

# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

December 28, 2025

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# Worship

## **GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

**Prelude**

Mrs. Carol Hinson

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Jonathan Williams

## **ENTERING WORSHIP**

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 136:26

<sup>26</sup>Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

**\*Song of Praise**

Blue ARP Psalter #194

*“God Shall Guard From Every Ill”*

## **APPROACHING GOD**

**\*Prayer of Adoration and Confession with The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Romans 8:11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

## **\*Confession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic\*\* and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **Tithes and Offerings**

#### **\*Doxology**

Red Trinity Hymnal #731

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## **Children's Sermon**

## **Pastoral Prayer**

## **MEANS OF GRACE**

### **\*Psalm**

Insert

*“The Lord’s My Shepherd”*

### **\*Prayer for Illumination**

### **\*Scripture Reading**

Pew Bible page 458

Psalm 23

### **Sermon**

*“The Confidence Of a Sheep”*

### **Prayer of Application**

## **RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL**

### **\*Hymn of Response**

Blue ARP Psalter #183

*“Under His Wings”*

### **\*Free Offer of the Gospel**

### **\*Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13:14

<sup>14</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## **LEAVING WORSHIP**

### **Congregational Response**

*May the peace of God our heav’nly Father, and the grace of Christ the risen Son,  
And the fellowship of God the Spirit keep our hearts and minds within His love,  
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign. From the depths of earth to the heights of heav’n  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain, Christ Eternal, the King of Kings.*

*“Benediction” / Stuart Townend and Keith Getty / © 2005 Thank You Music*

# Sermon Notes



## The Confidence Of a Sheep - Psalm 23



1. The Covenant Shepherd

2. The Covenant Leader

3. The Covenant Victor

# January 2026

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday                                 | Wednesday  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>28 MISSIONS</b><br>No PM Worship                            | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>                               | <b>31</b><br> |
| <b>4</b><br>12:15 AE Circle                                    | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b>                                | <b>7</b><br>6:00 WFN begins  |
| <b>11</b><br>12:15 Diaconate<br>5:00 Evening<br>Worship begins | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br>6:30 GIG Disci-<br>pleship | <b>14</b><br>6:00 WFN  |
| <b>17</b>  | <b>19</b><br> | <b>20</b><br>7:00 Session               | <b>21</b><br>6:00 WFN  |
| <b>25 MISSIONS</b>   | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>                               | <b>28</b><br>6:00 WFN  |

| Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|---|---|
| <b>1</b><br> | <b>2</b><br> | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br><b>3:00 JL Circle</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b><br><b>9:00 CPR class</b><br><b>11:00 Joint WM Lunch</b> |
| <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>   | <b>17</b><br><b>8:30 Officer Training</b>                         |
| <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b>   | <b>24</b>   |
| <b>29</b><br><b>8:30 LCHC</b>  | <b>30</b>   | <b>31</b>   |



## BIRTHDAYS

7– Elise Tindal  
 8– Glenn Rhyne  
 13– Elle Campbell  
 15– Nancy Ogburn  
 17– Alex Bohler  
 18– Judi Holland  
 24– Debby Hegler  
 27– Gene Hunter  
 30– Carol Hinson  
 31– Sam Prete

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**9:15** Officer meeting  
**10:00** Morning Worship  
**11:15** Sunday School  
**5:00** Evening Worship (Jan. 11)  
**6:00** Fellowship (Jan. 11)  
**7:00** Youth (Jan. 11)

# Announcements

**PRAYER REQUESTS** The reverse side of our attendance card is for all prayer requests. Members and visitors are encouraged to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate as you exit Worship.

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION** Our Christmas music program and church Christmas party will be held TONIGHT. Join us in the Sanctuary for a time of music and a message at 5PM, then move to the Fellowship Hall for a snack supper. Bring your favorite finger foods/small bites/sweets to share.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** We will have our Christmas Eve Worship service at 6PM.

**MAILBOXES** Mail boxes are available for you to share Christmas greetings with each other without the burden of postage costs. Place cards in the box below the first letter of the last name of the recipient. Remember to look for your own cards each week. Contribution statements for 2025 will also be delivered in these boxes by the end of January.

**2026 CALENDAR** Our Wednesday Family Night program will resume January 7. Sign up on the bulletin board or our church website by Tuesday each week. Dinner is \$5 per person or \$12 per family, followed by classes for all ages. Adults are studying the Westminster Confession of Faith.

On January 11, our Sunday evenings begin with Worship at 5PM, discussion and snacks at 6PM, and Youth at 7PM.

Men's Prayer Breakfast in January will be replaced with officer training on January 17 and will begin the regular schedule on February 21. Please sign up for Officer Training by January 7 so we can have an accurate count for breakfast.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES** Women's Ministries will have a joint luncheon meeting on January 10 at 11AM. This event is open to all ladies of the church. We will discuss the 2026 Bible study focus as well as upcoming events for 2026. If you would like a copy of the study book "*Learning To Love the Psalms*", contact the church office by Sunday, December 28.

