

THE NEW LEAF

BURKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FALL 2026

**INSTALLATION &
ORDINATION OF
DIANE MALONEY
AUGUST 30 AT 3PM**

**CHURCH PICNIC
SEPTEMBER 6 AT
11:15AM
AT BPC**

Join us for the church picnic - we will be here at BPC right after church on September 6. Last names A-M please bring a savory side. N-Z please bring a sweet. If you are able to help with the picnic please sign up (scan QR code). To promote reduction of waste, please consider bringing your own refillable beverage/water container. Look forward to seeing you then!



FALL KICK-OFF

On September 13 we will return to two worship services at 9:00am and 11:15am.

Children's Sunday School

Kids in grades 1-6 are invited to join us for Sunday School starting on September 13.

Adult Sunday School

CREDO: What Presbyterians (USA) Believe
A Four-Part Sunday Series, led by Rev. Lisa Rzepka and Rev. Becca Messman
Sundays, September 13 – October 4, 10:15 AM, Library

IMPACT

IMPACT's first rehearsal will be from 4:00-5:15pm on September 13. IMPACT new member orientation will be at 3:30pm before the first rehearsal.

Youth Connections

Our Fall Kickoff will take place on September 13 from 5:30-7:30pm.

PASTOR'S NOTE

This fall at BPC is shaping up to be a full and joyful season. In just a few days, Diane Maloney will be ordained and installed at BPC. Rainbow is celebrating its 40th year. Community Meals is now sharing upwards of 240 meals each month. New faces are worshipping with us and finding a church home. And, of course, all the familiar activities begin ramping up again in September, giving us that unmistakable “new backpack” energy.

At the same time, the recent removal of the cottage marks a different kind of change...one of making space, clearing out, and letting go. Some of you know this feeling all too well: the child's room that is now quiet, the openness in a once-packed schedule, or the empty space left by something - or someone - that used to be there.

As life changes, sometimes for the better and sometimes not, there is something deeply healing about returning to the constants of our spiritual lives. This fall, we will meditate on what does not change. Our sermons will anchor us in biblical passages that many people know by heart. What is it about these beloved verses that speaks to us in every season of life? How can we follow Christ with stability and peace when the news is filled with volatility, fear, and upheaval?

There is a saying among church leaders: “You can only get as big as you can get small.” This fall, BPC will also focus on creating and deepening small groups. We hope everyone finds a place of profound belonging through this church - a circle of people who know you by heart, on a heart-and-soul level. If you would be willing to lead a small group, please don't be intimidated; at first, it is mostly about gathering people together. Pastor Diane and I would love to hear from you.

Among Jesus' most beloved words at the Last Supper are these: “I go to prepare a place for you.” Our hope is that this fall, amid all that is beginning and ending, being filled and cleared away, you will find a place that feels like home.

Becca



PASTOR'S NOTE

This summer was very full! From IMPACT Tour to Massanetta to Montreat, our summer trips were full of laughter, joy, and discovery.

WICKED GOOD TOUR - IMPACT

The summer season kicked off with our Wicked Good Tour to Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. The choir sang in 3 different states, assisted at a thrift store in Rhode Island, saw 3 IMPACT alumni, sang in a nursing home, and had lots of other activities and fun packed into less than a week. For the duration of the tour, the bus is our home base. On the bus, there are lots of shenanigans; hair tinsel, makeup tutorials, Jeopardy games, movies, and more. You really never know what you are going to see. This was my second tour with IMPACT, and I love the way people receive their music day after day. Each stop on the tour had people moved to tears. I have also been profoundly impacted by the community that is built on tour. This group spends a lot of time together during the year, but most of that time is spent focusing on music. On tour, the choir learns more about each other, new connections form, and God's love is on full display.



PEACE-ING TOGETHER - PEACE BY PIECE - MASSANETTA MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Massanetta's Middle School Conference is always a rocking good time. (There are lots of rocking chairs!) Like many other conferences our days are filled with large group sessions, workshops, and encounter groups. Encounter groups are small groups led by high school Advocates. The Advocate program at Massanetta is the cornerstone of Middle School Conference. The high school leaders lead in all aspects of the conference. They lead energizers (which some have described as Presbyterian clubbing with Jesus), are in skits, lead our small groups, prepare all the recreation activities, and more. We loved spending time together piece-ing together what peace really looks like: not just for ourselves but also for the world. We danced hard, played hard, rocked hard and prayed hard.

