

FIRST PRESS

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

JULY 11, 2022

Summer Choir



**The Summer Choir meets
Sunday mornings at 10:00
in the Choir Room.**

All are welcome to sing.

Bring the family!

**Contact Judy Arthur or the
church office for more
information, or just arrive
on Sunday at 10:00.**

**No midweek rehearsals,
no vestments.**



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 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.](https://www.youtube.com/@FPCTallahassee)



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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



Sewing Camp
Wednesday, July 13, 2022,
from 10 AM – 2PM
Room 206



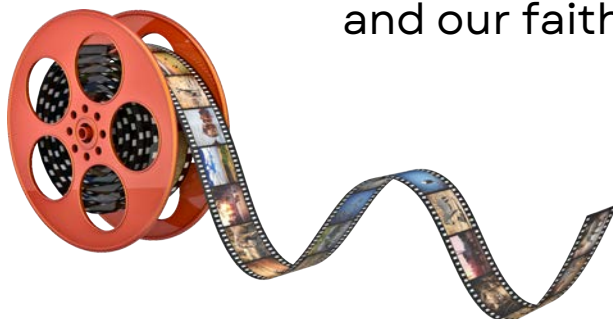
The Together in Service Circle is offering a wonderful opportunity for our middle schoolers to learn some of the basics of sewing and assist with a sewing project. Thanks to this Circle for finding ways to carry on this important sewing ministry during the summer. We are excited to have some new sewists in our midst!



Summer Film Series
Engaging Matthew 25 Through Film
4-6:30 PM in the Westminster Room

Jesus' call to care for the needy in specific ways, as laid out in Matthew 25, is often applied to an individual's deeds. However, the "you" throughout scripture is plural. The feeding, welcoming, clothing and visiting were seen as collective acts. For us, this means the church, those "called out" to do Christ's will.

The PCUSA has been putting special emphasis on congregational vitality as seen through the lens of the Matthew 25 passage. This summer's film series will allow us to take a variety of films and use them to enhance our own understanding of our church's role in living out the call in Matthew 25. Join us for some good intergenerational fun as we reflect on the characters, the plot and the message of these films through the perspective of scripture and our faith experience.





First in the Summer Film Series: Encanto
Sunday, July 17
Popcorn and Lemonade Provided
4-5:45: movie – 5:45 -6:15: discussion

For those unfamiliar with this Disney movie: A Columbian family that has fled from urban violence has found refuge in a valley in the mountains, though at the sacrifice of the husband, Pedro Madrigal. His wife, Alma, with the help of a magic candle, has raised their three babies and their children in the valley that has become an “Encanto”, a place of charm and joy. Each of the children and grandchildren when they are 5 years old, received a miraculous gift used to benefit both the family and the village.

Join us as we enjoy and learn from this movie together as a church family.

Adults will be asked to mask when not eating popcorn- children will be mask optional.



This year a small group of us will journey to Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, North Carolina to experience great keynotes, worship and small group discussions. We will be sharing our usual Reynolds Lodge with Palms Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, Florida. As we mesh our groups together and learn how to live in community while deepening our faith and finding joy in the mountains, please pray for us: Ethan Tozer, Camille Peterman, LaKayla Griffin, Grayson Polemus, Jacqueline Cruz, Glenn and Kerry Laird and Christy Williams.

July 4th Delivery of Meals on Wheels

An energetic, happy group of 53 First Presbyterian members and friends, ages 3 to 90, gathered at Elder Care Services on Monday, July 4, to deliver meals to elderly neighbors around the county.

This has been an annual community service project of Old First for over ten years, with the exception of two COVID years. Let's hope it continues for years to come. Many thanks to all of you who gave up your morning of the 4th to help celebrate Independence Day in this special way.



**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

***Kickoff Sunday
August 28, 2022***

Members attending morning worship will have an opportunity to participate in a special mission project. We will collect supplies for our beloved First Presbyterian Preschool. (A list will be provided in the next newsletter)

Circle chairs will distribute new study books and directories following worship.

***Zoom Fall Gathering
3:30 pm***

The Reverend Greta Reed will introduce our wonderful new Bible Study, Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's gift of Rest and Delight.

