



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

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November, 2020

*Dear Faithful:*

*As I worked on this treasurer's report for the third quarter, 2020, I reflected on the faithfulness and generosity of the congregation. I would like to thank everyone for the financial support given to First Presbyterian Marianna during what can be described these last two years as the most challenging I have ever seen. Hurricane Michael followed up by clean-up and recovery and now an international pandemic.*

*Our church family is strong and will survive the current pandemic as we did Hurricane Michael. Your generosity during these trying times has helped pay our bills, salaries and commitments. Support for the church food bank, whether financial or volunteer, has been a blessing for hundreds of families that depend on First Presbyterian Church.*

*I want to thank Chuck Morgan for his dedication to this church family. The gift of his time and talent has soundly guided our church financially through these last two stormy years. He is truly a faithful servant.*

*Connie Butts, our church administrator, has kept me well informed and is doing a great job keeping the books. I appreciate all her work and dedication.*

*Our income and expenses are positive Y.T.D. Again, appreciation is extended to Chuck for filing for pandemic relief earlier in the year. After all repairs, the operating account and reserve account have been properly funded.*

*In closing, I mentioned earlier the strength of giving from our church family has always amazed me. In a normal year we would be working hard during this time on a stewardship campaign. A letter such as this would be sent with accompanying commitment cards for the upcoming year. But we all know this is not a normal year. There will not be a traditional stewardship campaign.*

*Our life here on Earth is temporary as we are just managers of this wonderful gift from God. We ask that you prayerfully consider the church financially along with your time and talents for this coming year. LuAnne Law will be sending an email with a link as an option for making your pledge.*

*Grace and Peace,*

***John W. Milton, Treasurer***

## **GOD'S WARRIORS**

November 9, 2020 at 6 pm

Beef O'Brady's

This is a Monday and we will have fellowship and Bible study. We will also discuss our Christmas gifts for the Anchorage Home foster children as well as our December breakfast.

We will be in the private room to the far left and have room to distance. Monday, as our mature Indian Springs Presbyterians know is 1/2 price burger night if you want to take advantage of that!

## **GOD'S WARRIORS**

### **Men's Group of**

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*



## **POINSETTIAS**

We are going to celebrate Christmas here at the First Presbyterian Church and one of our annual traditions is the purchase of poinsettias by the congregation to be placed at the altar for all of our viewing enjoyment and then taken home by those who purchased at the end of Advent.

We will be placing an order form in the Sunday bulletins and also email it to you.

Deadline for turning the form and your money into the office is Tuesday, December 1st. (The cost for a poinsettia is \$15.)

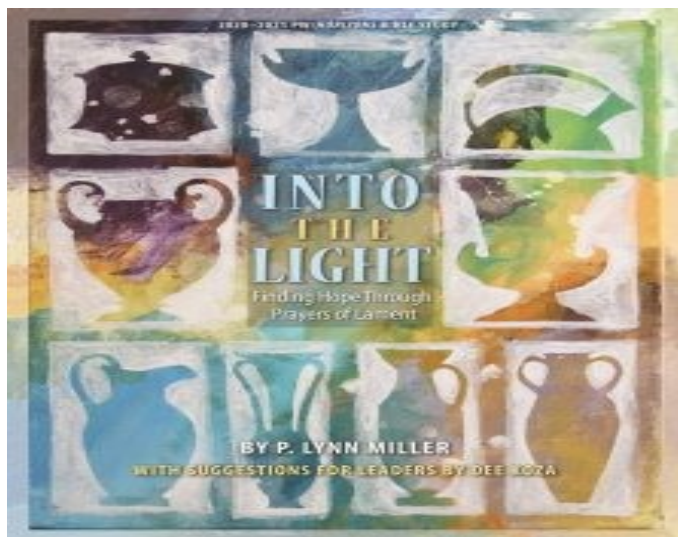


## **TIME AND TALENT**

### **VOLUNTEERS FOR 2021**

Attached to this Newsletter is a copy of the Time and Talent Volunteer form for 2021.

Please fill this out and return it to the church office before the end of the year so that the Elders for 2021 will know who their helpers are in all of the various categories.



