February 13, 2022 Announcements

We're glad you joined us today!
We hope that you experience the love of God and of this congregation as we worship, celebrate, and serve together.

Souper Bowl of Caring Today

Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 with the simple prayer by a Presbyterian seminary intern, desiring to inspire others on Super Bowl Sunday to donate to those "who are without a bowl of soup to eat." Since then, youth groups have been harnessing the energy of people coming together for football, food, and fun to raise funds to help feed those in need. Together, we tackle hunger by supporting local hunger relief through this ministry.

Our youth will be stationed with soup pots at the doors after both services today to receive your gifts of money to help alleviate hunger in our area. Checks may be made to First Presbyterian Church with "Souper Bowl" in the memo line.

Including Your Photo in the Online Church Directory



Today, February 13, and next Sunday, February 20, the Membership and Fellowship Committee will be on hand to take individual and family pictures for the online church directory. The photo shoot will be in the courtyard from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. No appointment is needed—just show up when you are able during these times. You also have the option of sending a favorite photo of yourself to the church office to be added to the online directory: Email: info@firstpressarasota.org

Please help us to update the online directory. Current photos will be helpful both to our members and to our new pastor!

Celebration Sunday, February 27

Worship at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, open-air potluck brunch at 11:00 a.m.



The session has called the **annual meeting of the congregation** to take place in conjunction with our worship on **Sunday, February 27 at 10:00 a.m.** in the sanctuary.* Music will be led by **Dixieland jazz instruments, choir, and guest singer Syreeta Banks.** Following joy-filled worship, we will fill our plates in the fellowship hall and **eat in the open air.** Please bring a dish to share. You may drop it off in the Fellowship Hall prior to the service. Warmers will be on and ready to receive anything that needs to stay warm.

Youth Fundraiser: Our youth will help to host the brunch. During the meal you will have an opportunity to make a donation to help fund summer youth trips, conferences, and mission trips. Just look for the "Moving Mountains" display! (Checks can be made to First Presbyterian Church, with "youth trips" in the memo line.)

Please join us; it will be so good to be together!

* *We do not anticipate needing to take any votes at this gathering, but want to receive officially 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 members of your Officer Nominating Committee, 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). Copies of the annual report will be available online and in person beginning February 18.*



"Every Living Creature: God's Design for Animals" Six-Week Adult Education Class Offered via Zoom Wednesdays, February 23 - April 3

The class will begin on **Wednesday, February 23, at 12:00 noon by Zoom.** The Zoom link is in *News@First,* our Friday electronic newsletter. This class, taught by **Doug DeCelle,** retired minister, and **Hal Serrie,** anthropologist, will present the biblical evidence that God's intention is to preserve all living things, bringing them to perfection and a joyous, harmonious existence. We will consider the nature and destiny of the whole created world. For details visit Doug DeCelle's website:

https://www.douglasdecelle.net/every-living-creature-gods-design-for-animals/

Look to the Cross: A Lenten Study

Lent is a time to focus on the cross as a central symbol of Christianity. Biblical and theological perspectives will be explored to understand why and how Jesus' death is so crucial to our faith. This class will be led by **Elaine Barnett via Zoom and held Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. beginning March 8.** Sign-up by emailing Elaine at: ewbarnet@me.com

Lesson titles are:

Mar 8 - The Crux of the Matter
Mar 15 - The Cross as Necessary?
Mar 22 - Accessing the Presence of God
Mar 29 - Picturing the Atonement
Apr 5 - The Cross in the Tradition of the Reformers
Apr 12 - The Invitation to Live into the Way of the Cross

Presbyterian Women

The annual PW Peace River Presbytery spring retreat has changed to one day only on **Monday, March 28** from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the beautiful campus of DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center in Ellenton. There are mini-workshops, a service project, information about the next Horizon Bible study, worship, music, lunch and fellowship with ladies from all over the Presbytery. There is room to social distance. Access the informational flyer and registration form through the link in *News@First* or pick them up from the church office. **Send your completed registration** to Barbara Borderieux (address is on the registration form) **before March 9** and enclose the $30 registration/lunch fee. Scholarship money is available upon request for anyone that attends. Simply notify Flossie Paul or Pamela Lamb and they will make arrangements for you to be reimbursed.

If you want to join the effort to support the Mam women of Guatemala in providing nutrition to their malnourished children, Mary Webb is happy to accept a donation of any amount. A special drink mix called incaparina is making a difference in the lives of these children. Please **include "incaparina" in the memo line of your check made out to Presbyterian Women** and send or deliver it by the end of this month.

