

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

JUNE 13, 2022



June 5, 2022

The congregation stands for Michael's closing voluntary and sends him into retirement with a standing ovation.

Birthday Celebration and a Fond Farewell for Rev. Margaret O. Fox June 12, 2022



Additional photos on page 2



First Presbyterian Church
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Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Phone (850) 222-4504
Fax (850) 222-2215

email: office@oldfirstchurch.org
website: www.oldfirstchurch.org
www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

Sunday Summer Schedule

10:00 a.m. thru the end of
Worship Child care for
infants - pre-kindergarten

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.



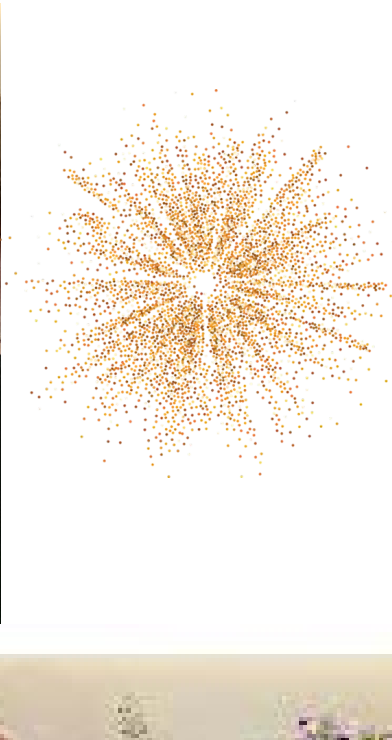
In Person and Live-Stream Worship

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





AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CONGREGATION AND THE DEPARTING PASTOR

1. With a posture of grace, understanding, and trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit we all agree to:

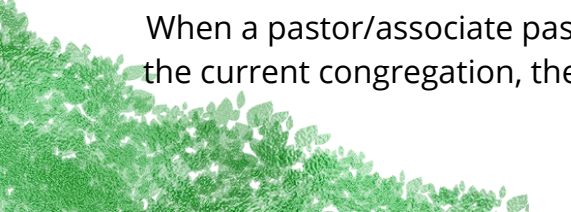
- hold one another in prayer, and
- refrain from all intentional pastoral interaction in person or online.

2. The Congregation agrees to:

- pray for the well-being of the departing pastor into retirement or a new call;
- have this agreement read during a worship service when a ministerial vacancy occurs and also communicate it through the newsletter (if there is one) and through email;
- once the departing pastor has left, to no longer approach the departed pastor or the departed pastor's family regarding issues of pastoral care, congregational life, or future pastoral leadership;
- welcome and embrace new pastoral leadership and joyfully engage in a process of discerning God's calling for their future; and
- allow those who are feeling a sense of loss to have adequate time to grieve the end of the departing pastor's relationship with the congregation.

3. The Departing Pastor agrees to:

- pray for the well-being of the congregation as individuals and as the gathered community;
- allow time to grieve the end of a pastoral and congregational relationship;
- participate in the life of the larger church;
- maintain healthy boundaries, refrain from and discourage any interactions regarding issues of pastoral care, congregational life, or future pastoral leadership;
- communicate to the entire congregation, friends of the church, and staff so it is clear that although the departing pastor has valued their friendships, the pastor desires and has agreed to not be in communication regarding congregational life, any pastoral care matters, or discussion of future leadership, congregational issues or events, or the new pastor;
- refrain from attending worship services or other events of his/her former church until one year after the installation of the new pastor, unless there are extenuating circumstances; and
- decline pastoral participation by former church members in any funerals, baptisms, counseling, weddings, etc., of his/her former church unless invited by the interim pastor or the new installed pastor.



When a pastor/associate pastor requests that the presbytery dissolve the relationship with the current congregation, the congregation of that church moves into a stage of transition.



Thank you, thank you for yesterday's beautiful send-off. It was glorious to be with you in worship one last time, to welcome Judy Arthur as our music director for the summer, to share memories of our time together, and to receive communion. And then the reception you threw in the Westminster room was quite likely the best attended birthday party I've ever had (with the most delicious cake).

Thank you for the gifts (Winnie has already become completely absorbed by the new treat-ball; the coat will have to wait till we get to Minnesota). Thank you for the traveling purse. And especially thank you for the cards. I'll enjoy pacing them out along my journey north; they'll help me remember this place with great fondness.

In yesterday's sermon, I summarized our time together. I won't repeat that here. Just to say: even though my tenure with you has been short, the joy I've taken in this place and in this congregation is very real. You have pushed and challenged me to grow. Your questions and insights have shaped my preaching, my theology, and my teaching. You have introduced me to the depths of liturgy. And I will also always remember you as the congregation that taught me to pray. Thank you for the gift of our shared ministry.

Going forward, I'll be abiding by the presbytery's covenant of separation for departing pastors, which means I'll no longer be available to discuss church-related matters or to provide pastoral care. One of the things I was most grateful for when arriving in this place was your openness to and availability for new pastoral relationship. I know that you'll extend that same welcome to your next pastor when he or she arrives, and for this to happen successfully, our pastoral relationship will need to come to an end. I'll leave my contact information with Lori in the church office in case you wish to be in touch for non-pastoral reasons.

