

The Chapel Singers present “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown”

Friday and Saturday December 7 and 8 at 7:30pm. Free admission. No tickets required. Come and support our mid high youth!

Women’s Ministry “UNLEASHED”

January 25 and 26 (Friday night and Saturday)
Two-day multi-church conference for women to empower their spirit find their freedom. Half-price early bird group rate tickets available! Contact Mona Petersen at 954-598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc

Membership:

Name Tags for Sale Sunday, December 9: 9:20am to 10:55am

The Membership Team 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 Member Orientation:

Become a member of our First Pres family Sunday, December 9, from 12 – 12:30pm in the Binger Conference Room, S-114 (1st floor of the church building, in the Apostles hallway).

Christian Women Connect:

Final session of *Under Wraps Advent Bible Study*. Women’s Ministry Annual Christmas Celebration Luncheon: Thursday, December 13, 11:30am – 1:30pm with special guest Dr. Heather Clark. For information and location, connect with Mona Petersen 954-598-9345 / MonaP@firstpres.cc

Advent has begun and we are in need of 8 families or individuals to light the candles on our Advent Wreaths at each of our weekly worship services (8:30am, 9:30am, 11am) on December 9, 16 and 23, as well as at the 6:30pm and 10pm Christmas Eve services on Monday, December 24. Please CALL Barb Yatrous at 954-598-9311, or e-mail BarbaraY@firstpres.cc as soon as possible to reserve your spot! Dates will be reserved on a first come, first served basis!

SERRV Sale: Sunday, December 2, 9, and 16

8:30am - 1pm, in the Spanish Room
Join us at SERRV in our fight against poverty. You have the power to make a positive change in a life with a purchase. Unique handicrafts represent the best in global artistry and traditional craftsmanship. At Christmas, shop with purpose and love.

Christmas Gift Bazaar Shopping Extravaganza

Saturday, December 15, 3 – 7pm
Before you head to the Boat Parade, stop by to check off your Christmas shopping list! Over 20 vendors will showcase their beautiful creations, jewelry, beauty products and holiday decor! Do you have your own business and want to participate? Space is still available. For more information, please contact Cindy Vason 954-598-9341.

KIRK SINGER CORNER

Help the Kirk Singers spread the love as they travel in the summer of 2019! All funds raised will help defray the cost of the 2019 Kirk Singer Tour and/or the 2019 High School Mission Trip.

HoneyBaked Gift Cards – TODAY!

The Kirk Singers will be selling HoneyBaked gift cards until December 16. 20% of the proceeds will benefit the Kirk Singers! Look for the table outside after worship or purchase online at: https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/First_Presbyterian_Church_Kirk_Singers (If you order online, shipping is free. For Donation Credit, please put “Kirk Singers”).

Wreath Sales – TODAY!

Beautiful Fraser Fir Christmas Wreaths:
24” Decorated Wreath - \$35, 24” Undecorated Wreath - \$30

For more information please contact ksfundraisers@firstpres.cc
Thank you for supporting the Kirk Singers!

**CHURCH WIDE
ADVENT BIBLE STUDY**

WE HAVE PREPARED A SEAT FOR YOU
PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR CHRISTMAS

BECAUSE OF
Bethlehem
LOVE IS BORN, HOPE IS HERE



Three consecutive
Wednesday evenings

**Dec 5, Dec 12
and Dec 19**

Fellowship Hall

Dinner:
5:00pm
Study:
6:30pm

Register by Sunday, December 2
Connect with Mona Petersen 954.598.9345 /MonaP@firstpres.cc



11 AM

**December 2, 2018
First Sunday of Advent**

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.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Today the Candle of Hope is lit. Consider hope. Hope is neither vague nor vain; it is the ground of a loving, welcoming, boundary transcending witness that claims the Word-make-flesh breaking into this world with love and justice. We live such hope in the way in which we meet neighbors, pray, serve, and mentor each other in faithfulness. Hope is a leadership quality. How does hope take shape in your view of what scripture calls us to believe and do?

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS REV. DR. PATRICK H. WRISLEY

OPENING VOLUNTARY “The Holly and the Ivy” SUSAN DODD, *piano*
– English Carol RICHARD HANCOCK, *clarinet*

CANDLE LIGHTING

One: Companion God, we begin our Advent journey anew.

All: Illumine for us a shining path to You.

One: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

*As the Lord has promised, in days to come...
The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
And their spears into pruning hooks;*

**All: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
Neither shall they learn war anymore.**
(Isaiah 2:4)

*The Lighting of the first Advent candle will be done by Nikki Diefenbach,
David Wallace, Dash Wallace, D’Leah Heller, Riley, Aiden and Connor Miller.*

PRAYER

Holy One, we light this candle, a flicker of starlight,
A sign of belonging, of growth,
Of possibility, of awe and wonder.
May it be a reminder of your divine spark,
Kindling new beginnings within us.
Hope be born among us!
We wait in hope with all your people
Through the ages and into tomorrow. Amen.