PASTOR'S NOTE

WONDER & WANDER - MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE

In the last week of July, 16 of our high school students, rising 9th through our graduated seniors, wandered down to Montreat, North Carolina for Youth Conference. We joined together with over 600 other youth and adults from across the country. Each day we wandered to keynote, small groups, recreation, and worship. We spent time together at every meal gathered around a long, large table. A main piece of the Montreat experience is small groups. All but two of our students were in a small group with no one else from BPC. The small group I attended had youth from the Carolinas, Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, California, and Illinois. We certainly wrestled and wondered our way through a variety of opinions and theologies. Our keynote speaker gave us a bead each day to remind us of each day's truth; I belong, I am blessed, I matter, I am favored, and remember. At the end of the week, we got to wear these bracelets home. In worship, our preacher consistently reminded us to challenge ourselves to live as people who follow Jesus, not the world. We were all grateful for the reminder to wonder and wander with God. The questions we ask are invited by God, even when we don't have the answers.



SUMMER TRIPS BY THE NUMBERS

of Youth attended: 37

Miles traveled by vehicles: 2,239

Miles walk/ran/danced: 77.1

States visited: 8

Nights away from home: 15

What a blessing it is to spend the summer travelling with our wonderful young people. They are silly, goofy, kind, loving, funny, and so much more. All of our summer trips are only possible because of the generosity of BPC. None of this would be possible without the gifts that our chaperones give of their time, what the church budget gives to offset costs, the parents who fill out ALL the forms, and the resources that support my work with these young people. So thank you for what you have given to make this summer possible. It changed lives. I am so grateful to be a witness to it.

Thank you!

Diane

MUSIC

MINISTRY

CHILDREN

Rainbow Promise (K-2)

Rainbow Connection (3-6)

Children's choirs are a part of Rainbow, BPC's midweek offering for elementary aged students. Through games and activities children explore their voices, experience steady beat and rhythm, and learn the basics of singing. The choirs prepare songs that will be shared in worship. In April, the children will present a musical for worship. Instruments including chimes, xylophones, and percussion will be used periodically.

Rainbow begins on September 30.



YOUTH

IMPACT (7th -12th)

Sundays 4:00-5:15pm

IMPACT sings a wide variety of styles in multiple voice parts. The choir is open to all students; no prior experience needed. They typically lead in worship on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. In June, IMPACT will travel by bus to Atlanta for their annual choir tour.

IMPACT rehearsals begin on September 13. Youth Ministry kick-off is immediately after the first rehearsal. New member orientation will be at 3:30pm before the first rehearsal.

COME JOIN US

IMPACT YOUTH CHOIR

FOR ALL 7TH - 12TH GRADERS | NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

First rehearsal: September 13, 4:00-5:15pm
New member (and parent) orientation at 3:30pm
Youth Ministry Kick-off immediately after at 5:30pm



Season highlights
Ice cream social
Combined choirs in Nov & Mar
Game night
Friends new and old
Tour June 2027 to Atlanta

MUSIC

MINISTRY

ADULTS

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays 7:30-9:00pm

Adults of all ages and abilities are invited to sing in the Chancel Choir. There are no prerequisites. New singers (of all voice parts) are welcome. The choir would especially like to have a few more tenors and basses!

Chancel Choir begins on Wednesday, September 9.

Daybreak Choir

Second and Fourth Tuesdays 9:45-11:00am

Daybreak women's choir sings a variety of styles and is open to all ability and experience levels. The choir leads worship once a month at the 9:00 service.

Daybreak begins on Tuesday, September 8.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Handbell Choir

Thursdays 6:45-8:15pm

The Handbell Choir offers a great opportunity for members of the congregation to give of themselves in service. The group plays music with flexible instrumentation including handbells, tone chimes, and other percussion instruments. Youth and adult ringers are welcome, no prior music experience required. Contact Elliott Godinez, Elliott@BurkePresChurch.org.

Handbell Choir begins on Thursday, September 10.

Flute Choir

Plays occasionally in worship. High school age and adult flute players are welcome.

BPC Brass

Tuesday or Wednesday evenings

Do you currently play a brass instrument? The BPC Brass routinely gets together to rehearse and provide music throughout the year. We are looking for players (including students and "comeback" players) for trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone, euphonium, or tuba. We practice most weeks (Tuesday or Wednesday evening depending on the availability of the players) and play duets, trios, quartets, and quintets for worship. If you are interested, please contact Basil Decina.

CHILDRENS MINISTRY

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026: COME TO THE TABLE

We had a wonderful time of fellowship and fun at VBS this summer!



Save the Dates!

It's almost time for our children's ministry programs to resume! Parents, here are some important dates for your calendars:

Sunday, September 6

BPC Picnic: Stay after worship for our annual picnic at 11:15 am

Sunday, September 13

Fall Kickoff

Back to two services, at 9:00 am and 11:15 am
Godly Play resumes during both services
Sunday School resumes at 10:15 for all ages

Wednesday, September 30

Rainbow kickoff dinner

Wednesday, October 7

Rainbow begins!

