

September 2022

# First News

Building Faith, Changing Lives,  
& Sharing Christ.



## We are All New Members

First Presbyterian Church is blessed in that we continue to receive new members into our fellowship. It is important for our newest members to know that there are no senior or junior members. There are only members, all called to serve, and follow Christ as led by the Holy Spirit. And it is important for our continuing members to know that they are also expected to do new things.

In the world and time in which we live we need all our members, whether new to our congregation or having a continuing history of relationship, to be engaged in doing new acts of ministry. There is never a time in Scripture when we are told, "That's OK, you've done that before! You don't need to do it anymore."

Instead, we are constantly reminded that we are to move forward in ministry, follow Christ, and be willing to do new acts of Christian service. Jesus gives us new responsibilities and ministry again and again:

- Jesus gives us a new commandment that we are to love one another. -John 13:33-35
- Jesus gives us a new assignment to clearly identify our neighbor(s) and to love them (extend to them justice and kindness;) -Matthew 25
- Jesus gives us responsibility go out into the world and make disciples. -Matthew 28:19
- Jesus affirms Isaiah and gives us new reasons and new opportunities and new power to service others. -Isaiah 43:18-19
- Jesus gives each of us new life and that life in abundance. -John 10:10



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As we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior and seek to worship, we are called to try new things! We live out our life in Christ through the church, in a particular church (FPCVB). In the church we are called to acts of service and witness. There is no moment in life where God indicates that our service should cease! As you live out your life as Christians at First Presbyterian Church you are encouraged to find new ways to serve as we care and witness for and to each other. God always gives us the gifts and opportunities to

serve others. Identify your gifts! Seek the opportunities! You are encouraged to find ways to discern whether through worship leadership, mission opportunities, discipleship, fellowship endeavors, or by offering hospitality to strangers. There is always a place, and a calling, for service in following Christ.

Whether you are new to the church or whether continuing in fellowship, you are called to strive to do amazing and exciting new things. If you desire to be engaged in new service opportunities, please call the church office. If you wish to offer new service experiences to the church, please call the church office.

Try a new thing! Celebrate your membership by serving Christ and one another!

May God Bless You,

*Tim Womack*





## Spotlight on a Vero Treasure: Remembering Jay “Bird” Miller

*Originally written by Janet Begley, Treasure Coast Newspapers*

For more than 50 years, the Jay Bird Miller Band was a fixture in Vero Beach, playing at clubs, community fairs, and most notably during spring training at Holman Stadium at Dodgertown from 1962 to 2008. The band’s leader and namesake, Jay Calvin Miller, passed away peacefully on August 9th after a long and colorful life. He was 94, and a member of First Presbyterian Church.

Although born in Hampton Township, Pennsylvania, Miller was a resident of Vero Beach for more than 60 years. His well-known greeting, when meeting someone for the first time, “name a bird for me” always brought a smile as did his “tweet-tweet” goodbye, according to his local fans. He earned his moniker “Jay Bird” because of the hand-painted tie featuring a blue bird that he often wore, along with his infamous plaid sport coats and bird hats.

Heather Stapleton, executive director of the Heritage Center, said Miller was a fixture of events at her venue for decades. “Jay Bird, such sweet local memories of you and special events at the Heritage Center,” wrote Stapleton on a tribute page set up by Miller’s family. “You will be missed by everyone in Indian River County. We know you are rocking out.”



In 1945, upon graduation from Hampton High School, Miller enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After his naval service, he was a cab driver in Pittsburgh and started his own 15-piece band at age 19. Although he had a varied career in citrus, retail clothing, and furniture locally, Miller also delivered flowers for Hutchinson’s Floral Artistry in Vero Beach, as well as distributed the Press Journal for more than 20 years.

But, Miller’s primary vocation was music, excelling as both a drummer and percussionist. He began his music career in the fourth grade with the clarinet, but his teacher switched him to drums because no one else could carry the rhythm. He was an admirer of the famed band leader, Glenn Miller, and took to Big Bands as his signature sound.



Miller was the leader and/or drummer in five groups that performed in Vero Beach and the Treasure Coast — The Jay Bird Band; The Jay Miller Orchestra; the Silver Tones Community Choir; first drummer for the 20th Street Jazz Band, and the oldest member of the Treasure Coast Symphony.

