



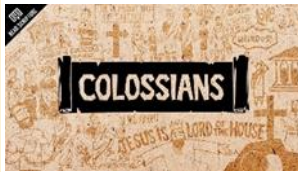
# FIRST NEWS

“Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ”

July/August 2023

## August Summer Studies

From the beginning of the Reformation in 1517, when Martin Luther invited others to debate with him theological issues, biblical discussion, dialogue, and debate has been a critical part of the faith journey of Christians. Without thoughtful biblical study and engagement, such dialogue and discussion is impossible. For Christians, it is important to understand how the Bible continues to speak to us and guide our living. Bible study, and theological study in general, offers us the opportunity be disciplined in our examination of faith. Thus, include First Presbyterian Church with you “summer reading.”



First Presbyterian Church is hosting several studies this August. Our first study is on the Letter to the Colossians by the Apostle Paul. Some theologians believe this letter particularly should be entitled “Paul’s Letter to YOU!” Following Colossians, we will study Ruth. Ruth, the outsider, becomes the one to show true faith to those on the inside. Both these writings will be examined at **Dr. Tim’s Tuesday Bible Study, Tuesday’s at 10:30am** (on campus in the Schumann Conferencing Room and via Livestream and Zoom).



The second study in August, will focus on “**Everyday Theology: What You Believe Matters.**” In this study we will examine the power of belief, and thus, the power of action. Mary Wiley reminds us in this study that theology matters for you in your everyday moments, questions, and decisions. It’s for the big and little, the exciting and mundane. Our theology is the basis of our faith and touches every part of our existence.



This “Book Study” will be held on Thursday’s at 11am beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup> (on campus in the Schumann Conferencing Room and via Livestream and Zoom).

Let’s keep our theological minds engaged as we move through this summer. Let us plunge deeper into our theological conversations this summer. As we continue to grow in our educational offerings, please feel free to recommend subjects or topics that would be helpful for you to study.

May God bless you wherever you are this August. Remember, put FPCVB on your reading list.

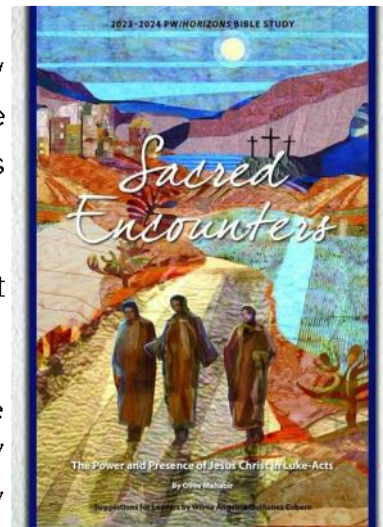
# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian are as active as ever. We continue to welcome new participants (technically all of the women in our church are considered Presbyterian Women!). Wear your name badge - helps as we get to know one another!

All First Presbyterian women are invited to attend the annual Bible Study event presented by Presbyterian Women of Central Florida Presbytery. The event will provide an overview of Horizons Bible Study for 2023-24 and this curriculum will be used when Grace Circle resumes in September.

The event will be held here at First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, August 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., including breakfast and lunch.

The registration fee is \$20.00 (\$25 if registering after July 26th); forms are available in the church office. Or you can register online at <https://tinyurl.com/yc7yht6y> and pay online at [https://account.venmo.com/u/CFL\\_PresbyterianWomen](https://account.venmo.com/u/CFL_PresbyterianWomen). Or you can call Maggie Fleming (732-575-2841) or Beth Pritchett (772-579-1627) for forms or questions.



This day provides a wonderful opportunity to meet other Presbyterian women from Central Florida Presbytery. Hope you can come—love to see you!

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Unique Boutique will once again be accepting donations for Christmas Tree Lane beginning August 3, 2023 and continuing on Mondays from 9-11 AM and Thursdays from 1-3 PM. As a reminder, we cannot accept large or heavy pieces of furniture. Please do not drop items off at any other times without calling Rosalie Perry at 610-780-3111.

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Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next PW meeting will be held on September 11 in Earnshaw at 1:00 PM--please note the time change. In October, meetings will return to the first Monday.

