



• **Capital Campaign Update - August 2017**

Sanctuary

- Finishing touches continue.
- A hearing loop information and instructional gathering was held on July 30.
- Custom cabinets for the narthex are scheduled to be delivered the first week of August.

Administration Entrance Renovations

- Installation of a new gently-sloped ADA ramp, exterior stairs, and sidewalk is complete.



- Installation of the new interior stairs has started.
- Modifications to the receptionist's office are well under way.
- New flooring throughout the hallways and offices has begun.

Back Hallway (from the preschool to behind fellowship hall)

- Installation of the ADA ramp and a set of new steps is in progress.

• **Love Notes**



I recently had a fainting episode and contacted Cheryl Track for advice. Until I joined FPC, I had never experienced a faith community nurse at any church. Yet it makes **so much** sense to have one in a church community. The church is assisting the whole person - body, mind and spirit.

I want to thank FPC for having such a wonderful program and especially for having Cheryl Track in the position.

Cheryl, thank you for kindness and caring after my spell. I appreciate your professional advice. I pray it will be a long time before I need your assistance again.

Blessings,
Colleen Forristall

Dear Church Family,

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all the prayers and calls and caring visits during my hospital stay and healing time at home.

I could never have imagined the effect and joy of receiving the "We Care" poster and now know the blessings it brings.

Thank you,
Fran Lawrence

Church member and volunteer extraordinaire, **Jane Bartruff**, has been coming into the church office for the past 18 years. Faithfully once a week she processed the accounts payable for the church. After her long service she has decided to retire. Thank you, Jane. We are so grateful for your dedication!

Lisa Garcia , finance manger and Rachel Martin, operations manager



• **GriefShare**

13-week Grief Support Group, Starting Friday, September 8, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

GriefShare is for those who are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend. This program is open to the community, so please invite anyone you know who may be in need of support.

You are welcome to begin attending at any session, so don't be discouraged if you can't attend all 13 weeks. You will find encouragement and hope whenever you begin.

Please call the church office, (941) 955-8119, to reserve your space and workbook. The cost of the workbook is \$20. For more information, please contact Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse, (941) 320-3828, 4tracks@comcast.net

Comments about GriefShare from past participants:

Excellent topics, gave me a sense of hope, knowing God was always in the picture.

The program has been a Godsend to me. I recently moved here and the group was very supportive.

Helped me to join in and share my grief. Wonderful people. The program helped me realize I am normal.

Mark Your Calendar:

SunCoast Bloodmobile will be at First Presbyterian **Sunday, September 17, 8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Call the office to make your appointment. Bring a friend!

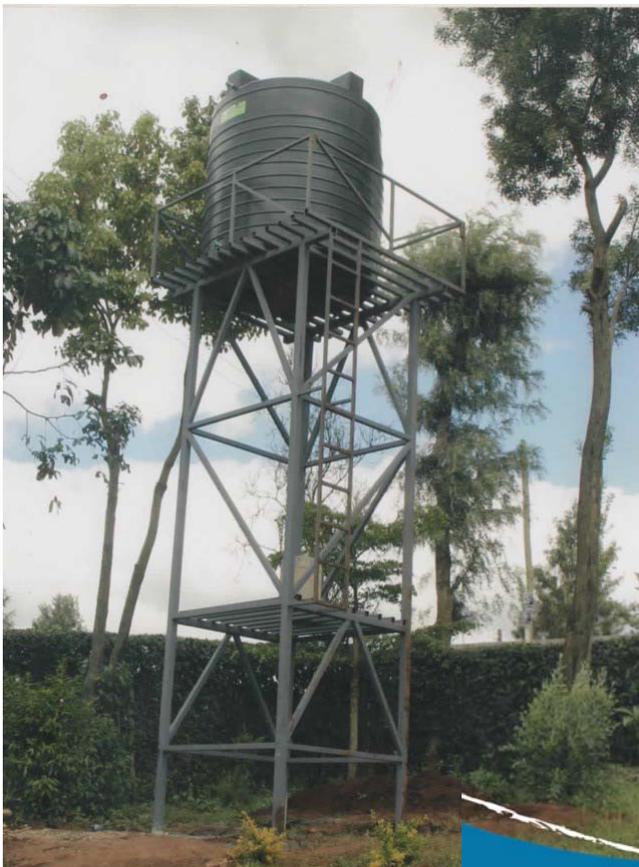
Flu shots will be offered on **Sunday, September 24, 9:30-11:00 a.m.**



• **Capital Campaign Update - August 2017** (continued from page 1)

Mission

- The Ruku East African Presbyterian Church has installed their new well which will provide fresh drinking water for the members of the church. The \$5,000 we sent earlier this year enabled this much needed project to be completed.



