

The Sanctuary Renovations are on Target

The painting is completed, the new carpeting is installed, the newly refinished pews are re-set and newly upholstered seating is WELL UNDERWAY! If you would like to see what has been selected, a color and fabric sample display board is in the Neumann Center entryway.

We need smiling faces to help us welcome members, visitors and guests to each of our three worship services as an usher! If you like to smile and enjoy meeting new people, please contact Ellen Whiteman at 954-598-9360 or at EllenW@firstpres.cc and let her know that you're ready to serve! We'll be looking for you!

New Principal of Happyland Day School Announced

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Corey Thiel has been appointed as the new Principal of Happyland Day School. Corey has been a teacher at Happyland for eight years. Before her employment here, she served as the President of the Happyland Parent's Club. Corey has also served for more than seventeen years as both a teacher and in the administration of other private schools in this area. You can contact her at CoreyT@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9351. Please join the church in welcoming Corey!

We welcome you to Elevate!

Elevate is student-led worship for High School students and will launch on **September 16** at 7pm. Each Wednesday High School students can come and enjoy community with friends, Bible study, worship and small group discussion. Elevate will be held in the youth center following Homework in the Harbor. The student worship team has been working hard all summer preparing. A huge thank you goes out to Andrew Storrs for his hard work preparing and discipling the new worship team. We welcome students to bring a friend! Contact Nic Merchant or Ayla Kohler for any questions at NicM@firstpres.cc and AylaK@firstpres.cc.

Mission Possible Kids: Where Kids Change the World

New Agent Training: Wednesday, September 16, 6pm, St. Andrew's Rm. If you're in Grades 1-5, if you want to make a difference in the world, if you want to show the grown-up agents how it's done, YOU can become a Special Agent with *Mission Possible Kids*. For more info, Contact Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341 or CindyV@firstpres.cc.

The Adult Activity Center (AAC)

Join us on Thursday, September 17 in our newly renovated Fellowship Hall for our first AAC for the year 2015-2016. A newsletter will be mailed out in two weeks with all the details. If you aren't on our mailing list please let Tricia know if you would like to get our AAC Newsletter. Please let Tricia know at 954-598-9344 or TriciaY@firstpres.cc

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Main: 954-462-6200

To reach a staff member's direct line, dial 954-598-9, then the extension. A full staff listing can be found on our website at www.firstpres.cc.

Rev. Dr. Russell H. Ritchel, Jr., Transitional Pastor
RussR@firstpres.cc (ext 310)

Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Benek,
Associate Pastor of Family Ministries and Mission
ChrisB@firstpres.cc (ext 314)

Rev. Dr. Richard B. Anderson, Parish Associate
RichardA@firstpres.cc (ext 330)

Children's Ministry
Cindy Vason, Director
CindyV@firstpres.cc (ext 341)

Happyland Day School
Corey Thiel, Principal
CoreyT@firstpres.cc (ext 351)

Youth Ministry
Nic Merchant, Director
NicM@firstpres.cc (ext 361)

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Robin L. McEachern,
Minister of Music
RobinM@firstpres.cc (ext 322)

Congregational Care and Senior Adult Ministry
Tricia Young, Director
TriciaY@firstpres.cc (ext 344)

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Adult Education and First Communities Small Groups
Mona Petersen, Director
MonaP@firstpres.cc (ext 345)

Administration
Steve Wofford,
Church Administrator
SteveW@firstpres.cc (ext. 333)
JoEllen Glade, Director of Finance
JoEllenG@firstpres.cc (ext 335)
David Sestrich, Facilities Manager
DaveS@firstpres.cc (ext 348)

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



11 AM

August 30, 2015

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

PIANO

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

REV. DR. RUSSELL H. RITCHEL, JR.

Leader: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

People: Let us welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save our souls.

Leader: Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers, so you may be blessed in all you do.

People: Pure religion is to care for orphans and widows and not to be stained by the world.

Leader: Let us worship God!

***HYMN 443 (see insert) "O Christ, the Great Foundation" AURELIA**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)**

O God, redeem us, for we stand in need of forgiveness. We squander Your mercy when we abuse Your creation. We slander our neighbors and seek not Your peace. Nations rise up against nations, and threats of terrorism fill the air. Those who work find no hope of relief. The homeless wander without protection from harm. Christ had compassion on all those who suffered. Cleanse us of the sin that closes our hearts to our brothers and sisters and hear us now as we offer you our silent personal confession...

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Amazing Grace"**

**Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.**

**I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.**

ANTHEM "In All Things God Works for Our Good" CATHEDRAL CHOIR
— Lloyd Larson

***RESPONSIVE PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Leader: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: We believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the
third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven; He is
seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come
to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER CONCERNS

REV. DR. RICHARD B. ANDERSON

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Online giving is available by going to www.firstpres.cc, clicking the tab labeled
GIVE, and following the prompts.*

OFFERTORY "River In Judea" CATHEDRAL CHOIR
— arr. John Leavitt

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23 N.T. PAGE 42

MESSAGE

REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER J. BENEK
"Understanding Our Intentions"

***HYMN 403 (see insert)** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" CONVERSE

***BENEDICTION**

WELCOME GUESTS!

