



FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

MAY 2, 2022

First Presbyterian Church

110 North Adams Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Phone (850) 222-4504

Fax (850) 222-2215

email: office@oldfirstchurch.org

website: www.oldfirstchurch.org

www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

Sunday Schedule

9:15 a.m. Adult Church School

Meet and Greet on Zoom & In

Person in the Westminster Room

Program starts at 9:30 a.m.

**9:15 a.m. Nursery open for
infants - two year olds.**

**9:30 a.m. Children's classes
gather for music in room 307.**

**9:45 a.m. Preschool and
Elementary School classes begin
in their respective rooms**

**11:00 a.m. LORD'S DAY WORSHIP
SERVICE**

**Children and vaccinated adults
with masks are welcome in the
Sanctuary. Childcare is available
for children younger than
kindergarten.**

5:00 p.m. Youth Group

In Person and Live-Stream Worship

Visit www.oldfirstchurch.org to
download Sunday's bulletin and
view the service. Services are
recorded and available for later
viewing on YouTube
@FPCTallahassee.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Monday-Friday



Celebrating Graduating Seniors

On Sunday, May 1, we celebrated five graduating
High School Seniors.

Ethan Tozer, graduating from Lincoln HS heading
to Knox College, Illinois; Thomas Kennedy,
graduating from Lincoln HS heading to University
of Florida, Gainesville, FL; Camille Peterman,
graduating from Lincoln HS deciding which school
to attend at this point; Gabi Bynum, graduating
from Lincoln HS going to University of North
Florida, Jacksonville, FL; LeKayla Griffin,
graduating from Leon HS heading to Florida State
University, Tallahassee, FL.

*Pictured above are: Thomas Kennedy, Ethan
Tozer and Camille Peterman. Below are these
seniors with their proud mothers.





THANK YOU

Many thanks to the members of our congregation who have expressed their thoughts and support to Margaret and me over the past week, including those at Westminster Oaks who participated in a gathering this past Wednesday afternoon. At Westminster Oaks, the outpouring of love, support, and grace for Margaret as she seeks a new call was healing and the wisdom of long- time members of our congregation who have experienced many transitions received with gratitude.

Special thanks to Greta Reed who led us in prayer at the conclusion of the meeting and to Joan Custis for reserving the meeting room.

Janet Bowman
Clerk of Session



a joyful noise.

celebrating the ministry and
retirement of Michael Corzine



Saturday, May 14, 2022

5 pm Hymn Festival at First
Presbyterian

6:15 pm Cocktails and hors
d'oeuvres at St.
John's Episcopal

7 pm Dinner and program
at St. John's
Episcopal

The hymn festival is free of charge.

Dinner tickets are \$25 per person and may be purchased:

- By cash or check at the church
- By mailing a check to the church
- Online through Eventbrite* [Link to Eventbrite](#)

*Eventbrite tickets carry a third party processing fee and cost \$26.95

Children 10 and under are free, and we will provide a meal for them.
The dinner will be gluten-free friendly. Vegetarian/vegan options are
available upon advance request. Tickets to the cocktail hour-only are
available for \$10 and must be purchased in-person or by mail.

Please email Christy (christy@oldfirstchurch.org) or Emily
(bruno.emilyann@gmail.com) for more information, to RSVP for kids-
meals, or request a vegetarian meal.

Please purchase tickets and RSVP by May 9.

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST AND THE PRESENT NEEDED ASAP

We are collecting photos
to show at Michael
Corzine's Retirement
Celebration Dinner. If you
have some actual photo
prints, please begin to
gather them and bring
them to the church office.
If you have digital photos,
you may use this [link](#) to
upload them.

Trinity United Presbyterian Church's Celebration of History at Faith Presbyterian

Friday, April 29 a contingent from First Presbyterian joined in the celebration of Trinity Presbyterian Church's history at Faith Presbyterian Church. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship and learning. We hope to continue the discussion by sharing some of the research found by the Healing Racism Task Force.





The church directory and current prayer concerns are now available on our website on a password-protected page for members of the congregation.

