



I believe that we learn by practice.
Whether it means to learn to
dance by practicing dancing,
or to learn to live by practicing
living, the principles are the same.
In each, it is the performance of a
dedicated, precise set of acts,
physical or intellectual,
from which come shape of
achievement, the sense of one's
being, the satisfaction of spirit.
One becomes in some area an
athlete of God.
Practice means to perform over
and over again, in the face of all
obstacles, some act of vision,
of faith, of desire.
And there is grace.
I mean the grace resulting from
faith...faith in life, in love,
in people, in the act of dancing.
All this is necessary to any
performance in life which is
magnetic, powerful, rich in
meaning.

~ Martha Graham



Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2026
10:00 AM

*We worship God, who welcomes us all!
Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome, with whatever joys, questions, or tears you bring.
We listen for God's Spirit speaking through Prelude music as we open our hearts for prayer and praise.
* We are invited to rise together in God's Spirit. **

PRELUDE

Voluntary on the 100th Psalm

Henry Purcell

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: You gather us in your presence, God, bringing with us our joys and needs to be joined with all others.

All: We open our hearts, trusting that in Jesus you know by experience what human life is like.

One: We come as we are, with our confidence and questions, our hopes and fears, our triumphs and tears.

All: Journey with us, God, as we keep on following, yearning, living into your promise of Love.

*HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Holy God, Jesus guides us on your way to full life in peace. We try to press on, following him.
Yet, we get distracted—devotion fading, heart straying into ways more selfish than servant.
And so, we falter in fulfilling your loving purpose to help all of life flourish as you desire.
We stumble, shortsighted, and fall into words and ways more harmful to others than hopeful.
We fail to see and meet needs in our community, by conscious choice or unaware complicity.
In mercy, God, forgive us. Renew our calling. Restore our focus. Raise us to new life in Christ.
~ Prayer continues in silence. ~**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

from A Brief Statement of Faith

One: Friends, Jesus proclaimed God's reign of grace and was crucified. Yet, God raised Jesus, breaking the power of sin and evil, redeeming us and all creation. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives!

All: We belong to God! With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus!

One: In a broken and fearful world, God's Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to bear witness among people, to unmask idolatry, to hear voices of people long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

As we conclude passing the peace of Christ, children come forward to share the Time for Young Disciples.

*GLORIA #582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free
as it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be. Amen.**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

After our shared prayer, children go to the third floor for Sunday School.

Following worship, please, pick up your children from third floor classrooms.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Amid distractions of our minds and swirling words of our world, silence in us now, O God, any voice but your own. Turn us again to hear your call and trust your way of grace.

God be in our listening. God be in our understanding. God be in our faithful living. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 17:1-7

p. 64 OT

One: Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Like as the Hart Desireth the Waterbrooks

Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God.

When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

My tears have been my meat day

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:10-16, 4:4-9

p. 198 NT

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Keep On {Dancing}

"Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received ... and the God of peace will be with you."

(Philippians 4:9)

*HYMN 157

I Danced in the Morning

LORD OF THE DANCE

(verses 1, 2, 5)

THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND OFFERING

Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Laudamus te" from *Gloria*

A. Vivaldi

We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Thank you, God, for every blessing poured out upon us. Receive the offering of our lives, flowing from the gratitude of our hearts. Here we are, ready to serve as disciples of Christ, a source of blessing for your purposes of peace in every time and place. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

*HYMN 821

My Life Flows On

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Congregational response: Alleluia! Amen!

POSTLUDE

Herr Gott, dich loben wir BWV 725

J. S. Bach

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Seth Weeldreyer; Andre Castillo; Caroline Worra; Tara Church; Jesse Pieper; Chancel Choir; Lesley Craigie-soprano solo, Peggy Whitlock-reader.

Usher Team 2: Jon Charette (Captain), Ross Ogden (Deputy), Nancy Freeman, Sam Marasso, Julie Mather, Rob Rusk, David Zapata.

WELCOME!

