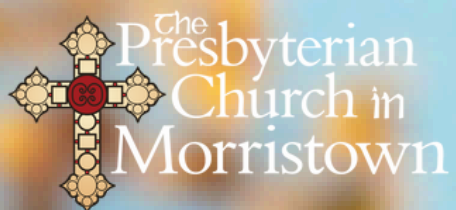




breathing room



TOWER TIDINGS

FALL 2025



BREATHING ROOM

Reverend Daniel Vigilante, Pastor

DEAR FRIENDS,

This time of year tends to bring a mix of excitement and exhaustion. School starts, work ramps up, calendars quickly fill with meetings, practices, and events - and before long many of us are running on empty. We juggle responsibilities, stretch budgets, and try to manage family and community commitments, often with the sense that there is no margin left in our lives. Everything feels crammed, with one more thing added to the schedule; one more task squeezed into an already busy day.

That's why we're kicking off this fall season with a new worship and sermon series called Breathing Room. Breathing room is the margin between our current pace and our absolute limits. When there's space between the two, life feels healthier, lighter, more joyful. When there's no space, we can feel suffocated. Many of us live with almost no breathing room at all.

Creating breathing room is about aligning our lives with what matters most - making space to celebrate God's goodness through worship, breathing in God's presence through practices that restore our souls, and breathing out God's love into the world through acts of service, generosity, and compassion.

Then, at the end of September, we'll launch a six-week series called Uncommon Responses - exploring stories from the Gospel of Luke in which Jesus did something different and unexpected, cutting against the cultural norms of his time. We'll wonder together - if and how Jesus still calls his followers to do the same...

In addition to what's happening in worship - as well as all of the other awesome programs and events you can read about in this issue of Tower Tidings - the early part of this fall season will see the ongoing work of our Vision Team, which continues to discern God's mission and purpose for PCM as we look to the future. We'll soon be wrapping up Phase 2 (which we'll share in a Vision Report to the congregation) and moving into Phase 3 of our process - which is all about identifying strategic next steps as we look towards our congregation's 300th anniversary in 2033 and beyond. It's good and exciting work and I hope you'll continue to keep the Vision Team in your prayers.

In the meantime, I also hope that our church is and will continue to be a place where you find that extra space you've been longing for - a place to pause, to catch your breath, to connect in community, and to be renewed by God.

In Christ's love,
Daniel

WELCOME TO A NEW PROGRAM YEAR!

Sunday Worship | 8:00 am (Chapel) | 10:00 am (Sanctuary and Online)

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult Education: Doughnuts & Theology
Sundays | 8:45 – 9:45 am | Chapel & Online

Caregiver Support Group
Wednesdays | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Online

Chancel Choir
Sundays | 9:00 – 9:40 am | Sanctuary
Wednesdays | 7:30 – 9:00 pm | Sanctuary

Chancel Ringers
Wednesdays | 6:15 – 7:00 pm | Chapel

Christian Yoga
Tuesdays | 5:00 - 6:00 pm | Parish House (PH)
Thursdays | 9:45 - 10:45 am | PH

Faith on Film: Movie Screening & Dinner
Sunday, October 19 & November 23
4:00 – 7:30 pm | PH

Grief Support Group *(New day & time!)*
Third Wednesday | 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Online

Mah Jongg Mavens *(New program!)*
First and Third Friday | 1:00 - 3:00 pm | PH

Presbyterian Women Circle Groups
Monthly | Times and Locations Vary

Sew & So Crafters' Group
First Thursday | 1:30 - 3:00 pm | PH

Tai Chi Fun
Tuesdays | 10:00 - 11:00 am | PH

Women's Bible Study
Thursdays | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | PH

Young Adult Group
Monthly | Times and Locations Vary

Young at Heart Senior Group *(New time!)*
Second Wednesday | 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Online

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Sunday School (Ages 2 - Grade 5)
Sundays | 8:45 - 9:45 am | Howard House

Midweek (Grades K - 5)
Wednesdays | 4:15 - 6:00 pm | Parish House (PH)

Moms' Club
Last Tuesday | 5:30 - 7:30 pm | PH

Youth Group
Sundays | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | PH

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

All Church Dinner
Second Wednesday | 6:00 - 7:00 pm | PH
Exception: First Dinner on September 17

PCM Group Hike
Second Saturday
10:00 - 11:30 am | Morris County Area

Visual Arts Team
Monthly | Times and Locations Vary

Volunteer: Homeless Solutions Dinner Service
Fourth Tuesday | 4:00 - 7:00 pm | Morristown

Volunteer: Jan's Closet
PCM's Free Community Clothing Bank
Fourth Tuesday | 3:00 - 4:30 pm | PH
Second Saturday | 10:00 - 11:30 am | PH

