



Connect to Full Life in Jesus Christ

September - October 2026

September

- 12/13 Kick-off weekend
- 12/22 Creative Expressions Returns
- 8 Grief Share Returns
- 9 Wednesday Evening Bible Study Returns
- 10 Thursday Morning Bible Study Returns
- 10 Sanctuary Choir, Handbell Choir, Women's Ensemble Return
- 11 Special Needs Ministry Friday Night Group
- 12 Saturday Study Group Returns
- 13 Fall Discussion Group: The Apostles' Creed (Sunday)
- 14 Fall Discussion Group: The Apostles' Creed (Monday)
- 18 Fall Discussion Group: The Apostles' Creed (Friday)
- 14 Next Gen Student Kick-off (Wild Water & Foam Party)
- 18 Friday Family Group Returns
- 18 Rita's (Fischer) Night to Shine Fundraiser
- 18 Woven Collective Worship Night
- 20 Book Discussion - *The River We Remember*
- 21 Next Gen Student Small Groups Returns
- 22 KidMin Tuesday Returns
- 25 Family Fun Night
- 27 Fall Concert: *New Jersey Symphony Brass Quintet*
- 29 Everyday Living: Hospice & Palliative Care Workshop

October

- 1 Mustard Seeds Returns
- 3 New Members Cycle Begins
- 5 Financial Peace University
- 5 Next Gen Students: Fun, Faith, & Fellowship
- 9 Special Needs Ministry Friday Night Group
- 10 WNS 75th Birthday Celebration
- 22/28 Outback Night to Shine Fundraiser
- 31 Coat Drive

Dear Friends–

A couple of weeks ago, we celebrated baptisms in the ocean. It was a glorious time! The weather was perfect and the water was relatively warm. Yet, it was so much more than that; it was the Spirit of God at work! We could see Him in the eagerness of the 19 people who were baptized for the first time. It was clear in the desire to be closer to Jesus in everyone who came down into the water. We witnessed the joy on the faces as each came up out of the water and the reception of support and excitement of those gathered on the beach!

Baptism, in all its forms, is beautiful. It really has little to do with the water, and everything to do with what Jesus has done for us in His life, death, and resurrection. But something struck me this time as each person was immersed in the water. The waves of the ocean fully engulfed each person, the water came up over their heads and their bodies, not one part staying dry. It was the definition of being all in! In that moment they weren't just all in the water, they were all in for Jesus!

Are you all in? This is a great question for all of us, whether we were baptized long ago, last week, or not yet. Is your life fully immersed in Jesus? Are you growing closer to Him? Is He guiding your steps? How is He leading you to go deeper, to go further, to go all in?

This booklet is full of opportunities coming up in the next couple of months. Opportunities for you to become more immersed, to say, "Yes" to Jesus, to hold nothing back, and be all in. As you read through it, pray and ask Holy Spirit to lead you, to show you the next steps to connect to full life in Jesus Christ.

Peace–

Pastor Robbie Ytterberg

"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." – Romans 6:4



Kick-off Weekend

ALL AGES

Saturday, September 12 & Sunday, September 13

Join us for Kick-off Weekend! Information and sign-ups for some of our fall activities will be available that weekend. Kids & students, wear your team jersey, uniform, or school shirt! We'll take a moment during the service to pray for you in this new school year.

Faith Foundations: The Apostles' Creed

Weekly on Sundays at 10:30 am starting on September 13

Weekly on Mondays at 6:30 pm starting on September 14

Weekly on Fridays at 10:00 am starting on September 18

This fall, we're going back to the foundations of who God is, what God has done, and what He will do. Pick one of three groups to unpack, respond to, and ask questions about the Apostles' Creed, a statement that articulates the shared faith of the Christian church throughout history and across denominations. We'll be using each week's sermon as a starting point. You can join any of these groups any week or every week. Everyone is welcome!