You do not have to set an individual password. If you would like to be able to access this information as it is updated, please call Lori Touchton in the church office for the password. We ask that you do not circulate the password outside the congregation.

The majority of our website pages are accessible without a password - in other words, you do not need a password to continue viewing information on the website. The only pages that will require a password, for now, are the church directory and the prayer concerns.



Our New Emergency Operation Fund

The pandemic taught that unexpected emergencies can bring major disruptions to personal and church budgets. The federal stimulus package was a one-time deal and it helped our church make it through the worst of the pandemic when pledges and giving declined. Salaries, utilities, insurance, and facility maintenance expenses still needed to be paid. Fortunately, we didn't experience a hurricane with its large insurance deductible. To provide a mechanism to address future emergencies, the Session approved the creation of an Emergency Operation Fund for unplanned events. The purpose of this fund is to allow the church to subsist through unforeseen revenue shortfalls or one-time expenses. A target minimum size of the fund is our three months operational budget or approximately \$150,000. This fund is now part of our Legacy and Gifts Plan that also includes the Endowment Fund, the Outreach Fund, the Facilities Reserve Fund, and the Christian Education Fund. But, we need to get some money into the fund. If you wish to make a contribution, please note "Emergency Operation Fund" on your check, or contact our church accountant Jim Davis for details.



This year the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering celebrates a 100 years of generous giving. Over the last century, grants funded by Presbyterian Women have impacted the ministries of more than 200 organizations and transformed the lives of countless people in the United States and around the world.

This centennial year two wonderful projects have been selected to receive the PW Birthday Offering gifts.

1. After Hurricane Maria in 2017 and the earthquake in 2020, the Presbyterian Church in Lares, Puerto Rico became the principal location in the community for food, purified water, and personal items. The church is in need of some very essential upgrades. With the Birthday Offering grant they will be able to renovate and refurbish the kitchen. They will be able to buy all new appliances and replace the old wiring, plumbing and lighting. They will also install solar panels and a heavy duty generator to provide uninterrupted electrical service and water availability.
2. The McCleary House in Farmington, Maine is also in need of some significant renovations. With Birthday Offering grant money they will be able to refurbish this home which provides transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness. The home provides a warm, safe place for 3 to 4 families to live over the course of a year while providing psycho-social, education and vocational training.



Our "visiting" ministry has had to adapt to social distancing restrictions, but we are still trying to keep in touch with members who would appreciate extra care, either because they are home bound or because they are recovering from illness or injury. If you are able to keep in touch with members by phone, text, or email, or if you are aware of a member who would appreciate extra contact with our church family, please let the Care and Outreach team know by contacting Linda Smith at 7Yodanana7@gmail.com.



Nursery and Preschool Childcare

Sitters from Twinkle Toes Childcare agency are staffing our nursery. These sitters are all: background checked, CPR/First Aid trained and vaccinated. Two additional sitters from Twinkle Toes staff the Preschool class.

When we are in-person for church school, 9:15 - Noon, Twinkle Toes sitters will be in the building ready to care for infants through two-years-old in the church nursery. Children aged three - pre-K will be in the preschool class and will be greeted by additional Twinkle Toes sitters.

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter
of
First Presbyterian
Church

The newsletter is prepared on Mondays, including those Mondays that fall on holidays.

**Please submit items for publication to:
newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org
no later than noon on the Monday of publication.**

Presbytery of Florida

produces a monthly electronic newsletter that you may access using this link:

[Panhandle Presbyterian](#)





ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL MAY 8, 2022



Adult Church School in Room 206 and on Zoom!
Meet and greet: Sunday at 9:15 AM
Program starts: Sunday at 9:30 AM

While the Westminster Room is under construction (through the end of May), we will meet next door in Room 206. Everyone is welcome to join us there OR you can connect to the “hybrid” class on Zoom.

Be on the lookout for John's Thursday afternoon email with the week's topic, background reading, and Zoom link for connecting online. If you have not been getting the Thursday emails, please contact office@oldfirstchurch.org so we can get you on the list.

