

# First Presbyterian Church

PORT CHARLOTTE, FL

2230 HARIET ST  
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33952  
941-625-5025  
WWW.FPCPC.COM

## June/2026 E-GRAM



### From the

### Pastor's Desk

**Hello, everyone,** peace be with you!

As the Florida heat settles in, schools close, snowbirds go back home, and some of our people travel, this month of June marks that time of the year when we slow things down. Some of us will spend more time on the road, near the water, with children and grandchildren, or simply trying to stay cool and catch our breath after a busy season. Our life together often slows down during these summer months, and I find this to be all right.

Of course, our Sunday attendance also diminishes (and sadly, our offerings too), but keep in mind that the church has never been measured by attendance charts or crowded calendars. The church is still the church whether the sanctuary is full or whether only a handful gather to sing, pray, listen, and share peace with one

another. Every Sunday matters because every person matters. We continue worshipping, praying, serving, planning, and caring for one another in the same steady way we always do. Summer does not place our faith on pause.

June also brings Father's Day. For many, it is a joyful day filled with gratitude and memory. For others, it can be complicated, tender, or even painful. For those who did not have good fathers, it is hard to think of a good and loving God as a father figure. Nevertheless, Scriptures speak of God as a Father, but we know God is far greater than human categories and far beyond the limits of human identity. God is not confined to biology. God is the creator of it.

Knowing His audience and culture, and the importance of "heads of families," Jesus chose the language of "Father" carefully and lovingly. Not to shrink God down to a gender, but to draw us close. In the ancient world, a good father is meant to be a protector, a provider, a teacher, and the one who was the center of his household. When Jesus called upon God as "Father," Jesus was speaking of relationship, of trust, nearness, care, and God as the center of our lives. The point was never biology. The point was belonging. We are not abandoned in the universe. We are known, welcomed, loved, and held by the One who gives us abundant life.

As our summer begins, may we continue walking together with patience and grace. Whether we are present every Sunday or away for a time of rest, we remain one body in Christ. The doors remain open. The prayers continue. The table is prepared and served. And God continues to gather with us here at First Pres Port Charlotte, again and again.

God bless you and your family!

Pastor Syl



**“Grandchildren are  
the crown of the  
aged, and the  
glory of children is  
their parents.”  
Proverbs 17:6**



# What's Happening *at First Pres*

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS – please read

- **Finance** and **Worship** Committees will **not** be meeting in June.
- **Session** will **not** be meeting in June.
- **Deacon's** will not meet in July or August.
- **PEP** (People Enjoying People) Group and **Men's Breakfast Group** will **not** be meeting during the summer months, but will resume in September. Details to come.
- **Choir rehearsal** will **not** be meeting in July and August, but will resume in September.
- **“House of David”** last season's episode will be on **June 9**, and will resume again in September.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays – 9 AM to 2 PM  
Wednesdays and Fridays – Office is Closed

## Monday, June 1

- 8:00 AM – *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom.

## Tuesday, June 2

- 8:00 – 11:00 AM – Food Pantry.
- 5:00 PM – House of David Season 2 – Episode 7.

## Wednesday, June 3

- 12:00 PM – Prayer Group Meeting.
- 1:30 PM – **Board of Deacons Meeting.**
- 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir Rehearsal.

## Sunday, June 7

- 7:45 AM – Coffee & Pastries.
- 8:00 AM – Adult Sunday School (On Zoom at 8:05 AM).
- 9:00 AM – **Lord's Supper Service.**
- ~9:20 AM – Children's Sunday School (after Children's Blessing).
- **May Birthdays/Anniversaries celebrations following the service.**

## Monday, June 8

- 8:00 AM – *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom.

## Tuesday, June 9

- 5:00 PM – House of David Season 2 – Episode 8 (Final Episode).

## Wednesday, June 10

- 12:00 PM – Prayer Group Meeting.
- 4:00 – 6:30 PM – Food Pantry.
- 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir Rehearsal.

## Sunday, June 14

- 7:45 AM – Coffee & Pastries.
- 8:00 AM – Adult Sunday School (On Zoom at 8:05 AM).
- 9:00 AM – **Ordinary Service.**
- ~9:20 AM – Children’s Sunday School (after Children’s Blessing).

## Monday, June 15

- 8:00 AM – *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom.