Special Needs Young Adult Group

12 AND UP

Friday, September 11 & October 9, 6:30 pm

Growing in groups is core to who we are and that includes our friends with special needs and their families. On the second Friday of each month, teens and young adults with special needs and disabilities gather for an evening of pizza, fun, and friendship. In September, we're holding tight to summer fun with beach ball volleyball and boardwalk games! In October, we'll host our annual costume party with games and fun! New guests and volunteers are always welcome.

Next Gen Students: Fall Kick-off

GRADES 6-12

Monday, September 14, 6-7:30pm

Wild water games AND a foam party? Count us in! Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a fun evening of games, a chance to meet new people, catch up with old friends, and learn more about what waits ahead for the new year of Next Gen Student ministry!

Woven Worship Collective

ALL

Friday, September 18, 6:30 pm (doors open), 7 pm (worship begins)

What if your Friday night became a moment that changed your life? Our friends from the Woven Worship Collection will lead a special night of worship at PCTR on September 18. Bring friends and family! This event is for those who know Jesus, AND for those who don't know Jesus yet. Don't miss this special night as people from across our community gather for one purpose: to lift high the name of Jesus.

Book Discussion Group

ADULTS

Sunday, September 20, 12:30 pm

We've picked out some great titles for this year's Book Discussion Group! *The River We Remember* by Kent Krueger is first up. Bring a lunch or snack and join us, even if you have not finished reading the book. This is a great way to connect with others who share your love of books and how they speak to us today. (Read *Nectar in a Sieve* by Kamala Markandaya for our 11/15 discussion.)

Family Fun Night!

ALL

Friday, September 25, 6-8pm

Let's kick off the new school year with an evening of food & fun! We're talking about games, food, and loads of family fun! Bring the whole family on September 25 (6-8pm) for this special kick-off event! Bring your neighbors and friends too!

New Jersey Symphony Chamber Players

ALL

Ocean Classic Concert Series

Sunday, September 27 at 4 pm

Our Ocean Classic Concert Series will kick off the 2026-2027 season on September 27. This promises to be a unique performance featuring a brass quintet from the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. It's a great opportunity to invite friends and family to something at the church!

Every Day Living Workshop: Hospice & Palliative Care

Tuesday, September 29, 7-8:30pm

If you and your loved ones haven't talked about topics like hospice and palliative care, now is the time! This conversation will help you navigate decisions and conversations with loved ones. Join us on September 29 at 7pm.

New Member Gathering

Saturday, October 3, October 10, and October 17, 6:15-8pm

What does it mean to be a member at PCTR? Find out at our next new member gathering. At the end of this 3-part class, you'll have the opportunity to join the church as a member. Dinner will be served. Sign up at pctr.org/newmember

Next Gen Students: Fun, Faith, & Fellowship

Monday, October 5, 7-8:30pm

Once a month, Next Gen Students (Grades 6-12) hit pause on their small group study and go all in on having fun together at our Fun, Faith and Fellowship gathering. Bring a friend and join us for games and snacks! New to Next Gen Student ministries? This is a great way to jump in, meet some new people, and find out what we're all about.

WNS 75th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, October 11, 12-3pm

Westminster Nursery School is turning 75 years old this year! Can you believe it? If you or someone in your family is a WNS alum or someone in your family is currently attending/teaching at WNS, join us on October 10th to celebrate this special milestone!

Grief Share

ADULT

Weekly on Tuesdays at 10 am starting September 8

As we try to navigate life after the death of a loved one, we can feel isolated and alone. This is the space Grief Share steps into. This weekly group offers support to people grieving the death of a loved one. It's a place where you can be around others who understand the pain of your loss and how you feel as you come to terms with it.

Wednesday pm Adult Discipleship

ADULTS

Weekly on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm starting September 9

Starting September 10, Wednesday night Bible Study uses a number of commentaries and resources to dig deeper into reading and understanding the Bible. Bring your Bibles and join us!

Thursday Morning Bible Study

ADULTS

Weekly Thursdays at 9:30 am starting September 10

This group meets weekly over snacks and coffee as we study the Bible together. We are currently walking our way through Prayer by Timothy Keller. If you've ever wondered how to make your prayer life more personal and powerful, this group (and the book they are studying) is for you.

