



SUMMER IN THE

PSALMS

FIRST PRESS AUGUST 2019

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

PAGE	2/3	Pastor's Desk Birthdays Building Commission	PAGE	4/7	Stephen Ministers Music Ministry Info & More Presbyterian Women	PAGE	8/9	Mission Spotlight Financial Update Session Highlights Announcements	PAGE	10/11	Shut-Ins Calendar
------	------------	--	------	------------	--	------	------------	--	------	--------------	----------------------

First Press is going digital...

We have been warned!

But really, this is going to be a great transition, because we're going to be enacting great stewardship while we are committed to making sure no one is left behind! In fact, I believe this will even become one of the strong points of our church family as we learn a new way to communicate and as we look out for one another in the process of this transition.

Next month will mark the first phase of the transition, as the September newsletter will not be sent out by bulk mail. So, this is the last newsletter that will be sent out in bulk to our whole congregation. Starting in September, you can receive the First Press newsletter one of several ways:

- 1) digitally by e-mail, just please make sure we have your e-mail address.
- 2) digitally, by downloading it from our new website (click on Newsletters at the top of the page).
- 3) pick up a hard copy at church on Sunday (Fellowship Hall stage or the Narthex)
- 4) have a friend pick up a hard copy for you if you know you will not be available; and if you know you'll be seeing someone who cannot make it to church, make it part of your responsibility to grab a copy for them.

Continued on Page 2

With all that said, if you **MUST HAVE THE NEWSLETTER SENT OUT TO YOU**, please call Michelle at the church office and let us know, and we'll be happy to keep you on our short mail list. We are committed to not leaving anyone behind.

This transition to digital communication will help us save money and resources in the short and long term, and I believe it will ultimately help us function a lot more smoothly with vital information for our whole congregation. We welcome your feedback as we work out the kinks of the transition, but we hope you'll commit to being on board for something that's a bit different.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

In Christ,

Dino



Lead Pastor: Rev. Dino Rustin

Care & Visitation: Rev. Dr. Lewis Trotter

Organist/Director of Music Ministry: Ted Hayes

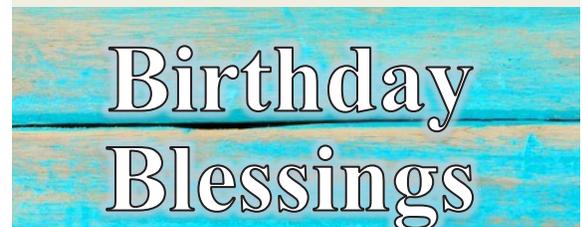
Michelle Noval, Admin. Assistant
Christine Melchior, Custodian
Diane Varnadore, Pianist

Doreen Hawkins, Financial Admin.
Fernando Olaya, Maintenance Tech.
Jessica Palma-Hernandez, Nursery

Church Web Site: www.firstpresbradenton.com
Church Email address: office@firstpresbradenton.com
Address: 1402 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton, FL 34205
Contact Numbers: (941) 746-6141 / Fax: (941) 747-1198



- 4 Anne Atkins, Allen Butler, Katie Melchior, Larryn Betts, Melody Betts
- 7 Tina Crawford, Susan Vorpahl
- 9 Barb Fisher, Ray Barr, Bill Dittmann
- 10 Chris Anderson-Leitz
- 11 Eliza Espy, Joe Shannon
- 14 Bill Frank
- 18 Carol Dunbar
- 20 Charlie Mills, Jo Zonders
- 21 Marlo Lane, Jennifer Rustin
- 22 Sandy Gravlee
- 23 John Dawson
- 24 Barbara Tyler, Dave DenUyl
- 26 Jane Schermer, Jane Holden, Jan Eckel, Wyatt Dickerson
- 26 Rebecca Vaughn
- 27 Carolyn Ritter
- 31 Gerry Lange, Suzanne Richmond





FPC Building Commission Update



Your Building Commission has been meeting regularly with Zoller-Autrey Architectural, Genesis Engineering and Halfacre Construction. These meetings have been focused on ways to achieve affordable changes to our Church. We have revised our plans to use existing space within our building to maximize our available resources.

These changes include the addition of an elevator in the new foyer. This will allow us to relocate the church offices to the second floor. We will be updating these offices and creating a reception area on the second floor.

