



CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church – September 2023



Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church
100 Scotch Rd. Ewing, NJ 08628 609.882.3673 churchoffice@ewingpres.org



Our Vision Statement

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church is called to be a church where people seeking hope find the light and love of Christ and together joyfully serve the community with abiding love and purpose.

Our Mission Statement

As a church,

- we find and share the light and love of Christ in prayer, in worship, in fellowship, and in service.
- we welcome the rainbow of God's children, and we embrace our differences.
- we gather to develop relationships with God, with each other, and with the world.
- we are inspired by the Word of God as proclaimed through music, and our love of music strengthens our relationship with the community.
- we empower others to embody grace, mercy, justice, and peace guided by the light and love of Christ.
- we purposely demonstrate compassion, understanding, and generosity to others inspired by the love of Christ.
- we open our hearts and our doors to those seeking hope, wholeness, wellness, acceptance, and a place to be seen.

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ECPC Welcomes Rev. Morgan Valencia King September 17!

Our congregation unanimously voted in June to have Rev. Morgan Valencia King serve as the next pastor of Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church. He starts his ministry full time on Monday, September 11 and will start preaching on Sunday, September 17.

When asked what attracted him to ECPC, Morgan stated that he was very impressed with our Mission Statement and Mission Study, and the ways he sees us striving to live into that vision. He is excited to be a part of that vision and to start a long-term partnership with us.

Morgan is a 2014 graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, where he majored in Religious Studies. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2018. Upon graduation, Morgan was hired by Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City as Director of Engagement. In 2021, Morgan was ordained and hired as an Interim Pastor at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, New York. During his time there, the congregation grew in membership and took on new initiatives. When asked what attracted him to ECPC, Morgan stated that he is very impressed with our Mission Statement and Mission Study and the ways he sees us striving to live into our vision. Morgan is excited to be part of the vision and to start a long-term partnership with us.



Save the Date

for Our Ice Cream Social!

The Ice Cream Social is set for **Sunday, September 10th at 4 p.m.** The Blawenburg Band will be entertaining us with their wonderful music as we listen, eat, and enjoy one another’s company on a September evening.

Plan to bring your chair and your choice of food. Ice cream, toppings, bowls and spoons will be provided. Setting up for the event will be done immediately after church service. There will also be a voluntary donation collection during the Ice Cream Social.



All Church Welcome Picnic

Please join your church family in welcoming Pastor Morgan and Jorge to our congregation with a Sunday Picnic on **September 17th** immediately following the worship service. Stay tuned for ways you can help prepare.



Creating Church Renewal: Cafe Conversation on Sunday, September 24

Remember the Cafe Conversations? Well the Vitality Team is bringing it back.

You are invited and encouraged to enjoy a Café Conversation with the Vitality Team, Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 11:15 a.m. immediately after worship in the Lower Lounge. We will be getting together with Rev. Morgan Valencia King to discuss making 2023/2024 a year of church Renewal and Growth.

A topic of discussion will be: the vitality of a church is determined by the power of its Message. What is OUR Message at ECPC?

How do we attract (AND keep) a new generation of “Faith Seekers?”

We look forward to your sharing of ideas and strategies!

Vitality Team Members:

Barbara Brezak, Carol Hecky, Joanne Durham, Ken Harvey, Nancy Coleman, Ralph Sims, Rick Durham



Save These Dates!

- **Sunday, September 10**, 4-6pm: Ice Cream Social & Blawenburg Band
- **Sunday, September 17**, 11:30 AM: BBQ Welcome for Rev. Morgan Valencia King
- **Sunday, September 24**: Kick-off 2023-2024 vitality efforts with Cafe Conversations after Worship with refreshments.
- **Saturday, September 30**: Church exhibits at The College of New Jersey *Community Fest*

ESWA Backpack Drive is a Success!

Nearly 200 children of ESWA member families in Trenton will have new backpacks full of school supplies thanks to the generous donations of our church members and others.

The Worship Space was filled with more than volunteers from ECPC, Trenton, TCNJ, and Princeton to stuff school supplies into brand new backpacks for kids ages 4- 17. Special kudos to Carol Hecky for organizing and leading this event! We thank the following church members who donated their time: Nancy Coleman, Joanne Durham, Jackson Harvey, Ken Harvey, Carol Hecky, Betty Newberry, Jane Schwilk and June Scott





To keep the prayer list timely, listings will remain for 2 editions of the Newsletter and then be taken off. In the event you desire a listing to run longer, or for a shorter time, please advise the church office.

