

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023

Liturgist Emma Duke
Assisting in Worship Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*
Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*

Bulletin Cover Image Psalm 96 collage by Audrey Bellinger
All Psalm collages can be viewed in [a digital gallery](#) on our website.

Voluntary

Allegro from Sonata in B-Flat Major
W.A. Mozart

Opening Hymn 417

All My Hope on God Is Founded

Anthem

Sicut Cervus
Palestrina

Peace Hymn 86

The Lone, Wild Bird

Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

Hymns for Healing

88 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

441 Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

427 My Life Flows On in Endless Song

Offertory

Let Thy Merciful Ears, O Lord
Thomas Weelkes

Closing Hymn 3

God of Abraham and Sarah

Voluntary

Adagio from Sonata in B-Flat Major
W.A. Mozart

New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for worship? Consider filling out a visitor card found on the small clipboards or this "[virtual visitor card](#)" so that we might connect with you about our community.

Give to First Church

You can give online: www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give or by texting "\$_" to: 1-844-996-0982.

Contact a Pastor or Staff Member

Find [contact information](#) for our ministerial, program, and building staff on our website.
For general information and inquiries: info@firstchurchcambridge.org

Minister On Call

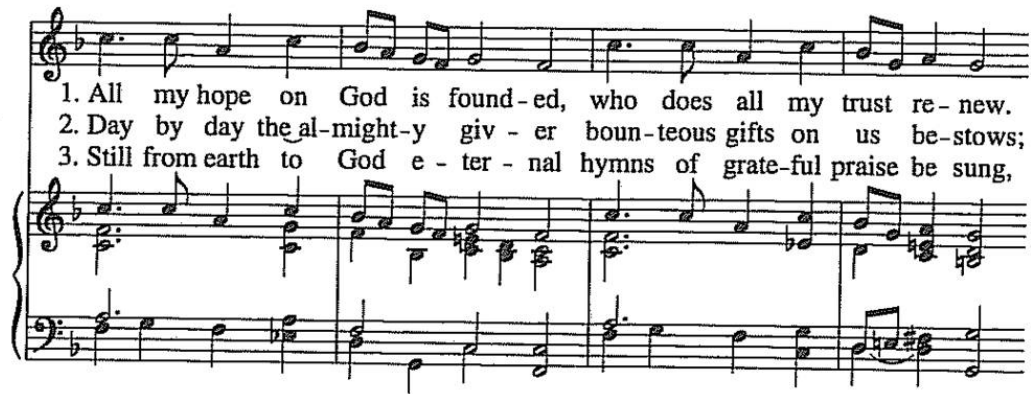
If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call 617-547-2724 ext. 222. Your call will be routed to a First Church minister based on a rotating schedule that covers staff time off.



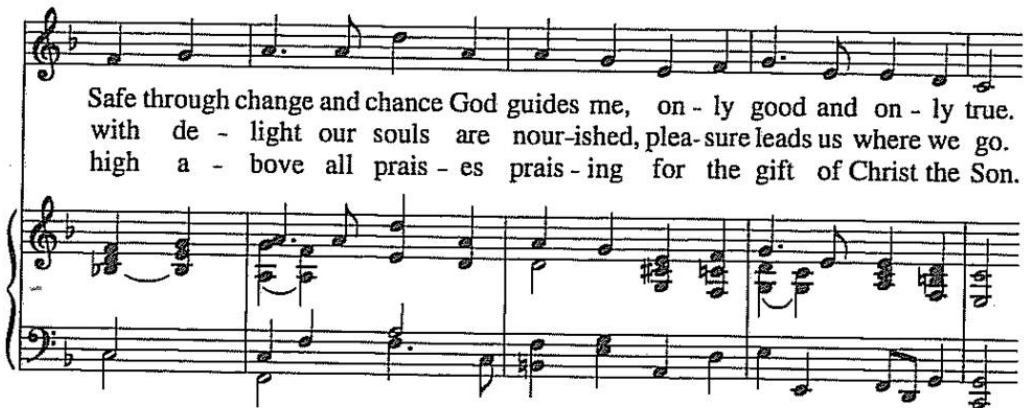
Do you want to follow the hyperlinks, but you're holding a paper bulletin in your hand? Use your phone's camera to hover over the QR code marked "scan me;" this will take you to the Members & Friends page of our website, where you'll find the bulletin online, as well as links to news, events, and more.

