



# FIRST NEWS

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ



## Ornate or Austere



Before, during, and after the Reformation, there has been a history of iconoclasm. Iconoclasm is when, for religious or political significance, art is destroyed. There is a long history of the destruction of sacred art. The reasons for this are many, but at the heart of iconoclasm, is the concept that sacred and ornate art distracts believers from hearing the Word and the Word proclaimed. Good morning, thank you thanks for all you are doing.

At the time of the Reformation, and as part of our history as Presbyterians within the Christian Church, Reformed Christians have traditionally focused on more austere, simple or clear windows. The clarity of windows is to center our focus on our accurate view of the world that we are called to serve. We are to have an unencumbered view, and we are not to be distracted from seeing the world as it really exists.

Certainly, over the years, the inclusion of sacred art in the Reformed tradition has been reclaimed in favor. The example is the inclusion of our faceted glass windows in our sanctuary during the 1970s. The faceted glass windows are beautiful and add to the character and color of our congregation.



CONTINUED →



Thus, as we examine the new construction of our sanctuary, what are we to do? Our focus is to do both. When the conceptual designs are viewed, both the narthex and the sanctuary reveal our reformed and reforming theology. In both settings, worshipers will find the beauty of the faceted glass windows on display in a higher position than they are placed now. Worshipers will also experience the clear windows throughout our facilities, representing our responsibility to serve the world in which we live.

In the reform tradition, we often describe ourselves as the church reformed and always reforming. This will be on clear display in our new sanctuary and narthex complex.

Please take time to review our concept drawings as they are available at the church and online. There is still time for comments. Your suggestions are important and they have added to the strength and character of our design. Please continue to pray for this endeavor, to participate in the ministries that are available, and, as you are led, to financially support "Your Sanctuary Awaits" campaign.

May God bless.

Sincerely,  
Tim



### Dr. Tim's Bible Study

Every Tuesday Morning, 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM- ish in the Schumann Conferencing Center, Center for Christian Life. Bring your Bible. The coffee is hot and the cookies delicious. Come enjoy the opportunity to 'deep dive' into Scripture.

## Discipleship

# Discipleship Planning Retreat

## March 29

## 9am -5pm

Please register by using QR Code by March 23.

Childcare upon request.





# Discipleship



Book by Lysa Terkeurst  
Thursday Evenings Starting  
March 7 at 6PM  
In Person or Zoom

email [beccapalm@gmail.com](mailto:beccapalm@gmail.com) to sign up!

Childcare is not provided.

Will be held in the Center for christian life (CCL) building

## Bless This Mess Lenten Devotional Class



Join each Monday morning  
of Lent in ET Smith 9-10am  
Class will be led by  
Jessie Kuehner.

If you can't make the class, you can still participate with the Lenten Devotional. Each weekly set of cards from a numbered envelope, and open one set per week until Easter Sunday.

You can pick up the Bless This Mess Lenten Devotional on Sundays at Children's Check-in in the Sanctuary or in the Church Office during the week.

Please contact Jessie Kuehner with any questions  
[jessiekuehner@firstpresvero.org](mailto:jessiekuehner@firstpresvero.org)

*SAVE THE DATE*

# VBS

**FPC OF VB**

**JUNE 9-13**  
**9-NOON**

Email  
[jessiekuehner@firstpresvero.org](mailto:jessiekuehner@firstpresvero.org)  
to be added to  
get emails  
updates





# Helping Hands Needed!



Could you give 2 hours a month to help?

