February 26, 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.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and with thanksgiving for the life of Laurence J. Byron by the Reasoner Family.

Welcome! Today's worship service is a blended style service with leadership from the NewSong Band, the chancel choir and instrumentalists.

WORSHIP TOGETHER

Annual Meeting TODAY Sunday, February 26

The session has called the annual meeting of the congregation to take place **Sunday, February 26 after the 10:00 a.m. (one service only)** in the sanctuary. We will receive the reports of all of our hard-working committees and other groups, and give thanks for all the labor and love that goes into the ministry of this community. We also want to be sure that you know the officers of the church's corporation, and our Foundation's board of directors (meetings of the Corporation of FPC and the Foundation will run concurrently with the congregational meeting).

Turkey-Syria Earthquake

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support in the aftermath of the 7.8- magnitude earthquake and its aftershocks in Syria and Turkey. Thousands are reported dead and injured. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, and roads and bridges have been severely damaged, resulting in dangerous conditions for first responders. In some places, such as Aleppo, this destruction is compounding the damage of the now 11-year war in Syria. PDA is providing emergency relief and short -term recovery in the impacted areas. PDA will remain active throughout the recovery process, accompanying our partners as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for building and resilience. Years of recovery lie ahead, and your commitment will help PDA extend the hands of Christ. Will you stand in the "GAP" (Give Act Pray) for the people affected by this catastrophic earthquake? Please make your donation through our church by marking your donation as "earthquake" on your check memo line, or via the church website /online giving; select Prsby.Dis.Asst.

Lent 2023 ~ 40 Hours Together

Join us on our Lenten journey toward Easter by committing to what matters--each other.
40 Hours Together is Cultivate Faith's Lenten initiative for families. It's a chance for us to take on regular spiritual practices together (rather than giving up something for the season). These resources are designed for a variety of family settings, including families that do not always live together and families that are away from home during the week a LOT. They are here to help our families live out the spiritual practices we want and need even on the busiest days. Forty hours together is the goal, not forty hours together muddling through activities that are not speaking to their souls. The Holy Spirit meets us whenever and however, so every moment truly is sacred. Folding laundry together counts. Brushing teeth together counts. Looking for the teen's lost phone charger together counts. A text thread with ridiculous memes counts.

We invite you to take the first step by printing off the 40 Hours Tracker at home, from the link in *News @ First* or grabbing a copy at church on Sunday. You will find resources in your inbox and at church each week to spark ideas for spending quality time together.

If you would like to receive our Friday E-Newsletter, please call the church office, (94)955-8119 or email, info@firstpressarasota.org.

INVEST IN CHILDREN



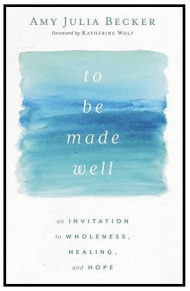
Volunteers needed!



Do you have an hour to reach out to some cool children? Are you a "crafty" person who, once a month, would like to read a book for a 1st grade class and then help the students with a craft related to the book? Another volunteer opportunity is a computer lab monitor or a learning center monitor. There is a need for you at our mission partner Brentwood Elementary School! Please get in touch with Jinny or Ron Miller at jinnyron@gmail.com or 941-371-

SUPERSTARS
BRENTWOOD ELEMENTARY

Book Discussion Group



Join Leah Cotter and embark on a journey of spiritual and communal wellness with *To Be Made Well* by Amy Julia Becker. Amy Julia Becker is an award-winning writer and speaker on personal, spiritual and social healing. A graduate of Princeton University and Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv)

Dates: March 5 - April 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Several copies of the book will be available in the office for purchase or it can be purchased where all books are sold including electronic versions. Beginning March 5 we will cover the introduction as well as Chapters 1 and 2. Reach out to Leah via email at Leah.t.cotter@gmail.com for a copy of the study companion. She will have copies printed and available in the church office for anyone unable to access one via email at home.

Ways You Can Help with our Confirmation Class Beginning this Evening February 26!

1. Bring a meal! We're in need of volunteers to feed our confirmands and Pastor Tim Sunday evenings.
2. Be an extra set of hands! We're looking for one extra adult for each Sunday evening to help out wherever needed and to support Pastor Tim.
3. Be a mentor! We're looking for congregants interested in partnering with and mentoring our youth throughout their confirmation journeys.

If you're interested in getting involved in any of the above ways, email carriefmills@gmail.com for more information.

If you would like to receive Peace River Presbytery's NEW "News Letter" register at the link below.

PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY

You will not be able to receive it unless you register.

Peace River Presbytery will be sending out an e-newsletter twice a month. Get the latest news from the Presbytery and its churches delivered straight to your inbox.

https://peaceriverpresbytery.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=1b44f95683c4b45f310b7d696&id=ebee09c85d

FPC Sarasota Giving Options

Your gifts make a difference!

Online: If you are interested in giving electronically through our secure e-giving process, please visit FirstPresSarasota.org and select the online giving button.
Texting: Text FPC2050 to 73256 to donate via text. Standard rates may apply.
Mail In: All mail, including contribution checks, securely arrives at our church.