-Bulletin Insert 1-

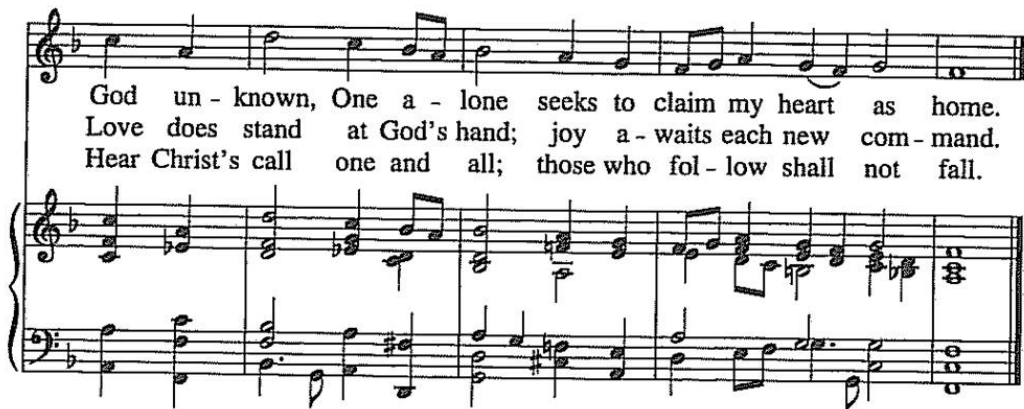
417 All My Hope on God Is Founded



1. All my hope on God is found-ed, who does all my trust re-new.
 2. Day by day the al-might-y giv-er boun-teous gifts on us be-stows;
 3. Still from earth to God e-ter-nal hymns of grate-ful praise be sung,



Safe through change and chance God guides me, on-ly good and on-ly true.
 with de-light our souls are nour-ished, plea-sure leads us where we go.
 high a-bove all prais-es prais-ing for the gift of Christ the Son.



God un-known, One a-lone seeks to claim my heart as home.
 Love does stand at God's hand; joy a-waits each new com-mand.
 Hear Christ's call one and all; those who fol-low shall not fall.

WORDS: Joachim Neander, c. 1680; para. Robert Bridges, 1899, alt.
 MUSIC: Herbert Howells, 1930, 1977

MICHAEL
 87.87.337

The Lone, Wild Bird

1. The lone, wild bird in loft - y flight is still with you, nor
 2. The ends of earth are in your hand, the sea's dark deep and
 3. Each se - cret thought is known to you, the path I walk my
 4. In se - cret depths you knit my frame, be - fore my birth you
 5. O search me, God, my heart re - veal, re - new my life, my

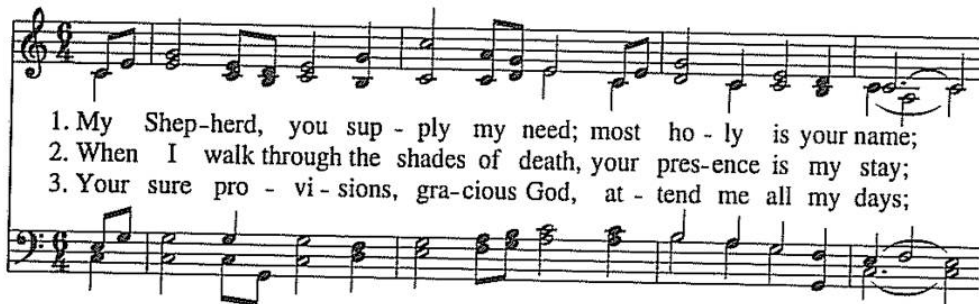
leaves your sight. And I am yours! I rest in
 far - off land. And I am yours! I rest in
 whole life through, my days, my deeds, my hopes, my
 spoke my name; with - in my soul, as close as in
 spir - it heal; for I am yours, I rest in

you. Great Spir - it, come, rest in me, too.
 you. Great Spir - it, come, rest in me, too.
 fears, my deep - est joys, my si - lent tears.
 breath, so near to me, in life, in death.
 you. Great Spir - it, come, rest in me, too.

