



**YOUR MONTHLY NEWS FROM**  
*First Presbyterian Church*  
**4437 Clinton Street, Marianna, FL 32446**

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March, 2020

**LENTEN LUNCHEONS 2020**

**THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS—GRACE FROM THE CROSS**

Lent is a time for us to prepare our hearts for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent was not established in Scripture, but actually originated in the fourth century and has evolved some over the years. One of the practices of Lent is to give up something during the days approaching Easter.

A question you are probably familiar with is “What are you giving up for Lent.” Most often the response is something such as soda, TV, candy, etc. However, this year let’s think about something more personal. How about giving up guilt, shame, fear, frustration, anger, unforgiveness, worry; just to name a few things that our Father has offered freedom from via the Grace exhibited on the Cross by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Think about being free and experiencing God’s grace in your life as we study the last seven sayings of Jesus on the Cross. On the back side of this page see “Preface to the 7 Last Words of Christ.”

DATE	GROUP SERVING LUNCH	SCRIPTURE & TOPIC	GUEST SPEAKER
March 3	Circle II	“Father, Forgive Them” Luke 23:34	Kenneth Kelley First Presbyterian Church
March 10	Circle I	“Today, You Will be With Me in Paradise.” Luke 23:43	David Green St. Luke’s Episcopal Church
March 17	Lunch Bunch	“Woman Behold Your Son” John 19:26-27	Nathan Atwood First United Methodist Church
March 24	<b>Need Volunteers</b> Soup, Sandwiches and Dessert	“My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?” Matthew 27:46	Kevin Yoder Rivertown Community Church
March 31	God’s Warriors	“I Thirst” John 19:28	Michael Jones Trinity Powerhouse Church of God by Faith
April 7	Wildflowers	“It is Finished!” John 19:30	John Wamsley First Presbyterian Church

# Preface to the 7 Last Words of Christ

(Excerpts from a writing by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson)

“By all accounts Jesus didn’t do a lot of talking on the cross. He was silent during the hours he hung there, except for a very few words. But these Seven Last Words provide a window into Jesus’ soul; a way to understand what is ultimately important to this One who is dying on the cross.

As I have studied and meditated on each Word, trying to plumb the meaning of each saying, I have been touched by the awe of the scene on Golgotha that dark, foreboding Friday afternoon as Jesus hung on the cross. I’ve learned, I think, to understand him better — his incredible love, his determination, his humanness as well as his divinity, his intimate relationship with his Father, and finally his trust.

It isn’t often that we can see with such clarity into a human being, especially Jesus the Son of God himself. But the looking inspires in us awe and changes us forever.

I encourage you to study these Seven Last Words. Don’t rush through them. Let each of them simmer on the stove of your heart for a while so all the flavors begin to meld together into a unique and satisfying aroma. “

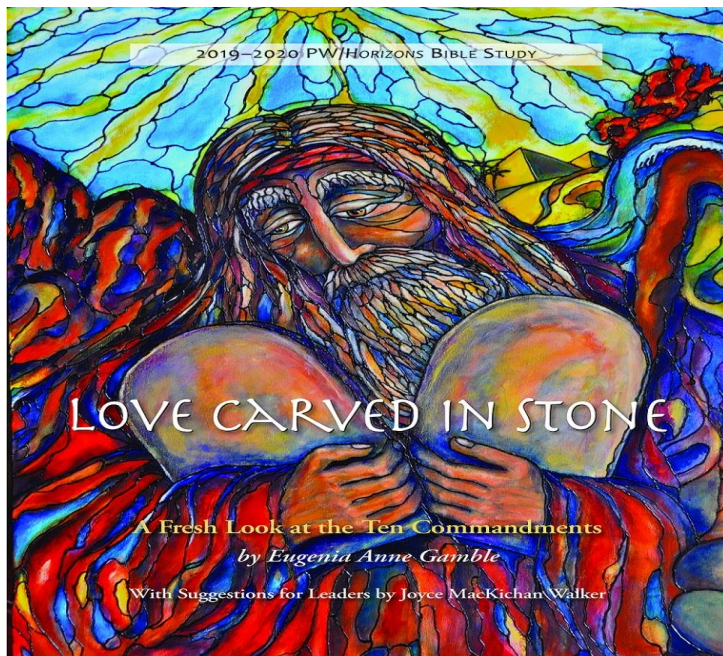
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*Our prayer is that you will attend the Lenten Luncheons to hear what these Pastors have to say about the last 7 Words (sayings) of Jesus so that you might be blessed and drawn closer to the One who died for you and to the Father who sent him on this costly journey to redeem us.*

