

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 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services, join us for coffee in the fellowship hall.

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 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 your audiologist. If you don't wear hearing aids, but need assistance, please ask an usher for a loop receiver.

Please know, if you need to step out of the sanctuary for any reason, you can watch the service on *livestream* in the hospitality suite. Also if you can't make it to church, you can watch the 11:00 a.m. service *live* on our website - or later during the week at your convenience.

• 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 while remaining in worship with you.

• 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? The next new member class is **Sunday, March 11**.

• The Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our dedicated church staff.

• 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.



• Presbyterian Women

The next PW Gathering and luncheon is **Tuesday, March 6** at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Jane Barr, an elder of the church will be speaking. Did you know that Jane is also an author, and a leadership and communications coach? Jane will be sharing with us wisdom from her recent book *Wise Woman Leadership: Your Key to Leading with Ease, Grace and Integrity*. Please bring your favorite salad to share. Drinks, dessert and bread will be provided. You may also pay \$10 in cash or check at the door to purchase a salad. Please make checks payable to Presbyterian Women FPC. You can make a reservation by calling Mary Webb at (941) 758-6035 or the church office at (941) 955-8119 by noon on Monday, March 5. Please mention whether you will bring a salad or pay at the door.

At PW Lite on February 6, Cindie Moore gave us an update on the Mam women of Guatemala, letting us know there is still a need for safe cooking stoves. The cost of a stove is \$160 with each woman paying \$40 and the remainder paid for by donations. If you want to contribute to this worthy project, please make your check out to Presbyterian Women FPC and designate it for Guatemalan cook stoves. Give your donation to Mary Webb or leave it in her mailbox at the church office by Monday, March 6. Any amount helps. The names of contributors will be placed in a drawing and one lucky person will receive a beautiful, handmade Mam apron.

The Peace River PW spring retreat is **Monday and Tuesday, March 12 and 13** at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center, Ellenton, FL. Participants may stay overnight or attend one or both days as a commuter. The theme of the retreat is *God's Guiding Hands*. Each participant must submit her own registration. Forms are available in the church office and are due no later than Wednesday, February 21. Each church is asked to provide a gift basket for the auction. The theme of our basket is "hands." Items for the basket or cash donations may be delivered to the church office no later than Friday, March 9. Some examples for the basket are new hand towels, hand lotion and nail polish.

• GriefShare Topic This Week: The Journey of Grief - Part 2

GriefShare is for those who are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend. This program meets on **Fridays at 10:00 a.m.** in room 203 and is open to the community. Feel free to 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. For more information, contact Cheryl Track, faith community nurse (941) 320-3828.



First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Announcements
February 18, 2018

• Ordination and Installation

Bill Conroy is being ordained and installed as a deacon **today** in the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. We are grateful for his servant leadership.

Please surround him with your affirmation and prayers!

• Are You A Seasonal Resident? This Invitation Is Just For You!

If you're a FPC seasonal resident, only here for a few months each year, please accept this invitation to a luncheon **today** after the 11:00 a.m. service in our fellowship hall courtyard (weather permitting). Come make new friends with the other "snowbirds" in our congregation and enjoy a special organ presentation by Mary Mozelle.

• Presbytery Meeting at First Presbyterian

On **Thursday, February 22**, we will be hosting the regional presbytery meeting. We will welcome individuals from congregations from Bradenton to Naples. If you would like to volunteer, contact Rachel Martin (941) 955-8119. Please plan to come and enjoy worship and a special musical presentation, with a combined choir directed by Steven Phillips, at 1:00 p.m.

• The Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held **next Sunday, February 25**, at 12:00 noon in the sanctuary. We will receive reports of the session, deacons, and other organizations of the church. We will also transact any business of the church corporation, and the church foundation, and review and approve changes in the pastors' terms of call.

• Musica Sacra Presents Rutter's "Requiem" Co-Sponsored by FPC

Don't miss this concert on **Monday, February 26**, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The Rutter Requiem infuses traditional parts of the requiem with added psalms and biblical verses. Musica Sacra's presentation will feature our former interim music director, Neil A. Page, as organist.

A limited number of discount tickets are available for \$20 in the church office for FPC members and friends. Tickets at the door will be \$25.



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

Opportunities for Children and Youth

• FPC Youth Are Hitting the Road!

Summer Trip Registration

Reserve your spot for our summer trips today so we can make plans. Parents - please register to help lead these trips as well! To register, email Kelly Fitzgerald at KFitzgerald@firstpressarasota.org

July 18-22 Middle School Montreat - Maryville College, Maryville TN

July 14-21 High School Montreat - Montreat, NC

July 22-27 Raleigh Youth Mission (Middle and High) - Raleigh, NC

• Youth Gathering

Today from 5:00-7:00 p.m. come to the fellowship hall and get the scoop on our summer trips. This will be the **last chance** to get your name or a friend's name on our list and pay the deposit for our summer adventures!

