

## AAC [Senior Adult Ministry]

### Program: *Mary Kay Wagner, Inspirational Speaker*

Thursday, March 22, 11:15 am in Fellowship Hall.

Join us as Mary Kay shows us how to rise above the ordinary, conquer fears, and overcome the obstacles that keep you from living your big dream. Chef Kevin is serving Stuffed Chicken Breast. Cost: \$9. RSVP to Laura Ziegler at 954-598-9312 / LauraZ@firstpres.cc

## Membership:

**First Step Visitor Orientation:** Discover ways to connect and learn about membership at First Pres on Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018, 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 on Palm Sunday, March 25, from 10:30 – 11am in the Binger Conference Room, S-114 (1st floor of the church building, in the Apostles hallway).

## All Church "Easter Egg Hunt"

Saturday, March 31, 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 or more filled eggs by 3/23 (no chocolate or nuts please) Contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341.

## Pilgrimage opportunity:

Grow your faith by attending a spirit filled 3 and ½ day retreat April 19-22 in Silver Springs, Florida. Many people from First Pres have found this to be a life changing experience filled with God's love. Please go to [www.FloridaPresbyterianPilgrimage.org](http://www.FloridaPresbyterianPilgrimage.org) and click on register for an application AND call Georgiana Schuldt at 954-523-6742 and get connected with a sponsor.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament – Save the Date!

Sunday, April 29 at 2pm at Lago Mar Country Club in Plantation We certainly hope you plan on attending whether you are a player or just coming to enjoy a nice dinner and fellowship. The dinner will also include a silent auction. Proceeds will benefit the young adults' mission trip to Puerto Rico for disaster relief and Rebuilding Together Broward. Please consider a donation to our silent auction and raffle. For more information contact Bill Condon at 732-670-7435 or [FPCGolfEvent@gmail.com](mailto:FPCGolfEvent@gmail.com).

## First Pres Women's Annual Spring Luncheon

Friday, May 4, 11am at Lauderdale Yacht Club, Cost: \$36 per person Entertainment by Don Stansfield featuring "Music through the Ages" (50's, 60's, 70's, Motown, Rat Pack, and Pop) SERRV shopping day, Raffle Baskets, Bake Sale Raffle Drawing and more! Luncheon flyers are placed around the church campus. Pick one up and join us for this fabulous day of fellowship! RSVP by 4/23 to Laura Ziegler 954-598-9312 / LauraZ@firstpres.cc

## Happyland Registration

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

# ACE

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## WINTER / SPRING 2018

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

#### THE OLD IN THE NEW

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

#### CHURCH WIDE LENTEN BIBLE STUDY RENEGADE GOSPEL: THE REBEL JESUS



Feb 21st - March 21st

Pastor and author Mike Slaughter presents Jesus and his challenging message to inspire us during Lent and throughout the year.

6:30pm / Fellowship Hall  
Bring your Bibles!

Contact Mona Petersen to get plugged in!  
(954) 598-9345 / [MonaP@firstpres.cc](mailto:MonaP@firstpres.cc)

#### 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](mailto:jennifer.diefenbach@gmail.com)  
Study books (digital or hard copy) are optional and can be purchased from <https://store.birdsonawire.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

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](mailto: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

6:00pm Potluck Dinner /study & discussion following

Room: NC-218

Facilitated by Kim White  
[west\\_kim@bellsouth.net](mailto:west_kim@bellsouth.net)

#### CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECT!

##### THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*Secrets of the Vine - The adventure of living the abundant life is the focus of this study by Dr. Bruce Wilkinson.*