Registration information for our children's programs will be sent out soon. Keep an eye on the bulletin and your inbox!



CHILDRENS MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kids in grades 1-6 are invited to join us for Sunday School starting on September 13. We've got the same fantastic teaching team, but we're meeting in a new location: Room E4-5. Hope to see you there!

Children in kindergarten or younger are welcome to spend their Sunday School hour with our Stepping Stones staff in our Lower Level preschool rooms.



Oasis Planning

Oasis, our parent gathering during the Sunday School hour, will resume on September 13 – but we could use some help with planning. If you have ideas about what you'd like Oasis to look like during this coming year, please be in touch! Email Arlene Decina (arlene@burkepreschurch.org) or Beth Ann Clare (elizabeth.a.clare@gmail.com).

Back to School

As the summer comes to a close, we hope you're feeling rested and refreshed and ready for a new school year. Blessings to your family, and know that we are holding you and your kids in prayer during this time of transition. We look forward to seeing all of you soon!

YOUTH MINISTRIES

While some church programs are slower or meet less frequently in the summer, youth ministry tends to ramp up to a new level. This summer saw three major trips: IMPACT Tour to Boston, Middle School Conference to Massanetta Springs, and Youth Conference to Montreat. You can read more about each of these trips in Pastor Diane's letter.

Now, as school resumes we are gearing up for a new program year full of activities. Here are some upcoming dates to keep on your radar.



Our Fall Kickoff will take place on September 13! IMPACT's first rehearsal will be from 4:00-5:15pm, followed by Youth Connections kickoff from 5:30-7:30pm with the return of the famed color powder battle! Parents are encouraged to attend dinner and a brief parent meeting.

Our next Confirmation class begins on Sunday September 20. Confirmation is a chance for young people to explore the roots of their faith and take ownership of the faith promised to them at their baptism. Confirmation is designed for students in grades 8 and up. If you have someone interested in confirmation, please reach out to Pastor Diane ASAP.



YOUTH MINISTRIES

FALL RETREATS

This fall will have two retreats. The first is a trip to Lake Anna to truly disconnect and experience sabbath and connection with others from BPC. We rent a house, make our meals together, swim in the lake, and learn and grow in new ways. Registration will open September 1!

Keep Awake is a high school-only retreat at Massanetta Springs, November 20-22. Keep Awake is focused on the PC(USA)'s Matthew 25 initiative to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism, and eliminate systemic poverty. On this retreat, with youth from around the country, we dive into what it means for our faith to compel us into action.



ADULT MINISTRIES

CREDO: WHAT PRESBYTERIANS (USA) BELIEVE **A FOUR-PART SUNDAY SERIES, LED BY REV. LISA RZEPKA** **AND REV. BECCA MESSMAN**

What do Presbyterians (USA) actually believe — and why? The sovereignty of God, election, predestination, and the authority of scripture are foundational tenets of our faith that are often misunderstood or under-explored, leading to confusion about what our denomination actually teaches.

Join us this fall as we explore the core convictions that shape our life together as a PC(USA) congregation. All are welcome — no background needed, just curiosity and an open mind. Come for one session or join us for all four!

Sundays, September 13 – October 4, 10:15 AM, Library

WOVEN IN TIME: **REVEALING THE PICTURE OF GOD** **A THREE-PART SUNDAY SERIES WITH GUEST TEACHER JOHN RYBICKI**

Who is God, and how has our understanding of God changed over time?

From encounters with God in nature, to Sinai and the prophets, to Jesus and the early Christian communities, Scripture tells the story of generations trying to understand who God is and how God is revealed. Over three Sundays, we'll explore that fascinating journey and ask: How much of our picture of God comes from God's revelation, and how much comes from our own hopes and expectations?

John Rybicki holds a Master of Theology from Balamand University and has studied at Virginia Theological Seminary, the Antiochian Orthodox Church, and St. George's College in Jerusalem. He has taught theology and religion throughout Northern Virginia for more than 25 years.

Sundays, October 11- October 25

ADULT MINISTRIES



LORD OF THE RINGS SERIES A THREE-PART SUNDAY SERIES

The Fellowship of the Study

The road goes ever on, and an epic three-week journey is on the horizon at BPC! In November we will be exploring deep themes of faith, community, and courage through the lens of J.R.R. Tolkien's legendary world.

Before the fellowship sets out, we need to assemble our leaders. We are putting out the call to form The Council of Rivendell-at-Burke—our dedicated team to help plan and shape this upcoming series. We aren't just looking for wizards with deep theological wisdom or elves with a vision for the future; we need ordinary hobbits who love a good story and want to help dream up this class.

