looked more like a Jackson Pollock painting (see figure 1). A full color picture of the window was then shared with the group. Another set of all 20 pieces was handed out, and the attendees worked as a collaborative team to color all 20 pieces, using the original photo as a vision / goal for the end result. These were then pasted onto another master sheet, with the result having no gaps and with sections being coordinated (see figure 2). From this exercise we learned that:

- A collaborative team can achieve more than a team of individuals working independently.
- A collaborative team can effectively fill in for missing members, without creating a significant burden on any one individual.



- Achieving a goal is much easier if a team has a shared vision of that goal.

The Reverend Laura Colee shared a message from Dr. Mullis regarding the importance of Deacons in the church, which she followed with a theme that she has been sharing in prior deacons' meetings on the importance of hospitality, in its various forms.

After a shared lunch, the group did a thorough walk-through of the church, with two goals. The first was to acquaint all present with all of the amenities of the church. The second, and potentially more important, was to walk through the current activities that deacons are involved in, where these activities occur. For example, in the kitchen, details of preparation for the Celebration service and Fellowship hours were covered, while in the sanctuary and narthex, responsibilities of ushering, serving communion, and guiding for communion were demonstrated.

To reinforce the team-building aspects of the day, all present were asked to write a word or phrase about everyone in attendance. After the workshop, these were all collated and everyone present received an email with what others said about them. Many found these words very touching.

The workshop ended with those present writing out cards to a number of church members.

—Gary Christensen, Moderator, the Board of Deacons



Figure 1, done by a team of incredible individuals, working independently.

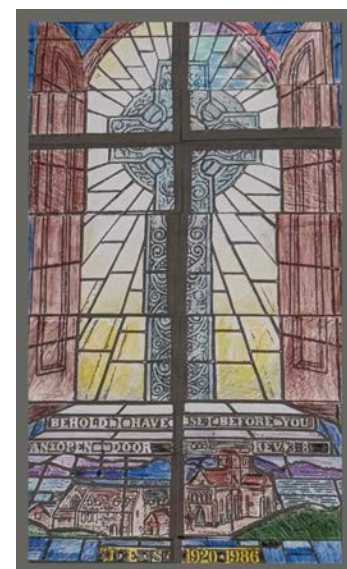
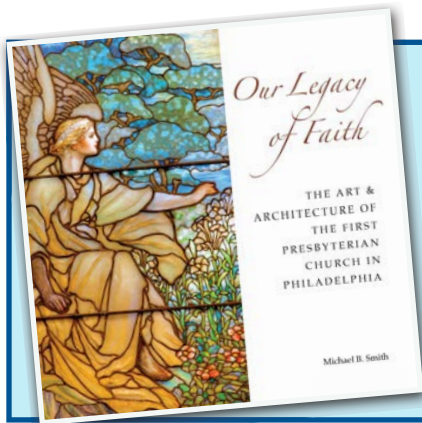


Figure 2, done by a team of incredible individuals, working collaboratively towards a shared goal.



GET YOUR COPY of the keepsake book, published for the 150th Anniversary of our building and the 325th year of our congregation! ***Our Legacy of Faith: The Art & Architecture of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia*** is now available. Contact the church office (office@fpcphila.org; 215-567-0532).



Scan the QR code



Text FPCPHILA to 73256 using your mobile device, followed by your contribution amount.

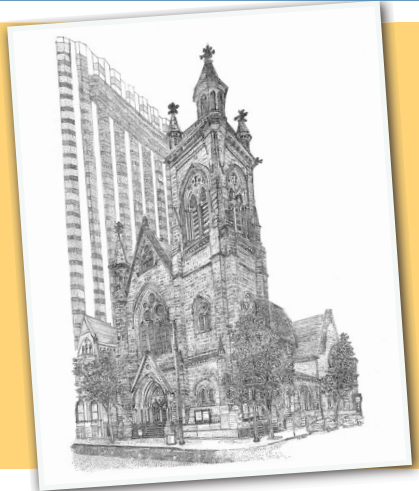
FPCPHILA \$100



@firstpresphilly

Commemorative Art Prints

Artwork by Edwin Allen commissioned for the 325th Anniversary of The First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia was unveiled at the celebration on November 5. Numbered limited edition copies of the original art are available for purchase for \$10, either in Black & White (Pen & Ink) or Color (Watercolor over Pen & Ink). Copies are matted 8x10" prints, which fit in an 11x14" frame. Contact the church office (215-567-0532) to get yours!



Audio Podcasts Available



First Church is pleased to announce that audio podcasts of our traditional worship services and sermons are available! Search for "First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia" in your favorite podcasting app to find and subscribe to our podcasts. Use these links to listen on Apple Podcasts:

WORSHIP PODCASTS

SERMON PODCASTS



[First Church Facebook Page](#)



Please submit all information for the May issue of The Messenger to communications@fpcphila.org by **Friday, April 19**.

The First Presbyterian Church IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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 Mr. Paul Fleckenstein, *Interim Organist*
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the Messenger

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 Owen Robbins, *Newsletter Design*

Elders

Class of 2024
 Reggie Amoa
 Susy Christensen
 Carol Cook
 Allan Schimmel
 Shellie Unger
 Jordana Woodford

Deacons

Class of 2024
 Anne Futterer
 João Magalhaes
 Michael Smith
 William Swoope

Class of 2025
 Carolyn Bavington
 Carolyn Crego
 William (Mac) McLarin
 Phil McMunigal
 Ina Mexhitaj
 Crystal Reeck
 Fraz Thomas

Class of 2025
 Heidi Artigue
 Joshua Banks
 Jeannie Boehner

Class of 2026
 Natalie Amoa
 Craig Boddorff
 Brian Chu
 Dave Huting
 Evelyn Schwartz
 Frances Tate

Class of 2026
 Lauriaselle Afanador
 Gary Christensen
 Elaine Hanby
 Jack Melvin
 Dan Seekins