



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

Regular Sunday Schedule

Please see changes in the right hand column on this page.

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.

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

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

MAY 16, 2022

Teachers, Advisors and Spiritual Formation Volunteers will be recognized in worship this Sunday, May 22, 2022.



Adult Church School

9:00 - 10:00 AM

in the Sanctuary around the organ

Adult church school will meet with Michael Corzine around the organ with live streaming on YouTube from 9-10.

Children will be in the church school class from 9-10:30 so that parents can attend.

At 10:00 there will be muffins and coffee in room 206.





Pastor's Column

By Rev. Margaret Fox

Thank you for bearing with and bearing up my sadness on Sunday. I really appreciated the space you gave me, within the service, to recover. It turns out that Robyn Stevenson is a fine preacher. It was an unexpected gift to hear my words become her words, to receive what I would ordinarily give. And the pause gave me time to prepare to preside. The Rev. Phillips Brooks once said that preaching is “truth through personality,” but presiding is different—a minister presides as a functionary, as one designated by the church to perform a specific liturgical task. I take a great deal of comfort, week after week, in the fact that the efficacy of the sacrament is completely independent of the soul of the presider.

I think that a good part of my sadness yesterday was a come-down after the high point of Michael’s retirement celebration. Saturday’s hymn festival in honor of his 49 years of service was one of the most joyful and powerful services of worship I’ve ever attended. The music was transcendent; the readings were by turns humorous and profound; the liturgy flowed together in a celebration of the gift God has given us in song. Thank you to Douglass Seaton and the entire planning team for putting the service together, and to the musicians of all ages whose voices, instruments, and conducting skills filled the sanctuary with beautiful sound. And then the evening at Saint John’s was a joyful and poignant affair, with celebration, both formal and informal, and tributes to Michael from near and far. Thank you to Christy Williams and to the entire planning team who put that evening together.

The other part of Sunday’s sadness, for me, was anticipatory grief. Now that I’ve had a chance to inform both staff and session, I’m ready to share with you the news I’ve accepted another call. I’m going to

serve as Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries at Westminster Presbyterian Church of Minneapolis. I'm excited about the congregation—a downtown church with a significant presence in the life of the city—and the staff team—a diverse and dedicated group—and the role—adult education, leadership development, and community-building. I have a network of friends and fellow clergy there from my time at YDS and my involvement in Moveable Feast, and it will be a direct flight to my family in CT.

At the same time, I'm also deeply sad to leave First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee. As I shared with you in my previous letter, this congregation means a great deal to me, especially our shared worship life, and it is with great sadness that I prepare to leave. It's a great joy to preach and teach in this congregation—you will eat up everything I can give you, and your questions and ideas challenge me to learn and grow every week. You have cultivated in me a deep love for liturgy, and you have also spoiled me, forever, with the beauty of congregational song. I will miss this congregation a great deal. My last day with you will be Sunday, June 12.

Rev. Joan Wooten from the Committee on Ministry met with Session on Sunday to talk about next steps, and the Presbytery will continue to work with Session on the process of calling an interim minister. Hard as it will be to part ways, this will be an important opportunity for the congregation to do some good interim work in order to prepare for your next installed pastor. I pray for every blessing on this church as you engage in that important ministry together, and I trust that, when the time comes, you will welcome your next installed pastor with the same love and openness with which you welcomed me.

Next week I'll be away on study leave at the Davidson Centre for the Professions in Davidson, North Carolina. The Clergy Program is a week-long personal assessment that provides tools to build stronger resilience, health, and wholeness in clergy. I'm grateful to the Presbytery and the Vaughn Loan Fund for providing funding for the program.

THANK YOU

A Huge Thank-you

For all of the planners, decorators, singers, organists, speakers, and everyone who attended and participated in Saturday's celebration, I wish to express my most sincere gratitude. The entire event was so thoughtfully planned, and executed with such care, that it formed a beautiful tribute to my work over all these years, and I am humbled and honored by the outpouring of love expressed that evening.

Deo gratias to all of you.

Michael Corzine

PHOTOS
FROM
THE
EVENING
HERE AND
PAGE 5







No more youth group until fall.



On May 15 the youth group celebrated our Senior Class with the theme, "Share Your Gifts With the World". We did a lot of activities that talked about the spiritual gifts we will take out into the world with us and what gifts we want to cultivate. We also played some of our favorite games and ate burritos!!



