## September 18, 2022 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.*

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## *TOWN HALL MEETINGS*

### *TODAY - Sunday, September 18*

**Come at 10:05 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. - Fellowship Hall**

**AND**

### *Wednesday, September 21*

**Join in by Zoom at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.**




Recently the congregation was asked **what their dreams are for our church**. The responses have been very helpful in guiding the session and Stewardship Ministry Team. Together, we are holding four town hall meetings to share the responses of our dreams for the future of FPC:

- **TODAY, September 18 at 10:05 a.m. and at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**
  - **Please make every effort to participate in one of these meetings!**
- **THIS WEDNESDAY, September 21 at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., both by Zoom**
  - There will be two additional town hall meetings **this Wednesday by Zoom. You can participate at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.**

Zoom link for 1:00 p.m.
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84448381456?pwd=TnVPSFIwVUN1U08wOGsvdUgzdEVvUT09

Zoom link for 7:00 p.m.
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85070889005?pwd=a25PbG9UbHprT2NxOEpwbVRzTnBqZz09

The Zoom links are also in *News@First.*

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## *FPC Blood Drive: TODAY - Sunday, September 18*
## *8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.*

Anyone who donates twice from June through September will receive a $20 Amazon gift card! Please contact **Cheryl Track,** Faith Community Nurse to register, (941) 320-3828, 4tracks@comcast.net

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has now removed the referral guidelines for potential donors who were deferred from donating blood because of Mad Cow Disease. This means that many who were ineligible to donate blood because they spent time in certain European countries during particular years are now eligible to donate blood at SunCoast Blood Centers! (Read more in *News@First.*)

**You can now donate platelets on the bloodmobile** due to the high volume of need at the SMH Cancer Center, Moffitt Cancer and Florida Cancer Centers. Every time you donate platelets, you get a $25 Amazon gift card.

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## *Farewell Reception for Craig and Donna Miller*
## *Next Sunday, September 25 - 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall*

Let's gather together to express our appreciation to Craig for serving as our Bridge Interim Pastor these past four months! He has been a gift to us during this time.

## *Fellowship Hour*

The Membership and Fellowship Committee invites all church members and friends to come to Fellowship Hall on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. to enjoy a multitude of baked goods, fruit, crackers, cheese, hot and cold drinks, and fellowship. This is a good time to connect with old and new friends, and learn more about what our church is up to. Last Sunday, **SURE Executive Director Dai Thao** met with church members about 2022–2023 plans. This Sunday, September 18, you can grab some refreshments and join the **town hall meeting at 10:05 a.m. Another meeting will be held at 12:15 p.m.**

Don't miss September 25, when we say thank you to **Craig and Donna Miller** for their four months of service here as Craig has been our Bridge Transitional Pastor.

If you would like to help the team on occasion with setup, cleanup, or bringing snacks, speak to anyone you see setting up or cleaning up, or contact Joanne Simons, SimonsJC1@gmail.com, or Sue Hargis Spigel, hargisspigel@yahoo.com.

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## *Come Paint a Rock!*

As part of this stewardship season, we can help to continue the tradition of welcoming those who seek to grow in God's love and grace.

There will be an **intergenerational rock painting activity NEXT Sunday, September 25,** during the fellowship coffee hour starting at 10:00 a.m. Paint pens and rocks will be provided, or you can bring your own rock. All levels of talent are welcome!

Each rock will be labeled with our church logo, QR code, and "All are welcome here!" Once painted and labeled, the rocks will be placed around town, inviting those who find them to discover FPC.

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## *The Education and Formation Committee Wants to Hear from You!*

Planning is underway to offer our entire congregation a year of opportunities to learn about and grow closer to God. The Education and Formation Committee is looking for your ideas. Please complete the brief online survey using the link or QR code below to contribute your opinion. The survey will remain active until the end of September, although we are beginning to review responses as they are received. Please reach out to **Emily Weitekamp** or **Carrie Mills** with your questions.

**Here's the QR code (at left) and the link (below) to the survey:**

https://forms.office.com/r/bKaM28M9WD

## *Peace and Global Witness Offering*




The Peace and Global Witness Offering supports the efforts of the church at every level and provides witness to God's gift of peace in the world. Gifts to the offering are divided as follows: 25% retained by First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota for support of our own peacemaking ministry; 25% used to support presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts; and 50% forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

**We will receive this special offering on World Communion Sunday, October 2.** We hope everyone can participate in this important sharing of our treasure.

