



First Presbyterian Church of Everett

The Carillon

A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Everett



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The Carillon
January 2026

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

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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.



Off the Wall by Pastor Alan

Time is funny. I'm trying to write two sermons for the 24th, planning what will happen on December 28th, thinking about how far behind I am on a Christmas letter to family and friends (yes, it will now be a New Year's letter), while at the same time, I'm receiving emails reminding me Lent begins in less than two months. Indeed, Lent begins on Wednesday February 18th and Easter comes quickly after on April 5th.



Still, it's Advent. It's not Christmas or 2026 yet, but time keeps on keeping on.

I don't know about you, but I attempt New Year's resolutions. I've shared before, but I've come up with some great ones over the years. Give up French fries. Did that for two years. Stop biting my fingernails. Never successful until I turned 48 and then just stopped that habit. Exercise more. Well, maybe in February when everyone has given up on their resolution only to keep on pushing that back. Run a marathon. Not completed, but I have run two halves. And of course, I added my own 'spiritual' resolutions like read the entire bible, pray more, memorize a verse a month, and be more like Jesus.

Yes, these and other resolutions are good and worthy. Some lead to change, others stimulate our minds or hearts, and there are a couple we do not complete.

One of the questions I hear as a pastor in a new year is how do I have a great year growing in my faith? Naturally, I or other pastors can only help someone so far. Any resolution and any growth in our faith takes effort. But it's not the effort we might think.

The effort we need to put into this venture is risking faith to permeate our lives.

We need to let God transform us.

This might seem easy, like of course, we want to follow Jesus more, so tell me what to read, pray, and it'll get done. However, faith formation, growing as a disciple, and allowing the Holy Spirit to focus us on Jesus takes a renewed understanding of faith and trust. This might mean one moment we totally get it and the next minute, the theology of the Trinity, a parable, a prophetic passage, or a story in Exodus turns us upside down. God, three persons of the same substance? Jesus said what about forgiveness and God's kingdom? What does it mean to walk humbly with God and why do the people complain so much with Moses, didn't God lead them out of Egypt?

Yes, reading scripture, taking time to pray, and journaling are great actions. Attending worship, joining a bible study, reading a book on a religious topic that interests you, and building a community where conversations nurture faith is awesome.

Off the Wall by Pastor Alan (continued from page 4)

If you want to grow this year, to take a new step in faith, then prepare for moments when we don't have all the answers. Where our changing theology and unsettled heart pushes us to trust more, to appreciate the wonder and the mystery around us, and for us to settle in that this walk with God takes time.

In 2026, we can study, pray, sit in church and be good all we want and not grow deeper in our walk with Jesus. Growing in our faith takes time. It's risking actual belief in Jesus. It's noting that God's kingdom might not align with our world view. It's trusting that God is with us, and Jesus' life, death, and resurrection mean our lives can be different.

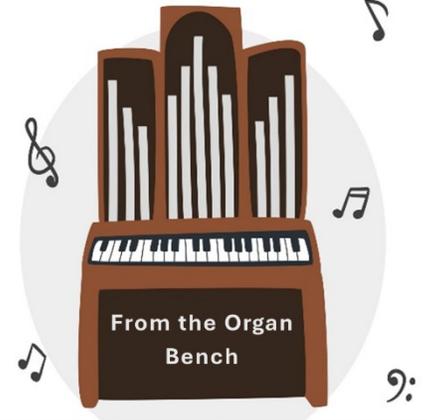
This year, start bold. Write down where you were five years ago with your faith in Jesus. Write down where you are today. See the growth. See the journey. Now prepare for the effort of time for transformation this year. Where we end up, I don't know, but I trust that if we are willing to give God space, we will change and be renewed again in amazing ways.

Peace, *Alan*

From the Organ Bench by Gary Norris: Organ Prelude and Postlude In Sunday Worship

Have you ever wondered what meaningful function, the prelude and postlude have in our Sunday worship service?

How did the tradition of preludes and postludes begin? To find the answer, we go to the Netherlands of the 17th century. In the Dutch Reformed church, music of any kind in the worship service was forbidden. There were organs in the churches, a remnant of Catholicism. The Dutch enjoyed organ music, so as a compromise, the city councils who owned the organs, hired organists to play concerts to entertain the people before and after worship. As music became integrated into reformed worship, the tradition of music before and after the service continued, but with a quite different purpose.



The words “pre-lude” and “post-lude”, though traditionally accepted and widely used, are **unfortunate terms to describe these musical moments in worship**. These words imply that this music takes place before and after the “main event,” that event being worship. These are integral parts of worship, as much as those that they precede and follow. They are the first and last acts of worship.

