



# FIRST NEWS

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

70 years of ministry! On February 14, Ash Wednesday, and Valentine's Day, First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach celebrates 70 years of faithful ministry. While 70 years may not seem that long for many congregations in the world of Christendom, it is worth significant celebration.

In a world where churches are struggling, First Presbyterian Church is in a very healthy place in its life. We have a vibrant congregation, full of amazing members and friends. We have active ministries that are engaging our congregation and community. We are striving to be faithful without division.

When we look back at our founders, we are thankful for their vision and for their belief in what this congregation can be, and what it can do in service to Christ. That vision and belief has not waned. It is still our belief that we are at a point of most potential.

As we celebrate our 70th anniversary we look forward to what we will offer generations for the next 70 years. Our community needs strong and faithful congregations. We need to continue to endeavor to be as faithful and as engaged in our community as those before us. We need to continue to have a vision for the future and realize the opportunities that are before us.



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In 2024, First Presbyterian Church has many opportunities before us. As most of you are aware, we are in the process of planning for a new sanctuary. This is just one of the visioning opportunities that is before us. As we look forward to this endeavor, we can very easily see ourselves as a new generation of visionaries planning for a faithful church that will be strong well into the 22nd century, which is only 76 years away.

We will have several celebrations throughout this coming year and particularly in February. We will have an old-fashioned potluck dinner on Sunday, February 18 and we would ask that you would plan to attend. There will be a more formal dinner later in April the month where we will celebrate even more fully, our history and future endeavors.

Please join us in our celebrations as we give. Thanks to those who have come before, for we are the inheritors of their good works. It is our prayer, that those at the turn of the next century, will be as thankful to us for the vision that we possess today.

Thank you all for making First Presbyterian Church such a faithful and vibrant community!

May God bless.

Sincerely,

*Tim Womack*

*Let's  
Celebrate*



**70**  
**YEARS**

# Open Mic

at First Pres Vero

**Feb 13 7:00pm**  
**McAfee Hall**

Open Admission!  
To Perform  
Call (772) 562-9088  
Or Scan the Code



NEW BOOK STUDY

# The Sacred Romance

By Brent Curtis  
and John Eldredge

**MONDAYS, 6:30 - 7:30PM**

**YOUTH ROOM**

**FEB 12 - APR 29**

Drawing nearer to the heart of God...