March 1 - April 26

Course Workbooks: \$7

Contact [LauraZ@firstpres.cc](mailto:LauraZ@firstpres.cc) (954) 598-9312

#### MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY / LUNCH

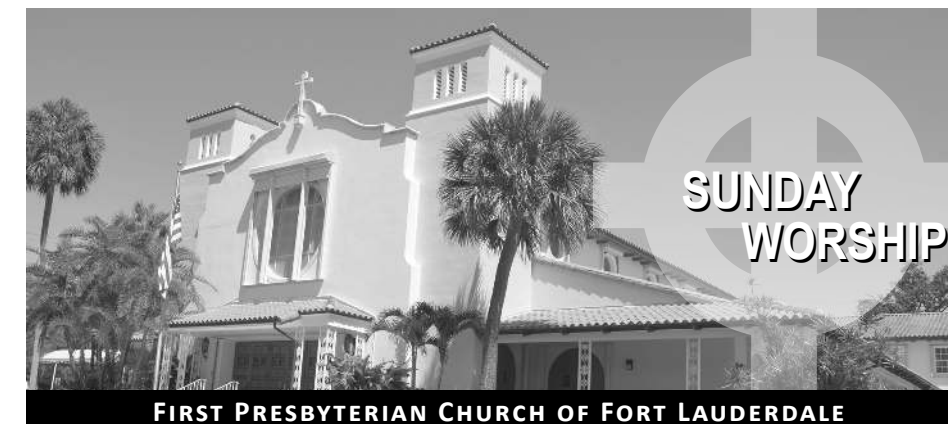
12:00pm (continues)

Room NC-202 (Nuemann Center Library)

Facilitated by Eric Johnson



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](mailto:MonaP@firstpres.cc)



11 AM

March 18, 2018

Fifth 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.

### PRAYER FOR THE PREPARATION OF WORSHIP

Lord, in this season of Lent You have asked me to look deep within myself, to identify the many ways in which I have turned away from You. Again this day I ask that You open my heart to receive Your Word of healing and hope. The cross of Good Friday looms in the future. Bring me through this time with confidence and trust in Your guiding love. For I ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Elegy" SUSAN DODD, organ  
– Eric Thiman

CALL TO WORSHIP REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

Leader: This is the hour of worship and praise.

People: **Thanks be to God who draws us to this place and time.**

Leader: This is the time of commitment and witness.

People: **Praise be to God who opens our hearts and minds to God's grace.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord!

People: **Amen.**

\*HYMN 151 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" DIADEMATA

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Gracious and Patient God, we come before You with so many things which weigh us down. We would like an "easy" faith, one that doesn't cause us to look within ourselves, to identify those many ways in which we have forsaken You. But faith is never easy. It requires our very souls. Forgive us, God, for all those things which we have neglected to do that would have helped someone else to be closer to You. Heal our hearts from the wounds which have been inflicted upon us by the anger and misunderstandings which occur in relationships. Prepare our lives to be of service to You. In silence we wait. We long for Your presence and Your healing touch. (time for silent confession) Amen.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** “He is Lord”

**He is Lord, He is Lord!**  
**He is risen from the dead and He is Lord:**  
**Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess**  
**That Jesus Christ is Lord!**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**ANTHEM** “I Lift My Eyes” (Psalm 121) KIRK SINGERS  
– Hal Hopson CASSIDY KHATCHERIAN, *soloist*

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 119: 9-16  
O.T. PAGE 566

**RECEIVING OF 2018 CONFIRMATION CLASS**

**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE** MONA PETERSEN  
**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** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
– arr. Gilbert Martin

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND ILLUMINATION**

**PREACHING TEXT** John 12:20-33  
N.T. PAGE 94

**THE MESSAGE** “We wish to see Jesus” NICHOLAS B. MERCHANT

**\*HYMN 85** “What Wondrous Love is This” AMERICAN FOLK HYMN

**\*BENEDICTION** NICHOLAS B. MERCHANT

**POSTLUDE** “Toccata in E Minor” SUSAN DODD, *organ*  
– Johann Pachelbel



**2018 Confirmation Class:**

Lily Celentano  
Bailey Gilman  
Trevor Christian Hofmann  
Jillian Faith Jacaty  
Taline Maddie Khatcherian

William Jared Knapp IV  
Rolanda Amari McFarlane  
Mary Jo Thomas  
Audrey M. Whiteman

**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.
- Please feel free to follow today’s scripture readings on your mobile device. To access WiFi go to fp\_guest. Password: fpccguest (case sensitive)
- 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 in 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:**

Al Leonardis and family on the death of his father, Albert Leonardis, on March 8, 2018 in Stamford, Connecticut. A Celebration of Albert’s life was held on March 14, 2018 in Stamford; and

Karen Skiles and family on the death of her husband, David Skiles, on March 11, 2018; and

Doreen Haynie and family on the death of her husband, John Haynie, on March 12, 2018.

