

This Week @ First



Budget & Finance Team Stewardship and Giving

THANKS GIVING DINNER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ NOON – WESTMINSTER OAKS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 @ 6 PM – WESTMINSTER ROOM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 @ 6 PM – WESTMINSTER ROOM

We are gathering the church together with the intention of listening to how our lives have been shaped in generosity. We invite you to join us at one of three meals where we will share stories and talk about where we hope to go as we walk forth in God's grace.

Please [register at this link](#) or call the church office to sign up.

Worship & Music

To watch our Sunday worship at 11 AM, connect with us on [YouTube](#) (find the bulletin [here](#))! Click the bolded words to follow the links each week.

Care & Outreach

Join us in the Westminster Room immediately following worship on October 1st to honor our beloved Ms. Julia Simmons and her grandson, Jabaris. We will collect cards in a basket in the narthex on Sunday morning and present them to her and Jabaris at the reception.

Spiritual Formation

Adult Church School: Inquirers will meet in the Westminster Room to continue our Bonhoeffer series with a look at "Bonhoeffer and Justice." The Bible Study will meet in the Calvin Room with an option to join by [Zoom](#), and will consider Ecclesiastes chapters 10-12.

Children's Church School: Our children will meet in room 306 for the lesson "Finding God's Ways."

Abundant Life Series: Please share your ideas for abundant life pop-up events with any member of the Spiritual Formation team. You can also email them to Emily Bruno at bruno.emilyann@gmail.com.

A Celebration of Music at First Presbyterian

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023 AT 3 PM
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Featuring

- Carla Connors
- Tim Hoekman
- Judy Arthur
- Ken Kronholz
- Elizabeth LaJeunesse
- Ethan Murphy
- and the 2023-2024 Choral Scholars: Maddie Schneider, Jessica Johns, Tiger Davis, Christopher Martinez, and Dorian Carr

Reception following the performance in the Westminster Room



First Presbyterian Church

110 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Phone: (850) 222-4504
Fax: (850) 222-2215

Email: office@oldfirstchurch.org
Website: www.oldfirstchurch.org
www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

Published on September 29, 2023

Worship Team — Communion Preparation

Members of the Worship Team will be in the sanctuary at 10 AM on October 1, November 5, and December 3 (Sundays) for "How to Prepare Communion" training. No previous experience is required and signing up is not necessary. Members of all ages are welcome!

Compassion & Social Justice

Volunteers are still needed to serve at Grace Mission on Sunday, October 8. We meet at 4 PM and are finished by 6 PM. If you can help, contact Carol Weissert or sign up [here](#).

Community Announcement: Tallahassee Citizens Against the Death Penalty

"I realize that I cannot stand by silently as my government executes its citizens. If I do not speak out and resist, I am an accomplice." Sr. Helen Prejean

Michael Zack is scheduled to be executed in Florida on Tuesday, October 3, at 6 PM. Mr. Zack was sentenced to death by a vote of 11-1 and is facing execution for the 1996 murder of Ravonne Smith. He was previously sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for the 1996 murder of Laura Rosillo.

Tallahassee Citizens Against the Death Penalty will gather outside the Governor's Mansion shortly before 6 PM on October 3 and will hold a vigil during the execution. On Wednesday, October 4, at noon, TCADP will hold a service of remembrance at the State Capitol remembering Michael Zack and his victims.

Pastor's Note

Earlier this year the church received a ReKindle Grant from Columbia Theological Seminary for \$10,000. ReKindle is a Lilly Endowment-funded grant initiative to "support a congregation's capacity to enhance their vitality in a post-COVID-19 context." Greta Reed and I met with other grant recipients early this week in Atlanta. One of our first steps will be to form a ReKindle leadership team who will work with the Session as elders continue the mission acceleration work begun with the Presbyterian Foundation.

At the Session retreat, our elders found consensus in two core values: Justice and Tradition. Justice is defined as pursuing what is fair and morally right. Tradition is defined as respecting an established way of how things have been done. The secondary values identified were spiritual growth, community, and helping, defined respectively as seeking connection to a higher power, feeling a meaningful connection to a group of people, and taking care of others and meeting their needs.

Two things I'd ask: I invite you to reflect on these five core values and contemplate how your life of faith in Christ is shaped by them, and to pray specifically for this work of Rekindling.

God's peace, God's presence.

Anne

2023 International Peacemaker Visit

Many thanks to all those who helped us welcome Reverend Alison Infante during his visit to our area as one of the 2023 International Peacemakers selected by the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Special thanks to Stan Williams and his team of drivers, including Beth Pulliam, John Guthrie, Kaye Crowell, Jim Apple, Mary Kutter, and Sue Hightower; and to all those who participated in fellowship around the table, especially dinner hosts Mary and Glenn Hodges, Marian and Walter Moore, and Robyn and Larry Stevenson.

During his time with us Alison met students at UKirk, met several local pastors, and spoke to the Inquirer's class and a group of Westminster Oaks residents, in addition to preaching on Sunday morning. He visited Dogwood Acres, where Christy Williams and a small group explored the camp with him. John Mayo, Debbie Gibson, and Carol Wynn served as tour guides and introduced him to local history. Stan Williams and Ruben Diaz took him to the town of St. Mark's when an excursion to Wakulla Springs was rained out.

Alison will visit congregations in New Mexico and Michigan before rejoining the other International Peacemakers in Louisville and then returning to Cuba. We give thanks for the friendships that were created and strengthened by his visit.

