

December 2025



First Presbyterian Church of Everett

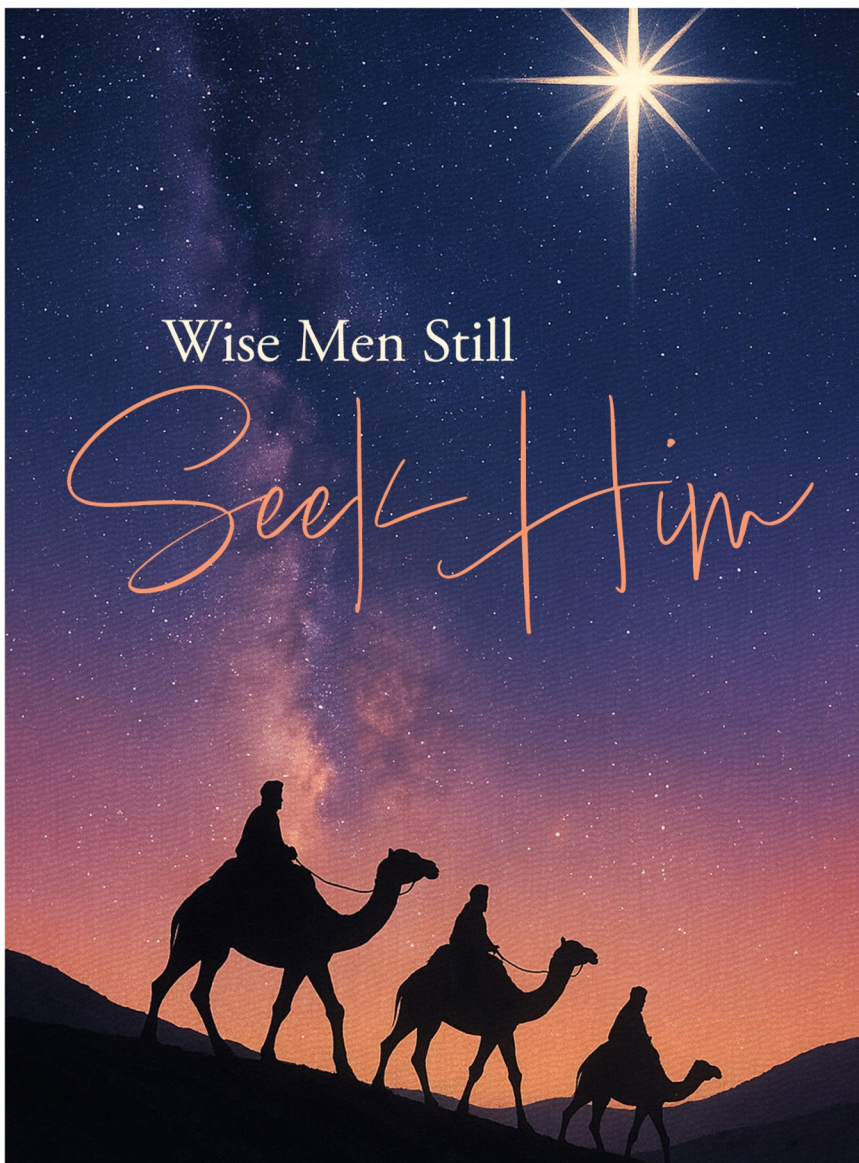
The Carillon

A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Everett



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**The Carillon
December 2025**

Sunday In-person & Virtual Worship Schedule:

10-11 a.m.- Worship
11 a.m. - Fellowship
11:30 a.m. -Adult Sunday School

**The First Presbyterian
Church of Everett
2936 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201**

Website: www.firstpreschurch.com

Phone: 425-259-7139

Fax: 425-317-8042

E-mail: info@firstpreschurch.com

Office Hours:

By Appointment—Call 425-259-7139

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway	Pastor
Sondra Santos	Communications Manager
Doreen Solberg	Office Coordinator
Lorilee Brasseur	Director of Music Ministry
Ari Kohler	Custodian
Gary Norris	Church Organist
Rev. Dr. Edwin C. Coon	Pastor Emeritus

Worship - Sundays at 10 a.m.