Jay is survived by his son Frederick of West Palm Beach; daughter Amy of Fort Mill, South Carolina; four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and countless friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Priscilla, in 1990, and companion, Dorothy Leslie, in 2014.

A memorial service is planned for Miller at the **First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 9th at 2 p.m.** A “Celebration of Life” will take place at the **Polish American Club on Monday, October 10th at 2 p.m.** on what would have been Miller’s 95th birthday. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Treasure Coast Symphony, ([www.treasurecoastsymphony.org/donate](http://www.treasurecoastsymphony.org/donate)) or VNA Hospice, 901 37th St., Vero Beach 32960. Arrangements are under the direction of Millennium Cremation Service of Vero Beach. Condolences may be shared online at [www.millenniumcremationservice.com](http://www.millenniumcremationservice.com).



# Discipleship

## Quest Kids Club Returns!

Quest Kids Club is scheduled to begin on **Wednesday, September 7th**, and continue through May 17th. Each Wednesday, First Presbyterian Church provides bus transportation to three elementary schools in the area (Imagine, Beachland, and Osceola Magnet). Parent drop off is always welcome and available. The program runs from **3:30pm-5:15pm and follows the calendar set by School District of Indian River County**.

Quest is always a fun-filled afternoon of snacks, games, crafts, music, and life application Bible studies. The kids love learning Bible Lessons from the Whirl Kids, fun animated characters that provide solutions to real-life situations. They are one component of the *Whirl All Kids* curriculum that engages the students in the ultimate goal of teaching them to love God and to love others. In addition to Biblical learning, the Quest Kids get to learn new songs and play instruments. The Children's Choir shares what they have learned with the congregation on the second Sunday of each month. They also have special performances at Wednesday night dinners in December and May.

The program begins with the children arriving from school either being dropped off by the bus or parents. They are hungry and usually need to expend some energy, so we enjoy a snack and outside play. Then, we proceed to inside where the kids are divided into groups based on grade levels. They rotate through stations of Bible lessons, music, and games/homework help.

Students can be picked up at 5:15 by being checked out with a designated adult teacher/volunteer. If you would like to volunteer for this wonderful community outreach program for kids, we kindly ask that you arrange that with the leaders prior to the day of the events. We invite and encourage all families to join us for dinner each Wednesday. More information on dinners is forthcoming.



For more information on Quest Kids Club or to learn how to register, contact Carie Robbins at [childrensministry@firstpresvero.org](mailto:childrensministry@firstpresvero.org)





# Mission

## Continued Donation Drives and Call for Volunteers

### School Uniforms



We are still accepting uniforms for our Dodgertown Elementary School students K-5th grade. You can help by either buying uniforms sold at Walmart or Target or making a donation to the church: memo "school uniforms". The school needs all sizes from small sizes (6-7) medium sizes (8-10) and large (10-12, 14-16, and 16-18). School begins again on August 10.

Girls' shirts must be a collared polo shirt of any color. Girls may also wear slacks, shorts, skirts or jumpers. Boys' shirts must be collared polo shirts of any color. Boys may also wear shorts or long pants. The image

to the right is just a sample of what is available in the stores.

You may bring uniforms to church on any Sunday and there will be a basket in the back of the sanctuary to receive your uniform donation. During the week, uniforms may be brought to the church office. May you be blessed to be a blessing.

### Food Pantry

We continue to accept food donations to help supply the Dodgertown Food Pantry. The Pantry is available to families of Dodgertown students to help provide food to those families in need and to make it easy access for parents. We are asking everyone to bring 1 or more items in the following categories:

- 1) Protein/meat/nuts, dried beans
- 2) Dairy/cheese
- 3) Vegetables
- 4) Fruit
- 5) Hygiene items: soap, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant etc.
- 6) Diapers/Wipes/unopened cans of formula

Labeled containers for donations can be found in the back of the sanctuary.