• Blood Pressure Screening

Celebrate American heart month **today!** Stop by the sanctuary front plaza for a blood pressure screening and heart information (in between services and after the 11:00 a.m. service) provided by your health and wholeness ministry.



• Save the Dates!

Join us for the **SURE Rally, Monday, February 26**, at 6:00 pm, at Trinity Christian Fellowship Center (1925 Northgate Blvd). First Presbyterian members and friends are actively engaged as one of SURE's 19 Sarasota congregations making a difference in our community regarding civil citation (rather than an arrest for minor children), affordable housing, and restorative justice (out-of-school suspensions). Please be there as we rally towards producing another successful Nehemiah Assembly.

Nehemiah Assembly: Our goal is for 100 of us First Presbyterian members and friends to be in attendance to hear the outcomes from our elected officials regarding the commitments they made at the 2017 Nehemiah Assembly. Be a part of 1,000 clapping in response to hoped-for affirmative replies from the officials. (We respond with silence to declined replies.) **Please join us on Monday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m., at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium.** Together, we can change our community.

The church bus is available for both events. Please call the office to reserve a seat on the bus (941) 955-8119.

• International Guitar Night Co-Sponsored by FPC

On **Sunday, March 11**, at 7:00 p.m. FPC and Fogartyville Community Center present jazz legend Lulo Reinhardt with renowned harp guitarist Stephen Bennett; Marek Pasieczny, Poland's innovative classical composer/performer; and award-winning American guitarist Michael Chapdelaine.

A limited number of discount tickets are available for \$20 in the church office for FPC members and friends. Tickets are available at Fogartyville.org for \$30 and at the door will be \$35.

• Academy of Christian Discipleship

Beyond the Bird Bath - A Journey into Franciscan Spirituality with Rev. Floyd Churn in room 225 today through March 25 - This course will focus on the origin and development of the faith and practice inspired by St. Francis of Assisi and others, especially as these spiritual themes and perspectives are interpreted for today by Richard Rohr, a Franciscan friar, author, and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation.

Spiritual Issues in Modern Fiction with Dr. John Parks in room 203 continues through Sunday, March 4 - Explore an engaging list of contemporary literature. The weekly readings will provide the grist for discussion of the intersection of faith and decisions of our daily lives.

Grace and Grief with Dr. Vic Ford, parish associate, in room 223 continues through March 25 - Learn about living with loss and how to help others navigate multiple layers of grief throughout a lifetime.

• New Member Class

Are you considering membership in this dynamic congregation? If so, come and explore what it means to be a member of FPC in the next new member class **Sunday, March 11**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in room 225. We will worship from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and then enjoy lunch together. Please call the church office to RSVP (941) 955-8119.

• Floral Dedications

If you would like to sign up for particular dates in 2018, you can sign up on the flower calendar located in the sanctuary narthex or call Connie Waymer at (941) 924-7847. Please give a contact phone number, the name(s) of the honorees and the occasion of the dedication. The price for a single arrangement is \$35 and for two arrangements it is \$70.



• Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry logo symbolizes that we all are broken people, and that it is through Jesus that we are made whole.

Stephen Ministers are *care* givers while God is the *cure* giver.

Stephen Ministry is *Your Ministry*. You play an important role. Here's what you can do:

Pray for God to bring hope and healing to hurting people through our Stephen Ministry.

Accept care from a Stephen Minister during your time of need.

God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone.

Tell a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative who is hurting about our Stephen Ministry.

If you would like a Stephen Minister to call on you, a loved one, or a friend, please contact Glen Bell, Kelly Fitzgerald, or Steven Phillips.

If you would like to learn more about the Stephen Ministry program at First Presbyterian Church, go to firstpressarasota.org and find our "Stephen Ministry" category in the linear menu. Click on it to learn about this important confidential, one-on-one ministry that is available to you.



• Of a Peacemaking Persuasion

You, O Lord, reign forever;
your throne endures from generation to generation.

- Lamentations 5:19



• Stewardship Thought

The most beautiful attractions
don't have a box office.

