



## August 20, 2023 Announcements

*We're glad we can worship together today!  
We hope that you experience the love of God and of this  
congregation as we worship,  
celebrate, and serve with one another.*

### **Summer Sermon Series** – by Rev. Timothy Boggess

This summer, while many of you find yourselves traveling from one place to the other, we are going to explore some of the Bible's greatest road trips. The title of the series is *Road Trips: Stories of Faith on the Move*. Each Sunday, the sermon title will come from the title of a great travel story.

August 20	<i>The Worst Journey in the World</i>	Jonah, selected
August 27	<i>Lost in My Own Backyard</i>	Acts 9:1-22
September 3	<i>A Voyage Long and Strange</i>	Acts 18-20, selected

I hope that you will join us either in-person or online. It's going to be a journey to remember!



### **Boys in the Boat - ALL CHURCH EVENT**

This Summer the Education and Formation Committee invited you to "Follow Me and Step Into the Boat" by **reading, watching** and even **stepping into** a boat for an adventure. Together we read the book or watched the movie *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. Now its time to **STEP INTO:**

**Benderson Park Boating Adventure**  
**Next Sunday, August 27 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Location:** Benderson Park on the island. Take the east bridge and follow it down to the left.

**Attire:** water shoes or old sneakers

**Cost:** \$10 per person Paid by check, memo line: Benderson Boat. **\*\*Must be 6+ to participate.\*\***

Join your church family and **STEP INTO** a Dragon Boat! Team Building Specialist Don Bickel will lead us in conquering land challenges for team bonding. He uses playful games to build communication and trust to prepare the group for a dragon boat adventure. The real connection happens on the water learning the synergy of paddling a 20 person dragon boat together. Teams learn the commands to paddle as one boat. We will finish with a race to victory, but everyone will be a winner after a day on the water together. Spots are limited so RSVP soon! Questions about what to expect? Contact Emily Weitekamp at [emily.weitekamp@gmail.com](mailto:emily.weitekamp@gmail.com) or our boating guide Don Bickel at [dbickel0825@gmail.com](mailto:dbickel0825@gmail.com)

See more information and sign up in *News @ First*.



## Next Sunday is Rally Day

Meet new Sunday School teachers, enjoy fun activities and get ready to kick off a new year of Sunday School classes.



## ***Now Is A Great Time...***

To add your voice to our Chancel Choir! This welcoming group will give you spiritual encouragement, artistic growth, and a place to serve. And *Celtic Christmas* music starts soon. No audition is required, although some rudimentary music reading skills are needed. Give us a try this Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:45 p.m. in the Forum. Call Steven at (850) 567-3197 if you need that last little nudge to get you in the door!

## ***Gifts Are Being Received in Support of A Celtic Christmas***



This major outreach will draw hundreds of people to our church campus. This year our choir teams up with the Lubben Brothers Band, The Tallahassee Irish Step Dancers, Musica Sacra, and bagpiper Kevin Weigand. Your support will help us celebrate the season and serve our community! **Thanks to an anonymous donor, donations will be matched up to \$3,000!**

Ways to give, make checks payable to FPC, with Celtic Christmas in the memo line or go to [www.firstpressarasota.org](http://www.firstpressarasota.org), select give online, select Friends Of Music Ministry with Celtic Christmas in the memo line.

## ***New Adult Education Class***

**Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John Tuesdays at 12: 30 PM via ZOOM  
September 12- October 17**

The beloved Gospel of John has deep and rich theological meanings. It focuses on who Jesus is as the Messiah and what it means to believe in him. John's understandings of Jesus are expressed in important metaphors that point toward Jesus in ways that are rich and meaningful. This study explores major themes in John's Gospel relating to the person of Jesus: Tabernacle, Giver of Living Water, Bread of Life, Good Shepherd, Resurrection and Life, and Passover Offering. These are significant images that move us to a deeper faith and to new visions of what it means, in very practical ways, to believe in Jesus today. This class will be led by **Elaine Barnett**, a member of FPC, an Elder and Certified Christian Educator. Register by emailing Elaine at [ewbarnet@me.com](mailto:ewbarnet@me.com). See more information in *News@First*

## ***Kayaking Day, September 9***

Kayak day is coming! Meet your church family on **Saturday, September 9**, at 8:40 a.m. on the bay side of Turtle Beach (8918 Midnight Pass Road), Siesta Key. Bring your own kayak or rent from our preferred vendor, Ultimate Kayak SRQ at (941) 720-8807, and ask for the discount rate for FPC. Call Pete **by Thursday, September 7**, to reserve: a single kayak for \$35 or a double kayak for \$40 for 3 hours. Pay them by credit card or cash.



We'll paddle in the bay down to peaceful Midnight Pass Beach to swim in the Gulf, if you like. Bring sunscreen, hat, clothes that can get wet, and water. Afterward, we'll have lunch at Turtle Beach Grill. If you don't want to kayak, meet us at Turtle Beach Grill around 12:30 p.m. For more information and to let us know that you are planning to join us, call or text Sue Hargis Spigel at (941) 735-8786 or Wendy Miller (941) 321-8488.

## ***Inquirers' Class***

If you are interested in learning more about this dynamic congregation, we'd love to get better acquainted with you! Our next inquirers' class will be on **Sunday, September 17**, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. We will meet together in class (room 225) from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., worship together from 11:00 – 12:00 noon, and then have a lite lunch and continue our discussion from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to the church office: (941) 955-8119 to make lunch reservations (noting any dietary restrictions). We hope to see YOU there! New members will be welcomed by the congregation on Sunday, September 24, in both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services.

If you would like to receive our Friday E-Newsletter, News @ First, please call the church office, (941) 955-8119 or email, [info@firstpressarasota.org](mailto:info@firstpressarasota.org).