Individual circles will have an opportunity to meet for fellowship and planning.

***Join Us!!
Don't Miss Out!!***



Message from the Session and Care & Outreach Team

We the Session, the Care & Outreach team, and your CAT team leaders want to let you know that we are praying for you every day. With these scorching temperatures, the tension in our nation, the continued spread of COVID, and individual health and personal concerns, it is perfectly "normal" to be a little more anxious than usual. Still, we can daily remind ourselves and you that there is much for which to be thankful even in this challenging time in our world and the life of our congregation. As you may be aware, the session is currently managing church affairs without a pastor. This may add to your concerns and create feelings of insecurity. The Spirit has guided First Church since 1832 and we believe we can trust the Spirit to continue to guide us today. In our daily prayers for the congregation and its needs, we listen for that presence.

This note is prompted by our concerns for each one of you as an individual. We want to be sure you know that the Session is beginning its search for an interim pastor; we have a local pastor, Reverend Sheldon Steen, who will serve as our session moderator for our session meetings so that church business may proceed without interruption; we have supply pastors already scheduled in the pulpit throughout the summer; we have an experienced music team on board. Worship at First Church will continue uninterrupted and unabated!

Worship is central to the life of this congregation and it creates a fellowship that binds us as we walk into the world. In other words, as we worship together, we take on a responsibility to love one another. If you have a pastoral need, the Care & Outreach team members, the Session members, and all CAT leaders, stand ready to help. We have a strong desire to see that any concerns you might have will be met to the very best of our abilities. It is a special blessing that we have ordained clergy in our membership. Greta Reed, Erin Rosica, Glen Hodges and Mary Vance have agreed to help where a congregational member specifically needs to talk with clergy. We also have a congregation with many gifts of healing and comfort. The Care and Outreach team and Session members are preparing to reach out to congregation members in many ways. We are gathering information about who among us

might feel called to respond to certain kinds of pastoral needs as they arise. Please rest assured, there will always be someone to listen and support you in any way possible

We have long felt like family at First Presbyterian and are grateful for the abundant love and care within this group of God's children. We are a family strong enough and loving enough to weather the changes a growing family requires. As the weeks move on, we will be communicating with you about our plans for comfort, support, and fellowship. Rest assured that in this interim period there are many in our church family who care about you.

May you stay strong and well and know you are loved by our Creator God and by your First Presbyterian Church family.

SESSION MEMBERS

CLASS OF 2022

Janet Bowman
John Guthrie
Tim Hoekman
Hannah Nalls
Steve Sandon
Linda Smith
Rod Westall

CLASS OF 2023

Emily Bruno
Carol Grondzik
Theresa Heiker
Robyn Stevenson
Tip Tomberlin
Carol Weissert
Carol Wynn

CLASS OF 2024

Peggy Wright
Cleveland
Chris Corzine
John Hightower
Martha Kutter
Norma Meier
Peggy West

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CLASS OF 2022

David Strange
Joe Fixel
Carol Weissert

CLASS OF 2023

Donna Barber
Peggy Wright
Ryan Nalls

CLASS OF 2024

Jan Bush
Matt Hohmeister
Danielle Jennings

ENDOWMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CLASS OF 2023 (6-YEAR TERM)

Lauchlin Waldoch
Marge Meeter

CLASS OF 2026 (6-YEAR TERM)

Bob McVety
Greg Riccardi

REPRESENTATIVES

Will Fixel (Stewardship)
Carol Grondzik (Session)
Jan Bush (Trustee)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF 2022

Eleanor Cleveland
Joan Custis
Melanie Meyer
Beth Pulliam
Peggy West
Stan Williams
Tim Hoekman (session rep)
Peggy West (session rep)

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESPONSE TEAM

John Guthrie
Carol Grondzik
Peggy Wright-Cleveland



Old First Church Book Group

August 25 @ 7:00 PM

What better way to spend a summer afternoon than READING A BOOK!!

On August 25 we will meet to discuss,
Becoming Mrs. Lewis
by Patti Callahan.

