

First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg, PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org



Sunday, July 12, 2026

PASTOR: Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

DIRECTOR OF MODERN WORSHIP: Goggie Sween

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Beth Feiler

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH: Kristin Kondratowski

WORSHIP LEADER/READER: 8:30am Ali Elias-Lizardo / 11:00am Jeffrey Marsh

WORSHIP: 8:30am and 11:00am

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Welcome!

8:30am Worship

Open your heart and give yourself up to Christ who is here to meet you today. "Be still and know that I am God." ~ Psalm 46:10

PRELUDE

"Nearer, My God, to Thee"

arr. Keith Rowley

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 133

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

People: For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

*HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

No. 473

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Giver of all good and perfect gifts, Jesus our Savior and redeemer, we thank you for the gift of faith. We confess that we have placed our trust in that which we can see and feel, and not on your promises which come true time after time. Lead us to a faith that believes even when it doesn't see, and that acts even when the impossible faces us. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE [*Please share Christ's peace with one another.*]

*HYMN

"Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 11:1-6

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:7-12

SERMON

"The Gain of Loss"

Rev. Andy Meiser

*HYMN

"Live Into Hope"

No. 332

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pg. 16

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*DOXOLOGY

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

Pg. 14

*HYMN *"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"*

insert

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah"*

arr. Keith Rowley

**You are invited to stand if you are able during those places in the worship service marked with an asterisk.*

Sermon Notes

Please contribute your tithes and offerings using one of the following methods:

- Place your contribution in the collection plate
- Scan the QR code to the right and follow the prompts
- Click the DONATE button on the church web site
- Mail your check to FPCS, 101 St. Decatur Street, Strasburg, PA 17579



Greeting and Announcements

*Praise & Worship *We Praise You
You Keep Hope Alive
I Know A Name*

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Scripture Hebrews 11:1-6
 Philippians 3:7-12

Sermon *"The Gain of Loss"* Rev. Andy Meiser

Offering

*Praise & Worship *Trust In You*

*Benediction

**You are invited to stand if you are able during those places in the worship service marked with an asterisk.*

Prayer Requests Please keep the following in your prayers.

Charlie Book
Joy Corey
Caroline Creighton

Sherry Defelice (daughter of Joy Corey)

Jim Law – Hospice
Theresa Rineer
June Sarian

Joe Wilt (grandfather of Jenna Creighton)



Comfort in Time of Loss: Please pray for Amy Black and her family on the passing of her father, Don Black, on July 8, 2026.

July Deacons of the Month: Dawn Huber & Danielle Marsh

In Need of the Prayer Chain? Please contact the church office at 717-687-6030.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are glad to see you here! Check out our website: straspres.org under the "Events" tab for current church events and please be sure to like us on Facebook. Children's Church is available for kids K-5th grades. Children will go to room 11 after the children's sermon.

We welcome Ethan Goss as our guest pianist this Sunday.

COFFEE HOUR • Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Host for today: Wired Word. Hosts for next week: Outreach. All volunteers will be reimbursed for their purchases. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please contact Theresa Rineer at 717-682-9954 or rineertheresa@yahoo.com. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please choose the date(s) that work best for you!



LIBRARY NEWS • Stop in to visit the church library and browse the selection of books on we have available in the library. Explore our collection and check out a book!

FLAT JESUS is back for the summer! If you are traveling, or just hanging out this summer, grab a child bag or a single flat Jesus to take on your adventures. Send pictures to bfeiler@straspres.org. Pick up Jesus and the bags in room #5.



We welcome Rev. Andy Meiser as our guest preacher this Sunday.

Andrew Meiser grew up in Juniata County and has very fond memories of working in the woods with his father and grandfather. One day after church, Andy heard God's calling and called back to Him. The joy of those early days with Jesus has never left him.

Andy went to Philadelphia College of Bible for his undergraduate and graduate degrees and met Bob Bronkema!

Shortly after his graduation he went into full time ministry as an inner-city drug counselor and married his wife Mary. The Meisers lived in Philadelphia for seven years.

Andy worked as a Christian school principal for 13 years before feeling a call to pastoral ministry, pastoring 16 years in two churches.

The Meisers have five children, three by the miracle of birth and two by the miracle of adoption.

ASSISTANCE CORNER

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE ~ This year we are collecting different items each month for CWS, and the children will pack the items that are collected in November. Each month we will collect a very specific item to be packed in a hygiene kit that can be given out to any age in need. Look for the new items to be donated below, or on the bulletin board outside room #5. Please place these items in the basket at room #5. If you have questions, please see Beth Feiler.



July Items: -travel size deodorant stick (3.4oz or less)
 -travel size lotion (3.4oz or less fragrance free)

WATER STREET MISSION ~ There are opportunities for our congregation to serve meals at Water Street Mission. These events will require around 2.5 hours of your time serving meals to the Mission's residents and there will be someone from our volunteer team serving with you.

*Tuesday, July 14 – Dinner

*Tuesday, August 11 – Dinner

*Friday, July 24 – Lunch

*Friday, August 21 – Lunch



If you are interested in serving or if you would like to learn more about these opportunities reach out to Terry Sweigart at 717-606-6907 or by email at tLsweig@gmail.com. Thanks for your consideration!

FOOD PANTRY ~ Our Food Pantry families and staff are so thankful for your continued support and generosity. What a kind and thoughtful congregation!