• **New Members Bios**

submitted by Mary Elle Hunter, membership committee



New member, **Barbara Datz**, was originally from the Bronx, the northernmost borough of New York City. As a young woman she says she was passionate about roller- and ice-skating and dancing. She went right to work after graduating from high school.

Employed by CIT Financial for ten years during which time she achieved the position as secretary to the chairman of the Board, she left to be married to Gil Datz in 1967. Barbara raised their two sons, Gil, Jr. and Garrett, and then returned to working with the Sara Lee Company, where she advanced to being a division head for the Fuller Brush Company before retiring at 55. Her passions during those years were focused on family and work.

Not wanting to completely “retire,” Barbara became involved in church activities. She ran bazaars and other fundraisers, and became the president of the Women’s Guild. She currently volunteers at the Senior Friendship Center. She has a heart for the homeless, and enjoys playing duplicate bridge.

Barbara’s husband, Gil, passed away three years ago. Her sons now live in Colorado and Maryland. She has her dog, Conner, as her buddy to keep her company. She has found First Presbyterian Church to be “home.”



Buck Fry has rejoined First Presbyterian, whom many long-time members will remember, and are pleased to welcome him back.

He and his late wife, Vicki, were married at First Presbyterian in April of 1965. After twelve years of moving six times with the Air Force and government service, they decided to move back to Sarasota. They bought a business on St. Armands Circle and rejoined First Presbyterian.

They became very involved members, serving as elders, deacons, youth leaders, and on the board of the preschool. Vicki was the chair of the committee which established the New Song service, and Buck comments, “I carried her briefcase and said, ‘Yes, dear.’”

Now Buck enjoys his five grandchildren, ages 10 to 26, fishing and playing tennis. Once a year, he very carefully goes snow-skiing.

First Presbyterian has been a large part of his life. And he says it is good to be back with warm, caring people.



Joining as an affiliate member, **Sara Hurst Jenoure** is a long-time member of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City. She relocated to Sarasota from Brooklyn and Saugerties, New York about a year ago. Sara was born in Santurece, Puerto Rico and raised in New York.

Sara attended Hunter College and the University of Puerto Rico before choosing a career as a human resources specialist. She retired from Deutsche Bank as vice president of staff relations in 1990. Prior to that position, she had been assessment program/succession planning administrator and director of affirmative action programs for Consolidated Edison Company of New York.

At Brick Presbyterian Church, Sara served as a deacon, elder, trustee and a member of two search committees for associate ministers. She also represented the Brick Church as a member of the human resources committee for the Presbytery of the City of New York and she was appointed a member of the grants committee for a foundation of the Presbyterian Church.

Sara is widowed, the mother of two children – Anthony Torrence and Elizabeth Deu. She has two granddaughters, Daniela Deu, age 22 and Isabel Deu, age 19. She enjoys travel, and has an extensive bucket list of places already visited.

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New Member's Bios (continued from page 4)

Other leisure time pursuits include volunteer work at Emma Booker Elementary School and community action-oriented activities. Books and magazines have an ever-present place in her life as well as the theater, museums and music.



Terri Runk, a new member of First Presbyterian Church, moved to the Sarasota area from Pennsylvania three years ago. She comments that it was a gift to herself on her 50th birthday.

An infusion/wound nurse at an outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) clinic which treats infectious diseases, Terri started her nursing career as a visiting home health nurse. In her present position, she finds the work she does and the interaction with the patients very rewarding.

As a single mother, Terri raised three children while going to college and beginning her career. The oldest is a daughter, Rebecca, who with her husband and three children of their own, live in central Pennsylvania.