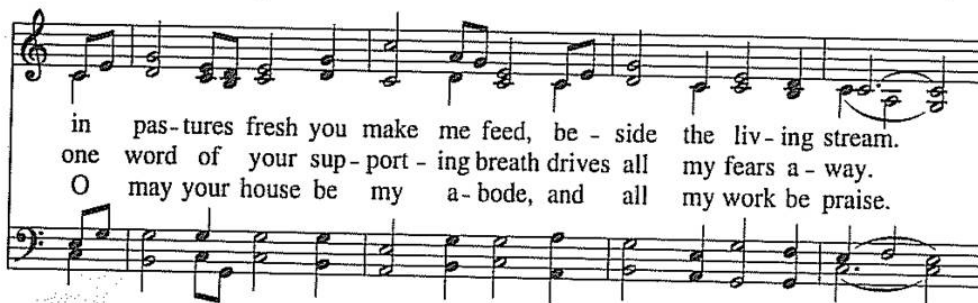
WORDS: Sts. 1, 2, Henry Richard McFadyen, 1925, alt.; sts. 3 - 5, Marty Haugen, 1991
 MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. David N. Johnson, 1968

PROSPECT
LM

88 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need



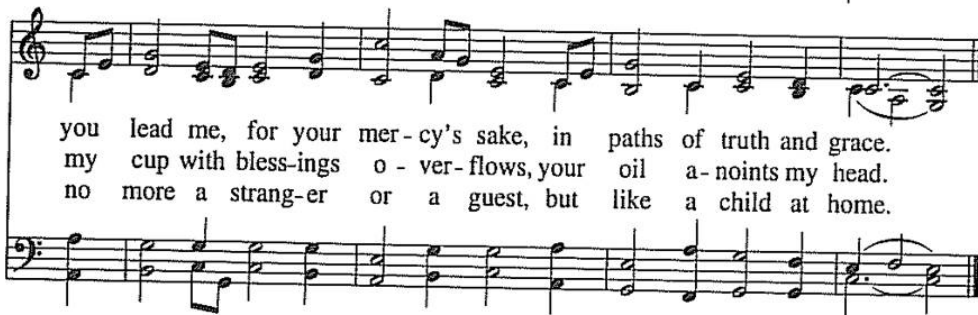
1. My Shep-herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly is your name;
 2. When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3. Your sure pro - vi - sions, gra-cious God, at - tend me all my days;



in pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the liv-ing stream.
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for - sake your ways;
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;



you lead me, for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with bless-ings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.
 no more a strang - er or a guest, but like a child at home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

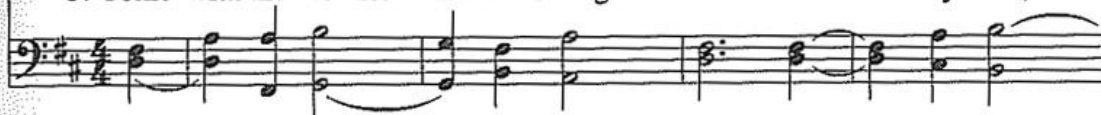
MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm., FCC, 1997RESIGNATION
CMD