Creative Expressions Group

ADULTS

Second Saturday at 8:45 am (Sept 12) & Fourth Tuesday at 7 pm (Sept 22)

Our Creative Expressions (formerly Christian Writers' Group), which meets twice a month throughout the year, supports and encourages one another to use the gifts of writing, photography, and other forms of creative expression. Wherever your journey finds you, we welcome you to share it here! Join us the second Saturday (8:45 am) and/or fourth Tuesday (7 pm) of each month.

Saturday Morning Group

ADULTS

Meets on Saturdays at 10 am starting September 12

Using Louie Giglio's study "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table," this group is an opportunity to study, discuss, and share life with others. We'll be taking a closer look at Psalm 23, and exploring what it would look like to embrace encouragement and hope, over self-defeating mind sets.

Friday Family Group

ADULTS & KIDS

Meets First & Third Friday each month at 6:30 pm starting September 18

Using The Story by Randy Frazee, this study is an opportunity for parents to meet in a group to read, discuss and ask questions as they study the Bible together, while their kids (up to 5th grade) meet for their own small group experience.

Next Gen Students: Small Groups

GRADES 6-12

Mondays at 6 pm starting September 21

Students in grades 6-12, join us Monday nights for small groups! Drop in for open gym time from 6 - 6:30 pm. We'll break into small groups from 6:30-7:30 pm for Bible study. Pick up a Next Gen Student calendar for the full schedule of small group meeting dates and other activities.

KidMin Tuesdays

KIDS

Weekly on Tuesdays at 4:45 pm starting September 22

We pack a bunch into Tuesday afternoons with our elementary-aged friends. We start with time to play together, then we get into smaller groups to talk with our friends and leaders about Jesus. And of course, there's snack time, too!

Mustard Seeds

AGES 1 - 5 YEARS OLD

First Thursday of each month starting October 1

Children ages 1-5 and one of their favorite adults are invited to a morning of crafts, Bible stories, music, and, of course, play time! Together we'll learn more about God's love for us. Invite a friend!

Financial Peace University

ADULTS

Mondays, 6 pm - 7:30 pm starting October 5 - ending November 30

Wish you could pay off debt and build wealth for the future? Financial Peace University (FPU) is a 9-week course that helps you do just that - using simple lessons and real life examples of real people who have taken control of their finances. We'll be launching a new session of FPU on Monday nights at 6 pm starting on October 5. The 9 week session will end on November 30.

Participants will pay \$50 toward their registration fee with FPU; PCTR will cover the additional \$29/couple of program cost. Keep your eyes out for registration details as we get closer or call 732-349-1331 for more details.

MicroGroups

ADULTS

Do you want to read and study Scripture, but in a way that fits your busy schedule? Do you want it to be small and flexible? Micro Groups are places where people can invest in each other, as they read Scripture or read a book written by a solid Bible communicator together, in order to grow to be more Christ-like. They are groups where members come to understand that Scripture is alive in their lives today - teaching them, guiding them, comforting them and challenging them - while together they "walk" with God. Consider forming a Micro Group of 2, 3, 4 or 5 people. See further details in the tri-folds in the Welcome Center to help you get started or call the church office for more info.

Presbyterian Women Circles

WOMEN

Various dates throughout September

Presbyterian Women (PW) offers the opportunity for women to grow in faith through small groups (we call them PW Circles), service and mission projects, and large group gatherings. Circles meet on a monthly basis for study and prayer. This year's study, "Faith in Action" will begin in individual circle meetings throughout the month of September. Contact pw@pctr.org for more info.

Rita's Fundraiser - Night to Shine

September 18, all day

Custard and cool, sweet Italian ice? Yes, please! Grab yourself a special treat at Rita's on Fischer Blvd any time on September 18 and a percentage of each order will be donated to support PCTR's 2027 Night to Shine, a prom for Special Needs Students 14 yrs and up sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Flyers will be available in the Welcome Center and online as the date gets closer!

