



# MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

April 2026



First Presbyterian Church of Ambler  
4 S Ridge Ave., Ambler PA 19002 [fpcambler.org](http://fpcambler.org)

## WHERE ART MEETS FAITH

**EDITOR INTRODUCTION:** There's something quietly brave about beginning. That's the spirit behind a new and evolving "Arts and Faith" group taking shape. This group is leaning into curiosity, conversation, and the shared desire to explore how Art and Faith intersect in meaningful ways.

Christie Bogrette has offered some reflections on her creative process and the ways to experience God through art. You are invited to read, reflect, and seek where art and faith might be meeting in your own life.

### Christie Bogrette

In 2007, Jim and I joined First Presbyterian Church after attending many services and deciding this would be our church home. We first heard of FPCA from my mother, Carol Durham, who decided to attend as a teenager after joining some of her member friends for youth group activities in the 1950s. She and my father attended other churches over the years but circled back to FPCA around the time Jim and I joined.

I am a lifelong artist whose early career was rooted in commercial healthcare interior design. Designing spaces that supported the well-being of patients and staff was deeply rewarding and strengthened my conviction that thoughtful, high-quality design enhances our daily lives.

This perspective continues to guide my painting practice. My subject focus is the Lowcountry landscape of coastal South Carolina and my work aims to capture the serenity and peace that I find spending time in this environment.



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## Where Art Meets Faith (continued)

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Each piece is informed by my design background, with careful attention to scale, color, and composition, and how a work will live within a space. I often refer to this accumulated experience as “eye-mileage,” gained through years of studying and exploring a variety of artistic mediums.

I’ve also had wonderful painting teachers along the way, including my mother, whose work inspired me before I ever picked up a paintbrush.

Christie responded to the following questions:

### **How does your faith influence your art?**

Just the process of starting a new piece of art requires faith! It can be a long process with many stages that are rather unattractive and challenging. Since I paint landscapes, I often feel like a conduit that is trying to capture God’s miraculous creation.

### **How does creating art help you experience or understand God?**

I believe art, in its many forms, is another way to communicate the divine. Language can be limiting and art is another tool of expression. Art is also another way to connect with people, and it is my hope, that my work can somehow bring peace to the viewer.

### **Have you ever created a piece that felt like a prayer, meditation, or spiritual practice?**

I’m reminded of Jesus’ spiritual practice of often spending time alone in the wilderness praying and then returning to be among the people. I wonder if Jesus needed to be surrounded by the sounds and beauty of nature while praying to feel more closely connected to God. This practice seemed to be his way of fortifying himself to be a more effective teacher. I can relate to this practice and hope to share that meditative peace through my work.



## COMMUNITY IN FULL BLOOM AT FAMILY FEST

Our recent Family Fest on April 17 was a JOYful celebration designed especially for preschoolers and young families, hosted by our very own **Seeds of Joy Nursery School**. With Ridge Avenue closed to traffic, the area around our church was transformed into a welcoming hub for our Ambler community and anyone who came by.



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## FAMILY FEST (continued)

Outside, church and community interactive stations offered fun and meaningful engagement for all ages. Highlights included the Ambler Community Garden, where you could plant a bean seed, Wissahickon Fire Squad 7 and their fire truck, hands-on activities with our Earth Care team, where families made bird feeders, and the opportunity to learn more about Water Missions. Judy Tudy the clown delighted children and adults alike with balloon creations and plenty of smiles, while Rita's generously served water ice to keep everyone refreshed. From above, friends at Ridge Hall enjoyed the festivities through open windows, joining the celebration.



Our playground buzzed with creativity, offering sand art and face painting provided by our youth group. Inside Fellowship Hall, the fun continued with carnival games, prizes, and free, freshly made popcorn.

A special thank you goes to Fal Klitsch for beautifully transforming Fellowship Hall into a blooming Spring Garden. Family Fest was filled with laughter, connection, and a spirit of welcome for our community. We're grateful to everyone who helped make it such a meaningful and memorable day.