

**Advent Begins December 3** and we are in need of twelve (12) families or individuals to light the candles on our Advent Wreaths at each of our regular weekly worship services and on Christmas Eve. **Please CALL Barb Yatrousis at 954-598-9311, or e-mail her at BarbaraY@firstpres.cc as soon as possible to reserve your date and service!** Dates will be reserved on a first come, first served basis!

**Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child: The Power of a Simple Gift**

The journey starts with you filling a shoe box with toys, school supplies and necessity items, and praying for the child who will receive your box. A shoebox can be picked up after each worship service. **Boxes must be returned no later than Wednesday, November 15.** Suggested items: small toys, stuffed animals, school supplies, coloring books, washcloths, bar of soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, hard candies (but no chocolate please). For more information, please contact Cindy Vason 954-598-9341 CindyV@firstpres.cc.

**Parables, Aphorisms and Questions of Jesus at 9:30am in Chapel-in-the-Sky concludes today.**

**Ballroom Dancing Prom Night**

Monday, November 13 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall  
Bob and Mikki Crosby will host the Ballroom Dancing Prom with a night of music, food and dance!

**Wednesday Night Live Dinner**

5pm – 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. \$8 age 12-adult / \$4 ages 7-11 / kids under 6 eat free. Dinner Menu November 15: Thanksgiving Turkey and all the “fixins”! RSVP by noon Monday to Mona Petersen at 954-598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc.

**Christian Women Connect Bible Study**

Thursday, November 16 in the Study and Renewal Center. Fellowship at 9:45am, Study at 10am. Join us for a study that will help you put your faith into action. **This week: Phyllis Thomas will facilitate Do You Believe You Are A Part Of God's Plan?** Study Guides: \$10. For more information: Laura Ziegler 954-598-9312 or Lauraz@firstpres.cc.

**Blessing Tree and Thanksgiving Social** - November 16 following class. *Bring a favorite finger food or sweet to share!*

**Family Campus Project**

The Family Campus Project is progressing. Grading has begun, material for the pavers has been laid and plants along the perimeter have been removed. Forms and concrete pouring for the event pad are next on the agenda. The completion deadline is December 20, 2017.

**2017-2018 Concert Series Brochures** have been mailed out. There are extra copies in the Narthex and in the front office. Please use the enclosed business cards to give to your friends, and also the return envelope provided to return your financial contribution to our Concert Series. Thank you!

**AAC [Senior Adult Ministry] Program: Carving Healthy Holidays with Savvy Senior, Anne Goldberg**

Thursday, November 16, 11:15 am in Fellowship Hall  
Anne will share with us her mind-body-spirit approach to getting through the holidays while maintaining physical and emotional health. Whether with family or alone, this is a recipe for joy and well-being that urges us towards happy, healthy and meaningful celebrations. Chef Kevin is serving a Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. Cost: \$9, RSVP to Tricia at 954-598-9344 / TriciaY@firstpres.cc

**AAC Trip: Christmas at Bok Tower Gardens, Lake Wales, FL**

Tuesday, December 12, 8:15 am to approximately 7pm  
We will visit the Bok Tower Gardens for their Holiday Home Tour beautifully decorated for Christmas while hearing the Carillon Concert. As an added bonus, we will stop at the Grove House to learn how Florida's Natural Brand orange juice is squeezed in the heart of Central Florida. Lunch will be served. Cost: \$75 per person. RSVP to Tricia Young 954-598-9344 or TriciaY@firstpres.cc

**High School lock-in**

Friday, November 17, at 8pm through 8am on Saturday, November 18. Food, games, and more! Cost is \$10. We hope to see you there!

