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, July 13, 2025

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, thank you for worshiping here today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of this congregation, please be sure to speak with the pastor after today's worship or share your information on the pew pad or friendship card. 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! For the 10:00 a.m. worship in June and July, children are invited to engage in worship through a variety of activity resources. Coloring sheets are available on the tables in the fellowship hall, and a children's activity center is set up in the corner of the room. In the Sanctuary, worship bags with quiet activities are available in the narthex. Feel free to pick one up on your way in.

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)

Summer Worship: What's Coming in July & August

Worship will continue in the Fellowship Hall for all Sundays in July. On Sunday, August 3, we'll return to the Sanctuary for a combined service and potluck lunch. Then on Sunday, August 10, our two-service schedule resumes with Rally Day and a Backpack Blessing. Stay after worship each Sunday in July for coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship!

Combined Worship & Potluck – August 3

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, August 3, we'll gather for a combined worship service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. During the service, our youth will share reflections from their Montreat trip.
After worship, head to Fellowship Hall for a church-wide potluck lunch and our Montreat Bake Sale Fundraiser to support future youth trips.
Please bring a dish to share based on your last name:

- Last names A–O: Main Dish
- Last names P–Z: Side or Salad

In addition everyone is invited to bring a dessert to donate to the bake sale fundraiser!
If you have questions or would like to coordinate your donation, please email Eric Robinson.

Ice Cream Social, July 20 - For The Whole Church Family

Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a Family Ice Cream Social.
We'll gather at **Great Heights Creamery** (1371 Blvd. of the Arts) for a time of sweet treats and even sweeter fellowship. Bring the whole family and come enjoy some cool ice cream and warm community!

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: Texas Hill Country Flooding

Catastrophic flash flooding over July 4–5 in Texas Hill Country has claimed over 100 lives, with search and rescue efforts still underway. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working with regional partners to assess needs and offer emotional and spiritual care.
To support the response, you can write a check to *First Presbyterian Church* with "Texas Flooding" in the memo line or give online through our website. Your gift will be forwarded to PDA.

Sunday School Teachers and Subs Needed This Fall

Our Sunday School ministry plays a vital role in nurturing the faith of our youngest members. Each week, dedicated volunteers share God's love and help children grow in their relationship with Jesus through stories, activities, and prayer. As we prepare for the Fall, this is our greatest need. We are looking for adults who feel led to walk alongside our children, on a regular basis or as an occasional substitute. Training, curriculum, and support are all provided. All you need is a willing heart and a love for Jesus and kids! If you are curious or feel a nudge to get involved, we'd love to talk with you. To learn more or ask questions please reach out to Eric Robinson ERobinson@firstpressarasota.org .

College/Continuing Education/Technical School Scholarships

Interested students should go to the website www.firstpressarasota.org, go to "Grow" tab and select "Young Adult" and print an application. The application and transcripts must be received by Monday, **July 28.** Returning applicants need only to have a current transcript sent in along with any updated contact information. All college and technical school students are encouraged to apply.

Summer Sundays: Ephesians & 1 John

Please join us Sundays from 9:00-9:45 in room 203 through the summer as we explore the book of I John together. We also have a brand new First Connect / Adult Education Newsletter to share with you! Please sign up to receive the newsletter using this QR code.

Family Ministry Updates

Please join us each Sunday this summer for an engaging time of worship, children's message, and activities. We have worship bulletins for kids and teens and many ways to engage with the Bible in our Family Newsletter.

Adult Education Class: "Faith in the Early Church" Has Been Rescheduled

This class will be taught on **Tuesdays starting July 22 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom** by Elaine Barnett. See *New@First* for details.

Rick Foltz was elected on June 8 and installed on July 6 as an elder for the class of 2025

Rick & Lorraine relocated to Sarasota in 2017 from the Philadelphia area, drawn by its vibrant philanthropic and cultural opportunities. Their journey has been shaped by a deep appreciation for diverse cultures, having spent over a decade living in Canada, Taiwan, The Philippines, and Shanghai, China. These experiences broadened their perspective on home, faith, and the importance of inclusivity—values that guided their choice of First Presbyterian as their spiritual community.

Rick's professional career spans Human Resources, Sales & Marketing, and General Management in Health Care, as well as entrepreneurial ventures in retail, a logistics startup in China, and his current role as a Business Coach for privately held companies. Through his work, he has found joy in mentoring others, a passion that extends into his church involvement.

Previously, Rick served as an Elder at Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church in New Hope, PA, focusing on Personnel and the Five-Year Strategic Initiative Plan. At First Presbyterian, Sarasota, he has been a tutor for the past two years at Brentwood Elementary as part of the Invest In Children mission. Being a tutor is a reminder that small acts of service can have a lasting impact.

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