As always, we ask that you keep our church and this commission in your thoughts and prayers as we move forward with this project.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Building Commission.

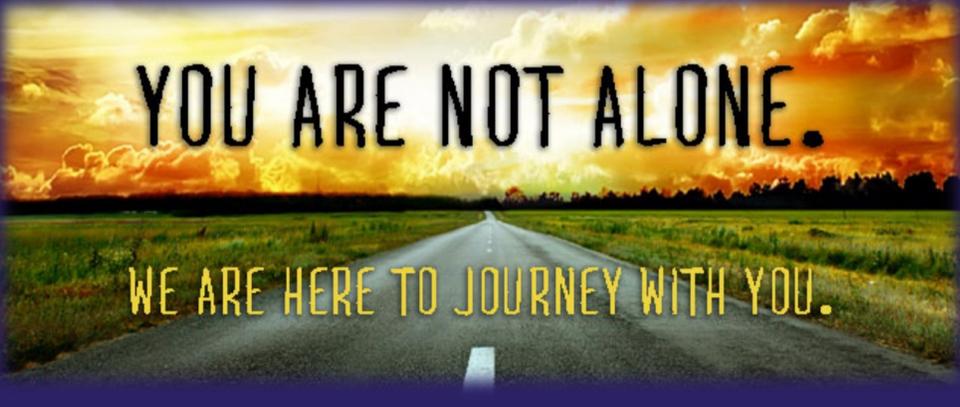
Wayne Scroggins, Chairman

Members: Kaye Butler, Steve Porter, Kathy Schermer and Bill Schmoll





STEPHEN
ministry



YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

WE ARE HERE TO JOURNEY WITH YOU.

STEPHEN MINISTER'S CAREGIVER TESTIMONIAL

By: Ann Wolpers, Stephen Minister

I received my first Stephen Minister assignment shortly after being commissioned as a Stephen Minister. Even with all the wonderful training, I was so nervous. I wasn't sure I would know what to say or that I would be successful in sharing Christ's love with a woman I had just met. During our supervision session, I asked other experienced Stephen Ministers what they did when they became caregivers. The best advice I received was to pray to the Lord before getting out of the car. I did just that, not only on the first day, but before every visit, thereafter. I asked that He put the right words in my mouth, that He guide me so that I would be a good listener, that He would lead me to share the appropriate scripture and that He would help me when I prayed with my care receiver. It was incredible! I was the Caregiver, but God was the "Curegiver". He was with me that day and every day I met with my care receiver. I had never prayed aloud and yet the words came. How I grew as a result of that special relationship. My care receiver was an elderly woman who had just moved from independent living to assisted living in a local retirement community. She was nervous and a bit defensive during our first visit. She became more comfortable sharing as we continued to meet. She had lost her husband of almost 50 years and had sold her house where they had lived for a very long time. Although that was difficult, she said she adjusted well to the independent living because she had other people around her, lots of activities and the ability to come and go as she pleased. She had been there for a few years. She was sad, however, as her brother had worried that she might fall or forget to eat. He had urged and finally convinced her to move into assisted living. She was quite despondent as her mind was still active and she felt as though her "wings had been clipped". I discovered she had been an artist. One of her frustrations was that she could no longer write or draw without tremors in her hand. She also felt she had nothing in common with other residents and missed the social interaction she had previously enjoyed. Over the months, she spoke and I listened during our weekly 1 to 1-1/2 hour visits. We sometimes went for drives in my car or an occasional lunch. We shared Bible passages and inspirational readings. We prayed together asking God to show her how active she could still be and to illustrate the significance of her life. Together, we discovered activities offered that would stimulate her, including volunteer work in the extended care area of the complex. I even suggested she try some contemporary art, since she still had a wonderful sense of color. After much encouragement from me, she started to attend Bingo, which she had never played. She soon became the director's assistant. However, she always looked forward to our time together. The day I visited her and had difficulty finding her because she was "volunteering" on another floor, I sensed it was time to start bringing our caring relationship to an end...she had successfully made the transition and realized her life still had purpose. On our last day she turned to me, with tears in her eyes, and said, "Ann, you are Christ to me. Thank you so much for coming into my life."



Music MINISTRY

A special thank you to all who give of their time and talent to the Music Ministry of First Presbyterian Church. They are an outstanding group of people who minister in the capacity of music. What a blessing, not only to those who come to listen, but to those individuals who put fourth effort to faithfully serve God each week.

