

First Informed Communion Classes

Sundays February 11, 18, and 25, at 4:15pm
Led by Rev. Dr. Chris Benek, 3rd Grade and up. Parents are invited to attend the classes with their children. Our communicants will be recognized March 4 in the 11am worship service, with a cake reception immediately following the service. For reservations, please contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341 or CindyV@firstpres.cc.

The Souper Bowl of Caring next Sunday!

Start your shopping now for canned food and soups to support our youth in this mission!

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? – 1 John 3:17

College Scholarship Applications for the 2018-2019 academic year are available on the web site. Completed applications are due March 1, 2018. If you have any questions, please email scholarship@firstpres.cc or call Barbara Hollowell at 954-564-5919.

FIRST, Get Involved!

Looking for an easy way to get involved in the life of the Church? Ushering! You are already in church, so it's an easy thing to hand out bulletins, greet our members and visitors, and pass the offering plate! A commitment to this important service would entail serving one Sunday every two months (or 6 times per year). A great way to meet people and serve your Church at the same time! All ages welcome to serve! For more information, please contact Bradford Sanders via e-mail at fpcftl_ushers@yahoo.com or at 910-231-0106.

AAC Trip: Everglades National Park's Shark Valley Tram Tour & Pit BBQ

Tuesday, February 13, 10am-6pm
Join us as we tour Everglades National Park by way of a 2-hour guided tram tour through Shark Valley with a park-trained naturalist. Before our tour we will visit and eat at the historical landmark, The Pit Bar-B-Q, on Tamiami Trail. Cost: \$73 per person, RSVP to Tricia Young at 954-598-9344 or TriciaY@firstpres.cc.



WHERE FAITH COMES ALIVE

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

ACE

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WINTER / SPRING 2018

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

THE OLD IN THE NEW

Continues January 10th, 2018 See how the Old Testament and its words and ideas influenced the writers of the New Testament.

6:30pm / Room: Chapel In The Sky
Facilitated by Mary Helen Merchant

BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE

Continues January 10th, 2018
Man troubles? Can't let go of the past? Can't let go of money? Let these Girls show you why studying the Bible has never been more fun!

6:15pm / Room NC-216
Facilitated by Mona Petersen

JOHN'S GOSPEL-WISDOM FROM EPHEBUS

Begins January 10th, 2018
Learn a new way to study the fourth gospel with stories and images from Ephesus.

6:30pm
Room S-114 / Binger Conference Room
Facilitated by Bill Condon

MAKE IT COUNT

Second Wednesdays of the month
Gain guidance and perspective for this journey of motherhood and realize the importance of your role as a mom.

9:30am - bring snack / Childcare provided
Room: NC-227
Facilitated by Nikki Diefenbach
Contact: jennifer.diefenbach@gmail.com
Study books (digital or hard copy) are optional and can be purchased from <https://store.bird-sonawiremoms.com/search?q=make+it+count>

Congregational Care Support Groups:

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

(continues) First Wednesdays
11:00am -12:30pm
Study & Renewal Center
Contact TriciaY@firstpres.cc / (954) 598-9344

DIVORCE CARE

Begins Wednesday, January 24th, 2018
This 13 week support group is for anybody who is separated or divorced.
6:30pm / Spanish Room
Contact TriciaY@firstpres.cc / (954) 598-9344

SUNDAY EVENINGS

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

5:00pm / Study & Renewal Center
Contact Sandy Steffen: sandy@sandysteffen.com

SUNDAY MORNINGS

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN FOR EVERYONE

Begins January 7th, 2018
One of the most beautiful books in the Bible, we will read and discuss it with humility and hope.

9:30am / Room: NC-216
Facilitated by Bill Cranshaw

TUES / THURS / FRI - AM / PM

MEN'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

7:45am (continues)
Room: NC-202 / Neumann Center Library

PEBBLES OF FAITH

EVENING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
"THE ARMOR OF GOD" by Priscilla Shirer
Fourth Tuesdays of the month

Next Bible study date: January 23rd
6:00pm Potluck Dinner /study & discussion following

Room: NC-218
Facilitated by Kim White

west_kim@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECT!

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Begins January 11th, 2018

"BRAVE" by Angela Thomas - "You've got questions. God's got answers. Be brave. Ask."

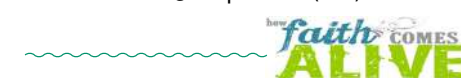
Study Guide: \$15
Contact LauraZ@firstpres.cc (954) 598-9312

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY / LUNCH

12:00pm (continues)
Room NC-202 (Neumann Center Library)
Facilitated by Eric Johnson

BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE

Begins January 12th, 2018
12:30pm
Spanish Room
Facilitated by Yetunde Oluwasegun
Contact MonaP@firstpres.cc / (954) 598-9345



For more information about our Studies and Small Group, connect with:
Mona Petersen, Director Adult Christian Education (ACE) and Small Groups
954.598.9234 / MonaP@firstpres.cc



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT LAUDERDALE

11 AM

January 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

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 FOR THE PREPARATION OF WORSHIP

In the light of Your new day, O God, I rise to greet You always on the path in front of me. Let me follow with integrity where You will lead. Give me courage to know the difference between what is false and what is true. Teach me to love my neighbor as You love me. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