### Volunteers Are Always Needed! Help Package Food for Sunset Apartments

During the 4th Wednesday of the month, volunteers are needed to help package fresh, canned, and frozen foods which are then delivered to the residents of Sunset Apartments nearby. This happens at the Gifford Youth Achievement Center (4875 43rd Ave. Vero Beach.) Volunteers should arrive at 8:30am. The dates are September 28 and October 29.





# Unique Boutique

**The time has come again!**

We are accepting new and gently used items for our Unique Boutique at the 2022 Christmas Tree Lane.

Whether you're redecorating or cleaning out closets, please think of the Presbyterian Women!

We will be accepting donations\* on:

**Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout September**  
1:00pm - 3:00pm

All donations will be accepted at the side entrance door (on the west side of the building) to McAfee Hall in the Center for Christian Life.

***\*We cannot accept clothing, shoes, electronics, or large furniture.  
Please do not drop items off in the church office.***

For additional information, contact Catella Grigley: (808) 295-6336



## Call for Volunteers

The 68th Annual Christmas Tree Lane will be held on  
**Saturday, December 3, 2022**  
9:00am to 2:00pm

Indian River County's oldest and largest Holiday Bazaar features local artisans, crafters, baked goods and cookies-by-the-pound, and our Unique Boutique of gently used items. All proceeds from the event are donated to local charities through the Presbyterian Women.

Many hands make light work! If you are interested in volunteering for this wonderful event, please contact Carol Freeman at [carolwhite90@hotmail.com](mailto:carolwhite90@hotmail.com)





# Presbyterian Women

## Profile of a Presbyterian Woman: Catella Grigley

by Elaine Heeren



Catella Grigley is an intrepid soul whom, on occasional Wednesdays during the school year, drives the church bus to local elementary schools to ferry youngsters to our Quest Kids' Club. An FPC member since 2019, this highly competent, high-energy lady is often seen on the church campus, helping out wherever needed. Now she's taken on an exciting new challenge as Chairperson of Christmas Tree Lane's largest venue, the Unique Boutique.

Surprisingly, Catella admits she's never actually been to a Christmas Tree Lane. So, what gave her the confidence to step forward? As she explained, "I knew that a great group of women had already paved the way so under their stewardship I could succeed." This year's Unique Boutique will follow tradition, she said, "but maybe with a new spin."

Catella was born in Portland, OR, the 2nd youngest of 5 children in a loving Catholic family. At age 14, her family moved to the little Florida fishing town of Steinhatchee to be near family. Catella returned to Portland for an Associate's Degree in Pre-Med at the community college. A post-college plan to join AmeriCorps was scuttled by a bizarre accident: "A dock collapsed under me, and my right leg was sliced from hip to ankle by thousands of oyster shells." Ironically, that mishap opened the door to her future. On a breakfast out with her mother while healing, she chanced to meet U.S. Marine Ryan Grigley. "God brought us together," she said.

An old-fashioned romance unfolded over the next 2 years, with letters, occasional visits, and eventually an engagement. While Ryan was stationed in Watertown, NY, Catella started college in Syracuse, taking a 1,000-hr. course in massage therapy. When Ryan deployed to Kosovo, Catella moved to Manhattan and worked with a private practice doing massage therapy for lymphatic cancer patients and others. In 2001, the fateful morning of 9/11 found Catella in NJ, having stayed at an aunt and uncle's house after the loss of their son. "My aunt woke me up that morning and said she'd had a dream about him and asked me to spend the day with her. I was supposed to take the 9:00 a.m. PATH train into Manhattan."

In 2002, Ryan returned to the U.S., the two married, and 27 year old Ryan extended his military career when assigned to Hawaii. Catella smilingly recalls, "I'd said the only way for you to stay in the military is if you get Hawaii." During their 7 years there, Ryan had multiple 18-month deployments, and Catella traveled throughout the Hawaiian Islands and to Texas, California, and Malaysia as Salon & Spa Development Partner/Educator for Hawaiian Rainforest LLC.

The next five years saw the Grigleys in South Carolina (where their son Charlie was born), Washington, then Colorado. In 2015, Ryan retired from the military (he's now with FL Dept. of Transportation), and the Grigleys moved to Vero Beach where Catella has family. Once Charlie started FPC Preschool and Catella began volunteering there, this life-long Catholic saw our church community as the next step in her faith journey. "The Lord spoke to me and said, 'this is your path'," she said. Serving is a family affair. Ryan ushers and Charlie is the only boy in handbells and the children's choir! Catella has joined handbells as well.