Did you know...We have two separate prayer ministries, and invite you to participate in either, or both. You are not limited to asking for prayers for yourself, but when the prayer requests involves another individual, please get permission from the person concerned before submitting his or her name.

To have a prayer concern read aloud during worship, please call the office during the week (850-222-4504), and Lori will ensure that your request is relayed to both Margaret and the Care and Outreach Team. You can also email Margaret directly at Margaret@oldfirstchurch.org.

You may also indicate whether the request should be repeated from week to week.

In addition to prayers read during worship, you can contact Debbie Gibson (gibsond1207@gmail.com) to be placed on a list shared with a group that has covenanted to pray for specific requests. Once Debbie knows of a need, it will be relayed to the prayer chain for the volunteers in that ministry to hold up the specific concerns or celebrations in prayer for as long as is needed. Prayers requested through Debbie will not be read during worship unless you ask for that to happen as well.

Music Search Committee Report

On May 15, the Music Search Committee made a report to the Session about plans for our music leadership for 2022-23. As is true with most discernment, we find ourselves at a point in the journey we did not expect and yet we feel we are at the place God intends for us.

After listening to the musical history of First Church and confirming our musical values, the committee began the search for an organist/choir director with a clear sense of the skills and heart we needed in our next organist/choir director. After accepting Margaret's decision to seek another call and listening to the congregation's response, we sought the Session's approval to change our mission to look for two separate positions - Choir Director and Organist - both as interim.

We are happy to announce that beginning in August 2022, Dr. Timothy Hoekman will begin serving as our interim organist. Though Tim is part of the Music Search Committee, he applied to the Committee Chair directly and, of course, recused himself from all discussion of his candidacy. The Committee was unanimous in their decision to recommend Tim to the Session. Tim's musicianship is well-known by our congregation and his servant's heart is just what we need to lead us in worship as we engage an interim pastor. Tim has agreed to serve through May 2023 and the committee has promised him a replacement by then, if not before.

The Committee has two strong candidates for the Choir Director position and will recommend one of them to the Session on May 22. This, too, will be an interim position beginning in August.

Finally, Dr. Judy Arthur will be our organist/choir director this summer. Judy has led our choir and played our organ before and we are excited to have her at the helm again.

Tim, Judy, and both of our Choir Director candidates understand the importance of music in this congregation's worship, the expectation that music be wed to text and liturgy, and the joy with which this congregation sings. First Church will continue to lift our voices to the glory of the Lord, sometimes in new ways and sometimes in familiar ways, as each of these leaders shares their musical gifts and faith with us.

The committee is very grateful for Margaret's careful mentorship, for the Session's support, and for the great value this congregation places on music.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Peggy Wright-Cleveland, Chair
Tim Hoekman
Meredith Strange
Aide Whitaker
Meredith Strange





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.

**Presbyterian Women Officers for 2022-2023
Recognized and Installed Sunday, May 15th**

Co-Moderators

Jan Bush and Gail Hankinson

Moderator Elect

To be determined

Treasurer

Jodee Dorsey

Co-Secretaries

Martha Kutter and Kathy Caleen

Historian

Amy Guthrie

Co-Moderators of Search Committee

Esther Moring and Theresa Heiker



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.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov)

OR

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



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 22 , 2022 IN THE SANCTUARY AND ON ZOOM!



Meet and greet: Sunday at 8:45 AM

Program starts: Sunday at 9:00 AM (30 minutes earlier than usual)

Sunday, May 22, will be our final class of the spring semester. We will meet in the sanctuary around the Taylor and Boody organ, and Michael Corzine will share insights about music and worship. We will begin promptly at 9:00 (30 minutes earlier than usual) and conclude by 10:00 AM.

Each week we say, "All are welcome! Each class opens new opportunities to learn and share — whether you've attended previously or not."

That has never been more true. So friends far and wide can join, the class will be broadcast not only on Zoom but also on YouTube LIVE.

Ever faithful to scripture and the Book of Common Worship, Michael has helped lead worship at First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee for 49 years.

Along the way, he has been the patient and generous teacher, mentor and friend to many who have and will continue to praise and extol God with music. Michael has announced his retirement, and Pentecost Sunday (June 5, 2022) will be his last worship service as Organist & Choirmaster.

