

August 14, 2022
10:00 a.m.
10th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carol Palmer

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather, centered in the promises of God,

Caught in the web of grace,

Whirled in wonder and joy,

Welcomed into the house of blessing.

We gather, surrounded by a cloud of witnesses,

Lifted up by stories of faith,

Moved by challenging words and heartfelt prayers,

Touched by joyous music and the power of God's love.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

What more can we say, Expectant God, that you don't know already? You long for justice for all people, but it is washed away by the flood of violence in our world. You hope that righteousness will walk with us, but you hear the clear cries of those we mistreat. You ask us to speak up for those in need, but we shut our mouths and turn away. Forgive us, Righteous God. Have mercy when we do not bear the fruit we could. Even though we have not lived our faith to the fullest, may we receive the promises of hope and grace you have given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Thanks be to God! The victory has already been won for us in Jesus Christ. We are forgiven.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN #466 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

Let us confess the faith of the Church as one, using the words of the Apostles' Creed. Church, what do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

(*universal)

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE:

Hebrews 11:29; 12:2 (N.T. pg.226)

ANTHEM

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Charles C. Converse

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON:

"A Great Cloud of Witnesses"

Rev. David Bowman

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #344

"Christ of the Upward Way"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #467 "How Great Thou Art"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Fairest Lord Jesus" Margaret Goldston

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able

Rev. David Bowman Bio:

Rev. David Bowman is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and has served in a pastoral role in several Presbyterian Churches in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. For the past 17 years he has been Pastoral Ministries Manager at Seabrook Village, a large continuing care retirement community in Tinton Falls, NJ. He resides on a small farm in New Egypt, NJ and is waiting for the birth of his first grandchild in early August.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

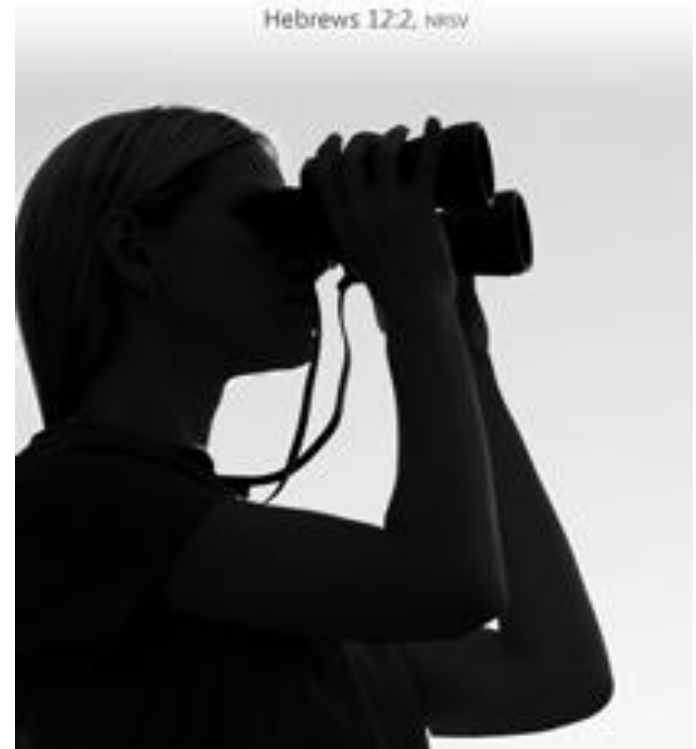
621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

August 14, 2022

... looking to Jesus the
PIONEER and PERFECTER
of our faith ...

Hebrews 12:2, NIV



“A Great Cloud of Witnesses”

Rev. David Bowman

Prayers for those with long-term concerns

We ask that these friends have God in their lives, that they and their families feel His loving presence, and comfort during their continued struggles. Updates will be printed as available.

Jennifer Perez – RSD/CRPS, & gastroparesis

Maria - a friend of the Knotts and Haggerty families; she is in an acute care facility for traumatic brain injury.

Friends and Loved Ones in the Service and their Families

STATESIDE

Robert L. Gillis – invasive cardiovascular technologist in the US Navy and stationed at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington DC, grandson of Barbara & Bill Morgan.

Lauren Hansen-Salmond – 1st LT, – Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky's niece

Jeffrey Hansen – 1st LT, Kuwait, Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky's nephew

Daniel Hedner – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Steven Stockl – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

OVERSEAS

The children and youth in our congregation and our youth ministry
Racial equality reconciliation in Woodbridge Township and our nation.

Our ministry partners –

Boys Town

Camp Johnsonburg

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

Elijah's Promise, New Jersey

International Justice Mission, Washington DC

International Students, Inc.

Mr. Matt Barany Jr., who serves with Second Level Ministry

Reliant Redemption Church, Pennsylvania

Navajo Ministries

Salvation Army of Perth Amboy, NJ

Saint Jude's Children's Hospital of Memphis, Tennessee

Walter Hoving Home

World Vision

Prayer Concerns and Praises August 14, 2022

The Prayer Chain - provides immediate prayer for *critical and emergency situations*. All other needs will be taken care of through the prayer list. To place someone on the prayer chain call Millie Knotts at 732-382-9391.

The Prayer List - provides opportunities to share prayer within our church family. Prayer requests will be published for up to 6 weeks unless updated. To add someone to this list call the church office at 732-634-1631.

(Note: Please be sure the person you are adding to this list has given his or her permission to do so).

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people”

Ephesians 6:18

New Joys and Concerns

Please pray for Vilma Ambis who has continuing health issues.

Please pray for Robbie Olah who is home from the hospital and recovering.

2nd Week

3rd Week

Please pray for Susan Shubeck, a friend of Betty Hulsizer, who is in treatment for Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer.