This is the story of C.S. Lewis' wife, Joy Davidman, also a writer and poet. It is a love story (maybe a little lighter summer fare than we are used to) but we will find many things to discuss about this writer and independent thinker in a time when that was not well accepted by the culture. We will also learn more about C.S. Lewis, theologian and author of many books including the beloved Narnia series.

Christy Williams currently has two books to lend out at the church and hopes to get a few more. Let her know if you need one. With the amount of time we have, we may be able to pass a few copies around before our Book Group on August 25.



A lovely on-line review of the most recent book by our own John and Sarah Foster

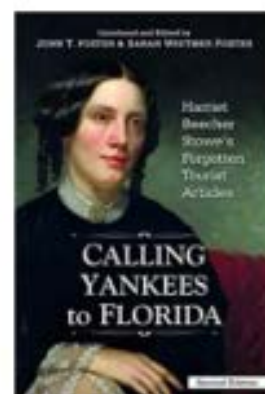
Review of Calling Yankees to Florida

by pricklypurple

Page 1 of 1

Posted: 28 Apr 2022, 08:02

If you ever wanted to learn a little bit more about Harriet Beecher Stowe, or if you're interested in how the tourism industry started in Florida, then *Calling Yankees to Florida* by John T. Foster, Jr. and Sarah Whitmer Foster is for you. In this book, the authors have carefully compiled articles by Harriet Beecher Stowe that display both her love of Florida and her dedication to making it a state with diversity and equality of residents. The Fosters give a brief overview of the history of the time and short introductions to each piece composed by Stowe and her relatives.



4 out of 4 stars

I learned a lot from this book. I gained a new perspective of Florida. It was very interesting to see through Harriet Beecher Stowe's eyes the Florida of the time. My favorite parts were learning about how she advocated for tourism and later for ecological preservation. It was fascinating to read about how the tourism boom came about in Florida. And I think the authors did a good job of providing a variety of Stowe's works. It was obvious that they did their research and took the time to make sure the whole book was thoughtfully laid out.

Since I really enjoyed this book, it's hard to really mention anything negative. I guess my least favorite part was that I didn't get to hear more from the authors themselves. While I think they did a great job piecing together Harriet Beecher Stowe's writings, it would have been nice to hear a little more of their personal voices and opinions throughout the book.

I give this book **4 out of 4 stars**. It was written well and organized neatly. The writings of Stowe were laid out and explained in a way that was easy to follow. There were even photographs included to give a better idea of Florida during that time period. I didn't find a single editing error. All passages written by the authors seemed to be crafted well.

This book would be a great read for people who enjoy travel books or who like to learn about the history of places. It would be most interesting to those with a desire to learn more about Florida and Harriet Beecher Stowe. I would not recommend it to people looking for a lighter, fictional tale. However, if you find yourself in the mood for a bit of history about a unique place told by an interesting woman, then this will not disappoint.

** [Following is an official OnlineBookClub.org review of "Calling Yankees to Florida" by John T. Foster, Jr., and Sarah Whitmer Foster.]



Our meal team provides meals for members and their families during times of celebration and challenge. Although the needs are currently few, it is not impossible that needs will arise while we are still minimizing personal contact. There are ways to help each other that do not involve close interaction, including ordering meals to be delivered. We also have a small group of members who are available to assist with shopping or other errands for those who are trying to avoid leaving their homes. If this would be helpful to you please let the Care and Outreach team know by contacting Linda Smith, chair, at 7Yodanana7@gmail.com.



Just a Reminder

Please be sure you can still access the Lotsa Helping Hands website we use to coordinate most meal requests, as well as the "members only" section of the church website.



Director of Christian
Education
Annual Service to
Dogwood Acres



- Please pray for this week's campers and counselors at Dogwood Acres as well as Ben Powell, Executive Director who is dealing with a health crisis.
- FPC has two campers at Dogwood this week, Thatcher and Wilson Nalls. Counselors for the week include: Eric, Meg, Shane, Anna, Antha, Zoe and Greg and Program Director, Eric Hearn.

Christy is assisting with administration as needed at Dogwood Acres. When she's away, she will still check her email, so don't hesitate to contact her:
christy@oldfirstchurch.org



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.