If you are unable to attend in-person worship, we invite you to join our worship livestream, Sundays at 10 a.m. on the FPCE Facebook page. If you have not had an opportunity to like or follow us on Facebook, you can do so by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchofEverett/>

You can hear and/or view previous worship services and find worship guides on our mobile app or by visiting our website at <https://firstpreschurch.com/sermons>. Worship services can also be viewed on our You Tube channel. Subscribe today by visiting https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBm4b8eSW9TqN1e1RoFkdag?view_as=public

Please note: There are times when Facebook and/or YouTube will mute parts of a worship recording that they deem to be infringing on copyright protections. To see the service online, uninterrupted, you'll need to watch the live broadcast.

Online worship bulletins are posted on our website and mobile app, the Friday before worship.



Joy To The World

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

7 PM & 11 PM

COOKIES & COCOA AT 6 PM

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF EVERETT**

2936 Rockefeller Ave.
Everett, WA 98201



Off the Wall by Pastor Alan

As I've gotten older, my 'Christmas list' has shrunk. I did not grow up on Sears catalogs, but in November catalogs from Kmart, Toys "R" Us, and Mervyn's would arrive. My brother and I would scour them for Legos, action figures, bikes, and other items. We would write our lists, keeping them within limits, around December 1st and 'mail' them to Santa.

Then on Christmas morning, we'd rush down the stairs and see the gifts under the tree. Yes, there were things I did not put on my list, like practical gifts, but sure enough, at least one item from 'my' list showed up.

Over time, as I lost interest in toys and as time with family and friends became more important, it was harder and harder for me to figure out a 'list'. Jokingly one year, when asked, what do I want for Christmas, I said world peace. Yes, I sounded like a bad pageant contestant, but it clicked. I did want that. I do want that.



I want people around the world, regardless of race, religion, country, or other division or category out there, to have a moment where whatever anxiety, stress, difficulty, feeling, or crisis is removed. Like Isaiah says, swords would be beaten into plowshares (Isaiah 2:4). The wolf would lay down with the lamb (Isaiah 11:6). Or Paul reminds us that in Christ, we are a new creation, the old has gone and everything has been made new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

I get it. I have visions that are not always grounded in reality.

This is why we need the season of Advent. Advent encourages us to wait with hope, peace, joy, and love. Advent gives us a vision that into our world, full of kings and kingdoms fighting for control, full of violence and apathy, full of greed and selfishness, full of pain and distractions, the Son of God was born. As Eugene Peterson notes in his translation of John, God moved into the neighborhood (John 1:14).

We believe Christmas is more than lights, decorations, traditions, songs, trees, and gifts. We believe the Creator of the Universe took on flesh and became human, born to a scared mother and father, in a humble manger, among barn animals with shepherds and foreigners as visitors. There, in Bethlehem, Jesus our Prince of Peace took his first breath. Through Jesus' teachings, his healings, his death, and resurrection, Jesus took down our dividing walls and made peace between God and all humanity (Ephesians 2:14-15).

My list is small. I want the Mariners and the Cubs to make it to the World Series. And I want world peace. My hope for this Advent is no matter what's going on in your life, after a worship service, as you open gifts with family on Christmas morning, when you take a nap full of good food, or as the brisk chill of the cold air greets you, in one or more moments, you feel peace. And with peace, we feel a little more hope, sing with a little more joy, and we are reminded that love redeems all things.

Merry Christmas!

Peace, *Alan*

Announcements:

This Advent at the First Presbyterian Church of Everett

We are celebrating and learning about different cultures and how they celebrate Christmas. On November 30th, we will revisit the story of Mary and Joseph with the donkey pinata. On Sunday, December 7th, we share an Oplatek. This is a Polish Christmas Wafer. On Sunday, December 14th, we will hear about the night of the radishes from Oaxaca, Mexico. December 21st we will explore the fun world of crackers from Great Britain. Then finally, on Christmas Eve, we will search for the pickle ornament.

Popcorn, PJ's and Pizza

Our December Gathering is moving to Friday, December 19th where we will be having a family movie night in Calvin Lounge. Bring your family (little ones can wear their PJ's) and we will have pizza and popcorn as we watch *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (remake from 2024). This will be a fun and relaxing evening for all. Doors will open at 5pm. Dinner and movie start around 5:30pm.

Be a Part of New Lenten Banners

New Lenten banners will adorn our sanctuary this coming February. To complete these banners, the Women's Association is looking for the whole congregation to be a part of this project by donating CLEAN, PURPLE, 100% COTTON OR COTTON BLEND FABRICS.

