

CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAY FOR A SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR IN HONOR OF PASTOR GREGG for Pastor Appreciation Day.

CHANCEL AND BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS HAVE RESUMED ON THURSDAY EVENINGS. We need both men and women, both singers and ringers! Singing or ringing in choir is really a lot of fun and is a great way to serve the church. Bell Choir practice is held on Thursdays at 6:00 PM, followed by Chancel Choir at 7:00 PM. Speak with Jane Livingston if you have questions or for more info.

LIBRARY NEWS: BOOK SELECTION SUGGESTIONS! If you have book suggestions, we'd love to hear from you. Place your suggestions in the box located in the Assembly Room.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 26 FOR OUR SOUP COOK-OFF. Stay tuned for details and start thinking of your soup creations to enter. Sign up in the Assembly Room.

HELP SUPPORT OUR CLOTHING MINISTRY. Please consider donating your gently used winter clothing to the clothing ministry. We are especially in need of children's clothing this year. You can place your donations in the Assembly Room or send them to the church, and we'll put them to very good use!

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS BY WEDNESDAYS. Please email Pastor Gregg or Jane.

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

October is
Pastor Appreciation
Month



gratitude

Εὐχαριστία



Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. I am praying for you with a glad heart and am so pleased that you have continued with us, believing and proclaiming God's message, from the day you heard it.

There is no doubt that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.

Adapted from Philippians 1:3-6
The Message

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.

SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* CLOSING SONG “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion city of our God.
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose.
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See the streams of living waters springing from eternal love.
Well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear.
For a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner, light by night and shade by day.
Safe they feed upon the manna,
Which God gives them when they pray.

* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

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. Click On the Paypal link. Easy!
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 Will Feast in the House of Zion”

We will feast in the house of Zion.

We will sing with our hearts restored.

He has done great things.

We will say together:

We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire.

He is the Lord our God.

We are not consumed by the flood.

Upheld, protected, gathered up. **(Chorus)**

In the dark of night, before the dawn,

My soul, be not afraid.

For the promised morning, oh, how long?

Oh, God of Jacob, be my strength. **(Chorus)**

Every vow, we’ve broken and betrayed.

You are the faithful one.

And from the garden to the grave,

Bind us, together bring shalom. **(Chorus)**

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.

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

18th Sunday after Pentecost | Pastor Appreciation Sunday

October 12, 2025, 10:30 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

WELCOME

Pastor Gregg Townsend

* GREETING

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jan Nagle

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song;

Congregation: sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, praise his name;

proclaim his salvation day after day.

—Psalm 96:1-2, NIV

* OPENING PRAISE

“Preach the Word”

Lord, we come to worship, your glory to proclaim.

Pledge our lives and service, in Christ you call our name.

Follow your holy ways for Your Word is ever true.

We are called to preach the Word: Your Messengers of faith.

Season after season, Your truth remains the same.

Your eternal guidance transforms us in our faith.

Lest we neglect, O Lord, your mission here on earth.

We are called to preach the Word: Your Messengers of faith.

Lord your law is perfect, revives the weary soul.
May we seek Your will and Your wisdom to uphold.
There is no fear or strife if only we obey.
We are called to preach the Word: Your Messengers of faith.

Father, You've provided. What more could we have asked?
Savior, You redeemed us, forgiven us our past.
Spirit, work through us, make our conscience wholly yours.
We are called to preach the Word: Your Messengers of faith.

Blessings, you have brought us, unworthy though we be.
Help us live your vision, with courage to believe.
And spend our days on earth, sharing ministries of love.
We are called to preach the Word; Your Messengers of faith.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, our hearts are heavy with the violence of our world,
so much suffering through the ages, wars and holocausts, genocide and
abuse. We cry on behalf of our violent world:

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, you love and care for us as a parent; you came to share life
with us as a brother. But we confess we have failed to live as your
children and instead have broken many bonds. We cry on behalf of our
violent world:

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, you have called us to live together in community, to consider
one another as brother and sister, regardless of ethnicity, economic
status, or popularity. Yet we prejudge one another, refuse to love one
another, and victimize one another. We cry on behalf of our violent
world:

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, giver of all life, you fearfully and wonderfully made us and
breathed into our nostrils the breath of life. Yet we endanger the lives
of one another, abuse the lives of young children among us, destroy
those who are defenseless, and oppress those who are powerless. We
cry on behalf of our violent world:

**Lord, have mercy. Pardon us through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**May almighty God, who caused light to shine out of darkness,
shine in our hearts, cleansing us from all our sins, and restoring us
to the light of the knowledge of God's glory, in the face of Jesus
Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

—based on 2 Corinthians 4:6, NIV

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

SONG FOR ILLUMINATION

“Speak, O Lord”

Speak, O Lord as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth plant it deep in us.
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness.
That the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O lord and fulfill in us, all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise. Cause our eyes to see.
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord and renew our minds.
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises.
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord till Your church is built,
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 12:18-24

MESSAGE