# **FIRST PRESS**

The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church **NOVEMBER 14, 2022** 







## EJI RACIAL JUSTICE ESSAY CONTEST

The Equal Justice Initiative in partnership with the Tallahassee Community Remembrance Project is pleased to announce a scholarship contest open to 9th – 12th grade students attending public high school in Leon County, where prizes totaling at least \$5,000 will be awarded to winning participants.

Students are asked to examine the history of a topic of racial injustice and to discuss its legacy today. Essays should explain the chosen topic using a specific

historical event(s), explore how the injustice persists, and imagine solutions

for a future free from racial injustice. Students are encouraged to reflect on how the topic impacts their own lives and communities.

To Learn More about Participating in this Contest, please see the <u>Eligibility and Essay Guideline</u>

for more information.

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 SCHEDULE 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. Younger Children's Class Room 306 Older Children's Class Room 301

#### 10:45 a.m.

Worship 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.







Members of the Congregation,

The session met November 8 to hear a motion from the Interim Pastor Search Committee that Rev. Anne H.K. Apple be offered the position of Interim Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee. The session enthusiastically approved this motion and is excited to welcome Rev. Anne Apple as our interim pastor beginning on December 1, 2022.

The session shares the view of the Interim Pastor Search Committee that Rev. Apple possesses the unique combination of experience, vision and compassion that is ideally suited to the challenges that lie ahead for First Presbyterian Tallahassee. In addition to welcoming Rev. Apple and her husband, Jim, please also join us in thanking our Interim Pastor Search Committee for the diligent work they completed in guiding us to this important moment in the life of our congregation. Anne's email address is Anne@oldfirstchurch.org.

Lastly, Anne has prepared a brief video greeting; please <u>click here</u> to view. On behalf of the Session, Chris Corzine, Clerk of Session

## Pastor Erin Rosica to Lead Worship at Westminster Oaks

Starting November 13, Pastor Erin Rosica will be leading the Sunday service at the Westminster Oaks community on a regular basis.

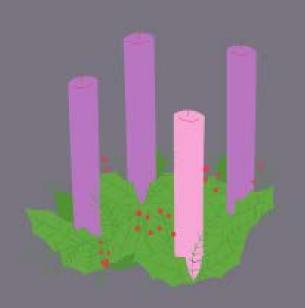
Sunday mornings at 10:00a.m. in the Maguire Center on Commencement Cove Residents and guests are welcome!

# ADVENT WORKSHOP

The Spiritual Formation Team is happy to invite everyone to an in-person Advent Workshop on Sunday, November 27th at 9:30am in the Westminster Room!

We'll have Advent Wreaths to make, goodies to eat, Advent devotionals to take home, and other Advent crafts - for children and those of all ages!

Come join us as we welcome the season of Advent!



If you can't make it in person on November 27th, we will have Advent Bags to give out - with wreath-making materials, devotionals, and crafts. Please contact Eleanor Cleveland (eicleveland18@gmail.com) if you want one of these.

# Grateful for Our Gifts

The Thank Offering is organized nationally by Presbyterian Women and is collected in the fall to fund projects that meet the needs of people who are aging, disabled, homeless, or displaced. In addition, the offering supports educational, health, peace and justice programs for children, youth and women. After the offering is received, recipients are chosen by the national Creative Ministries Offering Committee and given seed money for innovative programs and projects that meet the needs of people in this country and abroad. At least forty percent of the offering is designated for hospitals and community health programs, and the remaining sixty percent is used for new creative missions.

In this still challenging year, as we continue to come together again in worship, national Presbyterian Women designated November 6 for the Thank Offering. In deference to our own Harvest of Hope stewardship campaign culminating on that date, First Church's Presbyterian Women invite all who are able to celebrate our gifts from God by making a contribution to the Thank Offering during this month of November. If you are coming to worship in person you may place your donation in the offering plate. For those not attending worship in person, checks may still be mailed to the Church and marked for the Thank Offering. However, the easiest way to donate is to use the contributions link on First Church's home page and select the Special Donation category. Gifts will be gratefully accepted throughout the month of November for this important ministry.



Our "visiting" ministry has had to adapt to social distancing restrictions, but we are still trying to keep in touch with members who would appreciate extra care, either because they are home bound or because they are recovering from illness or injury. If you are able to keep in touch with members by phone, text, or email, or if you are aware of a member who would appreciate extra contact with our church family, please let the Care and Outreach team know by contacting Linda Smith at 7Yodanana7@gmail.com.