We are delighted you are joining us in worship! Founded on Easter Sunday in 1881, First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich embraces our mission to nurture and empower people in all stages of life to be Christ's disciples and to actively serve those in need. All children are invited to stay in worship and join us on the steps during *Time for Young Disciples*. Children can be picked up following Sunday School in Room 343. **Childcare is available for those who are three years and younger in room 350.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

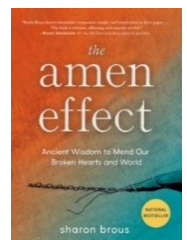
Members: Doris Leonard, Winona Mullis, Rudy Hroziencik

Friends:

To focus our collective desire to care, we will plan to announce new prayer concerns each week, keeping members and friends on our Prayer List for three weeks. If you or someone you know would benefit from being added to our weekly Prayer List, please don't hesitate to reach out to our church office at info@fpcg.org.

ADULT EDUCATION - JOIN US TODAY

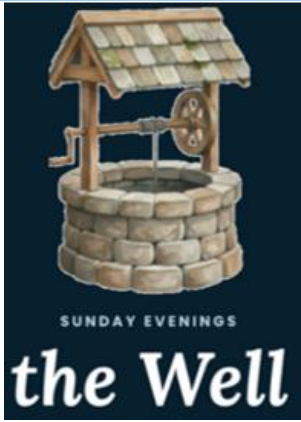
In the Chapel - Following Worship 11:30 a.m. we will conclude our conversation centered in *The Amen Effect*, by Rabbi Sharon Brous – chapters 7 and 8. "In a time of loneliness and isolation, social rupture and alienation, what will it take to mend our broken hearts and rebuild our society?" As we yearn for real connection, we reawaken shared humanity and a kind of sacred presence captured by the word *amen*—"I see you. You are not alone." Helpful to read ahead of time, best to simply come in any case!



EL CAMINO DE SANTIAGO PILGRIMAGE 2027

Last Wednesday, Pastor Seth shared an introduction to walking the *Camino* together in 2027, exact dates TBD. If you might feel called to join this holy expedition of the heart as much as the feet, look for the information sheet in the church office. Contact Seth with any questions! We'll likely need clarity about participants with a deposit received by mid-November.

Come Gather at THE WELL



We meet each month on the **second and fourth Sundays, 5:00 in the Chapel: October 25th, November 8th and 22nd.** Jesus' longest conversation in the Bible is with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well (John 4). She yearns for living water Jesus offers. Amid their deep questions comes a great affirmation: we worship God in spirit and in truth. Let's lower a bucket into depths of Holy Love among us—*the Well*. We'll share a more casual style—chairs circled around carpet with toys for tots (and parents) to settle among us, simple prayers, prelude, postlude, a couple of songs, and scripture reading / connection with life in a more conversational style. We'll offer lessons / activities for school-age kids and nursery care, if desired.

We'll see how the Spirit moves organically and adapt as ideas arise! The Well is deep! Get the bucket! Jesus promises that as we drink deeply a spring of living water will gush forth within and among us. Let's *aspire 2 inspire* ... together!

ADULT EDUCATION ACADEMY – OCTOBER 25, 2026 – 11:30 AM

The Reformation, Pope Leo XIV, and the Renewal of Christian Unity - The Protestant Reformation began in October 1517 during the papacy of Pope Leo X, Giovanni De' Medici, creating an unfortunate divide that has persisted in the Christian world. Today, American Robert Prevost, elected as Pope Leo XIV, occupies the seat of St. Peter in Rome. In less than two years, Pope Leo has struck a conciliatory tone and articulated a set of priorities that will define his papacy. Two basic themes are evident and deserving of attention. First, from the outset Leo has emphasized the importance of Christian unity, adopting as his motto "In the One, we are one." Second, the Pope has dedicated himself to safeguarding human dignity in the contemporary world, with a special concern for immigrants, victims of war, and the impact of artificial intelligence, themes which are fully developed in his first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, published May 15, 2026

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Join us for fellowship and book discussion in the Church Library on the 4th Floor. We gather at 9:15 a.m. for coffee and discussion starts at 9:30 a.m. Contact Colleen Giambo at cgiambo@gmail.com for further information. Here is the upcoming Women's Book Group selection:

November 20 - *Howards End*, by E.M Forster

December 18 - *Cool Machine: A Novel*, by Colson Whitehead

INTERFAITH BLOOD DRIVE



Don't let blood donation fall off your to-do list. Come to give Saturday, Oct. 31 and receive a \$10 Amazon Gift Card by email plus 200 bonus points toward exclusive Blood Donor Rewards. Book your time now for the Interfaith drive at First Presbyterian Church (1 West Putnam Ave., Greenwich, CT) by scanning the QR code, going online at rcblood.org/donate using code: FPCG, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



COMMUNITY NIGHT / HOLY HAPPY HOUR!