**— INVITE A FRIEND**

**— HEADS UP!**

- On March 17th and 24th Habitat for Humanity will have builders in town. We will be providing to-go plates for 10 people on those days. They will be picked up; we do not have to deliver.**
- We need volunteers to sign up to bring soup, salads and dessert for March 24th (Spring Break)**



**CIRCLES**  
**FOR THE LADIES**  
*(September thru May)*

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Circle 1: Chair is Joy Hinton  
 Lesson Planner is Frankie Stewart  
 Meets 1st Monday at 10:30 a.m.

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Circle 2: Chair is Dot Carpenter  
 Lesson Planner — Rotates  
 Meets 1st Monday at 4:00 p.m.

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Circle 3: The Lunch Bunch  
 Chair is Peggy Peacock  
 Lesson Planner — Rotates  
 3rd Monday at 11:30 a.m.  
 March will meet at Peggy Peacock's home

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Circle 4: Good News Women  
 Will be Joining Circle 2 for Bible Study  
 Will continue to gather together for  
 Fellowship (dates to be determined)

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**A Fresh Look at the Ten Com-  
 mandments — A Love Letter  
 From A Loving God**

Lesson Seven — Words of Love: “You  
 shall not steal.”

(Exodus 20:15)

The purpose of this lesson is to expand  
 our understanding of stealing beyond  
 the concept of disrespect for personal  
 property.

Scripture: Exodus 20:15;

Matthew 25:31-46

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**The Wildflowers**

Lesson Planner — Rotates

Meets Year Round on the  
 1st Wednesday at 6:30 in homes.

This group of ladies will  
 choose their study materials  
 at their first meeting each Fall.

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*Each women's group has its own  
 flavor and mission.*

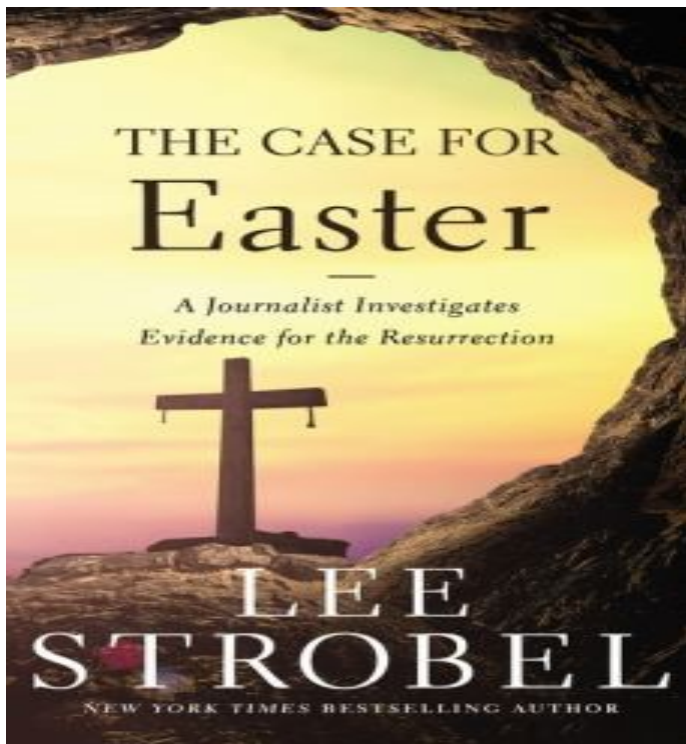
*Find the group that fits you.*

*It is never too late to join in.*

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**TOGETHER**

women  
**GROW** 



The Men's Group in our Church is known as  
**"GOD'S WARRIORS"**

This month the Church's Men's Group will be meeting on WEDNESDAY, March 11th at 6 pm. We will meet at the church.