4th Week

5th Week

Prayers are needed for Flavia Flores, Maritza's Mom, who is in the hospital again with ongoing health issues. Please pray for Flavia's peace and comfort and for her family.

Please pray for Ryan, Gayle Nolan's Niece's Husband, who is at home recovering from surgery. He had part of his lung removed and will not need chemo or radiation.

6th Week

Prayers and Sympathies

Please keep Jeanne Degatano, a friend of Melanie Meli and Gay Patrouch, in your prayers. Her husband of 50 years, Tony, suddenly passed away on Friday, August 5th at the age of 72.

SHUT-INS

Please continue to keep in your prayers those members who are unable to join us for worship on Sundays.

Health and Healing

Carol Palmer and Jen Perez

The mission of First Presbyterian Church is **to grow in Christ and make Him known**. This is based on John 15:5: “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches, apart from me you can do nothing.” The Holy Spirit strengthens us to:

1. **Connect** to the vine,
2. **Grow** to maturity,
3. **Share** the fruit

STEWARDSHIP 2021

In an effort to help our congregation track our annual budget as it compares to giving, the Session has decided to include a brief monthly report. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and are completely dependent upon tithes, offerings, and donations to fulfill our budgeted expenses.

General Fund Balance	Net for the month	YTD
12/31/2021 \$ 76,156.39		
01/31/2022 \$ 73,393.05	\$(2,753.34)	\$(2,753.34)
02/28/2022 \$ 73,809.90	\$ 416.85	\$(2,336.49)
03/31/2022 \$ 64,806.01	\$(9,003.89)	\$(11,340.38)
04/30/2022 \$ 59,120.22	\$(5,685.79)	\$(17,026.17)
05/31/2022 \$ 54,878.34	\$(4,241.88)	\$(21,268.05)
06/30/2022 \$ 60,701.39	\$ 5,823.05	\$(15,445.00)
07/31/2022 \$ 67,525.20	\$ 6,823.81	\$(8,621.19)

CHURCH PROPERTY ACTIVE STEWARDS NEEDED (for pay) – When we rent church property such as the gym (Westminster Hall) or Jacob Morgan Hall, a church member must be present on site. Stewards open/close the building and oversee good property stewardship. For their service, stewards are paid \$12/hour (by renters). If you are able to serve in this way (occasionally or regularly), or have questions or would like more information, please call the church office from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

Per Capita Amount has been changed from \$45.00 to \$40.00

WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING. WE’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE! WE BELIEVE YOU ARE HERE FOR A DIVINE PURPOSE. LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN SERVE YOU TODAY!

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY, August 14, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. David Bowman)
(Guest Pianist-Ethan Draper)
Live Stream-Facebook

MONDAY, August 15, 2022

TUESDAY, August 16, 2022

WEDNESDAY, August 17, 2022

THURSDAY, August 18, 2022

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

FRIDAY, August 19, 2022

SATURDAY, August 20, 2022

SUNDAY, August 21, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Guest Preacher–Rev. Frederick H. Whitehurst)
Live Stream-Facebook

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: August 21st & August 28th. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and is to be paid in advance.

WORSHIP SERVICE LIVE STREAM – via Facebook every Sunday at 10:00 am. We hope you will join us online if you will not be attending at the church. Please tell your friends, especially shut ins.

BULLETINS – will now be on our website. Weekly bulletins can be emailed as well. If you would like a weekly bulletin emailed, please contact the Church Office to be put on the emailing list.

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – is now on Thursdays from 9:30am to 11:00am in the Sanctuary's Choir Room. Bring your projects, a friend, and any patterns you would like to share or may need help with. We can learn new things from each other.

NEW PASTOR – Our search for a pastor is moving along and we are ready to form a Pastor Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving on the PNC, please let a session member know.

WALTER HOVING HOME – will be celebrating 55 years and hosting a two-night Faith, Hope, and Love banquet at the Palace at Somerset Park beginning Thursday, September 29th. Registration is 6:00pm and Dinner and Program to follow at 7:00pm. Please visit WWW.HOVINGHOME.ORG/NJ Tickets for details.

GUEST PIANIST – for today is Ethan Draper. He is an organist and pianist from Metuchen, New Jersey. He currently plays in both church and recital settings and has earned his Service Playing Certification from the American Guild of Organists. Ethan will attend Lebanon Valley College starting this month, to study Sacred Music and Music Education.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, August 21, 2022, is Rev. Frederick H. Whitehurst. He is Lead Chaplain for Grace Healthcare Services in New Jersey. He attended Columbia Theological Seminary in GA and was ordained in 1996. Later, he became Stated Supply for Hapeville Presbyterian in Atlanta for 9 years and taught at Georgia State University for 10 years. Fred lived in Manhattan in the late 1970's and consulted with the contemporary art community. He is now living in Brooklyn and happily spending time with his daughter, son-in-law and 2 grandchildren.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE!

Visitors, we welcome you to this morning's time of worship. If you are looking for a church home or would like to explore the meaning of membership at Avenel Presbyterian Church, please ask an usher or the worship assistant.

Joseph Fernandez	Music Director	resolutjoe@gmail.com
Michael Peterson	Sexton	avenelpres@gmail.com
Stephanie Kurowsky	Stream Lines	avenelstreamlines@comcast.net
Belinda Kerchner	SS Superintendent	For 2022
Linda Vassallo	Church Office	(732) 634-1631
Susan Smolsky	Webmaster	rustisioux@comcast.net
	Church Email	avenelpres@gmail.com
	Church Website	avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, August 21st

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 13:10-17



Walter Hoving
Home Invitation.pdf