# *Announcements and Church Information*
## *For the week of Sunday, October 11, 2026*

Whether you are worshipping with us for the first time, returning after some time away, or a long-time member of our church family—we are so glad you're here.

We would love to stay connected with you. If you are visiting, please consider filling out a yellow card, located at the back of the pew, and place it in the offering plate. You can keep in touch through our weekly emails—simply reach out to our Office Administrator, Steve Buchanan, at admin@rumsonpresbyterian.org. You can also follow us on Facebook at @firstpresbyterianchurchofrumson.

If you are considering making Rumson Presbyterian Church your church home, we would be delighted to walk alongside you. Our Session gathers regularly to welcome new members. To learn more about joining, please contact Rev. Whitney Bayer at whitney@rumsonpresbyterian.org or 732-842-0429.

## *Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*

### *Sermon: "Responding to God" by Dr. Whitney S. Bayer*

God welcome is extended to all people, but having accepted Christ's invitation we are called to respond.

## *Coffee Hour*

Join us following the service in Wilson Hall for coffee or tea and some delicious treats. Congregational Life is always looking for volunteers to keep this program running. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside of the church offices.

## *Introducing Simple Sundays*

Starting in October on the last Sunday of each month we will have a "simple Sunday" with bagels only for Coffee Hour. If you've thought about signing up for Coffee Hour but felt it was a bit overwhelming to provide our typical spread this new opportunity is for you. When you sign up for a Simple Sunday you will only need to provide bagels and help to make the coffee.

## *Book Group*

Beginning **October 15 th** and continuing each week for 4 weeks through November 5th. We will meet on Thursdays from 10-11am in the Monroe Lounge. Our book is ***Mudhouse Sabbath: An Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline*** by **Lauren Winner**. "After her conversion from Orthodox Judaism to Christianity, Lauren Winner found that her life was indelibly marked by the rich traditions and spiritual practices of Judaism. She set out to discover how she could incorporate some of these practices into her new faith.

## *Steve's Retirement*

Join us during Coffee Hour on **October 18th** as we celebrate Steve Buchanan and his retirement. We are so appreciative for his many years of service as our faithful Office Administrator. He has been vital to the smooth operations of the church in so many ways, most especially through our recent pastor transition. We are so grateful for his dedication! Come enjoy cake and thank Steve for all he has done!

## *College Care Packages*

The Children and Youth Committee will be sending care packages to college students who are members of Rumson Presbyterian Church. The packages will be sent out before final exams, and we will be asking for donations in the coming weeks. If you have a family member away at school or know of a church member currently in college, please send their mailing address to Sue Brennan at sewbrennan@gmail.com.

## *Children's Book Collection*

Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting new and gently used children's books to help fill our new bookshelves in the Narthex. Please consider donating a book or two of your family's favorite children's books.

## *New Church Logo*




To design our new church logo, we worked with graphic artist, Elyse Stevenson. Sheri Kirkpatrick (Communications Committee chair), Whitney Bayer (pastor), and Hayley O'Conner (consultant from Ministry Architects) initially met with her to share about our church, its history, and our vision for the future. She then presented us with various logo options which we narrowed down and discussed with the Vision Team and the Session for their thoughts and opinions. We are all very pleased with the end result and find it to be a beautiful expression of our church as we seek to live our mission statement: to be a community that welcomes all, nurtures faith, values relationships, and serves our neighbors with the compassion of Christ.

## *Narthex Updates*

Over the summer a subcommittee of the Children & Youth Committee and the Property Committee have been hard at work with the goal of making the narthex more inviting for all ages. There are new seating areas, new plants, and new bookshelves for children's books and quiet toys. There is a new coffee bar for groups who meet during the week, and the bulletin boards have been updated to display flyers for upcoming events. The two new benches provide seating and also function as important storage for our monthly Mission Commission collections. What we collect each month is displayed on the bulletin board outside of Wilson Hall. We hope that all who use the narthex on Sunday morning or during the week will find it an inviting place to be.

## *Children's Worship Bags*

First Presbyterian Church of Rumson warmly welcomes children in worship, including their wiggles, whispers, cries, yawns, and questions. Worship Bags for children are available as you walk in. Pick one up as you arrive and return it after worship so we can have it ready for you the following week. Bags contain various items to help children engage in worship. We encourage them during the service to worship by exploring some of the activities in their bags. For those times when

a child might need a break, please know that we have a seating area in the narthex where parents can sit comfortably with restless little ones and still hear the service.

## *Seeking Lay Readers*

We are seeking volunteer lay readers to assist in worship by reading scripture or another portion of the liturgy. This is open to all ages. You'll find a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs.

## *Job Opportunities*

The search for a part-time **Children and Family Ministries Coordinator** continues.

- The **Children and Family Ministries Coordinator** is to be present on Sunday mornings to lead a children's worship time during the service and to offer mid-week programming. This job description is also available on our website:

  https://rumsonpresbyterian.org/seeking-children-and-family-ministry-coordinator/ .

## *2026 CROP Hunger Walk*




We're participating in the 2026 CROP Hunger Walk on **October 18th** at 2pm to support Church World Service and help families who are struggling with hunger. We're asking you to join us – with your steps and your donations – to provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and greater food security in communities around the world. Please visit our team CROP Hunger Walk homepage: https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/rumson-presbyterian-church-2 to join our team. Families are welcome. We will be going to Crazees for ice cream following the walk! If you can't join us for the walk, your donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

## *Giving*

Rumson Presbyterian Church is excited to partner with the Presbyterian Foundation and Vanco Payment Solutions to bring you our GivePlus Online Giving page, which you can access using this QR code.

## *October Mission Opportunity*

