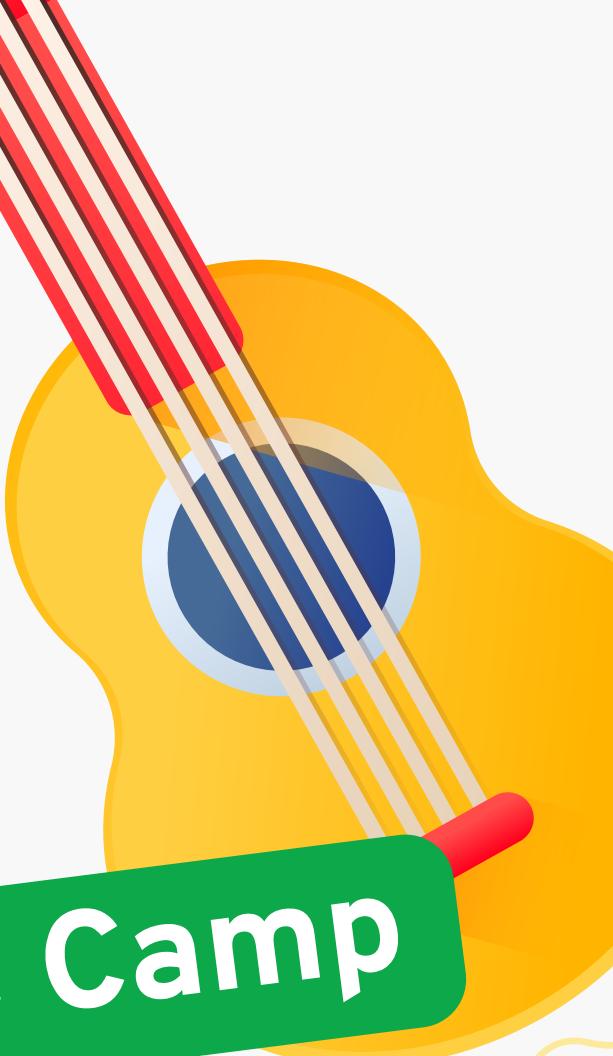
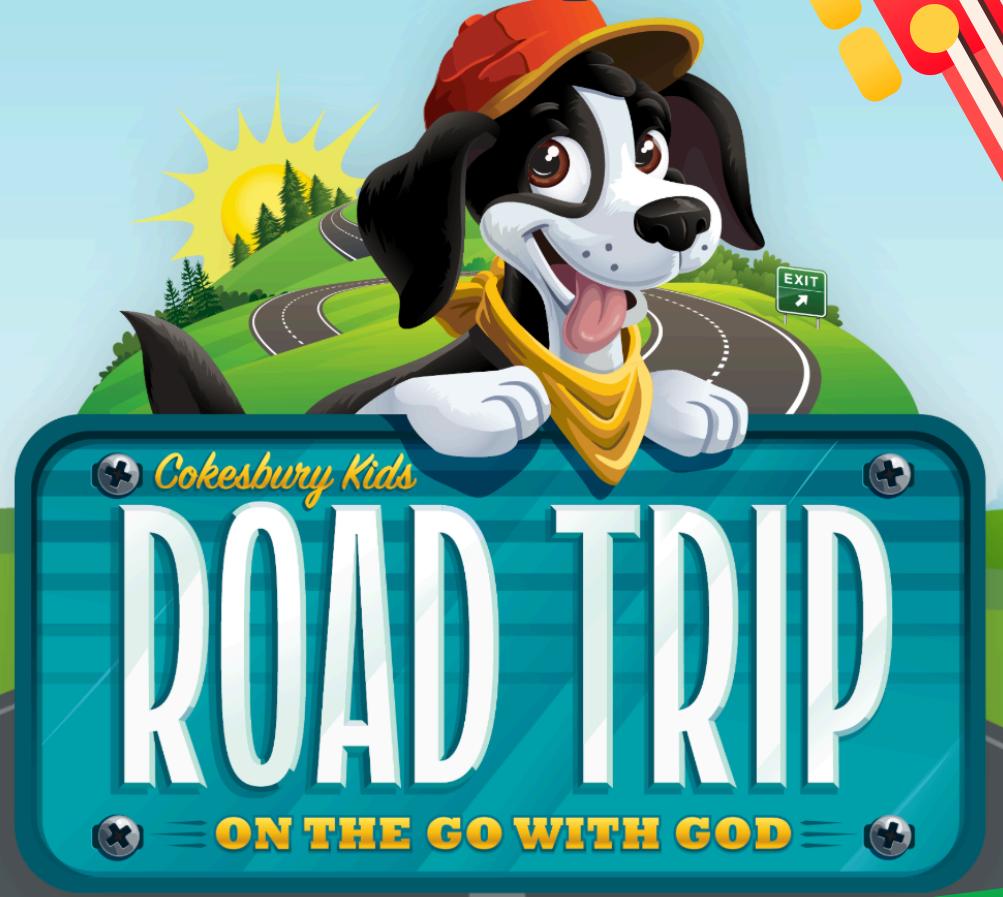