All are welcome! Each Zoom meeting opens new opportunities to learn and share — whether you've attended previously or not.

As in worship, for your safety and as a courtesy to others, we ask all who attend in person to wear masks, respect social distance and, if eligible, be fully vaccinated.

Our program begins promptly at 9:30 AM and ends by 10:30 AM.

After class, those who meet in person can enjoy coffee and fellowship in the courtyard before worship at 11:00 AM.





PROTECT YOUR VOTE

Due to a change in Florida law, Supervisor of Elections Mark S. Earley is contacting some voters by mail asking for information missing from your voter registration record. This is not junk mail!

According to the Supervisor's website, there is no deadline for submission of the information, but your Healing Racism Task Force wants to encourage you to comply. It is important to make sure that our Supervisor of Elections office is not vulnerable to unfounded allegations of fraud or voting irregularities, and it is always important to protect your right to vote.

Fill out the back of your letter and mail it or drop it off at one of the Supervisor of Elections offices.

OR

Go to [RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov](https://www.register-to-vote.org)

OR

Call the helpful employees at the Supervisor Elections office at (850) 606-8683.

MAY 8

**Mother's Day...treat
your mamas well.**

MAY 15

**Arrive at Grace Mission
at 3:45 p.m. to serve
dinner. I think we will
be done before 6. More
details to come.**

MAY 22

**Celebrating our
Seniors Night.**



Healing Racism Task Force

Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday, May 10 at 10:00 a.m.
on zoom. If you would like to
join our work, contact Deborah
Whisnant.



Gifts can be made [online](#), by
calling (800) 872-3283, by texting
PDAUKR to 41444, or by check
made payable to Presbyterian
Church U.S.A. with "DR000156-
Ukraine" on the memo line. Mail to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Old First Church Book Group



**Thursday, May 26 at
7:00 p.m.**

*Resurrecting Church: Where Justice and
Diversity Meet Radical Welcome and Healing
Hope*
by John Cleghorn

We hope to have the author with us to talk
about his experience in turning around a
declining church in Charlotte, North
Carolina by liberating himself, and his
congregation from the myopia of white
privilege.

This is a story of unexpected hope and
imagination for those wondering about the
future of the church – or whether it has
one. Caldwell Presbyterian Church's story
offers a vision of what it can mean to hold
together diversity and justice as we
navigate days in which we are constantly
challenged to give up both.

If you want a copy of the book, contact
Christy@oldfirstchurch.org.



Sunday Festival Readings

MAY 8, 2022
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**ACTS 9:36-43 AND
PSALM 23 OR
ISAIAH 53:1-6
PSALM 114
REVELATIONS 7:9-17
JOHN 10:22-30**



Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

We acknowledge the long history of systemic racism that, through violence, laws, policies, and their implementation, was intended to exclude persons who are not Caucasian from benefits and opportunities - from the first European settlers who considered themselves entitled to land and violently displaced indigenous people from their homes, to the equally long history of slavery which built the wealth of this country, to Jim Crow laws to current instances of police brutality and the overwhelming mass incarceration of people of color.

We declare ourselves utterly opposed to all forms of systemic racism. We are committed to standing with those who find themselves on the receiving end of any form of racism. We will seek out opportunities to oppose all forms of systematic racism and to ensure that black lives matter, as do those of indigenous, Asian, and Latinx people and persons of all colors or countries of origin.

Our faith tells us that we can do no less, if we truly affirm that all human beings are made in god's image.

We dream of a day in which all persons are treated as bearers of that image.





Get your dinner tickets to join Dr. Kurt Gray + our very own Christine White: **Intellectual Humility in a Polarized World**

Tuesday, May 10, 6:30 pm

Join us for our [May 10 Dinner at the Square](#) with Dr. Kurt Gray of UNC Chapel Hill and our very own Executive Director Christine White who will moderate this timely and intriguing discussion about intellectual humility. Simply put, we'll be exploring the importance of knowing you might be wrong (gasp! yes, even you), why this is so critical to address, and what we can do about it to help build human connections and bridge our divides.