## Sunday Mornings

- Nursery Care
  - One Sunday a Month during any of the 3 Worship Services
- Sunday School Teachers (9:40-10:30am ish)
  - One Sunday a Month teach one of our Sunday School Classes
    - Pre School
    - Kindergarten through 2nd Grade
    - 3rd through 5th Grade
    - Youth Group Sunday School (6th-12th Grade)

## Wed Afternoon and Night

- Quest (4 year olds till 5th grade)
  - Bus Drivers and Assistants (3- 4pm)
  - Bible Teachers (4- 5:15pm)
  - Dinner Table Helpers (5:15-6pm)
  - Assistant in Music Classes (5:45-6:30pm)

## Thurs Afternoon and Night

- Youth Group
  - Occasional Cooks
    - Food ready by 4:30pm
  - Youth Group Helpers
    - 4pm till 8pm or 2 hour shifts

EMAIL JESSIE FOR MORE INFORMATION.  
JESSIEKUEHNER@FIRSTPRESVERO.ORG



**YOUTH SUMMER  
SAVE THE DATES!!!**

VBS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

**JUNE 9-13**

SWIM & SCRIPTURE

**JUNE 15**

YOUTH MUSIC TRIP

**JUNE 15-21**

SUMMIT 46 FOR INCOMING  
4TH GRADERS TILL FINISHING  
6TH GRADERS

**JUNE 17-20**

YOUTH DOING SERVICE

**JUNE 25**

MONTREAT CONFERENCE

**JULY 6-12**

SWIM & SCRIPTURE

**JULY 20**

TRIENNium CONFERENCE

**JULY 28-31**

SWIM & SCRIPTURE

**AUG 17**



**Children's Ministry  
SAVE THE DATES!!!**

EASTER EGG HUNT

**APRIL 13**

QUEST END OF THE YEAR  
PARTY

**MAY 11**

SUMMER BASH

**MAY 31**

VBS (SIGN UP COMING  
SOON)

**JUNE 9-13**

SUMMIT 46 FOR INCOMING  
4TH GRADERS TILL FINISHING  
6TH GRADERS

**JUNE 17-20**

ART CAMP

**JUNE 30-JULY 3**

POPSICLES IN THE PARK

**JULY 5**

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

**JULY 11-18**

BIBLE BLAST CAMP

**JULY 21-25**

POPSICLES IN THE PARK

**AUG 2**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1. Nancy Marquardt
2. Douglas King, Julie Pelletier
3. Carol Goodfellow, Clare Jay
5. Susan Groom Horner
6. Jeanie Valentine
7. Chuck Husman
10. Bonnie Keeler, Sharon Rosen
11. John Dearman, Susie Long
12. Virginia Allen, Ellen Stryker, Richard Thomas
13. Theresa Kelso
14. Edie Collins, Mike Snyder
15. Jose Aponte
16. Claire Sembler, Luella Stiansen
17. Pat Goodfellow
18. Jean Hopkins
20. Churchill Cooke, Nick Kaiser, Darol Keefer
21. Susan Gordon, Bobbi Walker, Joseph Young
22. Don Dussing, Amy LeBlanc
23. Josie Harmon
24. Barbara Bryant, Jacob Craig, Dorothy Linn, Beth Sembler
26. Sue Appel, Ryan Nelson
28. Joyce Geller, Kathleen Voorhees, Chloe Winslow,  
Jack Winslow
29. Jeffrey Morgan, Joyce Murphy, Herb Wright
31. Gail Sousa, Cathy Westermann





# FPC YOUTH MUSIC PITTSBURGH

## BENEFIT DINNER

### STANDING ROOM AVAILABLE \$30

## MARCH 15 5:30PM

Standing Room Tickets include a chair, appetizers, and access to silent auction.

Dinner will not be served to "standing room" guests

## Justice & Honor



On Sunday, Feb 2, the Justice and Honor Team along with the Gifford Historical Museum and Cultural Center hosted the third annual Art and Music in the Park event. It was a great success due to the extraordinary efforts from so many!

The Barbeque lunch provided was exceptional, delicious, plentiful, and served up with love by our own Carol Campbell, Susie Nystrom, Carol Marks, and Cheryl Armas, as well as many other dedicated volunteers. (Many of us want the recipe for the baked beans!)

