



1stPresDowntown
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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1st Pres eNews

January 3, 2023

Important Links

1stPresDowntown.org

[Church Calendar](#)

[1st Pres on Facebook](#)

[Giving](#)

[Prayer Requests](#)

[1st Pres on YouTube](#)

Blog of the Week

Kent Kimball

Looking for Gold

Hymnody (Greek and Latin): the singing, composition, and study of hymns and psalms.



Every once in a while, I crack open an old book, *Hymns of Faith and Inspiration*, by Pamela ... [Read More](#)

This Week



Longtime active member, Jean Hjort, passed into heaven on Dec. 26, 2022. She has joined her husband, Bill, who passed away in January of 2022.

Memorial service will be held on Friday, January 6th at 11 am here at 1st Pres. The service in the Sanctuary will be followed by sandwiches and a cookie reception in Krueger Hall.

Hosting Family Promise

January 8 - 15th



We are once again hosting guest families at the church the week of January 8th through the 15th. The sign-up board is filling up in Krueger Hall, but we can always use more assistance. Please take a look to see where you can help or call Teri Burch, Judy Flieger or Ann Smart if you have questions.

Deacons' Christmas for the Closet Thank you for re-stocking the Closet



The first ever Deacons'-sponsored

Youth Ministry Update Starting in January

“Christmas for the Closet” has just wrapped up. Thank you to everyone who grabbed a tag or two and purchased items needed by families using the Closet. More than 30 items were collected to help re-supply the 1st Pres Neighborhood Closet. This wouldn’t have been possible without your help!

Blessing Restaurant & Hospitality Workers Care Cash Gift Envelopes



In the month of January, 1st Pres will be helping to support our mission

partner CDAIDE by bringing awareness to their CARE CASH drive, which is a very tangible way of sharing the love of Christ. We will be making envelopes available and may have someone from CDAIDE available to answer questions between services. This is a simple but effective way to help support the well-being of our local restaurant and hospitality workers at this difficult time of year. Here’s some information about the program.

For the rest of the story & details click [HERE](#)

Beginning this month, our Youth Ministry will be offering separate gatherings for middle (6th-8th) and high (9th-12th) school youth discipleship. These separate times will allow students to discuss topics relevant to their everyday lives.

Communion Sundays (1st Sunday of the month), both middle and high school youth will stay in the service to worship with the congregation, and partake in communion, if they choose. Middle schoolers will meet regularly on all other Sundays during the 9 am service for fellowship and discussion-based study. High schoolers will meet weekly from 11:30-12:30 for lunch, fellowship, and discussion based study.

Our youth will continue to have service opportunities within the church, and we will also introduce some new service opportunities within the community for students and their families. This summer brings new camp opportunities so be sure to stay connected to find out more!

We are looking forward to connecting with our families and students this coming year, and we thank you for your support.

“Per Capita is crucial to the overall health of the PC(USA), because it binds presbyteries, synods, and congregations together in one church.”

- J. Herbert Nelson, II,
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC(USA)

2023 Per Capita

This year’s per capita cost is \$40 per member. As a member of 1st Pres and the national PCUSA body, your per capita supports local Presbyterian services such as Camp Spaulding and the local Presbytery office. This is one of many opportunities that members have to participate in the wider reach of their church.

Understanding Per Capita

Timothy Hart-Andersen shares a personal reflection on his journey to understanding how Per Capita ‘...helps build up the Body of Christ’. [Read the article](#) printed in the Nov/Dec 2021 issue of Presbyterians Today.

Sunday's Service

Watch again or for the 1st time!



Ephiphany | The Three Wise Men. Like the wise men, the Lord often leads us to strange places. Watch this past Sunday's service as we explore how God uses them to transform our lives.

[Watch now](#)

Many thanks to our team of volunteers who make broadcasting the service possible!

[Watch this service or any of our past services on our YouTube Channel](#)

Church News

Gift a Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket

to someone who could use a lift

Our wonderful knitters meet every week to keep our supply of prayer shawls ready to gift to someone who could use a boost.



You can find their handiwork in the Fireside Room. Please be sure to fill-in the sign-out sheet when you choose your gift.

In case you missed it:

[Bonnie's White Bean Chili Recipe](#)

Small Groups



We are in the process of re-imagining our small-group opportunities. If you are interested, please stay tuned. In the meantime, you can find information on our website. If you can't find what you're looking for, please call the office.

- [Men's Fellowship](#)
- [Sunday Bible Study](#)
- [Women's Circles](#)

January Weekly Events

Sundays

7:55 am Bible Study
9 am **Classic Service** in Sanctuary & Online
10:30 am **Contemplative Service** in Sanctuary

Masks are encouraged if you are vulnerable.

DOXA 11 am in Gym

Thursdays

Ecumenical Lunch Kitchen
ARMS Meeting
Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Fridays

Knitting for Warmth resumes
January 13th

Children & Family Ministry



Volunteer Schedule

The new online list for volunteer signup is now available! The new signup sheet is also available on the wall in its usual place outside of the Adventure Kids Zone.

Volunteer Dates Needed:

- 1/8- Prek teacher and Elementary assistant needed
- 1/15- Both assistants needed
- 1/22- All positions open
- 1/29- All positions open

Offerings

This week, the kids will be giving me ideas as to types of places they would like to see their offerings go to. I will try to find an organization that matches, and present them to the C&F Team for voting in February.

Ring the Bell

Sign-up on the sheet outside of the downstairs kids rooms to ring the bell. The weekly kids newsletter will detail what dates are available.

Email Kyler for more information if you would like to volunteer:

1stpreschildren@gmail.com. You can also check the volunteer sign-up sheet to sign-up for Sunday School and to help with kids' events:

Sunday School and Event Volunteer
Signup

Background Check Form

Youth Ministry



Sunday Morning Youth Group

Join us in the Youth Room!

Sign-up for the Youth Family Newsletter

Get connected with our family newsletter!
Email Kierstie to receive the newsletters.

The 1st Sunday of every month, all youth will stay in the Sanctuary to participate in Holy Communion.

Middle Schooler are invited to join us Sunday mornings in the Youth Room for connection and discipleship during the 9 am service.

Check Out Our Schedule

Join our group on the Band App to see our schedule, upcoming events, and more! Don't forget to turn on notifications. Click [here](#) to join!

High Schoolers will meet at 11:30 for lunch and connection. Contact [Kierstie](#) for details.

Volunteers Needed!

Our team has many fun events planned for our youth, and we would love your help and participation! There are many ways to get involved, from chaperoning big events, serving meals, hiking with students, etc. Please email [Kierstie](#) to get involved!