

## Church Family Calendar

### SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

8:00 AM—Sunday School of the Air—  
(Hannah Hardy) WHOC 1490 AM; 93.7 FM)  
9:00 AM—Sunday School  
10:00 AM—Worship (Cable Ch 7, 102.3 FM &  
Livestream)

### MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

8:30 AM—Sr. Adult Exercise—(FLC)  
1:00 PM—Card Ministry Team Meeting  
5:30 PM—Staff Parish Committee Mtg—(Parlor)  
6:30—9:00 PM—Gym Reserved

### TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026

9:00 AM—12:00 PM—God’s Closet Work Day  
10:00 AM—Bible Seekers Life Group—(Parlor)  
5:15 PM—Chancel Choir Practice

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

8:30 AM—Sr. Adult Exercise—(FLC)  
5:00 PM—Supper  
5:30 PM—Liturgical Dance Practice  
5:30 PM—Older Girls Ensemble—(Choir Room)  
6:00 PM—Adult Life Groups  
6:00 PM—Kid’s Choir & Small Groups  
6:00 PM—Youth Worship & Small Groups

### THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

9:00 AM—12:00 PM—God’s Closet Work Day

### FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

8:30 AM—Sr. Adult Ladies Exercise—(Gym)

## Birthdays

4/26 Michael Kilpatrick  
\*Grace Dabbs Morgan  
\*Kreszenz Rosales  
4/27 \*Minnie Gamblin  
\*Greg McNeil  
4/28 Lulu Black  
Phoebe Ray  
\*Ashley Smith  
4/29 Hallie Hillman  
Jenny Moore  
\*Dylan Brister  
\*Christopher  
Hedgepeth  
4/30 \*Kathy Creekmore  
5/1 Anna Elise Breazeale  
5/2 Robin Allen

## Anniversaries

5/2 Michael & Kim  
Kilpatrick  
Danny & Jan Cooper

## Sunday, April 19 2026

Sunday School: 42  
Worship Attendance: 164

**Bulletin Deadline:**  
Wednesday at 12:00 Noon

## Need a Helping Hand?

Minor Home Projects such as: light bulbs changed, leaking faucets,  
minimal electrical things, running toilets  
Contact the Church Office at 601-656-1376 or office@phillyfirstmc.org.

## Wednesday Night Meal

*Meals are catered by Tootie’s Restaurant.*

**Menu:** Fried Catfish, French Fries, Slaw, Hush Puppies, Rolls, & Dessert  
Serving begins at 5:00 PM

**Deadline to sign up is 12:00 PM on MONDAYS**

**Deadline to cancel and avoid being charged is 12:00 Noon on Mondays.**

Sign up below, tear off, and place in the offering plate.

**Cost:** \$8.00-Adults, \$8.00-Youth, \$6.00-Kids, \$25.00-Family Maximum

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Kids \_\_\_\_\_

Sign me up for standing reservations \_\_\_\_\_.

## Electronic Giving

- **Bank Drafts:** Call the church office to set this up.
- **Online Giving:** phillyfirstmc.org
- **Text Giving:** Text the amount to 1-601-281-0741
- **Giving App:** Download the free Shelby Next App through the App Store or Google Play. Type in “phillyfirstmc” where it says “domain”. Click to create an account.
- Donate from your smartphone by scanning QR code;



*If you need assistance, please call the church office.*

## God's Closet

Closed until July

**Items of the Month:** Socks, Erasers

Donations of clean like-new clothes are welcome. We have a donation box in the FLC or you can arrange to meet at the closet by calling Susan Powell at 601-660-4637.— **God's Closet needs Boys Blue Jeans Sizes 6, 7, 10 & 12.**

## Church Staff

**Bro. Joey Ratcliff**  
PASTOR  
brojoey@phillyfirstmc.org

**Drew Herring**  
DIRECTOR OF  
STUDENT MINISTRIES  
drew@phillyfirstmc.org

**Patt Fiedler**  
DIRECTOR OF  
MUSIC MINISTRIES  
patt@phillyfirstmc.org

**Jill Byars**  
DIRECTOR OF  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES  
jill@phillyfirstmc.org

**Sheila Blount**  
SECRETARY  
sheila@phillyfirstmc.org

**Brittany Anderson**  
WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S  
MINISTRY DIRECTOR  
brittany@phillyfirstmc.org

