Church School Begins
Be the Light
September 11, 2022
9:30–10:30 AM

Adult Class
Westminster Room & Zoom
Highlights from the General Assembly with our Presbytery’s Stated Clerk, Jeannie Dixon

Younger Children’s Class
Room 306: Growing in God’s Love
September’s unit of study is 
What is God Like?

Older Children’s Class
Room 301
Re:Form—Ancestors
The fall semester will focus on Old Testament people of faith.
The Spiritual Formation and Personnel Teams have appointed Eleanor Cleveland to be the Christian Education Coordinator on Sunday mornings. Eleanor grew up at FPC and has been employed by the church as a babysitter, summer camp counselor, CE assistant, organizer of supplies and most recently as the weekly assistant in the children’s church school class. Besides weekly teaching our church’s children, Eleanor sings in the choir. Outside of her church responsibilities, Eleanor completed her master’s degree in Library Science and currently is the Strozier Service Desk Manager.

Eleanor’s responsibilities as the CE Coordinator will include working with our childcare agency, Twinkle Toes; making sure teachers have supplies and curriculum; communicating with parents and teachers during the week; serving as the point-person for parents and teachers; keeping supplies stocked; providing information for the newsletter as necessary and preparing classrooms and the sanctuary children’s worship basket for Sunday morning.

The FPC church family is grateful to Eleanor for her continued, faithful service to the church.
It’s time again for our Fall Family Picnic!
Plan to bring your family for a time of yummy food and games.

The Details

Wear your picnic clothes to worship (in-person or online!) and afterward head to Maclay Gardens State Park. When you enter the Park, give your name and let them know you are a part of First Presbyterian’s Family Picnic, and the Care and Outreach Ministry will cover your entrance fee. You will then proceed to the first road to the right where you will see the sign for the swimming and picnic area. In front of you at the end of the road is the lake and the pavilion is to your left behind the playground. Park in the large parking lot located at the end of the road.

This year we'll be reinstating our potluck sides along with fried chicken from Lindy's! We are looking forward to some of our traditional potluck favorites! We will have a table set-up after church for the picnic sign-up. The chicken will cost $3 per person with no more than $10 per family. We will have chocolate and vanilla sheet cakes, but feel free to bring your dessert specialty!

Your entrance into the park will include an opportunity to walk through the gardens, swim in the lake, fish (license needed) take your canoe/kayak/boat (no motors allowed) out in the lake, hike the trails, play on the playground, or just sit on the dock or the shaded hillside and delight in all the beauty surrounding you. We are free to stay until the park closes at sunset.

You will also be able to register at Sign-up Genius, or if you prefer by calling the church office at 850-222-4504.

If you decide to come at the last minute and haven't signed-up, please join us! We always have extra food and we want YOU there to join your First Presbyterian Family in this special time of fellowship.

Looking forward to sharing in this special family time,
Your Care and Outreach Ministry Team

Sign-up Genius Link here.
Special Thanks to These Volunteer Teachers & Coordinators
Teachers will be recognized and commissioned during the Sept 11, 2022 Worship Service

ADULT CLASS
Jane Atkinson Diaz, Emily Bruno, Patrick Kennedy and Stan Williams

YOUNG CHILDREN’S CLASS
Mary Hodges, Anna Jordan, Aide Whitaker and Mary Kutter with our regular assistant: Eleanor Cleveland

OLDER CHILDREN’S CLASS
Dan Bruno, Carolyn Bradley and Carolyn Herrington, Sue Hightower and Melanie Meyer with our regular assistant: Jacqueline Cruz

FPC BOOK GROUP
Peggy Cleveland

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR
Eleanor Cleveland
First Pres has volunteered to help serve Sunday dinner at Grace Mission on the second Sunday of every month. The next date is Sunday Sept. 11; we meet at 4 pm and are finished by 6 pm.

