

**Welcome!**

**We are so glad you are here.**

**September 24, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.**

It's never the changes we want that change everything.

***Junot Diaz, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao***

If you can't go to church and at least for a moment be given transcendence,  
if you can't pass briefly from this life into the next,  
then I can't see why anyone should go. Just a brief moment of transcendence  
causes you to come out of church a changed person.

***Garrison Keillor, former host, Prairie Home Companion***

Prayer is not asking for what you think you want,  
but asking to be changed in ways you can't imagine.

***Kathleen Norris***

New life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground,  
a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb. It starts in the dark.

***Barbara Brown Taylor, Episcopal priest***

**Living into the Joy of Being a Child of God  
Being Born of God**

**I John 2:28-3:3**

**First Presbyterian Church**

1530 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020-5240

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor: Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

Director of Music: Dr. Robert Remek

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

**CCLI #1836693; CRL034941; CVL503735603**

**WELCOME** — Please date, fill out, and pass the red Friendship Register to your neighbor.

**PRELUDE** – *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* . . . . . arr. Hal Hopson  
The Handbell Choir

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

**\*HYMN** – *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* . . . . . **# 263**

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS - (IN UNISON)** . . . . . Adapted from David Adam

**Lift us, Lord, out of fear into hope, out of frailty into strength, out of foolishness into sense. Lift us Lord. You came down to lift us. You descended to hell to lift us into heaven. You entered death to raise us to life. Come, Lord, raise us up, from all that separates us from you. In the name of Jesus, who died and rose for us. Amen.**

**A TIME OF SILENCE**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER (#577)**

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** – *Amazing Grace* . . . . . arr. Ruth Artman  
The Handbell Choir

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:  
We praise You for the radiance That from the hallowed page,  
A lantern to our footsteps, Shines on from age to age.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** – I John 2:28-3:3 (New Testament, Page 240 in pew Bible)

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD** . . . . . Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

**Living into the Joy of Being a Child of God  
Being Born of God**

**THIS WE BELIEVE** (in unison) ..... John 3:3-6, NRSV

**“Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT – Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!** ..... #341

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in his wonderful face And the things of earth will grow strangely dim In the light of his glory and grace.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** - (Debtors version) (front of Hymnal, pg. 16)

**Response - Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

*(Visitors, in the pew rack you will find a Guest Information card. Please complete the card, then place it in the offering plate.)*

*The anthem is a prayer. Please, no applause.*

**Offertory Anthem – How Can I Keep from Singing?** ..... Robert Lowry/arr. Craig Courtney

**\*THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE – DOXOLOGY ( #593)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**\*OFFERING OF PRAYER (in unison)** ..... Martin Israel, Doctor and Mystic, 1927-2007

**Let the healing grace of your love, O Lord, so transform us that we may play our part in the transfiguration of the world, from a place of suffering, death and corruption to a realm of infinite light, joy and love. Make us so obedient to your Spirit that our life may become a living prayer, and a witness to your unfailing presence. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN – Live Into Hope** ..... # 332

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**Congregational Response:**

**God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you, With a Shepherd’s care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.**

**\*POSTLUDE – Improvisation and Toccata on “Diademata”** ..... Lani Smith

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**Lay Reader – Louise Hardenburg**

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**The flowers in the sanctuary are given by  
Steven and Cynthia Silvestro in memory of loved ones.**

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### **WELCOME VISITORS!**

**Visitors, following worship, please join us on the patio for the Good News Kidz (GNK) celebration of their new school year. Juice, coffee, and ice cream will be served.**

**It is our hope that you will encounter God as you worship with us.** First

Presbyterian Church is a family of faith committed to families, peacemaking, and mission.

There are educational offerings for all ages, as well as fellowship groups for members and friends of the church. All are welcome. (For information, visit us at our web site at:

[fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org)

**CHILD CARE** for infants is provided in the nursery, located in the Narthex (Lobby) of the church. Children's worship kits are also available for younger children. Please ask an usher for assistance. Our children's Sunday school, Good News Kidz (GNK), gathers at 10am in the sanctuary (September through May,)

**FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**, in the narthex we have large print hymnals and a limited number of pew cushions available.

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### **OPPORTUNITIES**

**The bulletin announcements serve as reminders of church activities.**

**Please check our website: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org)**

**for the monthly newsletter and church calendar; and  
our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fpcoh/>**

**Church office e-mail: [landerson@fpcoh.org](mailto:landerson@fpcoh.org)**

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### **BOARD OF DEACONS —**

**A Deacons Fund offering will be received October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

These gifts will go to help members of our church and community when they face financial distress, or to help folks in need who God places in our path. Please use the envelope provided in next week's bulletin.

Just a reminder, we continue to collect non-perishable food items, hygiene supplies and gently used or new sneakers and blue jeans for the Jubilee Center. You may place these items in the narthex area.

**Share-A-Meal — October 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m., church kitchen**

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH —**

**Good News Kidz (GNK)** — (Sunday school for children ages 4-10), 10:00 a.m., sanctuary

**Senior High Youth Group — TODAY**, 5:00 p.m. at Starbucks on Young Circle

**Boy Scout Troop 420, September 26<sup>th</sup>**, 7:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Education Building

**Learning Center chapel — September 27<sup>th</sup>**, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary

**Early Learning Center chapel — September 27<sup>th</sup>**, 11:00 a.m., West Wing

**After Care chapel — September 29<sup>th</sup>**, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary

**GNK TEACHERS Bible Study and Training — October 1<sup>st</sup>**, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of education building, **following worship and the Multicultural Pot Luck Lunch,**

## **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP —**

**Breakfast and the Bible** — Sundays, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m., chapel – A study focusing on the scripture of the day.

### **A Time of Prayer, in the chapel**

Monday, **September 25<sup>th</sup>**: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Friday, **September 29<sup>th</sup>**: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

## **MEETING —**

**Staff meeting, September 25<sup>th</sup>**, Noon, church office

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## **LOOKING AHEAD.....**

**Multicultural Food Covered Dish lunch** - Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, following worship

**Presbyterian Women's luncheon** – Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Noon

**The Pumpkins arrive!!!** - Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m.

**Sign-Up Sunday** – October 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

**Lay Reader training** – Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, following worship

**Fall Festival** – Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, Pumpkin Patch

**Scout Sunday** – Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### **Sunday, September 24**

- Breakfast and the Bible – Chapel . . . . . 9:00 a.m.
- Worship – Sanctuary . . . . . 10:00 a.m.
- Good News Kidz (GNK) OPEN HOUSE - Sanctuary/ Education Building/Patio . . . . . 10:00 a.m.
- Newcomer’s Seminar – Church Office . . . . . 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel . . . . . 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Youth Group – at Starbucks on Young Circle . . . . . 5:00 p.m.

### **Monday, September 25**

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel . . . . . 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- Staff meeting – Church office . . . . . Noon
- Post-Irma Sharing Time — Chapel . . . . . 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

### **Tuesday, September 26**

- Boy Scout Troop 420 - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Education Building . . . . . 7:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday, September 27**

- Learning Center Chapel - Sanctuary . . . . . 10:30 a.m.

### **Thursday, September 28**

- Westminster Choir . . . . . 5:15 p.m.
- Westminster Ringers Bell Choir . . . . . 6:30 p.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel . . . . . 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **Friday, September 29**

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel . . . . . 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- After Care Chapel - Sanctuary . . . . . 4:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, September 30**

- Christ Jesus College and Seminary – Sanctuary & Chapel . . . . . 7:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Sunday, October 1 – World Communion Sunday**

- Breakfast and the Bible – Chapel . . . . . 9:00 a.m.
- Worship – Communion - Sanctuary . . . . . 10:00 a.m.
- Good News Kidz (GNK) - Sanctuary/ Education Building . . . . . 10:00 a.m.
- Multicultural Food Pot Luck Luncheon – Patio . . . . . following worship
- GNK Teachers – 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of education building . . . . . following luncheon
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel . . . . . 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Following worship on **Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup>**, join us for our annual Multicultural Potluck Luncheon.

**Bring a dish to share – one that reflects your cultural heritage.**

**Come and enjoy a time of fellowship.**

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### **DROP BY FOR COFFEE OR TEA WITH KENNEDY THIS WEEK**

Here are the unscheduled times this week where I am available for y'all to come by for a visit!

#### **Sunday**

(Bible study, worship, newcomers' and youth take up this day.)

#### **Monday – 2 PM to 5:00 PM**

(worship preparation, staff, prayer walk, and post Irma meeting take up the remaining time.)

#### **Tuesday – 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM and 1:30 to 3:00 PM**

(Preschool walk-around and Rotary take up the remaining time.)

