Old First Church At a Glance

**Sunday, April 23, 2023**
9:30 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Friday, May 5, 2023**
9:45 a.m. - Noon
Second Harvest Bread Boxing

**Sunday, May 7, 2023**
Food Offering

**Saturday, May 13, 2023**
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Home Front Open House

**Sunday, May 14, 2023**
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Serving Meals at Grace Mission

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**
9:30 a.m.
Spiritual Formation Volunteer Appreciation Program and Continental Breakfast

CHRIST IS RISEN!
Pastor’s Message
Rev. Anne H.K. Apple

When we delivered communion after Easter services, Rochelle Davis and I visited with Emily Landreth and Martha Miller. Martha was in the common area and we had to lean in to communicate over the noise of the movie that the larger group was watching. As we shared in Easter joy, Martha joined in singing parts of Blessed Assurance and Jesus Christ is Risen Today. Martha has largely lost her ability to communicate on a daily basis and yet from deep inside her, freely flow the hymns of faith.

Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, in From Age-ing to Sage-ing, says, “As our elders teach us how to find more inner satisfaction, we’ll decrease our reliance on consumerism and live in greater harmony with the Earth and its resources.” This Saturday is Earth Day. The First Earth Day was in 1970 when Senator Gaylord Nelson created the day to force the issue of protecting the environment onto the national agenda. This was the seedbed for the formation of the EPA. First Presbyterian Church has also modeled in her ministries through time the work of caring for creation. What might be the calling of the church in the future as it relates to the care of creation?

As we prepare to worship next week, I would invite you to reflect on Psalm 24:1.

“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it; the world, and those who live in it;”

God’s peace,
God’s presence.
Anne
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 eleanor@oldfirstchurch.org about childcare.

Younger Children's Class
9:30am Room 306
Pre-K - 3rd grade
This week, the Younger Children will follow the lectionary, in a lesson titled: Memory and Surprise

Older Children's Class
9:30am Room 301
4th-8th grade
This week, the Older Children will continue their journey through the New Testament: Mary and Martha

Adult Church School

Sunday, April 23, 2023
9:30 a.m. start time
(9:15 a.m. meet and greet)
Join us in the Westminster Room or on Zoom.
Be on the lookout for a Thursday afternoon e-mail from Emily with more details.

APRIL 23, 2023

Children’s Church School

Younger Children's Class
9:30am Room 306
Pre-K - 3rd grade
This week, the Younger Children will follow the lectionary, in a lesson titled: Memory and Surprise

Older Children's Class
9:30am Room 301
4th-8th grade
This week, the Older Children will continue their journey through the New Testament: Mary and Martha

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 eleanor@oldfirstchurch.org about childcare.
The Michael Corzine Music Education Fund was established in 2022 in honor of Michael Corzine's lengthy music ministry with our congregation as well as his nurture and mentoring of generations of students. The goal of the fund is encouraging students who are considering a call to service as church musicians by providing opportunities for those students to participate in worship and music in ways that will both support their call and enrich the worship life of this congregation. Once the fund has accumulated a sufficient amount, proceeds will be available for either recurring or one-time expenditures relating to the music program of our congregation, as long as those expenditures are consistent with the goal of the fund. To contribute, use the "special giving" link on the website, oldfirstchurch.org/giving/, or send a check to the office; use the memo line or "notes" section to designate the Corzine Fund as the recipient of your gift.

On Saturday afternoon May 13, First Pres will have an ice cream social at Home Front, a residential unit for formerly homeless veterans. Families are encouraged to come to enjoy home-made ice cream, music, games and an opportunity to talk with the residents. Members can also see the new rec room at Home Front refurbished and furnished by First Pres members. The time is 2-4 pm; the place, 1602 Stuckey Ave.
Part of First Church’s commitment to the UKirk ministry at FSU is to provide a meal or two for the weekly gathering of college students. Thank you to Kay Crowell, Janet Fixel, and Ann Westall for providing a meal on Thursday, April 13th. This ministry of fellowship and sustenance is vital to the work of UKirk.

Meals are finished for this academic year, but if you have gifts for maintaining an older building, we could use you this summer and beyond! There may be some physical labor appreciated but we more desperately need knowledge of building and grounds maintenance and repair, connections for getting the work done, and joy in the growth and preservation of old gems. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Peggy Wright-Cleveland at mwrightc@comcast.net or 850-510-4763.
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.

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.

Presbytery of Florida produces a monthly electronic newsletter that you may access using this link: Panhandle Presbyterian
OUR FOOD GIFTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of our First Sunday Food Collection efforts! Your food donations are brought alternately to Second Harvest and to Elder Care Services (ECS), and have provided hundreds of meals for our hungry and food insecure neighbors. So please mark your calendars now for our next food collection date on


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

First Pres has volunteered to help serve Sunday dinner at Grace Mission on the second Sunday of every month. The next date is Sunday, May 14; 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.
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 April 15-30, 2023**

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<tr>
<th>Saturday, April 15</th>
<th>Monday, April 17</th>
<th>Tuesday, April 18</th>
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<th>Thursday, April 20</th>
<th>Friday, April 21</th>
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<tr>
<td>Morning: Pss. 92; 149</td>
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<td>Evening: Pss. 23; 114</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 124; 115</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 66; 116</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 9; 118</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 68; 113</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 49; 138</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 23; 114</td>
<td>Evening: Pss. 136; 117</td>
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<td><strong>Second Sunday of Easter</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fourth Sunday of Easter</strong></td>
<td><strong>Morning: Pss. 99; 147:1–11</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Morning: Pss. 96; 148</strong></td>
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If you wish to read these on your computer you will find them on the PCUSA website [here](#).