

FIRST PRESS

*The newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church*

AUGUST 8, 2022



First Presbyterian Church
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Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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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



The anthem sung by the choir on July 31 was so lovely. A church member took her phone and the bulletin when she visited Elizabeth Platt that afternoon. Elizabeth, a long time choir member, sat up in her bed, looked at the words as she sang and hummed along with the choir. It was almost as though she was in that phone singing with them. Carla's flute, Judy's piano music and the beautiful singing of the choir brought Elizabeth such joy, comfort and at the same time sadness. She said she wanted so badly to be singing with the choir. On Tuesday, we learned that Elizabeth had gone to the hospital the very next day and that she had passed away Tuesday morning. It is with grateful hearts that because of our musicians and techies, we know Elizabeth was able to worship with her beloved church at the end of her amazing life.



TEACH

SUNDAY

SCHOOL

NEEDED: Teachers in our Children's Church School Classes!

Both our Pre-K- 3rd grade class and our 4th – 8th grade class needs teachers to be part of a once-a-month, 1-hour rotation. Our program year runs from Sept – May – so this is a commitment of 9 times in a year. The curriculum resources are easy to use, the students are excited to learn, and the benefits are amazing!

Please consider this opportunity to deepen
our children's faith formation.

For more information contact: christy@oldfirstchurch.org



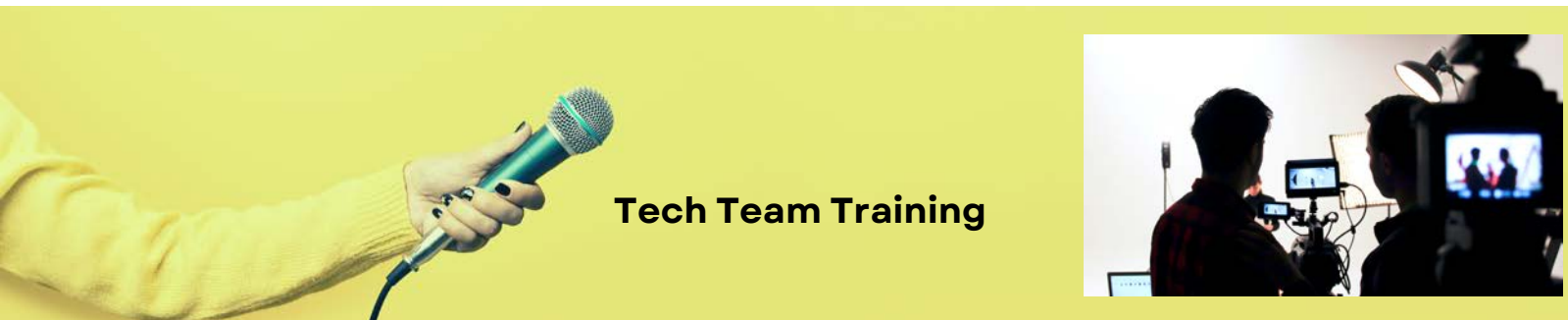


Message from the Nominating Committee

"Your nominating committee is hard at work securing a slate of nominees, who, if elected, will be Ordained and Installed as elders of the class of 2025 on the session and one to fill the remainder of a 2024 vacancy. You might already know that a member nominated for ruling elder will have been a member of First Presbyterian Church for a few years, and will naturally be active in the life and work of the church. They would also be known to have an understanding of the importance of financial support of the church and its budget and be familiar participants in Lord's Day worship.

The elders serving on the session have a big job to do and we make sure incoming elders have a period of training and orientation to see them through their three-year term. We welcome elders of all ages and abilities. Each elder will seek out the ministry team where their talents and passions can shine in service, and be able to serve as usher captains and take the lead on other important tasks in the life and worship of the church. One of the most important of those areas of service is serving the Lord's Supper in worship and occasionally in Extended Communion to the homebound. Elders will benefit from opportunities of spiritual growth and participation in the session's annual retreat. "

Peggy West, Chair of Nominating Committee



Tech Team Training

The church is looking for volunteers to learn to operate the current technology systems we use for classes, hybrid Zoom meetings and streaming worship. We would like to assemble about 10 volunteers on a Tech Team in order to share in the responsibilities during the 9 months of our programmatic year. If you are interested in being part of our Tech Team or at least finding out more about what this entails, please contact christy@oldfirstchurch.org. Chris Corzine will host an informal hands-on training on Sunday, August 14 at 9am - we will meet in the Westminster Room. All are welcome to attend.