#### **Wednesday – 1 PM to 3:30 PM**

(chapels and lunch take up the remaining time)

#### **Friday – 9:30 AM to 12 PM**

(Aftercare chapel and sermon finalization take up the remaining time.)

Please try to call beforehand so I can put the kettle on, and to make sure that the schedule hasn't unexpectedly changed for a hospital visit or some other concern.

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### **A WORD FROM KENNEDY**

#### **JOIN US TOMORROW FOR SOME POST-IRMA SHARING**

It has now been almost ten days since Irma came our way, and I am surprised by how discombobulated, even a bit shaky, I feel about the whole experience. I feel relief that it did not hit us head-on, even as I have a bit of survivor guilt because others did get a direct hit. I feel our vulnerability here in South Florida more than before, and that an unsettling feeling.

Maybe you can identify with some of those feelings; or maybe you are having other feelings; or maybe, as a hurricane veteran, all of this is old hat to you. But it seems a good idea to come together to share our experiences and feelings. **So tomorrow evening Monday evening, from 7 to 8:30 PM in the chapel**, we are hosting a post-Irma sharing time. Our agenda will be simply to listen to each other, to talk about our experiences before and during the storm, and how we are feeling after its passing.

Also, you can share any ways we as a church could have been more helpful to you during this Irma crisis. I will be working with other leaders to help us become more intentional about keeping us connected as a church family during such challenging times. Your feedback will be helpful as we make those plans.

So please join us — and let's take some time to share how we, by God's grace, got through and are still getting through these weeks since Irma began to invade our lives.

### **Some Thoughts on Hollywood Hills**

Over the last ten days, I've been thinking and praying about the tragic loss of those eight folks at the nursing home at Hollywood Hills, especially as three of our own were residing there at that time. I have been reading the many news articles ascribing blame and presenting solutions. As the facts come out, we will know more clearly what could have gone differently, and where the responsibility lies. And our elected leaders will develop proposals to address those issues.

But I want to use this space to address a larger problem that goes beyond this nursing home. I have spent countless hours over my years in ministry in such facilities. In that time, it has been clear that the emphasis has always been more on the nursing part of the word than the home part. These places look like hospitals, and often have that same impersonal and clinical atmosphere. They certainly don't feel like a home. That's why, when our church and others in our work with Bold Justice looked at the issue of senior care, we steered away from developing more regulations and requirements to asking whether God was leading us to look for a deeper change. God led us to the Greenhouse Model, a way of doing nursing home care that has led to improved health and well-being for the residents of homes that implemented it, and at about the same cost as traditional homes.

In a Greenhouse Model Nursing Home, each resident has his or her own bedroom and bathroom, and residents share a kitchen, dining and living room space where they share meals and socialize, becoming an extended family in a warm and loving environment. Caregivers are trained in a philosophy that puts residents' needs and wishes first and empowers the caregivers to act to meet those needs and wishes. In other words, the residents rule! For example, they can sleep and eat according to their own schedules and preferences. And there is consistent staffing and a maximum of 10-12 people per each Green House, so it feels like one's home, not an institution or facility.

That's why the John Knox Village retirement community in Pompano Beach, a community first founded by Presbyterians, chose the Green House Model for their own future skilled nursing needs. And there, infection and hospitalization rates are much lower than traditional nursing homes in the area, and resident, family and staff satisfaction are much higher. And it's why Bold Justice has pulled together a team comprised of the leaders at John Knox, Memorial Healthcare System CEO Aurelio Fernandez, and Broward County Property Appraiser Marty Kiar to develop more Green House skilled nursing facilities in Broward County to serve people of all income levels.

This is the work that God is enabling us to do through Bold Justice, work that by God's grace, will not only prevent such tragic stories as the one from Hollywood Hills, but will lead to a profound transformation in the care our most vulnerable seniors receive. That's why when you hear about a house meeting or coming out to a Bold Justice event, I want you to come. When you do, you are making a real difference, a difference that will impact the lives of people, including people you actually know.

**WE HAVE A NEWLY DESIGNED KIDS NOOK!  
FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS (THROUGH CHRISTMAS), WE WILL BE EXPERIMENTING  
WITH AN EXPANDED KIDS AREA IN THE SOUTH PART OF OUR CHURCH LOBBY. EVEN  
TODAY, YOU WILL NOTICE SOME CHANGES TO THAT AREA, AND LOOK FOR MORE  
CHANGES IN THE WEEKS TO COME, AND LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK.**