With her family's blessing, Catella now devotes herself to philanthropy & the church – which is helping allay her grief from the loss of her dad last year. Catella finds comfort and direction in Romans 15:5: "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ had."



# Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

## Business Meeting

The Presbyterian Women's next business meeting will be held on **Monday, September 12th at 12:00pm** in the Earnshaw Room.

We will discuss plans for the October Luncheon as well as Christmas Tree Lane. Volunteer Opportunities are available! This meeting will also be on zoom.

Please contact Debbit Lindsey at [debbie.lindsey.ne@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.lindsey.ne@gmail.com) for the link!

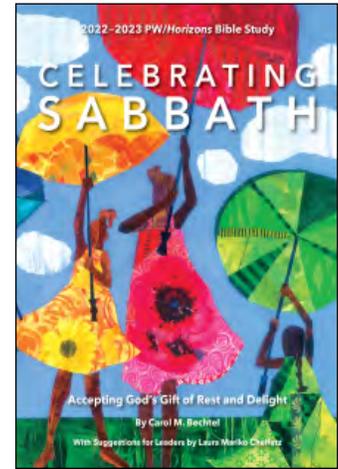
## Grace Circle

Starting on **Monday, October 10th**  
*Earnshaw Room*

11:30am-12:30pm, followed by fellowship  
Please bring your lunch; dessert will be provided.

The Grace Circle Bible Study guide, "Celebrating Sabbath" is available in the church office. The cost of the book is \$10.00 and can be purchased with cash or a check made out to "Presbyterian Women".

Contact Ann Faunce for more information at [bafaunce@gmail.com](mailto:bafaunce@gmail.com)



## Olive Garden Luncheon

Join us!

**Friday, October 14th at 11:45am**  
All ladies are invited for a  
*Non-Business* Meet and Greet!

To RSVP, contact:

Ann Faunce ([bafaunce@gmail.com](mailto:bafaunce@gmail.com)) or  
Debbie Linsley ([debbie.lindsey.ne@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.lindsey.ne@gmail.com))  
Each person will have her own check.



## Wellspring Circle

The new Wellspring ("An original and bountiful source of something") Circle will be held for five weeks this fall as an additional PW event. Sally Dussing will facilitate discussions while we mine two books; both are of minimal length and thought provoking.

Wellspring meetings will take place in the chapel on **Friday mornings, October 14, 21, 28, November 4, and 18, from 10:00 to 11:15am**. We resume for five weeks beginning **January 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3 & 10**. We may even squeeze in a couple of field trips just to tease your curiosity! We plan these meetings in conjunction with our PW Olive Garden Luncheons, so they can both be done in the same day!

For more information, contact Sally Dussing at [smdussing@gmail.com](mailto:smdussing@gmail.com).



## Men's Corner

### Allan Bixby – A Short History in a Busy Life

*By Phil LoGiudice*

Many of you know Allan Bixby and can appreciate how his various roles within First Presbyterian Church have benefited our membership and the community. His early years began on a small farm in western Massachusetts. He was born in New Salem, where he started on a path leading to a 38-year career in Finance with Massachusetts Mutual Financial Group. Allan's life has been filled with big projects, and that did not change once he retired. Both of Allan's parents were involved in education. His mother was a teacher and his dad served as the chair of the school committee. You can imagine the pressure on Allan to excel!

Allan's education started at New Salem Academy where his mother taught. After high school, he attended Northeastern University in Boston where he majored in accounting and business administration.

Allan was in a five-year co-op program which meant that he attended classes for three months, and spent three months with his co-op employer, Mass. Mutual. Allan spent eight years after graduation serving our country in the U.S. Army both active and reserve attaining the rank of Captain. Also, he was involved in serving on the Board of Assessors. Allan was an active member of the New Salem Congregational Church.

Massachusetts Mutual Financial Group offered him a full-time position in their financial area. At that time Mass Mutual was a \$100 billion company. He would spend the next 38 years with the firm on what he described as an exciting and challenging time. There were many positions of increasing responsibility until he became Vice President and Treasurer. During this time he was President of the National Association of Corporate Treasurers.