**Carol Fiedler**  
PIANIST

**Laura Bryan**  
ORGANIST

**Perry Carter**  
CUSTODIAN



FIRST METHODIST  
philadelphia

## Service of Celebration & Praise April 26, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

Prelude - “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” - Pianist and Organist  
Welcome & Prayer - Ken Turner  
Choral Call to Worship - “Shout to the Lord”

### Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: (from Isaiah 40) Who is this who comes in the strength of His might?  
Congregation: **Behold the Lord your God! He will tend His flock like a shepherd, he will gather his lambs in His arms.**

Leader: Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span...Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel?

Congregation: **Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket before Him.**  
Leader: To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him? An idol, crafted by human hands?

Congregation: **Do you not know? Has it not been told you from the beginning? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain.**

Leader: To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

Congregation: **Have you not known? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his under standing is unsearchable.**

Leader: He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

All: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and evermore shall be. World without end. Amen!**

### Songs of Praise:

“Soldiers of Christ Arise” vs 1, 2

“Ancient of Days”

“O Worship the King” vs 1-4

“Behold Our God”

*(Children ages 3 years—3rd grade are dismissed for Children’s Church upstairs after songs.)*

Scripture-Based Prayer - Bro. Joey Ratcliff

Offertory - “On My Knees in Prayer” - Piano/ Organ  
\*Doxology - “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”  
“Battle Belongs” - Drew Herring

Sermon - Bro. Joey Ratcliff

\*Closing Prayer / Benediction - Bro. Joey Ratcliff  
\*Postlude - Pianist and Organist

*\*Please stand as you are able. \*\*Nursery provided in room 14, birth—2 years old*

**Our Purpose: “Living for Jesus, Loving Like Jesus”**

## WELCOME!

Thank you for worshipping at Philly First today. We hope that you will feel God's Spirit and be blessed as you worship.

### SERVING TODAY:

**APRIL USHERS:** Kent Stribling, Captain; Kip Turner; Dewayne Sharp; & Tyson Stribling

**TECH ARTS:** Ben Hardy, Hannah Hardy, & Richard Rea

**COUNTERS:** Tyson Stribling & Evelyn Agent

**NURSERY:** Kim Donald

**FLOWERS TODAY:** Given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Norman & Virginia Molpus and Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Farish  
By: Bill Molpus

**ACOLYTES:** Kellan Posey, Jude Ratcliff

### SERVING NEXT SUNDAY :

**MAY USHERS:** Don Fulton, Captain; Heath Stribling; Jody Sharp; & David Hayman

**TECH ARTS:** Wade White, Richard Eakes, Richard Rea

**COUNTERS:** Allen Hardy & Stacy Brantley

**NURSERY:** Carla Martin

**ACOLYTES:** Luke White, Beau Breland

**COMMUNION:** Natalie & Caleb May

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OF THE AIR:** Natalie May

## Prayer Concerns

Prayer concerns will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you would like to renew a request, please call the church office.

Sue Bates—(Jimmy's mother)	Betty Irons
James Allred—(Angela Allen's father)	Gayle Lesley
Bob Benson—(Ben Edwards' cousin)	Ken Lewis
Mary Louise Blanks	James Mars
Linda Bowles—(Betty Irons/Larry Stribling's sister)	Gabe Marshall
Jimmy Breazeale—(Jeff's father)	Mike McLemore—(Kim Price's uncle)
Clinton Kase Bradford	Ian Michelletti
Renee Brantley—(Carla Martin's cousin)	Dr. Clyde Muse Family—(Julia Cole's father)
Cindy Byrd	Wayne Plunkett
Penny Chaney	Lori Clark Porter
Darlene Cheatham	Gail Rickles
Virgil Clark—(Kristen Hancock's father)	Susan Rosamond—Neshoba Nursing Home #104
Bonnie Coggins	Kaye Rowell
Ali Dill	Dot Stern—Virginia West's sister
Debra Drury	Glen Stribling—(Kent's brother)
Richard Eakes	David Tadlock
Ben Edwards	Tim & Cindi Temple—(Madalyn Stribling's parents) - Tim - Methodist Rehab
Michael Eichelberger	Ashley Triplett
God's Closet Prayer Requests	Steve Turner
Dale Gray	Ray Warren—(Susan Powell's dad)
Madonna Green	Sue Wells
Mitchell Hancock	Don Windham
Pat Hardage—(Mandy Dees' father)	
Pam Truhett Hemphill—(Lynda Stribling's sister)	
Bobbie Holley	



