

Welcome

We hope worship today will engage your mind, stir your soul, and touch your heart, preparing us to faithfully serve God in the world.

A special welcome goes to all worship guests — we are honored by your presence. We invite you to participate fully in the worship, program, and common life of our congregation, and hope you will feel at home among us. Please visit the hospitality booth to receive a special gift. If you have any questions about our church, please speak with a pastor or elder.

After the service, join us for coffee in the fellowship hall courtyard.

Ushers are available for assistance this morning. **Large-print bulletins** are on-hand — just ask an usher. For worshippers who struggle with their hearing, we have a hearing loop installed in the lower floor of the sanctuary. To receive the loop signal manually, activate your T-coil or the telephone setting on your hearing aid or cochlear implant. If you are unsure, please consult with your audiologist. If you don't wear hearing aids, but need assistance, please ask an usher for a loop receiver.

• Children Are Welcome

We believe that worship is the response of the whole people of God, and that includes children! Families may sit together throughout the worship service. If you are interested, child care for newborns up to five years old is provided by a trained, caring staff each week in the nursery behind the sanctuary.

Parents, ask an usher for a **worship bag** for your children so they can engage in creative activities.

• Thinking of Membership?

Are you excited by the ministry of First Presbyterian Church? Would you like to know more about this vibrant congregation and the Presbyterian Church? Consider attending the new member class **next Sunday, August 27.**

• The Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Betty Hastings in memory of Chuck Hastings.

• Our Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Monica Thornhill-Joynes and family. Mercedes Thornhill died on July 9 in California.

• In Our Prayers

Missionaries: Drs. Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta (Indonesia)
Rev. Renee and Justin Sundberg (Nicaragua)

A complete list of members and friends who are in our prayers is available in the fellowship hall foyer and in the church office.



First Presbyterian Church
2050 Oak Street Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 955-8119 www.firstpressarasota.org

• GriefShare Resumes Friday, September 8

GriefShare is for those who are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend. This program is open to the community, so please invite anyone you know who may be in need of support. You are welcome to begin attending at any session, so don't be discouraged if you can't attend all 13 weeks. You will find encouragement and hope whenever you begin. The cost of the workbook is \$20. Please call the church office, (941) 955-8119, to reserve your space and workbook.

• Mark Your Calendar

Sarasota Health Care Services will be providing a flu vaccination clinic at First Presbyterian, **Sunday, September 24, 9:30-11:00 a.m.**

• FPC Preschool

Our award-winning preschool starts its first official day on Tuesday, August 29, with a meet-your-teacher event on Monday, August 28. There are very few spots still available. For information on class availability, please call (941) 366-2000. We pray God will surround our preschoolers and dedicated teachers with joy and grace.

• Family Promise - Board of Directors

Family Promise, our ministry partner dedicated to the homeless families of Sarasota, is looking for a new board member who can serve as treasurer. The position requires about eight hours a month, including attendance at a monthly board meeting. The treasurer oversees the financial activities for Family Promise of Sarasota, which has an annual budget of roughly \$150,000, and chairs the finance committee. If you are interested in hearing more about this position, please call board member Joy Mayer at 941-444-0402 or email joy.m.mayer@gmail.com.

• Meditation Website for August

The spiritual formation ministry team identifies internet website resources to help us meditate and contemplate the sacred presence of the Spirit. These sites offer moments of quiet and prayer, sometimes with music, sometimes with scripture, sometimes with directed prayer. If you are presently utilizing a site for the enrichment of your spiritual life, please share it with Ellen Forbes, co-moderator at forbesej@comcast.net.

PAYG (Pray As You Go) is a daily session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly while travelling to and from work, study, etc. A new session is produced each day, lasting between 10-13 minutes. It contains music, scripture, and questions for reflection. Download the app and check in on it daily. <http://pray-as-you-go.org/>



SOMETIMES LIFE CAN BE A STRUGGLE

Loneliness...Loss...Divorce...Illness

Spiritual Emptiness...Depression

STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE HERE TO HELP

If you would like a Stephen Minister to call on you, please contact the church office (941-955-8119) to speak with Pastor Glen Bell (x108) or Stephen Ministry Leader Steven Phillips (x124). Visit our link on the church website: <http://firstpressarasota.org/stephen-ministry/>



First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Announcements
August 20, 2017

Sunday School Teacher Interest Session Today at 4:00 p.m.