Volunteer: Table of Hope Food Pantry
Second Thursday | 12:00 - 2:15 pm
Bethel Church Morristown

For more details or to register,
visit pcmorristown.org/programs or
call the Church Office (973-538-1776)



FEELING CARED FOR

Reverend Audrey Webber, Associate Pastor

DEAR FRIENDS,

One of my favorite phrases in the whole world to hear is: **"I feel so cared for."**

I can't think of anything that warms my heart quite as much as that phrase, especially when it comes from one of you. I have heard this from several of you recently, thanks to our interconnected community and the love you so clearly share with one another. I witness it in our Deacons and our Stephen Ministers. I see it in the bringing of meals, the making of visits, and in the everyday ministry each of you carries out. Truly, every one of us has a ministry, though it may look different for each of us.

This fall, we are leaning into that calling to care, for ourselves and for one another, through opportunities for fellowship, education, and spiritual growth. I hope you will join us in these special gatherings and groups that strengthen our community and remind us of God's presence among us.

Blessings,
Audrey

SPECIAL FALL EVENTS

Tuesday, September 23 | Brew and the Bible: B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Bible) | 6:00 pm

Location: Glenbrook Brewery | A casual evening of Scripture, conversation, and community. Bring your own Bible, grab a drink, and join us for lively discussion.

Saturday, October 11 | Young Adults Apple Picking

Location: Melick's Town Farm | A fun fall outing for our young adult community. Bring your friends for fellowship and fresh-picked apples! RSVP at pcmorristown.org/youngadults

October Bible Study | "Beloved and Blessed: Queering the Bible" | All Are Welcome

Wednesdays at 5:00 pm | Parish House | October 1 – 29 | A five-week journey exploring affirming interpretations of Scripture and LGBTQ+ belonging in the biblical story.

SPECIAL ONLINE GROUPS

Grief Support Group | Third Wednesday | 12:00 pm

Walking With Each Other: A Monthly Gathering for Grief Support | A space of scripture, poetry, storytelling, seasonal reflections, and shared journeys.

Caregivers Support Group | Wednesdays | 11:00 am

A supportive gathering for those walking the path of caregiving, offering encouragement and resources.

Young at Heart Senior Group | Second Wednesday | 12:00 pm

Rooted and Renewed: Growing in Faith Together | A monthly online group for spiritual conversation, connection, and encouragement.

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

Doughnuts & Theology | Sundays | 8:45 am | Chapel

Join us Sunday mornings for coffee, doughnuts, and conversations with guest speakers.

9/14 – Casey Carbone: Social Media and the Church

9/21 – Richard Lindsay: Movie Posters & Faith | 11:15 am

9/28 – John Harmon: The Early Community Church (I)

10/5 – John Harmon: The Early Community Church (II)

MEET OUR NEW INTERIM DIRECTORS OF MUSIC!



DR. BEN RIGGS | INTERIM DIRECTOR OF ADULT MUSIC

Dr. Ben Riggs is a conductor with extensive experience leading community, school, and church choirs. Ben joined The Presbyterian Church in Morristown as Interim Director of Adult Music in August 2025.

Before moving to NJ, Ben was the Minister of Music (2018-2025) at St. John's Episcopal Church of Oakland (CA), where he directed adult, children, and youth choruses and accompanied worship services. In years past he held Director of Music posts at Richfield United Methodist Church (MN), Atonement Lutheran Church (CO), Christ Church United Methodist (CO), and Wellshire Presbyterian Church (CO).

For nearly two decades Ben has conducted large Tenor-Bass choruses as Artistic Director of Denver Gay Men's Chorus (CO), Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus (MN), and Oakland Gay Men's Chorus (CA). Equally proficient in conducting SATB choruses, Ben recently concluded a six-year tenure as Artistic Director of Resound Ensemble (CA).

Ben holds a Bachelor of Music in piano from Wheaton College Conservatory of Music, a Master of Music in choral conducting from the University of Colorado-Boulder, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Literature and Performance from the University of Colorado-Boulder. Ben lives in Jersey City, NJ, with his husband, the Rev. John F. Dwyer, and their 3-year-old Bernedoodle, Hudson.



MADELYN ORTIZ | INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Maddie Ortiz is a passionate music educator and lifelong chorister who is so excited to make music with the children of PCM. A recent graduate of Drew University, she holds both a Master of Arts in Teaching and a Bachelor of Arts in Music and Studio Art, along with New Jersey K-12 Music Education and Art Education certifications. Throughout her studies, she gained extensive experience in general music and choral settings, teaching students from PreK through middle school. Most recently, she served as a Choir and Keyboard Leave Replacement Teacher at Pequannock Middle School.

