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, January 5, 2025

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.

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.

January 12 - ONE COMBINED SERVICE
Second Annual Chili Cookoff NEXT Sunday



On January 12 there will be one combined service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, followed by the Chili Cookoff. This was a favorite potluck last year and promises to be a lot of fun once again.

Will your Chili be the winner this year? Find out by signing up to be one of the **12 contestants!** Text Sue Nurczyk at (941) 586-5486. It is first-come, first-served, so don't delay!
All chili must be in a crock pot and include a description. Note any ingredients that may cause any allergic reaction. Do NOT include your name, as this will be blind judging by attendees.

Voting will take place by depositing dollar bills to 'vote' for the favorite; most dollars collected for a single chili will determine the winner! *All proceeds will again go to Family Promise this year.*

Note: If you are not cooking chili, you can contribute side dishes such as cornbread, salads, macaroni & cheese, etc. The side dishes do not require pre-registration.

We will also celebrate Rachel's 20th anniversary of working at First Presbyterian in the Fellowship Hall with the Chili Cookoff. We will have a basket for notes and cards to Rachel. Be sure to express your gratitude to Rachel when you see her in and around the church. Thank you, Rachel!

Epiphany Sunday School Lesson TODAY

Children and youth are invited to a whole group Epiphany lesson in the Art Room (219) after New Song until 10:45. Come learn more about the meaning of the Maji's story!

Sunday School Teacher Planning and Collaboration, Next Sunday

January 12 at 9: 00 a.m. (before the 10:00 a.m. worship service) in Room 203. Children and youth Sunday School teachers are invited to a teacher collaboration to receive curriculum binders and plan for the spring Sunday School season. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please Join Us for Two NEW Adult Classes!

TODAY January 5: **The Killer App to Supercharge Your Faith in the New Year** at 10:05-10:55 a.m. in Room 203. Want to know what the app is? Join Doug DeCelle for an engaging and lively reveal that will be sure to enrich your faith!
January 19, 26 and February 2, 9: **Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts** at 10:05-10:55 a.m. in Room 203, taught by Janet Olshewsky.
Christmas is still going on. Scripture tells us that all of us have spiritual gifts, to be used for the common good. Which ones are yours? How can you use yours for the common good? These are questions to be addressed in a new class for adults beginning January 19 and running for four weeks. Please sign up through the church office so we will know how many supplies to order.

Cedarkirk All-Church Day Saturday, January 25

Registration HARD DEADLINE January 8 We want to extend a special invitation to attend our all-church family outing at **Cedarkirk** on January 25, 2025! The time will be from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. See the registration information in *News@First* or talk to Eric

Shake It Up With Salt Shakers

If you love food and fellowship, please sign up for the next Salt Shakers. Groups of six to eight people (singles or couples) get together once a month from February through April or May.
Each group decides whether they want to have a potluck at a member's home, dine at a restaurant or have a picnic or brunch. Sign up forms are in the foyer of the Fellowship Hall and the narthex of the Sanctuary.
Last day to sign up is January 26.
Questions? Call Marcia Schaper 941 539 9207 or Kim Schmeits 941 284 0001

PW Horizons Bible Study, January 15

Air is the breath of life. The fifth lesson of the PW Horizons Bible Study, Let Justice Roll Down, is "Air Quality". We will study the air pollutants and the fight between corporate profit and human life. All are invited to join us for this Bible study. It is held via Zoom on the third Wednesday of each month.

Barb Andrews will be leading the lesson on Wednesday, January 15 at 10:00 a.m. We look forward to meaningful discussions about how we are contaminating our air, factory farms' effect on our air, and which neighborhoods are more likely to be affected. You can participate in one or all of the lessons. The study guide is optional. However, Elaine Barnett can scan a copy if you would like one. Also, contact Elaine at ewbarnet@me.com to get the Zoom info if this is your first lesson.

Realm and Online Giving

The wait is over; members and affiliate members are now able to access Realm!
Please read the detailed article in the *News@First.* If you have any questions, please call the church office (941) 955-8119.

For on-line givers, please use the QR code or enter https://onrealm.org/fpcsrq/give/now into your favorite browser. Text "FPC2050" to 73256 to give, using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP.

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