The fabrics can be in any purple hue, plain or printed, and will be used to create a mosaic motif to be incorporated in the banners. They can be scrap fabric, full yardage, or an old garment — please note that you will not get the material back.

Donations of fabric can be dropped off at the church anytime between now and January 11, 2026. Donation baskets will be provided in Westminster Hall and in the church office.

Any questions, contact Leslie Sutin in person or at missleslie50@comcast.net.

Counseling Centers of North Puget Sound are in need of Board members.

A Board member is an individual appointed or elected to serve on the Board of Directors of an organization, which is responsible for overseeing the organization's governance, strategy and financial health.

Board members bring their expertise and independent judgement to the board. Actively participate in meetings, committees and discussions, contributing to the collective decision making process.

We are a non-profit organization so these positions would be a volunteer position.

If interested, please reach out to Marian or Doug at 360-568-8737.



From the Organ Bench by Gary Norris: Our Music Quickens Our Readiness for the Coming of Emmanuel

Emmanuel is a Hebrew word (עִמָּנוּאֵל) that is made up of two parts: “Immanu” meaning “**with us**”, and “el” meaning **God**. So together, Immanuel or Emmanuel (the spelling in English varies) means “**God with us.**”



The Organ prelude for November 30 will be “Veni Emmanuel”, Latin for “Come Emmanuel”. What a better way to prepare this Advent season, than to turn to the classic 12th century hymn # 9 found in our blue hymnal with these moving words:

"O come, O Dayspring from on high
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight."

You can prepare to sing along by viewing this YouTube video of a choir accompanied by organ and piano: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6KdMq2tch1M>.

REMEMBER: The door to the *new Christian year* opened November 30, the first Sunday of Advent. Christians from the earliest times have “*kept time*” using this calendar in their journey of faith, always open, expectant, and hopeful for finding concrete ways to strengthen and expand their faith.

Do you hear the call? Go back to your Bible and listen for God’s voice in the words of Isaiah 40:3. A voice is calling out: In the wilderness **prepare** the way for the Lord.



A thank you note from Jean Kanter:

I would like to thank the church family for all of the food, prayers, and cards you have sent me. Also, for all of you that have not given up on me. I really miss everyone and wish I could be there every Sunday. All my love and gratitude for all you have done.

~ Jean Kanter



The prophet Isaiah gives those listening to him a very particular task to prepare the way for the coming Messiah, the person we know as Jesus. Isaiah proclaims that to prepare the way is to make highways easily navigable, fill in valleys, flatten hills, level the ground, make the earth smooth. Then, and only then, will God's glory be revealed, and this will cause all humanity to see that God has spoken to us.

Your gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering combine with gifts from thousands of congregations throughout our denomination to do our part to repair the world and to ensure our siblings have the tools they need to flourish. Your gifts prepare the way for the God we know in Jesus Christ, the child whose birth we celebrate.

- ★ 50% supports the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides critical financial assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their times of need.
- ★ 50% supports Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color to provide education and leadership development.



Priscilla Circle will be meeting on Monday, December 8th, in Calvin Lounge, at 11:30 a.m. We will be discussing chapter 4 in our study book and having a potluck lunch. **All women are welcome.**

Book Group Update—Submitted by Shirley Solberg

All readers are invited to meet on Zoom to share thoughts on the month's choice of title. Our goal is a variety of fiction and nonfiction that enlarge our individual reading range.

As traditional, we will skip the month of December, thus our next meeting is set for January 26 as noted below. Watch *The Carillon* to see additional choices for the coming year.

January 26, 2026 *Stargazer* Anne Hillerman Leader - TBA

Anne Hillerman, daughter of late novelist Tony Hillerman, continues her father's series, solving justice issues amid new adventures for his beloved Southwest lawmen - and women. If you savor Hillerman mysteries, amateur astronomy, Native American or police themes, this book is for you!

Suggestions for the months ahead are welcome!

Watch your email for the Zoom link or let me know if you would like to be added to the participants list.

Shirley Solberg shirley.solberg@icloud.com



Interfaith Shelter 2026 Donation Drive!

In the early part of 2026, the FPCE Mission Committee is hosting a drive for small household goods to further the mission of the Interfaith Family Shelter as they assist our housing-insecure neighbors.