Upcoming dates are:

- Sun. October 9
- Sun. Nov. 13
- Sun. Dec. 11

If you are interested in helping in this worthwhile effort, please contact Carol Weissert at cweissert@fsu.edu or go to the Sign Up Genius page directly at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-grace1

Hope you can join us.
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.
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.

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.

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
Thanks to Peggy Wright-Cleveland for being FPC’s Book Group Coordinator for the fall.

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. -There are a few copies to borrow in the church office and the Public Library also has copies.

October’s Book Group – October 27, 2022. The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd. Midtown Reader also has this book for purchase. November’s Book Group – November 17, 2022. No Cure for Being Human by Kate Bowler. There are multiple copies of both these books in the church office to borrow now. Start reading!! Book Group discussions are on Zoom. Look for the link in your email box the Monday before book group.
Summer Nursery and Preschool Childcare

10:00 a.m. – the end of worship
Beginning September 11 the nursery will open at 9:15 a.m.

- 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.

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
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 September 1-15, 2022

**Thursday, September 1**  
Morning: Pss. 116; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 26; 130  
Job 16:16–22; 17:1, 13–16  
Acts 13:1–12  
John 9:1–17

**Friday, September 2**  
Morning: Pss. 84; 148  
Evening: Pss. 25; 40  
Job 19:1–7, 14–27  
Acts 13:13–25  
John 9:18–41

**Saturday, September 3**  
Morning: Pss. 63; 14  
Evening: Pss. 125; 90  
Acts 13:26–43  
John 10:1–18

**Sunday, September 4**  
Morning: Pss. 103; 150  
Evening: Pss. 117; 139  
Job 25:1–6; 27:1–6  
Rev. 14:1–7, 1  
Matt. 5:13–20

**Monday, September**  
Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Job 32:1–10, 19–33:1, 19–28  
Acts 13:44–5  
John 10:19–30

**Tuesday, September 6**  
Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Job 29:1–20  
Acts 14:1–18  
John 10:31–42

**Wednesday, September 7**  
Morning: Pss. 89:1–18; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
Job 29:1; 30:1–2, 16–31  
Acts 14:19–2  
John 11:1–16

**Thursday, September 8**  
Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
Job 29:1; 31:1–23  
Acts 15:1–11  
John 11:17–29

**Friday, September 9**  
Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
Job 29:1; 31:24–4  
Acts 15:12–21  
John 11:30–44

**Saturday, September 10**  
Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
Job 38:1–17  
Acts 15:22–35  
John 11:45–54

**Sunday, September 11**  
Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
Job 38:1, 18–41  
Rev. 18:1–8  
Matt. 5:21–26

**Monday, September 12**  
Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
Job 40:1–24  
Acts 15:36–16:5  
John 11:55–12:8

**Tuesday, September 13**  
Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
Job 40:1; 41:1–11  
Acts 16:6–15  
John 12:9–19

**Wednesday, September 14**  
Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
Job 42:1–17  
Acts 16:16–24  
John 12:20–26

**Thursday, September 15**  
Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
Job 28:1–28  
Acts 16:25–40  
John 12:27–36a

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If you wish to read these on your computer you will find them on the PCUSA website [here](#).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Evening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, September 16</strong></td>
<td>Pss. 130; 148</td>
<td>Pss. 32; 139 Esther 1:1–4, 10–19 Acts 17:1–15 John 12:36b–43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, September 17</strong></td>
<td>Pss. 56; 149 Esther 2:5–8, 15–23 Acts 17:16–34 John 12:44–50</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, September 18</strong></td>
<td>Pss. 67; 150 Esther 3:1–4:3 Jas. 1:19–27 Matt. 6:1–6, 16–18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, September 25</strong></td>
<td>Pss. 108; 150 Esther 1:1–2:1 Jas. 3:1–1 Matt. 13:44–52</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 27</strong></td>
<td>Pss. 12; 14 Evening: Pss. 36; 7 Hos. 2:16–23 Acts 21:1–1 Luke 5:12–26</td>
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