FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PERRY, FLORIDA

MAY 2026 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 11 am	4 **Congregational Care 10:00 am** Craft & Fellowship 1 pm **Mission Outreach Mtg 3:30 pm**	5 Beach Bible Study 9:30 am FPC Bible Study 10 am **Fellowship Mtg 5 pm** **Worship Mtg 6 pm**	6 Prayer Mtg 9:30 am Soup for the Soul 11:30 am Fellowship Supper 5:45 pm/ Supper Team 1 - POTLUCK Choir 7 pm	7	8	9
10 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 11 am Mothers' Day 	11	12 **Christian Ed Mtg 9 am** Beach Bible Study 9:30 am FPC Bible Study 10 am **Admin Mtg 5 pm**	13 Prayer Mtg 9:30 am Soup for the Soul 11:30 am Fellowship Supper 5:45 pm/ Supper Team 2 Choir 7 pm	14 **Finance Com Mtg 4 pm**	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 11 am	18	19 Beach Bible Study 9:30 am FPC Bible Study 10 am **Session Mtg 5:30 pm**	20 Prayer Mtg 9:30 am Soup for the Soul 11:30 am Last Fellowship Supper 5:45 pm/ International Potluck Choir 7 pm	21 Heidelberg Catechism 10 am	22	23
24 / 31 Pentecost / Trinity Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 11 am	25	26 Beach Bible Study 9:30 am FPC Bible Study 10 am	27 Prayer Mtg 9:30 am Soup for the Soul 11:30 am Choir 7 pm	28 Heidelberg Catechism 10 am	29	30 **St. Augustine Presbytery Meeting Hosted by FPC Perry**

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Mission Outreach

Soup for the Soul & Blessing Box

First Presbyterian Church, Perry, Florida, supports ministry to our Homeless and Food Insecure through Mission and Outreach through Soup for the Soul and the Blessing Box. The following items provide needed resources to support this ministry:

- Canned meat/chicken/tuna with pop-top lids
- Pouches of ready-made rice or instant potatoes
- Pull-top cans of potatoes, vegetables, or baked beans, etc.
- Prepackaged sandwich type crackers with peanut butter or cheese, individual packs of peanut butter, squeeze-top jelly, protein bars, cereal bars, etc.
- Individual servings of instant oatmeal or cereal, pull-top cans or individual packs of fruit cups, fruit pouches such as roll-ups
- Powered drink mixes such as fruit punch, orange, sweet tea, lemonade
- Personal care products such as washcloths or small packs of baby wipe type products/travel size body wash/ shampoo/mouthwash
- SMALL Bibles or Promises of God type materials are ALWAYS appreciated

All gifts gratefully received!

2026 FPC Session

Clerk of Session: Juanita Ratliff
Administration: Bobby Harper & Paul Wiggins
Christian Education: Jamie Poppell
Congregational Care: Martha Davis
Fellowship: Michael McMillan
Finance: Stan Whiddon
Mission & Outreach: Dianna Sandonato
Worship & Music: Zachary Wiggins

Anniversary Congratulations

Chuck & Peggy Eckel
May 7
Jeff & Amalia Barrett
May 23
Efren & Kim Torres
May 28

Martha Davis, May 5
Elliot Poppell, May 6
Jeanne Hilgendorf, May 9
Donna Sprigle, May 14
Cathy Wiggins, May 20
Ginger Whiddon, May 21
Grayson Armstrong, May 21
Alex Lutz, May 23
Elias Walker, May 27
Harriet Bryant, May 31

Happy Birthday to You,
God Bless You!

Happy Mother's Day to all Mothers and Mother-figures who fill our lives with love and care!

Dear People of God---

While studying the *Regulative Principle of Worship* and the *Westminster Standards* in Sunday School, a question arose: "Why do we say Creeds, especially the Apostles' Creed, during worship?" The answer is straightforward — the Apostles' Creed summarizes scripture and clearly defines core Christian beliefs. Used since the 2nd century, it articulates doctrines: the Trinity, Christ's life, death, and resurrection, the Last Day (end times), and the Church. It supports discipleship by anchoring beliefs in biblical truth, and each time it is professed, it conveys that biblical truth.

Here are the scriptures that form the Apostles' Creed:

"I believe...": Represents personal faith and conviction, rooted in Rom. 10:9, Deut. 6:1-9, and John 3.

"in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth": God as Father, omnipotent Creator, and the first person of the Trinity (Gen.1, Psalm 103, Psalm 89, Eph. 1:18-21).

"and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord": The deity and lordship of Jesus (John 1:1-18, Matt. 16:13-16, Col. 1).

"Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary": The Incarnation (Luke 1:26-35, Matt. 1:18-25).

"suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried": The historical reality of Christ's sacrifice (Matt. 27, Luke 23:44-46, 1 Pet. 3:18-20).

"He descended into hell [or to the dead]": Interpreted as fully atoning for sin and proclaiming victory over death (Eph. 4:9, 1 Pet. 3:19, 4:6).

"the third day He rose again from the dead": The Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:3-4, Luke 24:36-48).

"He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of the Father Almighty": Christ's exaltation and reign (Acts 1:6-11, Luke 24:50-53, Eph. 1:18-23).

"From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead": The Second Coming, the Last Day when all will be made new. (2 Tim. 4:1, 2 Pet. 3:3-13, 2 Cor. 5:10).

"I believe in the Holy Spirit": The third person of the Trinity (John 14:16-17, Acts 2:1-4, Matt. 28:19).

"the holy catholic [universal] church, the communion of saints": The body of believers across the ages, in heaven and Earth (Eph. 4:4-6, 1 Peter 2:9, Col.1:15-18).

"the forgiveness of sins": Redemption through Christ (Acts 2:38, 1 John 2:1-2, Rom. 8:1-2).

"the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting": Final hope and eternal life (1 Cor. 15:35-54, Rev. 21:1-5).

Tradition holds that the Apostles each contributed a line to form the Creed. What truly happened? Who can say? Maybe the Apostles did so; maybe not. Yet the Apostles are not the point; the point is the Apostles' teaching truthfully conveyed, the truth we profess at Baptism and during worship for most of the church year. The Creed gives anyone all they need to know about the core of Christian faith. It remains in use in worship because, in the face of people perennially spinning scripture to suit themselves, it conveys what millions upon millions of Christians have held to be most certainly and most essentially true for 2000 years.

Let's pray: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (*Prayer from the Revised Common Lectionary resources for Reformation Day)*

Peace,

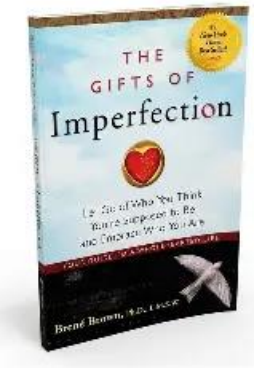
JDB+

Notes and Reminders

May 24, 2026: Pentecost Sunday and the Liturgical Color is Red. We encourage everyone to wear their favorite red outfit as we celebrate the birthday of the Church.

May 30, 2026: FPC Perry will be hosting the St. Augustine Presbytery Meeting and will begin with Registration at 8:30 am. We will have need for parking assistants and servers for meals. If you are available to assist, please reach out to Juanita Ratliff who is coordinating the meeting with the Presbytery.

May 31, 2026: Trinity Sunday brings the end of the Easter Season and reflects celebration of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).



June 17, 2026: Do you claim to be perfect? Had you considered that imperfection is a gift? Please join Cindy Brown in a discussion of Brene Brown's book, Imperfect The Gift of Imperfection. We will have a BYOD (bring your own dinner) and discussion of the book on Wednesday, June 17 at 6:00 pm. This book discusses living wholeheartedly; the importance of courage, compassion, connection; and the power of love, belonging and being enough. Please contact Cindy by May 13 if you would like her to order a book for you. We will meet in fellowship hall. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

NOTICE: Beginning June 7, 2026, the Morning Worship Service will begin at 10:30 am year-round. After Worship on June 7th, the Fellowship Committee will host a Sunday Luncheon and will provide Fried Chicken. Please bring a side dish to share.