YOUR MONTHLY NEWS FROM

First Presbyterian Church

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February 2021

DON'T JUST BELIEVE…..BELONG!

"God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the ruth."
(1 Timothy 3:15)

You are called to belong, not just believe.

Even in the perfect, sinless environment of Eden, God said, *"It is not good for the man to be alone."* (Genesis 2:18)

We are created for <u>community</u>, fashioned for <u>fellowship</u>, and formed for a <u>family</u> and none of us can fulfill God's purposes by ourselves. The Bible knows nothing of solitary saints or spiritual hermits.

While your relationship with Christ is personal, God never intends it to be private. In God's family, you are connected to every other believer. The Bible says, *"In Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."* (Romans 12:5)

Following Jesus includes belonging, not just believing. British author and theologian, C. S. Lewis, noted that the word <u>membership</u> is of Christian origin, but the world has emptied it of its original meaning. Stores offer discounts to "members" and advertisers use member names to create mailing lists. In churches, membership is often reduced to simply adding your name to a roll, with no requirements or expectations.

To Paul, being a "member" of the church meant being a vital organ of a living body. An indispensable, interconnected part of the body of Christ. We need to recover and practice the biblical meaning of membership. The church is a body, not a building, and an organism, not an organization — truths we encounter in such Scriptures as Romans 12:4-5, 1 Corinthians 6:15 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-27.

In what ways have you kept your relationship with Christ private?

What does it look like practically for every member to "belong to all the others"?

How are you practicing the biblical meaning of being a member of your church?

"And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him.
A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart."
(Ecclesiastes 4:12 — where you get the expression "tie the knot" from.)

GOD'S WARRIORS

Wednesday, February 10

6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

GUMBO

and

BIBLE STUDY

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

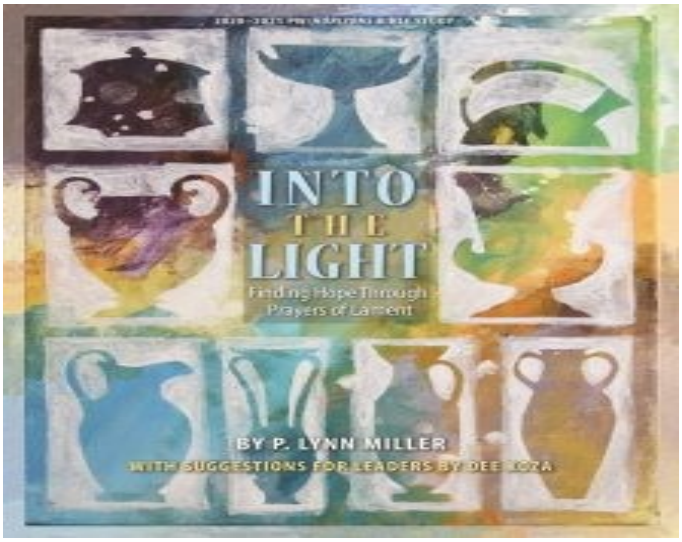
Invite other men to join in our fellowship, study and service. Let us be strong in the Lord together

We want to Officially Welcome **Andy and Gina Tinsley** who joined our church at the very end of January.

They met with the Elders (Session) on Tuesday, January 26th, and shared their Christian experience.

The Tinsleys have been active members of the Beach Baptist Church in Port St. Joe. The Hurricane ruined their home.

Andy and Gina have two daughters (Virginia and Macky) who live in Alexandria, VA and Dayton, MD with their husbands. The Tinsley's have 3 grandchildren. Andy and Gina have been very active in our church and serve God with their lives. The Bible verses they shared at worship January 31st were Psalm 121 and Romans 12:1 & 2. John Milton was their sponsor and prayed over them after their reaffirmation of faith.



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 FEB 2021

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Circle 2: **Chair is Dot Carpenter**

Lesson Planner — Rotates

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

NO MEETING FEB 2021

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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 FEB 2021

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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.

