

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.

• 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, June 10.

• 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

• Invest in Children



You can still 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 describe their time with the children and staff at Brentwood as fun and rewarding. 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. Join this life-changing adventure!



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

Calling all runners! Join us in the McInWood 5K or 1-mile Fun Run Saturday, May 12. This annual event supports Brentwood Elementary School, McIntosh Middle School and All Faiths Food Bank. Registration forms are available in the foyer of fellowship hall, the sanctuary narthex or the church office. Price break on registration fees prior to April 1.

• Wear Your Name Tag

Please remember to wear your name tag each Sunday. It is especially helpful to worship guests, new members, and seasonal residents. Replacements may be ordered by calling the church office at (941) 955-8119. The cost is \$5 for a pin or \$7 for a magnet.

Officers

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

SESSION MEMBERS

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>
Michael Brown	Barbara Chase	Van Baker
Jean Luker	Bill Rickloff	Jordan Cook
Mariah Martin	John Schaub	Jean Martin
Larry Schaper	Joanne Simons	John Parks
Kay Steinman	Kim Whitford	Sandi Soper
Mary Webb		

DEACONS

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>
George Buermann	Bill Conroy
Mary Groninger	Pat Higgins
Thom Olshewsky	John Matta
Bev Wright	Drew Stuart

Moderator: Drew Stuart
Vice Moderator: John Matta

<u>Class of 2020</u>
Jessica Armstrong
Betty Hastings
Connie Waymer



First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Announcements
March 18, 2018

• Welcome New Members and Families!

This morning we welcome our new members in the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. We are delighted they have joined the FPC family. Be sure to extend a friendly greeting to them!

Michael and Jaime Bressan

Children: Olivia (3 ½ yrs.) and Elijah (11 mos.)
Joining by certificate of transfer
Michael: Attorney
Jaime: Homemaker; previously, sales

Heather Buinicki

Husband: David Winship
Children: Charles (11 yrs.), Vera (10 yrs.),
and Sam (8 yrs.)
Joining by reaffirmation of faith
Heather: Project scheduler

Paul and Molly Cole

Joining by certificate of transfer
Paul: Retired maintenance manager
Molly: Retired preschool teacher assistant

Dale and Joan Learn

Joining by reaffirmation of faith
Dale: Retired CEO
Joan: Career consultant / retirement coach

Bob Scholten

Fiancée: Beverley (April '18 wedding)
Joining by certificate of transfer
Retired clinical researcher

Nick and Amy Stine

Children: Zoey (3 yrs.) and Carter (12 mos.)
Joining by reaffirmation of faith
Amy: Stay-at-home mom/physical therapist;
formerly retail manager
Nick: Sales

• Treasure Sale



The Treasure Sale was a great success! We are so grateful for all those who donated their treasures, sorted, priced, baked, and sold. Thank you very much for your dedicated support for our youth as they raise funds for their summer conferences and mission trips!

Opportunities for Children and Youth

• Easter Egg Hunt

All are welcome on **Sunday, March 25**, to our church-wide egg hunt! You don't want to miss the celebration. Bring a dozen stuffed eggs (non-candy) to share by 9:00 a.m. that morning. There will be bounce houses and a cake walk fundraiser to round out the fun!

• FPC Day Camp

Monday, July 30 - Friday, August 3

The day camp program for campers who have completed grades K-5 runs for a full day. Morning check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. and campers can be picked up anytime between 4:15-5:30 p.m. Day camp costs \$100. Campers will need to bring their own lunch.

The half-day program for preschoolers (Must be 3 by April 2018 and potty-trained.) will start at 8:30 a.m. and run to noon (no lunch). Half-day camp costs \$50.

Parents who volunteer may use half-day nursery care for children who are not old enough for camp. Middle and high school youth are welcome to volunteer as co-counselors.

Registration has begun!

• SURE Nehemiah Assembly

At tomorrow night's SURE Nehemiah Assembly, elected officials will give their answers concerning affordable housing and restorative justice (out-of-school suspensions). An update regarding a pending state-wide civil citation bill will also be given. SURE members from 19 Sarasota congregations worked this past year to bring positive results. The elected officials who are present have received their questions in advance of the assembly. We will clap and cheer for "yes" answers from the officials to SURE requests. We will respond to any "no" answers with silence.