## Children's News

Like our page on Facebook: Phillyfumckids



Join our Children's Ministry GroupMe: 'Philly First Kids' on GroupMe. Scan the QR code to join.

Liturgical Dance Practice  
Each Wednesday



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
SUNDAY, JULY 12—  
TUESDAY, JULY 15



## Youth Ministry News

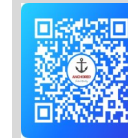
Follow us on Instagram at anchoredphilly, or on Facebook at Anchored Student Ministry.

Youth Sunday School  
Sundays @ 9:00 AM  
Upstairs

Wednesday Night Youth  
6:00 PM  
Youth House

### New Youth Sunday School Teacher Needed

Drew can help provide teaching and discussion materials throughout the semester. Contact Drew if you are willing to serve as their teacher.



You're invited to join the youth ministry group on GroupMe! Scan the QR code.

## Leadership Team Meeting

Monday, May 11th  
5:30 PM  
Family Life Center



A great big thank you to the church family for the wedding tea y'all gave me. I appreciated it so much.

With love,  
Claire Stokes

## Upcoming Events

April 27	Card Ministry Team Meeting	1:00 PM	Library
	Staff Parish Committee Meeting	5:30 PM	Parlor
May 3	Baccalaureate Service	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
	Senior Breakfast	9:00 AM	FLC
May 11	Leadership Team Meeting	5:30 PM	FLC
May 14	Weekday Children Graduation	6:00 PM	Sanctuary
May 28-30	Global Methodist Annual Conf.		Memphis, TN
June 8-13	Camp Wesley Pines Kids Camp		
July 11-14	Youth M-28 Camp		Lake Junaluska
July 12-14	VBS	Evenings	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please register your attendance in the attendance pad on your pew. Then pass the attendance pad down your pew for each person to register. Please place the completed attendance sheet in the offering plate.**

### Donations Requested for LED Screens in the Sanctuary

The Leadership Team has voted to purchase two LED screens to be located over the inside exit doors, eliminating our current failing projector. The LED screens will eliminate the use of the projector and screen. A new livestreaming camera system is included in this project as well as a sound system assessment.

The Leadership Team approved up to \$100,000 on this project. We have \$59,000 allocated toward this project.

We are asking for donations and pledges toward the remaining \$41,000.

If you would like to donate, you may bring or mail your donations to the church office, place in the offering plate (write "LED Screens" in the memo of your check) or give electronically to the Special Offering Fund (add a note—"LED Screens").

### Card Ministry Team Meeting

Monday, April 27th at 1:00 PM in the Library

### Staff Parish Committee Meeting

Monday, April 27th at 5:30 PM in the Parlor

### First Methodist Church College Graduates

We want to recognize our church members and attendees that are 2025-26 college graduates. If you are an upcoming or cent graduate, please contact the church office by Wednesday, April 28th. We want to list your degree and the school you graduated from in the bulletin. \*Please call with your summer and December 2025 graduates in addition to the Spring 2026 graduates.



#### NCHS

Miley Jo Fulton  
Jack Windham

#### Jackson Academy

Conner Hillman

#### Leake Academy

Liza Kate Long  
Cullen McCoy  
Annie Kate White

### Senior Breakfast

Sunday, May 3rd  
9:00 AM

Family Life Center

### Baccalaureate Service

Sunday, May 3rd  
10:00 AM Service

### Connect With Us

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