Thank you again for our time together; I'm deeply grateful,
Margaret Fox



FPC Members of the Westminster Oaks Community Host a Goodbye Party filled with tasty treats, laughter and love for Margaret

We are going to miss you, but we are thrilled about your new position!



A Message from the Clerk of the Session



Last week, the Session met with the Rev. Dr. Roy Martin, Jr., General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Florida, Rev. Lisa Martin, Chair of the Congregational Revitalization Committee, and Linda Shelley, our Pastoral Transition Liaison, to discuss next steps for recruiting and hiring an interim pastor.

While we are searching, pulpit supply pastors will lead our worship services. The Worship Team will be arranging for guest preachers and engaging the congregation in welcoming them to our church. This coming Sunday, June 19, 2022, Rev. Dr. Roy Martin, Jr. will preach and lead worship.

The Presbytery has assigned the Reverend Sheldon Steen, Pastor at Christ Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, to serve as moderator of our Session until an interim pastor takes over. Reverend Steen will be presiding over our next session meeting that is scheduled for June 22nd. Our search process will begin with election of an interim pastor search committee. That will happen soon. The Session discussed nominating 5 members, including some who currently serve on Session and some who do not.

The search committee will undertake the search process with Linda Shelley's assistance and in coordination with the Presbytery. While a permanent minister is called and installed by the congregation, an interim pastor is hired by the Session after the approval of the candidate by the Presbytery. We will continue to provide you updates on the interim pastor search process throughout the summer.



THANK YOU

Serenna

We deeply appreciate our Choral Scholars, but the students who were with us during 2020-2022 deserve extra thanks: they had to pivot from being section leaders to being worship leaders when the choir could not gather in person, and then pivoted again when we resumed regular rehearsals. Sunday, June 5 was going to be Serenna Jones's last day with us, but travel complications prevented her from being here. Please join us in thanking Serenna, congratulating her for completing her Master's program at Florida State, and expressing the hope that she will always feel she has a church home in Tallahassee.

**MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY
BY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022**

Many thanks to all who have called or emailed Walter or Marian Moore this past week. Others may decide to join these volunteers by contacting them or by signing up after worship on Sunday, June 19th or 26th. Robyn and Larry Stevenson will be in the courtyard on the 19th. Ann Del Rossi and Stephen Sandon will be there on the 26th. You may choose to be a driver, a navigator, or a kitchen helper. More specific information will be given when you sign up at church or by contacting one of the Moores. Check your church directory for phone number or email address for the latter.

This July 4th community service to some of our more vulnerable neighbors has been a joyous experience for the givers and receivers for many years. It should prove to be so again this Independence Day.



Annual Service to the
Montreat
Conference
Center
and
Dogwood Acres



- Director of Christian Education, Christy Williams, will commence her annual trek to Montreat Conference Center to work as the adjunct staff person for the first set of youth conferences on Monday, May 30. She will return on June 18.
- Christy will also serve as the chaplain at Dogwood Acres, our Presbytery Camp, from July 17-22.
- While away, Christy will still check her email, so don't hesitate to contact her: christy@oldfirstchurch.org



WELCOMING MINISTRY

If you are interested in joining the dedicated and enthusiastic group of people who welcome new members and visitors, please let the Care and Outreach team know by contacting Linda Smith at 7Yodanana7@gmail.com. We are happy for any suggestions about improving our outreach to those who may be considering making this their church home.



PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE



OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

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



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.



Summer Nursery and Preschool Childcare

10:00 a.m. – the end of worship

- Infants and children up to three years old – main floor nursery
- Three – Pre-K children – third floor preschool classroom

The Twinkle Toes Agency staffs both rooms. All our sitters are CPR/First Aid trained and have had a full background screening. There are two sitters in each room. Please don't hesitate to contact christy@oldfirstchurch.org if you have questions about our summer childcare.



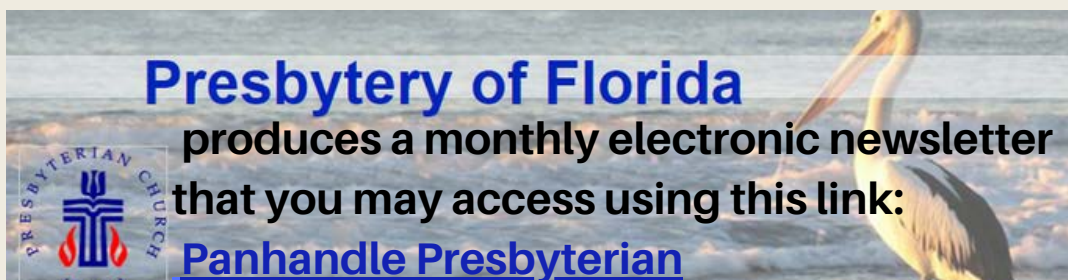
June 27

July 11 and 25

Resume weekly publication

August 1

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 production Mondays.