The Chancel Choir will continue to sing at the 11:00 am Worship service through July 28, 2019. At this time, we will rehearse only on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am to prepare for the morning Worship service. We will take a break from August 4, 2019, through September 1, 2019. This will be a time to relax before weekly rehearsals begin again. Our first rehearsal will be held on Wednesday evening, September 4th, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the choir room. Anyone wanting to join this great ministry, please contact Ted Hayes at 941-356-0714.

Another avenue to serve God is through the Chancel Handbell Choir. This Ministry is composed of 11 bell ringers who rehearse on Monday evenings from 6:15 - 7:15 pm from September to June. We have a permanent opening in this group of music readers, and ask that you contact Ted at the above number if interested in joining this group. We will begin rehearsals on Monday, September 9, 2019. The Chancel Handbells are being completely refurbished at this time and will be ready to ring at the first rehearsal on September 9th.

Another expression of thanks goes to Diane Varnadore and Lauren Neilsen. What a blessing these two very talented women are to First Presbyterian Church. Mere words do not to express how much they are loved and appreciated. Diane and Lauren are indeed a very important addition to the Music Ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

In Christ,

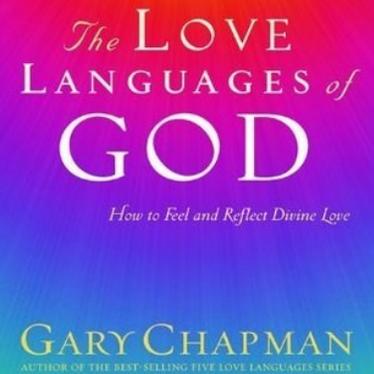
Ted C. Hayes

The Love Languages of God
How to Feel and Reflect Divine Love
by Gary Chapman

The adult education offerings for August will include the final class with Patty Li on "The Love Languages of God" on Sunday, August 4.

The remaining Sundays - August 11, 18, and 25 - as well as the first Sunday in September will be a series of stand-alone topics facilitated by Dwayne Smith and/ or Janet Schmoll.

All are welcome to attend one or all of these sessions in the Small Dining Room starting at 10 o'clock.



WITH APPRECIATION

At the end of 2004, Jay Duke went looking for a Boy Scout group to bring into First Presbyterian. He found Steven Palmieri and Pack 3. Steven and Pack 3 moved to First Presbyterian Church and became Pack 111. The pack has grown over the years and they have added a troop, then a crew and finally the first female Scout group in Manatee County. Dozens of volunteers over the years could not have done this without the support of the church and your prayers.



My wife, sons and I have been associated with the church through Scouting for over 15 years now and have made many friends within your church community. As with many things in life, my family and I are making a huge change and will be relocating to the Orlando area as I have accepted a job with Walt Disney World. We are leaving knowing the Scouting program will continue with the church and Scouts working together. We will miss you all and wish you all joy and happiness in the future.

