



First Presbyterian Church

4437 Clinton Street

Marianna, FL 32446

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August, 2021



Just these lines....as August begins....to say that Back to School always makes me grateful for all of my school and Sunday school teachers and celebrate a brand new year of Christian education opportunities in our church! We'll recognize and thank all of our educators in worship on Sunday, August 8, and celebrate Rally Day and Youth Sunday on Sunday, August 22! We're hoping to begin some additional adult Sunday school classes, as well as provide some special opportunities on Wednesdays; so keep reading your emails and Sunday bulletins.

As followers of Jesus, we keep learning about His way, truth and life, and how to improve our service to our Lord and His church and with one another. I encourage you to join me in taking part in some of the many opportunities offered which will help us — improve our serve. Parents and grandparents, let's all be an important part of our children's spiritual growth. Invite a friend/a child's friend to participate with us in church.

I do well to often read the following —

"I've Learned"

I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life somehow does go on.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life."

I've learned that life oftentimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back.

I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you, but if you focus on your faith, family, your friends, the needs of others, your work, and doing the best you can, happiness will find you.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel; and I've learned that people want to know how much you care before they care how much you know.

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.

Thank a teacher this month. Pray for all of our schools, teachers, administrators and bus drivers, etal. As a new term soon begins, pray for students and families. Pray for our church and all churches as we seek to keep growing in faithfulness in worship, Christian education and mission! Amen!

*In His Grip,
Raymond*

First Presbyterian Church's Top Ten List

Here are the top ten leadership competencies of which our church family prays our next installed pastor will be gifted —

Compassionate — having the ability to suffer with others; being motivated by others pain and is called into action as advocate; is motivated by caring for others while concurrently keeping the organizational goals clearly in focus.

Preaching and Worship Leadership — is a consistently effective preacher and worship leader; is able to inspire from the pulpit; communicates a clear and consistent message through sermons that are carefully prepared and artfully delivered; projects the identity and character of the congregation through worship leadership presence.

Spiritual Maturity — shows strong personal depth and spiritual grounding; demonstrates integrity by walking the talk and by responding with faithfulness of purpose; is seen by others as trustworthy and authentic; nurtures a rich spiritual life; seeks the wisdom and guidance of appropriate mentors; is able to articulate a clear and consistent theology.

Teacher — creates learning environments where students are active participants as individuals and as members of collaborative groups; designs lesson plans that teach concepts, facts, and theology; effectively uses multiple learning tools to reach a wide variety of learners; revises instructional strategies based upon ministry/organization context.

Communicator — advances the abilities of individuals and the organizations through active listening supported with meaningful oral and written presentation of information.

Advisor — an individual others turn to for counsel and guidance; provides coaching; expertise for congregations or other organizations.

Organizational Agility — is astute about how congregations and/or organizations work; knows how to get things done through formal and informal channels; understands the importance of supporting good policy, practice, and procedure; appreciates the power in the culture of a congregation; is politically savvy.

Collaboration — has a natural orientation toward getting people to work together; shares wins and successes; fosters open dialogue; lets people finish and be responsible for their work; creates strong feelings of belonging among group members; is a good judge of talent and can accurately assess the strengths and limitations of others.

Motivator — creates and sustains an organizational culture which permits others to provide the quality of service essential to high performance. Enables others to acquire the tools and support they need to perform well; and influences others toward a spirit of service and meaningful contributions to mission accomplishment.

Decision Making — makes effective decisions, balancing analysis, wisdom, experience, and judgment; is aware of the long term implications of choices made; is generally regarded as offering solutions and suggestions that are correct and effective.

Let's all keep our PNC in our daily prayers!

We Can All Help
Restore and Repair
Our Pipe Organ!

Our historic organ was purchased in 1935. It was designed specifically for our sanctuary; and was built and installed by the Austin Organ Company, started in 1893. It was faithfully and gloriously played and had accompanied thousands of anthems and solos for 83 years. It has been silent since October 10, 2018. Now, we're working with Tadlock Piano and Organ Company of Panama City, to get it repaired and restored to once again enhance our worship services; be played for special services, concerts and more. We've set aside some funds; and "over and above" organ repair donations are being given. Watch for a letter explaining our need and how all of us can make this restoration a reality — perhaps in memory or honor of someone special. The technicians are scheduled to begin in January! (More FPC organ history will be shared in the next several newsletters!)

