

This Week @ First

Save the Date: Sunday, June 2

On Sunday, June 2, following worship, we will celebrate Anne and Jim Apple on their final Sunday with us before they leave Tallahassee for Montreat, NC. Please plan to stay for a light lunch and music from Carla Connors and Tim Hoekman in the Westminster Room! We will collect cards and letters that morning to be given to Anne and Jim, or you can leave a card in the church office ahead of time. Care & Outreach is coordinating lunch.



Worship & Music

To watch our Sunday worship at 11 AM, connect with us on [YouTube](#) (find the bulletin [here](#))!

Spiritual Formation

The Inquirers will meet in the Westminster Room and on [Zoom](#) to resume the Peaceful Practices series. This week will be devoted to empathy: *seeking to understand rather than to persuade*. Please remember to bring your notebooks for journaling.

The children's class will meet in Room 306 at 9:30 and will begin with a music lesson with Ms. Aide.

Volunteer Opportunity: Conversational English Class

Peggy Wright-Cleveland, Abbey Leier-Murphy, and Fred Kilgallin are starting a Sunday afternoon conversational English class to help those for whom English is a second language. If anyone is interested in working with the group, regularly or occasionally, please contact Peggy.

Visit of Pastor Alison Infante in June 2024

Pastor Alison Infante from the Iglesia Presbiteriana-Reformada en Cuba, who visited us as an International Peacemaker in 2023, will return to preach for two Sundays in June: June 9th and June 16th. During the week he and his wife, Elder Sarahi Garcia, will be visiting other congregations and locations, but we will be hosting them for two weekends. **If you can assist with driving, host a meal, or provide lodging for the weekend of June 14-16**, please contact



Barbara Busharis. Alison and Sarahi have led Juan G. Hall Presbyterian Church in Cardenas for over a decade, and we are thrilled to be able to welcome them to Tallahassee together!

Compassion & Social Justice

Please consider signing up to help with a **Sunday meal at Grace Mission** over the summer months. We need volunteers from 4 to 6 PM on May 12, June 9, July 14th and August 11th. You can sign up [here](#).

[CAJM](#) will gather to celebrate the strides made at the Nehemiah Action and to provide support for the justice ministry this coming Tuesday, May 14, at 6 PM, at Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive.

Emancipation Proclamation Day: The annual reading and program of the Emancipation Proclamation for the State of Florida takes place on May 20th at the Knott House Museum, located on the corner of Park Avenue and Calhoun Street, beginning at 11:30 AM.

We are considering offering **laundry services** during the summer. If you are interested in volunteering to help with that on Wednesday mornings, please contact Debbie Gibson.

For information about volunteering with the **Snack Pack ministry** or other activities of the Compassion & Social Justice team, please contact Debbie Gibson.

Care & Outreach

Please join us after worship this Sunday for **Second Sunday Fellowship!** We will be celebrating the baptisms of Charlie Johnson, grandson of Ivan and Inez, and Camille Hanley, daughter of Julia Kronholz and Adam Hanley, granddaughter of Ken and Barbara Kronholz. We will also be welcoming Julia, Adam, and Mario Gonzalez as new members.

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Pastor's Note

There is no substitute for a good plan.

And sometimes a storm comes along. Sometimes the forces of change are so intense that we have no choice but to roll with the tide even though we have no idea where the wave will take us — whether that's today, in two weeks, or in a few months.

My intention was to write about the plan for the Summer at First Presbyterian Church and then a storm rolled through. First things first.

We are without power at the church. Those who slept on our porch refused shelter and, thank goodness, successfully weathered the storm. We also can confirm that there are leaks in the steeple.

The First family went to work in reaching out to congregants. We know of several who had tree damage to their homes and cars. Please pray for Lauren, Steve, Wolf, Bear, and Lynx Specht, Kelly Ann Kennedy and Zach Broadway, Janet Bowman and Charlie McCoy, June Stewart, and Rich Peyton. These are those whom we know had damage. We are keeping in touch with these families to know how we can best serve them in this unexpected storm and disruption.

Please also pray for all those who serve in the midst of the storm recovery for the whole of this area.

The Summer plan?

This Sunday, we will welcome new members and celebrate baptisms, and will gather after worship to celebrate. Looking ahead to a week from Sunday, we will celebrate Pentecost. Pierce Withers will preach and we will also welcome members from the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network who will be in town for Emancipation Day celebrations. We are invited to wear red and there will be refreshments before the worship hour.

In June, we will welcome Pastor Alison from CUBA for two Sundays, and then Greta Reed and Pierce Withers will preach over the summer. A plan is in the works for the last Sunday in July and August to be a hymn festival and family potluck — a different model for two Sundays of Summer worship to help accommodate the transition.

Be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And go with God's presence and God's peace.

Anne

Looking Ahead:

May 19: Pentecost Sunday (remember to wear red!)

June 2: Anne and Jim Apple's last Sunday at FPC

June 9 & 16: Visit of Rev. Alison Infante

To submit an announcement for an upcoming issue of *This Week @ First*, please use [this updated link](#).