Outback Steakhouse Fundraiser - Night to Shine

October 22 and 28

Here's another chance to enjoy a great meal AND support our PCTR's 2027 Night to Shine, a prom for Special Needs Students 14 yrs and up sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. This one's a little different as you'll need to purchase a prepaid ticket for either October 22 or 28. You'll have pre-selected menu to choose a main course from when you use your ticket.

Coat Drive

Saturday & Sunday, October 31 & November 1

Clear out your closets and bring in those gently-used old coats you're not going to wear again. We're collecting warm outerwear in support of the Hope Center's Gifts of Warmth Drive. Coats will be distributed to our neighbors who need them.

Concert Choir Rehearsal

GRADE 6-ADULTS

Ocean Classic Concert Series, Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 pm

Christmas is coming sooner than you think! On 9/24, our concert choir will begin rehearsing Christmas music specifically for our Christmas Joy Concert (held 12/6). Consider making a joyful holiday noise with us as part of our concert choir! All singers are welcome! A complete schedule will be provided once rehearsals begin.

Go & Serve

Hospitality Team

We want every person who joins us for worship to feel the warmth of God's love for them through us. Our weekend hospitality team is a big part of making that happen – from greeters, to ushers, to Welcome Center hosts and parking lot attendants, our hospitality volunteers are an essential part creating a welcoming worship environment. We're looking for some new, friendly faces to part of our team. Is that you? Call the church office or stop by the Welcome Center on the weekend to learn more.

Next Gen Kids/Next Gen Student Ministry

How are you helping the next generation know Jesus? Both our Next Gen Kids and Next Gen Student ministries are looking for volunteers to help with special events (like the Family Fun Night and weekend trips) to activities like KidMin Tuesdays, Next Gen Small Groups, and Church School. If you're able to help on an occasional or weekly basis, reach out to the office and we'll get you connected!

Hope Center Volunteers

The Hope Center will be settling into their beautiful new space in our building and as they do, they're going to need an additional team of volunteers to help support their mission. Tasks range from answering calls, assisting clients, pitching in with special events and collections, and sorting/stocking in the food pantry. Are you up for the task? Call them at 732-341-4447.

Pop the Trunk Volunteer

Fridays in the PCTR Parking Lot, 7:30 am - 10 am

With some of their younger volunteers headed back to school, our friends at Pop the Trunk Gang could use a few more hands to pack and distribute shopping bags full of food to cars that pull through our lot at their drive through pantry each week. Volunteers begin to sort and pack bags around 7:30 am every Friday. Food distribution runs until about 10 am. Drop by any Friday to help. Dress for the weather!

There will be additional opportunities to go & serve and to grow in groups introduced during the September-October span. Keep your eyes on pctr.org/now and to the weekly announcements for details as they become available.

Gathering to worship is one way we connect to full life in Jesus Christ. Worship is more than listening to a weekly message. It's more than showing up for a service on a weekend. Gathering to worship is an essential part of our identity as the people of God. It's a foundational piece of the life of the church.



Gather to Worship

We have three in-person worship services each weekend.

Saturdays at 5 pm

Contemporary Worship & Champions Club*

Sundays at 9:30 am

Traditional Worship & Church School
for kids from birth to 5th Grade.

Sundays at 10:30 am

Contemporary Worship & Church School
for kids from birth to 5th Grade.

Our Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 9:30 am worship services are available to be viewed live or later at pctr.org/live, as well as on [Facebook.com/pctrnj](https://www.facebook.com/pctrnj) and [YouTube.com/pctrnj](https://www.youtube.com/pctrnj)

**Champions Club is a small group opportunity ministering to and designed for kids, teens, and adults with special needs and the medically fragile.*

PCTR Music

Whether your singing experience spans hours of solos alone in your car or previous experience performing in front of a crowd, we'd love to have you add your voice and musical gifts to our music ministry! There are several opportunities to sing, ring, and play.

Contemporary Worship Team - Rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Handbell Choir - Rehearses Thursdays at 6 pm. Returning September 10

Women's Ensemble - Rehearses Thursdays at 6 pm. Returning September 10

Sanctuary Choir - Rehearses Thursdays at 7 pm. Returning September 10



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