

Season of Peace

Join others throughout our PC(USA) Presbyterian Churches this month for a four-week pilgrimage to deepen the pursuit of peace in our congregations and families. Daily "Path of Peace" reflections are available for you to download to define and deepen your calling as a peacemaker. This year's reflections celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Commitment to Peacemaking. Begun in 1983, the Commitment has offered a tool to Presbyterian congregations and worshiping communities to shape their peacemaking ministries. The Season of Peace will conclude on World Communion Sunday (Oct. 1) with the taking of the Peace and Global Witness Offering. To sign up for the daily reflections go to: www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/season-peace.

F.I.S.H. Sunday is next Sunday

First Presbyterian Church supports F.I.S.H. (Friends in Serving Humanity) which is a non-profit organization that delivers food to those who are homebound and not able to go to one of our Food Banks. The director of F.I.S.H., Raissa D'Antonio, will be here next Sunday to share about F.I.S.H. with our congregation. The children will be bagging rice during Godly Play and you are invited to bring pasta to help us reach our monthly goal of donating 100 pounds of pasta. Bring your donations of pasta and your children and grandchildren!

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CALENDAR ITEMS

Sunday, September 17

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class – The Third Festival
11:00 a.m. Worship and Godly Play
12:00 noon Coffee, Fellowship and Rally Day Information Tables
5:00 p.m. ECWS City Wide Orientation (St. John UMC)

Monday, September 18

Tuesday, September 19

Wednesday, September 20

5:00 M&O Committee Meeting
5:00 p.m. Handbells
6:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, September 21

6:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting

Friday, September 22

Saturday, September 23

Sunday, September 24

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class - The Third Festival
11:00 a.m. Worship and Godly Play, F.I.S.H. Service Project
12:00 p.m. Coffee, Fellowship and Rally Day Information
Tables
12:00 noon Merry Makers

Announcements for September 17

Godly Play will meet today following the “Time with Children.” Parents can pick up their children in the Godly Play room following worship.

The **childcare center** is open each Sunday during our worship service and staffed by two caring childcare providers, Andrea Dixon and Jennifer Clark. All children ages 3 months to 5 years are welcome to enjoy this space during the service. Parents are welcome to stay with their children or sign them in and pick them up after the service.

Join us Today for:

Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.: The Third Festival: Three times a year the Jews were commanded to journey to Jerusalem to celebrate major events in their history – and also explore the deeper meanings that God had hidden within those events. Christians participate in forms of two of these celebrations, Passover (Maundy Thursday / Good Friday) and Pentecost. What about the third? Join our Sunday School class this fall as we explore the many lessons from the Feast of Booths and the Day of Atonement that ushers it in. We enjoy learning from each other in this discussion-oriented class. Join us; we’d love to get to know you better and learn from you!

Worship and Godly Play at 11:00 a.m.: Children will go to Godly Play following the Children’s Time in worship for their own faith formation experience.

Rally Day Following Worship:

Check out the table displays in the narthex today and learn about ways you can get involved at First Presbyterian Church and the larger community. Children and youth can pick up a BINGO card (adults too!) to use as you explore the tables. Make your own ice cream sundae in the small dining room for all BINGO winners.

Invitation to Gather: - "Understanding our Past, Growing into the Future: Presbyterians Untangling Colonialism in Alaska"

When: after worship Sunday, Oct. 1 (12:15 pm- 1:45 pm)

What: Lunch, presentation on Alaska history from Indigenous perspective, followed by small group discussion and prayer

Why: This event is the result of the Mathew 25 Initiative group of members and friends who met at FPC over the past year.

Who: All are welcome. Bring a friend! The gathering will be facilitated by

Celia Denton and Olivia Franke of Native Movement and is hosted by the FPC Mission Committee.

Where: Fellowship Hall

Food: We’ll provide pizza, salad and cookies; potluck dishes welcome.

Please RSVP to Danna Larson (dllsitka@gmail.com) by noon on Thursday, Sept. 28.

City Wide Volunteer ECWS Meeting is Tonight

All volunteers and others interested in learning about the ECWS (Emergency Cold Weather Shelter) ministry plans for this year are encouraged to attend an orientation for all the area church volunteers involved in the ECWS. This meeting will be held tonight (Sunday, Sept. 17) at St. John United Methodist Church (1801 O’Malley Rd) from 5-7:00 p.m. The meeting will include an overview of how the ECWS fits into the big picture of “homelessness”, how ECWS is making a difference in our community, and how do we best meet families where they are at (trauma/de-escalation). Many of the ways we work together as churches will be highlighted as well.

First Presbyterian Church will be hosting the ECWS on Monday nights again this year and will need volunteers to help in different roles from 5:00 p.m. Monday to 9:00 a.m. Tuesday morning. Check out information at the ECWS Table today for more information or contact Danna Larson (dllsitka@gmail.com) or Marcus Geist (marcus.geist@gmail.com). We will have a meeting in mid-October with our First Presbyterian Church volunteers to fine tune our plan for the year after we have experienced a few Mondays at the shelter.

Merry Makers

Please join us after church on September 24, for a simple lunch in the library, and bring your projects to show off! Husbands are welcome to join in. If you have questions, please contact Susan Schnering at 907-213-9030 or sschnering@aol.com