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

441

Unison

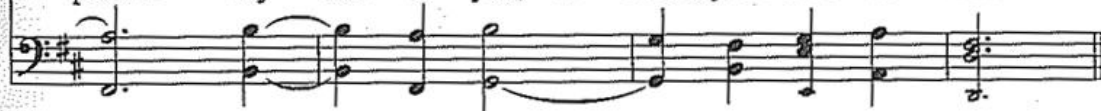
1. E - ter - nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ, I know not how to
 2. Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; help me to see your
 3. Come with the vi - sion and the strength I need to serve my God, and



ask or what to say; I on - ly know my need, as deep as
 pur - pose and your will, where I have failed, what I have done a -
 all hu - man - i - ty; ful - fill - ment of my life in love out -



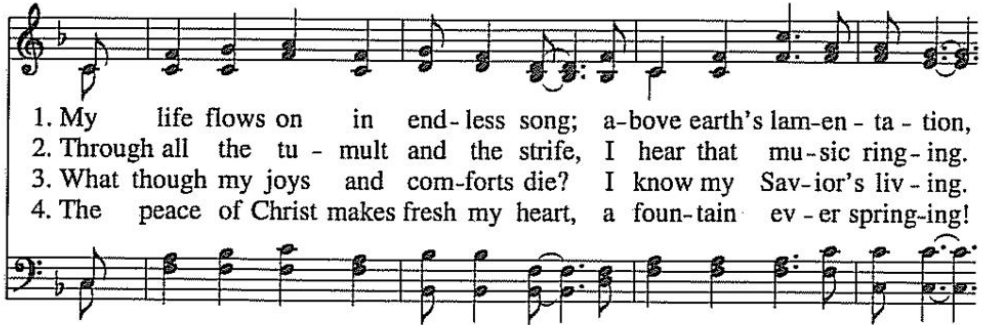
life, and on - ly you can teach me how to pray.
 miss; held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
 poured — my life in you, O Christ, your love in me.



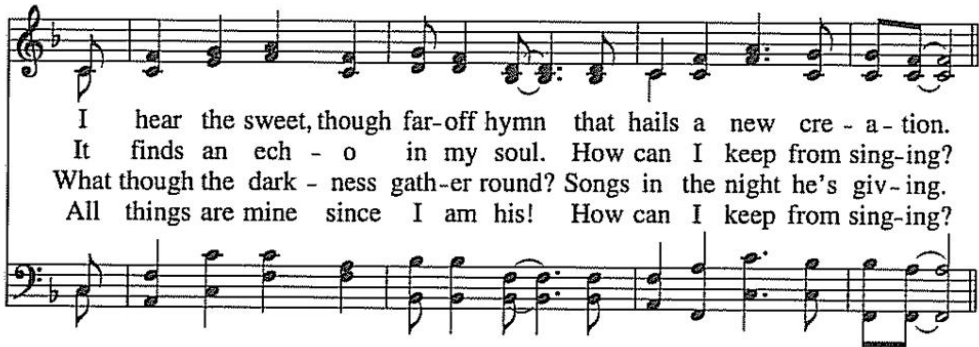
WORDS: Frank von Christierson, 1974, rev. 1979
 MUSIC: Alfred M. Smith, 1941

SURSUM CORDA
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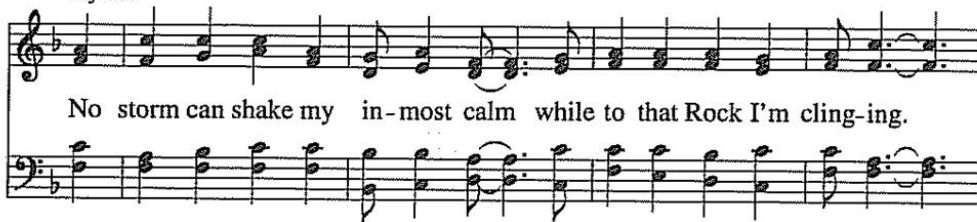
My Life Flows On in Endless Song 427