At Drew, Maddie served as the Chorale Assistant, where she conducted rehearsals, prepared music, and supported ensembles in performance. Her senior capstone combined her skills in composition and conducting through an original a cappella choral work. She was recognized with the 2024 CLA Music Award for her achievements in research, performance, and composition. Beyond academics, she revitalized the Drew University Music Society, expanding opportunities for student involvement in music.

With deep roots in choral singing since childhood and active experience as a seasonal church singer, Maddie brings a strong foundation in sacred music and an understanding of its spiritual role in worship. She is eager to combine her artistry, teaching expertise, and faith to inspire children at The Presbyterian Church in Morristown.

HERE COMES THE FUN!

Alexandra Mead, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries



DEAR FAMILIES,

It may seem that summer flew by, but we've been hard at work getting ready for an exciting new program year here at PCM!

- **Sunday School** begins on Sunday, September 14 at 8:45am. We meet at Howard House and open to children two years old through Grade 5.
- **Midweek** begins on Wednesday, September 10 and meets at the Parish House from 4:15 - 6:00 pm. We begin with a healthy snack then roll into a bible story, music instruction, recreation time, and a craft. Midweek is open to children in Grades K - 5.
- **Middle School Youth Group** will meet on Sundays at the Church on the Green, beginning September 14. All youth in Grades 6 - 8 are invited to join our Youth Director, Caleigh Lawlor, at Worship at 10:00 am. After the children's message (Time with Young Christians), the youth will head over to Howard House to discuss the scripture of the day and spend time together. They will wrap up at 11:00 am as worship ends.
- On Sundays, during our 10:00 am worship service, we offer **Childcare** for infants through kindergarten-age children in our large and welcoming kid's room. We invite all children to stay in worship through the Time with Young Christians and then they may go and play.
- **High School Youth Group** will continue to meet on Sundays at the Parish House following worship, from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. This program is lead by Caleigh Lawlor, our Director of Youth Ministries, and is open to Grades 9 - 12. Students will discuss the sermon, deepen friendships with each other, do service/volunteer projects, and have lunch together.
- **New this year**, during worship, our Interim Director of Children's Music, Ms. Ortiz, will be having a **Music Class** for our first through fifth graders. After the Time with Young Christians, the kids will head into the Chapel for music.

We can't wait to start this program year and hope you will join us!



RISE SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Caleigh Lawlor, Director of Youth Ministries



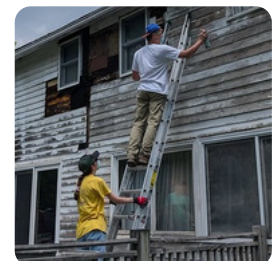
As many of you know, several youth and adult members of our congregation took a week out of their summer to help spread God's love and serve on R.I.S.E, or Risingville Intercommunity Service Effort July 6-12 in Friendship, New York.

PCM had 12 youth volunteers, four adult leaders to lead the teams, and five adults on RISE staff all volunteer this year! Together, with teams from Chatham United Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church in Morris Plains, RISE was able to help six families make their homes warmer, safer, and drier with the various projects that they had throughout the week. PCM represented two teams, comprised of six youth and two adult leaders. We are so grateful for our adult leaders taking time out of their summer to help serve our community, and we're grateful for our youth for taking the time to help those less fortunate than we are.

PCM Team 1 had a paint job on a home in which they scraped the old paint off the house to help prepare it for fresh, new paint, and started painting the house! Team 2 worked on repairing parts of a ramp and its railing to make it more sturdy and less shaky to hold onto to help the homeowner recovering from a stroke. Despite the elements being against their favor (between rainy forecasts and extreme heat), I'm proud to say that both teams were able to complete their projects!

Although RISE is about helping others through different home projects, our youth still had fun! We took our annual RISE photo at the Lain's Cider Mill on Wednesday, and they enjoyed a nice dinner out on Thursday. There were plenty of ice cream runs too!

I am so incredibly proud of our youth and the work they did over the summer, and if you know someone who was on RISE, ask them about their experience! If you'd like to hear more about RISE, or are interested in donating, please reach to me!



MY RISE STORY

Bill Crean, Worship and Music Committee



This year was my first as a team leader. While each team focuses on its own site and homeowner, really, we're all contributing to all sites and homeowners. For staff, that's directly true. For the youth and the adult leaders, it's still true because together we are RISE, and RISE is making it all happen.

So, I'd like more people to know about the family we (RISE) helped this week. Our job was to prep & paint half of an old house in dire need of repair and paint. We took on two sides, leaving the other 2 for another team from the other Center to complete the following week. We had to scrape the old paint, replace siding boards where they were damaged or missing, and apply two coats of paint.