How You Can Prepare Now:

- Join the Council: If you want to help us plan and cast the vision, step forward to join the Council today.
- Dust Off Your Books: The journey begins soon, so now is the perfect time to start re-reading the books or re-watching the films to get your mind back in Middle-earth!

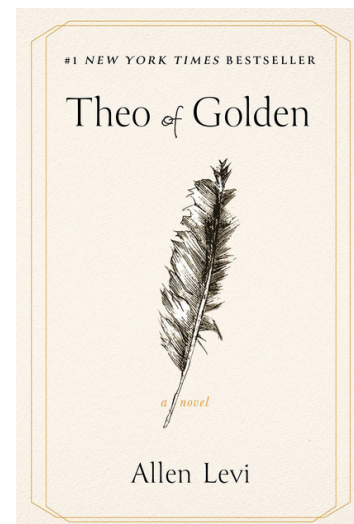
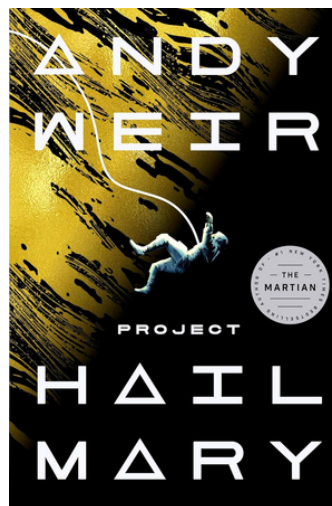
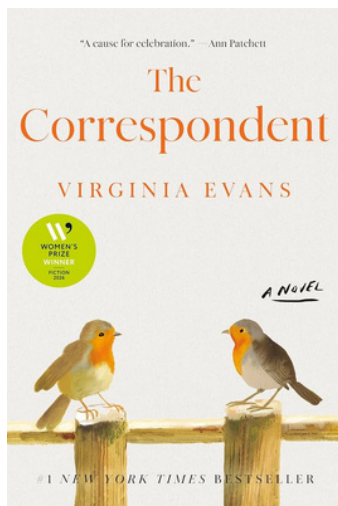
Sundays, November 8-November 22

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Bible and Bagels - This group meets twice a month on Wednesday mornings from 10:30am-noon in the BPC library for prayer, Bible study and fellowship starting on October 7.

Monday Night Women's Bible Study - Join us as we join Presbyterian women around the world in a study called "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other". We meet in a hybrid fashion at church and online on the fourth Monday of the month at 7pm. For more information, please contact Jill Moore (JMoore19@cox.net).

Leaves of Grace Book Group - Join us for lively conversation, thoughtful reflection, and fellowship around a wide variety of great books. We meet virtually via Zoom from 3:00–4:00 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month, September through May, taking breaks in December and during the summer months. Mark your calendars for our fall selections: *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans on September 20, *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir on October 18, and *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi on November 15. Our selections span many genres—including fiction, historical novels, biographies, and more—and we generally choose books that are available through the library and come with a strong recommendation from a member of the group. Everyone is warmly welcome to join us each month, whether you've finished every page, only made it half way, or simply want to come and enjoy the conversation! If you'd like to be added to our monthly mailing list or have any questions, please reach out to Lynn Miller (millerseerrano@gmail.com), Cathey Parker, (cweir@coloradocollege.edu), or Catherine Gillespie, (will.gillespie@verizon.net).



MISSION

MINISTRY

BPC FREE SHREDDING EVENT SPONSORED BY REALTOR SHELLEY DRAHEIM

Clean out some of the stacks of documents around your home, benefit the environment, and help your neighbors. Non-perishable food donations are requested for ECHO. Drive by on **Saturday, September 19, 9:00 am - noon**, for a free document shredding and food collection event in the BPC parking lot. ProShred will securely shred documents of all types. We hope you will join us, rain or shine!

Contact: Lynn Sheehan (lynn.sheehan@gmail.com)



Free Shred & ECHO Food Collection Event

 Saturday, Sept. 19th | 9AM to Noon

 Burke Presbyterian Church
5690 Oak Leather Dr. Burke, VA

- ☒ Have Your Documents Securely Shredded
- ☒ Care for the Environment and Neighbors
- ☒ Donate Non-Perishable Food Items to ECHO



SCAN to see what ECHO needs right now!

Sponsored By



SHELLEY DRAHEIM & EMILY PHILLIPS

YOUR HOME IS OUR PRIORITY
LONG & FOSTER

WORLD COMMUNION SPECIAL OFFERING: SEPTEMBER 6 - OCTOBER 4

All of God's people gather around the Table to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Part of the atonement that happens around this Table is reconciliation, which is the focus of the World Communion Offering. Experience the grace that comes from reconciling all peoples from all nations around the corner and around the globe through the ministry of this offering. This special offering supports causes related to racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, ecumenical and interfaith relations.