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION EVENTS FOR ADVENT

- **SUN. 11.20** EARLY START ADVENT 1 SUNDAY SCHOOL: THE MEANING OF MEMORY (9:30 AM)
- SUN. 11.27 ADVENT INTERGENERATIONAL WORKSHOP (9:30 AM)
- **SUN. 12.4** ADVENT II SUNDAY SCHOOL: THE PROMISE OF POTENTIAL (9:30 AM)
- WED. 12.7 LAS POSADAS MID-WEEK ENRICHMENT (5:30 PM)
- **SUN. 12.11** ADVENT III SUNDAY SCHOOL: THE JOURNEY TO JOY (9:30 AM)
- WED. 12.14 CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGALONG AND TRIVIA MID-WEEK ENRICHMENT (5:30 PM)
- SUN. 12.18 ADVENT IV SUNDAY SCHOOL: THE GIFT OF THE GENTILES (9:30 AM)



This Sunday, 11/20, the Adult Sunday School class will be getting a bit of a jump-start on Advent - preparing to prepare! - as we begin our study of Amy Jill "AJ" Levine's "Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent." This 4-week series (with a break next week for the Advent Workshop) traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt. AJ Levine is a Bible scholar who describes herself as "an unorthodox member of an Orthodox synagogue and a Yankee Jewish feminist who until 2021 taught New Testament in a Christian divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt." We thank John Guthrie for leading our first session, "The Meaning of Memory."



# **Advent Poinsettias**

The Worship Team will be placing poinsettias in the sanctuary during Advent. Members and friends are invited to purchase a poinsettia. You may designate your poinsettia in memory or honor of a friend or loved one. We encourage you to take your poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve or Christmas services, or on the following Sunday morning (Jan 1.)

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, please send a check with the information below to Norma Meier (908 Waverly Rd, 32312), Mary Kutter (2804 Woodside Dr., 32312) or the church office (110 N. Adams St., 32301).

I would like to purchase \_\_\_ poinsettia plant(s) to be used in the sanctuary during Advent.

This donation is in memory (or honor) of

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks in the amount of \$12.00 per poinsettia payable to First Presbyterian Church with "Poinsettia" in the memo/for line.



The Choir meets at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and we are open to all singers.

Contact Ethan Murphy or the church office for more information.



#### Join the Tallahassee Guns to Gardens Movement

Guns to Gardens is a grassroots ministry that safely and legally dismantles and destroys unwanted firearms. The remaining metal pieces are then forged into life-giving garden tools.

Interested in doing this prophetic work with us? All are welcome in the movement! We are especially looking for volunteers with any of the following skills and/or equipment:

- Comfort and experience with power tools
- Firearms safety training and comfort handling firearms
- Blacksmithing
- Welding
- Owns a metal-cutting chop saw
- Pastoral care

#### Contact us at:

#### gunstogardens@oldfirstchurch.org

hey shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. - Isaiah 2:4





Food Offering for Elder Care Services and Second Harvest of the Big Bend Sunday, Dec. 4th

We will receive donated dry and canned food in the narthex on the first Sunday of the month. The items we collect will be given to Second Harvest of the Big Bend and Elder Care Services to support their much-needed efforts to feed the hungry in our community and the surrounding service area. Please consider including in your grocery list some items for those food-insecure neighbors around us. For questions, please contact Jan Bush. A list of the most-needed items is provided here for your convenience.

Cereal Peanut Butter Canned: Fruits, Vegetables, Meats, and Hearty Soup/Stew

#### Hear Ye, Hear Ye Presbyterians!

Our community is switching to 100% renewable energy and your input is needed. You are encouraged to attend one of the City's November meetings on its development of a Clean Energy Plan. You probably received an invitation in an email that explains the importance of these meetings. In case you didn't the invitation is below. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about the development of the Clean Energy Plan and to share your input with the city.

One vitally important area to our congregation is Environmental Justice. You are encouraged to let the city know of your interest in making sure as our community transitions to renewable energy, that special attention is given to helping "the least of these" make this transition without unfair costs or new burdens. This segment of our community already pays a disproportionate amount for their heating and cooling costs. Please note that you need to register.

Thanks for your interest and support in our community switching to 100% renewable energy.

Pam McVety

### Plug into the Clean Energy Conversation Community-wide Meetings Scheduled

The City of Tallahassee is a long-standing leader in protecting and caring for our natural resources. The City underscored its commitment with the adoption of its Clean Energy Resolution, which set a target of achieving 100 percent net, clean renewable energy. A plan is being developed to guide the way forward, and continued community input will ensure it reflects local values and needs while maintaining affordability, equity, reliability, safety and more.

Since beginning the planning effort, the City has engaged thousands of residents through surveys and community meetings as part of ongoing conversations about achieving these clean energy goals. To keep the conversation going, the City is hosting another series of community meetings. To provide ample opportunity for participation, multiple dates and venues are available (both in-person and virtual). Residents are encouraged to pick the single time and date that works best for their schedules.

Virtual: November 29 at 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Virtual: November 30 at 6 p.m.