WELCOME SUMMER

**2025 FIRST PRES
SUMMER EVENTS**

**130 W Miner St
West Chester, PA 19382**

www.firstpreswc.com



VBS & Music Camp

AUG 11-15

First Pres is excited to offer a full week of fun for kids this summer, and we encourage church members to help spread the word! During the week of August 11 - 15 children are invited to attend Vacation Bible School in the morning,

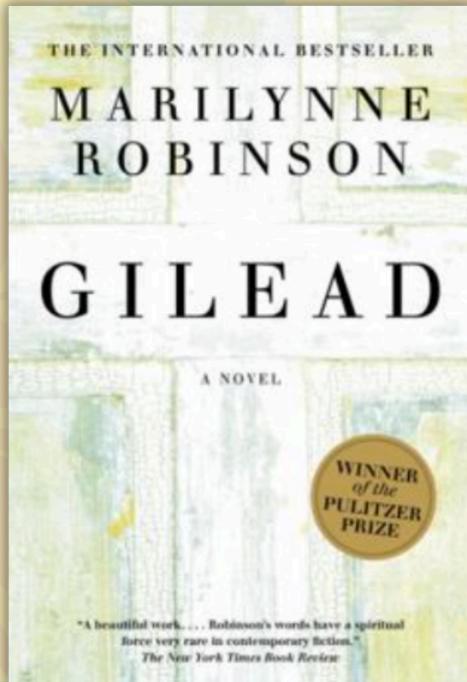
Music Camp in the afternoon, or both.

These camps are for children ages 4 years old through rising 6th graders.

Children attending **VBS** will get to experience Road Trip - On the Go With God. Through drama, crafts, games, science experiments, and snacks, kids will explore Bible stories that show how people from the Old and New Testaments journeyed with God through many locations and situations, finding strength in God's presence wherever they went.

Children attending **Music Camp** will have a week of musical adventure. Kids will explore elements of music through singing, dancing, and group activities. They'll get to create fun crafts, explore a variety of instruments, including pitched and non-pitched percussion, and discover multicultural instruments like the ukulele and didgeridoo!

If you have questions, please contact Sara Pantazes (the church's Director of Faith Formation) at spantazes@firstpreswc.com. Questions specifically about Music Camp can be directed to Amanda Erno (the church's Children's Choir Director) at aerno@firstpreswc.com.



Summer book club

Summer is a great time for reading, and this summer all are invited to revisit a classic. *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson is a deeply spiritual and beautifully written novel that won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2005. Twenty years later, we'll revisit (or discover for the first time) the wisdom found in this acclaimed work.

Set in the small town of Gilead, Iowa, the novel is a heartfelt letter from Reverend John Ames, an elderly Congregationalist minister, to his young son. As Ames reflects on his life, faith, and family legacy, *Gilead* offers a profound meditation on grace, forgiveness, and the quiet beauty of everyday moments.

