

This Week @ First: Early Edition

Worship & Music

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Our Outstanding October Birthdays: Jocelyn Beychok, Barbara Boutin, Dan Burkholder, Noah Bush, Sandy Clary, Will Ebaugh, Judy Flanigan, John Foster, Mary Hodges, Kristopher James, Willa James, Val Johns, Anna Jordan, Emma Kutter, Marian Moore, Esther Moring, Beth Pulliam, Jim Rosica, Sue Scribner, Robyn Stevenson, Tip Tomberlin, and Kathee Winstead.

Compassion and Social Justice

The Compassion and Social Justice's team of volunteers has been providing food, laundry services, and showers to our downtown unsheltered neighbors for several months. We'd also like to be able to offer them small toiletry items that would allow them to maintain their hygiene despite their challenging circumstances.

If you would like to contribute to our efforts, you can bring the small samples you collect while traveling or specific items that are available at a Dollar Store or drug store. We could use: toothbrushes and small toothpastes; disposable razors; travel-sized shampoos, hand lotions, and deodorants; small combs; etc. There will be a box on the table outside the office for you to leave your donations. Thank you for your compassion for those who are unsheltered in our community.

Second Harvest Bread Boxing will take place on Friday, October 4. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up [here](#).

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Office Closure for Hurricane Helene

Helene has become a hurricane and is still forecast to pass over our area tomorrow. The office will close today at noon and remain closed through Friday.

For pastoral needs, please email Glenn Hodges directly, glenn@oldfirstchurch.org, or call/text Pierce Withers, 850-653-6936.

If you need assistance in the aftermath of the storm, please let us know by reaching out to Glenn or the church office. Please also feel free to post updates on the church Facebook page, as you are able, to let us know how you are after the storm passes.

Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, September 29, 2024, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect a committee to nominate new ruling elders for the class of 2027. The nominating committee will also nominate incoming members of the Board of Trustees and Endowment Management Committee. As of today, September 25, we are still planning to meet as circumstances allow, but please be watching/listening for additional announcements.

The Zoom link for the congregational meeting can be found [here](#).

Spiritual Formation

Sunday School

Grades K-5 in room 306. Middle and High School Students in room 301. 9:30 AM each week

Sunday School students are invited to join us in Sunday School class each week. A nursery will be available starting at 9:15 AM.

"Feasting on the Word" Lectionary-Based Bible Study

Calvin Room and via [Zoom](#), 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Each week this class will gather to engage and discuss selected texts from our Lectionary readings.

Adult Inquirer's Class

Westminster Room and via [Zoom](#), 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

This Sunday, the Inquirers Class will begin a study, supported by the Healing Racism Task Force, into the history of our community and its association with slavery. For the next two weeks, we will watch and discuss the FSU Film School's documentary, *Invisible History: Middle Florida's Hidden Roots*. We will welcome Dr. William Yoo, professor at Columbia Seminary, the following Sunday to help us explore how we can atone for our sin of racism. Join us in the Westminster Room at 9:30 or by Zoom.

Please [email](#) Pierce Withers, Director of Spiritual Formation, to learn more about upcoming adult and youth spiritual formation programs.

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