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, August 25, 2024

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

Prayer Concern? Please let us know how we can be praying 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.firstpressarasota.org/worship-live, 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/Lgarcia@firstpressarasota.org.

Special Offering for Flood Victims from Debby

We have watched the news and seen pictures of our community members with flood damage or, even worse, losing their homes from the devasting rain produced by Tropical Storm Debby.

Tara Mafee, director of Family Promise Sarasota-Manatee, has told us that over 500 households need assistance. Many of those families are currently in shelters, and some of those shelters will be closing. Many families have either lost their homes entirely, have flood damage too great to live with, or have no running water or electricity. Many of the children are confused, scared, and traumatized.

If you can, please donate to our special offering that will go to Family Promise for temporary housing for neighbors displaced due to recent floods. You can give by check, cash, or online giving make sure to write in the memo "floods."

We have a few clean-up kits left AND 10 disaster bins—75-gallon totes with wheels—to store flood victims' supplies. If you need one or know someone who does, contact Rachel or Eric.

Volunteer Day Trip to Beth-El Farmworker Ministry

Sponsored by the Mission and Justice Committee for the last Wednesday of the month, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The next trip is **Wednesday, August 28.** Be a part of the group from FPC that gathers at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma for sorting food and related activities. This mission partner distributes food to help 600-900 people each week. To sign up or for more information contact **Wendy Miller** (941) 321-8488 or email: towmiller@yahoo.com.

Worship Workshop - TODAY



Please join us at the **Family Worship Workshop** for children, youth, and their families in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10 a.m.- 10:50 a.m. We will creatively learn about the different elements of worship and consider how our children and youth can become more deeply involved and connected with worship.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER®

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Rise AGAINST HUNGER

Mark your calendars and sign up to *Rise Against Hunger* (RAH) with your church family on **Sunday, September 17.** We need 100 volunteers! All ages are welcome to help package over 24,000 meals. Set up will start at 11:30 a.m., meal packing will be 1:00—3:00 p.m. The mission of RAH is to end hunger by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable populations. RAH offers meal-packaging events to create fortified, dehydrated, shelf-stable meals that are transported by RAH to identified areas of food insecurity. Use the QR code to register.
This will be FPC's 6th meal-packing event. Let's work together once again to make a difference!

Sign Up to Volunteer

Scan me

First Presbyterian Church

New Adult Education Class

"Everyone Matters" will explore a fundamental value that addresses this issue: the idea that every person is precious and important. This principle is strongly supported by the Bible, which emphasizes the inherent worth of every individual. The class's content and conclusions are based on Joshua Berman's book, Created Equal: How the Bible Broke with Ancient Political Thought (Oxford University Press, 2008). It will be taught by Rev. Doug DeCelle and will be held on five Sundays in September at 10:00 a.m.

EVERYONE MATTERS
The Bible's Vision of an Equal Society

Fall Salt Shakers Sign Up Now! TODAY is the Last Day to Sign Up



Joining Salt Shakers is a wonderful way for members and friends of First Presbyterian Church to get to know each other. Groups of 6-8 people (singles or couples) meet once a month from September through November/December. Each group decides whether they want to have a potluck at a member's home, dine at a restaurant, or have a picnic or brunch. Sign up forms are in the foyer of the Fellowship Hall and the narthex of the sanctuary. Questions? Call Marcia Schaper (941) 922-5245 or (941) 539-9207 (cell). Last day to sign up is TODAY

Men Need Groups, Too! We are hoping to start a men's group at FPC. Please take a minute to fill out our interest survey in the *News@First* and stay tuned!

men's group

Be an Arts@First Advocate! TODAY

You are invited to represent this loving spiritual family as an Arts@First Advocate. As an advocate, you would be on site to assist the many performing arts organizations on the church campus for concerts and events. Advocates will choose events from the master schedule on a rotating basis, helping us build relationships of encouragement and support in our community. Our first orientation session is TODAY **Sunday, from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.** Join us at the front of the sanctuary following the 11:00 a.m. service.

Financial Update

July	Actual	Budget
Revenues (pledge, non-pledge, and other receipts)	$ 58,496	$ 63,665
Expenditures	71,219	88,318
Year-to-date		
Revenues (pledge, non-pledge, and other receipts)	786,184	681,701
Expenditures	$556,336	$634,856

Thank you for your generous gifts and pledge fulfillment, especially during the summer months.

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