Lucas, the youngest of the three, also lives in Pennsylvania, while the other son, Craig, and his wife, Alexis, are residents of Arizona. Although Terri misses her children and her grandchildren, they stay in touch electronically using Skype and SnapChat, as well as share vacation time each year.

Favorite leisure activities include meditation, bike-riding, walking, reading, and dancing. Terri also loves being outside, particularly at the beach, whenever possible.

She has been coming to First Presbyterian Church for over a year. Originally a member of the Catholic Church, she appreciates the similarities and differences between the two. Terri says that she felt God has blessed her in so many ways, leading her here to become a part of this wonderful fellowship. The members have welcomed her with open arms and warm hearts, and she looks forward to getting involved with church activities.



• **Presbyterian Women Activities**

Tuesday, August 8, come join hostess Colleen Forristall in the fellowship hall at 10:30 a.m. Materials will be provided to make greeting cards. No skills are needed. The finished cards may be used in car care kits, in exchange for church donations or personal use. Come join the fun!

SAVE THE DATES:

On **September 12**, at 9:30 a.m. there will be a coordinating team (CT) meeting and at 10:30 a.m. there will be the women's Bible study.

On **Wednesday, September 13**, at 11:30 a.m. the PW Luncheon will be hosted by the Mary Martha Circle. All women are welcome.

For more information on any of these events, please call co-moderators Pamela Lamb (941-727-2685) or Flossie Paul (941-536-0974).



Loneliness...Loss...Divorce...Illness

Spiritual Emptiness...Depression

STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE HERE TO HELP

If you would like a Stephen Minister to call on you, please contact the church office (941-955-8119) to speak with Pastor Glen Bell (x108) or Stephen Ministry Leader Steven Phillips (x124). Visit our link on the church website: <http://www.firstpressarasota.org/stephenministry.html>.



• **Five Important Reasons to Vaccinate Your Child**

*submitted by Cheryl Track,
Faith Community Nurse,
RN-BC, FCN.*

You want to do what is best for your children. You know about the importance of car seats, baby gates and other ways to keep them safe. But, did you know that one of the best ways to protect your children is to make sure they have all of their vaccinations? Immunizations can save your child's life. Because of advances in medical science, your child can be protected against more diseases than ever before. Some diseases that once injured or killed thousands of children, have been eliminated completely and others are close to extinction — primarily due to safe and effective vaccines. One example of the great impact that vaccines can have is the elimination of polio in the United States. Polio was once America's most feared disease, causing death and paralysis across the country, but today, thanks to vaccination, there are no reports of polio in the United States.

Vaccination is very safe and effective. Vaccines are only given to children after a long and careful review by scientists, doctors, and healthcare professionals. Vaccines will involve some brief discomfort and may cause pain, redness, or tenderness at the site of injection, but this is minimal compared to the pain and trauma of the diseases these vaccines prevent. The disease-prevention benefits of getting vaccines are much greater than the possible side effects for almost all children.

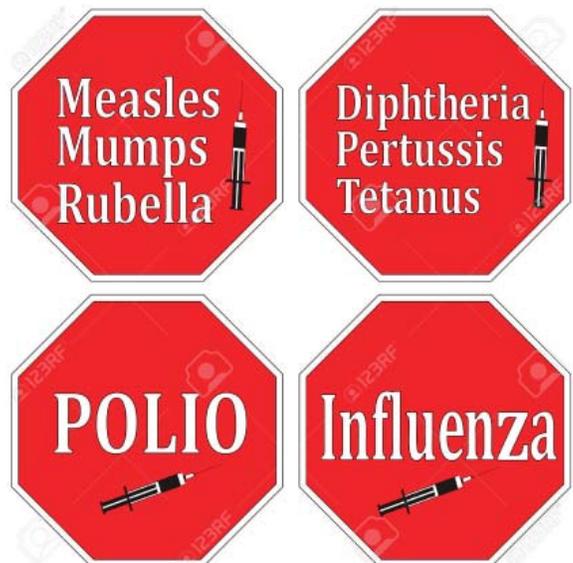
Immunization protects others you care about. Children in the U.S. still get vaccine-preventable diseases. In fact, there has been a resurgence of measles and whooping cough (pertussis) over the past few years. In 2010 the U.S. had over 21,000 cases of whooping cough reported and 26 deaths. Unfortunately, some babies are too young to be completely vaccinated and some people may not be able to receive certain vaccinations due to severe allergies, weakened immune systems from conditions like leukemia, or other reasons. To help keep them safe, it is important that you and your children who are able to get vaccinated are fully immunized. This not only protects your family, but also helps

prevent the spread of these diseases to your friends and loved ones.