**If you or someone you love is in the hospital, please let us know. HIPAA laws do not allow the hospitals to call and inform us, so we rely on you. Thank you in advance.**

**LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY:** Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Benek, *Associate Pastor*, Nicholas Merchant, *Director of Youth Ministry*, Mona Petersen, *Director of Adult Christian Education Ministry & Small Groups*

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

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

We are a praying church and have a team of prayer warriors who will pray and lift up your prayer requests and praises each week. Please write them on your connect card or email them to TriciaY@firstpres.cc to be placed on our prayer letter. If you would like to pray with someone in person, there will be a team in front of the steps after the service each week. Would you like to be a prayer warrior? Please email Tricia to be added to receive our weekly prayer letter.

**THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL** are given in loving memory and in honor of Earl Mogk’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, by his wife, Wini.

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

Available dates: April 8, April 15, April 22

**JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST**

9:15 am – 11 am in the St. Andrew’s Room. Cost is \$5 per person.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Nova Singers in Concert**

THIS AFTERNOON, March 18 at 4pm  
Under the direction of Mr. Chuck Stanley, this ensemble of voices is celebrating their 42<sup>nd</sup> singing season together! Their program will focus on the music of the great composer Leonard Bernstein. TICKETS must be purchased for this concert and will be available at the door for \$20. Plan to come and bring a friend for this afternoon of glorious choral music!

**SERRV in Spanish Room Today!**

Looking for Easter décor and delights? Please join us in the Spanish Room today from 8:30am to 12:30pm. From hand painted Kashmiri and ceramic eggs, and adorable crocheted bunnies to delicious chocolate and much more, we have fair trade items that give back. Your generosity has helped improve the lives of artisans and farmers in 25 countries throughout the world.

**Easter Lilies – Deadline tomorrow!**

The Easter lilies that decorate our chancel each year are given by individuals in memory of, or in honor of, a relative or friend. Please pick up a form located in each worship venue. We suggest a donation of \$17.50 per plant. Deadline is TOMORROW to permit the printing of names and donors in our Easter bulletin. THANK YOU!

**Ballroom Dancing**

Held Mondays in Fellowship Hall, Intermediate 6:30pm / Beginners 7:30pm. Bob and Mikki Crosby host the Spring session which began March 12. Contact Mona Petersen: 954-598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc

**First Presbyterian Church College Parent Happy Hour**

Tuesday, March 20, 5:30pm – until?  
Morton's Steakhouse (500 E. Broward Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394) Join us for our last happy hour of the school year! Complimentary valet parking come early! Nic Merchant will need to leave early. All are welcome! Please email, Pam Hickson at hicksonpam@gmail.com for further details or to update your email address.

**Wednesday Night Live!**

March 21, Dinner 5pm – 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Menu: Stuffed Chicken Breast. \$8 age 12-adult / \$4 ages 7-11 / kids under 6 eat free.  
**Lenten Bible Study Renegade Gospel:** The sixth and final session will be held March 21, facilitated by Rev. Dr. Patrick Wrisley. Contact Mona Petersen for more information: 954-598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc

**Christian Women Connect Bible Study**

Thursday, March 22, in the Study and Renewal Center Fellowship at 9:45am, Study at 10am. Join us as we delve into *Secrets of the Vine*. The adventure of living the abundant life is the focus of this study by Dr. Bruce Wilkinson. This week: Mona Petersen will facilitate *Fruit Bearing, Part B*. Course workbooks available for \$7. For more information: Mona Petersen at 954-598-9345 or MonaP@firstpres.cc