Wednesday, October 21, 5:00 in the Chapel coordinating with other afternoon / evening activities, Pastor Seth offers an opportunity to nourish faith together. It's Happy Hour! Jesus turned water into wine. Forgoing other spirits, we'll share water—bubbly and still—and open our hearts to how God's Spirit stills us and bubbles up among our insights, experiences, yearnings we share! **This week we'll conclude with Chapters 10 and 11 from Marcus Borg's, *The Heart of Christianity*.**

After a couple of weeks off, **we'll return on November 11** with excerpts from scripture and other works centering on Thanksgiving. Photocopied resources are available on the table in the third-floor office area. Helpful to read ahead of time, best to simply come in any case! Let's *aspire 2 inspire* ... together!

COMMUNITY NIGHT / MUSIC PROGRAM



Holy Happy Hour, music rehearsals, dinner, live music & fellowship!

***Live music every Wednesday, 6:00–6:30 pm**

5:00–6:00 pm

Holy Happy Hour **w/ Pastor Seth** · Chapel

6:00–7:00 pm

Dinner & Live Music · Fellowship Hall

5:00–6:00 pm

All-Age Family Music **w/ Caroline & Kreg** · 4th Floor

6:30–7:15 pm

Steeple Band **w/ Caroline & Kreg** · 4th Floor

5:00–6:00 pm

Bell Choir **w/ Heather** · Sanctuary

7:15–8:45 pm

Chancel Choir **w/ Caroline & Jesse** · 4th Floor

Are you interested in participating in our Wednesday evening 6:00-6:30 LIVE MUSIC ceilidh during Dinner-for-All? What is a ceilidh? (pronounced kay-lee) Found especially in Scotland, it is an informal social gathering with folk music, instrumental music, singing, dancing, poetry, and storytelling! ALL AGES are invited to perform! And/or are you interested in being a reader on Sunday mornings? Reach out to me anytime to let me know that you'd like to be on the list for either! caroline.worra@fpcg.org

All ages invited to sing "Oh When the Saints" during the morning offertory for All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1st! All ages are also invited to sing in our Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols on Saturday, December 5th at 5:00! We will be rehearsing for both on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 and I will send out practice tracks if you can't make the rehearsals.

FELLOWSHIP

One of our favorite Fellowship events is in season! Please consider hosting a fall Fellowship dinner or a fun gathering of church family and friends. If you have an idea and a date that works for you, please reach out to Kimberly Lee at kimber147@gmail.com. We look forward to gathering to celebrate the feelings of friendship, camaraderie, and fellowship of our wonderful FPCG congregation.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS

As Deacons, our ministry is one of compassion, witness, and service. It includes services such as hospital visits, meal deliveries, an altar flower to celebrate a birth, arranging rides to worship and generally being available to hear any concerns or questions. We warmly invite you to reach out on your behalf, or perhaps on behalf of another church member who may benefit from a meal, a visit, or just a word of encouragement. Contact the church office at (203) 869-8686 X 110, or one of our pastors, or email our Deacon Moderator, Julie Mather (matherct@msn.com). Your wellbeing is important to us.

FIRST 4 FOOD - Imagine the warmth and comfort of homemade soups delivered right to your door! Our dedicated volunteers are ready to bring love and care to members recovering from physical, emotional, or other challenging situations. Need a meal? Feeling inspired to cook or deliver? Reach out to Renie Blair at (203) 637-1807 and be part of this heartwarming initiative.

FIRST SUNDAY TRANSPORTATION - We are offering rides to and from church on the FIRST SUNDAY of each month so that members can participate in Communion, worship, and fellowship. Call Bob Giambo (914) 434-4832 to arrange transportation. We look forward to having you join us.

