



Two Churches to Host Fred Rogers Service

March 18, 2026

CHARLESTON, W.Va. –Two churches within the Presbytery of West Virginia will be hosting services honoring the work of Fred Rogers on Sunday, March 22, 2026. First Presbyterian Church of Williamstown and Waverly-Bethel Presbyterian Church, under the leadership of Pastor Elizabeth Campbell-Maleke, will honor the life of Fred Rogers who is most notably known for the television show *Mister Rogers Neighborhood*.

Rogers was an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament who dedicated his life work around peace and reconciliation. As his birthday was on March 20, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) highlights what we can still learn from his work today.

Beginning with a special Call to Worship, Rev. Campbell-Maleke will shift out of her snow boots and into her sneakers. Both congregations have been invited to attend in their sweaters and sneakers. Pastor Elizabeth will continue the Holy Week and “Seven Deadly Sins” sermon series with this week’s focus on Sloth and Wrath- Purpose and Forgiveness.

Middle School Youth Students will put on a puppet show for the Children’s Message, which will include special guests Lady Aberlin and Daniel Tiger and the music of “It’s a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood”. 9-year-old Phoenix Rickard will play the hymn, “Sun of my Soul,” on piano, while the congregation will join to sing the 2022 hymn, “Jesus, Teach Us to be Neighbors,” written by David Gambrell for Mr. Rogers Day.

While most of these elements will be included at both services this Sunday, the puppet show will only be part of the Williamstown service.

“We are excited to have this special day to honor the life of Mr. Rogers and his dedicated work that emphasized the importance of peace and loving our neighbors,” said Campbell-Maleke. “Some of us, myself included, grew up watching *Mister Rogers Neighborhood* on tv and only later learned that he was a Presbyterian minister whose media work was considered a validated ministry. Our newest generation has continued to be touched by his legacy with the animated television show, *Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood*. This Sunday, we look forward to seeing how the Spirit moves!”

Fred Rogers Services will begin at First Presbyterian Williamstown at 11:00 a.m. and at Waverly- Bethel Presbyterian at 9:30 a.m.

For more information on the life and work of Fred Rogers, visit the [Fred Rogers Resource Page](#) on the PC(USA) website.

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