

# This Week @ First

## Worship & Music

To watch our Sunday worship at 11 AM, connect with us on [YouTube](#) (find the bulletin [here](#))!

**Invitation to Repair:** This is the fifth week in our Lenten Pilgrimage. As the Lenten journey continues, we invite you to see the world around you each week in Lent and allow the Spirit to draw your eyes to see the overlooked, discarded and forgotten objects and people. As you are able, bring these, or an object that represents these, to worship to create a visual cairn this Lent on Christ's Table.

## Spiritual Formation

**Church School:** The Inquirer's class will meet in the Westminster Room and by [Zoom](#) to continue our series on "Disposability." The Adult Bible Study will resume later in the spring. The children's class will meet in Room 306. Classes begin at 9:30 AM.

The Lenten Lunch and Learn Bible Study will conclude on Thursday, March 21 at noon in the Calvin Room; bring a bag lunch.

## Personnel Team

The Personnel Ministry Team has begun searching for a Communications and Administrative Coordinator. The [job description](#) is posted on our website. The best candidates often come from personal recommendations! If you know someone you think would be a good fit, please share that information with Pastor Apple and Donna Barber, Chair of the Personnel Ministry Team.

## Compassion & Social Justice

If you are interested in becoming part of the **Healing Racism Task Force**, please call or email Ann Westall at [adwestall@gmail.com](mailto:adwestall@gmail.com).

CAJM will hold a rally from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM on March 18 at the Old West Florida Enrichment Center, 2344 Lake Bradford Road. For more information visit the CAJM [website](#).

To learn more about our lunch snack pack ministry or to volunteer, please contact Carol Weissert.



*This winter the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team partnered with the Compassion and Social Justice Ministry Team for several adult Sunday school classes. One of the presentations was by DISC Village Community Outreach Coordinator Lisa Sherry.*

*This week we saw fruition from this collaborative ministry event. We have installed a Naloxone box. Pictured at left are Theresa Heiker and Erica, from DISC Village.*

*This note was received from the presenter: "I wanted to say thank you to you and your team at First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee for your willingness to support our efforts at harm reduction strategies for the opioid crisis in our community! We will check the stand on a regular basis to restock the Naloxone supplies."*

## Congregational Meeting

The Session is calling a Congregational Meeting at the end of worship on Palm Sunday, March 24th, to elect the slates of the Elder Class of 2026, a new class of Trustees, two members to the endowment committee, and the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

## Care and Outreach

For the next two Sundays we will be collecting eggs to use in the Easter egg hunt. Please fill eggs with stickers, candy, etc. and leave them in the box outside the church office. Thank you!

### First Presbyterian Church

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# Pastor's Note

This week's pastoral note comes from the Envisioning Reconciliation Committee (ERC). We acknowledge the ERC report endorsed by the Session and presented at the State of the Church meeting during the Inquirer's Class on February 25 may be as hard to read and receive in places as the year-long journey. With intention, the process focused on a difficult time in the congregation's life. Hearing and holding the diversity of the stories was hard work, as was reading and receiving the report and its key findings and recommendations.

The most robust finding that emerged for us, and all of us together, was the strong sense of belonging at First Presbyterian Church. The depth of connection was described repeatedly as the best of what it means to be part of the First Presbyterian Church family. And that belonging, in part, is why the conflict crisis was so painful. We believe this work has been helpful and will assist this congregation in moving forward, knowing that healing takes time. The recommendations reflect where we think there are opportunities to strengthen and grow in faith together.

The intent to create space for the work of the Spirit and God's restoration has always been the priority of the ERC's work. The report is not a judgment; it is a description of our key findings and recommendations after a yearlong prayerful process with multiple components. We served together as a group. One of our findings recognized the lack of structure for healthy communication. We will reopen the email address [Restoration@OldFirstChurch.org](mailto:Restoration@OldFirstChurch.org) to receive any specific questions you may have in the spirit of striving for understanding.

Anne Apple  
Jane Atkinson  
Glenn Hodges  
Greta Reed  
Stan Williams

## Palm Sunday Labyrinth Walk

Please join us following worship and the Congregational Meeting on Palm Sunday for a labyrinth walk in the courtyard. This ancient spiritual practice invites us to bring our bodies into our prayer as we embark on a "mini pilgrimage" that centers us as we set our faces towards Jerusalem, and journey with Jesus this Holy Week.



Second Sunday fellowship

## Dogwood Acres

**Mission Day — Saturday, March 16.** Building and repair projects for all skill levels. Lunch will be provided; please RSVP to Christy Williams ([christy@dogwoodacres.org](mailto:christy@dogwoodacres.org)) to be included in the lunch count.

**Summer Camp 2024** — Save \$50 by registering before April 1st. Scholarships are available by contacting Program Director Eric Hearn ([eric@dogwoodacres.org](mailto:eric@dogwoodacres.org)). Program descriptions are available on the Dogwood Acres website.



Reminder: The Presbyterian Women Annual Gathering, "Renewal of Spirit," will take place tomorrow, March 16 at Faith Presbyterian from 9 AM to 4 PM.

*"Blessed are those who die in the Lord." Having prayed for Bob Piccard, brother of Mary Vance, through his illness and death, we trust that he now rests eternally with God. Bob died on March 6, and a memorial service will be held at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church on Saturday, April 13, at 11:30 AM.*

To submit an announcement for an upcoming issue of *This Week @ First*, please use [this updated link](#).