Homelessness is a ubiquitous problem for U.S. cities including Tallahassee. In the latest homeless count of Leon County conducted in February, there were 621 persons who were homeless that night; 102 were under the age of 18; 86 were veterans; 153 were chronically homeless.

The paths to homelessness are varied; the solutions are also varied and difficult. The City of Tallahassee is working with the sheriff's office and nonprofits providing services to step up efforts to help direct those who are homeless to available programs. The Kearney Center provides temporary shelter and other programs provide shelter for families and veterans. But there is a stark need for permanent housing—a much harder and more caring solution.

The Compassion and Social Justice Committee has been working for the past two years on gathering information, attending meetings and interviewing local program leaders, looking at possible models and discerning what we might do as a church to deal with this problem. Here's what's happened so far:

First Pres is a partner with two key homelessness groups: The Big Bend Continuum of Care and the Big Bend Homeless Coalition.

We volunteer the second Sunday of each month to assist in the Sunday meal at Grace Mission. Please sign up to help if you can.

We participated in the annual point in time count of those who are homeless conducted nationally in February.

We are meeting with the volunteer coordinator of the Big Bend Homeless Coalition about projects they need undertaken for Hope Center and programs for persons who are disabled and veterans.

We are working with a small group of advocates to consider the possibility of purchasing a building for permanent housing.

We are monitoring activities of the Tallahassee City Commission which several months ago considered measures penalizing those who are homeless instead of helping them.

There is much to do, and we are still working to find our footing in this important area. We hope this Fall to solidify volunteer and funding projects for participation of anyone interested. We welcome your ideas, your knowledge, your energy in this effort. Feel free to contact me at cweissert@fsu.edu.



Disciplefest 2022 will feature 10 workshops, plus prayer trail walks, worship and fellowship, all amid the beauty of God's creation at [Dogwood Acres Retreat Center](#) and Summer Camp, Vernon, Florida.

[Click here for a complete list of workshops with leaders and descriptions.](#)

[Click here for workshop leader biographies.](#)

[Click here for directions.](#)

Event schedule:

9 am CT/10 am ET – Registration/Refreshments
9:30 am CT/10:30 am ET – Morning Worship
10:00 am CT/11:00 am ET – Workshop Session A
12 pm CT/1 pm ET – Lunch
1 pm CT/2 pm ET – Workshop Session B
2:30 pm CT/3:30 pm ET – Closing Celebration

On-site child care will be available.

Stay overnight at Dogwood Acres!

Contact Dogwood Acres Program Director Eric Hearn for information and reservations
(eric@dogwoodacres.org or (770) 378-7289).

[Register NOW!](#)

\$20 per person

includes registration
and lunch

Deadline is Sept. 9

For additional information, contact the Presbytery of Florida at (850)535-2335 or office@presbyteryofflorida.com.



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.

***Pens
Staples
Glue Sticks
Construction Paper
Card Stock
Crayons
Tape (in all different sizes and colors)
Napkins
Plastic Spoons
Paper Cups
Ziplock Bags
Food Coloring***

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!!***



*They shall beat their swords into plowshares and
their spears into pruning hooks.
Isaiah 2:4*

The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship's Guns to Gardens ministry is a partnership with RAW Tools, Inc., to safely dismantle firearms and hand-forge the pieces into life-giving garden tools.

PPF is hosting a 6-week training via Zoom on the logistics of this ministry, beginning August 18. Sessions are on Thursdays at either 12:30 pm or 7:30 pm and run through September 22.

The Compassion and Social Justice Committee invites interested church members to participate in this training as we consider ways we might get involved in this work as a congregation.



Please visit the [PPF website](#) to learn more and sign up for training.

Contact Emily Bruno,
bruno.emilyann@gmail.com or
423.360.3026, for more information.



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



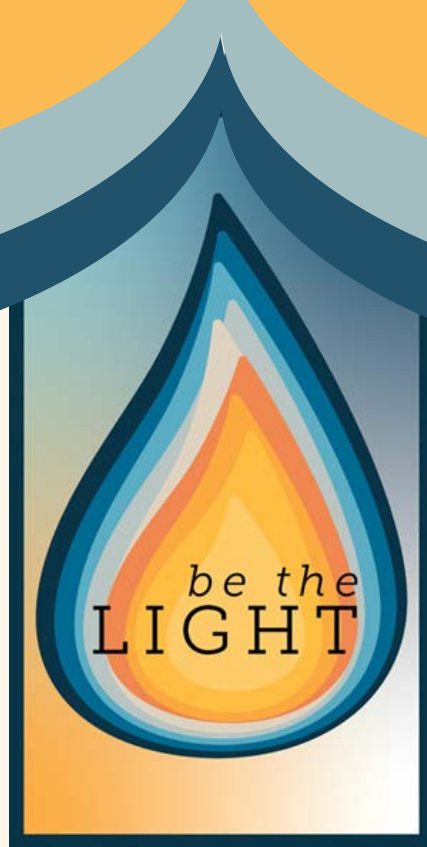
VOTER REGISTRATION Voting is Power

**Would you like to Register Voters?
October 11, 2022 is the deadline to
register to vote in the November 8,
2022 General Election.**