OPENING VOLUNTARY "The Church's One Foundation" SUSAN DODD,
- Arr. Flor Peeters organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP REV. DR. PATRICK H. WRISLEY

*HYMN 443 "O Christ, the Great Foundation" AURELIA

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) MONA PETERSEN

Holy and all-powerful God, who commands all spirits, comforts those in distress, and casts out destructive forces, we confess that we are unable to do Your will. We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown. We admire those with courage but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth. We forget that You are always with us, and that with You all things are possible. Forgive us, lead us, make us new. Remove our desire to heed false prophets, and show us Your way; in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Surely It Is God Who Saves Me"

**Surely it is God who saves me,
I shall trust in Him and not be afraid;
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and He will be my Savior.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM "I Will Sing With the Spirit" CATHEDRAL CHOIR
- John Rutter (I Corinthians 14:15)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1: 21-28

N.T. PAGE 35

ANTHEM "Joyfully Sing His Praise" (Psalm 34:3) CATHEDRAL CHOIR
– McGee/Sterling**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE** REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK
WITH 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.

SHARING OUR GIFTS**OFFERTORY** "I Lift My Eyes" (Psalm 121) KIRK SINGERS
– Hal H. Hopson MADISON MOORE, *soloist****DOXOLOGY*****PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND ILLUMINATION****PREACHING TEXT**
1 Corinthians 8.1-13 N.T. PAGE 171**THE MESSAGE** REV. DR. PATRICK H. WRISLEY
How to Stay Focused on the Source #1: "It's What We Know"***HYMN 379** "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" WILLIAM BRADBURY***INVITATION AND BLESSING****ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING****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.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:

Mary Halferty – Broward General Medical Center

LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY: Rev. Dr. Patrick H. Wrisley, *Senior Pastor*, Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Benek, *Associate Pastor*, Mona Petersen, *Director of Adult Christian Education Ministry and Small Groups***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**WORSHIP FLOWERS** Please call 954-462-6200.
Available dates: February 4, March 4, March 11**BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:**

Margaret Buchholz	1/28	Katja Souverein	1/30
Kim Du Bois	1/28	Judy Ackerman	1/31
Sue Ford	1/29	Denise Adams	1/31
*Betsy Powers	1/29	*Sam Hollowell	1/31
Dick Owen	1/30	*Member - Endowment Birthday Club	
Newest Birthday Club Members January 2018:	Ann Porterfield		1/17

Endowment Fund to Date: \$16,300
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 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.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S**Call for Annual Congregational Meeting TODAY:**

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale calls the Annual Congregational Meeting TODAY at the conclusion of the 11am worship service for the purposes of reviewing Clergy Terms of Call and receiving the 2018 Budget. All members in good standing of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, are eligible to be heard and vote in a congregational meeting.

Concert Series 2017-18 presents "Big Brass Live!"**TODAY** at 4pm

The program will feature a 12 member brass ensemble, percussion, and organ and will include everything from the Renaissance period through the great hits of Broadway. Come and bring a friend!

First Step Visitor Orientation:

Discover ways to connect and learn about membership at First Pres TODAY from 10:15 – 11am in the Spanish Room, S-115 (1st floor of the church building, adjacent to the kitchenette).

New Member Orientation:

Become a member of our First Pres family TODAY from 10:30 – 11am in the Binger Conference Room, S-114 (1st floor of the church building, in the Apostles hallway).

Wednesday Night Live!January 31, Dinner 5pm – 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall
Menu: Pork Loin with Apple Sauce. \$8 age 12-adult / \$4 ages 7-11 / kids under 6 eat free. Contact Mona Petersen at 954-598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc. Please RSVP by noon on Monday.**Christian Women Connect Bible Study**Thursday, February 1 in the Study and Renewal Center, Fellowship at 9:45am, Study at 10am. Join us as we dig into *Brave: Honest Questions Women Ask* with Angela Thomas. This week: Phyllis Thomas will facilitate *I Am Undisciplined*. For more information: Laura Ziegler at 954-598-9312 or LauraZ@firstpres.ccSign up for *First Thursday Boxed Lunches* prepared by Chef Kevin. February 1 menu selection is Curry Chicken Salad Croissant. The cost is \$8 and must be ordered by Monday.**AAC [Senior Adult Ministry] Program: John Lariviere**Thursday, February 1, 11:15 am in Fellowship Hall.
John Lariviere currently headlines throughout South Florida at local theatres and clubs, specializing in Broadway, Jazz and the Great American Songbook. He has put together a wonderful show especially for us this year. Chef Kevin is serving Pork Loin with Apple Sauce. Cost: \$9. RSVP to Tricia at 954-598-9344 / TriciaY@firstpres.cc**Save the date!**

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is also coming to Wednesday night starting January 31! The group will meet on the last Wednesday of every month, 6pm-8pm. Childcare is available by reservation. For more info, please contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341.

Happyland Announcements:

Registration for Happyland has begun for First Presbyterian Church members. Call for a tour and find out why Happyland is right for your family. 954-463-6051

January 22- Happyland presents "Blooming with Your Baby!" Come experience the fun of music and sensory classes with your child. Call for more information. 954-463-6051

Little Miss Sweetheart Father-Daughter DanceThursday, February 8, 6pm-8pm, in Fellowship Hall
Dinner*Entertainment*Memories, Ages 4-13, Cost: \$15pp