



CROSS CONNECTIONS

October
2021

Dear friends,

As I write, we are just a few days away from electing elders, deacons, Officer Nominating Committee members, and a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). That will happen on **Sunday, October 3** during our congregational meeting. The meeting will take place both in person (in the sanctuary) and by Zoom, beginning at 11:15 a.m. If you will be participating by Zoom, and have more than one voting member in your household, please do be sure that each person has an electronic device (laptop, smartphone, etc), if you wish for each person's vote to be counted. The biographies of all nominees are available through the *News @ First*. Please be in prayer for all who have agreed to serve in these important days—and when you have the opportunity, please thank them for their service.

We also need to thank our Nominating Committee, who have modeled sacrificial service over the last year, undertaking responsibilities they could not have anticipated at the beginning of their terms. They have prayed and discerned (together and with candidates) and exhibited such faithfulness. Please thank: Sandi Soper, Marcia Schaper, Carolyn Simmons, Scott McLeod, Jean Fulton, Kay Dunn, Clare Carter, Elaine Barnett, Patti Wrobel (deacon representative), and co-moderators Dick Clapp and Lisa Saba.

I want to let you know a bit about what you may expect in the weeks to come as our Pastor Nominating Committee begins its work. The following persons are being nominated to serve on the PNC: Michael Fingerle, Frank Frey, Steve Knopik, David Landers, Carrie Mills, Janet Olshewsky, and Kay Steinman. Once a committee is elected by the congregation, representatives from the presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) will train the team for its task. Our ongoing liaison to the COM will be Steve McConnell, pastor of Church of the Palms. Steve is gracious and wise and will be a wonderful voice of encouragement to our team.

The PNC will begin by deciding how they want to be organized and by electing leaders (likely a chairperson and secretary). After they are organized, one of the first tasks of the PNC will be to develop the form (a Ministry Information Form or MIF) that will advertise the position. Information gathered from the congregation during our recent mission study will inform that process. Both the session and the presbytery's COM will approve the MIF. Once that document is approved, the PNC can begin to seek candidates (through our denomination's computerized matching system; through popular publications; by word of mouth; and perhaps most importantly, through active recruitment).

Unlike committees of the session (the model with which we are most familiar), the PNC will be a committee of the congregation. That means that they will not report back to the session, unless they need approval for a decision that has budgetary implications. The PNC will make regular progress reports to the congregation on its process, but will need to operate with complete confidentiality regarding candidates. This is an exciting time in the life of this congregation. Please do keep all of the leaders you are about to elect in your prayers. There is nothing more important for any of us to do than to keep opening our hearts to the Spirit's leading. God is good.

Grace and peace,

*** Sunday, October 3**
World Communion Sunday / Stewardship Dedication



• One Combined Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday by sharing the Lord's Supper together, along with followers of Jesus around the world!

• Dedication of Pledges

During the service, an opportunity will be given to bring pledge cards forward and place them in a basket as a symbol of the dedication of our lives to the purposes of God. If you have already submitted your pledge, or have not yet had the opportunity to complete one, blank forms will be available for your use, so that all may participate.

• Congregational Meeting at 11:15 a.m.

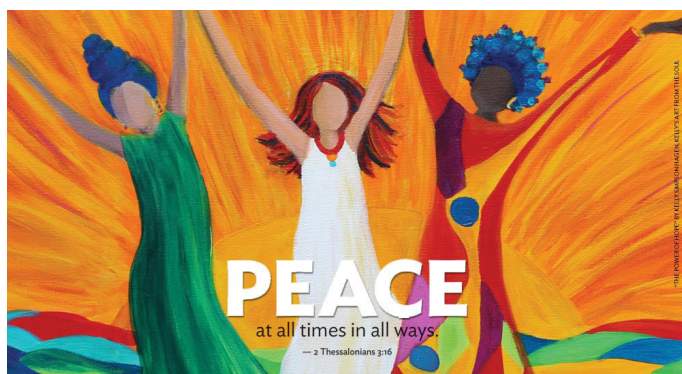
The meeting to elect church officers, a congregational nominating committee, and a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will follow the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Members may take part and vote either in person or via Zoom.

If you intend to participate via Zoom, please note that each voting member will need to sign on from their own smartphone or computer in order to vote. We do not have the capability to record more than one vote from a single device. If you have questions, please call Rachel Martin in the office (941) 955-8119 well in advance of the October 3 meeting.

• Peace and Global Witness Offering

The Peace and Global Witness Offering supports the efforts of the church at every level and provides witness to God's gift of peace in the world. Gifts to the offering are divided in the following manner: 25% designated by our Mission and Justice Committee, will go to PC(USA) / Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for humanitarian relief in Afghanistan and Haiti; 25% will be used to support presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts; and 50% will be forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

We will receive this special offering on World Communion Sunday, October 3. We hope everyone can participate in this important sharing of our treasure.



• **Pastoral Development Seminar and Faith Focus Weekend Update**

*submitted by Elaine Barnett,
Seminar Leadership Team Coordinator*

One of the programs valued by First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, is the **Pastoral Development Seminar**. This program provides an opportunity for young pastors to come to our campus twice to meet with a resource person who is an active pastor with great experience and wisdom. This has resulted in more than 40 young pastors through the years having spent time learning and growing in their ministry gifts as they received the rich hospitality of our congregation as we provided meals, lodging, the seminar, and moments of relaxation for the groups. The ministry has made a great impact on these lives and on the lives in the congregation.

Because of COVID, we postponed the group of six committed to come in October 2020 until October 2021. That group has been meeting via Zoom with the resource person, Lori Raible, Pastor of Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian in Charlotte, NC. They have become a support community for each other as these days continue to be impacted by COVID. Recently the group asked our church to postpone again the beginning of the seminar until February 2022 because of their concerns about traveling. They all have young children. Because their children cannot be vaccinated at this moment, the FPC Seminar Leadership Team agrees with their request.

So, we now have eight young pastors planning to join us **February 2-5, 2022 and October 19-23, 2022**. Please pray for Lori Raible as she continues to work with this group between now and then through virtual meetings, and for the FPC Seminar Leadership Team as we move ahead making faithful, healthy, and wise decisions for the coming months.

Be assured that our **Faith Focus Weekend** will happen as planned October 23-24, 2021. Join us **Saturday, October 23**, for an event on Saturday entitled, "Bridging the Gap," and on **Sunday, October 24**, for worship built around the theme of hope and healing toward racial reconciliation. The speaker for the Saturday event and the preacher for Sunday is The Rev. Paul Roberts, Sr., President of Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. Paul

is a friend of this congregation, has preached here several times, led the Faith Focus Weekend several years ago and gave our congregation the idea of forming the Manasota Interracial Book Clubs.

Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall, we will participate in a panel discussion entitled, "Black/White Church Partnerships: A Bridge across the Racial Divide." This is sponsored by Manasota Interracial Book Clubs (MIBC) and features a panel of active pastors discussing ways congregations and individuals can become a bridge across the racial divide. Rev. Roberts will then give a presentation entitled, "Now What?! Reflections on Christian Activism." He will lead us in exploring how we each can take steps to help build a more just and equitable society. There will also be a time for questions and answers about this timely topic. All adults and youth are invited to take part in this free event offered to the church and community. Come join this opportunity to learn faithful ways to **Bridge the Gap** with all of God's people.

• **Music to Our Ears**

The Sarasota Music Club, a member of the National Federation of Music and the Florida Federation of Music Clubs, has been providing excellent music programs in the area for over 90 years. Because of COVID, programs were not held last year. The Music Club is happy to announce that this season, on the third Friday of each month, October 2021 through March 2022, all are invited to their performances at First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy the music. The first program will be October 15 at 10:00 a.m. All programs are free of charge. Performing in the October program will be Jane Hoffman, flutist, accompanied by Donald Bryn at the piano. They will be performing Broadway show tunes. During the year, there will be varied programs, including a barbershop quartet, jazz, and classical performances. In December, there will be a program of Christmas music. We invite you to come and enjoy this delightful music. You can find information cards in the church office with a complete listing of programs.

Hosted by
First Presbyterian Church
Sarasota



Free community
presentation

Masks required

Bridging the Gap

Conversations
of hope and healing
toward racial reconciliation

Saturday, OCTOBER 23, 2021
10:00 am - 12:30 pm



Featuring Rev. Paul Roberts, Sr.
President of Johnson C. Smith Seminary, Atlanta, GA

10:00-10:15 am: Opening
Fellowship Hall

10:15 - 11:15 am

“Black/White Church Partnerships: A Bridge across the Racial Divide”

Panel discussion presented by **Manasota Interracial Book Club**
Led by **Janet Olshewsky** and **Vicki Wacksman**, MIBC founders
with other MIBC leaders

11:15 am - 12:30 pm

“Now What?! Reflections on Christian Activism”

We can articulate the problem of structural racism. Now, many of us
feel ready to enact real societal change. We will explore avenues
everyday people can take to help build a more just and equitable society.

Presented by **Rev. Paul Roberts**, guest speaker

2050 Oak Street, Sarasota, FL 34237 • (941) 955-8119 • www.firstpressarasota.org

• **Video/Discussion Series**

**Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
October 10**



Join us in the Fellowship Hall to watch a 10-14-minute video, followed by informal guided discussion and reflections, led by Michael Fingerle. These classes are for adults of all ages. **Come and relax, renew friendships, and make new friends!**

NOOMA is a series of short films by Rob Bell exploring our world from a perspective of Jesus. The series promotes spiritual reflections on our own individual experiences. *NOOMA* is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion. The name *NOOMA* comes from a Greek word meaning wind, spirit, or breath.



• **New Adult Education Class**

**Beginning Wednesday,
October 6, 1:00 p.m.
via Zoom**

Do Everything for the Glory of God

Presbyterian Christians find their identity as part of a wider theological movement, called the Reformed tradition. Its origins are in the sixteenth-century Protestant Reformation. These reformers sought a reform of the church in accordance with scripture. This study provides some Presbyterian perspectives on Christian beliefs. Our Presbyterian heritage is rich and deep. These lessons are aimed to spark interest and nurture our Christian faith so we may “do everything for the glory of God.”

This class via Zoom will be taught by Elaine Barnett beginning **Wednesday, October 6** at 1:00 p.m., and continuing Wednesdays until November 10. You may sign-up by emailing Elaine at ewbarnet@me.com.

- October 6 Creation for Presbyterians
- October 13 Providence for Presbyterians
- October 20 Salvation for Presbyterians
- October 27 Church and Sacraments for Presbyterians
- November 3 Christian Life for Presbyterians
- November 10 Hope for Presbyterians

• **Preschool News**

by Clare Carter, director

They say that unstructured play is medicine for the imagination, and in the processes of play, children build key skills needed for life and academic success.

The research in early childhood education clearly shows that play is essential for healthy child development. Having the freedom to play encourages creativity and collaboration, and this relates directly to their future learning. It teaches children how to problem solve, strengthens and lengthens their attention span, and it teaches them how to be a friend. These skills learned through play will serve them well for their entire lives.

Before a child can learn their ABCs and 123s, they need to learn how to be a good friend and to get along with others in a group setting. Developing friendships is an important life skill—one that seems very natural but can be difficult to learn. Therefore, we always spend the first couple of weeks at school getting to know each other and getting used to our new classroom setting. The children are quickly learning their new routines and that school is an awesome and safe place.

Thank you for supporting this very important children’s ministry and for giving so many children the time to learn and grow through play. You are a blessing in the lives of many and we are blessed beyond measure because you.





• **Social Justice Corner**

by Dorothy Murphy
SURE Team Leader



Recent SURE House Meetings Set Annual Agenda

With House Meetings, some congregations call them sacred conversations, well attended and almost behind us, we'll make our votes known at the Community Problems Assembly, via Zoom, **Tuesday, November 9 at 6:00 p.m.** Once we know the results, SURE goes into its annual rhythm. Our research teams will go full steam ahead. Our Rally and Nehemiah Assembly will be well attended. And best of all, our actions and presence together will provide our officials with the support and incentive to uphold fair and equitable practices in the Sarasota community.

For a More Just and Equitable Community

"SURE is one way for us to make a difference toward a more just and equitable community. One voice might be easily ignored by the justice system or an elected official. A group of a thousand people or more from over 23 congregations united together cannot be ignored.

Over the last year I have watched the process evolve and I am amazed at the progress SURE continues to make. The first step is House Meetings. I wish more people would join us there. It was enlightening to hear the experiences and consider the issues brought forth at that time. I had no idea of the extent to which we could help each other influence a

positive change.

I feel my time is valued, agendas are explicit, and meetings are efficient, starting and ending on time. The team leaders make such a difference in that regard."

Sara Myers, SURE FPC network member

Still Time to Register for a House Meeting

Thank you to all of you who attended a House Meeting in September. There is still time to register for the final Zoom House Meeting held on Monday evening, October 11, 6:00 p.m. Registration is found in the *News @ First* weekly publication.

Community Problems Assembly

Join us via Zoom on Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 pm. Watch *News @ First* for registration details. Your attendance keeps the actions of SURE in full gear.

Percentage of Youth Who Received a Civil Citation by County July 2020 -June 2021

Dade, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, and Manatee Counties have now consistently reached more than **80%** of children receiving access to civil citations. Congratulations and good work to all the criminal justice teams working on this issue!

Statewide Collaborative Virtual Call to Justice

Both State Attorney Brodsky and Sarasota County Sheriff Hoffman participated in this meeting with 400 people from SURE and our ten sister DART organizations in Florida. They were applauded for their commitment to create an adult civil citation program in Sarasota.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

- Psalm 89:14



• **Feeling Talking, and Trusting**

*submitted by Cheryl Track,
Faith Community Nurse*

Anyone who has experienced trauma of any kind knows that healing always takes longer than expected. Those who have experienced trauma also know that when the anniversary of the trauma comes around, even years later, the waves of fear, anxiety, helplessness, and sadness will often return. This is not a bad thing, as it can provide an ideal time to talk again about the trauma, and talking about it is an essential key to healing.

The feelings following trauma are overwhelming at first. They can come like waves that feel as though they threaten to drown the person who has experienced the trauma. The key to working through these intense feelings and beginning the healing process is to simply accept the feelings and let them flow. If the feelings are blocked, the healing is blocked. Feelings are never right or wrong; they just are, and they need to be expressed.

The next task involved in healing from trauma or loss is talking with others about what one has experienced. There are really only two choices here—we can either talk things out, or we can act them out. If we don't talk things out, we will likely act them out by being irritable, violent, withdrawing, or possibly turning to alcohol and other drugs. It may be helpful to remember that beneath much of the negative acting out behavior we see in the world is trauma or loss that has not been healed.

Feeling and talking are made possible when we have people in our lives that we can trust. We need to seek these people out if we are in recovery from trauma and avoid isolating from others—a common temptation when we are hurting. Finding a trusted person who will simply listen is key to healing any kind of trauma.

It's important to create a trusting space where they can feel and talk for as long and as often as they need to. You can create safe

places for others as well by being available as an attentive listener for those around you who are hurting. Listening and not judging are key.

There is a saying that "time heals all wounds." By itself, this saying is incomplete, though. Healing does take time, but time alone does not heal all wounds. What does heal all wounds is feeling, talking, and trusting—again and again.

This month, take some time to check in with yourself and someone you have been thinking about. Know your church family is here for you with well-equipped deacons, Stephen Ministers, and the Pastoral Care Team ready to listen. Please contact Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse, if we can be of assistance.

4tracks@comcast.net
(941) 320-3828

Taken from Living Compass,
Weekly Words of Wellness,
9/10/2021, Scott Stoner



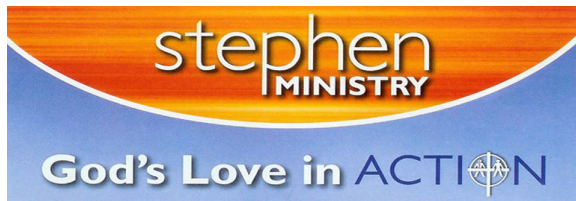
iTNSunCoast regretfully announces that it has suspended its senior transportation services due to a lack of volunteer drivers. The organization hopes to regroup, build up a new fleet of volunteer drives, and resume operations in the future. iTNSunCoast has provided a list of transportation alternative which may be accessed in News@First.

• **Blood Drive**



A special thank you goes to all that came out to donate blood in honor of Cullen Sabin! 33 units of much needed blood were collected and there were ten first-time donors!

Mark your calendar for our next Blood Drives, October 24 and December 19.



Suddenly, you are alone. This can result from any number of surprising changes in life from illness, loss, or change. At times, loneliness can come for no reason at all. The feelings are real and are hard to endure. Even more isolating in these times can be the family and friends who want you to “quickly get back to your old self.” Loneliness is a journey and one that you may need to endure before you find healing for yourself. Author and poet Geneen Roth says, “We need friends who can be with us in our loneliness, not people who will cheer us up so that we don’t feel it.”

Stephen Ministers are trained for just such times in your life. They are trained to be compassionate, confidential listeners. They can faithfully be with you while allowing God’s Spirit to do its work in you. Stephen Ministers can help you gain the courage to “feel” what you are experiencing. In so doing, they can allow healing to take place. Stephen Ministers are also equipped to help you find resources that may be appropriate for you through a dark time.

If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry. Please call the church office (941) 955-8119 to speak with Margaret LaMotte Torrence, Transitional Pastor; Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse; or Steven Phillips, Director of Music and Congregational Care.

• **Volunteer Day Trip to Beth-El Farmworker Ministry**
Sponsored by the Mission & Justice Committee

You are invited to be a part of the group from First Presbyterian, Sarasota, that gathers at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma to volunteer sorting food or related activities on the **last Wednesday of each month. We meet at Beth-El at 9:00 a.m. and work until 12:00 noon.**

This mission partner distributes food to help 600-900 folks each week. To sign up or for more information, please contact Dave Householder at dphouse47@gmail.com; call or text (724) 462-4235. Let us know of your interest in carpooling. Come and be a part of making a difference!

Family Promise is initiating a project to provide expecting and post-partum single mothers with temporary housing as they recover from the births of their new babies. A house has been identified that Family Promise plans to rent to offer respite to vulnerable mothers and babies. Women and their children will be given emergency shelter until their youngest child reaches 12 weeks of age, allowing several weeks post-partum for mothers to relocate to an alternate housing program or to independent housing. While several details are still being worked out, there will be many avenues for our church to contribute to this project.

Family Promise is so grateful for everyone who has the heart to give and chooses to donate to Family Promise and the families it serves. You may donate to Family Promise through the giving page on the First Presbyterian Church website. Go to <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=91629> and select “Family Promise” from the drop-down menu. Family Promise and its clients appreciate all you do.



• **Mission Study Team**

The Mission Study Report is now available on our website: www.firstpressarasota.org. A paper copy of the report is available for you to pick up in the church office or as you leave the worship service.

The members of the Mission Study Team are grateful to the session for the opportunity to listen for God’s leading as we listened carefully to the congregation and to leaders in our community. It was a privilege to create this report summarizing what we heard and discerned. We are delighted to announce that the report has been approved by the session and the Peace River Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry. We hope that reading and hearing this report will enrich your love and appreciation for our vibrant faith community.

• **Invest In Children**
Adopt a Brentwood Class



by Jinny Miller, Steering Committee Chair

Though visitors and volunteers are currently not permitted on Sarasota School District campuses because of COVID-19, there are other ways we can support our mission partner, Brentwood Elementary, a Title 1 school. One of those ways is to **Adopt a Class!** By giving \$100, all of the gift goes to the class to purchase extra resources that range from dry erase markers to computer software, learning centers, books, and more!

When the 2021-22 school year began in August, *Invest in Children* “adopted” four classes. These “adoptions” were possible because of donations from four of our generous families. The teachers of the adopted classes are:

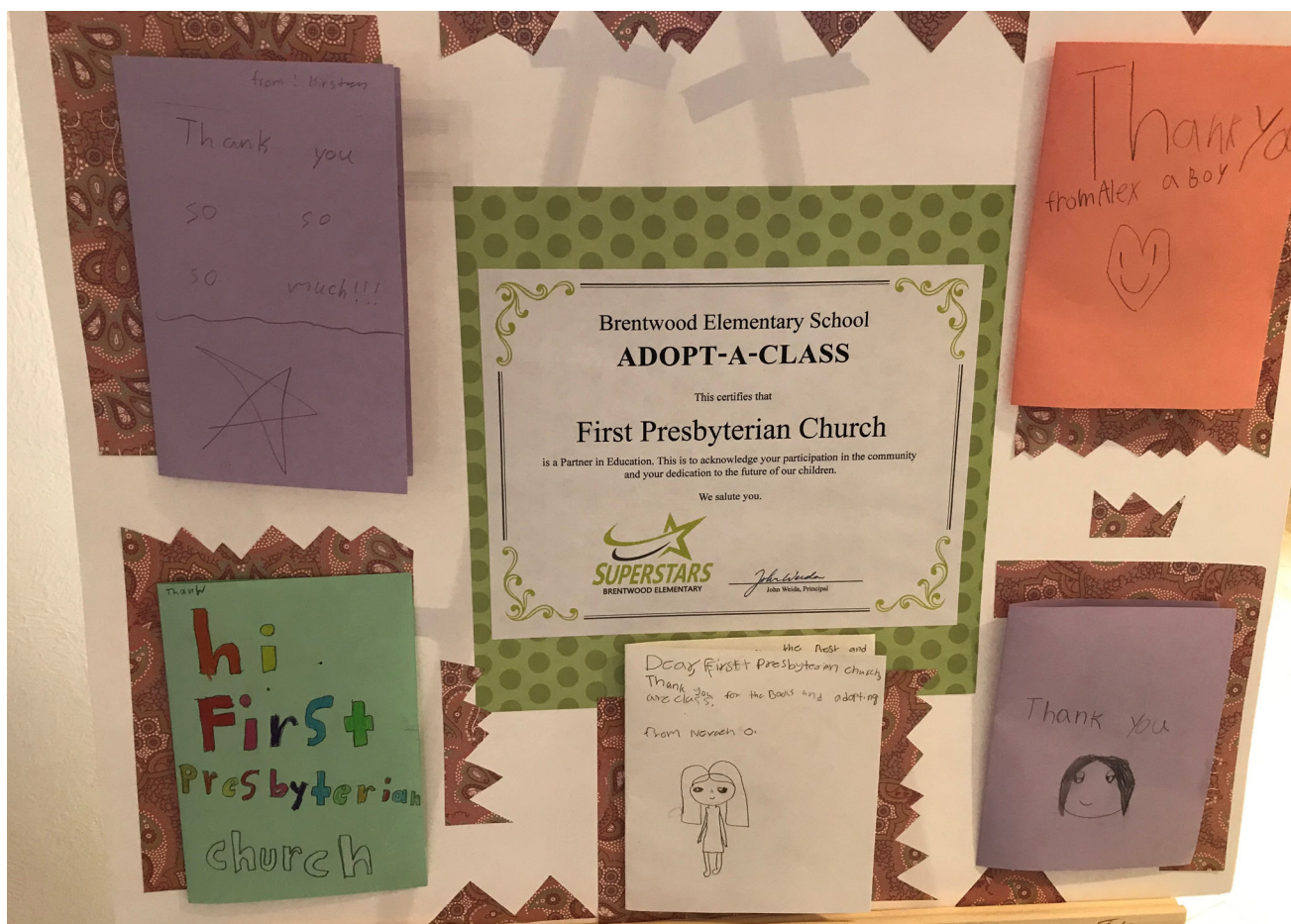
Mrs. Tuttle, an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) teacher sees students in grades K-5 and had never been adopted.

Ms. Lowery, a second grade teacher is new to Brentwood, having just moved to Florida.

Mrs. Harrison, a first grade teacher has both regular education students and students with special needs in her class.

Mrs. Riley, is a kindergarten teacher, whose class one of our volunteers, Jackie Wright, has served since we began our Brentwood partnership.

There are still many classes that would benefit from our gifts. You, too, can adopt a class through our *Invest in Children* program by sending a check for \$100 (to First Presbyterian Church with “Brentwood Adopt a Class” in the memo line). Smaller amounts earmarked for BES Adopt a Class can be combined to reach the \$100 needed for an adoption. The students and teachers will be elated! Thank you for your support for this worthwhile program.





• **Presbyterian Women**

Presbyterian Women Service Project

**Tuesday, October 12 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**

Come and go as you are able.



We are making breast surgery recovery pillows (that go underneath the arms or over the breast area to protect incisions) and fidget blankets (small tabletop or lap blankets with activities for dementia and Alzheimer patients to provide sensory and tactile stimulation for restless hands). All items will be donated to Sarasota Memorial Hospital. There is plenty to do in addition to sewing; no special skills are required. Bring a sack lunch if you want to stay during the lunch break.

Donations of construction materials are needed. Please leave donations in the large PW bin in the mail room at the church office by **Sunday, October 10**. Be sure to call the church office to let us know you plan to attend (941) 955-8119. Come for some fun, fellowship and service! Questions? Contact Pamela Lamb at bmalp54@gmail.com.

Construction Materials List

Breast surgery recovery pillow donations
Washable soft fabrics (e.g., lightweight flannel)
Polyester fiberfill
Spools of white sewing thread
Fidget blanket donations - ALL ITEMS MUST BE WASHABLE
Cotton or lightweight denim fabrics for top
Soft, lightweight fabrics for backing (so it won't slip or slide on tabletops and laps)
Various items with the following properties are needed:
1. Texture (smooth, silky, slick, plush, bumpy, rough, etc.)
2. Moves or can be grasped
3. Colorful (solids or simple patterns preferred over busy patterns)
4. Able to be attached to blanket securely and won't fray or ravel

Items can be upcycled from things you would normally throw away

Examples include:

Large buttons

Velcro and elastic

Pockets from pants/jeans/shorts

Belt loops

Plastic rings and D-rings

Ribbon, rickrack, fringe, lace and trims

Elastic hair ties

Zippers, buckles and snaps

Beads

Empty thread spools

Shoestrings

Buttoned cuffs from sleeves

Mesh and netting

Pieces of washable fabric such as flannel, minky, fleece, ripstop nylon, lycra, terry cloth

Save the dates:

Saturday, October 16, 2021 - Autumn Retreat at Cypress Lake Presbyterian in Fort Myers

Saturday, February 5, 2022 - Annual Gathering at Covenant Presbyterian in Fort Myers

Monday, March 28 and Tuesday, March 29, 2022
Spring Retreat at DaySpring Conference Center in Ellenton

• FPC's Mission Partnership with All Faiths Food Bank

Our food distribution site continues to remain open! Thursday Mornings: 8:45 - 11:30 a.m. (distribution 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.)

The food distribution is by drive-through with volunteers loading cars as clients circle in the parking lot during the allotted time. Volunteers are needed each Thursday. Task options include sorting and distributing food, setting up, cleaning up, and directing traffic.

All safety measures are in place: Masks and closed-toe shoes required for volunteers; gloves and hand sanitizer provided; masks required for walk-up food recipients.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Bob Kirkpatrick, rkirkhv@aol.com or (941) 355-0809

or Dave Householder, dphouse47@gmail.com or (724) 462-4235

• **Birthdays**

1	Cheryl Barnes Justin Wilmot Julio Travieso	20	Rene Corcoran Rama Nilsen
2	Anita Brass Betsy Anderson Maryann Stuart	21	Sandi Soper Kaitlin Harding Andrea Householder Sandy Callahan
4	John Fisher	22	Jerry Bernier
5	Marsha Fischl	23	Pat Woody Kota Dean
6	Larry Schaper Pamela Lamb John Yost Jeremy Johnson Bob Kirkpatrick Marissa Tingstrom	24	Christopher Rivera Rick Foltz
7	Jerry May	26	Wills Young Andrew Copa
9	Vera Winship	27	Margaret Noble Thomas Martin Joe Callan Andrew Harrington
10	Doug Smoot	28	Olivia LaMotte
11	Erin Dean	29	Jim Harding Sadie Khuu Gabriel Jiva Ted Kline
12	Phil Kuebbeler Charlie Morris	31	Lisa Garcia
13	Stephen Cole		
14	Devin Gulliver Quinn Gulliver		
15	Karen Eastmoore Petra Tingstrom Martha Erickson		
16	Jean Raskin		
17	Natalie Marsh Whitney Webb		
18	Kent Miller		
19	Tim Hallinan Gena Smoot Matt Swick Annie DeLuca Sherry Storms		

• **Anniversaries**

1	Alan & Fran Lawrence
9	Clarence & Maureen Jones
17	Lou & Sue Spigel
18	Bob & Ellen Forbes Jim & Pam Harding Jason & Ashton Smith
19	Martin & Lisa Sabin
21	David Low, Sr & Sherry Storms
26	Seth & Sunny Westerberg
27	Paul & Molly Cole
29	Bret & Claire Huber



**Blessings from
your church family**

Cross Connections is a monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota, Florida, Volume 39 Issue #10. Please submit articles for the next issue by October 15, 2021. Articles submitted are proofed and edited.



Cross Connections

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Return Service Requested



- ***One Combined Service - All Saints' Day
Sunday, October 31, at 10:00 a.m.***

On **Sunday, October 31**, we will be observing All Saints' Day with communion. **There will be one combined service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.** Having celebrated the Lord's Supper on October 31, communion will not be served on November 7, our regular first Sunday of the month. We will resume our usual schedule with communion on Sunday, December 5.

In preparation for the October 31 All Saints' Day service, all from our church family are invited to email photos of loved ones (members or non-members) who have died November 1, 2020 - present to Rachel Martin (RMartin@firstpressarasota.org). Please include your name and their name, their date of birth and death (if known), and your relationship to the deceased, We are planning a special slide presentation as a part of the service to commemorate those who have died in the last year.