LENTEN REFLECTIONS

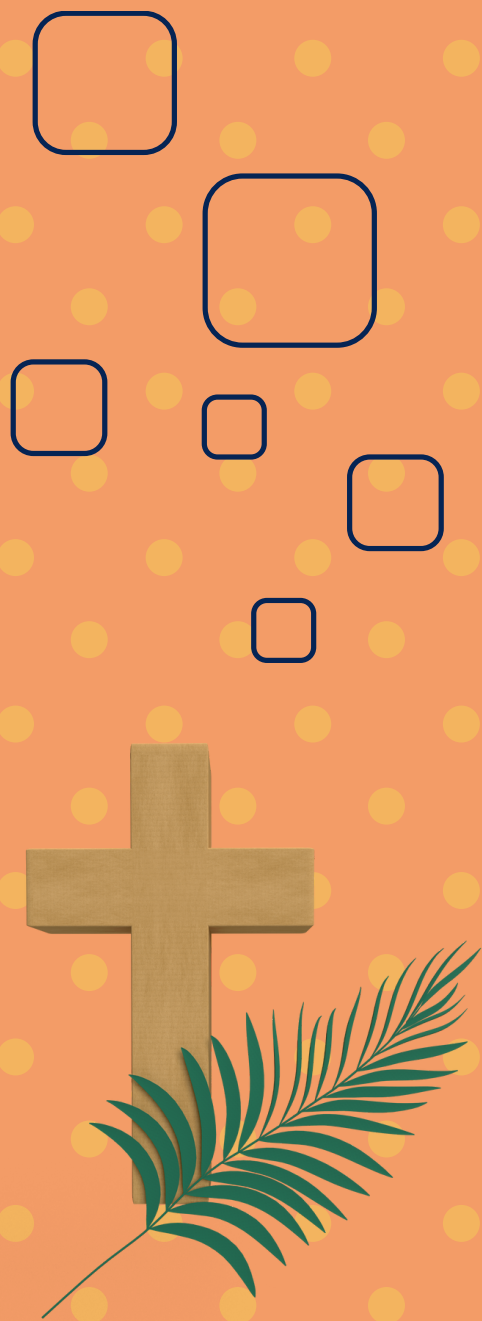


# FIRST PRES

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

Join us during the Lenten season for music, devotion, and refreshments 12:00 - 1:00pm on the following dates.

Call (772) 562-9088 for more information.



<b>21</b> FEB	<b>Erik Bryan,</b> fiddle
<b>28</b> FEB	<b>Rachel Carter,</b> soprano
<b>6</b> MAR	<b>Anna Keeher,</b> voice/guitar
<b>13</b> MAR	<b>James Morris,</b> baritone
<b>20</b> MAR	<b>Matt Stott,</b> violin

# First Presbyterian Church

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

520 ROYAL PALM BLVD. VERO BEACH, FL 772 562 9088



**Sunday**  
**February 11, 2024**  
**4PM**

Con Brio String Quartet



**Sunday**  
**March 10, 2024**  
**4PM**

Gainesville Brass Quintet

Stay tuned for dates for a Jazz Concert  
and The Army Band Concert!

**Be An Angel**

**Support our ongoing Concert Series!**

**Seraphim—\$100**

**Cherubim—\$500**

**ArchAngel—\$1000 and above**

**Donations can be returned to the back of the church or church office.**

**Please find envelopes in your program**

**If you have any questions, please contact Joan Gansfuss: [mlgansfusse@aol.com](mailto:mlgansfusse@aol.com)**

## PW News - February 2024

The January meeting was very well attended although installation of new officers and farewell to our 2023 officers had to be delayed until our next meeting, 5 February, 1:00 p.m. in the Earnshaw Room. The Reverend Holly Adams will officiate the installation.

Ladies, your assistance is needed to ensure the success of our esteemed PW group. We desperately need someone to undertake the preparation of articles for our church newsletter. Information for the articles comes directly from our regular meetings, so it's just a matter of linking all those thoughts together and getting the material to Peter Mahtani by the 15th of each month. Is this your thing? Is God tapping you on the shoulder? Are you listening? We NEED you!

Also, we would like to establish a small group (2-4 women) to act as a Social Events Co-ordinating Committee. We hold three events annually (not including Christmas Tree Lane)—

Spring Luncheon (in March or April)

Fall Welcome-Back Luncheon (October)

Christmas Luncheon (a week or so AFTER Christmas Tree Lane).

This Committee would plan the themes/decorations, etc. for these events and guide volunteers (we are ALWAYS blessed with many!) in set-up. We have a vast array of materials available in our PW closets! Is this your thing? Do you enjoy entertaining? Is God tapping you on the shoulder? Are you listening? We NEED you!

**PLEASE SAY YES. WE NEED YOU!** You may respond to the email address below. Did we say we need You?

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Taylor and Sandy Thiel  
Co-Moderators Presbyterian Women 2024  
tsjt333@comcast.net  
12 January 2024



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

**Olive Garden Luncheon - Friday, February 16, 11:30AM.  
Call BJ Fisher to sign-up for the Luncheon - 678-481-3835**

## Annual Sweetheart Luncheon February 10, 2024

Every year near Valentine's Day, the Presbyterian Men's Fellowship plan and host a Sweetheart Dinner. This year, we will honor the ladies of our church with a delicious lunch prepared by Blessed Mana on February 10, 2024. We decided to change the time of our special meal to make it more convenient for the many people who indicated a reluctance to drive or travel at night. We listened and decided a lunch could alleviate their concerns.

