

Wednesday Night Live!

May 16, Dinner 5pm – 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Menu: Roast Pork with Craisin Wine Sauce. \$8 age 12-adult / \$4 ages 7-11 / kids under 6 eat free.

Christian Women Connect Bible Study

New Bible study to begin on May 17: "Missing Pieces: Real Hope When Life Doesn't Make Sense". Phyllis Thomas will facilitate Session 1. Limited quantities of workbooks available Contact MonaP@firstpres.cc / 954-598-9345.

AAC [Senior Adult Ministry] Program: Jolanta Prax, Pianist

Thursday, May 17, 11:15am in Fellowship Hall
Jolanta is back by popular demand. This Polish pianist takes our breath away every time she performs for us and we are thrilled she is able to come back this year. Chef Phil will be serving Roast Pork with Craisin Wine Sauce, cost: \$9. RSVP to Laura Ziegler at 954-598-9312 / LauraZ@firstpres.cc

VBS Save the Date!

August 6-10, 9am to 12 noon. More information coming soon!!!

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

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

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

BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE

Dig in to scripture about women who challenge us and make learning the Bible more fun than ever!
6:30m / Room NC-216
Facilitated by Mona Petersen

JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM

Step out of your "circle of comfort" and find out how you can make the difference of an eternity for someone standing near you.
6:30m / Study & Renewal Center
Facilitated by Bill Condon

THE SIX TRUTHS OF MOTHERHOOD Second Wednesdays of the month

In this six-lesson study, you will tackle some of the big challenges moms face today and be reminded that God still has an amazing, abundant life planned for us as mothers...but it starts with us walking in the truth — His truth.
9:30am - bring snack / Childcare provided
Room: NC-227
Facilitated by Nikki Diefenbach
Contact: jennifer.diefenbach@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL CARE GROUPS

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

First Wednesdays
11:00am - 12:30pm
Study & Renewal Center
Contact Alina Aiken: alzacs.org@gmail.com

DIVORCE CARE

New 13-week group will start in June. For information, contact Tricia Young: bondutr@bellsouth.net

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

FRIENDS OF WOMEN OF FAITH
First Tuesdays / 7:00pm
Study & Renewal Center
Contact: Martha Kramer:
mkramer113@bellsouth.net

TEA & TABLE TALK

Second Tuesdays / 2:00pm
Study & Renewal Center
Women of all ages are invited to come and enjoy an afternoon of companionship, A FUN TEA PARTY and discussion of varied subjects. Contact: Petey Buchholz (954) 566-1744

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

CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECT!

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will not meet May 3 and May 10
"MISSING PIECES - Real hope when life doesn't make sense."
May 17 - June 28
Course Workbooks: \$10
Contact MonaP@firstpres.cc
(954) 598-9345

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY / LUNCH

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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT LAUDERDALE

11 AM

May 13, 2018

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

Almighty God, as I enter into this time of worship, I ask You to open my mind to perceive the majesty and mystery of Your ascension. Help me understand how Jesus' presence in heaven can give me confidence and hope for the future. Through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Sicilienne" SUSAN DODD, organ
– M. T. Von Paradis

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is alive. He is risen from the dead.
People: The Holy One calls us to worship and praise.
 Leader: Baptized with the power of the Holy Spirit,
People: we live with Christ in our hearts.
 Leader: Clap your hands and shout to God with loud songs of joy.
People: Sing praises to God, who fills the world with forgiveness and grace. (Acts 1, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1)

*HYMN 151 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" DIADEMATA

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, who raised Jesus from the dead into eternal glory, we come before You as those who share in His hope of glory, not on account of our own, good works, but through His obedience and sacrifice for us. We have been raised to newness of life with Him, yet we continue to live as though death were the final word. We come before You freely confessing our sins. Help us to fully trust in Your merciful forgiveness. Strengthen us to live in a way that demonstrates His abiding presence among us, and the hope of glory within us, through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God’s love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I Love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

ANTHEM “God Chose Us” CATHEDRAL CHOIR
– Joseph Martin

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING TIMOTHY B. DOBBINS
Psalm 47
O.T. PAGE 518

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY “For the Beauty of the Earth” CATHEDRAL CHOIR
– John Rutter

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND ILLUMINATION**

PREACHING TEXT Acts 1:1-11
N.T. 118

THE MESSAGE NICHOLAS B. MERCHANT
“Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?”

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Please partake of the elements as they are served to you.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***HYMN** “The Lord’s Prayer” A.H. MALOTTE
Our Father, which 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.

***INVITATION AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE “Allegro assai vivaci” (From Sonata I) SUSAN DODD,
– Felix Mendelssohn 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.
- Please feel free to follow today’s scripture readings on your mobile device. To access WiFi go to fp_guest. Password: fpcguest (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:

Brooke Bass and family on the death of her mother, Mary Julia Davison Mills, on April 19, 2018 in Savannah, Georgia. A celebration of Mary’s life will be held on Friday, May 18, 2018 at 2pm in our Sanctuary, and Sally Cash and family on the death of her daughter, Amy Lynn Cash, on May 7, 2018. A celebration of Amy’s life will be held in our Sanctuary on Saturday, May 19 at 3pm, and Jenny and James Riley and family on the death of their son, Barrett Riley, on May 8, 2018.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:

Richard Passmore, Frances Young – Holy Cross Hospital

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: Nicholas B. Merchant, Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Benek, Associate Pastor, 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 loving memory of E. Gex Williams, Jr., by his family.

WORSHIP FLOWERS Please call 954-462-6200.

Available dates: May 27, July 1

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 DarleenC@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 Darleen to receive our weekly prayer letter.

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

Come have a picture taken with the Mom in your life!

In the Neumann Center after each worship service. Prints can be collected next Sunday, May 20. Carnations will also be given out to our special ladies.

Membership:

Member Orientation: Become a member of our First Pres family TODAY from 12 – 12:30pm in the Binger Conference Room, S-114 (1st floor of the church building, in the Apostles hallway).

Name Tags for Sale TODAY: 9:20am to 10:55am

The Membership Committee will be selling and distributing name tags for members at the glass top round table in the Neumann Center Lobby. They will be accepting cash and checks (made payable to First Presbyterian Church / memo: name tag).

New Wednesday Evening Bible study

“Just Walk Across the Room: simple steps pointing people to faith” 6:30pm in the Study & Renewal Center, facilitated by Bill Condon For more information contact MonaP@firstpres.cc / 954-598-9345

Attention High School Seniors, College Graduates and Professional/ Graduate School Grads!!

Graduate Sunday is June 3. We are working on the Graduate Sunday program and need the following information from you:

- Name of High School, College or Professional/Graduate School
 - High School Graduates: A copy of your senior picture and the name of the college you will be attending and what term (i.e., summer, fall)
 - College/Grad school graduates: Name & type of degree you received
- Please have this information along with your picture, to us no later than this **Sunday, May 20**. Contact Nic Merchant if you have any questions, NicM@FirstPres.cc or 954-598-9361