



This Week @ First

Friday, June 27, 2025

Worship & Music

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

This week, Tim Hoekman and Carla Connors are providing worship music. The Summer Choir will resume next week and meets at 10 AM on Sundays — all are welcome to join!

Spiritual Formation

Sunday School — Youth and Adult:

Classes will resume in the fall.

Guided Meditation

Practice will resume in August.

Happy Birthday to all of our July Babies!

Kermit Rose, Laura Sullivan, Abigail Cleveland, Kelly Ann Kennedy, Peggy West, Jan Bush, Jane Atkinson, Rosemary Colson, Bill Lampkin, John Hightower, Patsy Kickliter, Barbara Busharis, Anna Cleveland, Ollie Groll, Katie Caleen, William Weissert, Chris Corzine, Joyce Crawford, and Emilia Rosica!

A special shout-out to Kate Kerr, who turned 100 this week—thank you for sharing your charm and wit with our community for a century!



Compassion and Social Justice

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

Second Harvest Bread Boxing: On the first Friday of every month, volunteers pack bread boxes at Second Harvest for distribution. Due to the 4th of July, the next bread boxing volunteer opportunity will be Friday, July 11.

First Sunday Food Collection: Next Sunday, July 6, remember to bring your canned goods for donation to Second Harvest.



Volunteers Requested: 4th of July Meals on Wheels

For numerous years, First Presbyterian Church has provided assistance to Meals on Wheels on the 4th of July by providing food preparers and deliverers so that regular volunteers can have the holiday off. We hope that members and friends will decide to devote a couple of hours to share time, food, and hospitality to those who wish to maintain their independence by remaining in their own homes.

When: Friday, July 4, 2025

Where: Elder Care Services. 2518 W. Tennessee Street

You may indicate your willingness to do this by:

- Sending an e-mail to [Gary Niblack](#)
- Calling or texting 850-896-6299
- Signing up with Sue Hightower or Gary Niblack in the courtyard on Sunday after worship

Please indicate your preference to cook (8:00–10:00 AM) or drive/navigate (10:00 AM–12:00 PM).

You are welcome to request the same route you had last year.



Celebrations and Farewells

In this month of June, we have had to say farewell to our Organist, Elizabeth LaJeunesse, our Choir Director, Ethan Murphy, and beloved church member, Abbey Leier-Murphy, as they set off on new adventures. We gathered together to eat, cry, sing, share stories, celebrate their time with us, and offer our best wishes for their future endeavors. We hope they will come visit!

More photos on the following pages.



To submit information to be included in the newsletter and/or Sunday bulletin (as space permits), please use [this link](#), which will take you to an online form. Submissions are due by Thursday at noon. Thank you!

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Click here for the

[Weekly Schedule](#)

[Monthly Calendar](#)

More info available on [Breeze](#)



Pastoral Note



What time is it? It is Ordinary Time!

As we prepare for a long, hot summer and may feel a bit exhausted after the liturgical seasons of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, we eagerly look forward to Advent during what is called “Ordinary Time.” The Sundays after Pentecost are often referred to as ordinary time.

It includes all days that are not part of a specific season, such as Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, or Easter. The term “Ordinary Time” does not mean the same as it does in everyday language. Instead, it comes from the word “ordinal,” which indicates a specific order in a series. It refers to the “first, second, third,” rather than just “one, two, three.” Sundays that are not part of the Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter seasons are identified by ordinal numbers, so ordinary time is essentially “counted time.”

Although the term “Ordinary Time” sounds simple, it is anything but dull or routine.

Beyond the liturgy, the subtleties of our rhythmic season in rural North Florida, such as the blooming of the oakleaf hydrangea, guide our way to Advent. The scripture readings assigned to ordinary time set the tone. They include biblical stories about Jesus, the apostles, and what discipleship means. Also, scripture readings focus on Jesus’ teachings and ministry, offering an opportunity for reflection and spiritual growth. Scripture readings, along with the seasonal rhythm of the year, help us rediscover how our lives in Christ are filled with God’s love, joy, and peace.

Rev. Glenn Hodges

Book of Common Worship, 1918. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press.

“‘Ordinary Time’ is extra-ordinary,” last modified November 18, 2020,

<https://pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/2020/11/18/ordinary-time-extra-ordinary>.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.”
Matthew 5:14”