As always, the purpose of the meal is to honor all our ladies. The single women are invited as guests and treated to a fine meal. This event is not a Men's Fellowship fund raiser. Our efforts are meant to show our love and respect for the ladies. Planning begins months before the special day. Volunteers include the men along with help from the Presbyterian Women and volunteers from the FPC community.

Lunch will be served promptly at 1 p.m. starting with a delicious salad. The serving team will be the young women of the Sebastian High School Softball Team along with their coach Julie Sharkey-Villars. Linda Zellweger will lead the servers as she has done so well in the past. We will ask the Reverend Lisle Kaufman to perform an invocation in his usual lively manner.

Glenn Conn, the president of the Men's Fellowship, will welcome everyone and describe the day's delights. Jerry Garrett will graciously serve as the Master of Ceremonies and provide some enjoyable entertainment.

Blessed Mana will prepare our food! The offering this year is Chicken Francaise, Green Beans and Potatoes, and dessert will be a big favorite, Red Velvet Cake. Coffee and tea will be available.

After lunch, we will ask Pastor Tim to send us on our way home with a benediction.

We try hard to contact the single ladies so we can invite them to our affair. It is sometimes difficult, and, in many cases, we must leave a message. So please, we urge anyone who wants to attend to call Glenn or me and let us know! You can also call the FPC office as well. We rely on the Realm database for our contact information, so please help us keep it up to date. If your address or telephone has changed, please contact the FPC office and advise them.

Contact Glenn Conn at 740-803-3519 or Phil LoGiudice - 203-507-0008.



Sweetheart event  
February 2023



# Sweetheart Luncheon

**The FPC Men's Fellowship Present**

**Honoring our Ladies**

**February 10  
1pm to 3 pm**

## **Menu**

**Chicken Francaise  
Green Beans and Potatoes  
Red Velvet Cake**

**Tickets are \$25**

**Tables of 8 are \$200**

**For Tickets Contact**

**Glenn Conn 740.803.3519 Or Phil LoGiudice 203.507.0008**



# Wednesday Night Dinners

Sign up on Realm or by calling Lisa in the Church Office

## February 7

Italian themed night

Salad Bar

Beefy cheese tortellini bake

Lemon parmesan green beans

Garlic breadsticks

Cannoli Cake

## February 14

No Dinner.

Ash Wednesday Service

7PM

## February 21

Salad Bar

King Ranch Chicken Casserole

Mexican Street Corn

Bolillo Rolls and Butter

Churro Cheesecake Bars

## February 28

Salad Bar

Sheppard's Pie

Broccoli

Cranberry Orange Bread

Dessert

# Justice & Honor

Art and Music in the Park, sponsored by the Gifford Historical Museum and Cultural Center in conjunction with the Justice and Honor Team of First Presbyterian Church took place on the grounds of the museum on Sunday, January 28, from 2-5 pm. The event was deliciously catered by 14 Bones. BBQ and all the trimmings were enjoyed by all.

The event was well attended by over 300 people.

The artists included Suze' Lavender, our curator at First Presbyterian Church, as well as Chris Winn, Dominique Tyne Gibson, and Leah Blythe-LoPresti.

Florida Highwaymen artist, Willie Reagan, made a surprise visit to our event along with Dana King, a classical figurative sculptor.

Musical offerings were provided by Ka' Henry, the Gifford Middle School Chorus (under the direction of Peter Mahtani), the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Youth Choir, Carmen Rosita Wilson and Nolita Wilson, as well as the music of James Broxton.

Many members of the VeroBEachkind.org campaign (Spread shine/stop hate) were in attendance, as well.

Rabbi Michael Birnholz and his family were also in attendance.

The purpose of this event was to bring together our diverse communities within Indian River County to rejoice and be glad in what we have in common with one another. Music, art and great food was great medicine to our souls as well as our stomachs!