*Thank you and God bless
Steven Palmieri and family*

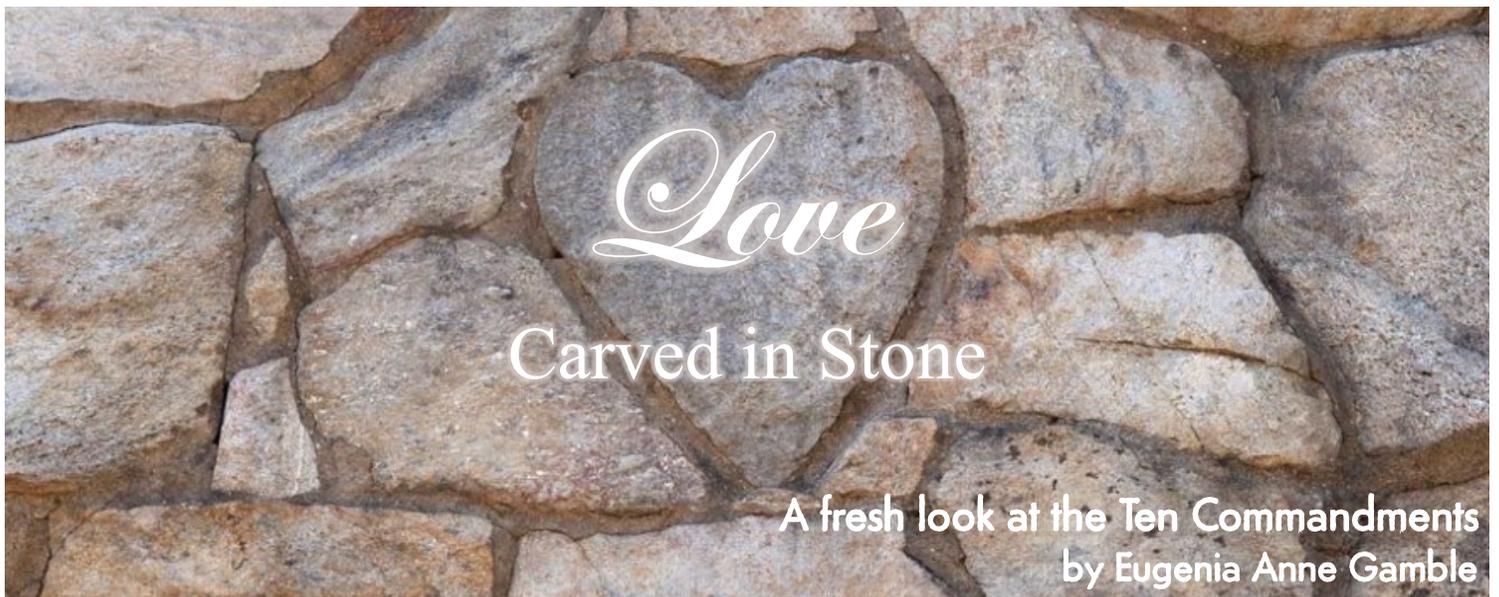
First Presbyterian wishes to thank Steven, his wife, Barbara, and sons, Thomas and Nicolas, for all they have done over the years to make Pack / Troop III such a great success! We also would like to thank them for helping out in so many areas of ministry in the church — from PW luncheons, KOINONIA's, youth auctions, pantry "Scouting for Food", to just mention but a few.

All the best to you! You will be missed!!

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Is extended to the Hasper family on the death of **Charles Hasper** who died on July 2, 2019, and to Manny Gonzalez and family on the death of **Nancy Gonzalez** who died on July 26, 2019.





JOIN THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FOR OUR NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING UP IN THE FALL:

JOY CIRCLE 1st Thursday of the month @ 7:00 pm in the Small Dining Room (*beginning September 5*)
FAITH CIRCLE 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 10 am in the Small Dining Room (*beginning October 9*)
Please note: shuttle service available from the Shores and Towers to FPC

Presbyterian Women (PW) are seen everywhere at First Pres because if you're a woman and you're here, you are a PW! We perform many roles, lay readers, choir members, sewing group members, kitchen volunteers, etc. etc. Many of us are also members of a Circle.

WHAT IS A CIRCLE?

Most members would say it's a place for making new friends and enjoying old friends. A Circle is a group of women who meet once a month either morning or evening. We visit for a while to catch up and we often have a treat. The leader of the circle will let everyone know what is happening within our church and within our larger Presbytery.

The primary purpose of Circles is Bible study, with studies designed for easy reading while providing insight into our daily Christian life. Our Bible studies are perfect for those of us who are well-versed in the Bible and for those of us who have trouble finding any book past Genesis. They're perfect for those who like to do homework and complete two or three fill in the blanks and for those of us who prefer just to discuss the lesson with their Circle. Our Circles are a safe place for us to study God's Word, applying it to our daily lives through open and honest discussion. Both Circles have excellent instructors, and you will never be asked to read or pray aloud unless you would like to.

There are no secret handshakes at Circle and we encourage you to bring a friend! Our Circles are filled with women whose needs are constantly changing and who are using Biblical study to guide our way. Our Circles are places of safety, comfort, learning, laughter and love. We would love to have you join us there!

*For more information and to get a Bible study book, contact:
Caroline MacDonald @517-881-7374 / macdonaldcg@gmail.com*



Youth For Christ reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the Word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ, and commitment to social involvement.

At Youth For Christ, we wholeheartedly embrace the “and” of Mark 10:45. Jesus came to serve and to deliver the message of transformation. He came to embrace and to liberate. We look to Him as we carry out that “and” — the call to act, with an eternal perspective.

