

This Week @ First

Friday, April 25, 2025

Spiritual Formation

Sunday School—Youth

All youth are invited at 9:30 AM! Grades K–5 in room 306. Middle and High School Students in room 301. A nursery will be available starting at 9:15 AM. **Note: the last day for classes for children and youth will be Sunday, May 4. Classes will resume in the fall.**

“Feasting on the Word” Lectionary-Based Bible Study

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

This class meets weekly to engage and discuss selected texts from our Lectionary readings.

The **Inquirer’s class** will resume this Sunday in the Westminster Room and via [Zoom](#) and will continue through May 18. Our speaker this week will be Tori Stephenson, Community Engagement Liaison with Big Bend Continuum of Care, who will share information and resources for people experiencing homelessness.

Guided Meditation continues on Sunday mornings at 10:30 in the Library.

Worship & Music

To watch our worship services, connect with us on [YouTube](#) and find the weekly bulletin [here](#)!

The Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Carol Lou Phillips will be [live streamed](#) at 11 AM on Saturday, April 26. Download the bulletin [here](#).

May Birthdays



Happy birthday to our May flowers: Donna Barber, Beverley Booth, Bryce Codrick, Andra Copeland, Palmer Corzine, Nancy Davis, James Davis, Wendy Davis, Jodee Dorsey, Joe Fixel, Grant Hodges, Nathan Hoekman, Caitlin James, Thomas Kennedy, Christie Koontz, Emma Christine McCoy, Wilson Nalls, Marnie Parry, Phil Payne, Rich Peyton, Greg Riccardi, Trevor Screws, and James Vance!

Compassion and Social Justice

Snack Pack and Laundry Love volunteers are invited from 10 AM to noon on Wednesdays. For information on volunteering, contact [Debbie Gibson](#).

On Friday, May 2, we will be filling up bread boxes at Second Harvest. Sign up [here](#) or contact [Debbie Gibson](#) for more info.



Property Team Requests

The Property Team would like to borrow a spud wrench for a plumbing project. We also need a volunteer to climb an 8-foot ladder to install the sanctuary curtains before the May 10 Candlelight Concert. Please contact [Theresa Heiker](#) if you can help with either of these requests.

Tallahassee Community Chorus Concert: Psalms for the Soul

Come and listen to the final concert of the Tallahassee Community Chorus **this Sunday, April 27, at 4pm**. Experience a choral exploration of the Psalms alongside a full orchestra: Stravinsky’s *Symphony of Psalms*, Mendelssohn’s *Psalm 42*, and Bernstein’s *Chichester Psalms*. Our very own Choir Director, Ethan Murphy, is one of the conductors, and many members of First Pres fill out the ranks of singers.

Buy your tickets [here](#) for either the in-person concert or a digital livestream!



To the left: Kids and families enjoying Easter Breakfast at FPC last week!



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.

Thank you!

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[Click here for the](#)

[Weekly Schedule](#)

[Monthly Calendar](#)

More info available on [Breeze](#)

Moving Beyond the Confession of the Sin of Racism to Repair of the Breach

In January of 2024, we placed a plaque on the outside of the sanctuary acknowledging that our history included the sin of racism: we promised to "commit ourselves to repairing racism's breach, that God's beloved community might take form to and around us." The Task Force on Healing Racism is regularly sharing resources to deepen our understanding of the costs of that sin and to inspire us to act.

One highlight of the celebration of Black History Month was a potluck luncheon on February 23 featuring an inspiring talk and display of his art by Ted Ellis of the FSU Civil Rights Institute. It was encouraging to have over 90 people attend in person or by Zoom and will spur us on in our commitment as a congregation to find ways of repairing the breach caused by the sin of racism.

As we continue our work, we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us in discerning what is ours to do. As Christians, we are called to reject and oppose policies of oppression. We need to deepen our faith and our courage by prayer, meditation, and any other practices that provide fuel for our continued strength and perseverance. Romans 8:31-39 reminds us that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ.

Our plaque and banner continue to have an impact in the community. A recent visitor, who has continued to attend, was drawn by noticing the banner as she was driving by. And, we are honored and encouraged that Ted Ellis maintains an enthusiastic interest in our work. He recently wrote, "I believe that ongoing engagement, collaboration, and intentional partnerships can create lasting change, and I am happy to explore ideas with your group on how to move forward effectively."

Ted Ellis will be joining again for the next regular Task Force meeting: please join us [online on Zoom](#) on May 13 at 7:00 p.m., when we will discuss with Ted ways that the church can take action to repair historic harms caused by racism.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact any of the Task Force members: Sue Hightower, Mary Hodges, Pam McVety, Marian Moore, Walter Moore, Sue Safford, Deborah Whisnant, Debbie Gibson, Aide Whitaker, and Ann Westall, Chair.

UKIRK

TALLAHASSEE

Open House 2025

All are invited and welcome to come see and hear all about what UKirk Tallahassee / Presbyterian University Center has been up to this past year.

20 | May | 2025

6:00 - 7:30 pm

548 W. Park Ave. Tallahassee, FL 32301

HORS D'OEUVRES & DESSERTS WILL BE SERVED

Please RSVP by scanning the QR Code, Calling the UKirk Office at 850-222-6320 or through the website - www.ukirktallahassee.com



To the right: congregants and visitors making their way down the buffet line for Easter Breakfast!



First Presbyterian Preschool Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher appreciation week is May 5th-9th, so let's show our First Presbyterian Preschool staff some love!

Funds will go to gift cards, meals, and other surprises for our amazing preschool staff!



Ways to contribute:

Venmo: @Felesa-Oliver

CashApp: @fso06

Or by check to the preschool box in the church office (memo: teacher appreciation)