February 3rd at Lauren Milton'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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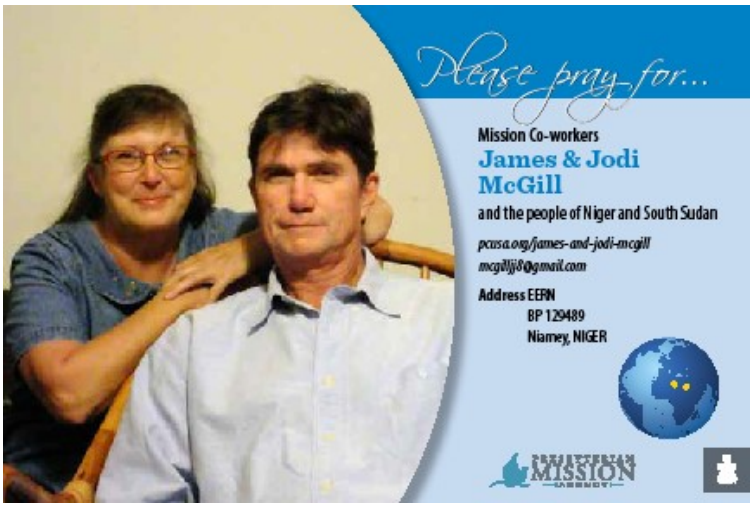
DURING THE COVID-19 OUR CIRCLE ATTENDANCE IS ON A

MONTH-BY-MONTH BASIS

TOGETHER

women GROW

OUR MISSIONARIES



Jim and Jodi McGill

Service Christ together in Niger and South Sudan

Jim works with both the Evangelical Church of the Republic of Niger (EERN) and the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) in their clean water and sanitation programs. He works to ensure sustainability at the community and family levels and to make sure that the church is a strong presence in rural development. Jodi will be working in an EERN clinic in Niamey, Niger, assisting in the primary health care programs of the EERN, and will be teaching nursing students when the church's nursing school in Niamey opens.

Personal Information

Birthdays
Jodi – Dec 19/Jim – Oct 26
Jason & Michael – July 15
Salome – Sept 28
Selina – Oct 21
Joseph & John – Aug 14

Anniversary
May 23

Accounts
E200385-individuals
D506718-congregations

"Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us." Psalm 62:8

Give: pcusa.org/give/E200385

Give by check: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Learn more about supporting Presbyterian mission workers, Call 800-728-7228, x5611.

Learn more about Presbyterian World Mission at pcusa.org/worldmission

REMEMBER

TO PRAY

FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

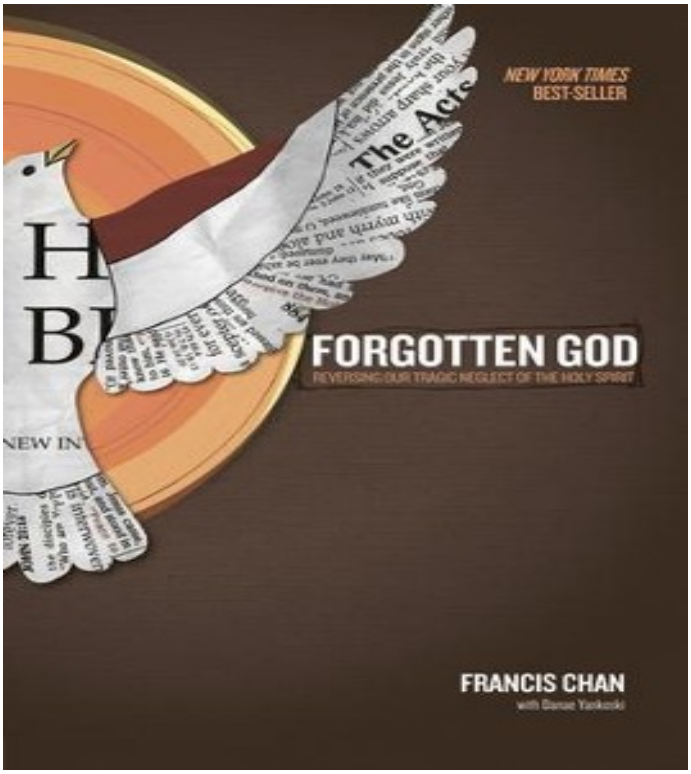
ADULT BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS
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.