We don't plan to start collecting until later in January or February (TBD - stay tuned!), so please do not bring items yet. We wanted to share this message now in case you come across any great holiday deals or are upgrading any of your own items. New or gently used items are welcome. Below is a list of high demand items. They also have an Amazon Wish List - you can scan the QR code below or visit their website (www.interfaithwa.org) for more information.

Reach out to Kari Nupen or any member of the Mission Committee for more information.

Current High Demand Items include:

- Bedsheets & Linens (twin and full sizes)
- Pillows (Standard size)
- Towels
- Dinnerware for adults and children
- Personal Hygiene Items (Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, etc. - for kids and adults)



Library Update—Submitted by Shirley Solberg

As another year draws to a close, your church library is gearing up for new reading adventures in months to come. For those not familiar with this part of the church, here is a little outline.

The “Burgundy Bookmobile” you see at coffee hour only holds a small slice of our total collection of over 3,000 volumes.

To find the rest, go from fourth to first floor - elevator or stairs at your service. The main collection is right beside the church office, available whenever the building is open.

What will you find there? Most of our fiction. Novels, arranged alphabetically by author, are on the right as you enter.

Individual volumes about the books of the Bible in the Bible’s own order, Genesis all the way to Revelation, are in the Dewey number 220s against the north wall adjacent to the office.

Also, find accounts of mission work through the years by our denomination and others as well as biographies of noted Christian leaders.

Histories of exploration, founding of churches, and exploration of theological questions fill many shelves. How-to books, helpful for crafters or teachers, and a few books of recipes sit alongside animals and plants of the Bible. Picture books and easy reads are in a separate section, currently under re-development.

Stories and books by authors you know personally are especially enjoyable. New to our collection is one such book:

Sandra Walker has provided us with a copy of her unique *Little Merchants: The Golden Era of Youth Delivering Newspapers*. Beginning with memories of a family member who was an early “little merchant,” the book widens to tell of other young newspaper carriers throughout the country. Don’t miss this one!

To locate these books or to request others, please see our online catalog — <https://15781.rmwebopac.com/> — or let us know your need or interest.

Stephen Moore or Shirley Solberg shirley.solberg@icloud.com



DECEMBER S.P.A.M. LUNCHEON

Festive Afternoon
**CHRISTMAS
SONGS**



with the Everett High School Choir

JOIN US FOR A JOYFUL
HOLIDAY GATHERING!

DECEMBER 5

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EVERETT
2936 ROCKEFELLER AVE. EVERETT, WA 98201

Let's gather
around the
punch bowl at
11:30 a.m. A
delicious lunch
follows at 12:00
p.m.



Cost: \$7.50
Sign up at the
Welcome Booth
or contact Jan
Weakley by
November 30.

Poinsettias for Advent and Christmas

Christmas at FPCE is a time of celebrating Jesus' birth, beautiful music, heartfelt messages and festive décor.

For many years, the Women's Association has coordinated the purchase of live poinsettias for the sanctuary. This requires time to purchase, set up, water, and maintain the plants.

Traditionally the poinsettias are added to the décor the Sunday before Christmas and those individuals that purchase them in Honor or Memory of someone may take them home on Christmas Eve. However, many are just left at church

This year the Women's Association will be purchasing artificial poinsettias to have in the sanctuary the entire Advent Season for years to come. We believe this will add to the overall décor.

If you would still like to make a donation in any amount of your choosing, in Honor or Memory of someone, the funds will go to "The Everett Gospel Mission" this year. The names will be printed in the Christmas Eve Service Bulletins.

Blessings,

The Women's Association Board

Debbie Roberts
Leslie Sutin
Shirley Newman
Sonya Beardsley
Judy Hammond



Donations for The Everett Gospel Mission

Please make checks payable to: **Women's Association of FPCE**

Please print clearly

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Your Name _____

Phone _____



DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS!



The First Presbyterian Church of Everett sends greetings to all of our members and friends celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month.

If you are a **member or friend** whose name is not listed, please contact Doreen in the church office to update your record, so that we can include you in future celebration listings.