Sunday Festival Readings

June 19, 2022 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

I KINGS 19:1-15A OR ISAIAH 65:1-9
PSALMS 42 AND 43 OR PSALM 22:19-28
GALATIANS 3:23-29
LUKE 8:26-39

June 26, 2022 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II KINGS 2:1-14 OR I KINGS 19:15-31
PSALM 77:1-20 OR PSALM 16
GALATIANS 5:1, 13-25
LUKE 9:51-62

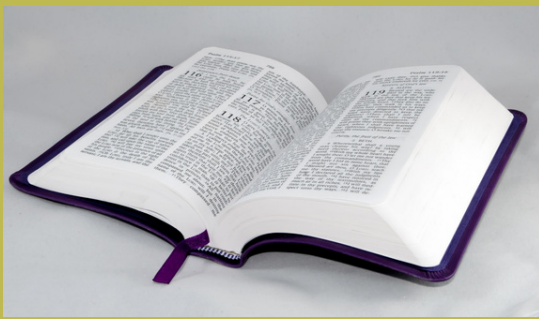


Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

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 JUNE 1-15, 2022

Wednesday, June 1

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Isa. 4:2–6
Eph. 4:1–16
Matt. 8:28–34

Thursday, June 2

Morning: Pss. 47; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Zech. 4:1–14
Eph. 4:17–32
Matt. 9:1–8

Friday, June 3

Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Jer. 31:27–34
Eph. 5:1–32
Matt. 9:9–17

Saturday, June 5

Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Ezek. 36:22–27
Eph. 6:1–24
Matt. 9:18–26

Sunday, June 5**Day of Pentecost**

Morning: Pss. 104; 150
Evening: Pss. 29; 33
Deut. 16:9–12
Acts 4:18–21, 23–33
John 4:19–26

Monday, June 6

Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
Eccl. 7:1–14
Gal. 4:12–20
Matt. 15:21–28

Tuesday, June 7

Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
Eccl. 8:14–9:10
Gal. 4:21–31
Matt. 15:29–39

Wednesday, June 8

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
Eccl. 9:11–18
Gal. 5:1–15
Matt. 16:1–12

Thursday, June 9

Morning: Pss. 116;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
Eccl. 11:1–8
Gal. 5:16–24
Matt. 16:13–20

Friday, June 10

Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
Eccl. 11:9–12:14
Gal. 5:25–6:10
Matt. 16:21–28

Saturday, June 11

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
Num. 3:1–13
Gal. 6:11–18
Matt. 17:1–13

Sunday, June 12**Trinity Sunday**

Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Job 38:1–11; 42:1–5
Rev. 19:4–16
John 1:29–34

Monday, June 13

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Num. 9:15–23; 10:29–36
Rom. 1:1–15
Matt. 17:14–21

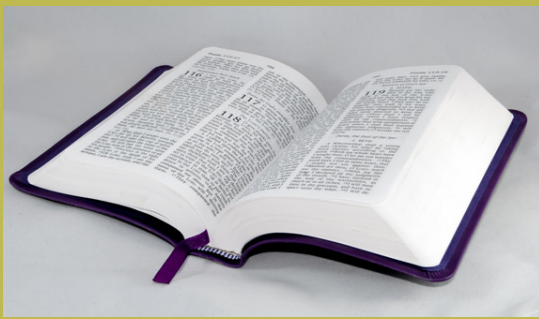
Tuesday, June 14

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Num. 11:1–23
Rom. 1:16–25
Matt. 17:22–27

Wednesday, June 15

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Num. 11:24–33 (34–35)
Rom. 1:28–2:11
Matt. 18:1–9

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



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR JUNE 15-30, 2022

Thursday, June 16

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
Num. 12:1–16
Rom. 2:12–24
Matt. 18:10–20

Friday, June 17

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Num. 13:1–3, 21–30
Rom. 2:25–3:8
Matt. 18:21–35

Saturday, June 18

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Num. 13:31–14:25
Rom. 3:9–20
Matt. 19:1–12

Sunday, June 19

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Num. 14:26–45
Acts 15:1–12
Luke 12:49–56

Monday, June 20

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Num. 16:1–19
Rom. 3:21–31
Matt. 19:13–22

Tuesday, June 21

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Num. 16:20–35
Rom. 4:1–12
Matt. 19:23–30

Wednesday, June 22

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Num. 16:36–50
Rom. 4:13–25
Matt. 20:1–16

Thursday, June 23

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Num. 17:1–11
Rom. 5:1–11
Matt. 20:17–28

Friday, June 24

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Num. 20:1–13
Rom. 5:12–21
Matt. 20:29–34

Saturday, June 25

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Num. 20:14–29
Rom. 6:1–11
Matt. 21:1–11

Sunday, June 26

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Num. 21:4–9, 21–35
Acts 17:(12–21) 23–24
Luke 13:10–17

Monday, June 27

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Num. 22:1–21
Rom. 6:12–23
Matt. 21:12–22

Tuesday, June 28

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Num. 22:21–38
Rom. 7:1–12
Matt. 21:23–32

Wednesday, June 29

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Num. 22:41–23:12
Rom. 7:13–25
Matt. 21:33–46

Thursday, June 30

Morning: Pss. 143;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Num. 23:11–26
Rom. 8:1–11
Matt. 22:1–14

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