Learn more about Kurt and his "very Village Square" work [here](#).

Kurt says our brains are designed to notice patterns and make generalizations to keep us safe rather than discovering truth with accuracy. Finding comfort in our knowledge, even if it's wrong, leads us to overgeneralize what we think we know in unproductive ways. And the harsh reality is that this describes everyone, including you. That's why you and your friends must join us for this pivotal program!

[Grab your tickets](#) to explore what we might achieve together if we remember that we don't know everything and restore intellectual humility to our lives. What a great way to start getting our groove back!

What's on the dinner menu? Lively Cafe's Fran Doxsee will be serving up chicken Marbella (with tofu Marbella as the veggie option), red-skinned mashed potatoes, broccoli, and yeast rolls, with peanut butter brownies and chewy orange bars for dessert!



"Trenchant and groundbreaking work."

—Molly Ball, National Political Correspondent, TIME Magazine

UNUM series continues May 19 via Zoom: Dr. Justin Gest, author of "Majority Minority"

Rarely does a week go by that someone in the media doesn't refer to the impending shift in the demographics of America. Within two decades, it's expected that we'll be a majority minority country. But what does that even mean, exactly? And has anyone stopped to think how a society makes a transition like this successfully? Or were we just planning on winging it?

Lucky for us, our May 19 special guest hasn't just thought about it, he's studied it. Dr. Justin Gest will join us fresh off the release of his book "Majority Minority." Justin is an Associate Professor of Policy and Government at George Mason University's Schar School. He is the author of six books, primarily on the politics of immigration and demographic change. And you might even recognize him from his [2017 visit to Tallahassee](#) when he helped us understand the societal shifts that elected President Donald Trump (Justin saw the shift and wrote "The New Minority" way before "Hillbilly Elegy"). He is insightful, brilliant, and really a lot of fun to have a conversation with. We're teaming him up with our friend and colleague Manu Meel as facilitator, the CEO of [BridgeUSA](#) (a Village Square-like effort to bridge divisions on college campuses), who was recently named to [Forbes 30 under 30](#).

[Register for "Majority Minority" today!](#)



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR MAY 1-15, 2022

Sunday, May 1**Third Sunday of Easter**

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Exod. 18:1–12
1 John 2:7–17
Mark 16:9–20

Monday, May 2

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Exod. 18:13–27
1 Pet. 5:1–14
Matt. (1:1–17) 3:1–6

Tuesday, May 3

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Exod. 19:1–16
Col. 1:1–14
Matt. 3:7–12

Wednesday, May 4

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Exod. 19:16–25
Col. 1:15–23
Matt. 3:13–17

Thursday, May 5

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Exod. 20:1–21
Col. 1:24–2:7
Matt. 4:1–11

Friday, May 6

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Exod. 24:1–18
Col. 2:8–23
Matt. 4:12–17

Saturday, May 7

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Exod. 25:1–22
Col. 3:1–17
Matt. 4:18–25

Sunday, May 8**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Exod. 28:1–4, 30–38
1 John 2:18–29
Mark 6:30–44

Monday, May 9

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Exod. 32:1–20
Col. 3:18–4:6 (7–18)
Matt. 5:1–10

Tuesday, May 10

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Exod. 32:21–34
1 Thess. 1:1–10
Matt. 5:11–16

Wednesday, May 11

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Exod. 33:1–23
1 Thess. 2:1–12
Matt. 5:17–20

Thursday, May 12

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Exod. 34:1–17
1 Thess. 2:13–20
Matt. 5:21–26

Friday, May 13

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Exod. 34:18–35
1 Thess. 3:1–13
Matt. 5:27–37

Saturday, May 14

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Exod. 40:18–38
1 Thess. 4:1–12
Matt. 5:38–48

Sunday, May 15**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Lev. 8:1–13, 30–36
Heb. 12:1–14
Luke 4:16–30

If you wish to read these on your computer you will find them on the PCUSA website [here](#).