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Lunch at the Olive Garden will be August 25th at 11:30. Please text Linda Masterson at 949-637-6115 or email her at [lindamasterson1@gmail.com](mailto:lindamasterson1@gmail.com) to make a reservation.



## Profile of a Presbyterian Woman—BJ Fisher

By Ann Faunce

Meet Betty Jane Fisher, a brand new member of First Presbyterian Church! BJ, as she likes to be called, joined with her husband David. They have attended many Presbyterian churches in their many business moves. When they became full time residents of Vero Beach, BJ knew that God wanted them to attend FPC, as they had searched and both were excited about joining. They met in high school in Roanoke, VA. and socialized with the same group of friends. BJ says she knew “he was the one” right away! David graduated from East Carolina University. BJ attended Averitt Junior College in Danville, VA. She transferred to ECU for her last 2 years. They were married their senior year. BJ received



her teaching degree in elementary education. She wants very much to be a part of our congregation and helping with the children. She was excited to learn of our reading program at Dodgertown Elementary, the Quest afternoon program for kids during the schoolyear and the First Presbyterian Preschool.

BJ begins her day with Bible study and memorizing scripture. She loves to share her faith, believes in the power of prayer, and has been blessed many times. She enjoys walking in Riverside Park and the Beachland area. What a wonderful town we live in and to enjoy! David is an active golfer and sportsman as are their 2 sons, Jim and John. Both sons are married and live in Houston, TX and Kingston, MA., respectively. They each have 3 children whom the Fisher’s love to be with! BJ also enjoys Zumba 3 times a week. She has already begun attending the PW Meetings and the gatherings for fellowship. She is excited about getting to know other Christian women!

David is active in the community and is serving on the Committee for Beach Restoration. They both love Tim’s sermons and the music by Jacob and the Choir. They have cats who provide entertaining moments and companionship.

BJ’s go-to Bible verses are many! Philippians 4: 6-7, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”. Galations 2:20 and Proverbs 3: 5-8 are also favorites!

We welcome BJ and David to First Presbyterian Church!



# OPEN MIC NIGHT

*hosted by*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
OF VERO BEACH

ADMISSION IS  
FREE

DONATIONS  
ACCEPTED

TUESDAY AUGUST 8  
7:00PM  
MCAFFEE HALL



concessions and childcare available  
PERFORMERS SCAN HERE FOR INFO

*Join us!*

# August Sermon Series: *Family Practice*



The art of medicine is a profession yet, it is also a “practice.” This is most fully recognized in the medical community. The concept is that advances in health come through a commitment to the practice of wellness by *the physician, staff, and the patient*. We also practice our gifts and interests in other ways. If we are a musician, we practice and hone our skills on a daily or regular basis. If we are an athlete, we practice our sport; runners, run; people who fish, fish; swimmers, swim; golfers, complain!

The act of “Practice” is true for our family and communal life as well. We engage in “Family Practice” every day.

We learn how to be a loving child, we learn through trial and error how to be committed brothers and sisters, we learn as we go how to be faithful parents, and we learn how to be doting grandparents (how to spoil our grandchild and drive their parents crazy!).

The 2023 August Sermon Series at First Presbyterian Church focuses on how we run our “Family Practice.” The more we engage best “practices,” the stronger our family becomes. Throughout August we will examine some of the best practices for Christian families and the family of the church. The themes below will guide us in best Christian Practices for families and the church.

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| August 6 <sup>th</sup> | Family Practice:<br><i>Practice Loving</i><br>1 John 4:7-21                              |
| August 13              | Family Practice:<br><i>Practice Conversation in Daily Rituals</i><br>Deuteronomy 5:22-32 |
| August 20              | Family Practice:<br><i>Practice Acts of Kindness</i><br>Ephesians 4:17-32                |
| August 27              | Family Practice:<br><i>Practice Forgiveness and Mercy</i><br>Matthew 6:5-15              |

So, plan to join with us in person (always best) or online Livestream (as you must) as we examine some of the best practices for leading and being part of a family and/or a family community. Remember, best practices this August!

