

JANUARY 2026 412 West Pioneer Puyallup, WA 98371 - 253-848-7243 www.fpcpuyallup.org

Office News

The church office will
be closed
January 1st for New Year's
Day, as well as January 19
in observance of Martin
Luther King Jr Day.

Come and Help
Undecorate!
Come and join us at our annual
Undecorating Party at
First Presbyterian!
Sunday, January 4
following worship.





People sometimes think The Twelve Days of Christmas is just an old Christmas carol and that the Christmas season ends on Christmas Day. You even see some putting their Christmas trees to the curb and taking down decorations the day after Christmas. But this is not our faith tradition at all. This isn't when Christmas ends, but it's when it begins. The twelfth day of Christmas is actually Epiphany, January 6, when we remember the visit of the wise men. So, we will not only observe Christmas on Christmas Eve, but on the two following Sundays as well. On December 28, we will welcome the Reverend Anne-Cecile Porter, and the congregation will choose Christmas carols to sing. On January 4, we will consider the visit of the wise men.

We have been blessed by many people sharing their gifts this Advent and look forward to celebrating the Christmas season together.

You are invited to help us fill some Bags of Grace

While you are shopping, please consider the people in our community who are homeless. We often see them begging on street corners. We see their tents in wooded areas. At the moment, the Bags of Grace that we fill and give out makes a hard situation at least a little easier. In these, the folks can find some food, some toiletries, warm hats and gloves, and an emergency blanket. Granted, this is like putting a bandage on a serious wound. But often, care for a wound starts with a bandage, while we explore and initiate further actions. We would like to fill some Bags of Grace after worship on Sunday, January 11, 2026. Our goal will be 100 bags. On our bulletin board, we will have a list of items to go into these bags. If you can get a portion of any of these items, please let us know, and bring or send the items to the church by January 7.

Questions? Comments? Contact Pat Walton at grossiewalton@gmail.com.

Bags of Grace Item List for January 2026

Small bottle of water

Golf pencil

We wish to fill 100 gallon-sized zip lock bags on January 11, 2026.

Could you bring any portion of the items on this list? Please let us know.

Granola bars Tuna or chicken & cracker packs Applesauce pouches Single serving snacks like trail mix, nuts, crackers, Goldfish, cookies Quart or sandwich sized zip lock bag Socks for men and women - wool blend or acrylic Knit caps Gloves Individually-wrapped rain poncho Emergency blanket Hand and foot warmers Wet wipes (2 packets for each bag) Packet of tissues Toothbrush and small tube of toothpaste Nail clippers Lip balm 10-12 Band-Aids Small packets of antibiotic ointment Small (travel size) tube of lotion Cotton swabs (5 per bag) Safety pins, 2"or 3", 3 to 4 per bag Small bar of soap Safety razor Small notebook



Bridges of Love NW

is a resource/referral ministry that assists those who need help finding assistance with rent, utilities, gasoline, prescriptions and much more.

For more information on Bridges of Love call 253 531 2366

You can find the Amazon Gift List at https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/FC5P6ITODNAI

Please bring the items to the church by January 7, 2026.

We will fill our Bags of Grace on Sunday, January 11, 2026 after worship, in the Fellowship Hall. After we have filled them all, you may take some to give to people in need in your community.



From Personnel Stewardship and Finance

Happy New Year! 2026 promises to be an exciting year for First Presbyterian Church. We appreciate Pastor Tom's sharing his transitional skills and his diligence in leading us forward. We anticipate the installation of our new pastor as the year moves forward.

It is a pleasure to share the news of Pastor Preston Woodall's continuation of pastoral care and preaching with us for another year. Thank you, Preston, for your visits and encouragement.

Our committee continues to work on the final year-end accounting for the annual report. The results of our Stewardship Drive is on the bulletin board in the church hallway. The 2026 budget is in preparation for Session approval and presentation at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational meeting will be Sunday, January 25. Join us for an all-church meal following worship, and the Annual Meeting is scheduled to begin at 12:15 pm.

2026 Graduates

If you have a student who will be graduating in 2026 and you would like them to be included in the upcoming Grad Breakfast, please reach out to the office or contact Cheryl H. for more information. This is a wonderful opportunity for graduates to celebrate their achievements together.

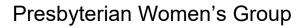
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES HERE AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Outreach in our community is a vital expression of our Presbyterian faith. First Presbyterian Church is committed to making a positive impact through service, compassion, and engagement with our neighbors. We invite you to join us in our volunteer opportunities, where you can put faith into action and help those in need.

Our food pantry kiosk relies on the generosity of our community to provide essential resources to individuals and families in need. We invite you to make a difference by donating non-perishable food items and basic necessities. Your contribution, no matter how big or small, can help someone in need right here in our neighborhood. Help stock the food pantry kiosk.

On Thursday January 22 at 9:30am in the FPC Library we will be seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist in assembling healthy snack bags for our ECEAP children. These snack bags will be sent home with the kids on Friday to help ensure they have nutritious options over the weekend.

On Tuesdays, January 13 and 27 at 10:00am, meet here at First Presbyterian's kitchen. Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve an outreach meal for the New Hope Resource Center. All meal preparation will take place at First Presbyterian Church's kitchen, followed by transportation and service at the resource center. See Pat W. or Jan B. for details.



Presbyterian Women's study group offers a welcoming environment where women can come together to deepen their understanding of the Word of God and build lasting friendships. These gatherings provide spiritual nourishment, personal growth, and a sense of community.

PW Coordinating Team January 6 at 1:30pm in the Parlor

PW Circle Study January 15 at noon in the Parlor

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

We invite all men to join us for our monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Crockett's, located on Main Street in Puyallup. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a hearty breakfast, connect with friends new and old, and grow together in faith.

Third Saturday of each month at 8 am

Adult Bible Studies

Are you looking for an opportunity to deepen your understanding of Scripture and connect with fellow members of our church community? We invite all adults to join us every Sunday morning for our Adult Bible Study in the Parlor.

Youth and Young Adult Programs

If you would like more information about our youth and young adult program, please contact:

Katie Wolfe

Phone: 253-848-7243

Katie will be happy to answer your questions and provide details about upcoming events, program enrollment, and opportunities to get involved.

Scriptures January 2026

January 4, 2026 Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:1-18

January 11, 2026 Isaiah 43:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

January 18, 2026 Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42

January 25, 2026 Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1.4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-2**3**

You are invited to Zoom Bible Study with Pastor Tom each Wednesday at 9:30 am link below

https://zoom.us/ j/94654986416? pwd=TM0ZGnOYuBwjXw9oik wlczZkQWhkel.1

> Meeting ID: 946 5498 6416 Passcode: 454152