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



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.




July 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.



Presbytery of Florida
produces a monthly electronic newsletter
that you may access using this link:
[Panhandle Presbyterian](#)





Sunday Festival Readings

July 17, 2022 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AMOS 8:1-12 & PSALM 52

OR

GENESIS 18:1-10A & PSALM 15

COLOSSIANS 1:15-28

LUKE 10:38-42

July 24, 2022 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOSEA 1:2-10 & PSALM 85

OR

GENESIS 18:20-32 & PSALM 138

COLOSSIANS 2:6-15 (16-19)

LUKE 11:1-13



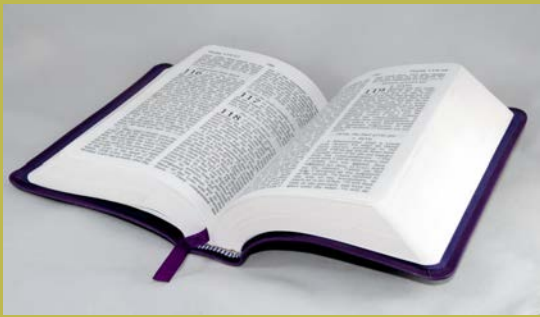
Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

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 JULY 1-15, 2022

Friday, July 1

Morning: Pss. 88; 148

Evening: Pss. 6; 20

Num. 24:1-13

Rom. 8:12-17

Matt. 22:15-22

Saturday, July 2

Morning: Pss. 122; 149

Evening: Pss. 100; 63

Num. 24:12-25

Rom. 8:18-25

Matt. 22:23-40

Sunday, July 3

Morning: Pss. 108; 150

Evening: Pss. 66; 23

Num. 27:12-23

Acts 19:11-20

Mark 1:14-20

Monday, July 4

Morning: Pss. 62; 145

Evening: Pss. 73; 9

Num. 32:1-6, 16-27

Rom. 8:26-30

Matt. 23:1-12

Tuesday, July 5

Morning: Pss. 12; 146

Evening: Pss. 36; 7

Num. 35:1-3, 9-15, 30-34

Rom. 8:31-39

Matt. 23:13-26

Wednesday, July 6

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 132; 134

Deut. 1:1-18

Rom. 9:1-18

Matt. 23:27-39

Thursday, July 7

Morning: Pss. 116;

147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 26; 130

Deut. 3:18-28

Rom. 9:19-33

Matt. 24:1-14

Friday, July 8

Morning: Pss. 84; 148

Evening: Pss. 25; 40

Deut. 31:7-13, 24-32:4

Rom. 10:1-13

Matt. 24:15-31

Saturday, July 9

Morning: Pss. 63; 149

Evening: Pss. 125; 90

Deut. 34:1-12

Rom. 10:14-21

Matt. 24:32-51

Sunday, July 10

Morning: Pss. 103; 150

Evening: Pss. 117; 139

Josh. 1:1-18

Acts 21:3-15

Mark 1:21-27

Monday, July 11

Morning: Pss. 5; 145

Evening: Pss. 82; 29

Josh. 2:1-14

Rom. 11:1-12

Matt. 25:1-13

Tuesday, July 12

Morning: Pss. 42; 146

Evening: Pss. 102; 133

Josh. 2:15-24

Rom. 11:13-24

Matt. 25:14-30

Wednesday, July 13

Morning: Pss. 89:1-18;

147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 1; 33

Josh. 3:1-13

Rom. 11:25-36

Matt. 25:31-46

Thursday, July 14

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 16; 62

Josh. 3:14-4:7

Rom. 12:1-8

Matt. 26:1-16

Friday, July 15

Morning: Pss. 51; 148

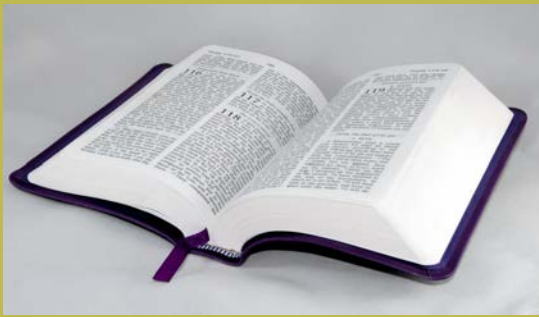
Evening: Pss. 142; 65

Josh. 4:19-5:1, 10-15

Rom. 12:9-21

Matt. 26:17-25

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



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR JULY 16-31, 2022

Saturday, July 16

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Josh. 6:1-14
Rom. 13:1-7
Matt. 26:26-35

