

This Week @ First

Friday, July 17, 2026

Worship & Music

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

The “Summer Choir” meets on Sundays at 10 AM and new members are always welcome!

This week we will welcome back Rev. Dr. John Cole and Rev. Tai Cole as worship leaders.

Looking Ahead: Presbyterian Women’s Fall Gathering

Presbyterian Women will kick off their new year with a Fall Gathering in the Westminster Room on Sunday, August 30, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. Our own marvelous Biblical scholar Stan Williams will introduce our new Bible study, entitled *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians*, by The Reverend Dr. Rhonda Mawhood Lee, and new study books and directories will be distributed.

We will once again collect supplies for our First Presbyterian Preschool. Below is the Preschool’s wish list:

- » Copier paper, cardstock in various colors, laminating paper, pens and markers, staplers, paper clips in various sizes, glue sticks, bottles of Elmer’s glue, glue guns, hot glue sticks, Sharpie markers, thumb tacks, scotch tape, masking tape in various colors, and Command Hooks in various sizes.
- » Band-aids, tissues, forehead thermometers, latex gloves, Lysol spray, Lysol wipes, baby wipes (fragrance free), air freshener.
- » Sensory toys, magnetic tiles, colorful posters (alphabet, numbers, shapes, colors, animals, healthy foods, etc.), and monetary gifts.



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](#)

Serve Dinner at Grace Mission:

Join us on second Sundays from 4–6 PM.

[Click to Sign Up](#)



July's Bread Boxing team in the cool air of the Second Harvest warehouse!

Interfaith Vigil for Immigrant Justice

Sunday, 4–5 PM, Historic Florida Capitol

Spiritual Formation

Youth Sunday School, Adult Bible Study, and the Inquirers’ Class will resume in August.

Guided Meditation is continuing to meet at 10:30 in the Library, led by Linda Smith.

On-Request Nursery Staffing: Members who have completed the Safe Gatherings screening will always be available, and numbers are posted on the nursery door.

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.

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[Click here for the](#)

[Weekly Schedule](#)

[Monthly Calendar](#)

More info available on [Breeze](#)

Elevator Repairs To Begin



Repairs to our outdated, but not quite historic, elevator will be taking place the week of Monday, July 27 through Friday, July 31. This will result in limited access to the sanctuary. **The elevator will be available to use on Sunday, July 26th.** A ramp is to be installed and ready for use in time for worship on Sunday, August 2nd, and will remain throughout the renovation process, currently estimated to be 3-4 weeks. Please contact the church office with any questions. Thank you for your patience as we improve comfort and safety for everyone!

News from the PC(USA)

The PC(USA) website has a wealth of information about the recent actions of the General Assembly as well as news from across our denomination, including:

"Mission Responsibility Through Investment sees all its GA227 overtures related to climate and human rights sail through on the assembly's consent agenda," describing how the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment will work with other agencies of the PC(USA) to implement recent overtures requiring, among other things, divestment from companies that derive most of their income from fossil fuels.

"Urge the US Senate to protect Haitians at risk by supporting Temporary Protective Status legislation," setting out how the General Assembly has responded to the recent Supreme Court decision allowing the administration to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) protections for more than 330,000 Haitians living in the United States, as well as people from elsewhere. This entry on the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Blog provides additional information on who will be affected by the decision.

"A walk to end gun violence," reporting on the participation of commissioners and delegates in a march against gun violence.

Governor Sets Two Executions for July 28

The execution of Dominick Occhicone, 80 years old, has been set for July 28 at 6 PM. Now the Governor has set the same date for the execution of James Duckett, whose execution was previously scheduled for March 31 and was delayed for DNA testing. (The testing took place at a lab that was contested, and was inconclusive.) His execution will take place at noon.

Mr. Occhicone and Mr. Duckett committed their offenses in 1986 and 1987, respectively. If they are both executed on July 28 it will be the first time in decades multiple executions have been carried out on the same day. They will be the 11th and 12th executions in Florida this year alone. A vigil will take place outside the Governor's Mansion at the time of each execution, and a service of remembrance for the executed prisoners and their victims will take place the next day. More information will be available on the church calendar.

Request for Assistance at Candlelight Concerts

The Candlelight Concerts have been very successful as a source of income and also an opportunity for others in the community to view our beautiful sanctuary. It would be helpful to have one or two church members volunteer to assist as greeters prior to the start of each of these events when the concerts resume in September.

Volunteers would be asked to arrive one hour before the start of the concert, and to be available to direct concert goers to the rest room or to offer a folding chair to older concert goers needing to be seated while waiting for the doors to open. Fever Up provides ushers for the concerts, so this request would be for hospitality which is specific to our church. For more information please contact Carl Morse (4carlmorse@gmail.com) or Mary Kutter (mykutter@gmail.com). The current schedule of concerts is below:

Saturday, September 19: 4 and 6:15 PM
Saturday, October 24: 4 PM
Saturday, November 21: 4 and 6:15 PM
Friday, December 18: 6:15 and 8:30 PM



Thanks to a commitment from the Compassion and Social Justice Team, along with individual donors, we have been able to provide regular support to the churches at First Havana, Los Palos, and Nueva Paz for their meal outreach programs. This is a typical shipment of protein and staples.