Our homeowner, Laurie, was very friendly and present with us throughout the week. She was doing some of her own yard work, and each day she brought us a different treat. Homemade cookies, popsicles, watermelon, and cherries. She always expressed her appreciation and gratitude.

I wouldn't have guessed the challenges she faces each day. Most of us never saw Laurie's adult daughter, who has Angelman syndrome, which is a genetic disorder which causes developmental delays and intellectual disabilities. Laurie's daughter can't talk. And Laurie's husband, Richard, has a brain disorder that has him wheelchair bound, unable to control his movements, and unable to speak. We don't know how that came about - he had been a great youth soccer coach in the past, as we learned from Laurie's neighbors. He may have had an infection or head trauma at some point in his adult life.

Richard has a health aide who takes care of him while Laurie is doing other things, and the aide came outside to take a photo once in a while, in order to report to Richard. On Friday when we had nearly wrapped up, Laurie and the aide brought Richard outside. Laurie warned us that Richard will probably be crying tears of joy. When he saw the fresh paint job, Richard's emotion came out. His tears and moaning were expressions of appreciation. We also saw a smile when we told him that we had looked up his last name and found out that it's of Polish origin and is related to carpentry or construction. Maybe he already knew that, maybe he just learned that and was remarking on the appropriateness, or maybe he was pleased that we cared enough to look it up - in any case, he lit up our hearts with his smile.

I can't help but think of Laurie as "trapped." Trapped in the small town of Almond, NY, with limited resources, and even trapped in her house, with multiple disabled family members to take care of. She would like to go to her ancestral homeland of Scotland, but she knows she'll never be able to - instead she enjoys receiving pictures from other relatives.

Laurie probably doesn't think of herself as trapped. But RISE can take satisfaction in making Laurie's surroundings more beautiful, safe, and calming. Thank you to all of the teams, staff, worksite coordinator, program director, kitchen staff, and board of directors who help make this all possible.



BACK TO SCHOOL AT PCNS

Jeanne Mueller, Director, Presbyterian Church Nursery School

The Nursery School is eagerly anticipating our return to school in September. After a summer of fun at camp, we do look forward to that special new beginning of a school year. We love arranging our classrooms, meeting new families, and welcoming returning ones. Thank you for your support! We look forward to the new school year at Presbyterian Church Nursery School!



FUNDRAISER: MABEL'S LABELS

The new season brings opportunities to help support our school program. We are offering several fundraisers that you as church members are welcome to join. If you purchase children's labels through Mabel's Labels, a portion of the sales goes back to our nursery school! For ordering information, please visit pcmorristown.org/labels



FUNDRAISER: ANNUAL MUMS SALE

We are bringing back our favorite fall fundraiser: Mums! Country Mile Gardens has agreed to assist us again in welcoming the new season with some lovely mums for your front steps. We are offering 9" for \$12 and 12" for \$22. As usual, we make it easy to order and pay through our website: pcmorristown.org/mums



ALERT: BACK TO SCHOOL PARKING LOT REMINDER

Our parking lot gets much busier with parents with little ones in tow in September! Be sure to drive slowly and carefully when school is open. At drop off (8:50 - 9:15 am), the car line can be an inconvenience for some, especially during our first few weeks of school. Please do not go around the car line; we usually get faster after some practice! Additionally, at our varied pick up times (11:30 am, 1:00 pm, 1:45 pm, and 3:00 pm) you will note families with young children in our lot. Please take extra precautions when driving through the Parish House parking lot. Thank you for your cooperation!





LOVE IN, LOVE OUT

Amanda Tufts, Director of Community Engagement

TO MY FELLOW JUSTICE-DOERS, KINDNESS-LOVERS, AND HUMBLE-WALKERS,

As we step into this new program year together, I want to invite you to pause. Just for a moment.

Yes, right now as you're reading this.

Breathe in deeply. Feel God's love surrounding you, filling your lungs, your heart, your spirit. Now exhale. Let that love flow outward, spilling into the world around you. This rhythm—inhale, exhale—is the rhythm of our faith. We draw near to God in worship, receiving grace and strength, and then we pour that love back out through acts of service.

Worship fills us up; service sends us out. Both are essential, and both are gifts.

This fall, I encourage you to take another look at your How to Serve booklet from our winter sermon series, *Worship + Two*. If you don't have yours, just reach out and I would be happy to send you one! Inside are numerous ways to share God's love... opportunities both within our church walls and out in our wider community. Some may look familiar, while others might surprise you. I invite you to prayerfully flip through and ask yourself: Where is God calling me to serve this year?