• Week At a Glance

Sunday 18-Feb	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Blood Pressure Screening	9:00 AM
	Beyond the Bird Bath	10:00 AM
	Grief and Grace	10:00 AM
	Modern Fiction	10:00 AM
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12th	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM	
Tuesday 20-Feb	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Lydia Circle	10:30 AM
	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
Wednesday 21-Feb	Mary-Martha Circle	10:00 AM
	Sisters of the Road	10:30 AM
	Bible Study	12:00 PM
	Handbell Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
Thursday 22-Feb	Presbytery Meeting	9:00 AM
	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Presbytery Worship Service	1:00 PM
	Vinyasa Yoga Class	5:30 PM
New Song Rehearsal	7:00 PM	
Friday 23-Feb	GriefShare	10:30 AM
Sunday 25-Feb	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	Beyond the Bird Bath	10:00 AM
	Grief and Grace	10:00 AM
	Modern Fiction	10:00 AM
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12th	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM
Congregational Meeting	12:00 PM	

• **Welcome New Members**

Have you met some of the nineteen new members who were recognized at worship on Sunday, January 28? Please look for their brief biographies in an upcoming issue of the *Cross Connections*, our church newsletter, and offer them a very warm welcome to our congregation!

• **Treasure Sale** **Saturday, March 17**



We are collecting goodies for our **Treasure Sale** to help support our children and youth summer adventures! We are looking for gently-used resale items (no clothes, please).

You can bring your donations to church and place them in the basket in the fellowship hall entrance or the sanctuary narthex. If you would like to arrange a pick-up, email Kelly Fitzgerald (kfitzgerald@firstpressarasota.org).

• **Foster Care and Adoption Awareness Meeting**

In the Sarasota-Bradenton area there are over 1,200 children in foster care. On **Tuesday, March 6**, at 7:00 p.m. at South Shore Community Church (1899 S. Tuttle) you can learn more about local foster care and how you can help.

• **New Book Club Opportunity**

Do you care about race relations in our community, but don't know what to do or who to reach out to? How about enrolling in a brand-new inter-racial book club!

This idea was germinated as Dr. Paul Roberts concluded his Faith Focus Weekend Saturday morning presentation with a reading list about race relations. Several in the audience responded to the idea. Now Janet Olshewsky and Dr. Vicki Wacksman are organizing an inter-racial book club, hoping many of you will participate. An organizational meeting will be held at FPC **Sunday, March 4**, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Please contact Janet at janetolshewsky@verizon.net or (941) 351-6912, or Vicki at wacksman@aol.com or (941) 355-5580.

• **Don't Get Fooled...**

Health and Wholeness Ministry presents "Don't Get Fooled...Avoid Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft" presented by Kathleen Houseweart, Executive Director of Lutheran Services. The program will be held **Thursday, March 8**, from 10:00- 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, March 5 (941) 955-8119.

• **Family Promise Dine-Out**

The February Dine-Out in support of our ministry partner, Family Promise, will be **Thursday, February 22**, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. will be dining out at Made Restaurant (1990 Main St #112). It's a good idea to make a reservation, which you can do by calling (941) 953-2900 or going online to opentable.com/made. A percentage of the cost of your meal will benefit Family Promise.

• *Invest in Children*



You can be a Brentwood Elementary School volunteer. Our partnership with Brentwood continues as we “Invest in Children” at this Title 1 school! The current volunteers share amazing stories about their experiences and use words like “fun, uplifting, rewarding, awesome, eye-opening, meaningful” to describe their time with the children and staff at Brentwood. Information is available in the narthex and the entrance to the fellowship hall. You may indicate your interest by filling out one of the forms and leaving it in the “Invest in Children” lunch bag or by contacting Jinny and Ron Miller at (941) 924-9494 or jinnyron@verizon.net.



Save your Box Tops for Education! Support our partnership with Brentwood Elementary School by placing them in the special containers at the church. Questions? Call Jinny and Ron Miller (941) 924-9494.

• *Season of Lent* *February 14 - March 31*

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on midnight on Easter morning. It is a time of repentance, that is, of recognizing our sin and making changes to become more what God created us to be. This repentance is undertaken as preparation for Easter. The season lasts for forty days before Easter, not counting Sundays.



Use this time to find new ways to engage with God. Lent is time to encourage yourself to stretch your spiritual wings, to try new ways of praying, and to serve other in Jesus' name.

Officers

Moderator: Glen Bell
Vice Moderator: Kelly Fitzgerald
Clerk: Barbara Chase

SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2018

Michael Brown
Jean Luker
Mariah Martin
Larry Schaper
Kay Steinman
Mary Webb

Class of 2019

Barbara Chase
Bill Rickloff
John Schaub
Joanne Simons
Kim Whitford

Class of 2020

Van Baker
Jordan Cook
Jean Martin
John Parks
Sandi Soper

DEACONS

Moderator: Drew Stuart
Vice Moderator: John Matta

Class of 2018

George Buermann
Mary Groninger
Thom Olszewsky
Bev Wright

Class of 2019

Bill Conroy
Pat Higgins
John Matta
Drew Stuart

Class of 2020

Jessica Armstong
Betty Hastings
Connie Waymer