



FIRST NEWS

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

Scriptural Recall: A Freeing and Powerful Tool

In his book, "Hostage Bound, Hostage Free," Presbyterian pastor Benjamin Weir reflects on being kidnapped and held captive for 14 months in Beirut by a group of Shiite Muslim extremists beginning in May of 1984. In this amazing book, Rev. Weir examines his captivity and reflects on the pain of being imprisoned while also, surprisingly, and faithfully, finding small cracks of personal freedom. One small freeing experience was Rev. Weir's remembrance of scripture.

For most of Rev. Weir's captivity, he was held in solitary confinement. He saw no one, had no human interaction, and was not even allowed to have a Bible. During this time, Rev. Weir decided to reflect on scripture that he could remember. He began by remembering the order of the Books of the Bible. He then remembered the great stories and accounts of scripture beginning with Genesis, the Torah, History of the Old Testament, the Gospels, Paul's Letters and Revelation. He finally began to recall as many verses as possible of scripture that he could remember. It surprised him just how many passages he could recall.

And as Rev. Weir recalled these passages of scripture, he realized just how helpful and meaningful they were. When he was in times of dark sadness, he recalled Psalm 23:4, "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, thou art with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me." When he wept when he missed his family and former life, Rev. Weir recalled John 11:35 that when Jesus heard of his friend Lazarus's death, "He wept."

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When he had deep anger toward his captors, Rev. Weir remembered Matthew 5:43-45a, “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor[a] and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.”

The power of just one memorized verse of scripture can be powerful and freeing, especially when you desperately need it. Just as Rev. Weir realized power and freedom amid his captivity, we too can be empowered as we recall memorized scriptures to apply to our present condition.

Beginning on Memorial Day, First Presbyterian Church will invite you to participate in a day, “One Verse” devotion. Everyday throughout the summer, you will receive a verse of the day to reflect upon, pray over, and simply “ponder.” These verses will come with little or no commentary, so as you read them, reflect upon them and, if you can, memorize them for use in your daily life.

Golfers know that club selection is critical in playing the game. You must have the right clubs in your bag. In construction, the builder needs the appropriate tools for the task at hand. So, it is with scripture! We desperately need the right passages in our quiver.

Plan to join in this simple yet freeing discipline from Memorial Day through Labor Day. A little memorization also keeps our brains active and engaged which, according to health study, aids memory health.

Here is a sample of what you might receive. 2 Timothy 3:16, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, . . . “If only we remember that beginning portion, “All Scripture is God-breathed,” is that a good thing? Look to use the simple devotion and grow in your knowledge of God’s Word to you.

Tim Womack



SUNSET APARTMENTS, A LOCAL MISSION

On the last Wednesday of the month the Mission team helps to bag groceries donated from the Treasure Coast Food Bank. The food truck delivers these groceries to the Gifford Youth Achievement Center. At 8:30 am volunteers are ready to bag fresh, frozen and canned goods. These groceries are then delivered to the elderly and disabled residents of the nearby Sunset Apartments in Gifford. There are 36 apartments and the team gets to know each resident who eagerly awaits for these needed groceries.

The Mission Team always needs new volunteers to become involved with this rewarding relationship. Please call Carol Smoyer at 772-538-8795 or email clsmoyer@bellsouth.net if you would like to help. This is a blessing to both the volunteers and the residents.



Fellowship

Wednesday Night Dinners

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

May 1

Mexican night
Salad bar
Tacos

Mexican Street Corn
Refried Beans
Mexican Brownies

May 8

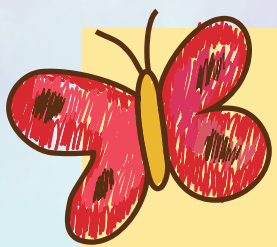
Stromboli with sauce
Antipasto Salad
Grilled Vegetables
Italian Wedding Cookies

May 15

Hamburgers and Hotdogs
Potato Salad, Coleslaw
Watermelon, Deviled Eggs
Baked Beans
Dessert



Kids and Youth Corner



Summer Offerings!

Check out all the programs that First Presbyterian has to offer during the summer months!

Summer Music Camp June 3 - 7, 2024, 9:00AM - 3:00PM

Vacation Bible School June 10 - 14, 2024 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Art Camp June 24 - 28, 2024 9:00am - 12:00pm

Kids in the Kitchen June 17 - 21, 5:00 - 7:00PM

Bible Blast Camp July 22 - 26, 2024, 9:00AM - 12:00PM

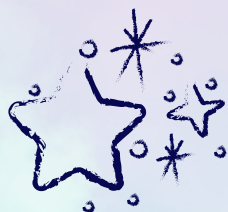
Call (772) 562-9088 or email jessicarussell@firstpresvero.org for more information or to register!

Quest Kids

Starts

Wednesday, August 14

VPK - 5th Grade



THE

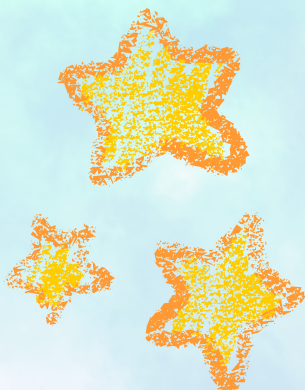


BRIDGE

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

STARTS AUGUST 14, 2024

HOMWORK
DEVOTIONALS
ACTIVITIES





CHANGE

**Worship Times
Starting May 26
8:30AM - Chapel
10:00AM - Sanctuary**

Ushers Needed

We are in need of Ushers!

Anyone who is interested in becoming an usher at FPC, please reach out:

Hilary Dobson: hdobson@scotsamerican.com

or

Lee Tiebout: mltiebout8031@gmail.com

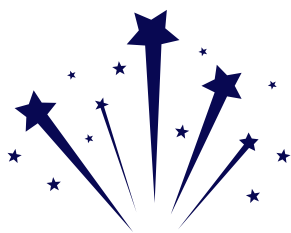
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

PRIMO

school of performing arts

Recital

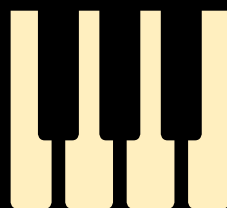
SUNDAY
MAY 5, 2024
3:00PM



JAZZ CONCERT



Claudio Osorio



Jacob Craig



Dave Mundy



Tony Miranda

MAY 26 @ 4PM

FEATURING:

Claude Bolling's Toot Suite for Trumpet and Jazz Piano that was premiered by French virtuoso trumpeter Maurice Andre in 1980 is an important work in the trumpet repertoire. At present, there is limited research regarding Toot Suite. Almost all of the six movements within Toot Suite are performed on a different instrument: C trumpet for Allegre, Eb trumpet for Mystique, Bb cornet for Rag-Polka, Bb piccolo trumpet for Marche, Bb flugelhorn for Vesperale and Bb piccolo for Spirituelle.

PW News - May 2024

Many thanks to our PW members who volunteered to help to make the 2024 Spring Luncheon a success. You are our unsung heroines! And, special thanks to Art Irvine who represented the Men of the Church and assisted Chef Carol and the kitchen assistants in making the food service impeccable!

We were blessed to have program presenters from Space Coast Honor Flight who touched us deeply with their videos and stories of honorees who have participated in this program. First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach has several men and women who have made these flights.

Christmas Tree Lane donations for Unique Boutique are in full swing! Each Monday morning from 9:00-11:00 and Thursday afternoon, from 1:00-3:00. items will be received at the west door of the Center for Christian Life. A cart is provided for you to leave your items. Be advised that collections stop at the end of May and resume the Monday AFTER Labor Day.

PW is responsible for the set-up, serving and clean-up for the May 15 Wednesday night dinner. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next general meeting.

Grace Circle will resume meeting on October 16, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. with brown bag lunch following till 12:30. A ZOOM presentation of the next study will be held in August. Ann Faunce will send out information closer to the date.

The Olive Garden Fellowship luncheons, held on the third Friday of each month will continue throughout the summer.

Our next PW General Meeting will be held on Monday, May 6, 1:00 p.m. in Schumann Conference Center. An email notice with an agenda and minutes from the April meeting will be sent closer to the meeting date. We hope you will attend!



John Schumann, Jr.

The 14th Annual Wheels and Keels Exotic Antique Car and Boat Show

By Phil LoGiudice

This year our congregation celebrates the First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach's 70th anniversary. One of the original founders of our church is an avid collector of fine automobiles. John Schumann brought his Ford GT Coupe to the Wheels and Keels foundation's 14th Annual Antique and Exotic Car and Boat Show as a part of their two-day fundraising event. One hundred-fifteen entries, by invitation only, were parked on the greens at the Moorings Country Club golf course.



All proceeds from the weekend are used to support several Treasure Coast charities. There are 13 organizations that the foundation currently supports. Many of these charities support youth groups who focus on youth boating, the Music Angels Foundation for children, and Special Equestrians of the Treasure Coast for special needs individuals. Among several others, they also support Meals on Wheels and the Navy Seal Trident House. Since its inception in 2009, Wheels and Keels has donated over \$710,000 to local charities.

Awards are given to the best entry in 14 classes. Additionally, a special Chairman's Choice award is given as well. This year the Chairman's Choice Award was presented to John Schumann and his 2016 Ford GT Coupe. The Ford GT is a mid-engine two-seater sports car manufactured and marketed by American automobile manufacturer Ford. It started in the 2005 model year in conjunction with the company's 2003 centenary. It is a tribute to the famous Ford GT-40 race cars. The second-generation Ford GT became available for the 2017 model year.



Justice & Honor

Justice and Honor Team news and happenings.....

The Justice and Honor Team meets each month, September - May, on the third Monday of each month at 4:00 pm via Zoom.

This month we are visiting our brothers and sisters of faith at Temple Beth Shalom to visibly show our support in the wake of hate literature that was distributed in Vero Beach this past year.

In addition, we are making a visit to Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Gifford, to share worship with our brothers and sisters in the Gifford community.



Here is a little of who we are:

Promoting Justice, Honor, and Equality for all persons.

About us:

Our purpose is to provide a faith response to this broken world, particularly addressing the mistrust between the diverse communities of Indian River County and our law enforcement community. We seek to promote justice, honor, and equality for all. We began our team during the difficult summer of 2020 following the murder of George Floyd. We seek to promote love, peace, and respect for all.

Our Mission Statement manifests itself in actions, such as Shop with a Cop, the Crossover Mission Bicycle Project, and Art and Music in the Park. We participate in other projects during the year, as well.

Our team is also involved in the Vero Beach Kind campaign, supported by concerned citizens and faith groups in response to recent incidents of antisemitic/hate literature being distributed in our neighborhoods. (www.VeroBEachKind.org).

Our goal is to "Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God."

Our team includes two law enforcement officers, several members of the community at large, several educators, a mental health professional, the chairperson of the IRC School Board, a Rabbi, and two ordained Presbyterian ministers.

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Mimi Rutland at Mwrutland@bellsouth.net.



2. Claudia Bobseine, Barbara Fazekas, Anne Zabcik, Jim Zabcik

4. Mavis Graves

**5. Jayline Gomez, Rodney Keefer, Melissa Shine, Janice Ward,
Pat Wempe**

6. Bob Christiansen, Judy Gagne, Joseph Jones, Ansley Palmer

8. Pamela Taylor

9. Frank Keeler, Carol Marks, Joan Yukins

10. Floy Turner

11. Joe Dolby, Betsy Hess, Anne Posey

12. Scott Berran, Sue Harris

**13. Ted Allen, Eden Chilberg, Sandy Clark, Anne Hawkins,
Nancy Kauffman, Ralph Schregardus, Hope Shine**

14. Clyde Gordon, Logan Pelletier

15. Skooter TenEyck

16. Lucy Guisto, Robyn Thompson

17. Stephanie Austin, Catherine Burton, Beannie Silverstein

18. Allan Bixby, Louise Feroe, Lynn Miller, Arly Urbauer

19. Bud Johnson

**20. Stacy Gabbard, Reid Hawkins, Dorothy Kingsbury,
Barbara Reed, Ryan Sandgren**

21. Kevin Maloney, Linda Masterson, Ronn Rhodes, Lola Shine

22. Peter Ritchie

23. Lucille Craig

25. Betty Alewine, Devin Peirce

26. Stephanie Nagel, Mark Peirce, Jamie Penza

28. John Colmey, Kathleen Dennis, Amy MacMillan

29. David Morgan, Jan Satola, Jim Wolfe

30. Chuck Horner

31. Kiera Black, Jodi Hargreaves, Beth Pritchett

Sunday Worship

May 2024

8:30AM - Mighell Chapel

9:30AM - Sanctuary

11AM - Sanctuary

Childcare available at all services

May Sermons

 <p>May 5 John 15:1-17 "I Am . . . The True Vine" Communion Sunday</p>	 <p>May 12 John 8:12-20 "I Am . . . The Light" Youth Sunday</p>
 <p>May 19 John 10:1-10 "I Am . . . The Door"</p>	 <p>May 26 John 11:17-27 "I Am . . . The Resurrection and the Life" Worship Time Change: 8:30AM and 10AM</p>

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