

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 worship, our 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 parlor.

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 are welcome to 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, March 10**.

• In Our Prayers

Missionaries: Drs. Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta (Indonesia)
Cindy Corell (Haiti)
Jhan Dotel and Ian Vellenga (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



• Presbyterian Women

The next PW gathering and luncheon is **Tuesday, March 5** at 11:30 a.m. in the forum. Community scholar and activist Vickie Oldham will speak about the revitalization of Newtown, Sarasota's first black community. Former Sarasota mayor and church member, Dick Clapp, will share pictures. Please bring your favorite salad to share. Drinks, dessert and bread will be provided. You may pay \$10 in cash or check at the door if you prefer to not bring a salad. Make your reservation by calling Mary Webb at (941) 758-6035 or the church office at (941) 955-8119 by noon on Monday, March 4. Please mention whether you will bring a salad or pay at the door.

The Peace River PW spring retreat is Monday and Tuesday, April 1 and 2 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 "Rise and Shine, Let God's Light Shine." Each participant must submit her own registration. Forms are available in the church office and must be submitted no later than Saturday, March 16. Scholarship funds are being made available from the former Mary Alice Murphy trust to cover expenses if you attend. Submit a copy of your registration form to co-moderators Pamela Lamb or Flossie Paul and you will be reimbursed for your registration fee and meals.

There will be no PW Lite in April so all may attend the spring retreat.

• Library News

Our church library has a small fiction section which the library committee would like to enlarge. If you have read a book that you think would be a good addition to our library, please consider donating it. We are creating name plates that will recognize donors or memorials. Thank you...and visit our library to see all the new books that we already have on the shelves!

• Eye Rides - Now Free Both Ways with iTN

Thanks to additional funding recently provided by Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, iTN is now able to provide free rides to and from eye appointments. Just let iTN know when you call in your ride request that you are going to an eye appointment 941-364-7530.

• Mark your Calendar:

The SunCoast Bloodmobile will be at First Presbyterian, Sunday, March 31, from 8:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

• Text Giving

Are you interested in the convenience of contributing by text message? Text FPC2050 to 73256 to donate via text. Standard rates may apply.



First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Announcements
February 17, 2019

• Seasonal Resident Luncheon Today!

If you're an 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 find out about the activities taking place at FPC.

Invest in Children



Today is the day for the

Brentwood Art Show

from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the forum

Artwork includes monarch butterflies, sunflowers, "Dot Day" creations and many more!

Refreshments will be served.

Support the children from Brentwood who have so proudly displayed their artwork.

• The Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held **next Sunday, February 24**, at 12:00 noon in the sanctuary. We will receive reports of the session, deacons, and other organizations of the church and elect one elder and two deacons for the class of 2021 (see bios on separate insert). We will also transact any business of the church corporation, and review and approve changes in the pastors' terms of call.

Deacon Nominees (class of 2021) **Elder Nominee** (class of 2021)

James (Tom) Singleton

David Gulliver

Patricia (Patti) Wrobel

• Welcome New Members

Have you met some of the seventeen new members who were recognized at worship on Sunday, February 3? 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!

• **Coping with Grief and Loss**

Join Vic Ford, D.Min., MFT, parish associate, for this six-week bereavement support group beginning **Thursday, February 21**. It will meet in the parlor from 5:30-7:00 p.m. This group will offer you support, encouragement, and the beginning of your healing journey in a safe, confidential environment. This group will be in place of GriefShare. Contact Cheryl Track, faith community nurse to sign up and for more information, (941) 320-3828.

• **Musica Sacra Presents Stabat Mater by Karl Jenkins**
Co-Sponsored by FPC

Don't miss this concert on **Monday, February 25**, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. This program is a part of our Sanctuary Concert Series.

A limited number of discount tickets are available for \$20 in the church office for FPC members and friends. Please make your check out to Musica Sacra. Tickets online and at the door will be \$25.



• **Upcoming SURE Events**

Mark **Monday, February 25**, at 6:00 p.m. on your calendar to attend the **SURE Rally**. The 19 congregations of SURE will gather at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, (1031 South Euclid, Sarasota) to hear updates regarding affordable housing and restorative justice (out-of-school suspensions). We'll be energized learning how we definitely make a difference when we fill the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium on **Monday, March 25**, 6:30 p.m. for the annual **SURE Nehemiah Assembly**. Rally with us when, in unison, we enthusiastically answer the First Presbyterian roll call!