What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice,

...to love kindness

and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8



WORLD COMMUNION
OFFERING



MISSION

MINISTRY

BPC HELPS BONNIE BRAE ELEMENTARY

Burke Presbyterian Church helps support students at Bonnie Brae Elementary School. Here are two opportunities for BPC volunteers to help the staff at Bonnie Brae Elementary School with their educational mission this school year:

- (1) one-on-one mentoring
- (2) supervision of students during four early-release Wednesdays.

BPC has provided volunteers to support BBES students for almost 30 years! Please come forward to help with one or both of these projects by emailing Cathey Parker (cweir@coloradocollege.edu) or phoning 571-224-5824.

A. Be a **one-on-one mentor** at the school by visiting a student weekly for 20 to 30 minutes. The volunteer chooses which weekday and time (often around the student's lunch time). The school will assign a place for the meetings and provide many games to start conversations and encourage the student to share achievements and worries with the trusted adult. Students are chosen for the program when teachers, counselors, or parents think a relationship with a trusted adult would benefit their academic progress and/or social skills.

1. Registration with FCPS is required to be a mentor. Martha MacDonald, a FCPS administrator, will see each mentor through this process.
2. Attendance at a Zoom training session for mentoring is also provided with training available several times per month.

B. Help supervise students at Bonnie Brae during the afternoons of the four **early release Wednesdays.** The volunteer will work with a member of staff as students move through a series of activities at the school, such as library time, board games, gym, and a movie.

1. Volunteers attend BBES school from 12:30 to 3:30 pm on **October 21, December 2, February 10, and May 5.**
2. FCPS Registration of the volunteer is online and took only a few days to complete in the last school year.



MISSION & WORSHIP

MINISTRY

KIBWEZI SILENT AUCTION

Bethel Church, Imani elementary school, Polytechnical school, and outlying congregations and pre-schools in Kibwezi, Kenya, are all supported by a long-running Burke Presbyterian - Clifton Presbyterian mission project. Our silent auction will provide essential financial support for many aspects of the program, including:

- Meals at school: uji (Kenyan grits), beans, and maize
- Evangelist salaries and transportation to 15 outlying villages
- Preschool building and classroom supplies
- Scholarships for Polytech students

Watch church emails and bulletin announcements for the link/QR code to access the silent auction, which will be all online. Browse frequently, bid often!

Donate a service or item to our silent auction. Our partner ministries in Kibwezi, Kenya, will receive all of the proceeds, and we rely on YOU -- BPC members and friends -- to donate items and services for us to bid on. Please prayerfully consider donating something this year. Most popular items include: lake or beach houses, tickets to shows or experiences, baked goods, or special experiences (painting party, dinner party, spa treatment, outdoor fun). Think outside the box! Please fill out the form if you have an item or experience to donate (scan QR code). The online silent auction will run **September 27 - October 4**.

Do you have an idea that you're not sure about?
Email Jan Smith (justjan0801@gmail.com).



BEHIND THE SCENES OF WORSHIP

Please join us on **Sunday, November 15** for an intergenerational event led by our Worship Ministry. Look “behind the scenes” and see what it takes to bring joy, light, and a welcoming environment to every worship service at BPC. You will have the chance to rotate through multiple stations with learning activities. This event will coincide with our beloved annual Worship Festival. Come for the music and stay for the event in between worship services (in place of Sunday School).

FACILITIES

MINISTRY

IT'S BEEN ANOTHER BUSY SUMMER FOR THE FACILITIES TEAM!

- Toilets were replaced in the North Wing and Lower Level to provide more flushing power to reduce future back-ups.
- Carpet was installed in Rooms E4 & 5 to help reduce the noisiness of that space and be more comfortable for children's ministry activities.
- Our storage spaces have been audited and marked for reorganization (see more below).
- We did a lot of proactive pruning and removal of trees around the property, including 2 more that were felled in the Summer storms.
- And, of course, the Cottage that was damaged in March has been dismantled and removed (check out the progress photos!). The now-open area will remain as-is for awhile until it's determined what the best use of that space will be.

AND THERE'S ALWAYS MORE TO LOOK FORWARD TO AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE!

- Join the Woodchuck Team to help keep the grounds looking good - especially as Fall approaches and the leaves start their migration from the branches to the ground (and roof).
- On September 26, come help with a few more projects around the grounds, including storage space shuffling, painting the dumpster-surround fence and more!
- If you have some free time on Tuesday mornings, consider joining the Fix-It Team to help with little projects as they arise.

To learn more about any of these opportunities or the Facilities Team, contact Jocelyn Callister (jocelyncallister@gmail.com).



Cottage Demo



Tree Fell on Cottage

DEACONS

MINISTRY

SENIOR TO SENIOR CARD WRITING PROJECT... IT'S A WIN-WIN!