The prelude, *the first act of worship*, sets the tone for what is to follow, inviting worshipers to gather, to transition from their busy lives into a sacred place of communion with God and with each other. Some worshipers use this time of preparation to greet and re-connect with other worshipers, while others prefer to prepare in quiet introspection. Regardless of how one uses this time, the prelude is not just pretty background music, (OUCH!) but music that is selected with the specific intent of inviting people into worship. I do my best to select music that will match or compliment scriptural and sermon themes and the seasons of the Christian year. At the same time, I attempt to provide a variety of styles and moods, from introspective to exuberant, from classical to as contemporary as an organ can get.

A postlude can be the loud and enthusiastic “Amen” to worship or quiet and reflective after a moving service of Holy Communion. The postlude is the last note, just as the prelude begins with the first note. The postlude provides a time to reflect on what was heard or steps that will be taken in response to the preached word. Additionally, it’s a time to reflect on the deeper meaning of our Lord at the Table at Holy Communion -- will I go forth into my life and work equipped with renewed courage, energy, and a commitment to serve God and others?

How do you see, understand, and experience the prelude and postlude? Let's keep the conversation going. Your thoughts are always welcomed!

Announcements:

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 11th. 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.

Thursday Bible Study

We resume on Thursday January 8th at 4pm. We will begin with 1 Timothy 6, but journey into the book of Genesis beginning on January 15th. If you are interested in a good book on Genesis that will help inform our study, then please purchase *Reading Genesis* by Marilynne Robinson. This book is not necessary for the study, but Pastor Alan found it to be a good commentary.

Our 2026 zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85889578184?pwd=hW0PMGJrPyVDb8aSwtPGLz3I7damO2.1>

Meeting ID: 858 8957 8184

Passcode: 714068

Lunch with Pastor Alan

Join Pastor Alan for lunch on Mondays beginning January 5th at 12pm in the library.

Priscilla Circle will meet on Monday, January 12th, in Calvin Lounge at 11:30 a.m.

We will be discussing chapter five in our study book.

You may bring a lunch. All women are welcome.

Book Group Update—Submitted by Shirley Solberg

Book Group is off to a lively start in the new year with two popular novels, each a page turner in its own right. We will continue to gather via Zoom at 10 a.m. on the listed dates.

Both new and returning readers are welcome! Just show up. Watch your email or contact me for the familiar link.

January 26 *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!

February 23 *Mink River* Brian Doyle Leader TBA

“Brian Doyle’s debut novel brings a town [on the Oregon coast] to life through the jumbled lives and braided stories of its people.” It’s written in Doyle’s “distinctive and lyrical voice.”

Contact: 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

Happy 2026! The time seems right for a few reminders about what the church library offers to members and friends.

If one of your New Years' resolutions or goals was to read more books, here's a suggestion. See what is available in your church library. With 3444 items there surely is at least one you haven't read - or loved enough to relish reading again.

There are several good ways to find that special book. Search the shelves of the main library on first floor by the church office. Or check the offerings on the "Burgundy Bookmobile" (the cart of books that appears at coffee hour) Sunday mornings.

Less visible is our best kept secret. Our catalog is easily accessible online. Go to the church website and scroll down to "ONLINE LIBRARY" On go directly to the listing at: <https://15781.rmwebopac.com/>

Searching by author, title, subject, or keyword shows whether we have what you are seeking and its location by call number. Or contact Steve Moore or me. We're in the church directory if you don't see us at worship.

If you don't find what you need, we especially want to hear from you so we can consider a purchase. Steve and I get together most Friday mornings to check books in, add new ones, keep the shelves in order, or set up displays.

A couple of ideas for your consideration:

Culture care: Reconnecting with Beauty for our Common Life
Fujimura, Makoto 759.13 Fuj

Art for God's Sake: A Call to Recover the Arts
Ryken, Philip Graham 704.9 Ryk

We look forward to talking to you soon.

Contact: Shirley Solberg, shirley.solberg@icloud.com





THANK YOU

This year, in lieu of asking church members and friends to purchase live poinsettias in memory or honor of love ones for the sanctuary décor, we asked for donations to the Everett Gospel Mission. Thanks to your generosity, the Women's Association was able to donate \$515 to the Everett Gospel Mission.

~ Women's Association Board



FPCE

First Presbyterian Church of Everett

SCRABBLE WEDNESDAYS

*Newbies, the average “word-joe”,
experts, mentors and YOU are
invited to play!*

JANUARY 7TH & 21ST

**1-3 p.m. in Westminster Hall
North door will be open 12:50 to 1 p.m.**

JOIN US!