And here's the good news: you don't have to figure it out alone. If you're unsure where to begin, or if you're curious about exploring something new, I would love to walk alongside you. Let's grab a cup of coffee and dream together about how you might share the unique gifts God has given you.

God is already at work among us, stirring up new possibilities. Let's lean into this holy rhythm together: breathing in God's love, and joyfully breathing it out into the world.

To new possibilities (*and a little bit of caffeine*),

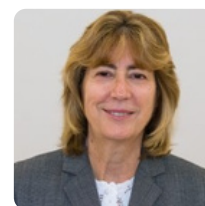
Amanda

P.S. We opened August with an incredible show of support for students in the Morris County school district by supplying and packing 207 backpacks with notebooks, folders, pencils, crayons, and more for Table of Hope to distribute. Thank you to Emily Campbell for organizing this beloved annual event and to everyone for your generosity in making it so successful!



JAN'S CLOSET UPDATE

Carol Johnson, Jan's Closet Leader



Jan's Closet continues to serve the community by providing good quality, new and gently-used clothing thanks to the generous clothing donations by members of the congregation and members of the community who wish to support this ministry as the word of our free community clothing bank spreads.

Thanks to the generous funding you as a congregation provided this year, we are able to give more new underwear to adults and children and provide a wider range of sizes of shoes and jeans to supplement those that are donated. As always, all donations are greatly appreciated, however as we move into the fall we would appreciate warmer clothes as we have limited storage for out of season clothes.

We continue to see new people coming each time we are open, as well as returning customers, averaging 35 – 50 people at each shopping date. The closet is open from 10:00 – 11:30 am on the Second Saturday most months and the occasional Third Saturday when community events conflict. It is also open from 3:00 – 4:30 pm on the Fourth Tuesday of the month. Customers line up for each opening.

We look forward to continuing to meet the needs of the community with this ministry. There are plans for improving the way clothing is displayed so that we can continue to provide a pleasant shopping experience for all who come. The team is also working with Lafayette Learning Center on the possibility of opening a satellite Jan's Closet, which would be stocked at the school itself giving Pre-K students have immediate access to warm jackets and dry sneakers if needed. We are also planning on opening one evening per month, beginning in November, to better serve our community after work and school.

If you are interested in helping out at the closet and would like to get to know our neighbors better, we would welcome your help in sorting and distributing clothes. Look for announcements in the weekly newsletter or visit pcmorristown.org/janscloset.





BREATHE OUT GOD'S LOVE

Emily Campbell, Chair, Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee of PCM is responsible for organizing hand-on mission opportunities and directing church funds toward groups that respond to the teachings of Jesus. Will you pray for and with us:

*How are we to be Christ's eyes of compassion, His feet
which walk to do good, His hands to bless the world?*

How will you share your time, talent and treasure and breathe out God's love to a world in need?



WINTER COAT DRIVE | SEPTEMBER 14 - 28

As the chilly days of winter approach, let's come together to ensure our neighbors stay warm! From September 14 to 28, we are hosting a Winter Coat Drive to benefit Jan's Closet. We invite you to donate new or gently-used winter coats for adults and children. New or gently-used hats, scarves and gloves are welcome, too!

Bring your items to the Parish House, Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. There will also be bins at the Church on the Green (one in the Narthex and the other by the back entrance). Please label bags clearly as "Coat Drive" to help our volunteers for sorting.

No coat to spare? You can still make a difference with a financial donation to support Jan's Closet. Let's make this winter a bit warmer for everyone!

- Mail a Check: Send to Presbyterian Church in Morristown, 65 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960. Write "Coat Drive" on the memo line.
- Online: Visit pcmorristown.org/coatdrive and select Give Online.

TABLE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY | SECOND THURSDAY

The Table of Hope Food Pantry provides groceries to hundreds of food insecure families in our community every week. The food pantry relies on volunteers and members of the Presbyterian Church in Morristown help at the outdoor Food Pantry every second Thursday of the month from September through May.

Clients receive a variety of healthy foods including dairy, bread, grains, canned vegetables and soups, fresh produce, and meat. Our PCM volunteers sort and bag food, load groceries into cars, direct traffic, and help with cleanup.

Participation is 12:00 - 2:15 pm. The pantry operates from the Bethel AME Church in Morristown and runs rain or shine. To help make a difference in our community, sign up to volunteer with us for the Table of Hope Food Pantry by visiting pcmorristown.org/toh





HOMELESS SOLUTIONS DINNER SERVICE | 9/23, 10/28, 11/25

Join us at Homeless Solutions on the fourth Tuesday of each month to prepare and serve dinner to residents who are working to rebuild their lives.