THE PRESBYTERY OF FLORIDA

We celebrate our many ministry and mission partnerships with the other 46 PCUSA churches in the panhandle, from Monticello to Pensacola, and all in between, including a thriving campus ministry at FSU's — Ukirk!

Leslie Kelley is the new moderator of our presbytery's Presbyterian Women. Dr. Kenneth Kelley is a member of our presbytery's Committee on Ministry; and Dr. Raymond Guterman is a member of our presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry (men and women of our NWFlorida churches who are in the process discernment/seminary regarding ordination). Our presbytery office moved several years ago from downtown Chipley, to Dogwood Acres. We have an executive presbyter, an administrative assistant and a part-time accounting clerk on staff. Loving God and loving people!

INQUIRERS' LUNCHEON

Sunday, August 29

NOON

Fellowship Hall

If you've been worshipping with us, we invite you to join us for a tasty lunch, followed by an opportunity to learn more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus, a Presbyterian (short DVD about the PCUSA) and a member of First Presbyterian Church of Marianna. Please print out the form to the right and place it in the offering plate, see or call Pastor Raymond (850-765-3659) or the church office. Welcome!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

E-Address _____

Phone # _____

NEWS AROUND OUR CONGREGATION

SYMPATHY

The sympathy of our church family is sincerely extended to the family of Betty Brendemuehl. We give thanks for Betty's faithfulness to our Lord and His church here. We also extend sympathy to Chuck and Cindy Morgan in the recent death of Cindy's brother. Psalm 23.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Larry and Jackie Spivey who recently celebrated their 55th anniversary!

The Marianna Mariners Swim Team brought home third place from a recent meet in Dothan. A picture several weeks ago in our local paper included a number of FPC youth and children; and several of our folks coach the winning team!

Congratulations to Mel and Ken Lundgren who were married on July 4.

Anna Barber has been a camp director at Dogwood Acres this summer.

Albert Milton is the new president of the Marianna Rotary Club!

SEWING/CRAFT GROUP



SEWING WITH LOVE continues meeting on Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the church office, and there is room for more; so please come and join us for fellowship and mission. We are still stuffing animals and have begun knitting hats for preemies at Jackson Memorial Hospital.



PRESBYTERIAN QUESTIONS, PRESBYTERIAN ANSWERS

“Why do Presbyterian churches put so much emphasis on Christian education?”

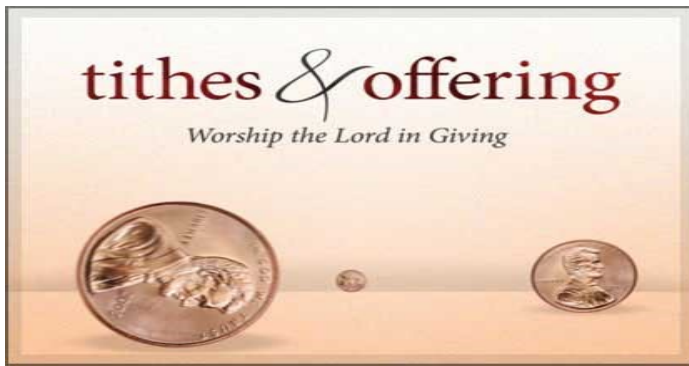
“When Jesus was asked “which commandment in the law is the greatest?” he replied, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind” (Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27). In this Jesus was indicating that we are to bring to our faith in God the best thought and understanding of which we are capable, and we are to use all our intellectual capabilities to serve in our love for God.