# MISSION

## Helping Dodgertown Children with School Supplies and Uniforms

The beginning of school is an exciting time for children but it can also be stressful for families who cannot afford the many school supplies, which is quite a list and also school uniforms. School uniforms can actually save families money but the initial out put of money can be a lot for families who have several growing children. The start of school can be a real hardship for low income families.

In order for schools to be considered a title one school, which Dodgertown is one. 40% of the student population must be low income. There are many title 1 schools in Indian River county but we have focused on Dodgertown because their student population is 90% low income. We are ALL called by God to share His love for us. In the book of James Chapter 2 vs 14 it reads “My friends what good is it for one of you to say that you have faith if your actions do not prove it? Show me how anyone can have faith without actions. I will show you my faith by my actions.”

Here in the midst of a beautiful community like Vero Beach we still find neighbors who are in great need and they are sometimes invisible to us. It is here God is calling us, both men and women, to reach out to care for His children because we can and we are able. Every child deserves an opportunity for success. Their success will be ours in the future. But more importantly it is our mission to share God’s love locally as well as around the world.

Each Sunday our pastors urge us to go out into the world to help our neighbors. Here is an opportunity for everyone. 1 John 3:17 But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? It is good that we have the ability to help our neighbors and today is the time to share.

Throughout August and September school supplies and uniforms can be donated to the Dodgertown Children. There will be baskets in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday and in the office during the week. Let us help to bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

### Supply List

- Jumbo Elmer’s glue sticks
- 24 count Crayola crayons
- Fiskars 5” Blunt scissors
- Boxes of tissue
- Black Expos chisel dry erase markers
- 1 box quart and gallon size storage bags
- Large pink erasers
- Plastic pocket folders with prongs
- **Marbled wide-ruled** Composition - books
- Cap erasers
- 8 count Expos fine tip dry erase markers
- Wipes and hand sanitizer
- 4 packs of Dollar Tree ear buds
- #2 pencils
- One inch white 3 ring binders
- Large zippered pencil pouch
- Reusable water bottles
- Medium Size Back Packs





# MISSION

The Justice and Honor Team has been working steadily this summer behind the scenes. In response to the distribution of hate literature against our Jewish brothers and sisters, members of our Justice and Honor team have met with Rabbi Michael and the "Vero Be Kind" campaign to find positive ways to spread love, peace, and harmony within our diverse community.

The official website is <https://verobeachkind.org>

The official motto of this campaign is to Spread Sunshine, not Hate. Core values include standing united in support for kindness in our community and speaking up against hate in any form. Meetings are ongoing into the fall of 2023.



Rabbi Michael Birnholz third from the left. He is the Rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom. The meetings of the campaign Vero Beach Kind take place at the synagogue

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This fall we will once again be sponsoring Shop with a Cop and the Bicycle project to provide for many less fortunate children in Indian River County. Our Mission Statement is: Promoting Justice, Honor and Equality for all persons.

We seek to be the hands and feet of Christ as we reach out to promote harmony and peace within this wonderful community in which we live.

Look for more events to come this fall!

Mimi Rutland

Chairperson Justice and Honor Team

[mwrutland@bellsouth.net](mailto:mwrutland@bellsouth.net)

SPONSORED BY FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VERO

# Quest Kids

Wednesdays  
3:30 - 5:15pm

K - 5th Grade  
Starts August 16



Come Explore Music and Lessons  
of the Bible!

Transportation Available!

\$50/Semester



520 Royal Palm Blvd  
(772) 562-9088



## ***VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!***

We are looking for volunteers, who have a great commitment to their community, a Class E non-commercial Driver's License, and a clean driving record.



### **We Need Help :**

- Alternating bus drivers to pick up congregants at Indian River Estates for the 10:00 AM Sunday Service



Contact: Glenn Conn: (740) 803-3519

## **Join the FPC Safety & Security Committee!**

Participation on the Safety & Security Committee requires individuals who can provide ideas and help coordinate impactful action across campus

Requirements: Must be physically healthy and have a strong will to help people and the community.