## **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.

**NO MEETING NOV 2020**

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Circle 2: Chair is Dot Carpenter

Lesson Planner — Rotates

Meets 1st Monday at 4:00 p.m.

**NO MEETING NOV 2020**

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Circle 3: The Lunch Bunch

Chair is Peggy Peacock

Lesson Planner — Rotates

3rd Monday at 11:30 a.m.

**NO MEETING NOV 2020**

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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)

## **The Wildflowers**

Lesson Planner — Rotates

Meets Year Round on the

1st Wednesday at 6:30 in homes.

**Nov 2020 — Amanda Hinson's Home**

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## **INTO THE LIGHT**

**(Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament)**

***The Heart of Lament***

Main Idea: The perceived absence of God is at the heart of lament.

Scripture: Psalm 22:1-19; Matthew 27:45-56

“When we lament, we may feel as if there is a God-shaped hole in us, that we are alone in a hostile world. In times like these.....we are reminded that God has claimed us and is always with us.”

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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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**DURING THE COVID-19 OUR CIRCLE  
ATTENDANCE IS ON A  
MONTH-BY-MONTH BASIS**

# **TOGETHER**

women  
**GROW** 

# PRAY FOR OTHERS

## OUR COUNTRY

We are seeing behavior, events, attitudes, hatred — things that have not been the norm in the United States of America. I trust you have been on your knees before God praying for our country and that you have or will vote. By the time you receive this Newsletter, early voting will have ended and your last chance is the official Election Day, November 3rd.

Is all of this “evil” behavior going to stop right after the election? No. The U.S. has a long road back to the path the Founding Fathers put us on. It is our responsibility as Christians to make sure we have humbled ourselves and asked forgiveness so that God will step in and heal our land.

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## HURRICANE LAURA RELIEF For Westminster Presbyterian Church of Sulphur, LA

Our church is partnering with the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Sulphur, LA for donations and support. Sulphur is close to Lake Charles and were slammed by Hurricane 4, Laura, and then Hurricane 2, Delta, 6 weeks later. Their church and members suffered much like we did in October 2020 and also are serving as a distribution center. Pastors are Erick and Leslie Mansell.

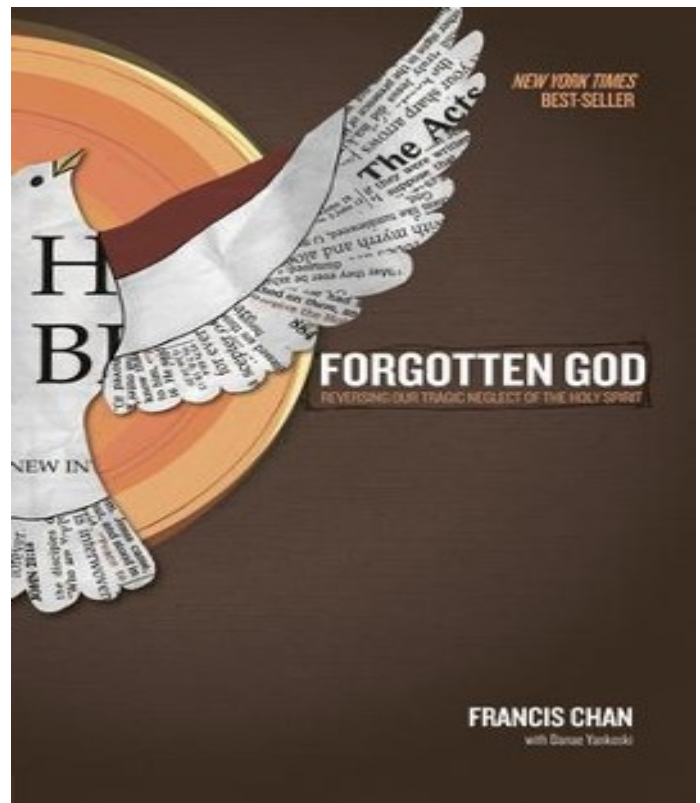
[www.sulphurchurch.org](http://www.sulphurchurch.org) (Website)

[Westminster@sulphurchurch.org](mailto:Westminster@sulphurchurch.org) (FB)

After our experience with Hurricane Michael, several Presbyterian Churches directly supported us with much prayer but also with labor, supplies and money. At this time we are asking those of you who can to contribute financially..