Our Presbyterian tradition has taken this perspective seriously, and has historically stressed education generally, theological education for clergy and Christian education in the church for laity, very strongly. John Calvin began the Genevan Academy, which educated citizens and clergy. Churches in our tradition have been active in establishing colleges and universities. Local Presbyterian churches in the United States have long-established Sunday school programs as well as other innovative educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults. We emphasize education because we believe that, as the twentieth-century theologian Karl Barth put it, “The knowledge of God is the service of God.” As we learn of God, we

Another way to see this is in terms of a theological motto that is part of our Presbyterian tradition. It is inherited from Augustine, during the period of the early church. We believe that “faith leads to understanding,” Our faith in Jesus Christ inevitably propels us into wanting to learn more of Christ, of God’s actions, and of what is revealed in Holy Scripture. So we stress Bible study, theological study, and the whole panorama of topics that will help us better understand God, the world, humanity, and all that God does. We believe children of Christian parents should embark on a lifetime of learning, particularly learning about the fullness of the Christian faith. Adult Presbyterians also have strong responsibilities to grow in their faith by seeking further understanding. Without the stimulus of new ideas and perceptions, our Christian faith can stagnate and not be all it can be. Christian education in the church enhances our faith and leads us ever farther into obeying Jesus’ prescription to love God “with all our minds.”

Donald K. McKim

Rally Day is Sunday, August 22! There will be new opportunities for all of us to grow in our faith — in our Christian education!



Monthly need for budget	21,334
Received through July 25	<u>11,916</u>
	(9,418)
Year-to-date budget need	149,338
Year-to-date received (7/25/21)	<u>118,084</u>
	(31,254)

(These figures do not include special fund giving.)

FROM OUR

1835

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Our Endowment Committee Members would like to thank you for donations made in the past and to remind you that donations made to the 1835 Endowment Fund in honor of or in memory of someone are very much appreciated. Please make your check out to the church and designate for 1835 Fund and designate who it is you are remembering.

Donations have been made to the 1835 fund in memory of Betty Brendemuehl, Stanley Littleton and Joanne Wynn.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of our family of faith is to worship God; to successfully nurture the spiritual growth of each person in our church family so that we experience loving fellowship, joy, and peace; and to share our love and talents with others in our community and beyond!

GOD'S WARRIORS
OUR MEN'S GROUP
WILL BEGIN MEETING AGAIN
IN SEPTEMBER

OUR WOMEN'S CIRCLES
WILL BEGIN MEETING AGAIN
IN SEPTEMBER

ORIENTATION POTLUCK IS

Monday, August 23 at 6:00 p.m.



Scott and Cindy Yant on the death of her sister-in-law, Glenna Barber

Deborah Sims Sasser (requested by Ernie McNeil)

Frankie Stewart

Alisa Gunter Goldberg (Jake Gunter's daughter)

Joy Lewis

Cindy Yant

Buddy Bannerman (requested by Sharon)

Theresa Forehand (requested by Kenneth & Leslie Kelley)

Jane Powell

Sherry Barber (Amanda Hinson's mother)

Hedy Williams (Hanni Daffin's sister)

Ruth Hammett (Scott Yant's mother)

Fran and Ernie McNeill

Charlton Keen Jr. and niece, Kathryn Keen

Doug Woolery (requested by Cindy Morgan)

Zooey Chancey (requested by Ginger Green)

Joy Gilbert

Sumi Hanstine (requested by Ashley Rackley)

Ronnie Heath (requested by Larry & Jackie Spivey)

Mary Bevis Schmidt (requested by Mel McLure Lundgren)

Steven Quigley

Our Elders and Pastor Nominating Committee

Our church and members

Our Missionaries — Jim and Jodi McGill and children in Niger

Our men and women in the armed services and their families



August 3rd

Susie Barber

August 4th

Bob Cowen

August 6th

Marcus Green
Clay Milton

August 7th

Cindy Eade
Amy Milton

August 9th

Donna Moore

August 11th

Cole Payne

August 17th

Frankie Stewart

August 26th

Fred Carpenter

August 27th

Gayle DiBenedetto
Kitty Myers

August 28th

Kenneth Kelly

These are the August birthdays we have on file. If your August birthday is not listed, please contact the church office so we can update our records. (850-526-2430)

FOOD PANTRY

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

Matthew 25:35



PC(USA) Snapshot

What Presbyterians missed most about in-person services during the pandemic

Taking communion — 24%

Listening to a live sermon — 21%

Passing the peace in the service — 17%

Live Music — 16%

Talking to church leaders in person — 14%

Socializing before and after services — 23%

Connecting with like-minded people — 19%

Having conversations about God — 16%

Readings and liturgies — 15%

Sunday school, small groups, Bible study — 10%