The church bus will be available for transport to the Rally and Nehemiah Assembly. Please call the church office (941) 955-8119 to make a reservation; space is limited.

• **Presbytery Meeting at First Presbyterian**

We will be hosting the regional presbytery meeting on **Thursday, February 28**, and celebrating the retirement of the general presbyter, Graham Hart. Graham and Linda Hart worship regularly with us; we are their church home. 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 at 1:00 p.m. and enjoy a worship service and a reception for Graham.

• **Fellowship Hall Renovations**

The renovations, so far, look wonderful and the bathrooms are almost finished! *During the construction time the New Song service is worshiping in the sanctuary and coffee fellowship is in the parlor.* Thanks to all those who have given generously and continue to give to our capital campaign.

• **Temporary Pastor Selected for 2019 Sabbatical**

The personnel committee is pleased to announce the selection of Rev. Bill Hull to serve as temporary pastor during Pastor Glen Bell's sabbatical in 2019. Currently residing in St. Petersburg, Rev. Hull is a retired Presbyterian pastor with more than 40 years of experience in the ministry. He will serve First Presbyterian from May 12 through August 13. We look forward to welcoming him in the spring.

• **"The Church Has Left the Building"**
Cedarkirk Family Mission Retreat May 3-5

The Family Mission Retreat provides a spring getaway for our whole church family to serve, grow and relax together. Come for the weekend or Saturday only. This retreat is for the whole family of God - people who are parents, those who are single, those who consider themselves young adults, and those who were young adults decades ago. This is truly an intergenerational event. Our time together will be enriched because we are different from each other, and yet all God's beloved children. Participants who join the fun will...

- Spend the weekend at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center
 - Perform mission projects around the camp such as cleaning, painting and repairs
 - Enjoy activities like the climbing wall, hiking, campfires, games and evening devotions
- Adults of all ages, as well as children and youth accompanied by an adult, are welcome!

Register at:
<https://goo.gl/forms/TH4H1goReIRCXOuY2>

• **Adult Education Classes**

• **Classes Continue**

Spiritual and Moral Issues in Modern Fiction
Sundays, February 17 - March 31
10:00 a.m. in room 203

Our course leader, Dr. John G. Parks, offers an interesting class. As serious literature, good stories offer what Mathew Arnold called a "criticism of life." As such, stories invite readers to a reflection upon our condition in the world. This often entails grappling with spiritual and moral issues such as innocence and guilt, loyalty and betrayal, choice and fate, meaning and emptiness, hope and despair. Our exploration is prompted by reading stories by Nathaniel Hawthorne, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Albert Camus, ZZ Packer, Ottessa Moshfegh, T.C. Boyle, and Elizabeth Tallent. We may find that these stories offer a diagnosis of our condition and a challenge to our beliefs. Copies of stories to be studied are available as class hand-outs or available to students via email.

Parenting Class
Sundays in February
10:00 a.m. in the loft

Parents of teens and parents who are eager to learn more about parenting a teen are welcome to this class. Children and youth should sit this one out.

We will watch clips from the movie *8th Grade* discussing the struggles of the lead character and how we can faithfully parent through many of the same issues our teens will encounter. This film has been nominated for many awards and will provide much for us to discuss.

There will be no preparation required for attending class each week. We'll start each class with a brief introduction of the day's topics before watching designated clips and diving into the parenting issue.



• **Fair Trade Kiosk**

During the renovation of the fellowship hall the kiosk will be located in the north courtyard, between the sanctuary and the parlor.



• **Of a Peacemaking Persuasion**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. - Hebrews 11:1



• **Stewardship Thought**

Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

• **Week At a Glance**

Sunday 17-Feb	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	Parenting Class	10:00 AM
	Spiritual and Moral Issues in Modern Lit	10:00 AM
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM
Monday 18-Feb	Presidents Day - Office Closed	
Tuesday 19-Feb	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Lydia Circle	10:30 AM
	Nominating Committee	5:30 PM
Wednesday 20-Feb	Mary-Martha Circle	10:00 AM
	Sisters Of The Road	10:30 AM
	Bible Study	12:00 PM
	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	7:15 PM
Thursday 21-Feb	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Coping with Grief and Loss	5:30 PM
	Deacons' Meeting	5:30 PM
	Vinyasa Yoga Class	5:30 PM
	New Song Rehearsal	7:00 PM
Sunday 24-Feb	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	Parenting Class	10:00 AM
	Spiritual and Moral Issues in Modern Lit	10:00 AM
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM

• ***Elder and Deacon Nominees Bios***

David Gulliver - Elder, Class of 2021

Dave and Darla Gulliver moved to Sarasota in 2006, shortly after their twin sons, Devin and Quinn, were born. Dave grew up in upstate New York. He graduated from Union College with a bachelor's degree in political science and English. He also received a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University. Dave was an award-winning reporter for nearly 20 years and most recently was associate director of communications at New College. He is now training to be a school teacher.