Calling all Sunday School teachers for the 2017-2018 school year!

Returning and new teachers are invited to attend our interest session **this afternoon** to review the new format and curriculum, divide into teaching teams, and assess classroom needs. Please meet in the fellowship hall at 4:00 p.m. for iced tea and cookies. Child care will be available.

• New Member Class

You are invited to a new member class **next Sunday, August 27** to learn more about the community of faith at FPC. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the loft for introductions. Then we will worship together at 11:00 a.m. Over lunch we will continue our discussion about the distinctives of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and present an opportunity to join FPC.

• Salt Shakers

Joining Salt Shakers is a wonderful way for members and friends of First Presbyterian Church to get to know each other. Groups of 6-8 people (singles or couples) meet once a month from September through November or December. Each group decides whether they want to have a potluck at a member's home, dine at a restaurant, have a picnic or brunch. Be creative! Sign-up forms are in the foyer of the fellowship hall and the narthex of the sanctuary. **The last day to sign up is next Sunday, August 27.**

• Academy of Christian Discipleship

Join Rabbi Jennifer Singer, the spiritual leader of Congregation Kol Haneshama, as she teaches *Aging Well Using Biblical Wisdom*, gleaning insights from the Hebrew Bible, at 10:00 a.m. in room 203 today and next Sunday.

There's a saying about aging: Getting old is not for the faint of heart. We face many challenges as we age - physical, mental, and spiritual. Making the most of the time we have remaining can be a challenge, but it can also be exciting and rewarding.

Here are some of the questions we are addressing:

How can I make the most of my life today and tomorrow?

How do I want to be remembered?

What is still ahead for me to accomplish?

Opportunities for Children and Youth

• Bread-Making Workshop

On **Sunday, September 3**, at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for children, youth, and their families begins with a bread-making workshop in the fellowship hall. Learn how to make bread from scratch! It's exciting to see the work that mixing, kneading, and rising does to make the perfect loaf! Bring a large mixing bowl so you can take home your rising dough to bake in your own oven! Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of baking ingredients.

• Family Promise Hosting Week

The week of **September 3 - 10** we will be hosting our friends in need through Family Promise. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful facility for hosting our guests. Won't you come and be a part of caring for those in our community as Christ has called us to do? We need dinner hosts and volunteers to stay overnight. The sign-up board will be in the fellowship hall courtyard. If you have any questions, contact Barbara Chase at (941) 953-5092.

Presbyterian Women will supply desserts. For information about bringing desserts, please call Barbara Chase.

• Academy of Christian Discipleship

Fall Session 1

Ending Poverty: September 3 - October 15

Cold Brew + Conversation: September 10 - October 15

(no classes on October 1)

Ending Poverty

This course, led by Dr. Hendrick "Hal" Serrie, is concerned with the invention of poverty, one of the scourges of humankind. We will examine how it developed in the Neolithic Period and morphed into permanent class and caste systems in all ancient and modern civilizations. We will discuss how poverty threatens the survival of Homo sapiens in the present. And we will explore some of the current attempts at ending poverty and creating a better future for every human being worldwide.

Cold Brew + Conversations

This adult education course, led by Kelly Fitzgerald and Mike Frandsen, imaginatively explores central topics of Christianity. Grab a cup of coffee and sit at the feet of some of the 21st century's most fascinating scholars and practitioners of the Christian faith through Animate: Faith Curriculum. In each session, the group will watch a video featuring a leading voice from the Christian faith, spend time on personal reflection and journaling, and share ideas with the group. In the first session you will meet Brian McLaren. Brian is one of the unofficial founders of what has become the Emerging Church. The first class will address the question, "How are you embarked on a journey of seeking God and keeping the quest alive?" All ages are welcome - from high school and beyond!