*Items currently needed are:

-Jelly -Pancake Syrup -Applesauce -Vanilla & Chocolate Pudding cups



GREAT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR PRESCHOOL AIDES for the 2026-2027 school year. We need an aide for Miss Heather's Monday morning Pre-K class. We are also in need of one person to assist Miss Brianna's Tuesday/Thursday 3-year old class. All morning aide shifts start at 9am and end at 11:30am. For more information or to express interest, please contact Heather Reynolds, Administrative Director, at hreynolds@straspres.org.

The **WELCOME DESK** is looking for someone for **Monday mornings as well as a Tuesday morning substitute until further notice**. Please contact Pam Johnson with any questions at 717-989-0998 or see me around our church. Thank you for considering!





Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STARTS TONIGHT!!! • JULY 12 – 17 • It's not too late to join in the fun! Our theme this year is, "Tell It on the Mountain."

FPC's Food Pantry is having a Summer Food Drive! We are looking for volunteers to lend a hand with accepting donations, sorting food and delivering it to our inventory shelves on **Saturday, July 25th from 8am – 1pm**. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Well. Let's get our neighbors involved in helping those in our community who are in need. Look for the bulletin insert for more information. Thank you SO much for your continued and generous support of our ministry!



GREAT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for the 2026-2027 school year is open. Contact Heather Reynolds, Administrative Director at 717-617-9501 or hreynolds@straspres.org, or pick up an application at the church office.



FAMILY FUN DAY • Join us on **Saturday, August 1st from 12-3pm** to celebrate **55 Years of Preschool at FPCS!** Enjoy bounce houses, balloon animals, face painting, games, food and other entertainment. It's free and open to the public so invite your friends and family! The parking lot will be closed to accommodate the party. Parking has been arranged at the Methodist/ACTS church, Bachman/Snyder Funeral Home, and St. Michael's, all just a short walk to the action!

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC • Come enjoy fun, food and fellowship on **Sunday, August 16th at 12:30pm at Tinney Pavilion**. There will be a corn hole tournament, bingo and kids games! Pulled pork, hotdogs, beverages and paper products provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share!



CONSTRUCTION IS IN MOTION • If you will be accessing church, you will need to access from the south. That means you will come from either Funk Street and turn left or drive north on S. Decatur Street.

Feel Like Sharing Your Vacation? Pick out a few favorite summer vacation (or staycation) pics and send them to Mark Feiler for display in The Well later this summer. Send them to Mark.S.Feiler@gmail.com (and don't forget to take Flat Jesus)!



LOST AND FOUND ITEMS • There are a number of items that have made a home in the lost and found! If you are missing clothing, cups, containers, or other items, please check the lost and found, located on the coat rack in the foyer before your items are donated!

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, July 12

- 8:30am **Worship** (Classic)
9:30am **Coffee Hour**
10am **Sunday School Classes** for all ages
 *Children's Sunday School Grades K – 5: Rm 12
 *Youth Sunday School
 -Grades 6 – 12: Youth Room
 *Young Adults – Choir Room
 *Wired Word – Library
 *Young at Heart – Room 4
11am **Worship** (Modern)

VBS WEEK ♦ July 12 – 17 ♦ 6pm – 8pm

***IGNITED ♦ VBS After Party ♦ July 12 – 16 ♦ 8:30 – 10pm**

Tuesday, July 14

- 1pm Food Pantry Committee
2pm Food Pantry

Thursday, July 16

- 6:30am Men's Fellowship & Devotions – Bird-in-Hand Restaurant

Friday, July 17

- 2pm Food Pantry

NEXT WEEK ~ JULY 19, 2026

1st Scripture: Deuteronomy 17:2-6

2nd Scripture: Hebrews 10:26-31

SERMON SERIES: HEBREWS: A LETTER FOR US TODAY

"Hell"

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema, Preaching



LAY READERS ARE NEEDED FOR SECOND SERVICE.



If you are willing and able to sign up to read for one or more Sunday services please include your name and email address on this sheet and put in the collection plate or the mailbox of Andrea Petrokonis.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

You may also use the link below or scan the QR code to sign up. Middle school or older children are more than welcome to participate as well!

[FPC Worship Leader 2nd Service Sign Up](#)





Summer Food Drive



Saturday, July 25 from 8am-1pm

Convenient drop-off in the parking lot of
First Presbyterian Church ~ drive up and a
volunteer will meet you under the portico to
receive your donations!

101 S. Decatur St, Strasburg

Most needed items include:

Canned fruit (pineapples, sliced peaches, mandarin oranges, fruit cocktail)
Potatoes (box instant or canned)
Meal Helpers (hamburger or tuna)
Canned meat (chicken, tuna, or spam)
Canned soups
Dry Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Canned Pasta (Raviolis, SpaghettiOs)
Macaroni & Cheese
Oatmeal
Boxed Cereal
White or Brown Rice
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Pancake/Waffle Mix
Syrup

Our food pantry serves Strasburg & surrounding areas.

- Donations will supply our food pantry and help those facing food insecurities.
- Questions, please call the church office 717-687-6030

Help us ~ help our community!



**Would you like to give to our
Mission Week?**

**Eggs or Sausages
Apples or Oranges
Carrots or Cucumbers
Cereal or Granola Bars
Ham or Turkey
Cheese or Chips
Meatballs or Nuggets
Sauce or Dressing
Buns or Bread**

**sign up outside the youth room
PLACE ALL ITEMS IN THE KITCHEN BY JULY 25TH**

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored;
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land;
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride;
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.