- Thank you for joining us in worship in our newly renovated Fellowship Hall while our Sanctuary is presently undergoing renovation. A color and fabric sample display board is in the Neumann Center entryway for those who would like to see what has been selected. Please join us for a time of fellowship after worship!
- First Presbyterian is also the home of Happyland Day School, a quality preschool for over sixty years. For more info, call 954-463-6051.

THE CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION IS EXTENDED TO:

Beth Flowers, Ann Brodbeck and family on the death of mother and grandmother, Mary Line, on July 29, 2015 in Ohio.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:

Phillip Paul Garofalo— Westside Regional Medical Center

WORSHIP FLOWERS Please contact Emily Furdock at 954-462-6200 or EmilyF@firstpres.cc. Available dates: September 27, October 11 and 18.

THE PRAYER PAGER MINISTRY enables you to let people know that you have just prayed for them. Please call Tricia Young at 954-598-9344, if you, or someone you know, could use this means of caring support.

This week, please pray for:

Ted Stephany — call pager number: 954-823-0115

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IN NEED OF PRAYER?

The prayer ministry team would like to pray with you. At the end of the service, come to the front of Fellowship Hall, and you will find a team member ready to pray with you. Prayer requests may be noted on the Connect Card inserted in your bulletin, then place it in the offering plate, and your prayer request will be added to our weekly Prayer Chain.

ALL ARE INVITED TO A PRAYER GROUP to pray for our church, pastors, staff and ministries. The prayer group that typically meets at 10:30 am in the Bininger room before the 11am service will be held in Chapel-in-the-Sky, located on the third floor of the Neumann Center.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Save the Date • September 13 • Food and Fun for our Fall Kickoff!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 13 for our annual Rally Day event. We will kick off our Fall programs and celebrate our newly renovated Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Ministry tables will be available to help you discover learning and serving opportunities for this Fall. During the 9:30 worship service, children will have an opportunity to meet their Sunday school teachers. Immediately following, there will be special music, light brunch, and children's activities such as crafts, a balloon artist, and even a petting zoo. So please join us for this special day and find out where you can get plugged in at First Pres!

Kirk Singer and Chapel Singer Rehearsals Resume Today.

Kirk Singer rehearsal (for grades 9-12) is 5 - 6 pm and Chapel Singer rehearsal (grades 6-8) is 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the Choir Room.

All middle school and high school students are welcome to attend!

Friends of Women of Faith is cancelled for Tuesday, September 1 and will resume in October.

First Still Cares starting this Tuesday, September 1 at 1 pm in the Spanish Room. So spread the word and let us know of anyone in our family who might be struggling with the pain of loss. Whether it is a spouse, a job, or an opportunity in the community, we all struggle with loss and First Cares will be there for you. Contact Tim Dobbins at TimD@firstpres.cc or 954-598-9332.

Caregiver Support Group!

Do you help or assist a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or any other form of memory loss? Caregivers often experience feelings of fear, concern and stress. Fortunately, there is hope and help. First Pres Church is hosting a Caregiver Support Group the first Wednesday of each month from 11 am to 12:30 pm in the Study and Renewal Center. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 2. For more information, please contact Tricia Young at 954-598-9344.

What is MOPS?

MOPS is a group designed to help moms grow and flourish as they connect with other moms. Join us for this year's theme: *A Fierce Flourishing*. This is the year to experience flourishing by: Celebrating Lavishly, Embracing Rest, and Noticing Goodness as women, mothers and wives. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

First Meeting: Wednesday, September 2, 9:15-11:30 am
2nd Floor of the Neumann Center, Cost: \$8 per meeting (to cover the cost of materials and childcare). For more information, please email FPCMOPS@gmail.com or call Cindy Vason at 954-598-9341.

Many Hands (Really DO) Make Light Work!

All are invited to join us for fun fellowship as we do a **Reverse Hymnal Haul** in our newly renovated Sanctuary!

When? Thursday, September 10 beginning at 8:30 am!

Continental breakfast will be provided to all volunteers!

What time? Beginning at 8:30 am until completion

Where? The Sanctuary

Tasks? Re-stocking the pew racks with pens, pew envelopes, etc.
AND unpacking the Hymnals and pew Bibles and putting them back into the pews!

Sign up on your Connect Card or contact Barb Yatrousis at BarbaraY@firstpres.cc to confirm your attendance!!

2015 Officer Nominations

In your bulletins this morning you will find the 2015 Nominating Committee Brochure. Please submit the names of those whom you feel would serve well as an Elder, Trustee or Deacon either through this brochure or by e-mailing your nominees to **nominations@firstpres.cc**. Deadline is September 14, 2015.