

🔗 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🔗

WELCOME

We are so glad you are here to worship with us today! Worship services are also available online. Sermons can be found at [www.winppc.org/sermons](http://www.winppc.org/sermons).

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday March 30, 2025 immediately following the 10:30am service. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the 2025 Church Budget & Committee Reports, Annual Report, and to terminate the Terms of Call for Pastor Darren Bess.

NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS

Come and join us on Thursday, March 20 to celebrate our partnership and mission outreach with our Cuban brothers and sisters. John Gerhig will present the program from his recent trip to Central Cuba. This trip continues the tradition of showing solidarity with our Cuban friends. Many of you may have contributed medical or craft supplies for this trip, so come and learn about the mission outreach. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 11:30am for a catered meal. The cost is \$15 and reservations can be made by calling the church office (407-647-1467) or signing up in the front hall. Reservations must be made by Monday, March 17. As always, you are welcome to bring your own meal or just come for the program.

RECEPTION FOR PASTOR DARREN & CAROL BESS

Sunday, March 30 will be an important day for all of us here at WPPC. Pastor Darren will be in the pulpit here for the last time. Following the 10:30am service there will be a reception in Fellowship Hall for him and Carol. Please join us as we celebrate their time here and wish them well.

FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for the weekly worship service in honor of/in memory of someone special or of a special occasion, please pick a date and put your name on the sign-up chart located in front office hallway by the double doors leading to the sanctuary. When you sign up, please take a form and turn it into the front office with all the information filled in. The cost for the flowers is \$60.

UP NEXT . . .

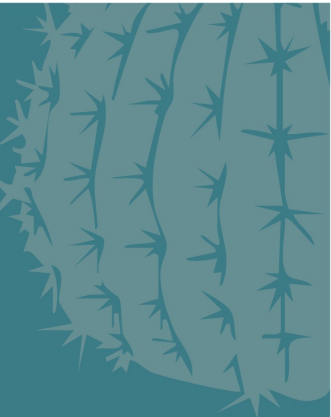
- Mon, 3/10 6pm Hannah Circle, Rm 301
- Tues, 3/11 10am/7pm Bible Study—Gospel of John, Rm 301
- Wed, 3/12 10am Preschool Board Meeting, Rm 301
- Fri, 3/14 5pm Kid’s Night Out, Fellowship Hall
- Sun, 3/16 11:45am Deacon Meeting, Rm 301
- Tues, 3/18 10am/7pm Bible Study—Gospel of John, Rm 301
- Thurs, 3/20 11am Communion Service at Westminster WP
- Thurs, 3/20 11:30am Neighbors & Friends, Fellowship Hall
- Tues, 3/25 10am/7pm Bible Study—Gospel of John, Rm 301
- Thurs, 3/27 7pm Session Meeting, Rm 301
- Sun, 3/30 11:30am Reception for Pastor Darren & Carol Bess

🔗 NOTES 🔗



Winter Park  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 9, 2025



FIRST SUNDAY  
in  
LENT

The Session			The Diaconate		
2025	2026	2027	2025	2026	2027
Theresa Coker	Syd Davis	Maria Garton	Meg Baldwin	Ernestine Beattie	Cynthia Nants
Mary Ferguson	Betty Johnston	Brandon St. John	Anna Caparis	Sue Howard	Robert Nevill
Cathy House	Shaheed Mohammed	Carel Thompson	Lynne McKnight		
Glenn Riccio	Nelson Roe	Phyllis Woods	Debbie Pauzar		
Ron Thompson			Debby Roberts		
			Paula Smathers		
Local Outreach Supported by WPPC					
Center for Women & Families, Coalition for Homeless of Central FL					
Christian Service Center   Health Care Center for Homeless					
Coalition for Homeless of Central FL—General (food prepared & served)					
IDignity   Parramore Kidz Zone					
SALT Outreach, Inc. (Serving and Love Together)					
Missions Supported by WPPC					
Audrey Santiago, <i>Transitions Orphan Assistance Foundation</i> , Ukraine					
Dr. Robert Gamble, <i>This Child Here</i> , Ukraine					
Dennis & Susan Walters, <i>SIL</i> , Asia					
Steve & Sonia Dettweiler, <i>Wycliffe</i> , Nigeria					
Dr. Anne Hallum, <i>A.I.R. (Alliance for Reforestation)</i> , Guatemala					
Iglesia de Santa Clara Presbyterian, Santa Clara, Cuba					
PC(USA) World Missions					
Mark Hare & Jenny Bent, Costa Rica   Dan & Elizabeth Turk, Madagascar					
Staff					
The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor					
The Rev. Dr. James A. Capps, Adult Ministry Coordinator					
Justin Chase, Director of Music					
Penny Walsh, Organist					
Sandra Shafer, Pianist					
Scott Beck, Director of Handbells					
Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant					
Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant					
Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant					
Valerie Beltrán, Children’s Ministry Coordinator					
Nicole Fye, Director of Preschool Programs					
Adam Davies, Sexton					

ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* Please stand as you are able

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, say to the Lord:

**My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.**

For God will protect us from evil

and commands angels to guard us in all our ways.

**God rescues those who love God and is present with us in trouble.**

God answers when we cry out and reveals our salvation to us.

**Let us worship God!**

\* PRAYER OF ADORATION

**Mighty God, You heard the cries of Your people and rescued them from the hand of their oppressors. You cared for them in the wilderness. In the life of Christ, You experienced that wilderness yourself. As we journey through our own wilderness, we give thanks that Your Spirit sustains us and Your love guides us. Amen.**

\* HYMN 166 • *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

CALL TO CONFESSION

The journey of life, inevitably leads to wilderness, times marked by guilt, frustration, and the sense that we are not in the right place. But even in the wilderness, God is with us. Even in the wilderness, God’s mercy is sure.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**As Lent unfolds before us, great God, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem. The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy. We can’t imagine new life, Easter life, because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts. Meet us in our weakness. Take up our sins. Ease our burdens. Carry us on the way. Bring us to Jerusalem, at last. Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold. Amen.**

*(Continue with silent confession and reflection.)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Walking this earth, facing temptation, defeating sin, Jesus has done for us what we could never do for ourselves. This is good news!

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

\* RESPONSE • *Hear the Good News of Salvation* (Hymnal 441, verse 1)

**Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God’s love.**

**Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.**

**Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, You save from sin!**

**How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

CHILDREN’S DISMISSAL

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE • *Sign Us with Ashes* (Hymnal 433, refrain)

**Sign us with ashes, merciful God,**

**children of dust, as to dust we return.**

**Sign us with ashes, merciful God.**

**Mark us and make us your own.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 43:18-21

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 3:1-17

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“A BIRTH STORY” • Jim Esch

\* THE REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH - *Adapted from the Presbyterian Church Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the One triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Lenten Meditation* - Althouse (10:30)

\* OFFERTORY RESPONSE *Doxology* (Hymnal 606)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\* HYMN 215 • *What Wondrous Love Is This*

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

WORSHIP LEADER

Jim Esch

LITURGISTS

Nancy Galyean (10:30)

MUSICIANS

Sandra Shafer, Piano (8:15)

Justin Chase, Director of Music (10:30)

Lynn Peghiny Mells, Piano (10:30)

AUDIO/VISUAL

Carole Reece, Doug Reece, Nelson Roe & Carissa Taylor (10:30)

WORSHIP MATTERS

MUSIC

Our CCLI License number is 11184426; OneLicense.net number is 725233; Our CVLI License number is 505405959.

WORSHIP AIDS

Assistive hearing devices are available from an audio/visual technician at the rear of the sanctuary.

COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

PASTORAL CARE

If you (or someone you know) are going through a difficult time, please reach out to us. Our Deacons and pastoral care staff are available for support, home and hospital visits, and prayer. Please contact Dr. Darren Bess at 407-647-1467 or [darrenb@winppc.org](mailto:darrenb@winppc.org). For pastoral emergencies when the church office is closed, call 407-647-1467 x 112.

PUBLICITY

If you have a church event that needs to be publicized in the church bulletin, newsletter, etc., please fill out the form located at: <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/>.