## Tuesday, June 16

- 8:00 – 11:00 AM – Food Pantry.

## Wednesday, June 17

- 12:00 PM – Prayer Group Meeting.
- 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir Rehearsal.

## Friday, June 19

- Juneteenth Holiday.

## Sunday, June 21

- 7:45 AM – Coffee & Pastries.
- 8:00 AM – Adult Sunday School (On Zoom at 8:05 AM).
- 9:00 AM – **Ordinary Service.**
- ~9:20 AM – Children’s Sunday School – (after Children’s Blessing).
- **Father’s Day.**

## Monday, June 22

- 8:00 AM – *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom.

## Wednesday, June 24

- 12:00 PM – Prayer Group Meeting.
- 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir Rehearsal.

## Sunday, June 28

- 7:45 AM – Coffee & Pastries.
- 8:00 AM – Adult Sunday School (On Zoom at 8:05 AM).
- 9:00 AM – Ordinary Service.
- ~9:20 AM – Children’s Sunday School – (after Children’s Blessing).
- June Birthdays & Anniversaries celebrations following the service.
- 3:00 PM – Celebration of America’s 250th Birthday Patriotic Concert featuring Nick Miceli.

## Monday, June 29

- 8:00 AM – *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom.



# Last Month's

# Recap

## Farewells Are Never Easy



Saying goodbye is never easy, and that is certainly true as we bid farewell to our long-time church member, Laverne Sinkia, as she prepares to move North. Laverne has been such a blessing to our church family. She is pictured above solo and alongside Pastor Syl. We wish her abundant blessings, safe travels, and all the best in this next chapter!

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## Ordination and Installation



On Sunday, May 10, our current and former Ruling Elders, gathered around to lay hands on and pray over Claudemir Sathler and Sue McConochie, as Claudemir was officially installed and Sue was ordained and installed as FPCPC church officers. Please join us in welcoming and celebrating Elder Claudemir Sathler and Deacon Sue McConochie! It was a beautiful, spirit-filled morning as we also took time to honor and celebrate all of our mothers on Mother's Day.

# Peace River Presbytery Meeting



We share some wonderful news from our recent Presbytery meeting in Arcadia, FL. Pastor Syl, along with Ruling Elders Claudette McClennon, Ambrose Woods, Elaine Woods, Donna Young, and Cathy Asaro, represented our church family beautifully.

During the meeting, Pastor Syl requested to transfer his ordination from the Kingston Presbytery in Ontario, Canada, to our own Presbytery, and the response was a resounding, joyful “YES!” With this approval, our Clerk of Presbytery, Rev. Dr. Randy Moody, will contact the Canadian Presbytery to then officially welcome Pastor Syl as a new member of Peace River Presbytery and as a PC(USA) minister. What an incredible milestone! More information to come about his installation in our church.

# Pentecost Sunday



What a beautiful and powerful sea of red we shared for Pentecost Sunday! Thank you so much to everyone who wore red to symbolize and celebrate the Holy Spirit among us. We also extend a heartfelt thank you to Elaine and Ambrose Woods for beautifully decorating our sanctuary for this special service. Most of all, we give thanks and praise to the Holy Spirit of God, who abides in us, and is the assurance we are never alone, even when we think we are.



## May PEP Luncheon



Our May PEP luncheon was held at Thai Cafe in Port Charlotte. Those in attendance to enjoy the delicious Thai food and great company were Pr. Syl, Donna Young, Carol Dunkak-Dunekirchen, and Joan Barry.



## Upcoming Events

### MONTHLY EVENTS

## Blessing Tree Collection for Kiwanis Shoes for Kids Project



This month, First Presbyterian's Blessing Tree will collect for the **Kiwanis Shoes for Kids Project**. Please donate shoes for school-age children, sizes 5 through adult 12. Thank you for your support. Pick up a flyer near the Blessing Tree for more information.

# WEEKLY EVENTS

## On Mondays – *Lectio Divina* Online



Join our brothers and sisters of Wintergarden Pres, online, every Monday at 8:00 AM for deep reflection on God’s word. To connect, go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us), and click “Join” in the upper-right-hand corner.