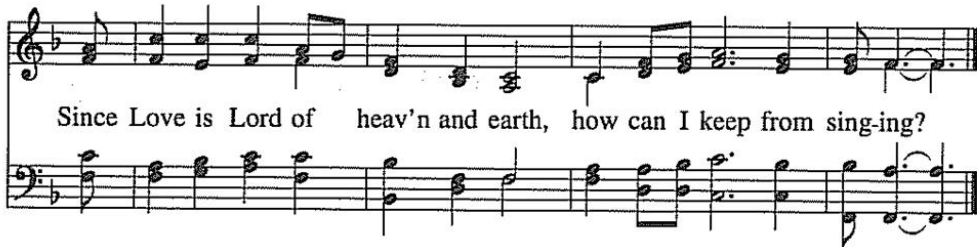
1. My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.
 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav-ior's liv-ing.
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he's giv-ing.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain


No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

CLOSING HYMN

God of Abraham and Sarah

3

1. God of A - bra - ham and Sar - ah, God of Mo - ses, Mir - iam's Guide;
 2. God who danc - es in cre - a - tion, spin - ning stars a - bove our heads;
 3. God who loves the poor in spir - it, God who com - forts those who mourn;
 4. In our lives from birth to dy - ing, depth of sor - row, height of joy;

God of Da - vid and the proph - ets, God in Je - sus glo - ri - fied:
 God whose face is scribed in mu - sic, by whose hand the earth is fed:
 balm for wounds, the friend of sin - ners, tak - ing the side of earth's for - lorn:
 prais - ing God in ev - 'ry sea - son, let ev - 'ry key our hearts em - ploy.

up from the dust you raise a peo - ple, breathe in the breath of life, of soul;
 up from the ground you raise the moun - tains, raise our spir - its, lift our eyes;
 up from the depths you raise your peo - ple, giv - ing them cour - age for the day;
 Praise is the heal - ing, praise, the glo - ry, praise is the fin - al mys - ter - y;

down through the years the peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias make them whole!
 down through the years your peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias flood the skies!
 down through the years the peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias light their way!
 down through the years let peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias set them free!

WORDS: James Gertmenian, alt., © 1986
 MUSIC: Melody, James Gertmenian, © 1986; harm. Ronald Huntington, alt., © 1986

CONSTANTINE
 87.87D

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Anita Anger as she negotiates rehab after a recent fall.
- We pray for Cathy Garnett, who is recovering from recent hip replacement surgery.
- We pray for Emma Blanc, who is recovering after surgery to alleviate pain and discomfort related to playing the saxophone.
- We pray for Ami Brenner's father Jim Rae, who started immunotherapy in April for melanoma and was hospitalized recently for treatment-related complications.
- We pray for Devin Hansen's aunt Ellen Smith; her cancer has returned.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer and other ongoing health challenges: Carol Wilson-Braun, who is managing slow-progressing ALS; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; Karen Anne Zee's daughter Becky Collet, and her sons-in-law, Denis Collet and Stewart Bailey; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters; and friend of Homeless Ministries Brian O'Donovan. We also pray for those in hospice care: Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn's mother.
- We continue to pray for all those impacted by the violence of war and political upheaval, including in Ukraine, Sudan, and Haiti, and especially those displaced and seeking refuge in other countries.
- We pray for all refugees and migrants who make often life-threatening border crossings over land and open water to escape poverty, political persecution, violence, and climate-related disaster.
- We pray for all in Massachusetts, in nearby states, and around the globe experiencing heavy rainfall, flash flooding, deadly heat waves, and other extreme weather. We pray especially for the people of Maui, who are grieving losses and fleeing from wildfires. We continue to pray for our rapidly warming planet and for redoubled efforts to reduce fossil fuel emissions.
- We pray for all whose lives are touched by our nation's raging epidemic of gun violence, especially those dealing with related loss and trauma. We pray for ongoing advocacy to create lasting change in our country's gun safety laws.
- We pray for the wellbeing and safety of our trans and gender non-conforming siblings as they face the impact of vitriolic public discourse and of state laws that restrict and criminalize transgender health care, personal expression, and wider LGBTQ+ education.
- We pray for those most affected by changes in reproductive rights: for all those struggling with the moral and political complexities of pregnancy and childbearing, and for patients and healthcare providers who are unable to give and receive care in their own states.
- We pray for the 14 men finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter; and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding resources and listening ears.