Holly Adams, Jacob Craig, Peter Mahtani, and Butch Almborg showed up to do everything from directing music, working the sound system, to serving food, and hauling supplies. The musical offerings included the

First Presbyterian Youth Choir, the Gifford Middle School Chorus and Band, the Mt. Zion Choir, and Ka' Henry. Over 100 musicians graced us with their performances, and most of them were students. Art was displayed by Suze' Lavender, Ray McClendon, and Chris Winn. Gazing on the beautiful artwork while listening to music was good medicine for our souls. The Indian River Genealogical Society also participated, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Indian River County.

The Justice and Honor Team thanks the members of First Presbyterian Church and those in the Gifford community who came out and /or supported this event in some way.





## Dodgertown Reading Project and Sunset Apartments

First PresVero's Mission Team is an extremely active, broad spectrum group of members with a wide variety of people and places within the Vero Beach Community.

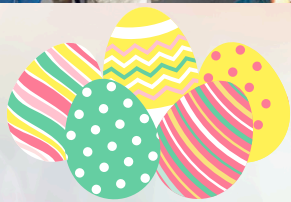
Two of the projects for which openings have arisen are the Dodgertown Reading Project, and the residents of the Affordable Housing units known as Sunset Apartments, on 45th Street.

Dodgertown Elementary Reading Project [ [https://des.indianriverschools.org/about\\_our\\_school](https://des.indianriverschools.org/about_our_school) ] is a Title I School, which is a federally funded education program for elementary and secondary schools. Title I is designed to focus on special needs populations and to reduce the gap between advantaged and disadvantaged students. The program distributes funds to schools and school districts where a high percentage of students are from low-income families.

Volunteers sit with students selected by their teachers, to share a book with a helping adult, who reads to them as they both view the book. For a child, reading can be a daunting task [ remember when you first learned to read? ]. If that task is made more pleasant, rather than arduous, those children might be encouraged to transfer those skills in another book - or on their phones, to read - instructions, directions, information, and go on to higher levels of reading ability, which opens the world to them.

What is involved is a necessary vetting process - fingerprinting, etc. which reassures teachers and parents that their children are in safe hands.

You can be a significant part of that process. Contact Carol Smoyer at 772-538-8795 or email [clsmoyer@bellsouth.net](mailto:clsmoyer@bellsouth.net)



## EASTER HOPE BASKETS



## Please Return by April 13

The Annual Easter Hope Bags will be available from Sunday March 23rd. Fill them with the items on the enclosed list and return them by April 13th, Palm Sunday, in time for delivery to the recipients. Beth Pritchett will provide more details in her "Minute for Mission: Easter Hope - March 23rd at all Services.

**MAY YOUR GENEROSITY BE A BLESSING TO YOU  
AND TO THE NEIGHBORS YOU HELP.**



**FIRST PRES**  
Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ





# Presbyterian Women

## PW New Board for 2025

Welcome to the new board for the Presbyterian Women!

Recently installed by Rev. Holly Adams are:

President - Floy Turner, Treasurer - Shirley Douglas,

Recording Secretary - Marilyn Case,

Corresponding Secretary - Nancy Morgan.

Past Presidents - Judith Taylor/Sandy Thiel

### March General Meeting

Monday, March 3, 1 p.m. in the Schumann Room of the Christian Life Center.

Come hear Information about the activities of the PW, upcoming plans for the Spring Luncheon, committee reports and church news. Share prayer concerns and meet church friends during the social time with light refreshments. All women are welcome!

### Grace Circle

The Grace Circle, led by Ann Faunce and Jane Millar will meet on Monday, March 10, 11- 12 noon in the Earnshaw Room. The study guide "Life Lessons from Psalms" by Max Lucado is being discussed. All are invited to bring lunch and socialize following the discussion. For more information, call Ann Faunce 303-947-7984.

### Spring Luncheon - Saturday, April 5, 11:30 in McAfee.

Catered by Carol Campbell, it will feature a guest speaker from the Treasure Coast Technical College, located in Gifford. She will speak on "Empowering our Women through Tech Ed". Tickets, \$25 are only sold after morning worship for three Sundays, Mar. 16, 23, 30. Invite friends and fill a table! For any questions, contact Co-Chairmen: Joan Irvine and Maggie Fleming.