• Wednesday Bible Study - Galatians

Join us at noon on Wednesdays starting **September 6**, as we gather in room 203 to reflect on the wisdom of God's Word. Glen Bell, Kelly Fitzgerald and other guest teachers will guide our time together. We begin our Bible study with Galatians 3:1-14. All are welcome!

• Save the Dates for Wednesday Nights at First!

Give yourself a break from preparing a meal and come join your church family for food, fun, and fellowship. Gather anytime between 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall for games, homework help, or conversation. A buffet-style dinner will be served beginning at 5:45 p.m. Anyone and everyone is welcome to dinner! We will do some intergenerational table discussion and singing to round out our meal together. LOGOS-style small groups for children, youth and adults will start at 6:30 p.m. and run until 7:15 p.m. Nursery care for children of choir members can be arranged. Please contact Kelly to make arrangements. Registration forms will be available soon! (Wednesday Nights at First is the successor to our LOGOS program.)

Fall Dates

September 13	October 18
September 27	November 1
October 4	November 15

• Pack-the-Choir-Loft Sundays, September 3 and 10

Ever wanted to experience the worship service from a different angle? Steven Phillips and the choir are inviting you to join them in packing our choir loft on the first two Sunday of September. Come one or both times. No experience is necessary; everyone is welcome, and there's no ongoing commitment. Families can sit together in the choir loft, and children and students are very welcome. Anyone of any age! Just show up in the sanctuary for 10:00 a.m. practice on September 3 and/or September 10. The music will be fun and easy to sing.

Check it out:

- **September 3** - *Down to the River to Pray* - a folk hymn from the movie *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*
- **September 10** - *Somebody's Calling My Name* - a swinging spiritual with upright bass

Let's pack the choir loft and make a memorable September!

• SunCoast Bloodmobile Comes to First Presbyterian

As we continue our summer challenge with SunCoast Blood Bank to recruit the most blood donors, please call the church office, (941) 955-8119, to schedule a time slot to donate blood while the bloodmobile is at First Presbyterian Church, **Sunday, September 17**, from 8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Thank you to all who have donated so far. You are making a difference!

• Food, Fun, Gifts, and Crafts - Mission Fair

The mission and justice committee will be holding a **mission fair on Sunday, October 1**, in the courtyard and fellowship hall. The fair will begin following the one-combined World Communion Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. If you've ever wondered about the many programs the church supports, don't miss this fair! Learn about international, national, and local missions and maybe find new opportunities to serve.

• Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting on **Sunday, September 17**, at noon, for the purpose of electing church officers for the class of 2020. Please plan to attend this brief but important meeting.

• Coalition of Immokalee Workers

Join farmworkers and their families for a Wendy's boycott in Sarasota on **Sunday, August 27**. As the tomato harvest has made its way northwards the Fair Food Nation has continued to grow the pressure on the final fast food holdout, Wendy's. Here in Florida, faith leaders embarked upon on a month-long rolling fast last month as a call to Wendy's to respect farmworkers' human rights. Join CIW for a Wendy's boycott (1627 N. Washington Blvd.) at 2:00 pm. Please do not park in the Wendy's parking lot. FPC will host a lunch from 3:15-4:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall for the workers and their families before they return to Immokalee. Call the office (941) 955-8119 to sign up to help serve lunch and offer your support.



• Stewardship Thought

*We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.*
- Winston Churchill



• Of a Peacemaking Persuasion

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering,
persevere in prayer.* - Romans 12:12

• Week At a Glance

Sunday 20-Aug	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	New Song Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	Aging Well Using Biblical Wisdom	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
Tuesday 22-Aug	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM
	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
Wednesday 23-Aug	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
	Sisters of the Road	10:30 AM
Thursday 24-Aug	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
Sunday 27-Aug	New Song Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	New Song Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	New Member Class	10:00 AM
	Aging Well Using Biblical Wisdom	10:00 AM
Worship Service	11:00 AM	
Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM	