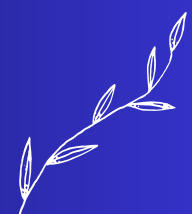




# FIRST NEWS

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

## I AM



### A Sermon Series Examining Jesus' Identity

At First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach, it is our hope and prayer that you had a meaningful and joyous Holy Week and Easter. The weeks following Easter are always busy in the life of First Presbyterian Church. Many of our members, who are still seasonal, begin their return journey home. The leadership team at First Presbyterian continues our service to the church as we implement our ministry plans for April and May and prepare for our many events and activities throughout the summer. We will keep everyone in our prayers.

Beginning Sunday, April 21st, First Presbyterian Church will offer a seven-week sermon series on the seven "I AM" statements in the Gospel of John. Unique to the Gospel of John these seven statements Jesus begins by saying emphatically, "I AM." The phrase "I AM" reflects Exodus 3:14, where God introduces Godself to Moses with the expression "I am who I am."

CONTINUED →

First  
Presbyterian

April 2024

520 Royal Palm Blvd.  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
firstpresvero.org  
772-562-9088

## CONTINUED

In using this expression, Jesus is explicitly identifying himself as God, and bearing God's presence on Earth. The "I AM" statements found in the Gospel of John are beloved by so many and they are:

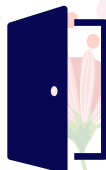
- I am the Bread of Life (John 6:35) ...
- I am the Light of the World (John 8:12) ...
- I am the Door (John 10:9) ...
- I am the Good Shepherd (John 10:11-14) ...
- I am the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25) ...
- I am the Way and the Truth and the Life (John 14:6) ...
- I am the Vine (John 15:1-5)

The "I AM" statements affirm the identity of Jesus. Like all of us as we have grown and matured from childhood, we have sought to clarify our "identity," our "purpose," and our "destiny." Jesus does this in John through the seven "I AM" statements and each one of us, as followers of Jesus, can clarify our identity, purpose, and destiny through understanding them and the claims they reveal.

Wherever you are this April, whether in Indian River County, or at your other home, join us for this helpful, insightful, and faithful sermon series. It will add to your knowledge of the Christ and strengthen your relationship with the Divine!

Be safe and may God bless.

Sincerely,  
G. Timothy Womack, D. Min.  
Senior Pastor





# Wednesday Night Dinners

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

**April 3**

**Salad Bar**  
**Zuppa Toscana**  
**Chicken Enchilada Soup**  
**Cornbread**  
**Salad Bar**  
**Dessert**

**April 10**

**Salad Bar**  
**Korean Beef and Rice**  
**Grilled Vegetables**  
**Dessert**

**April 17- Greek Night**

**Salad Bar**  
**Chicken Souvlaki**  
**Greek Lemon Rice**  
**Greek Green Beans**  
**Dessert**

**April 24**

**Salad Bar**  
**Ham**  
**Scalloped Potatoes**  
**Corn**  
**Dessert**



# FPC YOUTH MUSIC

## "CALITOURNIA"



# **BENEFIT DINNER**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

## APRIL 20 AT 5:30 PM

The FPC Youth Music Department invites you to a Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction on April 20. All proceeds will go towards our Music Tour to California in June.

The food service and entertainment will be provided by the youth going on this trip.

This will be an upbeat and exciting night. Broadway tunes, classic favorites, and more to be expected.

Games, prizes, and a beautiful silent auction will also occur during this one night event.

Registration is required. Tickets are \$40 until April 6. Then, tickets go to \$50. Buy your tickets soon. We can only host 250 guests! Childcare is available and dinner is also provided for the children. \$10 per child.

If you are unable to attend but would still like to make a donation, please go to our registration page and click on the link to donate.

Registration can be done online by scanning the QR code, following the link on our website under events, or by calling Peter Mahtani. 772-562-9088 ext. 130. We will also be selling reservations after every worship service until the event.

[petermahtani@firstpresvero.org](mailto:petermahtani@firstpresvero.org)



**Know anyone in the Los Angeles Area?  
We are currently looking for 1-2 more places  
to perform while we are in the Los Angeles  
area. Please contact Peter ASAP if you  
would like to assist in this way.**







# Handbell Training Day!

## April 2 from 10-11AM

Baines - CCL

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

NO COMMITMENT!

Come see if FPC Handbells  
is for you!

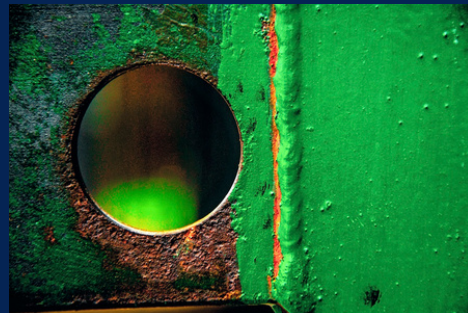
### Galleries at First Pres

The Galleries at First Pres began in January of 2017 and was founded by Dr. Jacob Craig, with Peter and Carole Coe as curators. Their mission is to feature a wide variety of works by local artists, on rotation quarterly throughout the year. The Galleries are located throughout the campus of First Presbyterian Church. They are open for viewing during normal office hours, Monday through Thursday. Guided tours can be made available on request. Admission is free and open to the community.

Opening Reception: **Sunday, April 21, 1:00-3:00pm**



Guardian # 281 Psalm 110,  
The Redacted Series.  
by Barbara Desrosiers



Green Void  
by Leslie Jordan



Rise and Shine  
by Suzanne Roff



Discipleship

First Presbyterian  
Church of Vero

VBS 2024

# Scuba Adventure

Volunteers needed for a  
range of needs June 3 - 14!



# RALLY DAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

10:30 - 11:00 AM

Come explore all the programs that  
First Presbyterian Church has to offer!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VERO

# SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

JUNE 3 - 7, 2024  
9AM - 3PM  
\$250

VPK - 8TH GRADE  
WELCOME

MUSIC \* FITNESS \* MINDFULNESS

SCAN OR CALL (772) 562-9088  
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



# SUMMER ART CAMP

2ND - 5TH  
GRADE

\$65

SCAN OR CALL  
(772) 562-9088



24 - 28 JUNE

9AM - NOON





## PW News - April 2024

This year, First Presbyterian Church celebrates its 70th anniversary. The late Patsy Helseth, one of the founding members of our congregation wrote the following brief history of The Presbyterian Women's Organization of our church:

### HOW WE BEGAN.....

On April 22, 1954, thirty-two ladies of the newly organized Presbyterian Church met at the home of Mrs. Alexander Ryburn and formed the Women's Association of the First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach. Margaret Ryburn was elected President. During that first year, six meetings were held at homes of members and with the help of visiting ladies from the Fort Pierce Presbyterian Church, the women became acquainted with their part in the work of the Church.

In 1955, the Women's Association met ten times with interesting programs, five of them being recommended by Presbytery. The attendance grew and that year the women furnished and equipped the kitchen in the new church with monies from the Bazaar. Their other projects included making layettes for the local County Welfare Office, donating to the recently purchased Presbyterian Home for the Aged at Lakeland, furnishing refreshments each Sunday evening for the Westminster Fellowship, supervising the purchasing of plants and flowers for the chancel and caring for those plants and also being in charge of decorations for the new Church's dedication and the two Christmas Sunday services.

In 1956, the membership had increased tremendously and was given much help by the National Board of Christian Education. They hosted the district workshop where further valuable information was gained. That year, the use of membership cards, pledge cards and offering envelopes were introduced in order to formulate a budget and to meet Goals for Giving for the year.

Also, in 1956, four circles were formed with approximately twenty members each which met monthly. It was then that the circles began hosting the coffee hour after the 11 a.m. service.

The Association continued to grow, increasing its membership to one hundred and eighty in the sixties and by 1972 there were nine circles, each one very active in various Bible studies and projects in the Church.

Submitted by Patsy Helseth, February 25, 2001

Today, our membership numbers 340 women. We meet on the first Monday of each month, 1:00 p.m. in the Schumann Conference Center. We support local charitable organizations as well as The Thornwell Home for Children (a Presbyterian mission of healing and hope for abused and neglected children), The Synod of South Atlantic and Living Waters, Columbia Friendship Circle (providing friendship and support to Columbia Theological Seminary students and our Missionaries) and the Disaster Relief Fund of the Presbyterian Church (UPUSA).

Grace Circle meets every 2nd Monday of the month in the Earnshaw Room at 11:30 a.m.  
Fellowship/Bring-Your-Own-Lunch time follows the Bible Study.

Olive Garden Fellowship Luncheon meets every 3rd Friday of the Month at The Olive Garden Restaurant. NO business! Just a time to get together and get better acquainted! The next OG Luncheons are April 19 and May 17 at 11:30AM. Contact B. J. Fisher by text or phone: 678-481-3835 to make your reservation

Please join us for our next monthly meeting:  
Monday, May 6, 1:00 pm.  
Schumann Conference Center

Questions or need more information? Please contact  
Judith Taylor or Sandy Thiel  
tsjt333@comcast.net

### DID YOU KNOW:

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY A MEMBER OF OUR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!!!



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN



# Presbyterian Women



Please meet Marilyn Case, a new member of our church. When Marilyn and her husband, Doug visited FPC for the first time, they were welcomed in a warm and friendly manner and were impressed with Tim's "real and down to earth" sermons. Fortunately for us, they joined First Presbyterian Church in March, 2023!

Marilyn became active in the life of the church by joining the PW Grace Circle, helping with Christmas Tree Lane and becoming an usher under the guidance of Hilary Dobson. She has enjoyed meeting and getting to know fellow worshipers.

Growing up in Rockaway, New Jersey, Marilyn's family, parents and sister Gerry, attended the Presbyterian Church. Her father was a Deacon, an Elder and sang in the choir; her mother was a

member of a PW Circle. She has fond memories of family drives to see the fall foliage, picking apples at the local farms and in the summer the family enjoyed vacations to Saratoga Lake in NY. She reminisces that it was such a blessing to have grown up in her family in this beautiful part of God's world.

After graduating from high school, Marilyn worked in her hometown bank and enjoyed seeing friends, family, and neighbors. One summer she met Doug Case visiting from Cleveland, Ohio. He was attending The University of Pennsylvania and working a summer job in the bank. Love blossomed and they married in 1969. After his graduation, the young couple moved to New York City where he attended Columbia Law School.

Life in NYC was a culture shock to Marilyn! She found work at a local bank and quickly made peace with this bustling city experience. Soon they moved to Connecticut when Doug began working at Pepsico. Later they moved to CA for 11 ½ yrs. when his job changed to Taco Bell, a subsidiary of Pepsico. The food industry continued to move them with stops in NJ and later London, England for RJR Nabisco. And finally to Cincinnati, Ohio for Chiquita where they put down roots for 10 years. They enjoyed all the travel and living in different cities throughout Doug's career.

When asked how they came to Vero Beach, Marilyn said that Doug's parents had a home in So. Florida where they could come for holidays and that they had friends here. They came to help his father after his mother had a stroke and when Doug retired, they decided to live in Vero Beach. They love their home in Riomar; they have joined the VB Yacht Club, attend the Opera and take advantage of the many activities that VB offers. Marilyn volunteers with the VNA for the annual golf tournament fund-raiser. In their retirement they explore the area with day trips and the simple pleasure of walking the beach and reading.

Hilary Dobson is enthusiastic about her new usher. "Marilyn is helpful and obliging".

Marilyn's favorite Bible verse is Isaiah 40:31. "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint"

We welcome Marilyn and Doug Case to First Presbyterian Church!

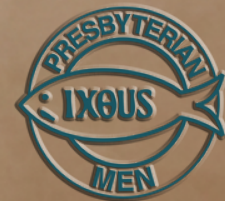


# Presbyterian Men

The Men's Fellowship presented a check to Eric Flowers in support of the Sheriff's Youth Ranch as they have done in previous years. The ranch does an excellent job of working with youth by providing mentors to young people in need. The ranch is home to many deserving young people who learn to work with horses and cattle. The donation will be put to good use and will further their excellent work. Pictured in the photo from left to right: Andy Burnam, Sheriff Eric Flowers, Glenn Conn, and Paul Ives.



FLORIDA SHERIFFS  
YOUTH RANCHES



The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches is a place for youth to grow up in a safe, loving, traditional family environment. “Ranchers” live in homes with a married couple, a “mom and pop”, who are devoted to encouraging the youth in their cottages to become their best selves. Our staff are trained in Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) to help them work through trauma and learn healthy coping mechanisms.

Our residential campuses operate under a four-pillar philosophy: Work, Study, Play and Pray. We provide structure and stability with daily schedules including school, an on-campus job, chapel services and recreation activities. We believe these four pillars, along with counseling services, family engagement, and unconditional love and support from our staff, produce lawful, resilient, and productive citizens.





# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- 1. Dorothy Swenson, Nevena Yancy**
- 2. June Bercaw, Shellane Bucher**
- 3. Betsy DiBenedetto**
- 4. Marge Albertson, Gerry Duhaime, Jean Simmons**
- 5. Jeff Rayfield**
- 6. Barbara Gormas**
- 7. Bob Clements, Carol Rhodes**
- 9. Barbara Rigby**
- 10. Jesse Lewis, Gary Peirce**
- 11. Janel Lund, Brad Smith**
- 12. Tony Sapienza**
- 13. Chris Grant, Margot Williams**
- 15. John Reed, Melissa Roig**
- 16. Carole King, Heather Reeb**
- 17. Carol Beaty**
- 18. Graham Bingham, Catherine Reichert**
- 19. Ryan Caddy, Nancy Morgan**
- 20. Gigi Giampieto**
- 21. Marsha Brizzie, Betty Burtch, Jane Thompson**
- 23. Barbara Burrows, Sarah Jane Moore**
- 25. Christie Jeffries, Jerry Reichert, Connie Sapienza**
- 26. Erik Carlsen, Jon Forest, Ava Long, Mary Ellen TenEyck**
- 30. Dolores Foster, David Gunter**



# Sunday Worship

April 2024

8:30AM - Mighell Chapel

9:30AM - Sanctuary

11AM - Sanctuary

Childcare available at all services

## April Sermons

**April 7**

Rev. Lisle Kauffman, Guest Minister

John 20:26-31

“What Is In the Resurrection for me: 2024?”

Communion Sunday

**April 14**

Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor

Luke 24:36b-48

“Still Wondering”

Youth Sunday

**April 21**

Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor

Psalms 23 (Sung)

John 20:19-30

“I Am . . . The Good Shepherd”

**April 28**

Rev. Holly Adams, Min. of Congregational Care

John 14:1-14

“I Am . . . The Way and the Truth and the Life”

## 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