## *Presbyterian Women*

PW Bible study meets ***THIS* Wednesday, September 21** at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. We will begin the *Horizons* Bible Study "Celebrating Sabbath". **Elaine Barnett** is leading the first lesson. The study guide is not necessary to join and all women are invited. Contact Elaine (Email: ewbarnet@me.com) for the Zoom link.

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## *Volunteer Day Trip to Beth-El Farmworker Ministry*
## Sponsored by the Mission and Justice Committee

### *Wednesday, September 28*
### Work at Beth-El: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon




Be a part of the group from First Presbyterian, Sarasota, that gathers at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma to volunteer sorting food or related activities on the last Wednesday of each month. This mission partner distributes food to help 600-900 folks each week. To sign up or for more information, contact **Dave Householder** at dphouse47@gmail.com; call or text (724) 462-4235.

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## *FPC'S Weekly All Faiths Food Distribution*

With gratitude to All Faiths Food Bank for a generous $3,000 Capacity Expansion Grant, we have expanded our food offering and **are now averaging over 100 families per week!**

Thanks for the generous donation of time from our FPC volunteers who help make it possible for us to continue to run our drive-through pantry. More volunteers are needed. Please consider **joining us on Thursday mornings to volunteer.** We start packing food at 8:30 a.m. and serve from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

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## *Church Life App*

***Church Life*** is an app that is available to church members with iPhones or Androids. You can search for members, view phone and address information, photos, and family members. You can send a text or call with a simple tap on the phone number. You can even send an email.




**Beginning November 1, 2022** the Church Life app will no longer be available in your cellphone's App Store. If you want to use the online directory via the Church Life app, please download it now from your App Store for your IOS and Android's phones. If you have the Church Life app now on your phone you will not lose the app, but you cannot reinstall it once it has been deleted after November 1. After the November deadline you can go to Churchlife.mobi using the search engine of your choice and you can log in using your email address and password.

**Here's how to access church member information:**

**1) Download ACS Church Life** from your App Store using either iPhone or Android (Blackberry and other mobile devices can enter *www.churchlife.mobi* from any mobile browser).

**2) Log in.** Use the same username/email and password you use for your member login on our website.

*You can bring your phone into the church office and Lisa Garcia, Finance Manager, would be happy to help you navigate getting Church Life on your phone. Please call (941) 955-8119 to set up a time.*

# HEALTH and WHOLENESS

## *Donate Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids*

Look for the Lions Club box located in church office to donate eyeglasses and hearing aids you no longer use. Contact Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse, for more information, (941) 320-3828, 4tracks@comcast.net

## *Mental Health First Aid Refresher Class - September 30*

If you took the Mental Health First Aid class April 2019 at First Presbyterian and would like to renew your certification, FPC will be hosting the class **Friday, September 30, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.** There will be no charge to attend the class without receiving certification; $30 for certification. Tracy Daniels, BayCare Behavioral Health Educator, will be the instructor. Please contact Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse to **register by Monday, September 19,** (941) 320--3828, 4tracks@comcast.net

## *NAMI Walks Your Way - October 8, Payne Park*

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is sponsoring this walk in Payne Park, FPC's neighbor. The event is to promote public awareness of mental health and reduce stigma, raise funds, and build community.

**• REGISTRATION: 8:00 a.m. • WALK KICKS OFF: 9:30 a.m. • CLOSING CEREMONY: 11:30 a.m.**

The walk features food vendors, raffles, DJ, face painting, fire truck, specialty T-shirts, and community resource tables. Register today!

Go to https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1241

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## *We're Here for You!*

The FPC care team, Stephen Ministers, deacons, elders and church staff continue to be available for you. Please feel free to reach out to **Cheryl Track,** Faith Community Nurse (941) 320-3828 or call the church office (941) 955-8119 if we can be of support to you.

## *Pastoral Care*

When you or a loved one is hospitalized, it is important that you contact the church or one of the pastors to inform us directly **and** inform the hospital that you are a member of our congregation and would welcome a visit by one of our pastors. ***Hospitals will not contact the church.*** Patients also need to note their relationship with our congregation as a member. Thank you for your assistance.

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## *FPC Sarasota Giving Options*

**Offering baskets** will be available as you exit. Your gifts make a great 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.

If you are not currently receiving the weekly electronic newsletter, ***News@First,*** and would like to, please call the church office at (941) 955-8119 or email info@firstpressarasota.org to sign up!