Visit <u>Talgov.com/CleanEnergyPlan</u> to learn more and RSVP in advance.

Links for the virtual meetings are available on the website.

Clean, renewable energy means cleaner air, healthier residents, new green jobs and a stronger, more resilient community. To help chart the best pathway for our community, plug into the clean energy conversation.

To learn more and RSVP for an event, visit Talgov.com/CleanEnergyPlan, send an email to CleanEnergy@Talgov.com or call 850-891-4968.

# Please attend! Annual Holiday Card Signing for Death Row Prisoners December 10

As you know, for years Tallahassee Citizens Against the Death Penalty (TCADP) has sponsored a holiday card signing for Florida's death row prisoners. We've done this for so long that it's hard to remember the year we started, but I recall signing cards in 1980s. For me, and many others, it is an uplifting community event, especially when we often receive such kind letters of thanks from the prisoners who often do not receive mail each year other than our card. Also, it's a nice time to reconnect with Tallahassee friends and neighbors.

I hope to see you on Saturday, December 10, 2022 at our usual location in northeast Cascades Park across the street from the Department of Transportation.

Sincerely, Mary Anne Hoffman Chair, Tallahassee Citizens Against the Death Penalty







# SERVING MEALS AT GRACE MISSION

First Pres has volunteered to help serve Sunday dinner at Grace Mission on the second Sunday of every month. The next date is **Sun. Dec. 11**; we meet at 4 pm and are finished by 6 pm. 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 <u>https://www.signupgenius.com</u> /go/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-grace1 Hope you can join us.



## SECOND HARVEST BREAD BOXING Friday December 2 from 9:45 - Noon

If you are interested in joining your First Pres family in helping provide food for the hungry in December, you can sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/g

o/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-second

or

contact Debbie Gibson at gibsond1207@mail.com or 850-656-3659. We hope you can join us some time soon.





### **NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

Younger Children's Class Pre-K - 3rd grade 9:30am Room 306

The Younger Children's Class will wrap up their 2-week study on Esau & Jacob.

> Older Children's Class 4th-8th grade 9:30am Room 301

The Older Children's Class will continue to explore the people of the Old Testament, focusing on David this week.



## Nursery and Preschool Childcare

9:15 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 Eleanor Cleveland at eicleveland18@gmail.com about childcare.

# 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 production Mondays; or, if possible, earlier the previous week.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSIS

DISASTER ASSISTANCE OUT OF

**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE** 

Gifts can be made <u>online</u>, 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

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Post-Hurricane Ian: Disaster Relief



FLORIDA PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE NETWORK In Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PCUSA)

- 1. Write checks to First Pres and designate FLDAPDAN or PDA US Hurricane Response.
- 2. Send funds directly to FLAPDAN at: Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network, Inc, 3146 NW 13th Street, Gainesville, FL 32609. Earmark your donation with Hurricane Ian. To give with a credit card you can click the page's <u>Give Now</u> link at
- 3. Send funds to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) marking your check with DR000169 for US Hurricane Response at Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 64370, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Call PDA with a credit card donation at 800-872-3283 Or give with your credit card through the PDA US Hurricane Response Web page.
- 4. If you have or want to put together a mission team to go to the affected areas to help with recovery efforts, information found at <u>FLAPDAN Volunteer</u> will get you started.

Should you have questions, feel free to contact Presbytery FLAPDAN liaison Tim Crawford at tcrawford@cox.net or (850) 217-2597 or FLAPDAN directly at flapdan@pcusa.org or (941) 483-0675.

church Book Fitst December 8 @ 7:00 PM on Zoom

**November's Book Group Rescheduled to December 8, 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!

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.

The Public Library also has copies.

Book Group discussions are on Zoom. Look for the link in your email box the Monday before book group.



Sunday Festival Readings

### November 20, **2022** CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

JEREMIAH 23:1-6 & LUKE 1:68-79 OR JEREMIAH 23:1-6 & PSALM 46

COLOSSIANS 1:11-20 LUKE 23:33-43





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 NOVEMBER 1- 15, 2022

Tuesday, November 1 All Saints' Day Morning: Pss. 63; 149 Evening: Pss. 125; 90 Isa. 26:1-4, 8-9, 12-13, 19-21 Rev. 21:9-11, 22-27 (22:1-5) or Heb. 11:32-12:2 Matt. 5:1-12 Wednesday, November 2 Morning: Pss. 89:1-18; 147:1-11 Evening: Pss. 1; 33 Zeph. 2:1-15 Rev. 16:1-11 Luke 13:10-17 Thursday, November 3 Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12-20 Evening: Pss. 16; 62 Zeph. 3:1-7 Rev. 16:12-21 Luke 13:18-30 Friday, November 4 Morning: Pss. 51; 148 Evening: Pss. 142; 65 Zeph. 3:8-13 Rev. 17:1–18 Luke 13:31-35 Saturday, November 5 Morning: Pss. 104; 149 Evening: Pss. 138; 98 Zeph. 3:14-20 Rev. 18:1–14