### Lunch at the Olive Garden

PW Sponsored Monthly Olive Garden Lunch Ladies of First Pres Vero please come join us at the Olive Garden Friday, February 21, 2025 at 11:30 am We gather for lunch and fellowship on the third Friday of every month. All ladies are welcome Call or text BJ Fisher at 678-481-3835 If you prefer to respond online, my new email is: harrysally11262@gmail.com



Two First Presbyterian members were presented with Honorary Lifetime Membership Awards recently in recognition of their contributions to the life of the Church and our community.

Both are truly "worker bees" by nature, who see a need and dive right into action. And thus, they establish the groundwork for others to join their efforts and achieve big goals.

Susie Nystrom and Floy Turner are these special women!

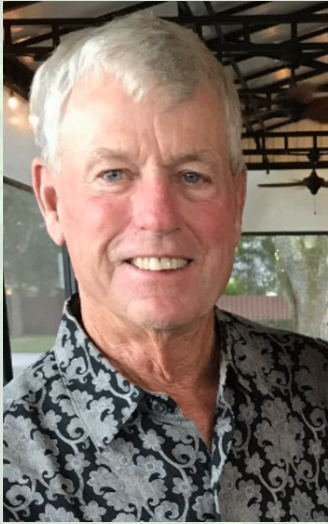
Susie is also an Elder, serves on the Fellowship Committee and is part of Carol Campbell's Culinary Team who prepare all Wednesday night dinners, breakfast for the Men's Group and PW luncheons. She also serves as an Usher. Effectively juggling these time-consuming activities is not surprising to those who know her. Shortly after joining FPC, Susie was adventurous enough to serve as Co-Moderator of PW for a 2-year term.



Floy, a retired Florida State Trooper, is also a tireless volunteer. After joining the Church 7 years ago, she organized a new Safety and Security Committee. Floy has also served as a Deacon. Currently, Floy is PW Moderator, a position she also held in 2020. In addition, to being a member of the Honor and Justice Committee, she volunteers for the County Sheriff's projects supporting disadvantaged youth. Floy is also a diligent advocate for child safety and for victims of domestic abuse and human trafficking.



## Phil Schwin's Biography and Faith Journey as told to Phil LoGiudice



I was born in a small town in Northern Indiana in 1943 as the middle child of five kids. My family owned and operated a movie theater, and my job was running the popcorn stand. TV came along and hurt the movie business, so the theater was sold and the family moved to Deerfield Beach, Fla in 1955 where my dad started a custom kitchen cabinet business.

I graduated from Pompano Beach High School in 1961 and started college at the University of Florida. I met Barb on a blind date in 1965 (the best thing that has ever happened to me). I graduated with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and Barb with BS in Sociology in 1967. Barb and I were married in November of 1967.

I started a 34-year career with Shell Oil Company in Baton Rouge, LA, at a Chemical Plant. Most of my career was spent in manufacturing with jobs in Baton Rouge, Houston, New Orleans, and the last four years as General Manager of a large oil refinery in Wood River Illinois (just east of St Louis).

We adopted our son, Scott in 1972 and our daughter, Holly in 1978, and have three grandchildren, Trey, Ella, and Tayla.

I retired in June of 2000, and we moved to Vero Beach, building a new home in Grand Harbor. Barb and I both played tennis and golf and overall enjoyed "camp life" at Grand Harbor. I also have a passion for fishing.

### FAITH JOURNEY

I regularly attended the Presbyterian Church in my early years. I still belonged to the Presbyterian Church in Deerfield Beach, but attendance was sporadic partly because I worked every Sunday morning delivering newspapers and working in a small drug store. Dating Barb got me into a Baptist Church while at college, and I would say got me back on the "right track". We became very active members in a small church south of Houston called "A Uniting Church" (combination of a Presbyterian Church and United Church of Christ) where both of our kids were baptized. We were very close to the minister and his wife, and they had a significant impact on my faith journey. We belonged to churches everywhere we lived, but not quite as active as that small church in Houston.