In 1986, he met his wife Barbara who also worked at Mass Mutual as an office manager in the Miami office. She was born in London England and immigrated to the U.S in 1958. Barbara was transferred to the home office in Springfield, Massachusetts where she managed the New Business Sales area. They married in 1988. Allan and Barbara have two children, Pamela and Allan Jr., and five grandchildren that all reside in Western Massachusetts. The Bixbys both retired in 1996 and moved to Florida. They joined the First Presbyterian Church later that year and shortly afterward Allan was asked to take the position of Treasurer of FPC.

Allan has been involved in many projects in the Vero Beach community. The hurricane of 2004 and the building of the Christian Life Center along with Habitat for Humanity Fund Raising and ReStore were just some of the projects. He will be the first to tell you that many fine people helped and guided him along the way. He served First Presbyterian Church as Treasurer for 20 years. Currently he is the Director of Development. In this capacity, he works with those interested in gifting to our church along with Estate Planning.

You would think that Allan's commitment to his various jobs probably leaves no time for other pleasures, but that is not the case. In his spare time, he is a regular attendee at the Presbyterian Men's Fellowship breakfast every Tuesday morning. He is a long-time member of the Antique Automobile Club of America. His current "ride" is a pristine 1979 Ford Ranchero 500. Allan is a golfer and belongs to Vero Beach County Club. He has served as President and a current member of the Long-Range Planning Committee for the club. He is an Elder and currently serves as a Trustee and member of Session at FPC. Allan acknowledges that the support and guidance of Barbara and his Christian faith have made all this possible.





## Weekly & Monthly Events

### Want to get involved in our Youth Activities?



We've been doing everything from bowling and beach days to Kids in the Kitchen and Knockerball!

On certain Sunday and Wednesday evenings each month, youth in grades 6 and up are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship.

Please contact the church office for more information about upcoming youth events.  
(772) 562-9088



### **Dr. Tim's Bible Study**

Join us at 10:30am each Tuesday in the Earnshaw Room in the Center for Christian Life, or online via zoom.  
(contact [Dr. Tim](#) for the zoom info)

### **Monday Morning Bible Study**

Join Dr. Tim at Regency for a bible study on Mondays at 10:45am.

### **Presbyterian Women's Grace Circle**

Grace Circle will meet Monday, October 10th in the Earnshaw Room from 11:30am-12:30pm followed by fellowship. Please bring your lunch; dessert will be provided. The study is "Celebrating Sabbath, God's Gift of Rest and Delight." Contact Ann Faunce for more information at [bafaunce@gmail.com](mailto:bafaunce@gmail.com)



<http://www.facebook.com/FirstPresVero>



@FirstPresVeroBeach



First Presbyterian Church Vero Beach



# Notes and Notes

## Leadership & Staff

Rev. Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Russ Feroe & Rev. Holly Adams,  
 Ministers of Congregational Care  
 Dr. Sam Rutland, Theologian in Residence  
 Dr. Jacob Craig, Director of Music & Arts  
 Peter Mahtani, Assistant Director of Music & Arts  
 Carie Robbins, Director of Children's Ministries  
 Ginny Bauer,  
 Senior Administrative Assistant to the Pastors  
 Kimberly Ball, Financial Administrator  
 Lisa Jeffra, Administrative Assistant

### ELDERS \*indicates Elder/Trustee

#### Class of 2022

\*Jerry Garrett, Phil LoGiudice, Bonnie Nolan,  
 \*Carol Smoyer

#### Class of 2023

\*Allan Bixby, James Ewing, \*Linda Masterson,  
 Cindy Rogers

#### Class of 2024

Art Haeberle, Rebecca Palmer, \*Pat Pritchett,  
 \*Brad Smith

Clerk of Session - Keith Martin

Treasurer - Scott Westermann

Director of Development - Allan Bixby

#### Trustees-at-Large

2022 - Steve Harrison

2023 - Will Kirk

2024 - Lisa Barnes

### BOARD OF DEACONS

#### Class of 2022

Mary Bingham, Carol Campbell, Sue Coffey,  
 Keith Martin, Barbara Reed, Richard Thomas

