

FIRST PRESS

THE NEWSLETTER
OF
First Presbyterian Church

NOVEMBER 21, 2022



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.

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.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday

Joy to the world



Message from the Presbytery of Florida

The Presbyterian Youth Workers' Association (PYWA) Board of Directors have announced that Dogwood Acres Interim Director Christy Williams also will serve as their Interim Organizational Administrator. The position is a new model of leadership for PYWA and reflects a shift away from a traditional Executive Director role. "Dr. Williams is a long tenured, highly respected youth worker and brings a wealth of experience with PYWA and youth ministry within the PC(USA)," states the announcement. We agree! Congratulations, Christy!

[Click here for the complete announcement.](#)



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.

Longing for Hope

Week One: Hope - The Already and the Not Yet

Sunday, November 27th

9:30am Intergenerational Advent Workshop

11:00am Worship

Wednesday, November 30th

12:00 noon Worship and Brown Bag

Week Two: Peace - The Promise of Potential

Sunday, December 4th

11:00am Worship

Wednesday, December 7th

12:00 noon Worship and Brown Bag

5:30pm Las Posadas

Week Three: Joy - The Journey Towards Joy

Sunday, December 11th

11:00am Worship

Wednesday, December 14th

12:00 noon Worship and Brown Bag

5:30pm Christmas Carols and Trivia

Week Four: Joy - The Gift

Sunday, December 18th

11:00am Worship

Wednesday, December 21st

12:00 noon Worship and Brown Bag





Las Posadas Dinner
Wednesday,
December 7th
5:30 pm
beginning in the
sanctuary

Please join us for our annual Las Posadas dinner!

Las Posadas commemorates the journey that Joseph and Mary made from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a safe refuge where Mary could give birth to the baby Jesus. We will learn about the history of this tradition, take a similar journey as Mary and Joseph did through the grounds of the church, and will conclude with a celebration of tacos and a pinata!

Please RSVP through the following link so we know how many tacos to order:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4EABA62BA0FE3-lasposadas>



Join us for a box lunch and caroling at Westminster Oaks and other locations on Sunday, December 18, immediately following worship! Details to follow.

Sunday Church School



NOVEMBER 27, 2022



This Sunday, November 27th, join the whole church for the Advent Workshop.

Instead of separate children's and adult Sunday school, everyone will gather in the Westminster Room to build Advent wreaths, gather Advent materials, fellowship, and snacks as we kick off the Advent season. Regular Sunday School will resume next 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.



Old First Church Book Group

**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.

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.

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.



**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**



**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

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

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 Talgov.com/CleanEnergyPlan 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.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



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 <https://www.signupgenius.com/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/go/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-second>

or

contact Debbie Gibson at gibsond1207@mail.com or 850-656-3659.

We hope you can join us some time soon.

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

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 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

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 "Give Now" link at [FLAPDAN's](#).
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 [FLAPDAN Volunteer](#) 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 fla.pdan@pcusa.org or (941) 483-0675.



Sunday Festival Readings

**November 27, 2022
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

ISAIAH 2:1-5

PSALM 122

ROMANS 13:11-14

MATTHEW 24:36-44

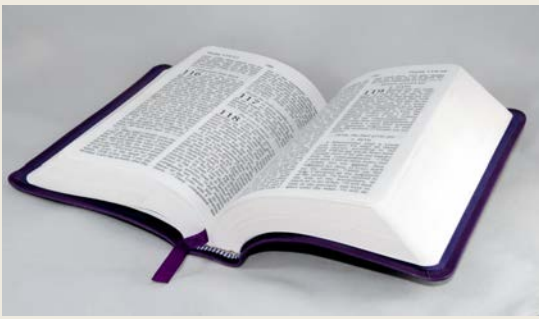


Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

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 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](#).