The First Presbyterian SURE team invites you to join us tomorrow evening, March 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium (801 N. Tamiami Trail). Bring your friends, family and neighbors with you! You may pre-register on line at suresarasota.org, receive your free tickets from a SURE team member, or sign-in when you arrive.

• Blood Drive

The SunCoast Bloodmobile will be at First Presbyterian on **Sunday, April 8**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Call the office to reserve your spot on the bus (941) 955-8119.

• Academy of Christian Discipleship

Led by Dr. Maurice Luker *The Gospel of Mark* class will begin **Sunday, April 8** and run through May 13.

In an age when transmission of all information was "published" orally, the Gospel of Mark was written as a sermon script to be enacted to a congregation. Our classes on Mark will treat this first gospel not as an analysis of what really happened, but as a study of how Mark was constructed theologically to affect the first century listener—and how we might listen to it today.

• Season of Lent Journeys of Love

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Easter morning. It is a time of repentance, that is, of recognizing our sin and making changes to become more like 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 a time to encourage yourself to stretch your spiritual wings, to try new ways of praying, and to serve others in Jesus' name.

• Wednesday Nights at First

Claim one night for dinner with your church family. Gather any time after 5:00 p.m. for games, homework help, or conversation. Dinner will be served buffet-style at 5:45 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children.

April 11 - Cedarkirk Night
April 25



• Presbyterian Women

Bible study led by Jean Luker will meet on **Tuesday, March 20**, in room 203 at 10:30 a.m. Please join us as we continue our study of Hebrews. Deborah circle will meet after Bible study. Note, this is a change in date for this month.

Thank you to everyone who generously contributed to the cook stoves for the Mam women of Guatemala. We are sending \$480, enough to subsidize the purchase of four cook stoves.

PW Lite will be on **Tuesday, April 3** at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Diane Coles, an award-winning trainer from Dog World Training Academy, and her canine friend will join us. Diane will tell us how she trains dogs for dog therapy. Come learn about therapy dogs and see one in action.

Save the date: The next PW gathering is **Tuesday, May 1** at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We will collect the annual birthday offering at that time.

If you have an interest in attending the church-wide Presbyterian Women gathering in Louisville, KY August 2-5, please contact Flossie Paul at (941) 536-0974 or Pamela Lamb at (941) 210-7478. Both Flossie and Pamela are attending. There is also information at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

• 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.



