

CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUGUST IS FPCNE'S MONTH to volunteer at the North East Community Food Pantry on Friday and Saturday mornings. Please sign up in the Assembly Room. Thanks to everyone who has signed up already!

WE'LL BE WORSHIPPING IN GIBSON PARK WITH OUR FRIENDS FROM PARK METHODIST CHURCH during the month of August, through Labor Day. Mark your calendars.

PLANNING AHEAD FOR BACKPACKS! Help out our local children and participate in the "Back to School Backpack" program. It's the 18th year for this terrific mission project. Pick up forms and instructions in the Assembly Room. Backpacks are due back on August 6. Pick up one or a few!

ERIE GIVES DAY IS AUGUST 12 FROM 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM. The Erie Community Foundation and the North East Community Foundation will match a percentage of each donation given to FPCNE. Let's support our church with another year of generous donations!

GOT FLOWERS IN YOUR GARDEN? Bring a little bit of God's beauty indoors to beautify our chancel area. We have lots of vases on hand.

JOIN OUR E-PRAYER CHAIN. Speak with Pastor Gregg or email Jane Livingston at jlivingston@neo.rr.com to be added.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF FPCNE? Speak with Pastor Gregg. He'd love to talk with you.

We don't
shrink back—
We press on in

faith
and
are saved.

Based on Hebrews 10:39

First Presbyterian Church

25 West Main Street | North East, PA 16428
(814) 725-8641 | FPCNE.ORG | Follow us on Facebook

WELCOME



WELCOME TO ALL. You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a child of God, joining in worship with our Christian family. Please take a moment to complete a Visitor/Guest Card, located in the pew racks, and place it in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary or give directly to Pastor Gregg. We are glad you are here.

TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP, please turn off or silence cell phones, tablets, and all other wireless electronic devices upon entering the sanctuary.

FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, nursery care is available for infants and young children through pre-K.

RESTROOMS are located across from the office area and down the hallway in the Christian Education wing.

PARKING IS AVAILABLE in the designated church parking spaces on the south and east side of the church, as well as street parking. The municipal building parking lot west of the church is also available during evening hours and on Sunday mornings.

TODAY'S LITURGICAL COLOR IS GREEN, which symbolizes spiritual growth and is used during Ordinary time—all time periods during the church calendar not marked by a specific season.

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL is held on Facebook on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM (ET). Please contact Pastor Gregg directly to share any prayer requests.

CONTACT INFO YOU MIGHT NEED

- Contact Pastor Gregg anytime at (814) 460-3123 (call or text) and pastortownsend@yahoo.com.
- Contact music director Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135 (call or text) and jlivingston@neo.rr.com.

**You are my shield, my strength, my portion, Deliverer,
My shelter, strong tower, my very present help in time of need.**

Whom have I in heaven but You? There's none I desire besides You.
And You have made me glad. I'll say of the Lord...

**You are my shield, my strength, my portion, Deliverer,
My shelter, strong tower, my very present help in time of need.**

*** OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND**

*** BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE**

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**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL BULLETIN
ANNOUNCEMENTS by Wednesdays.**
Please email Pastor Gregg or Jane.

OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

1. Place your **envelopes** in the plates at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Give through **PayPal** at paypal.me/fpcne or at FPCNE.ORG.
3. Scan the **QR code** with your phone camera using the card located in the pew pockets to go right to the church's Paypal account.
4. Speak with Pastor Gregg for information on setting up **direct deposit**.

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RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* RESPONDING IN SONG “We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight”

1. We walk by faith and not by sight; No
2. We may then, O touch His hands - and side, Nor
3. Help Lord, our life of un - be - lief; And
4. That, when our life of faith is done, In

gra - cious words we hear From Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise
may our faith a - bound To call on You when
realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You

none e'er spoke; But we be - lieve Him near.
we re - joice, And And cry, "My Lord and God!"
You are near, And seek where You are found.
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* CLOSING SONG

“Made Me Glad”

I will bless the Lord forever. I will trust Him at all times.
He has delivered me from all fear. He has set my feet upon a rock.
And I will not be moved, and I'll say of the Lord...

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 27, 2025, 10:00 A.M.

Jane M. Livingston, Director of Music

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor

**Indicates to stand if you are able*

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND PRAYER REQUESTS. Please fill out a Prayer Card located in the pew racks and give to Pastor Gregg before the service.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GATHERING MUSIC

“Jesus, Firm Foundation”

WELCOME

Pastor Gregg Townsend

* GREETING

* CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

Beth Poor

Leader: Our hearts are ready, O Lord, our hearts are ready!

Congregation: We will sing and make melody! We will awaken the dawn!

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples, we will sing praises to you among the nations.

For your steadfast love is great above the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

—based on Psalm 108:1-4

* OPENING PRAISE

“How Firm A Foundation”

How firm a foundation, Ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge, to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, Omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters, I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;.
For I will be near thee, Thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee, Thy deepest distress.

“When through fiery trials, Thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we groan at our weaknesses, and we ask forgiveness.
Your Word is so clear, and your grace is so good. But we close our
ears to your call, and with our perverse pride we foul the gifts you
have given us. We know what you require of us; yet what we do is
not the good we want to do, and the evil we do not want to do, that
evil we keep on doing. We mistreat those we love, and we dishonor
you, the One who made us. How long, O Lord, will we continue to
ignore your will?**

**Yet you provide streams of living mercy; you invite us again and
again to live renewed lives. So we turn once again to the cross, to
the empty cross, to the stone rolled away, to our interceding Lord
Jesus Christ seated at your right hand, to the gracious gift of your
Spirit. We seek your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
We draw upon your promises, and we ask once again simply for
mercy. With your Holy Spirit, sanctify us. Hear our prayer, O
Lord, for we ask it in Christ’s name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

To all who turn from sin in sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope, this
is God’s Word of grace: We are accepted, we are forgiven, we are
loved. This gift we have from God.

Thanks be to God.

*** SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

“He Is Holy”

Look upward to Jesus, He is mighty to save.
His love, like an ocean, we sink in its waves.
Here wash in the blood of the crucified one,
And shout His salvation in heaven begun.

He is holy, strong and mighty, maker of the earth.

He is holy, full of glory, worthy of all praise.

Lord of all the earth, Jesus, King of kings, the Son of God.

Oh, do not dishonor the name of our King,
To think that you cannot be free from all sin.
He died to redeem you. His promise is sure.
He’ll wash you and keep you eternally pure.

He is holy, strong and mighty, maker of the earth.

He is holy, full of glory, worthy of all praise.

Lord of all the earth, Jesus, King of kings, the Son of God.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 11:17-22

MESSAGE