Meeting ID: 878 3208 0869

Passcode: 396015

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## “House of David” Season 2 Ends in June



Join us in the sanctuary to watch Season 2 of the series House of David, every Tuesday at 5 PM. We will enjoy popcorn and soda. **Please note: the last episode will be on June 9th.**

# Prayer Changes Things: Join Us Wednesdays at Noon

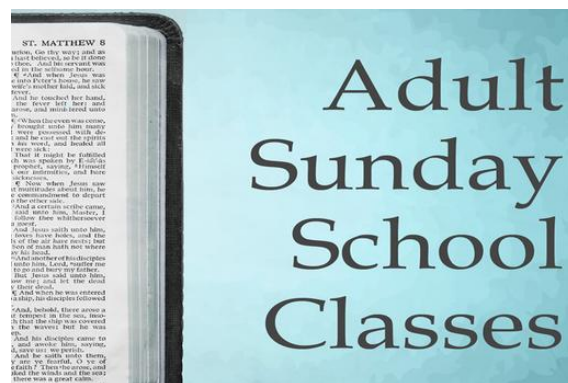


They say prayer is the engine room of the church, and we invite you to be part of that movement! **Every Wednesday at 12:00 PM**, we gather in the First Pres Gathering Room to stand in the gap for our community, our loved ones, and our world. We have seen firsthand how prayer makes a tangible difference in people's lives. Whether you are a "prayer warrior" or simply seeking a quiet place to sit in God's presence, you are welcome here.

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## On Sundays – Bible School

Our Sunday School classes are truly wonderful, thanks to our dedicated Christian Education Committee and our resident Bible expert, Elder Sandy Asaro. Whether you join us in person or online, there is a place for you!



Adult Bible studies begin at 8 AM, while children's classes start right after the Children's Blessing during the service.

# UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS



## A note from FPCPC Music Director



This year, on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday! On Sunday, **June 28**, at **3 p.m.**, we will have a **Patriotic Concert** featuring Nick Miceli. The concert will include audience participation and many other surprises! Admission is Free. Please invite your family and friends to attend and celebrate America's Birthday!



# Birthdays & *Anniversaries*

## Birthdays

June 1 – Lucille Gomez  
June 10 – Holly Parkin  
June 12 – Vivienne Gooden  
June 17 – Braden Messick  
June 17 – Natalie Wanamaker  
June 19 – Marilda Sathler  
June 20– Dottie Gamble  
June 26 – Sue McConochie

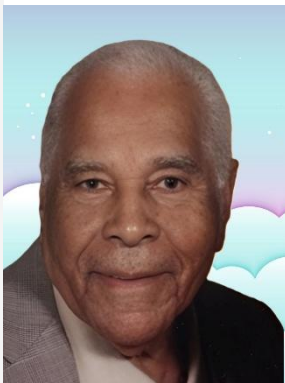
## Anniversaries

June 13 – Carolyn & Charles Brox

Do not see your name here? Call the church office and let us know (941) 625-5045.



# Forever in *Our Hearts*



**Lloyd Simmonds**

We are saddened to share that Mr. Lloyd Simmonds passed away in December of 2025. We ask that you keep his family in your prayers as they continue to honor his memory.



We are

Praying for...

Betty Belcher – health needs  
Cheryl Berlonr – health needs  
Eric & Ray Bittinger – health needs  
Hazel & Jerry Brown – health needs  
Carolyn & Charlie Brox – health needs  
Lin Christian – health needs  
Carol Dunkak–Dunekirchen – health needs  
Barbara Edwards – health needs  
Jean Heim – health needs  
Marjorie Hill – health needs  
Carolanne Hoehle – health needs  
Alzie Lee – strength & comfort  
Sue Littrell – health needs  
Richard Lund – health needs  
Courtenay Mason – health needs  
Brad Messick – health needs  
George Mothershed – health needs  
Julie Nunez – health needs  
Ray Omar – health needs  
Mavis Powell – health needs  
Amy Rupert – strength & comfort  
Sue Thompson – strength & comfort  
Debbie Webb – health needs  
Danny Webb – strength needs

FPCPC FAMILY – If you know of anyone else who may need our prayers, please call the church office at 941–625–5045. Names will be removed after 3 months. If you wish to keep them on the list, please call the church office.



# Our Church's *Affiliations*



First Presbyterian Church  
of Port Charlotte



The **First Presbyterian Church of Port Charlotte** is part of the **Presbyterian Church USA**, under the care of the **Peace River Presbytery**. We are also part of the compendium of Reformed and Presbyterian churches worldwide.