

**AAC (Senior Adult Ministry): Harmonica Group from Covenant Village**

Thursday, March 30, 11:15am in Fellowship Hall

This group consisting of about 12 members will present a show that is sure to entertain and astound. They encourage audience participation and guarantee all to have a good time. Chef Kevin is serving Chicken Cutlet, Cost: \$9, RSVP: TriciaY@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9344.

**Please note:** Sunday 9:30am Lent Bible Study “Who Is This Man?” that normally meets in Chapel-in-the Sky will be held in the craft room today / Room NC – 200 (just across from the second floor elevator). The study will resume in Chapel-in-the Sky next week.

**FPC Concert Series: The Cathedral Choir, Orchestra, and Soloists**

**NEXT Sunday evening,** April 2 at 7pm

This concert will feature the beautiful Holy Week cantata “The Seven Last Words of Christ” by Theodore Dubois. Also included in the program will be the “Te Deum” by Franz Joseph Haydn, and a magnificent arrangement of “How Great Thou Art”. Soloists will be Judy Field Davis, Soprano, Scott Bracken-Tripp, Tenor, and Anthony Zoeller, Baritone. There is no admission charge.

**AAC April trip – Tuesday, April 4**

Join us as we visit Sawgrass Recreational Park for an Airboat Ride through the Everglades. Our tour guide will explain all that there is to know about the Everglades and its habitants. We will then enjoy a homemade Italian lunch in Weston Town Center at the family-owned Tarantella Ristorante. RSVP to TriciaY@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9344.

**Lake Placid Family Retreat: Friday, April 28 – Sunday, April 30**

Join us for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and renewal! The location is a short distance to beautiful Lake Placid, Fla. The weekend includes campfires, canoeing, swimming in the lake and relaxing on the beach. There are three different types of accommodations available to meet everyone’s needs. All are welcome and you do not need to have children to attend! Reservations needed by 3/31. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341.

**All Church Easter Egg Hunt "Eggstravaganza"!!!**

Saturday, April 15, 12pm–2pm

If you would like to help in some way with this event, please use the Connect Card to sign up. Opportunities are available prior to the event, at the event, or by donating 2 dozen filled eggs by 4/2 (no chocolate or nuts, please) Contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341.

**Easter Lily Dedications**

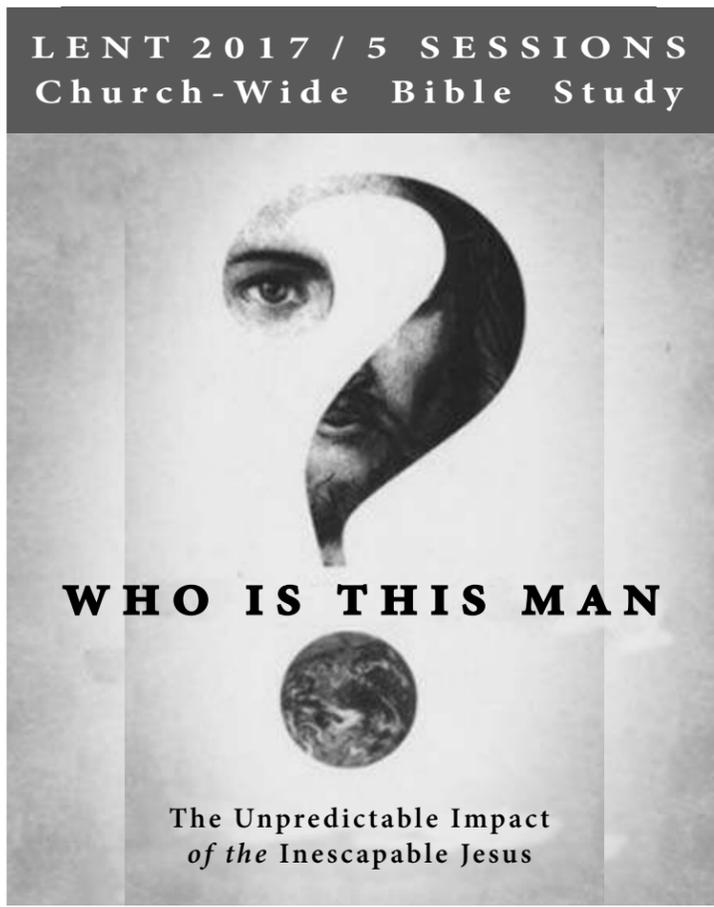
The Easter Lilies that decorate our chancel each year are given by individuals in memory of, or in honor of, a relative or friend. The suggested donation includes a small contribution to the Deacon Ministry of this church to help with our church’s congregational care needs. **The deadline for submitting your Easter Lily order is NEXT MONDAY, April 3.** Order forms are located in each worship venue. Please see an usher!!!