Immunizations can save your family time and money. A child with a vaccine-preventable disease can be denied attendance at schools or daycare facilities. Some vaccine-preventable diseases can result in prolonged disabilities and can take a financial toll because of lost time at work, medical bills or long-term disability care. In contrast, getting vaccinated against these diseases is a good investment.

Immunization protects future generations. Vaccines have reduced and, in some cases, eliminated many diseases that killed or severely disabled people just a few generations ago. For example, smallpox vaccination eradicated that disease worldwide. Your children don't have to get smallpox shots anymore because the disease no longer exists. By vaccinating children against rubella (German measles), the risk that pregnant women will pass this virus on to their fetus or newborn has been dramatically decreased, and birth defects associated with that virus no longer are seen in the United States. If we continue vaccinating now, and vaccinating completely, parents in the future may be able to trust that some diseases of today will no longer be around to harm their children in the future.

For more information about the importance of immunization, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines>.



• **Meditation Website of the Month**

The spiritual formation ministry team has been viewing internet websites that help us contemplate the Sacred Presence of the Spirit. These sites offer moments of quiet and prayer, sometimes with music, sometimes with scripture, sometimes with directed prayer. Many of these sites send a daily meditation to your email “inbox.” Most take only 10 to 15 minutes of time. They can be downloaded onto your phone, tablet, laptop or desktop so you can access them from multiple locations. Take a few minutes each month and explore – wander around and sample what the website has to offer you. Can this site enhance your spiritual journey and enrich your prayer life? Hopefully, you will find one that is comfortable for you. If you are presently utilizing a site for the enrichment of your spiritual life, please share it with the ministry team so we can consider passing it on to Ellen Forbes, co-moderator at forbesej@comcast.net.

Meditation Website for August

PAYG (Pray As You Go) is a daily session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly while travelling to and from work, study, etc. A new session is offered each day, lasting between 10-13 minutes. It contains music, scripture, and questions for reflection. Download the app and check in on it daily.

<http://pray-as-you-go.org/>



• **Think On These Things**

Prayer for Thanksgiving and Intercession

That you have made me in the image of your own mystery

thanks be to you, O God.

That in the soul of every human being there are depths beyond naming and heights greater than knowing thanks be to you.

Grant me the grace of inner sight this day that I may see you as the Self within all selves.

Grant me the grace of love this day that amidst the pain and disfigurement of life I may find the treasure that is unlocked by love,

that amidst the pain and disfigurement of my own life

I many know the richness that lies buried in the human soul.

J. Philip Newell
*Sounds of the Eternal:
a Celtic Psalter*



• **Gearing Up for a New School Year**



First Presbyterian is embarking on the second school year as the members of the steering committee of the *Invest in Children* mission-oriented initiative swing into action. With the public school year opening just around the corner, additional volunteers are being sought to help the teachers at Brentwood Elementary School.

Following church services or in the church office, pick up a volunteer form, fill it out and place it in one of the attractive lunch bags. No prior experience is necessary - just a love for children and the desire to help them learn. Any individual with expertise in specific areas would also be welcome in the classrooms of the youngest ones, as well as with the older children in the more advanced grades.

The volunteers who responded to the first call last school year have great stories to tell about their experiences and encourage others to join in this very special mission-oriented activity. For more information, contact Jinny and Ron Miller (941) 924-9494.

Don't forget to drop your contribution in the eye-catching receptacles in the narthex, the fellowship hall entry and the office for the school supplies drive, an important part of the mission-oriented initiative to benefit Brentwood Elementary School. If you don't have the time to shop, the committee will do it for you - a donation can be made in the Sunday offering, marked "Brentwood School Supplies."

Items such as backpacks, pens, pencils, notebooks and paper are always on the list, as well as some special items outlined by the assistant principal of the school:

- Flash drives
- Glue sticks
- Zip-lock baggies
- Tissues
- Headphones for computers

August 7 is the official cut-off date, but for late shoppers contributions will be accepted until Sunday, August 13.