Make your check out to First Presbyterian Church and note: For Hurricane Laura Relief. This will then be listed on your giving statement and we will mail the Church a check for all of the donations.

# ADULT BIBLE STUDY



## EVERY WEDNESDAY

6:30 p.m.

We have been very successful doing our Bible Study on Zoom and will continue to do so in the coming weeks.

We will begin a new study one chapter at a time using the book, “Forgotten God” by Francis Chan. ([First 3 Wednesdays in November](#) and then a Christmas study in December.)

“Are you spiritually empty and searching for something more? Perhaps you are missing out on God’s presence and power through the Holy Spirit.” In this book “Francis Chan imparts a life-changing message on the power of the Holy Spirit and His desire to unleash Himself into our daily lives.”





**We offer deep sympathy and prayers for the following:**

*Family and friends of Gina Stuart who passed away on October 25, 2020. Gina was a very active member of the community of Jackson County in many ways and will be remembered and missed.*



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020**

**11:00 A.M.**

Pastor John will guide you through communion on the Radio Broadcast and FB Live; both of which are at 11 am. Beginning October 4th, the radio broadcast is no longer pre-recorded. It is the “live” Sanctuary Worship.

Please have your bread and fruit of the vine close by if you are listening via the Radio Broadcast or watching FB Live.



***Family and Friends of Gina Stuart***

***Sherry Barber (Amanda Hinson's mother)***

***Cindy Yant***

Jane Powell

Beth and Sandy Westmoreland

Bradley Krons (Joe Busby's brother)

Hedy Williams (Hanni Daffin's sister)

Lee Shook

Debbie Johnson (Cindy Yant's aunt)

Fran McNeill and Ernie McNeill

Christine Yoshikawa

Charlotte Hunter

Bud Wierman

Dr. Megan Johnson (Wamsley's niece)

Charlton Keen Jr. and niece, Kathryn Keen

Doug Woolery (requested by Cindy Morgan)

Zooey Chancey (requested by Ginger Green)

Jeff Yon, Grade Taylor and Harold Willis (requested by Scott Yant)

Billy Herrington (requested by Jared Roberts)

Joy Gilbert

Sumi Hanstine (requested by Ashley Rackley)

Melanie McCroan

Ronnie Heath (requested by Larry & Jackie Spivey)

Michael Schouest and Family ((requested by Kathy Roberts)

Dennis Maxson

Mary Bevis Schmidt (requested by Mel McLure Clark)

Howard Alig (Cindy Morgan's brother)

Steven Quigley

Roy Turner

Barbara Mears

Jim Gibson (Mary Ann Gibbs' brother)

Alex and Joy Lewis

Ruth Hammett (Scott Yant's mother)

Cindy Yant



### **About Jim and Jodi McGill's ministries:**

Jim serves with the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Niger (EERN) and the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) to ensure sustainability for clean water and sanitation at both community and user levels. He works with the church in being a strong participant in the rural development of Niger and South Sudan and an effective advocate for the health of its people. Jodi serves with the EERN in its efforts to create and staff church-run health clinics and to train students in its new nursing school. She also works in the EERN health clinic on a regular basis.

### **Country Context:**

Niger is often called the gateway between North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa. It is one of the continent's most economically impoverished countries and is at the bottom of the UN's human development index. Niger has the highest fertility and population growth rates in the world. Fewer than 50 percent of children are enrolled in school, and its annual per capita gross domestic product is only about \$800.

Farming is limited by frequent droughts, and the country's vast desert regions are growing because arable land is falling victim to droughts, excessive cultivation, overgrazing and deforestation. While 95 percent of Nigeriens are Muslim, the government is secular and there is openness to the gospel. Most non-Muslims in Niger are Christian or adherents of traditional religions. The Evangelical Church in the Republic of Niger is the largest Protestant church in the country and is a member of the World Communion of Reformed Churches. In recent decades, the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Niger and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) began working as partners in mission.