## THIS MONTH'S LESSON

We will study a Journalist's investigation regarding evidence for the resurrection of Jesus.

*Did Jesus of Nazareth really rise from the dead?*

Of the many world religions, only one claims that its founder returned from the grave. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the very cornerstone of Christianity.

But a dead man coming back to life? In our sophisticated age, when myth has given way to science, who can take such a claim seriously? Some argue that Jesus never died on the cross. Conflicting accounts make the empty tomb seem suspect.

How credible is the evidence for — and against — the resurrection? Focusing his award-winning skills as a legal journalist on History's most compelling enigma, Lee Strobel retraces the startling findings that led him from atheism to belief. He examines:

The Medical Evidence — Was Jesus' death a sham and his resurrection a hoax?

The Evidence of the Missing Body — was Jesus' body really absent from history?

The Evidence of Appearances — was Jesus seen alive his death on the cross?

## GOD'S WARRIORS

First Presbyterian Church

Marianna, FL

Mission Statement:

*"We are committed to being role models to one another and to grow in faith and service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ"*

*"As Iron Sharpens Iron,*

*One Man Sharpens Another"*

Proverbs 27:17

*Invite other men to join in our fellowship, study and service. Let us be strong in the Lord together*

We always have a time of conversational prayer. We learn from one another and are encouraged in our own personal lives.

Lou Roberts and Barry Stafford are our co-leaders for this Spring. Roy Turner reminds us a donation of \$5.00 will help with expenses and our missions during the year.



# OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Jennifer Stafford and the SQUAD (Middle School Youth Group) and LuAnne Law, Danielle Payne and the Senior High Group want to **THANK YOU** for your support of the Souper Bowl of Caring.

**WELL DONE!**

Received \$1,042 cash and 459 Food Items.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

***DOGWOOD YOUTH CONFERENCE 2020***  
***MARCH 6-8***



Dogwood Youth Conference (DYC) is a weekend retreat at Dogwood Acres for middle and high school students. It is a time to relax, recharge, and reconnect. There will be keynotes, worship, small groups, recreation, and lots of fellowship all in the beauty of God's creation at Dogwood Acres! Lodging is in the Dogwood climate-controlled cabins, and meals are provided. Ukirk, the FSU College Ministry, will help lead the weekend.

**REGISTER ONLINE AT [dogwoodacres.org](http://dogwoodacres.org)**  
**COST: \$125 Per Participant**  
**Scholarships Available**

## MARK YOUR CAENDAR

Easter — April 12th:

The children will sing at the worship service.

We will have an Easter Egg Hunt. (Senior High Students and SQUAD will hide the eggs.)

Vacation Bible School — June 22-25

The theme is "Rocky Railway."

The Coordinator is Ashley Rackley.

Spring Project

Youth will plant trees.





## YOUR ELDERS

### Class of 2020

Tina Bigale  
Leslie Kelley  
John W. Milton  
Scott Yant

### Class of 2021

Janet Howell  
Travis Lawson  
Larry Spivey  
Barry Stafford

### Class of 2022

Amanda Hinson  
LuAnne Law  
Bryan Milton  
Matt Milton

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## YOUR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Administration — 3rd Thursday at 5:30 pm

Christian Education — 3rd Sunday at 9 am

Congregational Care — 4th Wednesday at  
Noon

Evangelism & Fellowship — 3rd Tuesday at  
6 pm

Property & Operations — as needed

Worship & Music — 4th Sunday at 12:15

Mission & Service — 2nd Sunday at 8:45 am

## YOUR COMMITTEES

### Administration

Chair: John W. Milton  
Members: Chuck Morgan, Beth Westmoreland,  
Larry Spivey

### Christian Education

Chair: LuAnne Law  
Members: Jim Gibbs, Mary Ann Gibbs, Ashley  
Rackley

### Congregational Care

Chair: Jan Howell  
Members: Alma Milton, Andrew Tinsley, Gina  
Tinsley, Muriel Turner

### Evangelism and Fellowship

Chair: Amanda Hinson  
Members: Lauren Lyons, Geriann Milton,  
Peggy Peacock, Jennifer Stafford

### Property and Operations

Chair: Scott Yant  
Members: Mary Lu Andreu, Mel McClure Clark,  
John W. Milton, Matt Milton, Chuck  
Morgan, Xylpha Schwehm, Barry  
Stafford

### Worship and Music

Chair: Bryan Milton  
Members: Macky Gortemoller, Joy Hinton,  
Kenneth Kelley, Anna Beth Milton,  
Tom Stadskev, Linda Wamsley,  
Beth Westmoreland

### Mission and Service

Chair: Kathy Milton  
Members: Sharon Bannerman, Tina Bigale,  
Mary Ann Gibbs, Marsha Rodgers  
Litteral, Marianne Lonsinger, Travis  
Lawson





### ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Church's Endowment Funds are overseen and wisely invested by a committee of people dedicated to taking proper care of the donations made to the Endowment Funds.

The members of this Committee are:

Chuck Morgan

Guy Green

John Milton V

Amy Milton

Beth Westmoreland

The Endowment Committee meets on a quarterly basis.



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Kay Trammell who died 1/29/20. She was a vibrant presence in our community and church until 2000 when the Trammells moved to Tallahassee. Kay's funeral was at the Faith Presbyterian Church.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them."



We welcome Rusty Cole who joined our church by transfer of his church letter in Bonifay. He reaffirmed his Christian Faith during morning worship with Leslie Kelley and Kenneth Kelley participating in the ceremony. (Leslie is his mother.) Rusty starts working at the Sam's Store in Dothan soon.



Thanks to Stephen and Hunter Hutton who worked very hard and professionally to refurbish the sprinkler system at the manse. Taking time from their busy lives to do this is greatly appreciated.



**SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH**

**8 AM TILL NOON**

**People may come and go as their time allows.**

**The Property and Operations Committee has scheduled this. There will be assigned jobs and something for everyone to do and feel a sense of contribution. These work days are always a great time of fellowship as well. More information forthcoming.**

# FOOD PANTRY



**Feeding the  
Community**

## FPC FOOD PANTRY

Open Wednesdays 9-11 am

**EXCEPT** for the years that Christmas and  
New Year's Day fall on Wednesday.

(Which was the case in 2019)

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## ANNUAL BANQUET

**Thursday, March 12th**

**at 6 pm**

Every year we have a Banquet for the Food Pantry Volunteers. This is sponsored by your Mission and Service Committee and is always a special time for us to get together and thank the many people who work so hard to help Melissa make our Food Pantry a successful ministry to the community.

# GINNY BUSBY

Her address at her sister's home is:

Ginny Busby  
% Sara Gassett  
6812 Bedford Lake Road  
Keystone Heights, FL 32656

Ginny will be staying here in between chemo treatment sessions. We thought it would be better to give you this address since the address at Shands seems to change each time she goes for treatment.

## STEVEN QUIIGLEY

On Sunday, March 1st, Steven will share what he has been through and how his Faith in Jesus Christ has helped him through it all.



**Saturday, March 28, 2020**

**9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CDT**

**Dogwood Acres Summer Camp  
and Retreat Center**

**3320 Harmony Rd, Chipley, FL 32428**

*Presbytery of Florida's coming-together of all congregations.*





**March 1st**

Alex Christopher

**March 3rd**

Bill Stevens

**March 5th**

Kip Blighton

**March 7th**

Bryan Milton

**March 8th**

Anne Sims

**March 9th**

Daniel Oswald

Terry Owens

**March 12th**

Chris Milton

Jared Roberts

**March 13th**

Gina Stuart

**March 17th**

Muriel Turner

**March 18th**

Cindy Morgan

**March 20th**

Janie Frances Pulliam

**March 22nd**

Susie Stevens

**March 24th**

Willie Mae Goold

**March 25th**

Dot Carpenter

**March 28th**

Mary Skipper

Jackie Spivey

Tom Stadskev

**March 29th**

Jennifer Stafford

Allen Ward

**March 31st**

Emily Fuqua

*These are the birthdays that we  
are currently aware of.*

*If your March  
birthday is not listed, please  
contact  
the Church Office so we can  
update our list.*