[Join the First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH



August Worship Services and a Farewell to Lexi Boudreaux

After five years of ministry, the time has come to say our final farewells to our beloved Transitional Minister Lexi Boudreaux. As we move towards staffing transitions with Lexi's imminent departure, we invite you to a series of important events that take place this month:

Healing Service, Today, August 13

We gather as a community to seek solace, restoration, and renewal. It is a time to lift up our prayers and support one another as we navigate what is ahead.

Lexi's final sermon, August 20

Lexi has been a guiding light within our congregation, and her words and service have touched our hearts deeply. Let us come together to honor her and listen to the wisdom she will share on this significant day.

Leavetaking Service, August 27

We will bid farewell to Lexi as she moves forward on her path of faith. It will be a time to express gratitude for her invaluable contributions and to wish her well as she embraces new opportunities in service to the Lord.

You may read letters from our Moderator Moana Bentin and from Lexi Boudreaux in the [Latest News](#) on our website.

Summer Sign-Ups with Lexi Boudreaux

Lexi would love to connect with as many First Church folks as she can before the summer is over. To schedule a time with Lexi over the summer to say goodbye or to talk about what a good goodbye looks like—to laugh or cry about change, to wrap up a shared project, or to ask any lingering questions— please follow this link and suggest a time and place: <https://calendly.com/lexiboudreaux>

Harvard Square Faith Communities and the Legacy of Slavery: Landscape of Slavery Walking Tour

Today at 12:00 p.m.

meet at Gellert Garden at Radcliffe, 10 Garden St.

Drawing from the work of the Harvard & the Legacy of Slavery Initiative, this six-stop tour engages with the local geography of African and Indigenous enslavement in words, silence, and stillness. Join us as we learn about those who were wrongly oppressed, enslaved, and buried here, but whose dignity and humanity we aim to acknowledge and honor during this exploration. Please wear comfortable shoes, bring water and sunscreen, and grab a bite between our 10:00 a.m. worship service and the noon tour. The tour is almost 2 hours.



SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH



**Sponsoring Refugees.
Strengthening Communities.**

Do you enjoy helping others to build skills? Are you inspired to help immigrant newcomers learn about budgeting and finance? About US culture, laws, and norms? Or excited to share about our local community, including food resources, libraries, parks, public transportation?

Then we especially need you to welcome refugees! First Church & Friends is now an official sponsor group for WelcomeCorps and we are preparing to welcome two refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa in October 2023. These newcomers will have Official Refugee Status and full access to government benefits. Our team will support them in a 90-day resettlement effort, which includes helping them to settle into all aspects of their new lives in Cambridge. We are asking for volunteers interested in helping newcomers to thrive here in their new home. We believe that participating will provide you with a meaningful opportunity to support refugees in a major life transition, as well as to collaborate with other Church and community members. If you can join us in our effort, [please complete this form](#). And reach out to your friends and community with this experience; people outside of First Church are very welcome to join the team! If you have any questions about being a volunteer, please email Martha Mueller Cook at marthamuellercook@gmail.com.

Support the Friday Café This Summer

The Friday Café is serving a light lunch to our 100+ guests on summer Fridays through Labor Day. We would love some help! Please visit <https://signup.com/go/qQfTjJN> to sign up to bring 10 sandwiches, sweet treats, or servings of fruit. This is a great activity for kids, or teens looking for community service credit. Dropoff is Friday mornings.



Registration Now Open:

**All-Church Fall Retreat at Craigville Retreat Center
Friday, September 29 - Sunday, October 1**

Register now to join us on the Cape for a weekend of community-building in fellowship, formation, and fun. All ages are invited to come together as a multigenerational community to talk, laugh, play, dance, eat, sing, worship, and connect! [Complete this registration form](#) and stay tuned for more details on this year's retreat theme. Questions? Contact [Sarah Higginbotham](#).

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