Volunteers ages 11 and up are welcome to participate. As a group, you'll help prep and cook the meal in the on-site kitchen before serving dinner and sharing conversation with the guests. Whether you're a seasoned home cook or simply have a heart to serve, there's a role for everyone. Volunteers arrive at 4:00 pm, with dinner service running from 5:45 to 7:00 pm, at Homeless Solutions, 540 W Hanover Ave, Morristown. Sign up at pcmorristown.org/hsi



NOURISH NJ FOOD PREP | OCTOBER 28 | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Volunteering at Nourish NJ is not only a meaningful way to support our vulnerable neighbors, but also a wonderful opportunity to connect and build relationships. Volunteers will work indoors alongside Nourish NJ's kitchen staff to portion meals into to-go containers, assist with light prep, clean up, and help restock the marketplace. We hope you'll join us in serving our neighbors, supporting an outstanding nonprofit partner, and sharing fellowship with the PCM community. Sign up at pcmorristown.org/nourish



DEACON IN-REACH DAY | OCTOBER 18 | 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Our PCM Deacons coordinate this annual service event and would love for you to join! This is an opportunity to assist other members of our church who need help with light chores at their homes. Chores could include fall clean up, window washing, or general yard work. Volunteers meet at 8:30 am for a light breakfast and are assigned to homes. All projects are completed by noon.

Sign up at pcmorristown.org/inreachday.



JAN'S CLOSET FREE COMMUNITY CLOTHING BANK | MONTHLY

Lend a hand at the Parish House on the second Saturday morning or fourth Tuesday afternoon of the month! Jan's Closet not only provides essential clothing to those in need but also allows us to create connections within our community. By volunteering, you'll have the opportunity to assist individuals and families in selecting clothing items that suit their needs, ensuring they leave with dignity and confidence. Additionally, you'll play a crucial role in maintaining a welcoming, organized environment and ensuring that items are accessible. Sign up at pcmorristown.org/janscloset



WINTER BREAK KITS FOR MORRISTOWN PRE-K | COMING SOON!

This past spring, our PCM Family came together in an incredible way to support Morristown's youngest learners through our Spring Break Care Kits drive—and because of that success, we're excited to share that a Winter Care Kit drive will be coming this October! These kits provide nourishment and encouragement to children when school is out, and we can't wait to build on the momentum from the spring. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks on how you can get involved and make a difference again this fall!

WHY DO YOU CALL PCM HOME?

We frequently hear stories about how our members discovered PCM, but we wanted to dig a little deeper and asked some why they decided to call PCM their church home. While we always love hearing the different stories that brought us together, it is so moving to hear why we stay together!

KRISTEN G.

PCM is a special place - from the moment you walk-in you feel welcomed and familiar faces will quickly become friends. There are a lot of different activities that you can get involved in based on what season of life you're in. We currently have a toddler and lean into the family-orientated events. The sermons are inviting and thought provoking - often weaving current events into scripture, and I find myself reminiscing about the message throughout the week.

STEPHANIE N.

I've been a member for 10-ish years (spot check me?) and even during two moves to neighboring towns, I've stayed a member because the community is unmatched - welcoming, always ways to get involved and meet new people, and very kid friendly.

CLARA H.

PCM was love at first sight for me. The warm welcome, intimacy of worship, the compelling music convinced me I had found my home. Whether listening or speaking up, serving or eating, volunteering or accepting help, the genuine kindness of the PCM family continues to nurture my spirit and strengthen my relationship with God, Jesus and The Holy Spirit.

STEPHANIE C.

PCM is a place I find new friends, ways to help others and spaces to watch my family connect and do good things. I am so happy to call PCM home.

BRYON P.

After about 14 years of more-or-less wandering for a spiritual home, I finally "found my people" last year at PCM, and that after just one visit! WHY? Integrity, kindness, mutuality, community, fidelity to CHRIST, Christ's teachings, the word of God.

CAROLYN C.

Music is what brought my family to PCM in 1990. All four of us participated in one way or another in making music in this church. What has kept me here are the people and friends I have made. Ministers and music directors come and go.....but friendship remains the constant.

RICHARD S.

I call PCM home because it provides me community and purpose. But not just that. PCM challenges me to reflect on the great mystery I associate with the Creator, Teacher, and Spirit: why I've been granted life, and what the truest version of myself consists of.

BILL C.

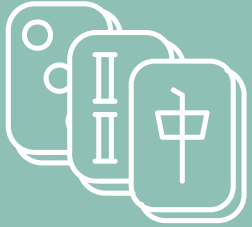
I call PCM home because I can be who I am. PCM is a caring community, with no pressure to be, do, or say anything not true to yourself.

THINKING ABOUT MAKING PCM YOUR CHURCH HOME? LET'S DO BRUNCH!