***HYMN 9** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(in unison)* REV. NICHOLAS B. MERCHANT
**Lord, we have sinned, without considering how much You love us.
You see our sins more clearly than we can ourselves.
Lord, You know when we are indifferent to Your Word, the Bible;
how often we forget to pray;
the times we come unwillingly to worship;
and yet we turn to You when we are in trouble.
Lord, You know when we are untruthful
and when we think evil of others.
You see our anger and unfairness to our friends.
You know how hard it is for us to forgive.
Forgive us and make us clean,
so that we can obey Your call to take up Your cross and follow You.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

ANTHEM “Prepare!” (from *Canticle of Joy*) CATHEDRAL CHOIR
– Joseph M. Martin

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 25: 1-10 O.T. PAGE 502

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE 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 “Prepare the Way of the Lord” (Is. 40:4-5) KIRK SINGERS
– William Rowan *Soloists:* Nathan Mahon, Cameron Young

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND ILLUMINATION**

PREACHING TEXT Luke 21: 25-36 N.T. PAGE 85

THE MESSAGE REV. DR. PATRICK H. WRISLEY
“Our Basic Christian Knowledge of the Future –
Why Do We Begin with the End in Mind?”

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Please partake of the elements as they are served to you.

***HYMN 2** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” HYFRYDOL

***INVITATION AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” SUSAN DODD, *organ*
– arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

WELCOME GUESTS!

- Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshment outside the Neumann Center 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
- For families with young children: 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:

- **9:30am** in the Neumann Center – All children will come together during the Contemporary worship service for a children’s message and then will be led by their teachers to their respective classrooms. • PreK 3 & 4 in Room NC 120 • K-5th grade in Rooms NC 219, 221, 223 (2nd floor)
- **11am** Children’s Chapel in Watts Chapel (PreK4-5th grade)
- Nursery care is available during all 3 services in Room NC 126

THE CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION IS EXTENDED:

To Ross, Aleyso, and Daniella Bridger on the passing of Ross’s uncle, Edward M. Haley, on November 26, 2018 in Shady Valley, Tennessee.

WE WELCOME Richard Hancock as our guest instrumentalist for this morning’s service. Mr. Hancock has played here on numerous occasions. He is principal clarinetist for several orchestras in South Florida and also teaches privately.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY: Rev. Dr. Patrick H. Wrisley, *Senior Pastor*, Rev. Nicholas B. Merchant, *Associate Pastor*

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL are given in loving memory of Basil and Helen DiRato and Richard DiRato, given by Tara and Chris DiRato.

WORSHIP FLOWERS Please call 954-462-6200.

Available dates: December 16, December 30
Our Deacons weekly divide the altar flowers that are not taken by the sender and deliver them to our Care Connects and to any others who might need cheering up. If you have any unused bud vases, thank you for bringing them to church for use by our Deacons in this ministry.

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:
Yvonne Bachman – call pager number 954-823-0118

***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.***

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

We offer breakfast in the St. Andrew’s Room Sunday mornings, 9am – 10:45am. 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

Hanging of the Greens TONIGHT!

Sunday, December 2, 5pm
First Presbyterian Church has a wonderful tradition of kicking off our Advent Season with a “Hanging of the Greens” special celebration. . Our Sanctuary will be beautifully decorated, bagpipers will lead us in song and the children’s choirs will sing. Our annual “Blessing of the Newborns” will also take place. All are invited to join us for a cookie and wassail reception following the service in the Fellowship Hall. **Cookies are still needed! You may drop off in the kitchen servery before worship tonight!** We look forward to sharing this tradition with you. Don’t forget to invite a friend to this family friendly service!

Angel Tree

THANK YOU to everyone who chose an angel tag and returned the gift! If you weren’t able to bring your wrapped gift (gift receipt included) today, please bring it to the service tonight or drop it off at the church office during regular office hours by Wednesday, December 5th so the team has time to ensure that each child receives the gift intended for him or her. If you would like to help at our Angel Tree party next Sunday afternoon, please sign up on the Connect Card or call the church office by Wednesday. This is a really fun way to serve our local community! We also need lots of cookies, so please drop some off in the kitchen on Sunday morning.

AAC [Adult Activity Center]

Thursday, December 6 at 11:15 am in Fellowship Hall
Happening this week: Marie Alicata - “The Electric Lady,” Performs Christmas Songs and Favorite Standards. This will be our SERRV Christmas Shopping Day. Get a head start on your holiday shopping! Cost: \$9, Menu Selection: Spaghetti & Meatballs. RSVP by Monday mornings at 10am to Laura Ziegler, 954-598-9312 / LauraZ@firstpres.cc.

We still have spots open for our **AAC December Day Excursion**, Journey to the South Seas – A Day at the world-famous Mai-Kai on Tuesday, December 18, and now taking reservations for the January 15 Day Excursion to Flamingo Gardens and Buffet Lunch at Jacaranda Country Club. Call the AAC office TODAY to reserve your spot!

Annual Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 16 at 4pm. The Cathedral Choir and members of the Symphony of the Americas will present an exciting concert of choral Christmas music, including a suite from “The Many Moods of Christmas,” along with other music celebrating Christ’s birth. There is no admission charge. Plan to come and bring a friend!