Prayer Request	Note
All people suffering because of the War in Ukraine	<i>By church family</i>
Alice Haines	<i>By church family</i>
Barbara Brezak	<i>By church family</i>
Charlie Magee	<i>brother of Judy Carapezza</i>
Dan Hough	<i>By church family</i>
George Renwick	<i>By church family</i>
Gun violence in the US	<i>By church family</i>
Judy Carapezza	<i>By church family</i>
Kevin Hecky	<i>By church family</i>
Maryanne Eleuteri	<i>friend of Judy Carapezza</i>
Pam Hoffman	<i>By church family</i>
Rita Freilinghaus	<i>sister of Judy Carapezza</i>
Shirley Yahn	<i>By church family</i>
Sylvia Allen	<i>By church family</i>



“To Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church, Thank you for your prayers for Michael during his illness, the cards sent, the kindness bestowed and continued loving support provided to our family.”--Barbara Brezak



September Worship Liturgy

14th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 17 – September 3, 10:00am

Rev. Dr. Janet Macgregor-Williams, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Ex. 3:1-15 and Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b;

Complementary: Jer. 15:15-21 and Ps. 26:1-8; Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

Season of Peace begins

15th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 18 – September 10, 10:00am

Rosa Ross, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Ex. 12:1-14 and Ps. 149;

Complementary: Ezek. 33:7-11 and Ps. 119:33-40; Rom. 13:8-14; Matt. 18:15-20

Christian Formation Week Begins:

Christian Formation Celebration

16th Sunday after Pentecost/ Proper 19 – September 17, 10:00am

Rev. Morgan Valencia King, Pastor

Semicontinuous: Ex. 14:19-31 and Ps. 114 or Ex. 15:1b-11, 20-21;

Complementary: Gen. 50:15-21 and Ps. 103:(1-7) 8-13; Rom. 14:1-12; Matt. 18:21-35

17th Sunday after Pentecost/ Proper 20 – September 24, 10:00am

Rev. Morgan Valencia King, Pastor

Semicontinuous: Ex. 16:2-15 and Ps. 105:1-6, 37-45;

Complementary: Jonah 3:10-4:11 and Ps. 145:1-8; Phil. 1:21-30; Matt. 20:1-16

CURRENT ZOOM LINK FOR WORSHIP at ECPC

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church will continue to gather both in person and online .for worship.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83261598872>

For those calling in by phone, call +1 929 205 6099 (same phone number!) and when asked, enter the new Webinar ID 832 6159 8872

Preachers for the month of September

9/3/2023	Rev. Dr. Janet Macgregor-Williams	Janet grew up in California. A graduate of Fuller Seminary and Louisville Seminary, she has served churches in Caldwell, Irvington, Elizabeth, and West Milford, before retiring and moving to Lawrenceville. Her husband is originally from England. They have one son, who is a musician and computer programmer. In her spare time, Janet enjoys reading, quilting, and travel (having visited 45 states and 17 countries).
9/10/2023	Rosa Ross	Rosa thinks faith is a collage of different conversations: whispered words of comfort, shouts of social justice, discussions about what it means to be, and sometimes even jokes about the absurdity of God's beautiful creation. She is particularly passionate about the process of full, unyielding inclusion of all people in this holy collage. Rosa is a student at Princeton Theological Seminary and is seeking ordination in the PC(USA). Before moving to New Jersey, she grew up in Huntington, West Virginia and studied philosophy, religious studies, and classical studies at Marshall University where she is now an adjunct professor (teaching online). She can be spotted around Princeton reading books, eating food, and walking her dog - a pug named Pugg.
9/17/2023	Morgan Valencia King	Morgan is a 2014 graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, where he majored in Religious Studies. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2018. Upon graduation, Morgan was hired by Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City as Director of Engagement. In 2021, Morgan was ordained and hired as an Interim Pastor at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, New York. During his time there, the congregation grew in membership and took on new initiatives. On June 25, 2023 the Ewing Covenant congregation voted unanimously to have him serve as our next full-time installed pastor.
9/24/2023	Morgan Valencia King	Morgan is a 2014 graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, where he majored in Religious Studies. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2018. Upon graduation, Morgan was hired by Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City as Director of Engagement. In 2021, Morgan was ordained and hired as an Interim Pastor at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, New York. During his time there, the congregation grew in membership and took on new initiatives. On June 25, 2023 the Ewing Covenant congregation voted unanimously to have him serve as our next full-time installed pastor.

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship 10am	4  ECPC Office Closed	5	6	7 6-7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 Worship 10am 4p-6p Ice Cream Social  Ice Cream Social	11  11:30-1:00 Line Dancing Worship Space	12 10am-Mission Sewing 1:30-3:30pm ESWA Mission Service Group	13 6:30pm PW Circle	14 11:45-1:30 Lunch Together Lower Lounge 6-7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15	16 10am Presbytery Meeting @ Camp Johnsonburg
17 Worship 10am  11:15am ECPC BBQ	18 11:30-1:00 Line Dancing Worship Space	19 10am Care Givers Support Group 7pm Deacon Meeting by Zoom	20 7pm Session Meeting by Zoom	21 6-7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 Worship 10am 11:15am Cafe Conversation, Lower Lounge	25 11:30-1:00 Line Dancing Worship Space	26 1:30-3:30 pm ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	27	28 6-7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30 10am-4pm 