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, April 28, 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 better!

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.



Join Us Out at the Ball Game!

Marauders take on the Port St. Lucie Mets!

Our Spring FPC Fellowship event is coming up on **Friday, May 10**; the Bradenton Marauders' Faith & Family Night. We have a block of seats reserved for us behind home plate.

The Bradenton Marauders are a minor league baseball team of the Florida State League and the Single-A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Cost is $15 for admission, and that includes a Pepsi drink ticket and a hat!
Where: LECOM Park in Bradenton
Time and Date: Friday, May 10. The game starts at 6:30 p.m.
How to purchase tickets: Use the QRC code.
Come join in with your fellow FPC'ers for a fun night at the ballgame, bring your friends!

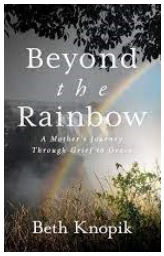
There will be a table set up with a helper and a computer during coffee hour so you can purchase tickets!

Youth Sunday, NEXT SUNDAY, May 5 - One Combined Service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

The youth of FPC will be leading in this special worship service.



A Deeper Dive… New Adult Sunday Class with Beth Knopik



Today is the last gathering, from 10:05 – 10:50 a.m. (between services) in the parlor, we will explore topics/questions related to Beth Knopik's memoir, *A Grace Disguised, A Mother's Journey Through Grief to Grace.* Beth will lead us through an interactive discussion, delving deeper into each topic. One does not need to read the book to participate.

Adult Class, The Bible, The Church and Social Issues



Continues on Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. via Zoom - April 16 - May 21

While Christianity is a personal religion, it is also an eminently social religion. We are never Christians "on our own." Our faith takes shape and is expressed in the context of the Christian community, the church. The church lives its mission and ministries in the context of social communities, wherever they may be. Christians in the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions have emphasized that the church must engage in issues in society. One of the "Great Ends of the Church" is "The Promotion of Social Righteousness." Society is where God is at work. 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.

Join the Usher Team

As summer approaches, our roster of loyal ushers for both services will shrink as folks travel and/or settle into their summer homes. Our worship committee is reaching out to those who plan to mostly stay in Sarasota and are willing to volunteer to help either at the New Song or the Traditional service. Duties entail a warm welcome, helping with offering collection, and a bit of straightening up at the conclusion of worship. Please contact James Jordan by email jej.jordan@gmail.com if you can lend a hand and a smile as we welcome each member of our growing congregation.

A note from the Invest In Children Steering Committee



Holly Brody is the new principal of Brentwood Elementary School. Our Brentwood Elementary team provided a large plant to celebrate her new position. She writes:

Thank you for your kindness! The plant is beautiful and decorates my new office. I sincerely appreciate the continued support of First Presbyterian. You have played an integral role in our school community. Please share my love and appreciation.

Holly Brody

All Faith Food Bank (AFFB) Donations Needs

PROUD PARTNER OF
ENDING HUNGER
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

Food Carts for donations are available at the entrance to worship

Thanks to your overwhelming financial donations to this mission, we now have enough money to purchase needed food supplies through AFFB for our drive through food bank on Thursdays. We are also able to meet our financial obligation to the Caritas walkup pantry on Main Street. THANK YOU FPC!

We still need "specialty items" for our "walkup" neighbors that are not always available through the AFFB warehouse.

Peanut butter and jelly in small containers, canned meat with pop-up lids, tuna, chicken, Vienna sausage, Spam, sardines, snack packs, crackers, granola bars, protein bars, cookies, shelf-stable drinks ,canned or packaged entrees with pop-up lid, canned fruit with pop-up lids.

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