

# This Week @ First

Friday, April 17, 2026

## Worship & Music

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

Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7–8:15 PM in the choir room below the sanctuary. We meet on Sundays at 10:15 AM in the choir room. New singers are always welcome!

## Spiritual Formation

Sunday classes are 9:30–10:30 AM  
Nursery care available on request\*

### Youth Sunday School:

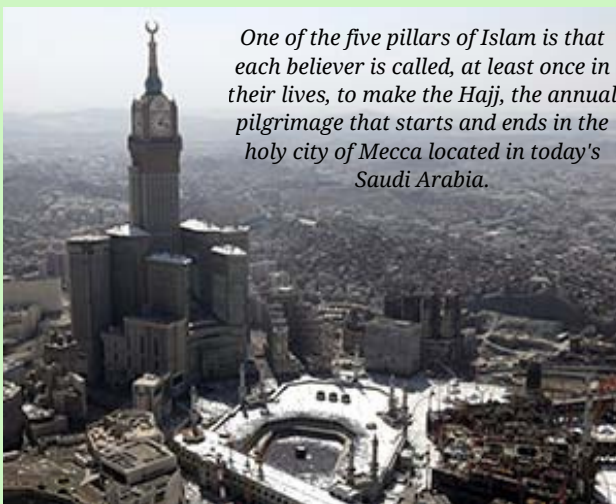
K–5 in Room 306, Middle and High in Room 301

### Adult Bible Study: Calvin Room and via [Zoom](#)

The class will continue our discussion of Genesis at chapter 3, verse 20.

### Inquirers' Class: Westminster Room and via [Zoom](#)

This Sunday we begin a two-week exploration of [The Hajj](#), the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, using the PBS series [Sacred Journeys with Bruce Feiler](#). In Session 1, we'll meet several pilgrims and learn why millions of Muslims travel to Medina and Mecca each year. Together we'll reflect on themes of story, identity, preparation, and the universal human longing for sacred journey. All are welcome.



*One of the five pillars of Islam is that each believer is called, at least once in their lives, to make the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage that starts and ends in the holy city of Mecca located in today's Saudi Arabia.*

**Guided Meditation** meets at 10:30 in the Library.

**\*Nursery Staffing:** If members or guests are in need of childcare, there is a sign on the nursery door with numbers to call. Members who have completed the Safe Gatherings screening will always be available.


## Compassion and Social Justice

### Snack Packs and Laundry Love:

Join us from 10 AM to noon on Wednesdays to provide snack packs, laundry, and showers for our unsheltered neighbors.


*To volunteer, please contact [Jon Dodrill](#). You are welcome once, weekly, or monthly as you are able and interested.*

### Second Harvest Bread Boxing:

Join us on first Fridays from 9:45 AM–Noon.  [Click to Sign Up](#)

*Next opportunity: **Friday, May 1***

### Serve Dinner at Grace Mission:

Join us on second Sundays from 4–6 PM.  [Click to Sign Up](#)

### Interfaith Vigil for Immigrant Justice

Sunday, 4–5 PM, Historic Florida Capitol

## This Sunday: Presbyterian Women Mission Workshop



Everyone is invited to attend the mission workshop immediately after worship on Sunday, April — men, women and children. Please come and bring a sandwich — dessert and water will be provided.

*Work with others to complete hands-on projects*

*Find out more about the work of others in the congregation and our community as well as how you can support their work*

*Get handouts and hands-on help about using Breeze, about our ministry teams, and about the FPC endowment*

The following (optional) items can be brought to the workshop or to the collection box on the table outside the office in the education building: new or lightly used books appropriate for preschoolers; underwear (Men's Sm, M, L, 2XL, 3XL; Women's 5-6,7-8); Men's T-shirts & Short Sleeve Shirts, shorts, and casual shoes (size 10+). We are also collecting snack bars, peanut butter crackers, mandarin oranges, Gatorade/juice boxes, and Vienna sausages.

We hope to see you there!

### First Presbyterian Church

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Published on April 17, 2026

*Click here for the*

[Weekly Schedule](#)

[Monthly Calendar](#)

*More info available on [Breeze](#)*

## Nehemiah Action Event

April 21



The Capital Area Justice Ministry will hold a “Nehemiah Action” gathering on April 21 from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Old West Florida Enrichment Center, 2344 Lake Bradford Rd. Register [here](#) and come with a friend!



## National Faith + Climate Forum

Presbyterians are invited to join over 2,000 people of faith across the US on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 12:00 – 5:30 pm ET / 9:00 – 2:30 pm PT for the National Faith

+ Climate Forum to hear from inspiring national leaders on caring for creation and working for climate justice, including Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson, co-editor of *All We Can Save* and author of *What If We Get It Right?* No prior experience with climate issues is needed. This forum is designed to be welcoming, accessible, and grounded in faith.

[REGISTER FOR FREE TODAY!](#)

To submit information for the newsletter and/or bulletin (as space permits), please use [this link](#), which will take you to an online form. The form will accept attachments. Submissions are due by Thursday at noon.

## Two Executions Scheduled

Unless there is a stay in either case, Chadwick Willacy is scheduled to be executed at 6 PM on Tuesday, April 21 for the 1990 murder of his neighbor, Marlys Sather; James Ernest Hitchcock will be executed at 6 PM on Thursday, April 30 for the 1976 murder of Cynthia Driggers.

A vigil will take place outside the Governor's Mansion at the time of each execution. A service of remembrance for the defendants, their victims, and their families will be held the day following each execution, at noon, around the Great Seal in the Capitol Rotunda.

## Our General Assembly Meets this Summer

If you want to know more about how church policy is decided, you can follow the proceedings of our General Assembly which is meeting this summer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from June 22 to July 2 on [PCBiz.org](#). Committees will meet online and the plenary will be held in person. It is possible to listen live to the plenary, testify before a committee or read the overtures and other resources by registering at [PCBiz.org](#). You can also sign up for their daily newsletter.

Each Presbytery can send two commissioners and a Youth Advisory Delegate (YAD). Our commissioners are Teaching Elder Cathy Moody from First Presbyterian in Defuniak Springs and Ruling Elder Linda Lovins from Christ Presbyterian, Tallahassee. Our YAD is Dexton Teat from Grace Presbyterian Church in Panama City.

We have two overtures before the General Assembly, Changing Course for a Green Future and the Green Future Endowment Fund. Pam McVety is the Overture Advocate for our Presbytery. They will be heard and debated at the Climate and Environmental Justice Committee, which is co-chaired by Ruling Elder Linda Kennan, Moderator of the Presbytery of Lake Huron, and Teaching Elder Michael Goodwin, Vice-Moderator of the Winnebago Presbytery. If you know either, please let Pam know.



## DOGWOOD ACRES

### Summer Camp 2026:

High School Week: June 21–26

Intro / Discovery / Adventure: July 5–10 & July 12–17

### Double the Joy Giving Opportunity:

A generous anonymous donor has made a remarkable offer: they will match every gift to Dogwood Acres dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000. That means if we reach our goal of \$5,000 in community gifts, together we will raise \$10,000 for the kids and staff who make Dogwood Acres what it is.

Gifts will be used for:

- Hands-on environmental education activities
- Updated recreational equipment
- Arts and crafts supplies for the entire summer
- New, comfortable cabin mattresses
- Enhanced lakefront safety for every camper

The matching opportunity ends June 1, 2026 – so don't wait! You can give online at [dogwoodacres.org](#) or mail a check to: Dogwood Acres, 3320 Harmony Road, Chipley, FL 32428. Thank you for believing in what God is doing at Dogwood Acres!