

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW VERNON



MORNING WORSHIP — OCTOBER 11, 2026

“The grace of God means something like: Here is your life.
You might never have been, but you are,
because the party wouldn't have been complete without you.”

Frederick Buechner

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

Prelude

Introit *Come Sing to God*

Welcome

Call to Worship*

When the path leads nowhere,
we become disoriented,
and skies darken,
we look to God for peace.

When farewells are too many,
tears won't stop,
and strength is gone,
we look to God for rest.

When life is hard,
love is lost,
and light is dim,
we look to God for hope.

Hymn 442* *Just As I Am, without One Plea*

Call to Confession

From ancient times to now,
God's people have turned away.
We are no different:
we let fear take hold of us
and try to go our own way.

Together, in a prayer of confession,
let us be honest about how we have failed
to follow God.

Prayer of Confession

**True God from True God,
we have not built a golden calf,
but we have worshiped idols.**

**We have put our trust in what
we build with our own hands.**

**We find security in what we can hoard
instead of trusting your provision.**

**We listen to lies that spread hatred and division
instead of the radical truth of your word.**

Forgive us.

**Melt down our idols until we see only you
and fix our sight on your way alone.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

God shows us a different way—
a way of truth, honor, justice, purity, and excellence.
This path is open to all who reach out and accept
God's forgiveness.

Thanks be to God!

**We will live as God's people,
forgiven and freed.**

Hymn 582* *Glory to God*

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 ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Passing the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

HEARING THE WORD

Chat with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

For the word of God in scripture,

For the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

First Scripture Lesson *Exodus 32:1-14* (p. 78)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Lesson *Matthew 22:1-14* (p. 24)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 418* *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling*

Sermon

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory *More Love to Thee, O Christ.* arr. Donald Hustad

Affirmation of Faith (From the Iona Community)

We believe in God
whose love is the source of all life
and the desire of our lives,
whose love was given a human face
in Jesus of Nazareth,
whose love was crucified by the evil
that awaits to enslave us all
and whose love, defeating deathless,
holds a promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful
and full of doubt, in God we trust;
and in the name of Jesus Christ,
we commit ourselves, in the service of others,
to seek justice and to live in peace,
to care for the Earth and to share the commonwealth
of God's goodness,
to live in the freedom of forgiveness
and the power of the spirit of love,
and in the company of the faithful,
wherever found. Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Hymn 343* *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

Benediction

Congregational Amen*

Postlude

Children's Ministry

Our nursery, for children ages 2 and under, is located in Fellowship Hall and is staffed. Children can be dropped off before worship or at any point during the service.

After the "Chat with Children" during worship, children move to the Fellowship Hall for Sunday School.

We have 3 classes available:

Pre-K (ages 3-5)

K-2nd grade

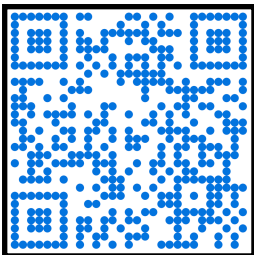
3rd grade and up

Children can be picked up from Sunday School after worship in Fellowship Hall (during coffee hour). If you have any questions Pastor Hayley is happy to speak with you.

LAST WEEK

Attendance: 88

	Last Week	Year to Date	Commitments for 2026
Annual Giving	\$1,400	\$289,000	\$412,000
Plate	\$730	\$16,300	\$32,000



Venmo



ACH/Card

VOLUNTEER TEAM THIS SUNDAY

Liturgist

Don Richardson

Ushers

Dan & Carol Walker

Coffee Hour

The Deacons

Flowers

Marjatta DiSerio

In loving memory of my husband, Frank

DEACONS ON DUTY

Coffee Hour

Elizabeth Califano, Christine Taranto,
& Michelle Vince

Flower Delivery

Eileen Bevan, Nancy Burrows,
Melissa Ramsey, & Jane Zielinski



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW VERNON



FALL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 • 3-6 PM • CREWE HILL STABLE

**PONY RIDES
GIANT INFLATABLES
PUMPKIN PICKING
CARVING**

**PIZZA TRUCK
FACE PAINTING
S'MORES**



ALL-INCLUSIVE ADMISSION

\$20

ADVANCE TICKETS
(\$80 FAMILY MAX)

\$25

AT THE GATE
(\$100 FAMILY MAX)

CHILDREN 2 AND UNDER FREE

**REGISTER ONLINE @ PCNV.ORG
HAYLEY@PCNV.ORG**



Halloween Costume Drive

First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon

Join FPCNV as we partner with Jersey Cares to ensure Halloween is magical for all families!

Donate any new or gently used costumes (up to age 14), including wands, capes, wings, etc.

DROP
OFF
BEFORE
OCT 16

Donation box is located in Fellowship Hall, 4 Lees Hill Rd
contact hayley@pcnv.org

Led by Addie Spencer!

FPCNV

MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE & SOCIAL CLUB

October
12th & 23rd
6:30 - 8:00

Students in grades 6-8
meet twice a month for
dinner, community service,
& social activities!



Email hayley@pcnv.org to register or for more information

Human Connection IN THE AGE OF AI

An evening with Harding resident and author Greg Pryor



Tuesday, October 20, 2026

5:00 pm | Social hour



5:30 pm | Author Talk



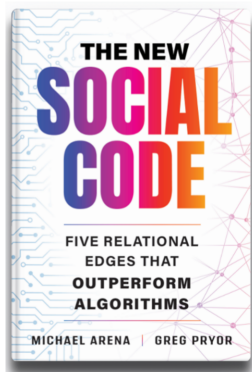
FPCNV

4 Lees Hill Rd, New Vernon



Free & open to the community!

Registration is required



WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 21

12:00 PM

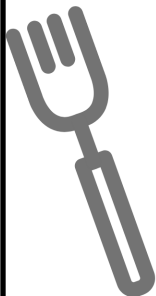
FPCNV Library

LET'S DO LUNCH

Retirees, please join
us for lunch,
conversation, and
community!

RSVP: Faith

fwinow@gmail.com





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW VERNON

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. William Stone III, Pastor

Rev. Hayley O'Connor, Associate for Youth and Family Ministry

Stephen Fox, Director of Music Ministry

Rachael Gareau, Director of Children's Choirs

Fraser Miller, Operations Coordinator

Diego (Tony) Rodriguez, Church Custodian

CHURCH LEADERS

Session

Donna Miller, Clerk

Sarah Conine

Susan Fischer

Sam LaNasa

Hunter Lostan

Don Richardson

Kreamer Rooke

Matt Taranto

Ben Thompson

Candace Weeks

Deacons

Meg Richardson, Moderator

Eileen Bevan

Nancy Burrows

Elizabeth Califano

Carol Conger

Melissa Ramsey

Christine Taranto

Cindy Thompson

Twinkle Tong

Michelle Vince

Jane Zielinski