Here are some opportunities.

1. Bob Rackleff founded the Big Bend Voting Rights Project. It is a grassroots effort with volunteers walking door to door on weekends in "under registered" Big Bend neighborhoods to register voters. To learn more contact Bob.Rackleff@gmail.com or catch him at church.
2. Join the League of Women Voters. They provide training and opportunities to register voters.
3. Work for a nonprofit like the centerforcommonground.org and volunteer to mail postcards or send text messages about voting or updating voter registration.

**The deadline to register to vote in the
November 8, 2022 General Election is
October 11, 2022.**



CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS: BE THE LIGHT

August 21, 2022

9:30-10:30 AM

Adult Class – Report from the General Assembly on Fossil Fuel
Divestment and Other Environmental Issues

Pam McVety, speaker

Younger Children's Class – Room 306: Growing in God's Love

Older Children's Class – Room 301: Re:Form- Ancestors

OPENING CELEBRATIONS IN WORSHIP

August 21, 2022

10:45 AM*

Kindergarteners – will receive Hymnals and a welcome into full
participation in the worship service

First Graders – will receive Bibles

Teachers and Advisors – will be recognized and commissioned

**Beginning August 21.*

Worship on the 14th will be at 11:00 AM.

Old First Church Book Group

Thursday
August 25
@ 7:00 PM
on Zoom

Join us as we discuss our
summer novel,

Becoming Mrs. C.S Lewis.

There is still plenty of time to read the
book if you haven't started.

Contact Christy@oldfirstchurch.org
to pick up one of the church copies.

A zoom link and some questions for
discussion will be sent to you
on Aug. 22.

September is Banned Book Month
and FPC's Book Group will read one of
the many banned books, Lawn Boy by
Jonathan Evison. Peggy Wright-
Cleveland will facilitate the
discussion. Join us on Thursday, Sept
22 at 7:00 PM on zoom. Midtown

Reader has these books in for
purchase with a 10% discount. Go to
the front desk and ask for FPC's Book
Group books and tell them you are
part of the group to get the discount.

October's Book Group – The Book of
Longings by Sue Monk Kidd. Midtown
Reader will also have this book for
purchase.



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 our pastoral care team
and the Care and Outreach Team. 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.





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.

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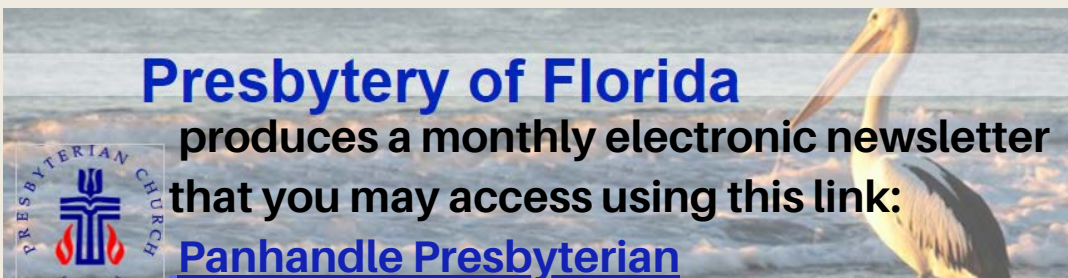
The newsletter
of
First Presbyterian
Church

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 production Mondays.

