

This Week @ First

Worship & Music

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

Congregational Meeting

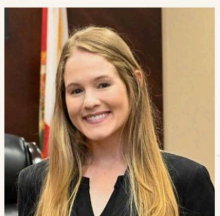
On Sunday, February 9, there will be a short congregational meeting at the end of worship to approve a change to the Designated Pastor's terms of call in connection with the 2025 budget. The budget contemplates a 3% cost of living increase and an increase from 50% to 60% of a full-time position.

Independence Landing Arbor Day Tree Planting

On Saturday, February 15 at 9:00 AM there will be an Arbor Day tree planting at [Independence Landing](#), a residential facility for intellectually/cognitively disabled young adults in Southwood. The tree planting is being funded by Olivia's Tree Fund of [Sustainable Tallahassee](#) and supported by the Community Carbon Fund and All Pro Landscaping, who will be auguring the planting holes for us before Saturday. We are inviting members of the congregation to join Daniel Jordan and the members of the CSJ committee to join us for this special day. Independence Landing is at 3025 School House Rd in Southwood. Bring a shovel, your work gloves, and a friend and help Independence Landing and the environment at the same time! For more information, contact [Debbie Gibson](#).

Save the Date:

The Healing Racism Task Force and Care and Outreach Team will host a potluck lunch after worship on Sunday, February 23, in the Westminster Room, in celebration of Black History Month. Our speaker will be [Ted Ellis](#), director of the Civil Rights Institute at FSU. All are welcome!



Congratulations to Kelly Ann Kennedy Broadway, who was awarded the Thomas M. Ervin Jr. Distinguished Young Lawyer Award at a Tallahassee Bar Association dinner on February 5th!

Spiritual Formation

Sunday School—Youth

All youth are invited at 9:30 AM each week! Grades K–5 in room 306. Middle and High School Students in room 301. A nursery will be available starting at 9:15 AM.

“Feasting on the Word” Lectionary-Based Bible Study

Calvin Room and via [Zoom](#), 9:30 – 10:30 AM.

This class meets weekly to engage and discuss selected texts from our Lectionary readings.

The **Inquirer's class** will not meet this week; watch for information on upcoming classes, including a Lenten series based on Adam Hamilton's *The Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World*.

Guided Meditation continues on Sunday mornings at 10:30 in the Library.

The Spiritual Formation Team is in need of volunteers to assist our teachers in the Elementary and Middle/High School classes, and to assist in our nursery. Please contact [Mary Kutter](#) to find out more.

Compassion and Social Justice

Snack pack and Laundry Love volunteers are invited from 10:00 to noon on Wednesdays. For information on volunteering, speak to Debbie Gibson.

This Sunday, February 9, we will be helping to serve dinner at Grace Mission starting at 4 PM. Sign up [here](#) or contact Carol Weissert for more information.

PW Winter Gathering



The Presbyterian Women's Winter Gathering will take place this Sunday, February 9, following worship, in the Westminster Room. Please bring a salad to share; dessert will be provided. Our speaker is Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven, the minister at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church, one of the happiest, most uplifting people you will ever meet, and someone who finds joy everywhere. The title of her talk is “Justice in Action: Let's Face It!”

First Presbyterian Church

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Moving Beyond the Confession of the Sin of Racism to Repair

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

**I'M STILL
HERE
BLACK
DIGNITY IN
A WORLD
MADE FOR
WHITENESS
AUSTIN CHANNING
BROWN**



A year ago, we placed a plaque on the outside of the sanctuary acknowledging that our history included the sin of racism and promised to “commit ourselves to repairing racism’s breach, that God’s beloved community might take form to and around us.” The Task Force on Healing Racism is sharing weekly resources to deepen our understanding of the costs of that sin and to inspire us to act.

To continue to honor and celebrate Black History Month, the Task Force on Healing Racism recommends the film, “42.” It is a docudrama describing the racism on and off the field that Jackie Robinson faced as the first Black baseball player in Major League Baseball when he signed with the then-Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. The film is available on Peacock, Apple, MAX, and Prime streaming sites. We also recommend *I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Channing Brown. The book describes how the author navigated her life in mostly white environments in the U.S by crossing the racial divide and teaching institutions how to put diversity into action. She also shows how white middle class evangelism has participated in increased racial hostility. The book is available in the public library.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact any member of the Healing Racism Task Force: Debbie Gibson, Sue Hightower, Ann Hingst, Mary Hodges, Pam McVety, Marian Moore, Walter Moore, Sue Safford, Linda Smith, Deborah Whisnant, Aide Whitaker, and Ann Westall, Chair.

Save the Date



Saturday, March 8, 2025

2025 Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Florida
118th Gathering

Dogwood Acres Summer Camp and Retreat Center
3320 Harmony Rd, Chipley, FL 32428

9:00 am CDT - Registration, Check-In, & Light Morning Refreshments

10:00 am CDT - Worship

Memorial Service

Annual Meeting

Lunch



**“Caring for Creation & Others:
Do What is Yours to Do”**

Registration Info emailed by Monday, February 3
Share with all PW in your congregation and join us for this historic day!

Questions? Contact: Sandra Winslett @ 850-516-9875

To submit information to be included in the newsletter and/or the Sunday bulletin (as space permits), please use [this link](#), which will take you to an online form. Thank you!



Dogwood Acres after the Great Blizzard of '25