Our focus as a movement is on multiplying fruitful and sustainable Ministry Sites across the nation and around the world. We believe there are five essentials to establishing Ministry Sites.

1. **WIDESPREAD PRAYER**
We deliberately engage lots of Christians to intercede on behalf of the ministry site.
2. **LOVING RELATIONSHIPS**
We consistently pursue lost kids and engage them in life-long relationships with Jesus.
3. **FAITHFUL BIBLE TEACHING**
We accurately handle Biblical truth, regularly coaching kids to apply it in their lives
4. **COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY STRATEGY**
We intentionally work together with local churches, agencies and other partners to provide sustainable youth and family ministry.
5. **ADULTS WHO EMPOWER**
We strategically develop leaders to reach young people from every people group.

Recently at summer camp, one of the counselors shared:

One of the most humbling moments was when the guys asked me, “Why can we talk to you, but we can’t talk to our dads?” and “If you were my Dad, what would you want me to do?” Their desperate desires for guidance and fatherly leadership broke my heart. On the last afternoon of camp, we encouraged students to write a letter to God or to themselves. In a few months we would open the letters so they could remember their week at camp.

Students wrote to God:

“I accepted you this week. As soon as I did I felt different. It felt good. I know you want the best for me. God has me in His hands now.” “This week changed me for the better. I’ve seen that if you have FAITH then you can change your ways for the better. This week finally made me believe!”

Submitted by Nancy Varner

 FINANCIAL REVIEW	Budgeted Offering Through July	\$254,898
	YTD Offering Received Through July	\$295,077
ATTENDANCE through July		
9 AM AVERAGE		35
11 AM AVERAGE		94

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

July 9th

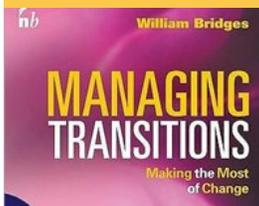
The FPC Session members held a Stated meeting on Tuesday, July 9. Clerk of Session Sonny Fenton formally asked the Session to formally accept his resignation, due to the timing of his move to Tennessee. With regret and with thanks for his service, his resignation was unanimously accepted. Elder Dwayne Smith agreed to serve as Acting Clerk of Session while a search for a replacement is conducted.

Kaye Butler reported that the Strategic Planning Team, composed of herself, Dwayne Smith, Sandy Garrison and Pastor Dino has begun meeting to consider long-term goals and strategies to place before the Session. A day-long Session retreat is being planned for the January/February time frame, and all Elders present provided their availability so that a date can be selected well in advance. Kaye will contact Elders who were not in attendance to ensure their availability is taken into consideration.

Mary Hoagland, representing the Board of Deacons, was in attendance and reported that Nancy Varner had been elected as the Moderator of that group.

Kaye Butler reported that the Building Commission has scheduled a meeting with the Architect to review final bids and costs for the planned work on the facility.

Respectfully submitted,
Dwayne C. Smith, Acting Clerk of Session



Last month, the staff and Session worked through a short excerpt from this classic leadership book as a means of preparing our hearts for the transitions that are inevitable and coming soon, especially with construction poised to begin any time soon. Here are some of the highlights from our reading:

“It isn’t the changes that will do you in; it’s the transitions. They aren’t the same thing. Change is situational: the move to a new site, a new CEO replaces the founder, the reorganization of roles on the team, and new technology. Transition, on the other hand, is psychological; it is a three-phase process that people go through as they internalize and come to terms with the details of the new situation that the change brings about.”

“Transition isn’t an optional add-on to change. Getting people through the transition is essential if the change is actually going to work as planned. When a change happens without a transition, it’s just a rearrangement of chairs.”

The three phases of transition are:

- 1) LETTING GO...**of the old ways and the old identities. This first phase of transition is an ending and a time when people will be dealing with losses
- 2) THE NEUTRAL ZONE...**the in-between time when some of the old has gone but the new isn’t fully operational. This is when critical psychological realignments take place.
- 3) THE NEW BEGINNING...**coming out of the transition! This is when we develop a new identity, experience the new energy, and discover a new sense of purpose that makes the change begin to work.



“Because transition is a process by which we ‘unplug’ from an old world and ‘plug into’ a new world, we can say that transition **ACTUALLY** begins with an ending and finishes with a beginning.”

