

# 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, August 30, 2026**

**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!** 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.fpcsrq.org/streaming](http://www.fpcsrq.org/streaming) and on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017](http://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/Lisa@fpcsrq.org.



## **Congregational Meeting - Today**

Please plan to join us for a Congregational Meeting today at 12:00 noon in the sanctuary. The congregation will gather to hear the report from the nominating committee and to elect new officers for the Class of 2029. Please join us as we prayerfully elect those who will help lead and serve First Presbyterian Church in the years ahead.

## **Learn More About Our Next Visit to Cuba**

Anyone who is interested in experiencing a personal connection with our sister church, Juan G. Hall, in Cárdenas Cuba, is welcome to join us next Sunday, September 6, at 10:00 am in the parlor to learn more about our next mission visit in February. If you are interested but unable to make the meeting, please contact Carol Papa, [carolpapasrq@gmail.com](mailto:carolpapasrq@gmail.com) or Graham Hart, [2grahamhart@gmail.com](mailto:2grahamhart@gmail.com).

## **Youth Group: Connect, Serve & Grow!**

Youth Group meetings and events will take place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings of each month, unless otherwise communicated.

September 6: Details coming soon!

September 20: Middle and high school youth will help with our Rise Against Hunger event, followed by pizza and a time of discussion in the loft.

## ***Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event***

We are getting ready for another Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event! Join us for this intergenerational opportunity to serve together as we work toward our goal of packing 20,000 nutritious meals for communities in need around the world. This is a wonderful opportunity for all ages to roll up their sleeves, work together, and make a difference. Sign up today and be part of this exciting mission opportunity!  
**Sunday, September 20 from 1:00–3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**



## ***Ruth: An Analytical and Interactive Study***

Dr. Paul Urbanick will lead an analytical and interactive study the book of **Ruth**, exploring this biblical short story from both historical and literary perspectives. Discover what Ruth's story has to say from a feminine perspective as the women of the Bible speak to us. Their stories and messages remain remarkably relevant today.

**Be sure to read the Book of Ruth before class!**

**When:** 10:00 a.m. Sunday, August 30 & Sunday, September 6

**Where:** Room 203, above the church office

## ***New Adult Sunday School Class: Aging as a Spiritual Journey***

Beginning **Sunday, September 13**, Dent Davis and Mary Ziegler will lead a new adult Sunday School class, ***Aging as a Spiritual Journey***.

As Job reminds us, *"Let days speak, and many years teach wisdom"* (Job 32:7). Aging is a journey filled with opportunities for spiritual growth, reflection, and deeper understanding. Together, we will explore stories from the Bible, history, and literature, along with insights from gerontology and psychology, to discover how faith can enrich the aging experience.

Participants will have opportunities to reflect on their own journeys and gain practical insights for navigating the joys and challenges of aging.

Join us **Sundays, September 13–October 25** (no class October 4) at **10:00 a.m. in Room 203**.

## ***LOVE IS FIRST — Wear The Message!***

Back by popular demand, Love Is First shirts are available again! If you missed out last time, now is your chance to get yours. Wear your shirt to church, around town, or wherever you go, and share a simple, powerful message about who we are as a church.

**Orders close Monday, August 31**, with shirts arriving approximately two weeks later. Prices vary by size and style. Free shipping is available to the church, or you may choose to have your shirt shipped elsewhere for a small additional fee. Use the QR code to place your order, contact Rachel Martin at [Rachel@fpcsrq.org](mailto:Rachel@fpcsrq.org) if you have any questions. **Order yours and help us spread the love!**



## ***Inquirers Class – Sunday, September 27***

Are you new to First Presbyterian Church or interested in learning more about who we are and how you can get involved? Join us for our Inquirers Class on Sunday, September 27, beginning with worship in fellowship hall at 9:00 a.m.

Following worship, we will move to the Parlor at 10:00 a.m. We'll spend time together getting acquainted, learning about First Presbyterian Church, the ministries, and opportunities to get involved. We'll also take a tour of our campus before moving to the fellowship hall for lunch and the second part of our gathering.

Lunch is from 12:00–1:30 p.m. and is an important part of the class. It will be a relaxed opportunity to continue the conversation, ask questions, and get to know Rev. Tim Boggess, along with other church leaders and members of the FPC community.

We're trying a new format for our Inquirers Class! This one-day class is designed with busy schedules in mind, especially for people with families and those who may not be able to attend a multi-day class.

Everyone is welcome! Let us know if you will need child care. To sign up, or to find out more contact the church office at (941) 955-8119 or Janet Olszewsky at (941) 376-4431.

***Would you like to receive our Friday E-Newsletter? E-mail [info@fpcsrq.org](mailto:info@fpcsrq.org) to be added to our distribution list.***