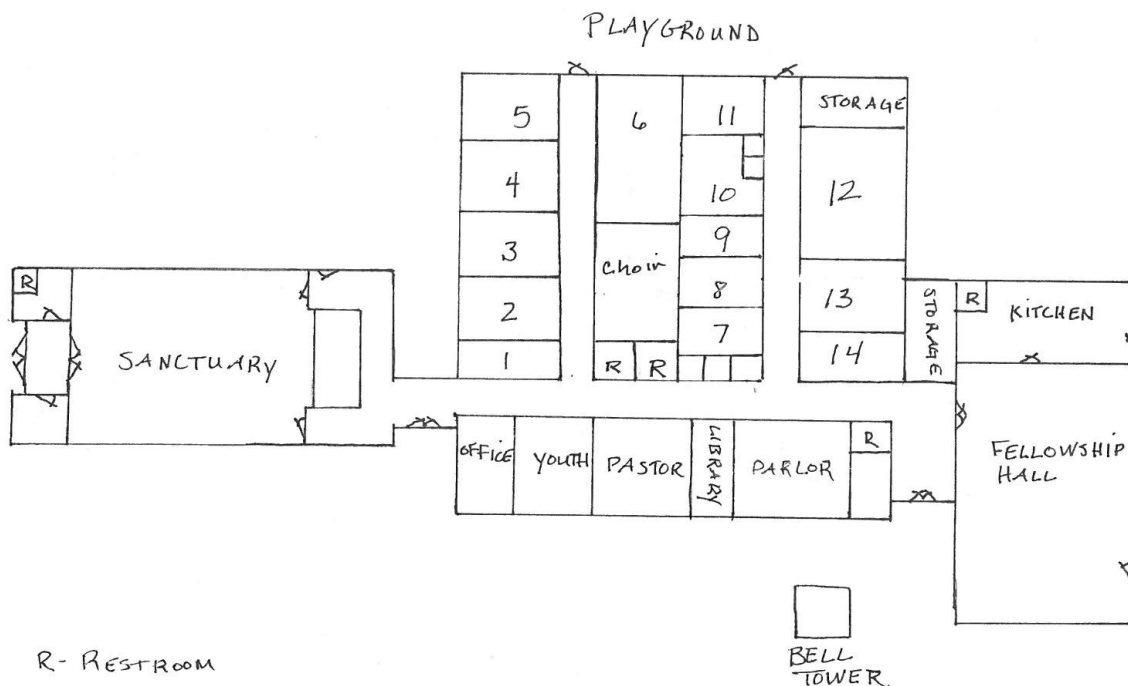


# Visitor Information

Welcome to First ARP Church. If you are a first time visitor, we would like to have a record of your visit with us. Please fill out an attendance card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

Childcare is available in room #1 for children age 2 and under at the start of morning Worship. Children ages 3-4 are dismissed to Sunday School following the Children's Sermon. Busy Bags are available at the side entrance of the church during morning Worship. We enjoy the sound of children in Worship, but if you have need of it, a quiet room is available at the rear of the sanctuary. Sunday School for all ages begins at 11:15.

## CHURCH MAP



# Prayer Guide

## **December 28**

Sheryl Huey– A-Fib, Esther Shields– Chemotherapy

## **December 21**

Doug Patterson– Continued Recovery, JB Powell– Radiation treatments, Will Jones– No biopsy/ antibiotics working

## **December 14**

JB Powell– Finished Chemotherapy/ continued radiation, Dell Ghent- Continued recovery

## **December 7**

Jonathan Williams– Studies and upcoming test, Those grieving during the holidays, Those receiving treatment for health issues

## **Chronic Illnesses**

Tanya McCree

## **Nursing Home/ Shut Ins**

Betty Arant, Pat McEachern, Charles Montgomery, Richard Robinson, Pat Scruggs, Clovis Steele

## **Missionaries**

Phil Baer, Rebekah Carson, Justin & Gillian Brickey

## **Church Planters**

King's Church (Columbia), Arsenal Hill (Columbia)

## **COMMITTEES and CHAIRMEN**

|                       |                            |                                 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Fellowship– Sam Prete | Outreach– Richard Crawford | Discipleship– Stewart Screpetis |
| Missions- Sam Huey    | Worship– David Pokopac     | Building– Doug Patterson        |
| Grounds– TBD          | Safety– Walt Watford       | Internal Needs– Debbie Dickson  |

# Financials

| <b>December 21, 2025</b>          |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Attendance AM                     | 92/4     |
| Attendance PM                     | 65/0     |
| General Fund                      | \$4,322  |
| Total GF contributions this month | \$14,167 |
| Missions Fund                     | \$80     |
| Care Fund                         | \$70     |

**ONLINE GIVING** If you would like to make contributions online, visit our website at **FirstARPLancaster.org/Giving** to make a one time or repeating contribution. Contact the church office with any questions. If you prefer to download the VancoMobile app, search for “First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church” and use the invite code TPVK5P.



**HOPE FOOD PANTRY** Current food needs: grits, beef stew, Jiffy mix, spaghetti pasta, jelly, & spaghetti sauce. Please bring pantry items and place them on the shelves near the Fellowship Hall. Remember to avoid glass containers and oversized family portions.

# Volunteers

## Childcare      December 28

10:00

### Nursery

Available

### Toddlers

Miranda Bohler/ Debby Hegler

11:00

### Nursery

Available

### Toddlers

Susan Cauthen

### Elementary

Debby Hegler

## January 4

### Nursery

Available

### Toddlers

Lorri Crawford/ Taylor Prete

### Nursery

Available

### Toddlers

Susan Cauthen

### Elementary

Debby Hegler/ Nancy Ogburn

## Officers      December

Elder

Stewart Screpetis

Elder

David Pokopac

Captain

Glenn Rhyne

Co-Captain

Richard Shields

Usher

Ed Ogburn

Usher

TBA

## January

Richard Crawford

Sam Prete

Jim Davis

Glenn Rhyne

Sam Prete

Frank Brackett

## Staff

Pastor- Rev. Jonathan Williams

2026

Secretary-Mrs. Stacy Pokopac

2027

2028

## Elders

Richard Crawford

Sam Prete

David Pokopac

Stewart Screpetis

Mike Cauthen

Ed Ogburn

## Deacons

Debbie Dickson

Doug Patterson

Jim Davis-VC

Glenn Rhyne

Mark Caskey

Walt Watford

## *An Associate Reformed Family Serving God, Lancaster, and the World*

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