Whether you're new to PCM or simply exploring your next steps, these brunches are the perfect way to discover how we can grow in faith and purpose together. Our next session is **Sunday, October 26, 2025** from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at the Parish House. We can't wait to spend time with you! RSVP at pcmorristown.org/brunch

FALLING INTO COMMUNITY

Here are some great ways to meet new friends and grow deeper connections with other members of the PCM Family. All are welcome! You don't have to be a member to participate; we would love to spend time together!



MAH JONGG MAVENS | FIRST & THIRD FRIDAY | 1:00 PM

Are you interested in learning how to play Mah Jongg? If so, please join the Mah Jongg Mavens on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month in Erdman Room at 1:00 pm and we'll play for about two hours. Everyone, beginners and experienced, is welcome. If you have questions please contact Lena Fermani at 201-323-5037, lfermani@optonline.net or Marilyn Harris at 973-452-8055, marilynnharris1@gmail.com



FAITH ON FILM | OCT 19, NOV 23 | 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Join us for Faith on Film, a monthly gathering where we watch an inspiring movie, share a meal, and engage in meaningful conversation about faith, justice, and community. Upcoming screenings include *Conclave* and *The Penguin Lessons*. Come with an open heart, a curious mind, and a hunger for both food and fellowship! No sign up necessary, just drop in!



ALL CHURCH DINNER | SEP 17, OCT 8, NOV 12 | 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Have you attended an All Church Dinner yet? Why not try it out this fall?! All are welcome, whether you are hoping to connect with other church members, participating in our midweek program, swinging by before choir, participating in a small group or just looking for a time of fellowship with the whole church family, we hope you will join us! RSVP at pcmorristown.org/dinner



HIKING GROUP | SEP 13, OCT 11, NOV 8 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Nothing says it's time to join the monthly PCM hiking group like the crisp morning air! All hikes are easy to execute and need no experience – just a love of the outdoors. This is a great activity for families! Please register so that we can provide you any updated information or status of the hike in case of inclement weather: pcmorristown.org/hike



JOIN THE PCM WELCOME TEAM! | SUNDAYS | 9:40 AM

There's something powerful about being the first smile someone sees when they walk through our doors. As part of the PCM Welcome Team, you get to create that first impression—the one that says, "You belong here." Whether you're handing out bulletins, helping someone find their seat, or just saying hello with warmth, your presence makes a difference. We'd love to have you on the team! Sign up at pcmorristown.org/welcome-team

POTLUCK PRESBYTERIANS STARTS FALL/WINTER SEASON OF FRIENDSHIP AND FINE DINING!

Crisp temperatures and festive colored leaves are a sign that the fall/winter season of Potluck Presbyterians is about to begin. Whether you are returning members or considering joining Potluck for the first time, we offer you a warm invitation to enjoy laughter, hospitality and delicious meals in a different home each month.

Preparations are simple. With six to eight participants at each month's venues over the months of October, November and January, it is easy for everyone. Simply prepare (or purchase) a favorite dish according to your assignment on the roster and show up at the appointed time and place. "Regular" members are the backbone of Potluck, each committing to host one dinner (or brunch or lunch) in the season. They set the date and time for the gathering, prepare the main course, and invite those on the pre-determined roster to bring the other components of the meal. Hosts and guests are rotated, ensuring participants meet with different people each month. When the host calls you, if you are not available for the month chosen, you simply opt out and the host will call on our substitute members.

The joyful memories of Potluck over the past three plus decades could fill a book – and we want you in the next chapter!

What will be in your PLATE?

Please sign up online at pcmorrissetown.org/potluck or return the form below to shwoodruff@comcast.net or contact Sue Woodruff, at (908) 879-6638, for more information and to participate no later than **Friday, September 12, 2025**.

POTLUCK PRESBYTERIANS MONTHLY DINNER SIGN-UP, Fall/Winter 2025

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Preferences of month (in order) to host: October ____ November ____ January ____

Number (including yourself/selves), you can host: 6 ____ 8 ____ other ____

Membership Request (please check one):

Regular (you will host one event) ____

Substitute (I am not able to host, please put me on the sub list) ____

I'm not available for this season. Please contact me for next year ____

Please remove me from the mailing list ____



Please share with your church friends!

COMMITTEE CORNER

PCM has nine committees and each one plays a unique part in our life together. If one speaks to your passions or gifts, we'd love to invite you to explore and get involved! Whether you're drawn to music, teaching, community, outreach, logistics, or anything in between, there's a place for you to lead, love, and grow here! Want to get involved? Reach out to info@pcmorrictown.org.