We visited FPC in June of 2000 and heard sermons from Tim and Fred Foy Strang and decided that this was the church for us in Vero Beach. Barb got involved in church activities early and was called to be an Elder around 2005. While attending a small group session at the church studying "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren, I joked that "I would make it to heaven by accepting Christ as my Lord and Savior, but I would be digging ditches while Barb was in Management".

In 2010 I got a call from Joann Wheeler asking me if I would consider becoming an Elder. That was a very big step in my faith journey. I filled the last two years of someone else's term on Session and then stayed on for another 3-year term. I was assigned to the Personnel Committee and the Board of Trustees. I served for those 5 years on the Board of Trustees and then added on another four years as Trustee at Large. I have remained on the personnel Committee until rotating off this year.

In 2015 I served as Chair of the Search Committee that resulted in hiring Michael York.

I have been involved in some capacity in the Building and Grounds Committee since 2011 with a focus on the HVAC in the Christian Center for Life.

I joined the Facilities Development Committee charged with building the new Sanctuary in 2024 and am currently serving as Chair. This year I was called to join the 2027 class on Session.

I believe that the very strong Christian Faith I have observed from all the folks I have worked with over years on these committees has had a significant impact on the strength of my own faith. I thank all of them along with my wife for where I am today on my own faith journey!



# FPC CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

520 ROYAL PALM BLVD. VERO BEACH, FL 772 562 9088



7:30PM

4/23/25 - Mike Block Solo Show

3/30/25 - Con Brio Trio 4:00 pm



# Vero Beach Choral Society In Concert

## April 27 at 4PM

### First Presbyterian Church 520 Royal Palm Blvd





# Worship

## From the Archives 1955

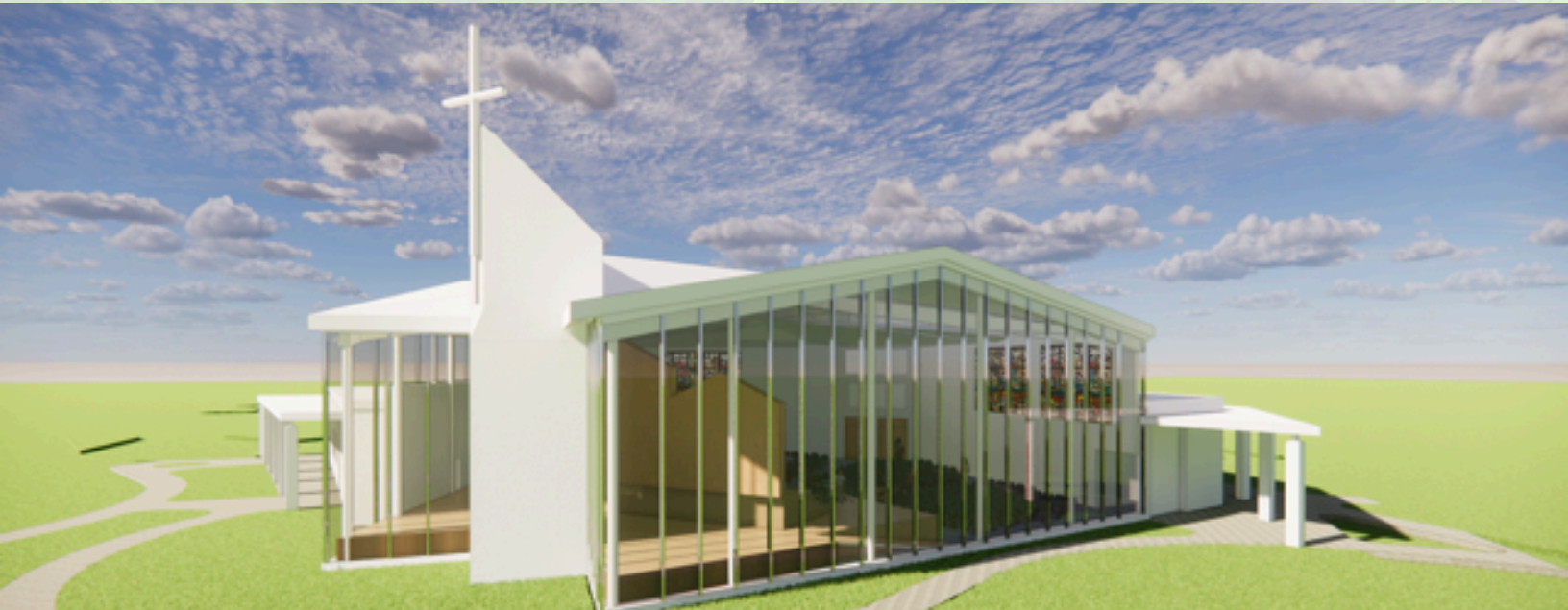
March 2nd 1955 Session Meeting at the Manse.

