

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**.

• The Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Vicky Urban in memory of her father, Harry D. Urban.

• 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

• Ordination and Installation of Officers

The following officers who were elected by the congregation are being ordained and installed **Sunday, March 24** in both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services:

ELDER
Class of 2021
David Gulliver

DEACONS
Class of 2021
James (Tom) Singleton
Patricia (Patti) Wrobel



• 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. Spouses are welcome for this informative program. 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. 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.

It's Name Tag Time Again!

Let's make FPC a place where "everybody knows your name!" Please wear your name tag on Sundays. Replacement name tags may be ordered by calling the church office (941) 955-8119. Be sure to specify whether you would like a pin back (\$5) or a magnet (\$7).

• 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.



First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Announcements
February 24, 2019

• Annual Congregational Meeting Today

Our annual meeting will be held **today** 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

• Write Your Words of Blessings

Today at anytime come to fellowship hall and add your words of blessings to the new stage area.

• New Member Class

If you are considering membership in this dynamic congregation, come to the new member class **Sunday, March 10**, 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 with continued discussion. Please call the church office to RSVP (941) 955-8119.



• SURE Rally

Excerpted from the Sarasota Statement: *We are people of hope who confess Jesus Christ is Lord. . . . Furthermore, we are incited to act and to be vehicles of change through which God's Kingdom breaks into the world and our earthly lives.*

Tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. at the First Congregational UCC (1031 South Euclid, Sarasota) the 19 congregations of SURE will gather to hear how we are bringing hope and equitable change to the Sarasota community. Together we will rally our SURE support for the Nehemiah Assembly on Monday, March 25, 6:30 pm, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium.

Remember for both events **3 and me!** Invite and bring 3 people with you!

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.

• **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.

• **Presbytery Meeting at First Presbyterian**

We will be hosting the regional presbytery meeting **this 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.

• **Peace Presbyterian Church**
Sanctuary Dedication

On Sunday, March 3 at 4:00 p.m. you are invited to the celebration of Peace Presbyterian's sanctuary dedication. We were instrumental in the formation of this new church development in Lakewood Ranch beginning in 2006. It is exciting to watch this new congregation grow,

• **Fellowship Event - Batter Up**

It's spring training right here in Sarasota! Mark your calendars for Sunday afternoon, March 24, at 1:00 p.m., when the Baltimore Orioles take on the Pittsburgh Pirates at Ed Smith Stadium. Reserve your tickets (\$20 each) in the north courtyard after New Song, or the 11:00 service. Join your church family and friends for a delightful afternoon of fun and baseball.

• **Invest in Children**



Thank you for attending the Brentwood Art Show last Sunday in our forum. It was a beautiful expression of creative work by children and the love and hospitality of this congregation!

• **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>

• **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!

• **Adult Education Classes**

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. Copies of stories being studied are available as class hand-outs or available to students via email.

Parenting Class

Last Class Today - Not Too Late to Join the Conversation!
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 are watching 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. There is no preparation required for attending class. We 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. The kiosk will be closed next Sunday, March 3.



• **Of a Peacemaking Persuasion**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing. - Romans 15:13



• **Stewardship Thought**

Being defeated is often only a temporary condition. Giving up is what makes it permanent. - Marilyn vos Savant

• **Week At a Glance**

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
Monday 25-Feb	Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM
	SURE Rally	6:00 PM
Tuesday 26-Feb	Musica Sacra	7:00 PM
	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
Wednesday 27-Feb	Book Group C	10:30 AM
	Session	5:30 PM
	Sisters Of The Road	10:30 AM
	Bible Study	12:00 PM
	Foundations Board Meeting	5:00 PM
Thursday 28-Feb	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	7:15 PM
	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
	Coping with Grief and Loss	5:30 PM
	Deacons Meeting	5:30 PM
Saturday, 2-Mar	Vinyasa Yoga Class	5:30 PM
	New Song Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	9:00 AM
Sunday 3-Mar	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 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.**