*We are indeed blessed to be a blessing!*

Mimi Rutland, Chairperson Justice and Honor Team, First Presbyterian Church, Vero Beach, Florida

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1. Karen Deigl, Marta Schneider, Pete Smith
2. Dorothy Flynn, John Klasing
3. Ted Fuller, Holly Ann LoGiudice
4. Betty Burgess, Art Irvine, Alice McKenna
5. Ashlee Offutt, Harry Offutt, Gloria Raines, Henry Ray, Tim Womack
6. Cynthia Judd, Gerry Marvin, Jessica Russell, Bill Thompson
7. Tiffany Carlsen, Sandi Cooke, Cindy Rogers
8. Kathy L. Melick, Roger Wagner
10. Elliott Bates, Marilyn Bauknecht, Ryan Capone, Emily Lagemann, Bob Lang, Harriet Moore
11. Donald Guisto
12. John Barley, Vernon Daniel, Emelie Horsley
13. Barry Berg, Susan McGarry
14. Elly O'Connor
15. Dale Peirce
16. Sally Dussing, Alan Wolford
17. Patti Frantz, Nikki Kaufmann, Peter Mahtani
18. Barbara Power
20. Lyn Smith
21. Lona Bang-Olsen, Robert Gallagher, Gail Murdough
22. Carol Campbell
23. RoseBelle Broeffle, Jamari Chandler, Evan Chilberg, Rachel Horowitz
25. Stanford Erickson, Margaret Gasche, Richard Springmyer
26. Peggy Clarke, John Lindsey
27. Pam Dolby, Joe Moore, Ann Weir
28. William Hutchison



# Sunday Worship

February 2024

8:30AM - Mighell Chapel

9:30AM - Sanctuary

11AM - Sanctuary

Childcare available at all services

## February Sermons

### February 4

Mark 1:29-39  
Celebrating What is Right with  
the Church:  
"Preaching and Healing"

Communion Sunday

### February 11

Mark 9:2-9  
Celebrating What is Right with  
the Church:  
"A New Look!"

Youth Sunday

### February 14

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

"Fully Reliant on God"

Ash Wednesday Service

### February 18

Mark 1:9-15  
Celebrating What is Right with  
the Church:  
"1954 plus 70 Years of Disciple  
Making"

### February 25

Mark 8:31-38  
Celebrating What is Right with  
the Church:  
"1954 plus 70 Years of Personal  
Denial"

## Church Leadership & Staff

Rev. Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor

Rev. Holly Adams, Minister of Congregational Care

Dr. Sam Rutland, Theologian in Residence

Dr. Jacob Craig, Director of Music & Arts

Peter Mahtani, Associate Director of Music & Arts

Jessica Russell, Director of Christian Education

Ginny Bauer, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Pastors

Kimberly Ball, Financial Administrator

Lisa Jeffra, Administrative Assistant

### Elders

(\*indicates Elder/Trustee)

**Class of 2024** Rebecca Palmer,

\*Pat Pritchett, \*Brad Smith, John Toohey

**Class of 2025** Carol Campbell, \*Carol Marks,  
Susie Nystrom, Bob Satola

**Class of 2026** Louise Feroe, Judy Garrett,  
Jim Gambill, Ted Miller

Clerk of Session - Dr. Lucille Craig

Treasurer - Scott Westermann

Director of Development - Allan Bixby

### Board of Deacons

**Class of 2024** John Barley, Raleighine Hoppe,  
Holly LoGiudice, Bonnie Nolan, Robin Perry,  
Beth Pritchett

**Class of 2025** Donna Blankenship, Gayle Bruce,  
Nancy Bucklew, Cindy Judd, Bill Menzies,  
Frank Smith

**Class of 2026** Ginger Allen, Suzanne Breese,  
Connie Derman, Carol Rhodes, Lee Tiebout,  
Ashley Wright