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sally DenUyl, Catherine Wilcockson, Jean Phillips, Rose Carlson, Jeanne Oliver, Vic Kane,
 Charlie O'Connor, Irene Henderson, Bob Marsh, Jerry Perry, Jay Daspit, Donna Jones,
 Betty Gilmore, Melody Porter, Vada Johnson, Barbara Russell, Keith Allen,
 Christine King, Donald Czaplinsky, Dave Stacho, Ellen Cavanaugh, Kathy Winchester,
 Bill Saggau, Carol Saggau, James Braunlin, Doug Walsh, Jr., Betty Harkins, Frances Moody,
 Debbie Parvin, Elma Westney, John Weichel, Karen Montgomery, Bonnie Sylvester,
 Nell Barner, Roger Lane, Jo Zonders

PRAYER REQUESTS

**We would love to pray for you. You can either enter your prayer requests on our website or
 e-mail the church office at: office@firstpresbradenton.com**

CARING FOR OUR SHUT-INS // ASSISTED LIVING

<i>Health Care Facilities</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Name(s)</i>
Bay Vue Nursing & Rehab.	105 15th St. W. Bradenton, 34208	941-747-8681	Betty Harkins (Room 132)
Inn at Freedom Village	6410 21st Ave W. Bradenton, 34209	941-798-8250	Margaret "Jo" Zonders (121A)
Summerfield Assisted Living	3409 26th St. W. Bradenton, 34205	941-751-7209	Christine King (Room 202) Vada Johnson (Room 126)
Westminster Manor Assisted Living (RAL)	1700 21st Ave W Bradenton, 34205	941-745-0167	Jeanne Oliver (RAL Room 408)
Westminster Shores Assisted Living (RAL)	1610 3rd Ave W Bradenton, 34205	941-748-1700	Rae Flanders (RAL Room 124) E. Jean Phillips (RAL Room 134) John Weichel (RAL Room 125)
Westminster Towers Assisted Living (RAL)	320 15th St Ct W Bradenton, 34205	941-666-8837 941-567-6976	Vic Kane (#146) Debbie Parvin (#133)
Westminster Towers Health Care (HC)	320 15th St Ct. W. Bradenton, 34205	941-747-1881 941-757-5941	Marion McClellan (HC 340A) Elma Westney (HC 327A)

August

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

KEY

SG = Small Group

				1 9:00 Food Pantry 9:00 OCC Sewing	2 7:00 Spanish Ministry	3
4 Communion Sunday 9:00 Informal Worship 10:00 Discipleship 11:00 Worship Service 3:00 Spanish Ministry	5 Newsletter Submission	6 9:00 Food Pantry 9:30 MOPS 10:00 Staff Meeting	7 10:00 Line Dancing	8 9:00 Food Pantry 9:00 OCC Sewing 5:00 Finance	9 7:00 Spanish Ministry	10
11 9:00 Informal Worship 10:00 Discipleship 11:00 Worship Service 3:00 Spanish Ministry	12 6:00 SG/MMNF	13 9:00 Food Pantry 9:15 CE 10:00 Staff Meeting 10:30 Pew Crew	14 10:00 Line Dancing	15 9:00 Food Pantry 9:00 OCC Sewing	16 5:00 Boy Scout Lock-In 7:00 Spanish Ministry	17 9:00 am Boy Scout Lock-In pick up
18 KOINONIA 9:00 Informal Worship 10:00 Discipleship 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 KOINONIA Lunch 3:00 Spanish Ministry	19 6:30 Boy Scouts	20 9:00 Food Pantry 9:30 MOPS 10:00 Staff Meeting	21 10:00 Line Dancing	22 9:00 Food Pantry 9:00 OCC Sewing 6:30 Scout Council	23 7:00 Spanish Ministry	24
25 9:00 Informal Worship 10:00 Discipleship 11:00 Worship Service 3:00 Spanish Ministry	26 6:00 SG/MMNF 6:30 Boy Scouts	27 9:00 Food Pantry 10:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Session	28 10:00 Line Dancing	29 9:00 Food Pantry 9:00 OCC Sewing	30 7:00 Spanish Ministry	31

First Presbyterian Church
1402 Manatee Ave W
Bradenton, Florida 34205

Return service requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Manasota, FL
Permit No. 965

Visit us on the web at www.firstpresbradenton.com

Prepared Especially For...