BY DAVID ROBERTS

This past June senior members of our BPC community volunteered to participate in the Senior to Senior Card Writing Project. These volunteers sent cards to our 2026 high school and college graduates (the other group of "seniors") providing words of encouragement as they conclude an important phase of their lives and prepare for the next one. It's a wonderful program that has been in place since 2020.



Background

The spring of 2020 was a disruptive time for BPC. With the onslaught of COVID, church groups were learning new ways of being a church and connecting with each other. The Deacon Care Team (BJ & Ed Sadtler, Al & Robin Bast, Brian Sugden) and Deacon Coordinator Anita Pesses were brainstorming ways to engage senior members of the congregation. In their discussions they considered high school seniors who were approaching important rites of passage (prom, graduation, all night parties) that would likely be canceled. This deacon group and Rev. Adam Ogg connected seniors to seniors, added upcoming college graduates to the mix and the project took off. It was such a success that first year, that it continues now.

Graduates' Responses

I asked a group of this year's graduates how it felt to receive a card from a church member. Here are a few paraphrased responses:

- "I received flowers and a card with wonderful words of encouragement. I really felt seen and loved."
- "Although I didn't know the card writer, her words helped me realize how important the BPC community is to me. The simple act of sending a card to me made me feel special, made me feel seen. I know BPC will always be my home."
- "I was surprised to receive a card from a church member I did not know. Then I thought for a minute, and said to myself, 'of course, this is what BPC is all about. Making sure when someone like me reaches a milestone, they step in and acknowledge my accomplishment. I'm so grateful to be a part of this church.'"

DEACONS

MINISTRY

Card Writers Answer the Call

I asked the card writing volunteers why they chose to send cards:

- High school graduation is such an important milestone in a young adult's life. I want to ensure they know I see them and acknowledge their accomplishment.
- Graduation is a life-changing transition for our young people. I want to support and encourage them to enter our broken adult world and make it a kinder place to raise children of their own. Handwritten notes are an old-fashioned but tangible way to say I am thinking of you and taking time to tell you so.
- I wanted my graduate to know how much I see and appreciate them individually as well as all the younger members of our faith community. Their energy is contagious. They are our future and give me great cause for hope and optimism. I want all of them to know that this community will always support and love them.

To that I say, Amen!



NOMINATIONS

MINISTRY

HELP US IDENTIFY FUTURE ELDERS AND DEACONS

As we look ahead to 2027, we are beginning to identify and consider people who may be called to serve as elders and deacons.

We would love your help.

You know the people in this congregation in ways others may not. You see who shows up, who quietly serves, who listens well, who encourages others, who can be counted on, and who has a heart for our church and our community. Sometimes the people best suited for leadership aren't the ones who are most noticeable.

We're asking you to think and pray about the people you know here.

Who do you see as someone who could serve well as an elder?

Who do you see as someone who could serve well as a deacon?

We aren't asking you to determine whether someone is qualified or to make a final recommendation. Rather, we're asking you to help us identify people we should prayerfully consider and invite into a conversation. Please think about the people whose character, faith, wisdom, compassion, dependability, and willingness to serve make you think, "They could be a good leader in our congregation."

You may suggest someone who is already serving in a visible way, or someone whose service happens more quietly. You may suggest someone who has been here for many years or someone who is newer to the congregation but has already demonstrated a commitment to our church.

Most importantly, please take some time to pray about it. We want this process to be thoughtful, prayerful, and centered on discerning how God is calling people to serve. If someone comes to mind, please share their name with Rev. Becca or Teresa Weaver (tweaver@aol.com).

Thank you for helping us recognize the gifts and leadership that God has placed within our congregation. We are grateful for everyone who serves, and we look forward to seeing where this process leads us.



PERSONNEL

MINISTRY

FIVE QUESTIONS FOR FIVE YEARS WITH WEI-HAN WU

Our amazing pianist, Wei-Han Wu, has been with us for five years! To mark the occasion, we asked him five questions:

What has been one of your favorite memories from your first five years at Burke Presbyterian Church?

One of my favorite memories is our Christmas services. Although they are long days—with three back-to-back services—it is always wonderful to see so many families gathered together to celebrate perhaps their favorite time of the year.

What has surprised you most about serving at BPC?

I continue to be pleasantly surprised by the tremendous support for my work at BPC, both from the leadership and the congregation. I am especially grateful for the encouragement and enthusiasm I've received for the concerts I've organized at BPC over the years.

What brings you the most joy in sharing music with our congregation?