Join us in wishing the following members & friends a happy birthday and/or anniversary:

Anniversaries:

12/11 Steve & Nancy Torrence

Birthdays:

12/4 Renée Angell
12/7 Lisa Villevik
12/15 Michole Mattix
12/16 Judy Hutchison
12/16 Anna Mockler
12/17 Evan Roberts
12/18 Chris Sievers
12/20 Ken Bosman
12/20 Joan Copeland
12/21 Kathryn Scoringe
12/25 Carolyn Goza
12/27 Barbara Barren
12/28 Judy Baker
12/30 Julie Kuhnhenh
12/31 Donna Stanton

Special Dates:

First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2025
Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025
First Day of Winter, December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2025
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025
Christmas Day, December 25, 2025
New Year's Eve, December 31, 2025





Carillon: If you have information you would like included in the upcoming edition of The Carillon, please e-mail your submission to sondra@firstpreschurch.com by the deadline noted below. The Carillon is distributed on the last Sunday of the month. Upcoming deadline:

December 14th

**ALL SUBMISSIONS DUE BY 5 P.M.
ON DUE DATE.**



Our next in-person collection is Sunday, December 7th — we will not be collecting on Monday, December 8th.

Ken will be in the alley collecting nonperishable food **before worship**.

Drive down the alley, drop off food, then park and come to worship.

Find additional information in the Sunday Worship bulletin.

Thank you for your donations.



4583 71stSW
Mukilteo, Washington 98275

Dear members of First Presbyterian Church
2936 Rockefeller Ave.
Everett, Washington 98201

Dear members and staff at the Church:

The other night I looked at my calendar and noticed something hard to believe, but something that touched my heart. On October 20, 2000 you as a congregation voted to declare me as PASTOR EMERITUS. OH, how that brought back memories.

I recall our very first Sunday when Betty and I wore buttons that the kids in the Whittier Church had given us. One was pinned to my robe and Betty wore one on her blouse. They asked a question: HAVE YOU HUGGED A PRESBYTERIAN TODAY? An older gentleman was the first to shake our hands, told us that he had begun his day hugging his wife, and he then hugged both of us while another approached us and told us frankly that WE DON'T TOUCH ONE ANOTHER IN THIS CHURCH! YOU'RE GOING TO RUIN EVERYTHING! What a shock it was for the two of us. However, after my time in your midst and my retirement, when I returned to preach one last sermon after I had turned 85 (oh, I'll never forget it!) so many of you stepped away from your pew and moved forward, placing your hands upon my shoulders as PASTOR ALAN led us in prayer. Your doing that felt like so much love and support! SHIRLEY MORROW and ALAN VILLESVIK were up there in the chancel, appropriately being honored for all that they had given to our congregation in mission, the chancel rebuild, worship, and so much more..

Twenty-five years has passed by so quickly, but I'm still asked questions about some of the stories that I wrote in my attempt at church history: STEEPLE ON THE HILL. Maybe it's time to add more stories to bring the history up to CURRENT TIMES!

JUST KNOW, DEAR PEOPLE OF FAITH, THAT I STILL FEEL THAT HONOR, THE YEARS THAT WE SHARED, AND THE MEMORIES WE CARRY REGARDING OUR LIFE TOGETHER.

MAY YOU SENSE THE PRESENCE OF OUR LOVING LORD AS YOU PRAY TOGETHER AND WORK TOGETHER IN DEVOTION AND SERVICE FILLED WITH HIS SPIRIT

AFFECTIONATELY,



ED

Don't miss the next **Men's Breakfast** on Saturday, December 13th from 8:30-10 a.m.
All men are invited to attend this time of fellowship and Bible study. We hope to see you!

Building Community: The Dream & The Work



MLK

*2026
Greater Everett Area
Community Celebration*



**Sunday Celebration-
January 18, 2026- 4PM**

First Presbyterian Church-
2936 Rockefeller Ave.,
Everett WA. 98201

**Monday March & Rally-
January 19, 2026- 11AM-2PM**

Everett Memorial Stadium-
3900 Broadway &
VOA/W/ Carl Gipson Center,
3025 Lombard Ave. Everett WA. 98201

Church Leadership

Moderator – Alan Dorway

Ruling Elders

Class of 2025

John Gebert
Marne Larson
Steve Ulvestad

Class of 2026

Randy Fehlhaber
Susan Lynn
Kari Nupen

Class of 2027

Judy Campbell
David Baer-Peckham
Terry Walker

Deacons

Class of 2025

Bob Barren
Joan Lyderson
Lisa Villevik

Class of 2026

Rose Capetillo
Sam Capetillo
Mike Davis

Class of 2027

Susan Davis
Judy Hammond
Marilee Richards

