

This Week @ First

Friday, May 8, 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. The choir will begin its summer schedule after Memorial Day (no weekday rehearsals), and 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 13, verse 1.

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

This Sunday we will discuss significant cases of the 2025-26 Supreme Court term and look ahead to issues the Court may take up next year.

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.

This Sunday, May 10:

- Remember your spare change for 2-cents-a-meal
- A congregational meeting will take place at the end of the worship service for the purpose of filling a vacancy on the Session
- Join Care & Outreach for Second Sunday Lemonade in the courtyard after worship!

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.

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.

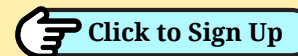
Second Harvest Bread Boxing:

Join us on first Fridays from 9:45 AM–Noon.



Serve Dinner at Grace Mission:

Join us on second Sundays from 4–6 PM.



Next opportunity: Sunday, May 10

Interfaith Vigil for Immigrant Justice

Sunday, 4–5 PM, Historic Florida Capitol

Emancipation Day Celebration

Save the date! On May 20th Tallahassee will celebrate Florida's Emancipation Day through a series of meaningful events hosted by the 2nd Infantry Regiment United States Colored Troops Living History Association. This year's season of celebration includes a Living History Day in the Park on May 16, a Graveside Ceremony at Old City Cemetery on May 20, and the Annual Emancipation and Abolitionist Ball on May 23.

On May 20 at 11:00 AM church bells in the Tallahassee area will ring for two minutes to announce the dawning of the special day of freedom. Meet us at 11:00 at FPC for the bell ringing and walk to the Knott Museum for the Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation at 11:30. From 2:00-4:00 PM the Riley House Center and Museum will offer free admission. Show your support as a sponsor of the museum by dropping by. Let them know that you are a member of First Presbyterian Church!



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Click here for the

[Weekly Schedule](#)

[Monthly Calendar](#)

More info available on [Breeze](#)

Climate Change and Immunity from Lawsuits

Pam McVety has shared information about a petition circulated by Greenfaith USA, which is part of **greenfaith**, a multinational and interfaith organization that works with faith communities to educate about climate change and related issues. The organization's priorities include transitioning to renewable energy and moving away from fossil fuels.

In response to lawsuits filed in various states seeking damages from the fossil fuel industry for the effects of climate change, federal legislation has been introduced called the "Stop Climate Shakedowns Act." This Act would give the fossil fuel industry total immunity from responsibility for damages. The petition, titled "Multi-Faith Letter Opposing Fossil Fuel Immunity," asks Congress to reject this immunity.

You are encouraged to read more about this issue. Numerous organizations have expressed concern about the legislation, including the Sierra Club, Union of Concerned Scientists, and the Center for Climate Integrity.



UKirk's Annual Open House

As the 2025/2026 Academic Year comes to an end, you are cordially invited to celebrate this year's ministry with college students on Thursday, May 14, 2026, from 6 PM to 8 PM.



The open house will include tours of the building, a short presentation by students, and a presentation by our Campus Minister.

Light refreshments, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts will be served.

All are welcome to attend! RSVP here or by calling 850-222-6320.

From Your Endowment Management Committee – Week 2

Bob McVety, Chair

Last week's "This Week @ First" shared some of the basics of our endowment program as outlined in our Legacy and Gifts Plan. Since it was formed by the Session in 1996, the endowment has grown by generous bequests as well as investments made for us by the Presbyterian Foundation. At our request, the Foundation created a mutual fund for us that does not contain fossil fuel stocks. Other congregations in the nation now have access to investing in this fund. As the fund grows, the yearly income from this fund and a bond fund is made available to support special ministries or building-related needs of the church. These funds are not meant to be used for purposes that are part of the normal operating budget.

Some examples of how the endowment funds have been used for outreach or special ministries include Habitat for Humanity, several youth mission trips, hurricane Katrina support, a witness project at Wakulla Correctional Institution, Florida Impact's summer children's food program, Grace Mission support, Big Bend Homeless Coalition, Capital City Youth Services, Second Harvest, Kearney Center, Kindred Spirits, a Riley House grant, the Healing Racism Task Force's plaque at the sanctuary portico, Elder Care Services, Cuba Presbyterian Reformed Church food programs, Dogwood Acres and Montreat scholarships, and Big Bend Continuing Care.

The Facilities Reserve Fund has helped pay for unexpected needs of the aging church buildings such as removing buried fuel tanks, repainting the steeple and its clock, several HVAC and ceiling repairs, roof leaks/replacement and drainage repairs, refurbishing flooring, upgrading restrooms, elevator repairs, water heater replacement, a new refrigerator, sanctuary stucco cleaning, sidewalk repair, and more. The availability of these funds, so far, have avoided the need for more fund-raising efforts.

We are especially thankful for those who included the church in their wills and bequests, including: Craig Mills, John Kerr, Preston DeMilly, Ruth White, Dottie Cramer, Bob Schubert, Dorothy Husband, Ramona Beard, Margaret Chase, Ann Stevens, and Harriet Chase. If you have questions about how to make a bequest or gift to one or more of the funds in our endowment program, contact any member of the Endowment Management Committee.



DOGWOOD ACRES

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. 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!