Sunday, July 17

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Josh. 6:15-27
Acts 22:30-23:11
Mark 2:1-12

Monday, July 18

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Josh. 7:1-13
Rom. 13:8-14
Matt. 26:36-46

Tuesday, July 19

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Josh. 8:1-22
Rom. 14:1-12
Matt. 26:47-56

Wednesday, July 20

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Josh. 8:30-35
Rom. 14:13-23
Matt. 26:57-68

Thursday, July 21

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Josh. 9:3-21
Rom. 15:1-13
Matt. 26:69-75

Friday, July 22

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Josh. 9:22-10:15
Rom. 15:14-24
Matt. 27:1-10

Saturday, July 23

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Josh. 23:1-16
Rom. 15:25-33
Matt. 27:11-23

Sunday, July 24

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Josh. 24:1-15
Acts 28:23-31
Mark 2:23-28

Monday, July 25

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Josh. 24:16-33
Rom. 16:1-16
Matt. 27:24-31

Tuesday, July 26

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Judg. 2:1-5, 11-23
Rom. 16:17-27
Matt. 27:32-44

Wednesday, July 27

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1-11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Judg. 3:12-30
Acts 1:1-14
Matt. 27:45-54

Thursday, July 28

Morning: Pss. 143;
147:12-20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Judg. 4:4-23
Acts 1:15-26
Matt. 27:55-66

Friday, July 29

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Judg. 5:1-18
Acts 2:1-21
Matt. 28:1-10

Saturday, July 30

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Judg. 5:19-31
Acts 2:22-36
Matt. 28:11-20

Sunday, July 31

Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Judg. 6:1-24
2 Cor. 9:6-15
Mark 3:20-30

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

From Hello to Help, 211 is Here



988 launching as the new National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number for suicide prevention and mental health crisis in partnership with 211 Big Bend

Tallahassee, FL – In July 2020, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) designated 988 as the new three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-TALK). By July 16, 2022, all telecommunications companies will make needed changes so individuals can access the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline using the 988-dialing code. 988 is an easy to remember number that will not replace any of the functions of 911 or 211 but will focus on providing immediate support for those in emotional distress or suicide crisis.

The volume of mental health and suicide crisis calls to 988 is expected to significantly increase with the implementation of this easy to remember number.

211 Big Bend has been a National Suicide Prevention Lifeline partner for many years by responding to these calls for 14 counties in Northwest Florida. 211 Big Bend will continue to answer Lifeline (988) suicide and mental health crisis calls as 988 expands. 211 crisis counselors are trained to assist people in emotional distress or suicide crisis regardless of whether they call 988 or 211. In addition to mental health crisis, 211 provides support for finding community resources, such as food pantries and basic needs assistance, as well as care coordination services.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of approximately 180 local- and state-funded crisis centers including many 211 centers. Suicide prevention is a critical need. Suicide is the second-leading cause of death among young people and was responsible for more than 48,000 deaths in 2019, resulting in about one death every 11 minutes. According to data provided by Lifeline call centers, approximately 98% of answered Lifeline calls do not require an emergency response which can often be much more costly.

“A call to 211 or 988 provides immediate access to someone trained in crisis response, who can provide immediate support, and connection to resources. 211 Big Bend is pleased to be a Lifeline network crisis center and to work with key mental health partners in the local community including mobile response team units.” Tori Greer, 211 Big Bend.

To learn more about 211 Big Bend, please visit www.211bigbend.org. Call 2-1-1 or 850-617-6333 to be connected to 24/7 free confidential and local support, crisis and suicide prevention, and community resources.

If you are thinking about suicide or are worried about a friend or loved one, please reach out. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255).