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 9:00 AM and ends by 10:00 AM. After class (and before worship at 11:00 AM), all who are present are welcome to our fellowship hour in Room 206 with coffee, pastries, and good conversation.

Be on the lookout for John's Thursday afternoon email with the 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. It will be the best way to keep up with adult church school programs and news during our summer break.





e pluribus unum — out of many, one
the village square



The Village Square and Leon County present Created Equal: A
Conversation about Race in our Elections

Thursday, May 26 @ 5:30 pm

Are elections fair and secure for everyone?
Should we be doing more?

Join a conversation that examines how national and statewide perspectives on voting access and security impact our local community. As a cornerstone of American Democracy, there is a fundamental link between trust in election infrastructure and equal access to the ballot box.

This year's Created Equal program will address this question by connecting academic experts, community members, and advocates to look at voter security and the right for all people to vote. Meet our panelists: Dr. Sharon Austin of the University of Florida, Dr. Michael Morley of Florida State University, and Dr. Keith Parker of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, and our moderator Tom Flanigan of WFSU Public Media.

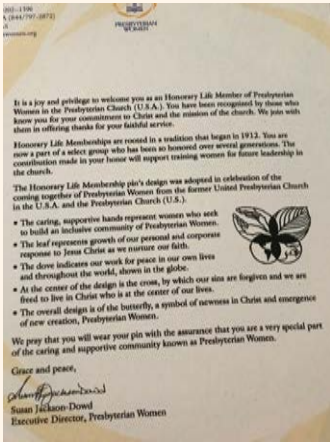
Join the discussion at the 7th Annual Created Equal on Thursday, May 26 at The Moon, 1105 E Lafayette St. Pizza, salad, and drinks will be provided at 5:30 p.m. The panel discussion will begin at 6 p.m., followed by table conversations among attendees. [Register to reserve your free seat to join us.](#)

Created Equal is part of the award-winning series The Club of Honest Citizens, a partnership with The Village Square and Leon County Government.





PW Lifetime
Membership 2022
recipients
Aide Whitaker
and
Amy Guthrie



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 22, 2022 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**ACTS 16:9-15 AND
PSALM 67
OR
DEUTERONOMY 34:1-12
AND PSALM 109:21-31
REVELATIONS 21:10,
22- 22:5
JOHN 14:23-29
OR
JOHN 5:1-9**



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.





DAILY LECTIONARY FOR MAY 16-31, 2022

Monday, May 16

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Lev. 16:1-19
1 Thess. 4:13-18
Matt. 6:1-6, 16-18

Tuesday, May 17

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Lev. 16:20-34
1 Thess. 5:1-11
Matt. 6:7-15

Wednesday, May 18

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Lev. 19:1-18
1 Thess. 5:12-28
Matt. 6:19-24

Thursday, May 19

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Lev. 19:26-37
2 Thess. 1:1-12
Matt. 6:25-34

Friday, May 20

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Lev. 23:1-22
2 Thess. 2:1-17
Matt. 7:1-12

Saturday, May 21

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Lev. 23:23-44
2 Thess. 3:1-18
Matt. 7:13-21

Sunday, May 22

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Lev. 25:1-17
Jas. 1:2-8, 16-18
Luke 12:13-21

Monday, May 23

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Lev. 25:35-55
Col. 1:9-14
Matt. 13:1-16

Tuesday, May 24

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Lev. 26:1-20
1 Tim. 2:1-6
Matt. 13:18-23

Wednesday, May 25

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Lev. 26:27-42
Eph. 1:1-10
Matt. 22:41-46

Thursday, May 26

Ascension of the Lord
Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Dan. 7:9-14
Heb. 2:5-18
Matt. 28:16-20

Friday, May 27

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
1 Sam. 2:1-10
Eph. 2:1-10
Matt. 7:22-27

Saturday, May 28

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Num. 11:16-17, 24-29
Eph. 2:11-22
Matt. 7:28-8:4

Sunday, May 29

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Exod. 3:1-12
Heb. 12:18-29
Luke 10:17-24

Monday, May 30

Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Josh. 1:1-9
Eph. 3:1-13
Matt. 8:5-17

Tuesday, May 31

Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
1 Sam. 16:1-13a
Eph. 3:14-21
Matt. 8:18-27

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