Welcome To First Presbyterian!

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.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Timothy T. Boggess
Pastor

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 Livestreaming of the contemporary and traditional worship services is available at www.firstpressarasota.org/worship-live. Additionally, sermons are archived on YouTube.

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.

Called Congregational Meeting - TODAY September 10, 2023, 12:00 noon

The session is calling a congregational meeting **TODAY,** following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary. The purpose is for the **election of elders and deacons**, and the **church officer nominating committee members**. A booklet of the nominees' biographies is available at the worship services today or online. All church members who are able are asked to be present to ensure a quorum. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please be in prayer for all of our church leaders.

Inquirers' Class, Next Sunday, September 17

If you are interested in learning more about this dynamic congregation, we'd love to get better acquainted! Our next inquirers' class will be on **Sunday, September 17**, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This class typically includes information concerning the beliefs, history, worship, and practices of the Presbyterian Church. We will meet together in class (room 225) from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., worship together from 11:00 a.m. – 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.

New Bible Study Started on September 6, with Pastor Tim offering two Wednesday Bible studies: an in-person Bible study at noon in Room 203 and a Zoom Bible study at 7:00 p.m. Both classes are studying the text for the coming Sunday's sermon. See *News @ First* for Zoom link. Tim's Bible study will continue every Wednesday.

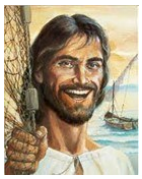
The Lectionary Beginning today Pastor Tim will be preaching through the Narrative Lectionary. The Narrative Lectionary is a four-year cycle of scripture readings designed to give listeners a better understanding of the arc of the biblical story from creation to redemption. You can read more about the Narrative Lectionary in this link from Luther Theological Seminary where it originated: https://www.workingpreacher.org/narrative-faq. The Sunday School curriculum for children and youth is also based on the Narrative Lectionary, thereby inviting the whole church to engage with the great stories of our faith.

Director of Christian Education The DCE search committee has posted the position description for a Director of Christian Education on our church website and on several other websites inviting qualified candidates to apply for this full-time position. We will be searching for a person educated and experienced in Bible and Christian Education. This person cannot be a member of our congregation. We are praying for the person who will be our new DCE and a partner of our Faith community.

Sunday School begins TODAY We are excited to see you for the first day of Sunday school! We begin the Narrative Lectionary at the beginning of the Bible with Genesis 4b-25—God Creates Humans. Sunday school hour starts at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 10:50 a.m. to allow time for those attending the 11:00 a.m. service. We encourage parents to drop off your children and enjoy coffee hour in the fellowship hall. **PreK to 5th graders must be picked up by a parent/guardian OR an authorized pick up person.** Please ask a greeter for directions. See New@First for more information.

PreK-2nd graders - Room 215, 3rd-5th Graders - Room 222, Middle and High School - The Loft

New Adult Education Class



"Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John"
Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. 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. See more information in *News@First.*

More Fellowship Fun



The Membership & Fellowship team needs volunteers to help with refreshments and cleanup after the 10:00 a.m. fellowship hour. Next Sunday, September 17 is a day we especially need extra hands. Cleanup after the fellowship hour takes a half hour. Whether you stay 10 minutes or 30 minutes, your help will be greatly appreciated! Stop in the kitchen and let us know when you can help. Everyone is invited to the 10:00 fellowship hour. We serve hot drinks, cold drinks, fruit, sweets, cheese and crackers, chips, and more sweets. Enjoy the opportunity to converse with people from both church services while enjoying your favorite snacks!

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.