Whether you're a long-time or occasional reader, we hope you'll join us for a thoughtful discussion of the book and fellowship on **Thursday, July 10 at 7 pm**. Let Sara Pantazes know if you need assistance acquiring the book.

All are welcome!

Lectio divina

You are warmly invited to participate in two special Lectio Divina sessions this summer on Sunday, June 8 and Sunday, August 10. Each session will offer a peaceful, guided time of prayerful Scripture reading, reflection, and quiet contemplation.

Lectio Divina, which means "divine reading," is an ancient spiritual practice that invites us to listen deeply for God's voice through Scripture. Whether you're new to this form of prayer or have practiced it before, all are welcome to join us for these meaningful mornings of spiritual renewal.

Sessions will run from 8:00 – 8:30 am in Room 214. Come as you are and enter into the stillness—no preparation needed. Talk to Sara Pantazes with any questions.

SUMMER LECTIO DIVINA



June 8 and August 10,
8 – 8:30 am

Phillies Game

Sat. 6/14 | 4:05pm

Tickets + Transportation:

\$57 or pay what you can

Bus service provided from West Chester

[Sign Up Here](#)



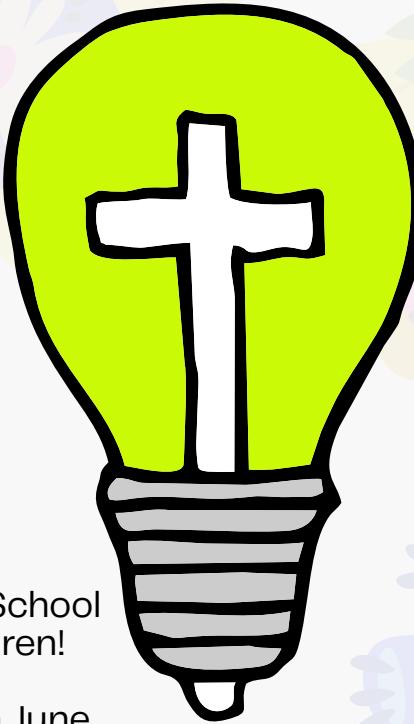
SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

This summer, we're excited to offer a special Sunday School program for our preschool and elementary-aged children!

During the sermon portion of both worship services in June and July, children will be invited to gather for short lessons focused on loving God and one another as a church community.

With younger and older children learning side by side, kids will have some light-hearted fun through games like Tangram Psalms, a Bible Emoji game, First Pres Jeopardy, Prayer Sandwiches, and more!

Summer Sunday School will begin on June 15 and go through July 25 (taking a break on July 6). Talk to Sara Pantazes with any questions or if you would be willing to volunteer to help.



ON-THE GO WORSHIP BOXES



Attention First Pres families – before you take off for vacation this summer, don't forget to grab an on-the-go worship box. Each box contains several activities to help your family worship while you are away, staying close to God throughout all your adventures. Be sure to return the box when you get back to church so that others can take it on their trips. Blessings on everyone's travels this summer!

Summer worship schedule

In-person services will continue throughout the summer on our regular schedule – 9:00 am Traditional and 10:45 am Contemporary.

We encourage all who are able to join us in the Sanctuary weekly for worship and fellowship during the time when there are generally fewer church-related activities occurring.

However, please note the following schedule changes to accommodate holidays:

A single worship service at 10:00 am will be held in the Sanctuary on:
May 25 – Memorial Day
July 6 – Independence Day weekend
August 31 – Labor Day

All services will also continue to be streamed for those who are out of town or can't attend in person.

Church offices will switch to a summer schedule after Memorial Day. The revised hours will be Mondays – Thursdays, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. The offices will be closed on Fridays.