#### Class of 2023

Dr. Lucille Craig, Shirley Douglas, Jenifer Foster,  
 Robin Perry, Mimi Rutland, Bob Stuart

#### Class of 2024

John Barley, Raleighine Hoppe, Holly LoGiudice,  
 Beth Pritchett, Brian Robbins, Cyndee Wood

## Monthly Ministry, Committee, and Talent Team Meetings

Please contact your team leader directly to confirm the status of each meeting. *All meeting dates and times are subject to change at the discretion of each committee/ministry team, as needed.*

Deacons\* - 1st Tuesday; 4:00pm

\*No meeting in July or August

Discipleship - 1st Tuesday; 1pm

Fellowship - 2nd Tuesday; 11:30am

Hospitality - 1st Monday; 2:30pm

Mission - 2nd Tuesday; 2pm

Personnel - Tuesday prior to Trustees Mtg; 3:30pm

PW Coordinating Team Board - Last Wednesday, 1pm

Session - 3rd Thursday; 6:50pm

Trustees - Monday of the week prior to Session; 3pm

Worship & Music - 1st Thursday; 4pm

## September Birthdays

1 - Bob Gormas, Anne Gray, Steve Nystrom

2 - Jean Clements, Ward Gunter, Susie Stoughton

4 - David Frantz

5 - Bob Barganier, Anne Cormier, John Edgar

7 - Budd Thompson

8 - Evelyn Barganier, Bill Beaty

10 - Becky Moon, Nancy Smith

11 - Jane Holland, Hal Wood

12 - Sally Davis, Peter Probasco

14 - Janet Baines

15 - Sam Murdough

16 - Griffin Mericle, Bennett Smith

17 - Michelle Barley, Robert DeWaters, Mike Stevens

18 - Mary Haid, Cal Shields

19 - John Schumann

20 - Peter Crouse, Johntavious Metilus

21 - Robin Perry

22 - Barbara Schwin

23 - Jewel Davis, Darlene Scott

25 - David Kelso, Ronald Redpath, Ali Simpson

26 - Paul Ives

27 - Wendy Spalding, Brady Thompson

28 - Deb Fletcher, Jenifer Foster, Eileen Ganser,

Judy Garrett, Ruth Ann Haeberle, Jim Petzing,

Bonnie Nolan, Nan Thornton

29 - Bill Brewer, Noel Thompson

30 - Kathy Andress, Debra Peirce, Diana Probasco

# First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach

520 Royal Palm Boulevard

Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 562-9088

<http://www.FirstPresVero.org>

[Rev. Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor](#)

## Sunday Worship Times through September 25th 8:30am in the Chapel, 10:00am in the Sanctuary

We are pleased to offer childcare for all services. Our children's Sunday School runs concurrent with our 10:00AM service. **We will also be having Fellowship Time with coffee and cookies on the patio after all worship services.** The first Sunday of every month is Communion Sunday. If you are worshipping from home via LiveStream and would like one of our fellowship cups, please call the church office and we will see that one gets delivered to you. In addition, you may also procure your own elements.

## We welcome you to join our Church family!

Anyone who is moved to join our church family is encouraged to contact our pastors anytime!

**Pastries with the Pastors - 2nd Sunday of the month after the 9:30am service**

**Membership Sunday - 3rd Sunday of the month after each service**

All meetings take place in the Chapel. For more information please contact the church office.

## September Scriptures and Sermons

*Rev. Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor*

September 4, 2022

Jeremiah 18:1-6

"Shaped by God"

September 11, 2022

Isaiah 53:5-6

"Separated from God"

September 18, 2022

Galatians 6:7-10

"Doing Good to All"

September 25, 2022

Psalm 91:1-6

"God's Promised Presence"

"For God Loves a Cheerful Giver"

Aside from our regular Sunday Service giving opportunities, your offering can also be accepted via mail or in person via the secure dropbox just outside of the church office door.

*Did you know that you can also give an offering online?*

[Click here to be directed to our secure portal.](#)

Or, use your smartphone for easy mobile giving!

Text "Firstpresvero" to 73256 and follow the prompts!

