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, May 5, 2024

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 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.



Join Us Out at the Ball Game!

Marauders take on the Port St. Lucie Mets!

Our Spring FPC Fellowship event is coming up on **Friday, May 10**; the Bradenton Marauders' Faith & Family Night. We have a block of seats reserved for us behind home plate.

The Bradenton Marauders are a minor league baseball team of the Florida State League and the Single-A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Cost is $15 for admission, and that includes a Pepsi drink ticket and a hat!
Where: LECOM Park in Bradenton
Time and Date: Friday, May 10. The game starts at 6:30 p.m.
How to purchase tickets: Use the QRC code.
Come join in with your fellow FPC'ers for a fun night at the ballgame, bring your friends!

Last week was the final week of Sunday School, we want to say THANK YOU

to all of our AMAZING Sunday School teachers for giving your time, energy, creativity, and love to our children and youth this year. WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Clare Carter, Lydia Chapdelain, Rebecca Clissold, Leah Cotter, Rich Dulaney, Christine Harrington, Mariah Martin, Scott McLeod, Katy Sabin, Sandi Soper, Emily Weitekamp



Adult Class, The Bible, The Church and Social Issues



Continues on Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. via Zoom - April 16 - May 21

While Christianity is a personal religion, it is also an eminently social religion. We are never Christians "on our own." Our faith takes shape and is expressed in the context of the Christian community, the church. The church lives its mission and ministries in the context of social communities, wherever they may be. Christians in the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions have emphasized that the church must engage in issues in society. One of the "Great Ends of the Church" is "The Promotion of Social Righteousness." Society is where God is at work. 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.

Join the Usher Team

As summer approaches, our roster of loyal ushers for both services will shrink as folks travel and/or settle into their summer homes. Our worship committee is reaching out to those who plan to mostly stay in Sarasota and are willing to volunteer to help either at the New Song or the Traditional service. Duties entail a warm welcome, helping with offering collection, and a bit of straightening up at the conclusion of worship. Please contact James Jordan by email jej.jordan@gmail.com if you can lend a hand and a smile as we welcome each member of our growing congregation.

A note from the Invest In Children Steering Committee



Holly Brody is the new principal of Brentwood Elementary School. Our Brentwood Elementary team provided a large plant to celebrate her new position. She writes:

Thank you for your kindness! The plant is beautiful and decorates my new office. I sincerely appreciate the continued support of First Presbyterian. You have played an integral role in our school community. Please share my love and appreciation.

Holly Brody

Vacation Bible School is Back! June 3-7
Discovery on Adventure Island: A Quest for God's Great Light



Join your fellow explorers in music, crafts, science, recreation, and Bible stories to discover how we can find God's light in ourselves and spread it to others. All walks of faith are welcome. Let's kick off the summer together! **When:** June 3 - 7, drop off from 8:30-9:00 a.m. camp is 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Where:** The fellowship hall **Camp Cost:** $30 per camper. See *News @ First* and sign up soon as space is limited. The deadline to register your child is **tomorrow, Monday, May 6.**

Worship Online If you miss a Sunday morning worship, or if you are a snow bird heading north you can view the archived live streaming of the contemporary and traditional worship services available at www.firstpressarasota.org/worship-live, and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017. Services are archived for one year, so you can go back and watch your favorite sermon, or send a link to a friend!

Bible Study Wednesday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

As we study our final lesson of Sacred Encounters, we will come to understand that the community of faith relies on the power of Jesus Christ in times of crisis. In Lesson 9 of the PW Bible study, we will study the passage in Acts when Peter performs the miracle of raising Tabitha from the dead. Betsy Taylor will be leading the discussion, "People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples". Join us via Zoom on Wednesday, May 15 at 10:00 a.m. All are invited to join us in this study of sacred encounters. The study guide is optional. However, Elaine Barnett can scan you a copy if you would like one. Also contact Elaine at ewbarnet@me.com to get the Zoom information, if this is your first lesson.

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