JANUARY 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:

1/16 Evan & Sara Roberts

Birthdays:

1/2 Ken Newman
1/4 Shakayla May
1/5 Elizabeth Campbell
1/5 Kari Nupen
1/5 Mary Tonn
1/7 Jered Fowler
1/8 Joan Lyderson
1/15 Michael Clemans
1/21 Helen Greer
1/22 Tony Tysseling
1/23 Edwin Pearson
1/25 Marian Long
1/25 Judy Oberg
1/26 Lianne Kniest
1/28 Kory Kanter

Special Dates:

New Year's Day, January 1, 2026
Epiphany, January 6, 2026
Baptism of the Lord, January 11, 2026
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 19, 2026

Newsletter Deadline

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:

January 11th

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



Our next in-person collection is Sunday, February 4th

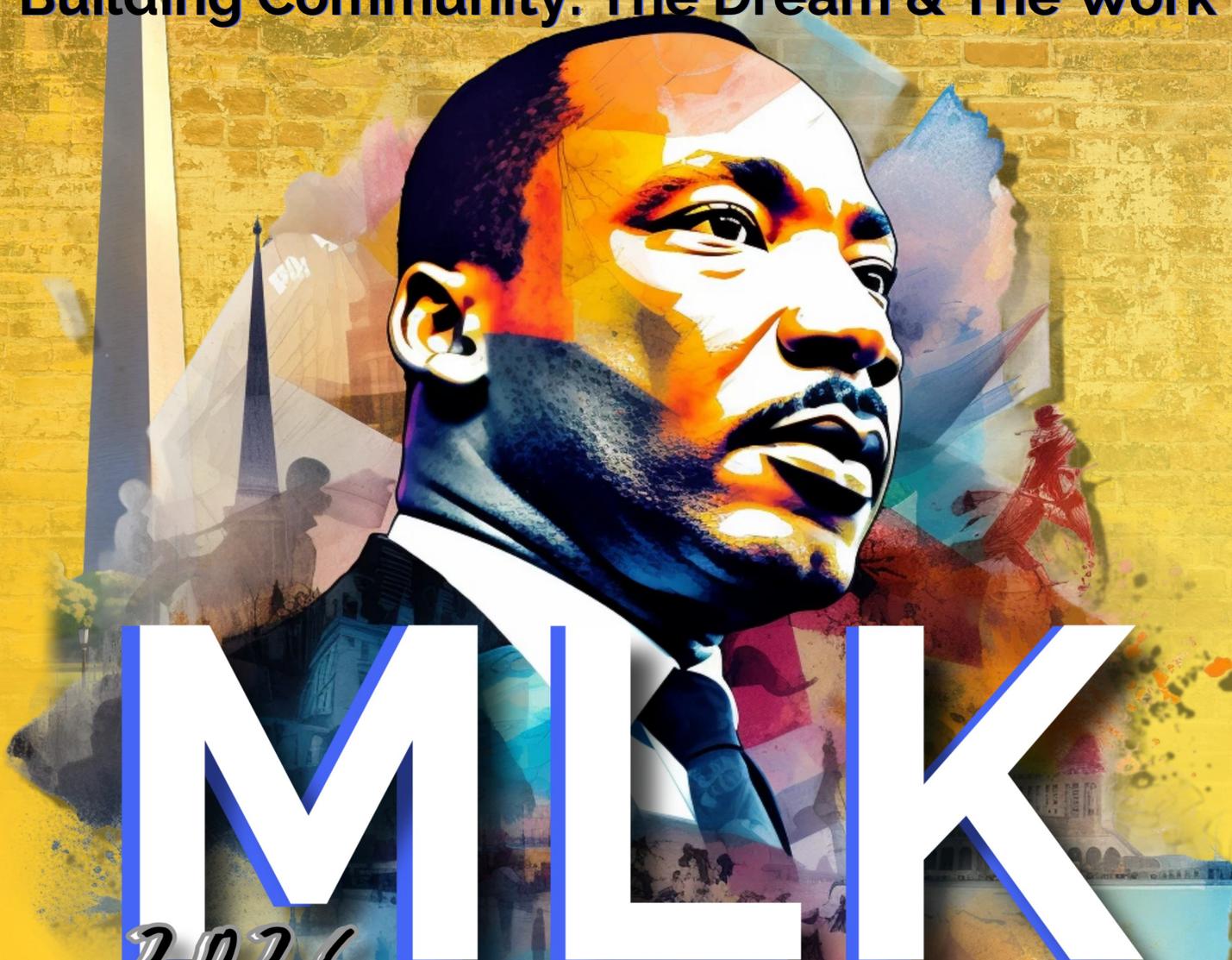
Find additional information in the Sunday Worship bulletin.

Thank you for your donations.



Don't miss the next **Men's Breakfast** on Saturday, January 10th 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 &
VOAWW 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 Villesvik

Class of 2026

Rose Capetillo

Sam Capetillo

Mike Davis

Class of 2027

Susan Davis

Judy Hammond

Marilee Richards

