

## 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](http://www.firstpressarasota.org)

## • Adult Education Classes

### **Spiritual and Moral Issues in Modern Fiction**

Sundays, February 17 - March 31

10:00 a.m. in room 203

As serious literature, good stories offer what Mathew Arnold called a "criticism of life." Dr. John Parks leads readers into stories that reflect upon our condition in the world. Copies of stories being studied are available as class hand-outs or available to students via email.

### **Embracing and Letting Go Small Group Discussion**

Sundays during Lent - March 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 7

10:00 a.m. in room 223

Use this time to come together to support your Lenten spiritual journey. Participants will be given a copy of "Cultivating and Letting Go" a daily devotion for Lent. Come and share about your life balance - thinking about what needs to be held on to, and what may need to go. Resources like Marie Kondo, group art projects, and coloring will be utilized.



### • Presbyterian Women

The next PW gathering and luncheon is **this 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 black community.

Former Sarasota mayor and church member, Dick Clapp, will share photos. 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 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.

### • 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

March 3, 2019



### • Prepare for the Season of Lent

Instead of Mardi Gras, we're celebrating with *Jazz + Pancakes today!* Pancakes, eggs, bacon and other goodies will be served by the youth, children and their families at 10:00 a.m. and noon in the fellowship hall. Donations will be collected for our summer mission trips and adventures! **Please enjoy our pancake brunch at 10:00 a.m. or noon and Dixieland jazz worship services.** Don't miss the feast or music! This is an intergenerational event and everyone is invited!

### • Ash Wednesday, March 6

We begin the spiritual journey of Lent spanning forty days from Ash Wednesday until Easter.

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

Bring a crock-pot of soup or chili to share at a potluck supper together beginning 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.**

### • New Member Class

If you are considering membership in this dynamic congregation, please join us at the new member class **next 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.

## Opportunities for Children and Youth

### • FPC Day Camp July 29 - August 2

Save the date! Registration has begun. This event is great fun for the whole church family! Hope you can be a part of the excitement this year!

### • Summer Youth Trips

As your family makes plans for the summer, please consider the following dates. We will also be adding a mission experience for youth! \$100 deposits per trip/per youth are due now.

June 16-21 West Virginia Work Camp (high school)

July 16-20 Presbyterian Youth Triennium (high school)

July 16-22 Montreat Middle School Conference

July 21-27 Montreat Youth Conference (high school)

July 29-August 2 FPC/Cedarkirk Day Camp

### • Daylight Saving Time

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour as Daylight Saving Time begins Saturday night, March 9.

### • Fellowship Event - Batter Up!

It's spring training 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 fellowship hall courtyard after both services. Join your church family and friends for a delightful afternoon of fun and baseball.

### • 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	DEACONS
<b>Class of 2021</b>	<b>Class of 2021</b>
David Gulliver	James (Tom) Singleton
	Patricia (Patti) Wrobel

### • With Gratitude

There are many to thank for assisting at the meeting of Peace River Presbytery we hosted last Thursday, February 28. We are grateful for all the planning, setting up, helping, and feeding!

### • Temporary Pastor - 2019 Sabbatical

The session is pleased to announce the selection of Rev. Bill Hull to serve as temporary pastor - during Rev. Glen Bell's sabbatical mid-May through mid-August. Currently residing in St. Petersburg, Rev. Hull is a retired Presbyterian pastor with more than 40 years of experience. 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>



### • SURE Rally

Last Monday, along with 18 SURE congregations of faith, at First Congregational United Church of Christ we gathered to express our commitment to SURE. We are part of the SURE covenant as an expression of our faith to live out our values of justice, fairness and loving our neighbors as ourselves. We rallied in preparation for the SURE Nehemiah Action Assembly. Updates were given regarding affordable housing and restorative justice (out-of-school suspensions).

**Me and 3.** Bring yourself and three people when we gather for the Nehemiah Action Assembly on **Monday, March 25**, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium (801 N. Tamiami Trail).

### • Peace Presbyterian Church Sanctuary Dedication

**Today** at 4:00 p.m. come and celebrate Peace Presbyterian's sanctuary dedication (12705 Florida 64 E, Lakewood Ranch). We were instrumental in the formation of this new church development in Lakewood Ranch in 2006, and our recent *Imagine the Future* capital campaign made a key gift for their sanctuary. It is exciting to watch this new congregation grow.