Dave and his family have been members of First Presbyterian since 2012, introduced to the church when their boys attended the preschool. He and Darla have taught Sunday school and worked on many church projects. Dave also served on the search committee for Associate Pastor Kelly Fitzgerald.

The family regularly attends the New Song service, where their sons frequently play in the band. In his spare time, Dave writes, runs, bicycles, and helps his kids with their homework.

James (Tom) Singleton - Deacon, Class of 2021

Tom was born in Sarasota. His father, James T. Singleton, Jr., was a deacon and an elder and served as property committee chairman at FPC. Tom's mother, Mildred, served as "assistant" to the property committee chairman and was a circle member. They joined the church in 1955.

Tom attended Tuttle Elementary, Brentwood (our Invest in Children partner), Brookside Junior High School, Riverview High School, and Manatee Junior College (now State College of Florida). He finished his education at USF Tampa, majoring in visual communications. He worked at Storer Communications (now Comcast) as a TV studio camera operator and later as a converter control clerk before retiring in 2008.

Tom has been a member of First Presbyterian since 1967. He was on the board of deacons from 2013 to 2015 and has served in various capacities, including providing transportation for some members.

Patricia (Patti) Wrobel - Deacon, Class of 2021

Born and raised in Peoria, IL, Patti has been active in the Presbyterian Church since childhood, as were her parents who served as deacon and elder.

At the University of Illinois, she earned a BA in English. She and her husband, Bob, have been married 50 years and have two sons, Jeff and Stephen, and four grandchildren. Patti and Bob lived in Champaign, IL, where she taught special needs children and Bob finished law school. They moved to Overland Park, KS, where Patti received her MS in special education from Kansas University and taught special needs students. The family lived in Wilton, CT before retiring to Lakewood Ranch.

Patti served as deacon and elder at Wilton Presbyterian Church. She was president of the Wilton Woman's Club, on the board of directors of the Domestic Violence Crisis Center and consulted for a women's specialty clothing company. Patti volunteers through the Lakewood Ranch Women's Club and serves on the board of Hope Family Services. She is a greeter and an usher at FPC. She and Bob enjoy golfing, attending music and theater in Sarasota, and traveling.

• **Embracing and Letting Go** **Season of Lent 2019**

March 6 - April 20

Lent is a season of tending to one's spirit, of inviting God to uncover in us what lies untouched, what needs attention, and what needs to be released for newness to emerge. This Lent, we're embracing the literal and spiritual practices of embracing and letting go.

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes at midnight on Easter. 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 a time to encourage yourself to stretch your spiritual wings, to try new ways of praying, and to serve others in Jesus' name.



JOIN US ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 3

**JAZZ AND
PANCAKES
SUNDAY**

9:00 JAZZ SERVICE
10:00 PANCAKES
11:00 JAZZ SERVICE
12:00 PANCAKES

DIXIELAND JAZZ TRIO WILL
LEAD MUSIC IN WORSHIP

PANCAKE FUNDRAISER TO
SUPPORT CHILDREN AND
YOUTH MINISTRY

• **Prepare for the Season of Lent**

Instead of Mardi Gras, we're celebrating with *Jazz + Pancakes Sunday, March 3*. Pancakes, eggs, bacon and other goodies will be served by the youth, children and their families at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Donations will be collected for our summer mission trips and adventures! **Invite your friends to our pancake breakfast at 10:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. and Dixieland jazz worship at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.** Don't miss the feast or music! This is an intergenerational event, and everyone is invited!

• **Ash Wednesday, March 6**

On this day, we begin the spiritual journey of Lent that will span forty days, from Ash Wednesday until Easter. Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return.

Lent reminds us of the presence of the divine during life's seasons of solemnity, struggle, and shadow. With ashes on our foreheads, the words of mortality whispered in our ears, and the taste of bread and wine in our mouths, we enter the season of Lent.

Bring a crock-pot of soup or chili to share at a potluck supper together starting at **5:00 p.m.** in the fellowship hall courtyard. Bread and beverages will be provided. The Ash Wednesday service will follow **at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.**