"Offers were made by Elder Grant to furnish 35 loads of fill, Elder Amos offered the use of his tractor, disk, blade and scoop and driver to do the disking and levelling.

The matter of approving purchase of plants was held up till we could canvass members for whatever plants they could donate. . . the report also recommended a toolshed be built at the east end of the kitchen to house lawn tools. The cost of this [shed] would be \$185.00."

## New Sanctuary

<https://www.firstpresvero.org/newsanctuary>



**Don't forget to change your clock on  
March 9 for Daylight Savings.  
Spring forward 1 hour!**

## Fellowship

# Wednesday Night Dinners

Sign up on realm or by calling Lisa in the Church Office

March 5

NO DINNER

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 12

Salad  
Sloppy Joes  
Cheesy Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Dessert

March 19

NO DINNER

SPRING BREAK

March 26

Salad  
Cheeseburger Macaroni  
Glazed Carrots  
Rolls and Butter  
Dessert



# Sunday Worship

March 2025

8:30AM - Mighell Chapel

9:30AM - Sanctuary

11AM - Sanctuary

Childcare available at all services

## March Sermons

<b>March 2</b> Luke 9:28-36 "Change is Coming"	<b>March 5</b> 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 "Be Reconciled" Ash Wednesday	<b>March 17</b> Luke 4:1-13 "Temptation"
<b>March 24</b> Luke 13:31-35 "Sacrifice"	<b>March 28</b> Luke 13:1-9 "Produce"	<b>March 31</b> Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 "Congruent"

## Church Leadership & Staff

Rev. Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor

Rev. Holly Adams, Minister of Congregational Care

Jessie Kuehner, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Sam Rutland, Theologian in Residence

Dr. Jacob Craig, Director of Music & Arts

Peter Mahtani, Associate Director of Music & Arts

Ginny Bauer, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Pastors

Kimberly Ball, Financial Administrator

Lisa Jeffra, Administrative Assistant

Anne Adams, Membership Coordinator

### Elders

**Class of 2025** Carol Campbell, Carol Marks\*,

Susie Nystrom, Bob Satola

**Class of 2026** Louise Feroe\*, Judy Garrett\*,

Jim Gambill\*, Ted Miller

**Class of 2027** Ann Faunce, Bill King,

Jonathan Miller, Phil Schwin

Clerk of Session - Dr. Lucille Craig

Board of Trustees President - Holly LoGiudice

Treasurer - Scott Westermann

Director of Development - Allan Bixby

Trustee at Large - Anne Posey

### Board of Deacons

**Moderator** - Gayle Bruce

**Class of 2025** Donna Blankenship, Gayle Bruce,

Nancy Bucklew, Cindy Judd, Bill Menzies,

Frank Smith

**Class of 2026** Ginger Allen, Suzanne Breese,

Connie Derman, Carol Rhodes, Lee Tiebout,

Ashley Wright

**Class of 2027** B J Fisher, Susan Gordon,

Eileen Ganser, Frank Iodice, Pat Stella,

Ruth Thomas

(\*indicates Trustee)