### • Invest in Children



Volunteers are welcome to begin serving at Brentwood Elementary School. There is a special need for volunteers to help in the afternoons - for an hour a week reading with the students and helping in the computer lab. Computer skills aren't necessary in the lab - only warmth and willingness to help students. Please be in touch with Jinny and Ron Miller (941) 924-9494 or [jinnyron@verizon.net](mailto:jinnyron@verizon.net) if you are interested.



Save your Box Tops for Education! Look for the small coupon on cereal boxes, Ziploc products, Green Giant veggies, Nature Valley snacks, Scott tissue, and others. Clip the coupons and put them in the bright containers in the narthex, chapel or church office. Thank you!

### • Fellowship Hall Renovations

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



### • Of a Peacemaking Persuasion

*Those that drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.* - John 4:14



### • Stewardship Thought

*Don't go through life, grow through life.*  
- Eric Butterworth

### • Week At a Glance

<b>Sunday</b>	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
<b>3-Mar</b>	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Pancake Brunch	10:00 AM
	Spiritual and Moral Issues in Modern Fiction	10:00 AM
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
	Pancake Brunch	12:00 PM
<b>Tuesday</b>	Mixed Level Yoga	9:00 AM
<b>5-Mar</b>	Nominating Committee	5:30 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	Sisters Of The Road	10:30 AM
	Bible Study	12:00 PM
	Ash Wednesday Potluck Soup Dinner	5:00 PM
	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Ash Wednesday Service	6:30 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	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
<b>Sunday</b>	Chapel Service	8:15 AM
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee Fellowship	9:30 AM
	New Member Class	10:00 AM
	Spiritual and Moral Issues in Modern Fiction	10:00 AM
	Embracing and Letting Go Class	10:00 AM
	Sunday School Pre-K - 12	10:00 AM
	Worship Service	11:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM	



# EMBRACING & LETTING GO

## • **Season of Lent 2019**

**March 6 - April 20**

Lent is a season of tending one's spirit, and of inviting God to uncover in us:

- what lies untouched,
- what needs attention,
- 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 discover 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.

## • **Rise Against Hunger - Sunday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m.**

On Sunday, April 7, First Presbyterian will be packaging 12,000 meals on behalf of Rise Against Hunger, an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and aid around the world. These meals are highly nutritious dehydrated meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables, and 23 essential vitamins and minerals. They are used to support school feeding programs in developing countries. Your help is needed!



## • **April 14 Palm Sunday Festival**

On Sunday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m. all children, youth, and their families (and anyone else who wants to experience the excitement) are invited to join us for the Palm Sunday Festival! There will be an egg hunt, pony rides, bounce houses and brunch on the front lawn.

# Officers

Moderator: Glen Bell  
Vice Moderator: Kelly Fitzgerald  
Clerk of Session: David Gulliver

## SESSION MEMBERS

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Barbara Chase	Van Baker	Rebecca Clissold
Bill Rickloff	Jordan Cook	Buck Fry
John Schaub	Jean Martin	Craig Gesell
Joanne Simons	John Parks	David Gulliver
Kim Whitford	Sandi Soper	Annette Landes

## DEACONS

Moderator: John Matta  
Vice Moderator: Jessica Armstrong

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Bill Conroy	Jessica Armstrong	Bob Bittner
Pat Higgins	Bette Lou Cookson	Connie Brussee
John Matta	Jennifer Hall	Tom Singleton
Drew Stuart	Connie Waymer	Patricia Wrobel

## ***First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota Mission, Vision and Core Values***

### **Our Mission**

We believe we are called to faithfully serve the Lord Jesus Christ, giving glory to God.

### **Our Vision**

We desire to be a leading, faithful, witnessing, diverse and growing community of God's people.

### **Our Core Values**

#### **Leading**

We have an ongoing tradition of leadership in the community. We are committed to meeting the ever-changing spiritual and physical needs of our community.

#### **Faithful**

Our life together centers on vibrant worship and praise as we glorify God.

We are a dynamic community of faith - reformed and always reforming.

We strive to be faithful managers of the gifts that God has provided for us.

#### **Witnessing**

Through compassionate service and working for justice, we share the hope we have in Jesus Christ seeking to become spiritual partners with our neighbors.

#### **Diverse**

As a community of Jesus Christ, we unconditionally welcome all people, in the manner of our Lord and Savior.

#### **Growing**

We seek spiritual growth for children and adults through prayer, the teaching and study of Scripture, and the sharing of our faith's journey.