

# This Week @ First

## Worship & Music

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

## Compassion & Social Justice

The mission of the Compassion & Social Justice committee is to work with those in our community who need protection, nurture, and care. Each month there are several opportunities for you and your family to join in this ministry of sharing God's love with our neighbors, focusing specifically on those who are hungry and unsheltered.

Next Friday, August 2 — Second Harvest Bread Boxing (10 people needed). Sign up [here](#).

Every Wednesday — 10:45 AM-12 PM, distribute "snack packs" to unsheltered neighbors.

Every Wednesday — 9:45 AM-1 PM, provide laundry services for unsheltered neighbors. If you are interested in being part of a rotating team of volunteers for either of the ministries on Wednesdays, please contact Debbie Gibson at [gibsond1207@gmail.com](mailto:gibsond1207@gmail.com).

## PW School Supplies Drive

Presbyterian Women will be collecting school supplies for our beloved First Presbyterian Preschool. We will bring these gifts to our Fall Gathering in August.

Florida's Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday starts on July 29 and goes until August 11. If you plan on purchasing supplies to donate, this is a great time to head to the store. A list of requested school supplies can be found [here](#).



## 15 MINUTES OF GUIDED MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

*Explore the Ancient Christian  
Spiritual Practice of Meditation*

**Sunday Mornings @ 10:30am**  
**John Calvin Room**

**BEGINNERS WELCOME**  
**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**



Mark your calendars...

## Service of Ordination

Glenn Hodges will be ordained on Sunday, July 28, 2024 at 4 PM in the sanctuary.

A reception will follow in the Westminster Room.

Please join us in celebration and thanksgiving!

A link to the live stream on YouTube can be found [here](#).  
(find the bulletin [here](#)).



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### Let Justice Roll Down



God's Call to Care for  
Neighbors and All Creation

## FALL GATHERING

Westminster Room  
3:30 - 5:30 PM  
Sunday, August 25, 2024

## The Philadelphia Eleven

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the ordinations of the first women Episcopal priests in Philadelphia, Kinema is inviting people to attend one of their online showings. The film can be watched anytime starting at 12 PM on July 26 until 12 PM on July 30th. Tickets cost \$11 and all funds raised help Kinema to share the film with more people. The link to purchase a ticket or to learn more about the film can be found [here](#).



## First Presbyterian Church

110 North Adams Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Phone: (850) 222-4504/Fax: (850) 222-2215

Email: [office@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:office@oldfirstchurch.org)

Website: [www.oldfirstchurch.org](http://www.oldfirstchurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch](https://www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch)

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To submit information to be included in the newsletter and/or the Sunday bulletin (as space permits), please use [this new link](#), which will take you to an online form. You can access the form directly through Breeze, as well. Thank you!



# Pastoral Note

Worship this Sunday will consist of a hymn sing. Congregation members were asked to submit a list of three favorite hymns. The choir will lead the congregation in singing a selection of favorites. At the heart of the hymn sing is the beautiful act of coming together as a congregation to sing and proclaim our faith. Apostle Paul, in his epistles, emphasizes the importance of unity, suggesting that the true beauty of the church envisioned by Jesus is realized when we lift our voices in song together. He writes, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God (Colossians 3:16-17).” As we gather on the Sabbath, we join as one body and praise God with one voice.

Singing engages the whole person and helps unite the body of Christ in common worship. Our inhibitions may keep us from acknowledging it, but music calls our whole body into motion. According to the Book of Order, the congregation is the church’s primary choir; the purpose of choirs and other musicians is to lead and support the congregation in the singing of prayer (W-2.0202). Singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs is a vital and ancient form of prayer. Memorable songs, anthems, and instrumental music may also interpret the Word and enhance the congregation’s prayer.

We are thankful for the fine musicians leading us in the hymn sing. Elizabeth LaJeunesse, who plays our Baroque Taylor and Moody organ, and Ethan Murphy, Choir Director, have been instrumental in planning the hymn sing. If you are viewing the worship on YouTube, the hymn music will be part of the document uploaded with the bulletin, and you can access the hymns by opening the bulletin.

“The delights of God are the hymns poured forth everywhere on earth in this Church, both morning and evening.  
—Eusebius of Caesarea”

## Ways to Serve

Looking for ways to serve your community this Summer? Take a look at the new Ways to Serve page on our website! There are plenty of opportunities, no matter your talents or interests. The page can be found [here](#).