March 5, 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.



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.

Cuba Partnership Trip Report: Learn About Our Time in Cuba



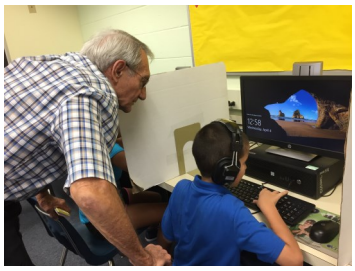
On **Sunday, March 12,** the Cuba team will present our experience with personal reflections, pictures, and future plans regarding our partnership with Juan G. Hall Church in Cárdenas. Join us in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. to learn about this important relationship. A few team members will offer brief remarks about how this time transformed and touched them, followed by a Q&A time.

Family Promise Volunteer Training

Family Promise of Sarasota-Manatee

Family Promise will hold training for new and old volunteers right here at FPC. Anyone who would like to learn about Family Promise and how we serve homeless families is invited to attend any one of three sessions: Thursday March 16 from 10:00 a.m. to noon, or 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., or Saturday morning, March 18 (time TBD). Please contact Joanne Simons (SimonsJC1@gmail.com) for more information.

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



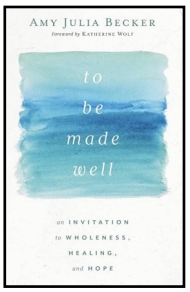
Invest In Children



Volunteers Still Needed Ask some of the folks who wear green FPC name tags about their volunteer experience at our mission partner Brentwood Elementary School and you will probably hear stories of joy and love. There is still a need for volunteers to serve once a week as monitors in the computer lab or with a learning center. If you want to feel that joy and love, please contact Jinny or Ron Miller at (941)371-2750, ext 554 or jinnyron@gmail.com.

SUPERSTARS
BRENTWOOD ELEMENTARY

Book Discussion Group Begins Today



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, and a graduate of Princeton University and Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv)

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

Today 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.

ENDING HUNGER
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

Walk to End Summer Hunger

Join All Faiths Food Bank to kick off the 2023 Campaign Against Summer Hunger and celebrate the campaign's 10th anniversary with a walk around Nathan Benderson Park. The walk will mark the start of a six-week-long campaign to raise funds to feed children at risk of hunger over the summer. Nathan Benderson Park, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota, FL, 34235 - choose between a 1 mile "fun" walk or a 5K walk - Sunday, March 26, at 7:30 a.m. the site opens and at 8:30 a.m. the walk begins. Adult registration (includes t-shirt and lite breakfast) $25 and child registration - under 18 (Includes t-shirt and lite breakfast) $15.00 visit: https://allfaithsfoodbank.givecloud.co/product/CASHKICKOFF2023/walk-to-end-summer-hunger for more information and to register.

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;

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 office.