Preferred: A military or law enforcement background

Contact Phil LoGiudice at 203-507-0008

Or Glenn Conn at 740-803-3519

## Presbyterian Men's Corner – John Barley's Life Story – Shared by Phil LoGiudice

This month I want to share John Barley's story with everyone. He wrote the following piece and I hope you enjoy reading it.

I grew up in Flint Michigan in the late 60's through the fall of 1985. My early church life was Sunday school at FPC in downtown Flint. My father was very active in the church. I remember him attending meetings on certain weeknights and hearing "deacon" for the first time while probably being 9-10 years old. My mother sang in the choir and my two older sisters also sang in the choir. They truly had the talent to sing, while I'm at my best in a moving vehicle by myself.

FPC of Flint had a thriving youth ministry at that time. The youth group met in the basement of the church. The ministry was called "The Pipe". I always thought it had to do with the Pipe organ, but it turns out that the youth first met in "Paul's Pipe Shop". I don't know if that would pass session approval in today's church.

After graduating from Flint Southwestern H.S., I attended Mott College for a couple of years playing on the golf team. We had one good season making it to Division III national championship in Florida. There we were beaten quite handily by powerhouse Florida and Texas teams. I recall some of them making it to the PGA tour.

In 1985 I left the cold winter of Michigan for Tequesta, Florida. I worked as an assistant golf professional at Turtle Creek Club for about two years and then found myself not really knowing what direction I should go. I was fine, but my mother was in a panic. "Who leaves a good job with no plan?" I found myself taking some odd jobs and then for some reason was drawn to Emergency Medical Services. I worked on a local rescue squad where the unknown and chaos of emergency calls was exciting. My very first call was a full-term pregnancy that was delivered at home in the living room. I recall the page coming through and thinking, "You've got to be joking". All went well and the new mother almost broke my fingers when I offered my hand to brace the contractions. What a valuable lesson that stuck with me. Keep your hands busy during a delivery.

My shift happened to be on the night Hurricane Andrew came ashore in 1992. We thought we were prepared for what was forecasted to be a closer landfall in Palm Beach County. We ran several respiratory emergencies as the storm came across. The drop in barometric pressure as storms intensify is a real thing for those who have difficulty breathing. I've respected Hurricanes ever since.

I continued with EMS and then found myself in Nursing school. I was drawn to work both in prehospital and in the ER. While in nursing school I met Michelle Colonna who I got to know better through study groups and clinic rotations. That first sighting in the lecture hall was, "Ohhh, hello there". I convinced her to take a class that was a mission trip to Guatemala in the summer of 1995. We became closer and in 2 years we were walking down the aisle of FPC in Tequesta. I soon found myself wanting to make another change. I met a local medical device rep and thought that could be a nice career change. I left the ER and EMS and started working for Siemens/Pacesetter. I was hired as a clinical support member attending surgeries and seeing patients in cardiology offices. I had the opportunity to take on more of a sales/technical role in the fall of 2003. We had two little girls by then and found ourselves moving to Vero Beach in December 2003. We all know how 2004 turned out in the early fall. Our move was great. Nice neighborhood and neighbors but selling wasn't coming easy. It was lean the first few months in Vero. Then Frances and Jean came through, and everything stopped.

We hadn't found a church home yet, but it was now time to find a church family. We had attended FPC one time before the hurricanes but were drawn back by how receptive the congregation was when we attended. We all made it through those next weeks and Gods Blessings and spirit was a large part in us getting back on our feet. The sense of community was now apparent when we all needed it.

There were several men at FPC who were great at always asking, "How are you doing?" They knew a young father with a wife and little girls needed to know that they cared and were there for us. I recall hearing Orel Hershisier tell me, "You know the Lord has bigger plans for you here?" He was planting the seed that you will be called to serve. At the time I didn't grasp what he was saying but have grown to know what he meant. It has been an honor to be asked to be an Elder and now a Deacon. The church family has helped us raise two fantastic daughters. I now know where my father went every month on a Tuesday night for an hour.

God Bless, John

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JULY!