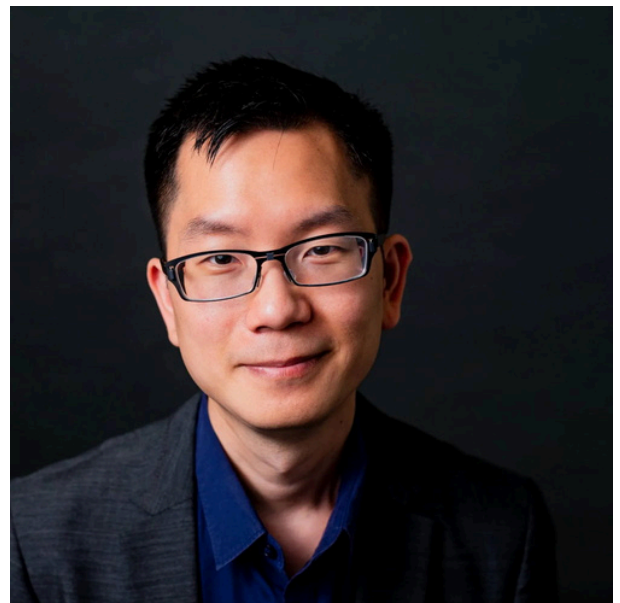
It always means a great deal when people come up to me after a service to share how much they enjoyed the music—whether it's because they appreciated a particular style or hymn arrangement, or because it brought back memories of music they hadn't heard in many years.

What is something you've learned during these five years?

I always understood, at least in theory, that music has the power to connect people. Seeing that happen in real time—regardless of musical style or level of ability—has been one of the most rewarding parts of my work.

What are you looking forward to in the years ahead?

I look forward to seeing how BPC continues to grow and evolve, and to meeting the people it brings together along the way.



PERSONNEL

MINISTRY

NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY &
BURKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
INVITE YOU TO THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF



Diane M. Maloney

AS MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

AUGUST 30, 2026 | 3:00PM
BURKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5690 OAK LEATHER DRIVE, BURKE, VA

A man with glasses and a blue shirt is playing an acoustic guitar. He is looking down at his hands. The background is dark with some green foliage on the left.

Live **CONCERT**

**September 25
7:00PM**

WITH SINGER & SONGWRITER
MATTHEW BLACK

Burke Presbyterian Church
5690 Oak Leather Drive
Burke, VA 22015

matthewblackmusic.com

VOCATIONS

MINISTRY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

BPC thrives on the dedication of volunteers who support our ministries. Volunteering can be a meaningful way to get involved and make new friends.

- Worship Ministry would love to have several additional ushers to ensure worship elements run smoothly, hand out bulletins, and be a welcoming presence
- Greeters are needed for both services to greet worshippers as they enter the building, identify visitors, and be a welcoming and friendly face
- Facilities Ministry needs one or more project manager types to plan and monitor building and grounds projects large and small
- Vocations Ministry is looking for someone to help with our Exploring Membership classes and assist new members in becoming involved

The time commitment can fit your schedule! If you are interested in learning more about these roles, please reach out to Volunteer Coordinator Anita Pesses (anita.pesses@gmail.com).

NEW HERE OR BEEN AROUND FOR AWHILE?

INTERESTED IN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

Save the date! Beginning October 4, our Fall Exploring Membership class offers anyone who is thinking about joining BPC the chance to learn more about this church and Presbyterians in general.

Classes led by Rev. Becca Messman will meet in the Meditation Room between worship services at 10:15 am on **Sundays, Oct. 4, 11, 18, and 25**. You will get to know others in an informal setting; learn more about Presbyterian beliefs; learn about ways to get involved with BPC programs, missions, and education opportunities; play "stump the Pastor"; receive a "BPC 101" booklet; and get answers to questions you may have. There also will be an opportunity to meet the staff and church leaders. You may choose to join the church by meeting with Session members and being introduced during worship on Sunday, Oct. 25.

Please let Rev. Becca or Vocations Elder Anita Pesses (anita.pesses@gmail.com) know if you would like to attend the class. We look forward to hearing from you!

BUDGET

& FINANCE

(AS OF JULY 31)