**Creative marketing/advertising people opportunity!**

Your Membership Committee is recruiting members whose gifts are in these areas. If that's you , we will appreciate your help and brain to contribute as we share the joy of joining our church with our community. Please contact Eric Johnson at 954-830-7773.

**“It’s time for a FRESH START”**

Give someone a fresh start this Lent by taking part in the **Undergarment Project**. Donate funds towards the purchase of fresh, clean undergarments to be given to the homeless members of our community. Make a donation today! Visit the Fresh Start table at the Neumann Center before or after worship. “Because little things can make a big difference!” For more information, contact Ross Bridger: missions@firstpres.cc



**Wednesdays / March 8 - April 5**

**6:30pm / Study & Renewal Center**

**OR**

**Sundays / March 12 - April 9**

**9:30am / Chapel In The Sky**

**10:45am / Study & Renewal Center**

*Get plugged in! Contact Mona Petersen  
Director, Adult Christian Education and Small Groups  
(954) 598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc*



**11 AM**

**March 26, 2017**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Welcome to worship! As a courtesy to others around you, please silence your cell phone. Nursery service is available in the Neumann Center for children aged 3 and younger. Ask an usher for assistance, if needed.

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** “Lamb of God, Our Savior” SUSAN DODD, organ  
– Johann Sebastian Bach

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd; we will have all that we need; we are released from fear.

**All: The Shepherd guides us in fruitful living, giving us healing and pardon.**

Leader: Even though difficulties and dangers may lie ahead, we do not need to fear.

**All: God’s love and strength are as a rod and staff for us.**

Leader: God will give us abundantly from God’s own love.

**All: Surely this goodness and mercy will be with us all of our days, and we will dwell in God’s loving care forevermore.**

**\*HYMN 263** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ST. DENIO

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (in unison)

Healing God, we have languished in our blindness. We have chosen to hide in darkness in order to avoid reaching out and risking acceptance. We are afraid of the light, and yet we crave it. In Your light, there is healing and hope, restoration and transformation. Forgive our lack of faith and our fearfulness, O Lord. Give us courage to reach out to the light and accept its healing rays. May our lives be transformed by Your mercy, for we pray this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** “Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**ANTHEM** “Here I Am, God” CHAPEL SINGERS  
– Julie Howard

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

### PRESENTATION OF THE 2017 CONFIRMATION CLASS

**ANTHEM** "Grace" CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
– arr. Mark Hayes

**PASTORAL PRAYER** TIMOTHY B. DOBBINS

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Online giving is available by going to [www.firstpres.cc](http://www.firstpres.cc), clicking the tab labeled GIVE, and following the prompts.

**OFFERTORY** "In This Very Room" KIRK SINGERS  
– Ron and Carol Harris

### \*DOXOLOGY

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### SCRIPTURE READING

John 9:1-41 N.T. PAGE 102  
Please feel free to follow today's scripture reading on your mobile device.  
To access WiFi go to [fp\\_guest](http://fp_guest). Password: [fpcgquest](http://fpcgquest) (case sensitive)

**SERMON** MR. NICHOLAS B. MERCHANT  
"One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see"

\***HYMN 324** "Open My Eyes That I May See" CLARA H. SCOTT

### \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** "Toccatina in E Minor" SUSAN DODD, organ  
– Johann Pachelbel

### WELCOME GUESTS!

- Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshment outside the Neumann Center (across the street) after worship.
- Restrooms are located through the double doors at the front left side of the Sanctuary.
- For families with young children: in addition to the nursery in the Neumann Center (Room NC 120), we have a "crying room" located in the Spanish Room with a live stream of the service. (Also through the double doors at the front left side of the Sanctuary.)
- Our Sunday School Schedule:  
**9:30 am:** PreK4-5<sup>th</sup> grade-2<sup>nd</sup> floor NC-224, PreK3-1<sup>st</sup> floor Room NC-127 (Held in Neumann Center)  
**11 am:** Children's Chapel is held in Watts Chapel. Children ages 4 and up will join together in exploring their faith with a Sunday School lesson and fun Bible story activities.

### THE CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION IS EXTENDED TO:

Oleta Krause, Jackie Dawkins and family on the death of sister and aunt, Barbara Scott, on March 19, 2017, and

Allison, Scott, Callie, Molly and CJ Gilchrist and Liz, Jimmy and Colton Kirtley, on the death of Allison's mother, Barbara Ann Black Custer, on March 3, 2017. A celebration of Barbara's life will be held on Sunday, April 2, 2017, 1pm-3pm at the Richardson Estate, Wilton Manors.

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM IS BEING ADMINISTERED TO:

Jamar Thomas, born October 5, 2001, son of Teddra Simmons, sibling of Myesha Reynolds.

### HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:

Karen Woods – Cleveland Clinic

### LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Benek, *Associate Pastor*, Nicholas B. Merchant, *Director of Youth Ministry*, Timothy B. Dobbins, *Pastoral Associate*

**PLEASE VISIT** <http://firstpres.cc/about-us/staff/> for the full staff listing.

**THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL** are given in loving memory of David Forbes McKnight, given by his wife Martha McKnight.

**WORSHIP FLOWERS** Please call 954-462-6200.

Available dates: April 2, April 9, and April 23

**THE PRAYER PAGER MINISTRY** enables you to let someone know that you have just prayed for them. It is an easy, anonymous, and effective way of providing encouragement and comfort during a difficult time. Please call the church office if you, or someone you know, could use this means of caring support. This week, please pray for:

Wini Mogk – call pager number 954-823-0119

Patti Mitchell – call pager number 954-823-0114

Kim White – call pager number 954-823-0118

### JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST

We offer breakfast in the St. Andrew's Room every Sunday morning from 9:15 am – 11 am. So whatever service you attend – you can still join us for a delicious, homemade breakfast before or after church. Come fellowship with friends, new and old! Cost is \$5 per person. No RSVP needed – first come, first served. Hope to see you there!

### ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IN NEED OF PRAYER?

The prayer ministry team would like to pray with you. At the end of the service, come to the front of the church, and you will find a team member ready to pray with you. Prayer requests may be noted on the Connect Card inserted in your bulletin, then place it in the offering plate, and your prayer request will be added to our weekly prayer letter. If you would like to be a prayer warrior and pray for our church family and their needs, please let Tricia Young ([TriciaY@firstpres.cc](mailto:TriciaY@firstpres.cc)) know and you will be added to receive the weekly prayer letter.

# A N N O U N C E M E N T S

### Membership Memo:

Visitors, please join us **TODAY** at First Step, 10:15 am – 11:00 am. Come when you can, leave when you must! Looking to find out more about First Pres and what's next for you? Join us for a short overview and a great opportunity to meet our staff and some new friends. We meet the fourth Sunday of each month in the Spanish Room (located behind the Sanctuary). We hope to see you there!

### Join the First Pres family TODAY!

Elders will be available to receive new members in the Binger Conference Room, S-114, following the 9:30am Contemporary Worship service. This meeting will take approximately 30 minutes. The Binger Room can be reached through the double doors at the front left side (organ side) of the Sanctuary.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf & Tennis Tournament at Lago Mar Country Club

Sunday, April 23

You can play golf, join in a game of tennis or just come and enjoy an evening of fellowship with friends. There will be a social hour, dinner, raffle and silent auction.

Not only is this event a day of fellowship and fun, but MOST IMPORTANTLY it is an opportunity for everyone to participate in the support of our Missions Outreach programs in the community. All proceeds from the Silent Auction and Raffle will be shared by these Missions!! All items (or donations for the purchase of items by the Membership Committee) for the Raffle or Silent Auction may be dropped off at the church office or delivered to the Farquhars at their table on Sundays. Contact George or Sally Farquhar for complete details at 954-577-7762 or [gafarquhar@aol.com](mailto:gafarquhar@aol.com). Please join us for this dual opportunity to get involved in the life of this great church!

### Ballroom dancing is back in the swing!

Join Bob and Mikki Crosby Monday evenings in Fellowship Hall. 6:30pm = Intermediate / 7:30pm = Beginners • Contact Mona Petersen for more information: 954-598-9345 / [MonaP@firstpres.cc](mailto:MonaP@firstpres.cc).

### Wednesday Night Live! March 29, 2017 at 6pm

Menu: Chicken Cutlet • \$8 Teens/Adults, \$4 six – twelve yrs, kids under 6 eat free. **This week we are highlighting SERRV, presented by the Missions Team. Come and learn more about it!** Food servers needed! Serve dinner at *WNL!* and your meal is on the house! Choose from either 4:45pm – 5:30pm OR 5:30pm – 6:15pm. Remember to RSVP for *WNL!* dinners by noon Monday. To RSVP and to find out how to get plugged in as a food serving volunteer, contact Mona Petersen 954-598-9345 / [MonaP@firstpres.cc](mailto:MonaP@firstpres.cc).

### Grief Support Group: Wednesdays, 4:30pm in the Spanish Room

Facilitated by Tim Dobbins.

**NO Christian Women Connect Bible Study this week** due to the Women's Spring Luncheon on Friday, March 31. Our Rick Warren study will resume on Thursday, April 6. For information: [LauraZ@firstpres.cc](mailto:LauraZ@firstpres.cc) or 954-598-9312. \*Sign up for April 6 First Thursday Lunch: Chef Salad, \$8.