Our last lesson in the book, "Forgotten God" by Francis Chan will be on February 3rd. We will not have class on February 10th or February 17th. We will begin a new study on February 24th entitled "The Easter Experience." This study will last up until Easter.

"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."



Family and friends of Scott and Cindy Yant on the death of Cindy's Aunt, Debbie Johnson

Jane Powelll

Joy Lewis

Cindy Yant

Glenna Barber (requested by Cindy Yant)

Amy Norville on the death of her husband

Sherry Barber (Amanda Hinson's mother)

Roy Turner

Jim Gibson (Mary Ann Gibbs' brother)

Hedy Williams (Hanni Daffin's sister)

Ruth Hammett (Scott Yant's mother)

Fran McNeill and Ernie McNeill

Charlotte Hunter

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 and Grade Taylor (requested by Scott Yant)

Billy Herrington (requested by Jared Roberts)

Joy Gilbert

Sumi Hanstine (requested by Ashley Rackley)

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

Our Missionaries — Jim and Jodi McGill and children

FOOD PANTRY

Melissa, along with her son, Zachary Taylor; Bill Stevens, 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

Neither

Rain, or Wind, or COVID-19

can keep

our great workers

from handing out food

at our weekly Food Pantry!

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FEBRUARY 7TH

PLEASE BRING NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS, CANNED GOODS

AND CASH

THIS IS IN SUPPORT OF OUR FOOD PANTRY

YOUR ELDERS

Class of 2021
Janet Howell
Travis Lawson
Larry Spivey
Barry Stafford

Class of 2022
Amanda Hinson
LuAnne Law
Bryan Milton
Matt Milton

Class of 2023
Mel McClure Clark
Donna Moore
Aggie Schack
Bill Stevens

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1835 Endowment Committee

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

The Endowment Committee meets quarterly.

Your Endowment Committee Members would like to remind you that donations made to the 1835 Endowment Fund in Honor of or in Memory of someone are very much appreciated. Just make your check out to the church and designate who it is you are remembering.

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YOUR COMMITTEES

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

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

Congregational Care
Chair: Jan Howell
Members: Alma Milton, Donna Moore, Andrew Tinsley, Gina Tinsley, Muriel Turner

Evangelism and Fellowship
Chair: Amanda Hinson
Members: Mel McLure Clark, Lauren Lyons, Geriann Milton, Peggy Peacock, Jennifer Stafford

Property and Operations
Chair: Barry Stafford
Members: MaryLu Andreu, Mel McLure Clark, John W. Milton, Matt Milton, Chuck Morgan, Xylpha Schwehm, Scott Yant

Worship and Music
Chair: Bryan Milton
Members: Macky Gortemoller, Joy Hinton, Kenneth Kelley, Anna Beth Milton, Tom Stadsklev, Linda Wamsley Beth Westmoreland

Mission and Service
Chair: Kathy Milton
Members: Sharon Bannerman, Mary Ann Gibbs, Marsha Rodgers Litteral, Travis Lawson, Bill Stevens

February 5th

Julien Cumming
Lou Wilkinson

February 6th

Sam Andreu

February 8th

Branham Skipper

February 14th

Leonard Strength

February 24th

Olivia McDaniel

February 25th

Chuck Morgan

February 26th

Laura Lonsinger
Ashley Rackley

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

If your February birthday is not listed, please contact the Church Office so we

COVID-19
and Our Country

Pray for those who are or have been ill with the virus — may God heal them — bring them back to good health.

Pray for those getting the shots — that their reactions may be none or very minor.

Pray for the economy of our country and that people will start speaking love instead of anger.

SUNDAY
February 7, 2021
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. 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.