WORSHIP & MUSIC

The Worship & Music Committee guides how we worship together—from sermon series and music choices to guest artists and creative moments. If you're passionate about how we show up on Sundays, join us here.



COMMUNITY & MEMBERSHIP

The Community & Membership Committee helps people feel seen, known, and connected at every stage of church life. From welcome teams to fun events, this committee brings people together and fosters belonging.



OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee focuses on how we serve the Morristown community and beyond—building partnerships, organizing volunteer efforts, and being the hands and feet of Christ in the world.



ADULT MINISTRIES

The Adult Ministries Committee shapes programming for spiritual growth—Bible studies, classes, art ministry, the young adult group, care teams, and Stephen Ministers. If you love nurturing faith and connection, this is a great fit.



CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES

The Children, Youth & Family Ministries Committee cares for the youngest in our church family—from Sunday School and youth groups to milestone moments and college-age support. Help grow the next generation of faith.



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

The Buildings & Grounds Committee cares for our historic spaces and makes sure everything is safe, beautiful, and welcoming—from Sunday morning to community events. Handy folks and history lovers, we see you!



FINANCE

The Finance Committee oversees the church's budget, spending, and investments. If you're detail-oriented and believe in stewarding resources wisely, this team makes a big impact behind the scenes.



STEWARDSHIP & NOMINATING

The Stewardship & Nominating Committee leads our annual giving campaign and helps identify future elders and deacons. This team champions legacy and generosity, helping PCM flourish long-term.



MANAGEMENT & ADMIN

The Management & Administration Committee supports our staff and operations with thoughtfulness and care. If you're organized, people-focused, or passionate about healthy leadership, this is a great place to plug in.

HAVE YOU CONTRIBUTED YOUR 2025 PER CAPITA?

From the Finance Committee

The Presbytery of the Highlands' mission is "to support and resource congregations and presbytery partners in the fulfillment of the Great Commission." Please help by annually donating your Per Capita to PCM. Each year, we ask you to participate in paying for each member of your household that is a member of PCM. Per Capita is a tangible expression of shared mission and ministry across the PC(USA).



HOW CAN I PAY MY PER CAPITA?

The Per Capita rate in **2025 is \$43.50 per church member**, and it is our practice to encourage every active member to donate their own Per Capita expense.

You can pay your Per Capita online at pcmorristown.org/percapita. You can also pay your Per Capita by mailing a check to The Presbyterian Church in Morristown at 65 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960. Please remember to write "Per Capita" in the memo line.



WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

Per Capita financially supports the higher church councils: our presbytery (Presbytery of the Highlands), our synod (Northeast), and the PC(USA). These levels of connectivity are one of the things that make Presbyterianism unique. In a sense, per capita provides the glue that holds the Presbyterian Church together.



WHAT DOES MY PER CAPITA SUPPORT?

The breakdown is as follows: the General Assembly portion is \$10.84, the Synod portion is \$4.25, and the Presbytery portion is \$28.41. Camp Johnsonburg – Each year, over thirty youth from our church attend events at Camp Johnsonburg.

All the Presbyteries of New Jersey own the Johnsonburg Camp and Conference Center and Per Capita helps operate it. When there is a disaster, the Presbyterian Church is one of the first groups to arrive with assistance. The structure that delivers the support comes from Per Capita paid by all Presbyterians.

SO LONG, SWEET SUMMER!



LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Please contact the office to update your contact information.

We worship weekly in-person at 8:00 am (Chapel) or 10:00 am (Sanctuary)
Our weekly 10:00 am service is livestreamed and available for replay at: **pcmorrictown.org**

The **Parish House** is located at 65 South Street
The **Sanctuary, Chapel, and Howard House** are located at 57 E. Park Place

Please feel free to contact our offices at the Parish House at **973-538-1776**

PCM STAFF

Rev. Daniel Vigilante | Pastor

Rev. Audrey Webber | Associate Pastor

Alexandra Mead | Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Dr. Ben Riggs | Interim Director of Adult Music

Madelyn Ortiz | Interim Director of Children's Music

Kevin Graf | Organist

Caleigh Lawlor | Director of Youth Ministries

Paul Koski | Director of Administration

Amanda Tufts | Director of Community Engagement

Jeanne Mueller | Director of Presbyterian Church Nursery School

Kay Smith | Administrative Assistant

Kevin McAllister | Finance Administrator

Kristo Pango | Sexton

Sigris Lorena Girón Sorto | Weeknight Custodian

Cory VillNeuve | Weekend Custodian

Carly Tufts | Childcare Coordinator

FIND US ONLINE [PCMORRISTOWN.ORG](https://www.pcmorrictown.org)



DO JUSTICE. LOVE KINDNESS. WALK HUMBLLY WITH GOD.