**Surviving the Holidays: a one-day Divorce Care seminar**

Saturday, November 18, 3pm-5pm in the Study and Renewal Center  
If you are going through, or have gone through, a divorce or separation, join us and equip yourself and your children with practical tools for handling situations that arise during the holidays. Facilitated by Tricia and Ronnie Young. For more information: 954-598-9344 / TriciaY@firstpres.cc

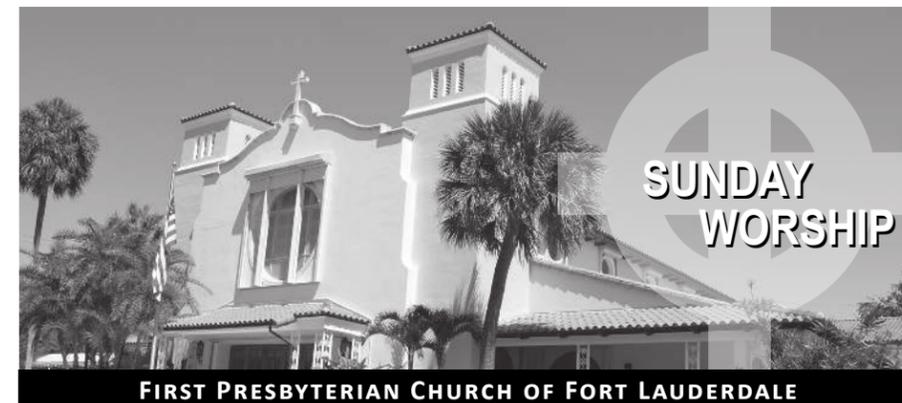
**The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by:**

- Leading people to Jesus Christ.
- Learning about our faith.
- Living a Christ-centered life.
- Loving our neighbor through ministries of service and compassion.



**WHERE FAITH COMES ALIVE**

401 SE 15th Avenue • Fort Lauderdale, FL • 33301  
ph: 954-462-6200 • fax: 954-764-1081 • www.firstpres.cc



**11 AM**

**November 12, 2017  
23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

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.

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION** (to be read silently by each worshiper)  
God of truth and mercy, we come to worship You, because You are the source of truth and mercy, without which we cannot live. Grant us in these moments of quiet worship a sense of Your presence. Increase our knowledge of who You are so that in turn we may truly know who we are so that we can live our lives devoted to loving You. For sake of Jesus Christ we pray to You. Amen.

**WELCOME**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

**PRELUDE** “The Church’s One Foundation”  
– Flor Peeters

SUSAN DODD, organ

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

Leader: "How lovely is Your dwelling place, O lord of hosts.  
My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

**People: Happy are those who sing Your praise.  
Happy is everyone who trusts in You.**

Leader: No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly."

**People: Let us all now worship God.** (Psalm 84)

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

Loving and gracious God in meekness and humility we come to offer to You our prayers and to praise Your holy name. You created us for Yourself, and we are restless and confused when we turn away from You. In these moments of worship give us open minds to see You and reverent hearts that we may truly adore You. Then send us forth out into Your world, to be faithful servants of Jesus Christ. Through Christ our Lord we pray to You, gracious God. Amen.

**\*HYMN 442** “The Church’s One Foundation”  
(omit stanza 3)

AURELIA

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Leader: Because we know that we are accountable to God for the way we have lived our life this past week, and because we know that we have failed to live perfectly, let us admit to God all that we have done that is wrong.

**People: God of mercy and forgiveness, hear us again as we confess to You our foolishness and disobedience, and the hidden sins of our hearts. If You kept a record of sin no one could escape Your judgment, but in Your love for us You have forgiven us. Since we are always standing in need of Your forgiveness, help us also to forgive those whom we have offended. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us, through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Accept the forgiveness which God offers to you in Jesus Christ and go forth remembering God's mercy never ends. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**People: Because of Christ's love for us we do believe we are forgiven.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Spirit of the Living God"**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**ANTHEM** "I Was Glad, So Glad!" (Psalm 122) KIRK SINGERS  
– John Carter

**RECOGNITION OF VETERANS**

**\*HYMN 564** "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" MATERNA  
(omit stanza 2)

**PASTORAL PRAYER** REV. DR. RICHARD B. ANDERSON

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)**

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

**OFFERTORY** "The Lord is My Light" (Psalm 27) CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
– Francis Allitsen