THANKSGIVING TREATS 2026 – for the Children



STEWARDSHIP: The 2026 Generosity Challenge

Be Generous — Stewardship Update

Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, “**Be Generous**,” is going well. To date, we have received pledges totaling **\$1,175,899—90% of our \$1.3 million goal**. Thank you to everyone who has already pledged, and a special thank-you to those who increased their commitment this year.

The final 10% is always the hardest. We are confident that we will exceed \$1.2 million, but reaching our full goal will require some additional help. If we have not yet heard from you, please let us know your plans as soon as possible. And if you have already pledged and are able to do more, we invite you to look at our **Generosity Circles** and consider stepping up to the next level.

There is a renewed sense of energy and optimism at our church. Pastor Seth has been warmly received, and the Session is making exciting plans for the future. **Meeting our stewardship goal will give us the resources to turn those plans into reality.** If you are able to do more, please consider doing more. Together, we can finish this campaign strong.

To pledge, visit church’s website: www.fpcg.org/2026stewardship

Email the Elder for Stewardship, Brian Pennington, at stewardship@fpcg.org

Email Director of Operations, Erin Moore, at erin@fpcg.org or call 203 869 8686 ext. 123.

LEADERSHIP OF OUR CONGREGATION

Session

Rev. Dr. Seth E. Weeldreyer, Senior Pastor
Rev. Andre Castillo, Associate Pastor
Michelle Binnie, Clerk of Session

Philip Carrone (Membership)
Delano Copprue (Adult Ed)
Lilian Eng (Nominating)
Lee Ganshaw (Mission Engagement)
Layne Grindal (Finance)
Liz James (Children)
Jim Joyella (Personnel)
Ryan Kim (Youth)

Kimberly Lee (Fellowship)
Lori Mulcare (Nursery School)
Brian Pennington (Stewardship)
Elizabeth Peyton (Worship)
Stephanie Schnabel (Buildings and Grounds)
Sue Sproule (Endowment)
Sandy Waters (Communications)

*Assigned committees are noted (parenthetically) – please contact the elder, if interested in connecting.
Messages sent to clerk@fpcg.org go to the Clerk of Session, who then shares them with all elders on Session.*

Board of Deacons

Julie Mather, Moderator

Wayne Atwell
Renie Blair
Diane Brown
Margaret Copprue

Jennifer Dott
Bob Giambo
Carolyn Hahn-Re
Liz Harden

Betsy Harper
Barbie McKelvey
Judith Riggs
Catherine Stahl

Messages sent to deacons@fpcg.org go to all deacons.

Clergy & Staff Contacts

Rev. Dr. Seth E. Weeldreyer, Senior Pastor	seth@fpcg.org	Ext. 115
Rev. Andre Castillo, Associate Pastor	andre.castillo@fpcg.org	Ext. 119
Dr. Caroline Worra, Minister of Music	caroline.worra@fpcg.org	Ext. 120
Tara Church, Director, Children's Ministries	tara@fpcg.org	Ext. 118
Heather Antonissen, Director, Bell Choirs	heather.antonissen@fpcg.org	
Jestin Pieper, Organ Associate	jestin.pieper@fpcg.org	
Erin Moore, Director of Operations	erin@fpcg.org	Ext. 123
Randy Ante, Facilities Manager	randy.ante@fpcg.org	Ext. 114
Rommel Espano, Sexton	rommel.espano@fpcg.org	Ext. 112
Jane Parker, Bookkeeper	jane@fpcg.org	Ext. 128
Linda DiMarino, Office Administrator	officeadmin@fpcg.org	Ext. 110
Megan Florentine, Director, Nursery School	megan.florentine@fpcgns.org	(203) 869-7782

Ministers: All members of the congregation.

Our Vision:

*We are a growing community of love and compassion, centered on Christ,
inspired by faith and hope, devoted to serve in today's world.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENWICH

One West Putnam Avenue · Greenwich, Connecticut 06830
www.fpcg.org · (203) 869-8686



We are a Stephen Ministry Church.