In addition, the offices will also be closed on the following holidays:

Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day
Thursday, June 19 – Juneteenth
Monday, July 7 – Independence Day
Monday, September 1 – Labor Day



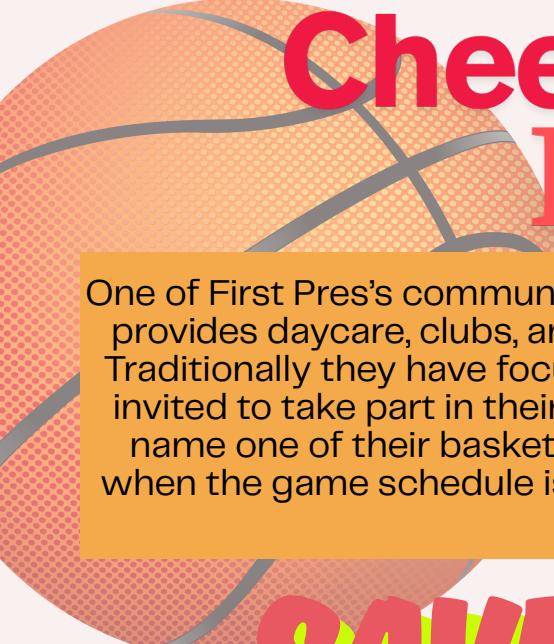


MOVIE NIGHT

First Pres is going to the movies!

We have a block of seats reserved at Uptown Theater for a showing of Disney's Beauty and the Beast on **Monday, June 30 at 7 pm.**

Your admission is free and includes popcorn! [Sign up online](#). Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center is located at 226 N. High Street, West Chester.



Cheer on the Holy Hoopsters!

One of First Pres's community mission partners is the Charles E. Melton Center, which provides daycare, clubs, and afterschool activities to West Chester's young people. Traditionally they have focused on kids living with a lack of resources, though all are invited to take part in their programs. This summer, part of First Pres was invited to name one of their basketball teams. The Holy Hoopsters' season begins June 22; when the game schedule is announced we'll share it with the church and we can go cheer them on together!

SAVE THE DATE ALL CHURCH PICNIC

On **Sunday, September 7** we'll be kicking off the fall season with an all-church outdoor picnic at **11:30 am**! Please pencil in the date, and more details will follow.

First Presbyterian Music Ministry Presents

EUROPE TOUR FAREWELL CONCERT

Europe Tour Choir and Brass Quintet

**Saturday, June 21
7 p.m.**

Join us for an exciting
program featuring classical
choral pieces, gospel, and
brass music

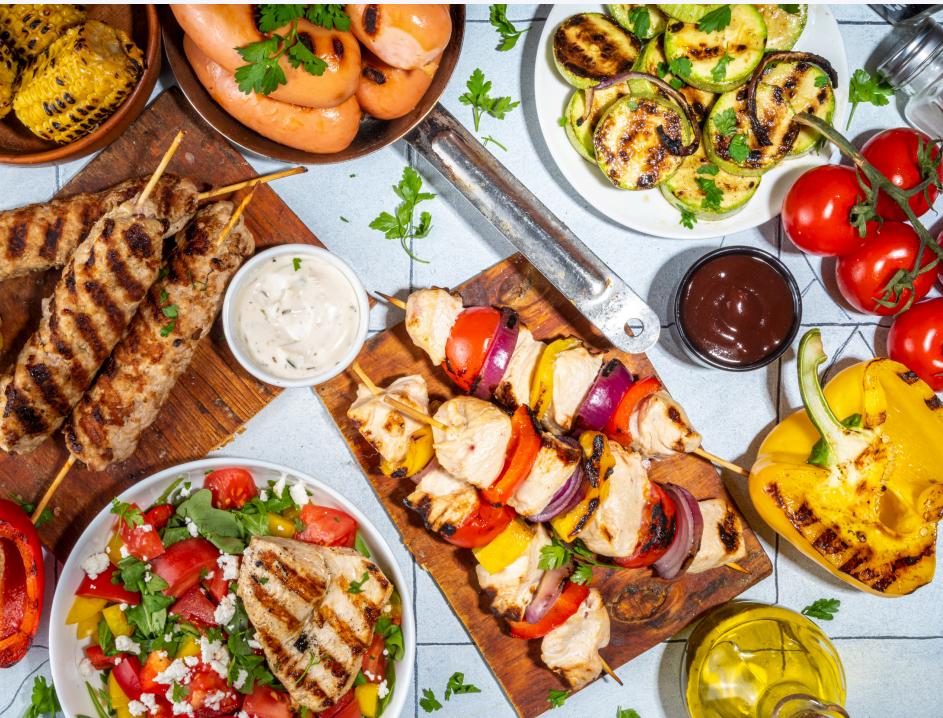
Admission is free;
donations gratefully accepted