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 3: 13-17

Gospel Reading: Mark 12: 28-34

*Please feel free to follow today's scripture reading on your mobile device.  
To access WiFi go to [fp\\_guest](http://fp_guest). Password: [fpcguest](http://fp_guest) (case sensitive)*

**SERMON** "Why are you here?" REV. DR. ROBERT W. BOHL

**\*HYMN 441** "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" ST. THOMAS

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** "Built On a Rock, the Church Doth Stand" SUSAN DODD,  
– Flor Peeters organ

**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.)
- Children's Sunday School schedule:  
**9:30 am:** PreK3 Sunday school in Room #NC127, PreK 4-5th grade meet upstairs on the second floor –Room #NC224  
**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:** Phyllis and Al Thomas on the death of Phyllis' mother, Kitty Weaver, on November 7, 2017.

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:**

Tim Dawkins – Holy Cross Hospital

**LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY:** Rev. Dr. Robert W. Bohl, *Temporary Supply Pastor*, Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Benek, *Associate Pastor*, Rev. Dr. Richard B. Anderson, *Parish Associate*

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

**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:

Michelle and John Pidgeon – call pager number 954-823-0115

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

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

Available dates: November 26, December 10, December 17

**BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:**

Steve Phillips	11/12	David Auld	11/14	Rich Thompson	11/16
Steven Smithberg	11/12	Chris Roehm	11/14	Jenny Barnett	11/17
<b>*Fred Betz</b>	<b>11/13</b>	Larry Smith	11/14	Ken Fengler	11/17
Emily Grossutti	11/13	Tyler Holt	11/15	<b>*Bob Linhart</b>	<b>11/17</b>
Joann Parkinson	11/13	Tom Maurer	11/15	<b>*Cindy Mack</b>	<b>11/17</b>
Shannon Robertson	11/13	Betsy Botkin	11/16	Susan Beaghen	11/18
Melissa Smiley	11/13	Linda Greenman	11/16	Forrest King	11/18
Frances Young	11/13	Louise Meminger	11/16	Holly Ann Lord	11/18
Wilson Atkinson	11/14	Beverly Stockamore	11/16		

*\*Member - Endowment Birthday Club*

**Newest Members January – November:**

Sal Fasulo 11/2 Gretchen Fasulo 11/4 Sarah Del Negri 11/8

**Endowment Fund to Date: \$13,954**

Birthday Club Members give one dollar for each year of their life to celebrate their special day! The earnings will benefit youth activities. It is a fun way to count the blessings of life! *Simply designate "Birthday Club" on a check or join online at [www.firstpres.cc/GIVE](http://www.firstpres.cc/GIVE) and designate in the box marked "Other".*

**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.

**Please note that breakfasts will not be held on Sunday, November 19 (single worship service at 10am) or Sunday, November 26 (Blood Drive)!**

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

**It's UNANIMOUS!**

Your PNC invites you to one service **NEXT SUNDAY, November 19, 2017 at 10am** to meet and hear from our choice for Pastor/Head of Staff.

**CALL FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** immediately following the worship service in our Sanctuary for the purpose of hearing a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee and electing a new Senior Pastor. A reception and an opportunity to say "Hello" will follow the meeting.

**Membership**

**First Step Visitor Orientation:** Discover ways to connect and learn about membership at First Pres TODAY, November 12, 2017, from 10:15 – 11am in the Neumann Center Library, NC-202 (2nd floor of the Neumann Center).

**New Member Orientation:** Become a member of our First Pres family TODAY November 12, 2017, from 10:30 – 11am in the Binger Conference Room, S-114 (1<sup>st</sup> floor of the church building, in the Apostles hallway).

**SERRV Christmas Sale TODAY!**

Christmas is on its way and so are chocolate and ornaments and other SERRV goodies. We will be showing our newest line in the Spanish Room after each service. Hope to see you there!