		2026 Budget	YTD Actuals	Annual % of Budget
INCOME		\$1,209,723.64	\$745,701.15	62%
PLEDGES		\$1,209,941.02	\$647,725.98	62%
REGULAR GIVERS/NON-PLEDGERS		\$110,000.00	\$74,875.00	68%
LOOSE OFFERINGS		\$24,000.00	\$9,440.64	39%
BUILDING USE		\$9,000.00	\$5,275.68	59%
INTEREST/DIVIDENDS		\$15,000.00	\$2,653.06	18%
PER CAPITA		\$5,000.00	\$3,858.15	77%
ONLINE PROCESSING FEES		\$4,500.00	\$1,872.64	42%
EXPENDITURES		\$1,307,283.30	\$761,861.51	58%
PERSONNEL MINISTRY	PERSONNEL	\$567,326.46	\$323,765.08	57%
	BENEFITS/ADMIN	\$170,749.69	\$98,015.80	57%
WORSHIP MINISTRY		\$15,875.00	\$4,629.17	29%
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	CHILDREN'S EDUCATION	\$4,600.00	\$4,035.30	88%
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$3,700.00	\$1,346.06	36%
SPIRITUAL GROWTH	ADULT EDUCATION	\$3,250.00	\$707.78	22%
	YOUTH EDUCATION	\$32,000.00	\$10,305.76	32%
CONGREGATIONAL CARE	COMMUNITY LIFE	\$4250.00	\$2,666.64	63%
VOCATIONS MINISTRY		\$500.00	\$260.64	52%
OUTREACH MINISTRY (MISSION)		\$112,562.15	\$85,220.94	76%
COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY		\$2,500.00	\$1,111.47	44%
FACILITIES MINISTRY	UTILITIES	\$43,800.00	\$32,228.83	74%
	MAINTENANCE	\$144,900.00	\$91,809.19	63%
	OFFICE	\$70,700.00	\$42,922.79	61%
	TRANSFER TO MAJOR MAINTENANCE	\$62,120.00	\$36,236.69	58%
STEWARDSHIP	PRESBYTERY PER CAPITA	\$32,050.00	\$18,695.81	58%
	INSURANCE	\$21,500.00	\$1,153.00	5%
	STEWARDSHIP	\$13,550.00	\$6,425.56	47%
SESSION		\$950.00	\$325.00	34%
BOARD OF DEACONS		\$400.00	\$0.00	0%
DIFFERENCE		(\$97,559.66)	(\$16,160.36)	

THROUGH THE LENS



VBS Breadmaking



Tea Ministry



Massanetta



Kenya Mission Trip



Community Meals



VBS Friends



Woodchucks



VBS Photo Booth



Kenya Mission Trip

THROUGH THE LENS



Community Meals



Community Meals



Ukraine Info Session



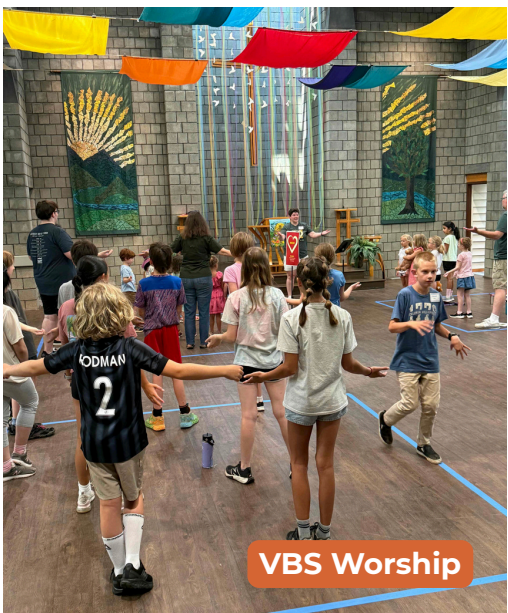
faith250 Potluck



VBS Games



Community Meals



VBS Worship



faith250 Potluck



VBS Breadmaking

THE NEW LEAF

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Rev. Becca Messman
(becca@burkepreschurch.org)

Associate Pastor for Youth

Diane Maloney
(diane@burkepreschurch.org)

Director of Spiritual Growth

Arlene Decina
(arlene@burkepreschurch.org)

Director of Music Ministries

Julianne Erbrecht
(julianne@burkepreschurch.org)

Director of Finance & Business Administration

Holly Walsh
(holly@burkepreschurch.org)

Office and Communications Manager

Nicole Sheely
(nicole@burkepreschurch.org)

Pianist

Wei-Han Wu
(foreignkoffee@gmail.com)

Handbell Choir Director

Elliott Godinez
(elliott@burkepreschurch.org)

Preschool Co-Directors

Dede Colbert
(dede@burkepreschurch.org)

Elizabeth Rees
(elizabeth.rees@burkepreschurch.org)

WORSHIP WITH US

SUMMER WORSHIP

10:00am in person & online

To join us for online worship
at 10:00am on Sundays:
Visit www.BurkePresChurch.org,
choose "Plan a Visit", then select
either the Zoom button or the
YouTube button.

BPC LEADERSHIP

BPC is governed by a 15-member
elected Session ("elders") charged
with the spiritual leadership of
the congregation, policy-setting
and long-term planning.
The board of deacons provides
pastoral care to congregants in
need.

CONTACT US

5690 Oak Leather Drive
Burke, VA 22015
703-764-0456
office@BurkePresChurch.org
www.BurkePresChurch.org



Receive Love. Give Love. Repeat.