First Presbyterian Church
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This summer, members of the Chancel Choir, Miner Street Brass, and WCU students are headed to Slovenia and Croatia for a concert tour. Fifty-five travelers, including the pastors and the Director of Music, will be bringing First Pres's music ministry to ancient churches and medieval villages. Follow First Pres's Facebook page for trip photos, and join us for a farewell concert on Saturday, June 21 when we'll be sharing music that will be performed on the tour, which will run June 23-July 5.

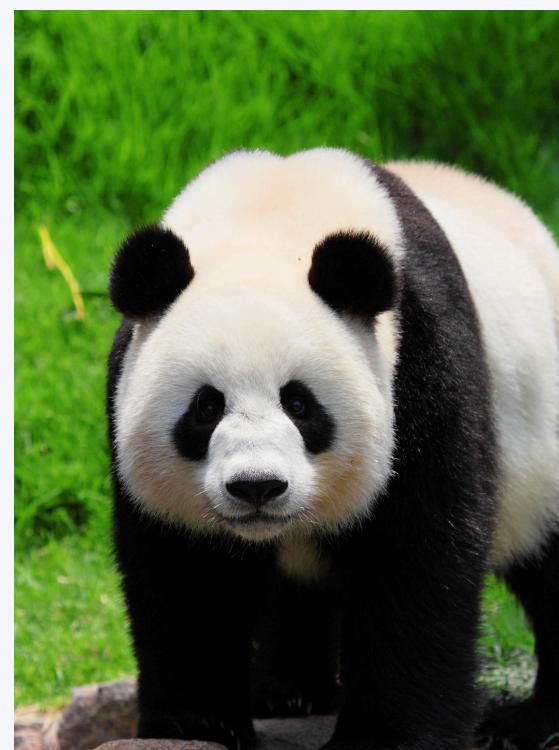
Summer Wednesday Lunches



Our Wednesday Lunch program will continue throughout the summer, bringing good food and fellowship to all who come through our doors. If you have always wanted to check out this ministry, [sign up](#) for a volunteer shift, bring a side dish or baked good to share, or simply stop by any Wednesday from 11:30 – 1:00. (Please note we will be off on June 25, July 2, and August 13.) We look forward to seeing you there!

First Pres Travelers

The First Pres Travelers have planned a trip to the Washington National Zoo to see the panda bears (and other animals) and a visit to Ford's Theater. The date is Tuesday, June 24. Cost is \$64; deadline to sign up is May 25. Our trips are an outreach mission of the church – please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors. If interested, contact Thom & Irene Clapper at psuthom@verizon.net for a schedule of events and payment information.



GIRLS GROUP

THURSDAYS 10-11:30AM

@MAYDAY

POOL PARTY

JUNE 18, 6-8PM

@THE DAMADIO'S

ICE CREAM NIGHT

AUG. 18, 7-9PM

@GEMELLI

GUYS GROUP

WEDNESDAYS 7-8:30PM

@BUDDY'S BURGERS

PHILLY PROJECT

MISSION EXPERIENCE

JULY 27-AUG 3

LET'S HANG OUT!

COFFEE? FOOD? SOMETHING
FUN? SIMPLY TEXT YOUR
LEADERS AND WE'LL MAKE IT
HAPPEN!

SURPRISE EVENT

AUG 27TH

(DETAILS TO COME)

Summer @ **FPC YOUTH**



The
**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
WEST CHESTER, PA

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