Luke 14:1-11

#### Sunday, November 6

Morning: Pss. 19; 150 Evening: Pss. 81; 113 Joel 1:1-13 1 Cor. 14:1–12 Matt. 20:1-16 Monday, November 7 Morning: Pss. 135; 145 Evening: Pss. 97; 112 Joel 1:15-2:2 Rev. 18:15-24 Luke 14:12-24 Tuesday, November 8 Morning: Pss. 123; 146 Evening: Pss. 30; 86 Joel 2:3-11 Rev. 19:1-10 Luke 14:25-35 Wednesday, November 9 Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1-11 Evening: Pss. 48; 4 Joel 2:12-19 Rev. 19:11-21 Luke 15:1-10 Thursday, November 10 Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12-20 Evening: Pss. 80; 27 Joel 2:21-27

#### Friday, November 11

Morning: Pss. 130; 148 Evening: Pss. 32; 139 Joel 2:28–3:8 Jas. 1:16–27 Luke 16:1–9

#### Saturday, November 12

Morning: Pss. 56; 149 Evening: Pss. 118; 111 Joel 3:9–17 Jas. 2:1–13 Luke 16:10–17 (18)

#### Sunday, November 13

Morning: Pss. 67; 150 Evening: Pss. 46; 93 Hab. 1:1–4 (5–11) 12–2:1 Phil. 3:13–4:1 Matt. 23:13–24

#### Monday, November 14

Morning: Pss. 57; 145 Evening: Pss. 85; 47 Hab. 2:1–4, 9–20 Jas. 2:14–26 Luke 16:19–31

#### Tuesday, November 15

Morning: Pss. 54; 146 Evening: Pss. 28; 99 Hab. 3:1–10 (11–15) 16–18 Jas. 3:1–12 Luke 17:1–10

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

Jas. 1:1-15

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32



# DAILY LECTIONARY FOR NOVEMBER 16- 30, 2022

#### Thursday, November 17

Morning: Pss. 143; 147:12– 20 Evening: Pss. 81; 116 Mal. 2:1–16 Jas. 4:13–5:6 Luke 17:20–37

#### Friday, November 18

Morning: Pss. 88; 148 Evening: Pss. 6; 20 Mal. 3:1–12 Jas. 5:7–12 Luke 18:1–8

#### Saturday, November 19

Morning: Pss. 122; 149 Evening: Pss. 100; 63 Mal. 3:13–4:6 Jas. 5:13–20 Luke 18:9–14

#### Sunday, November 20

Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday Morning: Pss. 108; 150 Evening: Pss. 66; 23 Zech. 9:9–16 1 Pet. 3:13–22 Matt. 21:1–13

#### Monday, November 21

Morning: Pss. 62; 145 Evening: Pss. 73; 9 Zech. 10:1–12 Gal. 6:1–10 Luke 18:15–30

#### Tuesday, November 22

Morning: Pss. 12; 146 Evening: Pss. 36; 7 Zech. 11:4–17 1 Cor. 3:10–23 Luke 18:31–43

#### Wednesday, November 23

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11 Evening: Pss. 132; 134 Zech. 12:1–10 Eph. 1:3–14 Luke 19:1– 10

#### Thursday, November 24

Morning: Pss. 116; 147:12–20 Evening: Pss. 26; 130 Zech. 13:1–9 Eph. 1:15–23 Luke 19:11– 27

#### Friday, November 25

Morning: Pss. 84; 148 Evening: Pss. 25; 40 Zech. 14:1–11 Rom. 15:7–13 Luke 19:28–40

#### Saturday, November 26

Morning: Pss. 63; 149 Evening: Pss. 125; 90 Zech. 14:12–21 Phil. 2:1–11 Luke 19:41–48

#### Sunday, November 27 First Sunday of Advent

Morning: Pss. 24; 150 Evening: Pss. 25; 110 Isa. 1:1– 9 2 Pet. 3:1–10 Matt. 25:1–13

#### Monday, November 28

Morning: Pss. 122; 145 Evening: Pss. 40; 67 Isa. 1:10– 20 1 Thess. 1:1–10 Luke 20:1–8

#### Tuesday, November 29

Morning: Pss. 33; 146 Evening: Pss. 85; 94 Isa. 1:21–31 1 Thess. 2:1–12 Luke 20:9–18

#### Wednesday, November 30

Morning: Pss. 50; 147:1–11 Evening: Pss. 53; 17 Isa. 2:1–4 1 Thess. 2:13–20 Luke 20:19– 26

If you wish to read these on your computer you will find them on the PCUSA website here.