

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.

• Our Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Fran Cook and family. Jim Cook died on March 21. The memorial service details are pending.

• The Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Mike and Mary Groninger in loving memory of their parents.

• 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

• 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.

• 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.



• Presbyterian Women

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.

• Invest in Children



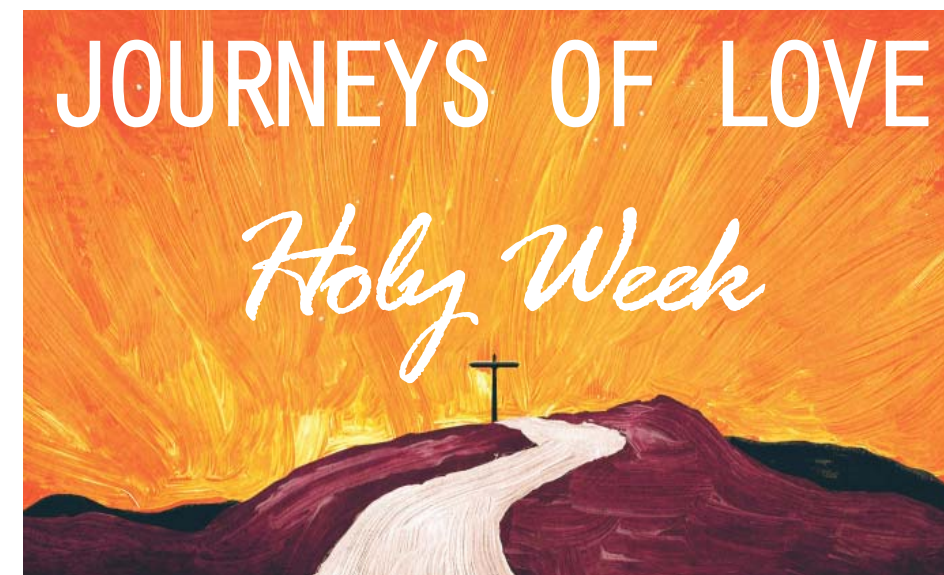
Calling all runners! Join us in the McInWood 5K or 1-mile Fun Run Saturday, May 12. This annual event supports Brentwood Elementary School, McIntosh Middle School, and All Faiths Food Bank. Registration forms are available in the foyer of the fellowship hall, the sanctuary narthex or the church office.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

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.



First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Announcements
March 25, 2018



March 28 | The Upper Room - Wednesdays @ First
5:45 p.m. Meal and Program (fellowship hall)

We will have a special experiential program for our church family. Foot-washing, bread baking, grape juice making - all to experience the Last Supper.

March 29 | Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Worship (sanctuary)

We gather at the Lord's Table and recall Jesus' words - "Do this in remembrance of me." This will be a contemplative Taize service, including the celebration of communion.

March 30 | Good Friday

12:00 noon Worship (sanctuary)

On Good Friday we recall the crucifixion of Christ through a narration of the events of the day. This will be a contemplative service including visual images and traditional hymns.

April 1 | Easter

8:15 a.m. Worship (sanctuary)

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

11:00 a.m. Worship (sanctuary)

Come celebrate the risen Lord! Joining our choir at 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. will be a string quintet, timpani, and Jenny Kim-Godfrey, a magnificent soprano and rising star in local opera. Two guest string players will join our New Song band. A reception will be held in the courtyard throughout the morning with our beautiful Easter Cross.

Opportunities for Children and Youth

• Easter Egg Hunt

All are welcome **today** to our church-wide egg hunt! Come join us at 10:00 a.m. in the labyrinth. You don't want to miss the celebration. There are bounce houses and a breakfast to round out the fun!

• Butterfly Sunday, April 8

Join us at 10:00 a.m. in the labyrinth as we continue to celebrate Easter and the promise of new life with a butterfly release, a remembrance of those who have died. There will be crafts and stories you can share with your family.

• FPC Day Camp

Monday, July 30 - Friday, August 3

The day camp program for campers who will 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.

Registration has begun!

• SURE Nehemiah Assembly

At the SURE Nehemiah Assembly on Monday evening, March 19, 95 FPC congregants gathered to hear a Call to Prayer and a Call to Action! Through this community conversation with our elected officials, the call for unity through responsibility and justice was heard. The First Presbyterian SURE team thanks all who attended and took part in different ways. We are especially proud of Dorothy Murphy for her report on civil citations and Barbara Chase for her testimony about affordable housing. Prayers are needed as SURE moves forward for affordable housing and restorative justice (out-of-school suspensions). We'll gather again for a celebration on Monday evening, April 30, at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, at 6:30 p.m. All First Presbyterian members and friends are invited.

• Distribution of Funds

The Foundation stewards the endowment funds of First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota. Gifts to the Foundation are invested and maintained for the future ministry of this church because we know that God has a purpose for our congregation beyond our lifetime.

According to the Foundation by-laws, the board annually distributes a percentage of the endowment assets to the church to supplement the operating budget. These funds are used to enhance our ministries here at FPC, in our community and around the world. As the balance in the Foundation grows, so too does the annual distribution. The Board is pleased to let the congregation know that this year's distribution totals just over \$63,000.

If you would like to learn more about the Foundation or become a member of the Covenant Society by making a planned gift as a legacy of your faith, please contact Betsy Marshall or any member of the Foundation Board.

• Journeys of Love: Holy Week

During Holy Week, our church is actively involved 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.

• 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.



• One Great Hour of Sharing

Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through **One Great Hour of Sharing** (OGHS) to share God's love with people experiencing need worldwide. 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**.

• 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.



• Of a Peacemaking Persuasion

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. - James 1:22



• Stewardship Thought

Do small things with great love. - Mother Teresa

• Preschool Security

To comply with the new State of Florida regulations for child care facilities that are used for any business or purpose unrelated to providing child care, **all** individuals who utilize any area that is subject to use by persons outside the program must comply by having a current background screening on file.

To fulfil this requirement, during preschool hours of operation (8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), anyone volunteering or working on or around the campus must check in at the church office upon arrival and not go through the preschool areas unless accompanied by a screened staff member.

• Week At a Glance

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
	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 AM
	Grief and Grace	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM
Monday 26-Mar	Real Parenting	10:30 AM
Tuesday 27-Mar	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
	Officer Nominating Committee	5:30 PM
Wednesday 28-Mar	Sisters of the Road	10:30 AM
	Bible Study	12:00 PM
	Upper Room - Dinner	5:30 PM
	Handbell Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
Thursday 29-Mar	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Vinyasa Yoga Class	5:30 PM
	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
Friday 30-Mar	GriefShare - Complicating Factors	10:30 AM
	Good Friday	12:00 PM
Sunday 1-Apr	Chapel Service - Sanctuary	8:15 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	Worship Service	9:30 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM