Love is First

We are delighted that you are joining us for worship today! We are a curious, inclusive, and diverse gathering of imperfect people united by our common hope in Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, and service, we seek to know and show the transformative love of God found in the pages of scripture and revealed in the person of Jesus. No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here.

Sunday, October 25, 2026

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, thank you for worshiping here today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of this congregation, please be sure to speak with the pastor after today's worship or share your information on the pew pad or friendship card. We would love to get to know you.

Prayer Concern? Please let us know how we can pray for you by filling out the welcome card and placing it in the offering plate or by calling the church office: (941) 955-8119.

Children Of All Ages Are Welcome in Worship! At the New Song (9:00 a.m.) service there are coloring sheets on the tables and an activity center in the corner. At the traditional (11:00 a.m.) service, children are invited to take a worship bag hanging in the narthex. Sunday School is from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the children's wing on the second floor. Ask a greeter for directions.

To Aid in Worship In the sanctuary, a T-Coil Hearing Loop is available for people with equipped hearing aids. Headphones to amplify sound are also available at the tech booth in the rear of the sanctuary.

Worship Online Livestreams of the contemporary and traditional worship services are available at www.fpcsrq.org/streaming and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017.

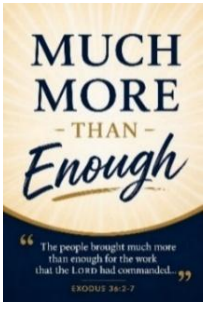
Ways To Give There are many ways you can support the mission and ministries of First Presbyterian. During worship, you may place your gift in the offering plate, or you can scan this QR code. It will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you can mail a check to the church office. Thank you for your gifts. Questions? Contact Finance Manager, Lisa Garcia: (941) 955-8119/Lisa@fpcsrq.org.

Today We Welcome Rev. Dent Davis

Born in Denver Colorado, and raised in East Tennessee, Dent Davis is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Ordained a Presbyterian minister at age 27, he served as pastor of eight churches in Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia over his 44 years of ministry before retiring to Sarasota in 2018. Along the way he received doctorates from Columbia Theological Seminary and the University of Tennessee. He also directed Scott Peck's Foundation for Community Encouragement for three years and served on the faculty at Columbia Theological Seminary for nine years. Dent is married to Mary ZXeigler, a retired professor. Together they share six children and seven exemplary grandchildren, while both enjoy a love of nature, writing, cooking and travel.

Stewardship 2027 — Much More Than Enough

Last Sunday, we celebrated Commitment Sunday and reflected on how we can support FPC's missions and ministries in the year ahead. We are grateful to see pledges coming in strong! Every commitment helps us nurture faith, care for one another, and serve our community.



Haven't turned in your pledge yet? There's still time! We encourage you to prayerfully consider your commitment for the coming year and submit your pledge if you haven't already. Every pledge makes a difference as we plan for the future of FPC.

Thank you for your generosity and for being part of our church family. Together, we are building a strong foundation for the future and sharing God's love through the life and ministry of FPC.

Celebrating 70 Years of Ordained Ministry

Congratulations to Dr. Margaret Towner on the 70th anniversary of her ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament! On October 24, 1956, she became the first woman ordained to ministry in the Presbyterian Church at First Presbyterian Church in Syracuse, New York. A member of Peace River Presbytery, Dr. Towner has often worshiped at FPC and even sang in our choir! Now 101 years young, she continues to inspire us with her remarkable legacy. Happy 70th Ordination Anniversary, Dr. Towner! Watch her story: vimeo.com/1162576395

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry Volunteer Day Trip

Join us **Wednesday, October 28 from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon** for a volunteer day at **Beth-El Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma**. Volunteers will help sort food and assist with other tasks that support **600–900 people each week**. The need is greater than ever, and your help will make a meaningful difference. To sign up, get details, or arrange a carpool, contact **Wendy Miller** at **(941) 321-8488** or towmiller@yahoo.com.

The New Mission Partner Guide

The Mission Partner Guide highlights ways to support FPC's local and global mission partners through volunteering, giving, and service. Thank you to the Mission and Justice Committee, Eric Robinson, Dave Householder, Rachel Martin, Lisa Garcia, Colleen Forristall, and our partner liaisons for making this guide possible. Find it online at *FPCSRQ.org* or pick up a copy in the narthex or Fellowship Hall foyer. Explore our partnerships and discover new ways to make a difference!

Adult Sunday School Class *Join us for Adult Sunday School, 10:00 Sundays in Room 203*

Aging as a Spiritual Journey (led by Dent Davis and Mary Ziegler) continues today and wraps up next week, October 25

Women of the Bible Speak (led by Paul Urbanick) resumes in November! You can pick up a copy of Shannon Breams' book by the same title from Rachel at the church office.

- November 1 and 8: Esther, November 15: Sara, November 22: Hagar

Coming November 29 and lasting through December 20: New Avent Class (Details Coming Soon!)

Celtic Christmas

Planning for this year's "A Celtic Christmas" is well underway and your help is instrumental in making this wonderful tradition both successful and fun! We are in need of several volunteers to help everything run smoothly and would love to have you join us in showing off FPC to the community for "A Celtic Christmas" on December 11 and 12. Please scan the QR code to reach the volunteer sign-up directly, or feel free to contact Sandi Soper at (941) 544-7315 or Kim Schmeits at (941) 284-0001. Thanks, in advance for your support of this cherished tradition!



Upcoming Children & Youth Events!

October 25: Pumpkin Carving/Painting. 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall (All Ages!) BYO Pumpkin. We have carving tools, paints, aprons and extra pumpkins too.

November 1: Youth Group Meeting
5:00-6:00 p.m. Middle School Meet
6:00-6:30 p.m. MS & HS dinner together
6:30-7:30 High School Meet

November 15: Beach Clean Up & BBQ. We'll meet at an assigned pavilion at Siesta Beach, spend an hour or so cleaning up the beach, followed by a sunset BBQ!

November 22: Christmas Tree Decorating Fun Chrismon lesson, then hot cocoa & cookies together (All Ages!) 11:00am Fellowship Hall

November 29: Advent Workshop 10:00am Fellowship Hall courtyard (All Ages!)

More Details Coming! Questions? Contact Tim Walsh (941) 356-0801 or timw@fpcsrq.org

Would you like to receive our Friday E-Newsletter? E-mail info@fpcsrq.org to be added to our distribution list.