- 1 Jim Armstrong
- 2 Jill Maroney
- 3 Savannah Wea
- 4 Jillian Conway, Oscar Diaz, Ernest Frazier, Shirley Powell
- 5 Jane Millar, Helen Nugent, Austin Palmer
- 6 Bob Byrket, Pat Pritchett, Cheryl Schregardus, Cathie Ziegler
- 7 Gary Carmichael, Paul Johnson
- 8 Toni Evangelidi, Virginia Gowell
- 9 Joe Farleigh, Anne Fredlock
- 10 Carol Barber, Kaitlin Simmons
- 12 Sybilla Hunt,
- 13 Jennifer Jones, Phil Risinger, Ruth Thomas
- 16 Anne Malsbary
- 18 Chas Coxson, Paul Dingee
- 19 Ted Miller
- 20 Dave Lee, Mitch Palmer
- 21 Arlene Foote, James Murphy
- 22 Ruth Anderson
- 23 Chris Loftus, Kari Palmer
- 24 Joyce Black
- 25 Bob Arndt, Anne Burke, Betsy Fitzsimmons, Jack Knauss, John Scott, Ken Spencer
- 26 Elaine Heeren, Mary Nordstrom
- 27 Ken Otto
- 28 William Melick, Isabel Power, Melissa Snyder, Mona White
- 29 Evelyn Bates, Karen Boylan, Sue Coffey, Ann Day, Andrew Gomez, Meredith Hager
- 30 Andrea Amstrong
- 31 Sahamara Ewing, Katy Reid

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY AUGUST!

- 1 Kathy Anderson, Dave Fisher, Valerie Kirk
- 2 Connie Derman, Addison Gabbard, Connie Lent, Mark Lizotte
- 3 Rhonda Horowitz
- 5 Bob Masterson
- 6 Beverly Dillon, Joanne Duhaime, Grace Murphy, Mike Simmons, Charley Stanton
- 7 Gary Campbell, Joanna Milliken
- 8 Ray Davis, Bob Satola, Ann Taylor, Sandra Thiel
- 9 Owen Brooks, Peggy Martin, Valerie Redpath
- 10 Colton Pierce, Treyson Pierce
- 11 Barbara Bixby, Kyle Gabbard, William Kirk, Kathi Schumann
- 12 Sally Lowndes, Collin Palmer, Connor Palmer, Cheryl Petzing
- 13 Jim Divers
- 14 Ann Gibson, Joni Penza
- 16 Elias Bates, Jan Binney, John Collins, Thomas Snyder
- 17 Nancy Fox, Kalani Pierce
- 18 Heidi Coxson, Naomi Diaz, Regis Haid
- 19 Cathie Beck, Mary Fuller
- 20 Bev Jones, Esther Keegan
- 21 Jim Gambill, Joseph Pitman, Duane Weise
- 22 Dale Ritchie, Michael Timmons, Avonne Van Blois
- 23 Lisi Clark, Kevin Palmer, Ruth Stewart
- 24 Cameron Adgani, Carol Fensterer, Dan Rolls
- 25 Kavon Adgani, Tricia Arnold, Keith Martin, Hannah Power
- 27 Joyce Willey
- 28 Kathy Rolls
- 29 Andy Burnam
- 30 Tom Arnold, James Ewing
- 31 Jackie Rossi







**First Presbyterian Church**

520 Royal Palm Blvd  
Vero Beach, FL 32960

**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, Assistant Director of Music & Arts  
Ginny Bauer, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Pastors  
Kimberly Ball, Financial Administrator  
Lisa Jeffra, Administrative Assistant

**ELDERS**

*(\*indicates Elder/Trustee)*

Class of 2023 \*Allan Bixby, James Ewing, Judy Garrett, \*Linda Masterson

Class of 2024 Rebecca Palmer, \*Pat Pritchett, \*Brad Smith

Class of 2025 Carol Campbell, \*Carol Marks, Susie

Nystrom, Bob Satola

Clerk of Session - Dr. Lucille Craig  
Treasurer - Scott Westermann  
Director of Development - Allan Bixby

**Trustees-at-Large**

2023 - Will Kirk  
2024 - Lisa Barnes  
2025 - Steve Harrison

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