**MISSION INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN
BRENTWOOD PARTNERSHIP
INFORMATION FORM**

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

DAYS AVAILABLE: MONDAY ___ TUES ___
WED. ___ THURS ___ FRI ___

TIMES AVAILABLE:
MORNING ___ AFTERNOON ___

AMOUNT OF TIME AVAILABLE:

WILLING TO SHARE: _____

(walking with kids from bus, sorting papers for teacher, reading to class/child, tutoring, assisting with computers, helping where needed)

SPECIAL EXPERTISE _____

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF





Regular Worship Schedule Starts Sunday, August 20

- Traditional Worship - 8:15 a.m. in the chapel
- New Song Contemporary Service - 9:00 a.m.
in the fellowship hall
- Sunday School for all ages - 10:00 a.m.
- Traditional Worship - 11:00 a.m.
in the sanctuary with choir



• **Prayers Are Needed**

At its May 23, 2017 meeting, the Sarasota County Commission unanimously agreed that by September 1, 2017 it needed to be presented with regulatory proposals that favor more affordable housing.

A month remains to meet this deadline. Hopefully, county and city government leaders, developers and nonprofits are working together to make this happen. We need housing that is affordable to workers making the average area wage—in the low \$40,000 range or less—as stated in a May, 2017 report.

The report outlined 18 recommendations for the groups to consider, ranging from tweaks to county rules to incentives for businesses to raise their wages. Some are specific and others more nebulous, such as building new community partnerships.

Affordable Housing is a major focus this year of SURE (Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity). SURE continues setting its sights on holding officials accountable for their vocal support for new affordable housing rules.

Please pray with us, brothers and sisters of First Presbyterian, that the September 1 deadline is met and SURE continues to throw its extensive community support behind this proposal to demand equitable affordable housing changes.

*Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.*
Proverbs 16:3

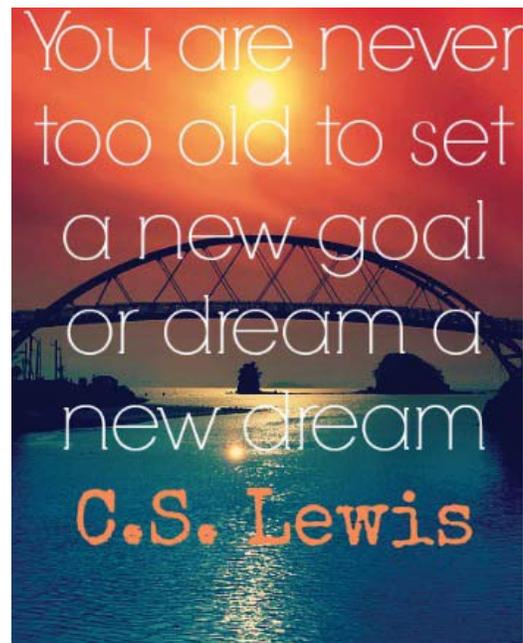
• **Academy of Christian Discipleship**

We welcome Rabbi Jennifer Singer, the spiritual leader of Congregation Kol HaNeshama. She will be teaching *Ageing Well Using Biblical Wisdom*, gleaning insights from the Hebrew Bible at 10:00 a.m. in room 203 for three Sundays (August 13, 20, and 27).

There's a saying about aging: Getting old is not for the faint of heart. We face many challenges as we age – physical, mental, and spiritual. Making the most of the time we have remaining can be a challenge, but it can also be exciting and rewarding.

In this three-part class we will explore wisdom from the Hebrew Bible and other texts of the Jewish tradition, discuss hopes and fears about the future, and create spiritual mission statements as we seek to make the most of the gift of aging.

Here are some of questions we will address:
How can I make the most of my life today and tomorrow?
How do I want to be remembered?
What is still ahead for me to accomplish?



• Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 Kay Tscherfing
Amy Davis
Tiffany Campbell | 13 Caroline Kennedy
Neal Price
Yajaira Adumuah
Sue Spigel | 24 Kai Bohl
Linda Harrison |
| 2 Bruce Lindell, Jr
Marcia Kleinschmidt
Dana Gaddis
Bill Conroy | 14 Tom Allen
Tina Jiva
Mo Aubry | 25 Greg Hawkins
Margaret Cass
Brian Holmes |
| 3 Brian Track
Nancy Elswick | 15 Susie Smith
Maryann Wells-Bowman | 26 Maddy Boehm
Rogers Moore
Eric Tingstrom |
| 4 Patricia Akal
McLain Miller
June Raskin
Molly Nurczyk | 16 Elaine Barnett
Marti Clapp
Maggie Courter | 27 Tony Strong, IV |
| 5 Bob Messick
Linda Wishart
Mark Johnson
Marilyn Tschirgi | 18 Jim Turner
Beverly Eckert
Turner Allen | 28 Carla Harding
Billy West
Charlotte Harrington |
| 6 Dawn Blomgren
Rose Cardinal
Tish Goodale
Olami Sanchez | 19 Rich Paul | 29 Sue Benjamin
Karen Gremlie |
| 7 Bobbie Dean
Bruce Maxian
Joey DeLuca | 20 Michael Brown
Sarah Van Nostrand
Rich McGuire
Daniel Morris | 30 Barbara Anderson
Garrett Heburn
Patrick Monahan
James Griffith |
| 8 Velma Yost
Anne Whiteside
Mary Radcliffe | 21 Lilly Herrli
Judith Hart
Kitty Werner
Toni Westerfield | 31 Henry Mills
Jane Friday
William Morgan
Verna Dederer |
| 9 C. Manly Molpus
Bill Kealing
Kathy Messick | 22 David Delaney
Linda Hildebrandt
Vicky Urban | |
| 11 Molly Hudson
Sebastian Contreras | 23 Joan DePlonty
Jessica Wright
Barbara Shepherd
Chrissy Catlin
Anderson Angel | |
| 12 Clara Ordonez | | |
| 13 Emmy Schmidt | | |

Anniversaries

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1 Steve & Patty Largo | 12 Jean & Yvonne Dumas | 25 Greg & Rhonda Hawkins |
| 2 Scott & Janice McLeod | 15 Demetri & Raynette Lignos | Floyd & Janet Churn |
| 3 Marvin & Mary Ellen Miller | 16 Tom & Barbara Hostetler | 27 Bob & Michelle Messick |
| 4 Ron & Kelly Saba
Sean & Christine Harrington | 18 Tim & Cindy Hallinan
Jerry & Pat Feeney | Dave & Francesca Muir |
| 5 Sam & Muffie Ochi | 20 Larry & Marcia Schaper
Andy & Barbara Anderson
Dick & Marti Clapp | 29 Ted & Mary Jo Kline |
| 6 Rod & Judy Rhoades | 22 Kent & Joanne Simons | 31 Tony & Mary Williams |
| 7 Bob & Carol Brightman
Scott & Julie Griffith | 23 John & Valerie Schaub, III | |
| 8 Berry & Lynne Catlin | 24 Bob & Emilie Kimbrough
John & Betsy Cairns
Don & Judi Treffinger
Al & Barbara Zappala
Matthew Leshko & Abbey Tyrna | |
| 9 Joey & Thyra Schwab
Steven & Donna Phillips | | |
| 11 Dick & Kay Steinman
Lorenzo & Carrie Mills
Bob & Patti Wrobel | | |



**Blessings from
your church family**



Cross Connections

First Presbyterian Church
2050 Oak Street
Sarasota, FL 34237-7093

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 757
Manasota, FL

(941) 955-8119
www.FirstPresSarasota.org

Return Service Requested

SALT SHAKERS

Each Salt Shaker group decides whether they want to have a potluck at a member's home, dine at a restaurant, have a picnic, or brunch or something else, groups are encouraged to be creative!



The last day to sign up is *Sun., Aug. 27th*
Questions? Call
Diane Bittner:
941-755-2268 or
Marcia Schaper:
941-922-5245

Willing to organize your group for the first dinner at a home or restaurant ? _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Put this card in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office "Attention: Rachel."

Cross Connections is a monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota, Florida, Volume 35 Issue #8. Please submit articles for the next issue by August 15, 2017.