Presbytery of Florida

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

[Panhandle Presbyterian](#)





Sunday Festival Readings

**August 14, 2022
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST**

ISAIAH 5:1-7

&

PSALM 80:1-2, 8-19

OR

JEREMIAH 23:23-29

&

PSALM 82

HEBREWS 11:29-12:2

LUKE 12:49-56

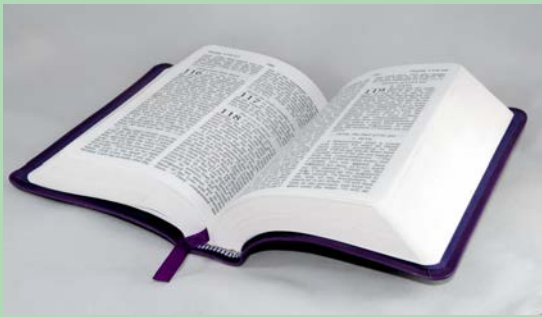


Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

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 AUGUST 1-15, 2022

Monday, August 1

Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
Judg. 6:25–40
Acts 2:37–47
John 1:1–18

Tuesday, August 2

Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
Judg. 7:1–18
Acts 3:1–11
John 1:19–28

Wednesday, August 3

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
Judg. 7:19–8:12
Acts 3:12–26
John 1:29–42

Thursday, August 4

Morning: Pss. 116;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
Judg. 8:22–35
Acts 4:1–12
John 1:43–51

Friday, August 5

Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
Judg. 9:1–16, 19–21
Acts 4:13–31
John 2:1–12

Saturday, August 6

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
Judg. 9:22–25, 50–57
Acts 4:32–5:11
John 2:13–25

Sunday, August 7

Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Judg. 11:1–11, 29–40
2 Cor. 11:21b–31
Mark 4:35–41

Monday, August 8

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Judg. 12:1–7
Acts 5:12–26
John 3:1–21

Tuesday, August 9

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Judg. 13:1–15
Acts 5:27–42
John 3:22–36

Wednesday, August 10

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Judg. 13:15–24
Acts 6:1–15
John 4:1–26

Thursday, August 11

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
Judg. 14:1–19
Acts 6:15–7:16
John 4:27–42

Friday, August 12

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Judg. 14:20–15:20
Acts 7:17–29
John 4:43–54

Saturday, August 13

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Judg. 16:1–14
Acts 7:30–43
John 5:1–18

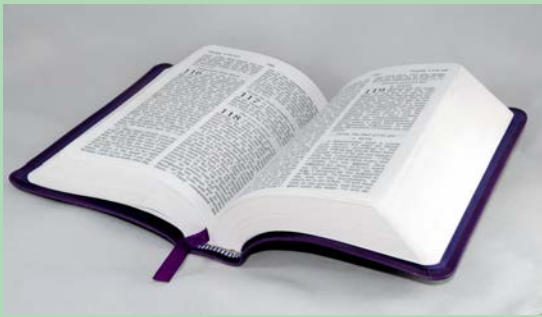
Sunday, August 14

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Judg. 16:15–31
2 Cor. 13:1–11
Mark 5:25–34

Monday, August 15

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Judg. 17:1–13
Acts 7:44–8:1a
John 5:19–29

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



DAILY LECTIONARY FOR AUGUST 16-31, 2022

Tuesday, August 16

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Judg. 18:1–15
Acts 8:1–13
John 5:30–47

Wednesday, August 17

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Judg. 18:16–31
Acts 8:14–25
John 6:1–15

Thursday, August 18

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Job 1:1–22
Acts 8:26–40
John 6:16–27

Friday, August 19

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Job 2:1–13
Acts 9:1–9
John 6:27–40

Saturday, August 20

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Job 3:1–26
Acts 9:10–19a
John 6:41–51

Sunday, August 21

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Job 4:1–6, 12–21
Rev. 4:1–11
Mark 6:1–6a

Monday, August 22

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Job 4:1; 5:1–11, 17–21,
26–27
Acts 9:19b–31
John 6:52–59

Tuesday, August 23

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Job 6:1–4, 8–15, 21
Acts 9:32–43
John 6:60–71

Wednesday, August 24

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Job 6:1; 7:1–21
Acts 10:1–16
John 7:1–13

Thursday, August 25

Morning: Pss. 143;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Job 8:1–10, 20–22
Acts 10:17–33
John 7:14–36

Friday, August 26

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Job 9:1–15, 32–35
Acts 10:34–48
John 7:37–52

Saturday, August 27

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Job 9:1; 10:1–9, 16–22
Acts 11:1–18
John 8:12–20

Sunday, August 28

Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Job. 11:1–9, 13–20
Rev. 5:1–14
Matt. 5:1–12

Monday, August 29

Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
Job 12:1–6, 13–25
Acts 11:19–30
John 8:21–32

Tuesday, August 30

Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
Job 12:1; 13:3–17, 21–27
Acts 12:1–17
John 8:33–47

Wednesday, August 31

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
Job 12:1; 14:1–22
Acts 12:18–25
John 8:47–59

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