• Of a Peacemaking Persuasion

We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.
- Hebrews 2:1

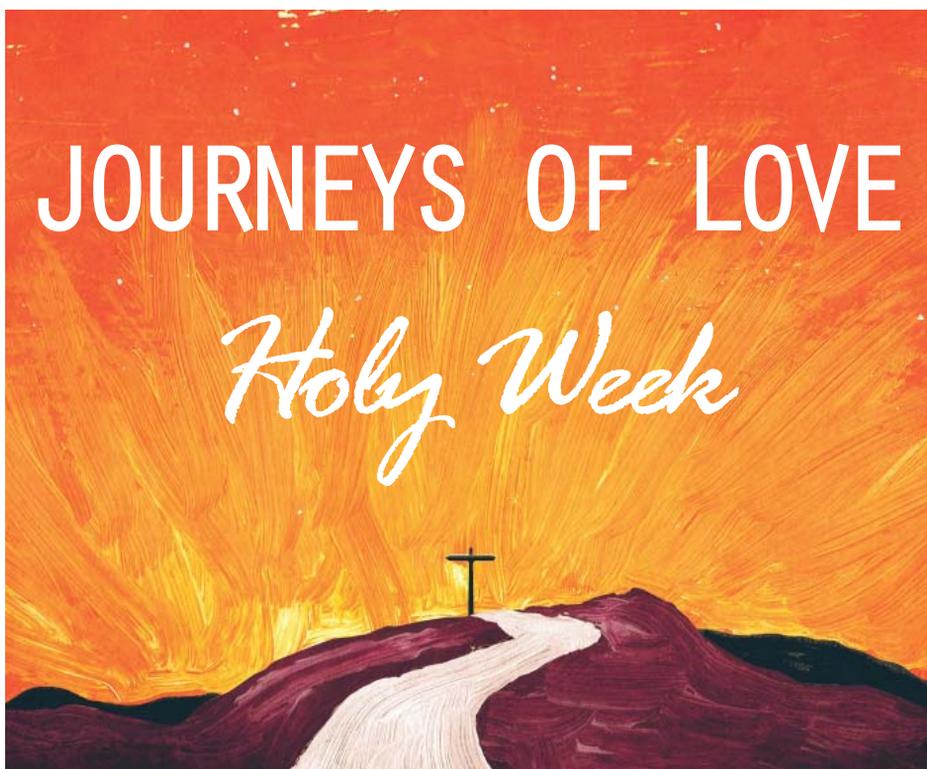


• Stewardship Thought

When we feel stuck, going nowhere - even starting to slip backward - we may actually be backing up to get a running start.
- Dan Millman

• Week At a Glance

Sunday 18-Mar	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
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12th	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
Monday 19-Mar	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM
	SURE Nehemiah Assembly	6:00 PM
Tuesday 20-Mar	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Lydia Circle	10:30 AM
	PW Bible Study	10:30 AM
	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
	Deborah Circle	11:30 AM
Wednesday 21-Mar	Mary-Martha Circle	10:00 AM
	Sisters of the Road	10:30 AM
	Bible Study	12:00 PM
	Handbell Rehearsal	6:00 PM
Thursday 22-Mar	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Vinyasa Yoga Class	5:30 PM
Friday 23-Mar	New Song Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	GriefShare - Complicating Factors	10:30 AM
Sunday 25-Mar	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
	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM	



JOURNEYS OF LOVE

Holy Week

March 25 | Palm Sunday

8:15 a.m. Worship (chapel)

9:00 a.m. New Song Worship (fellowship hall)

10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (labyrinth)

11:00 a.m. Worship (sanctuary)

March 28 | The Upper Room - Wednesdays @ First

5:45 p.m. Meal and Program (fellowship hall)

March 29 | Maundy Thursday

7p.m. Worship (sanctuary)

March 30 | Good Friday

12 noon Worship (sanctuary)

April 1 | Easter

8:15 a.m. Worship (**sanctuary**)

9:30 a.m. New Song Worship (fellowship hall)

11:00 a.m. Worship (sanctuary)

• ***Journeys of Love: Holy Week***

During Holy Week, our church is busy with members, family, and friends from the community preparing to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. The week starts on Palm Sunday with the commemoration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It continues on Maundy Thursday with a retelling of the story of the Last Supper, and Jesus' betrayal by a disciple. On Good Friday, the church gathers to remember Jesus' death on the cross. And on Easter, we proclaim the Resurrection, and celebrate the assurance that not even death can separate us from God's grace.

• ***Easter Egg Hunt***

All are welcome on **Sunday, March 25**, to our church-wide egg hunt! You don't want to miss the celebration. Bring a dozen stuffed eggs (non-candy) to share by 9:00 a.m. that morning. There will be bounce houses and a cake walk fundraiser to round out the fun!

• ***Wednesday Nights at First - Upper Room***

On **Wednesday, March 28**, at 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, come live the Last Supper with your church family during our Wednesday Nights at First program. There will be intergenerational activities for all - foot washing, prayer stations, and banquet-style dinner. Biblical dress is encouraged. This will be a meaningful (and not scary) way for young families to observe the events of Holy Week.

• ***Good Friday Pilgrimage***

Everyone is invited to join our sisters and brothers from a wide variety of Christian congregations for our Good Friday Pilgrimage. We will gather at 7:15 a.m. in front of the Hollywood 11 Theater at the corner of Main Street and Washington Boulevard on **Good Friday, March 30**. We will walk together, 500 strong, through downtown Sarasota, remembering the final journey of Jesus to the cross. Our pastor, Glen Bell, will assist with leadership at the third station. The pilgrimage will end at Church of the Redeemer, 222 South Palm Avenue, around 8:30 a.m.



• ***Offering***

Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated gifts, while Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32 percent. We will be receiving for **OGHS** on **Easter, April 1**.