In early 2011, the people of South Sudan voted to separate from the rest of Sudan and form an independent country. The referendum was part of a 2005 peace accord that ended decades of civil war between rebels in the South and government forces from the North. However, just two years later, the country was engulfed by fighting when president Salva Kiir accused vice-president Riek Machar of attempting a failed coup. Government and rebels agreed to attend peace talks in Ethiopia in 2014, and a deal was finally signed under threat of UN sanctions against both sides in August 2015. An ongoing and increasingly brutal new wave of violence broke out in July of 2016 and has caused widespread famine. The conflict has displaced more than 3 million people.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been involved in Sudan for more than a century and has longstanding relationships with two partner churches in South Sudan: The Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) and the South Sudan Evangelical Presbyterian Church (SSPEC) as well as Nile Theological College, RECONCILE, Across, and the South Sudan Council of Churches. These years of civil war and conflict have left South Sudan's infrastructure in ruins and its people traumatized, but the region is home to abundant natural resources and many faithful people. The PC(USA) is working with its church and ecumenical partners to help South Sudan maximize the promise of independence and improve the plight of the people.

### **About Jim and Jodi McGill:**

Jim and Jodi McGill began mission service in 1995, working with the Church of Central Africa in Malawi in the areas of water/sanitation and health.

Jim received his bachelor's degree in physics from Wake Forest University and his master's degree in geological engineering at the University of Arizona. Prior to his service as a mission co-worker, Jim spent many years in Africa as the child of Presbyterian missionaries to Congo and doing geophysical research with the Geology Department of Duke University.

Jodi holds a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Arizona and a bachelor's degree in chemistry and microbiology from Northern Arizona University. She also holds a Master of Science in Nursing as a family nurse practitioner and a Master of Public Health from Emory University. She has served as a nurse both in the Atlanta, Georgia, area and in Africa.

The McGills are the parents of six children, twins Jason and Michael, Salome, Selina, and twins Joseph and John. They are members of Columbia Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Georgia, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.



**November 5th**

Bud Wierman

**November 10th**

Marianne Lonsinger

**November 11th**

Natalie Bedini

**November 15th**

Brent Bedini

**November 16th**

Hazel Nelson

**November 27th**

Lindsy Milton

**November 29th**

Cooper Milton

**November 30th**

Bryan Moore

*This is a list of the birthdays that we have been made aware of. If your November birthday is not listed, please let the church office know so that we might update our list.*

*We want to thank Macky Gortemoller and those who helped her make Heritage Sunday very special.*

*Aggie Schack provided “goody bags” for our children and we are thankful — another great ministry!*

*And, thank you to the people who worked so hard to provide a great meal after the service for Gina Stuart. Our ladies always do such a great job — a wonderful ministry.*

*We also thank you, our faithful members and regular attendees of First Presbyterian Church of Marianna. Thank you for cooperating with the COVID-19 restrictions and participating in the many ZOOM activities. The Session and your Pastor have worked hard to comply but also keep things going so you will not feel “lost” in the midst of the Pandemic.*

*Because of everyone’s efforts, your church is still alive and well!*



# FOOD PANTRY

**Melissa, along with her son, Zachary Taylor; Bill Stevens, Jeff and Amy Norville, Muriel Turner and Linda Wamsley have been keeping our Food Pantry going during the COVID-19 “shutdown” with a drive by system so that people would feel “safe” to come and pick up the food they so desperately need. What a great way to continue ministering to the needs of others. WE ALSO THANK THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTING WITH UNLOADING THE TRUCK FROM SECOND HARVEST.**



***“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink....”***

**Matthew 25:35**





## YOUR ELDERS

### Class of 2020

Beth Westmoreland  
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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### **1835 Endowment Committee**

Chair: Chuck Morgan  
Members: John Milton V, Jack Peacock,  
LuAnne Law, Guy Green

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**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST  
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
VIA ZOOM AT 10:15 am**

The purpose of this meeting is to elect 4 new elders and 3 members to be on next year's Nominating Committee. Pastor John will provide you with the Zoom ID via email at a later time.

## 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