Bible study is on **Wednesday, February 16 at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.** We will be discussing lesson 6 on Bathsheba from the *Horizons* 2021-2022 study guide led by Ardis Rea. All are welcome. The study guide is not required to participate. Please contact Elaine Barnett at ewbarnet@me.com for the Zoom link.

Sarasota Music Club

The Sarasota Music Club will be holding its free concert in the sanctuary on **February 18** at 10:30 a.m. Anne Tormela, lyric coloratura soprano, will be performing *Beloved Opera, Operetta, Broadway and Popular Classics.* The congregation is cordially invited.

The Francis House Steering Committee has begun a weekend hot meal delivery plan. Already, our First Presbyterian Church family delivered a healthy hot meal to the family currently staying in Francis House. Pine Shores Presbyterian Church will deliver the next meal. To support this mission with a cooked meal, contact **Pam Mathes.** Cell phone (518) 495-3776; Email: pjmathes@hotmail.com

You can support Francis House by donating items from the list in *News@First*, most of which are found on Family Promise's Amazon Wish List. Look for a collection box in the narthex or go to: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1GU9NWA2IBW9C/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1?_encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist (link in *News@First).* These items include necessities for babies, new moms, and the house.



Caritas Volunteer Opportunity

Caritas of Sarasota is an outreach ministry that provides food and other assistance to Sarasota residents in acute financial need (e.g., utility payments, prescriptions, transportation, and work attire). **The Herrig Caritas Center** is located at 1645 Fruitville Road. **The Caritas Food Pantry** is housed at First Baptist Church on Main Street. FPC sends financial support to the **Herrig Caritas Center.** Our teams of FPC volunteers serve by assisting in the **Caritas Food Pantry.** If you would like to join this team, please contact Dave Householder: dphouse47@gmail.com

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

NEXT TRIP: Wednesday, February 24
Work at Beth-El: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

You are invited to 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—a lot of help is needed. To sign up or for more information, contact Dave Householder at dphouse47@gmail.com; call or text (724) 462-4235. Let us know of your interest in carpooling. Come and make a difference!



Run for the Turtles 5K and Fun Run
Saturday, April 2, at Siesta Beach

The Membership and Fellowship Committee invites interested church members and friends to participate in the **Run for the Turtles** sponsored by Mote Marine Laboratory **Saturday, April 2.** Run, walk, or jog at Siesta Beach--or virtually, anywhere you choose, now through April 2. Go with our buddies or on your own, or just donate the race fee (adults $40, children $30). In the past, refreshments and coffee have been provided free by vendors.

Here is the link to the race: https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Sarasota/RunfortheTurtles.

This race benefits **Mote's Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program.** It's a good way to support environmental work here in Sarasota County, especially after hearing from our Faith Focus speaker, Rev. Dr. Neddy Astudillo.

For questions, contact **Sue Hargis Spigel** at hargisspigel@yahoo.com or (941) 735-8786. Links to the run signup and Mote's conservation and research program are in *News@First.*

Mark Your Calendar:

- ***Ash Wednesday Service - March 2, 6:00 p.m.***
- ***Upcoming FPC Sarasota Blood Drives***
  Sundays, March 20 and June 12; 8:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Sarasota Conference on Spirituality, Community and Social Change - April 1 and 2

Friday, 6:30-9:00 p.m. & Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (breakfast snacks & lunch included)



All are invited to this exploration of **Dr. Howard Thurman's** deep spirituality and his influence on the civil rights movement. Conference held at First United Church of Christ, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. Registration: $35 per person.

Dr. Thurman was a bridge between Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. He provided theological and philosophical foundations for non-violent engagement in social change. He was a pioneer in interfaith work and a seminal figure in the American civil rights movement. **Dr. Luther Smith,** from Atlanta, and **Dr. Shively Smith,** from Boston, two of the leading experts on Dr. Thurman's life, will be coming to Sarasota to lead this reflection on his life and legacy. Register online through *News@First.*

Current COVID Guidelines On-Campus

Due to continued high COVID rates in our area, masks are required for worship and while in any buildings on campus (regardless of vaccination status). Though rates continue to be high, we are grateful to see them declining steadily. The session will reexamine its policy on February 22. In the meantime, our prayers continue for all who are ill or suffering hardship because of the pandemic.

FPC Sarasota Giving Options

Offering baskets will be available as you exit. Your gifts make a great difference during this transitional season.

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: Are you interested in the convenience of contributing by text message? Text FPC2050 to 73256 to donate via text. Standard rates may apply.

Mail In: All mail, including contribution checks, securely arrives to 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!