



First Presbyterian Church
4437 Clinton Street
Marianna, FL 32446
850-526-2430
fpcmarianna@gmail.com
November, 2021



***“Faithfully serving Jesus in Jackson County and the world with faith, hope and love
since 1835, and still growing!”***

Just these lines....this month of Thanksgiving....to say that I pray that thanksgiving and gratitude will more and more become our daily way of life — in our relationship with our maker, redeemer, sustaining God and with so many special people in our lives. How grateful Donna and I are that we’ve become friends and partners in mission and ministry with you and our able church staff these past six months. (How time flies when you’re having fun!)

In these days of harvest and blessing, we welcome a season to remember that we are ultimately stewards, not owners, of God’s creation and our blessings; and that one of the tangible ways that we “thank” and “obey” God is by faithfully returning to Him, through our local church, a portion of our monthly income (regardless of what it may be) to take care of His body on earth (Ephesians 4) and share the Gospel with each other, our children and youth, our community, and nation — and to the ends of the earth (Matthew 28:18-20).

As our infallible rule for faith and life, the Bible teaches us how to give —

Regularly — *“Now concerning the contribution for the saints... On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside...” (I Corinthians 16:1-2)*

Individually — *“Every day each of you must put aside some money...” (I Corinthians 16:2)*

Proportionately — *“For if the readiness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he has not.” (2 Corinthians 8:12)*

“Everyone shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which he has given you.” (Deuteronomy 16:17)

Joyfully — *“God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

Since I was 17, and a youth member of my church’s Stewardship Committee, each November, I’ve gotten out a calculator, done the math, and through our churches dedicated to God, as an act of Christian worship, an estimate of what I felt Calling Donna and me to give for the coming year (We always do our best when we plan to do!) so that the church could know/plan what it could be/do in the new year — Christian education, ministry, and mission here, near and far. Donna and I are praying about our giving for 2022; and we pray that you are also!

Be sure to call me if you’d ever like to talk or pray or have me call someone. (850-765-3659)

In Faith, Hope, Love and with Great Expectations!

Raymond

Historic FPC Organ Restoration to Begin in Two Months!

LET'S ALL PITCH IN!

We can make a one time contribution or we can stretch it out over several months. We can make our gift in honor or memory of someone special, with acknowledgements mailed from the church promptly. Be sure to designate: organ repair, for whom your gift is in memory/honor, and whom you'd like to receive notice, with their address if they're not part of our church. Contributions are coming in weekly; and we are going to get our organ making music to glorify God and enhance our worship again in early 2022! We're also going to make a provision for Christine to be able to go from the organ to the piano without going through the choir loft and out of and back into the sanctuary.

CLEAN UP DAY AT THE CHURCH

Saturday, November 6th
8 am to 12 noon

Every year, Mary Lu Andreu does a great job of recruiting volunteers to spend a Saturday morning cleaning up, in and around the church. If you haven't already told her you'll help, you may call her at 850-209-5229 to offer your time.

Edward Syrfett got a head start on this year's clean-up by trimming plants around the church building. Thank you Edward!

OCTOBER SESSION NOTES

1. Opened (Mel Lundgren) and closed (LuAnne Law) the meeting with prayer.
2. Elected Bill Stevens as acting clerk of session.
3. Heard reports from the Pastor Nominating Committee, Elder Nominating Committee, Evangelism and Fellowship, Administration.
4. Approved a congregational meeting for Sunday, November 21, at the end of the worship service to hear from the Elder Nominating committee and elect four session members, class of 2024.
5. Received a handout from Pastor Raymond (from our presbytery's committee on ministry) on how sessions can evaluate their pastor, themselves, the mission, ministry, and direction of the church.
6. Discussed possible opportunities for ministry and mission with/from students at Chipola College.
7. Heard a glowing report from Mel Lundgren on her experience as a voting commissioner from our church at the fall meeting of our presbytery of Florida at Dogwood Acres (10/23/21). So much diversity (black, white, Korean), friendliness, unity in diversity, lay/clergy shared leadership — she's ready to go back!
8. Heard that our food pantry signed up a number of new families on 10/20/21 and that the Mission and Service committee will be discussing two new benevolences this week.



Singers Needed for Christmas Musical

We're looking for some people who love to sing!
Previous experience is not required!
Singing in the car or in the shower are evidence you
may be who we're looking for!
WHAT CAN WE DO?
Different rehearsal time? Different rehearsal day?
Child care?
Let us know what you need so you will be able to
sing with us.
Share your talent, gift, your love of music
with your church family.
[Contact your local choir director.](#)



2021 POINSETTIAS

One of our wonderful Advent and Christmas traditions is the purchase of poinsettias by the congregation to be placed at the chancel in memory or honor of someone special and then taken home by those who purchased them at the end of Advent.

Orders must be submitted, along with payment, to the office by Tuesday, November 30th. (The cost for a poinsettia is \$15.)

MY 2021 ORDER FOR POINSETTIA(S)

Please order _____ poinsettia(s) at \$15/each Check _____ Cash _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

I would like them to be:

In memory of: _____

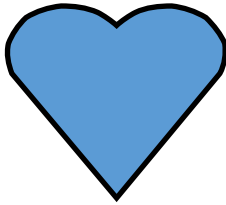
In honor of: _____

(Orders must be submitted with payment no later than Tuesday, November 30th)

NEWS AROUND OUR CONGREGATION

CONGRATULATIONS...

*...to Amanda Hinson and Jeremy Mutz
on their engagement!*



COLE PAYNE, a senior at MHS, was a member of the 2021 homecoming court and is a part of the Bulldog's winning golf team this fall!

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.

Call Donna Guterman (351-817-8700) for information.

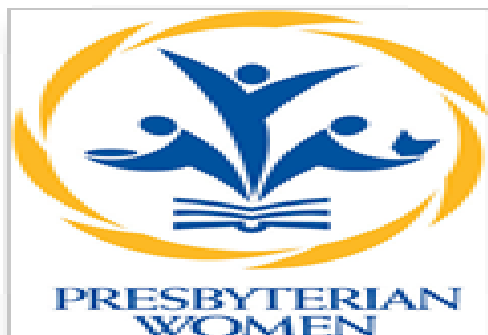
ANDREW LAW Cross Country

Andrew is a member of the Marianna K-8 cross country team which was pictured in last week's [Jackson County Times](#), following a meet in Bainbridge, GA., where the Bulldogs faced off with the Bearcats!

SYMPATHY

The sympathy of our church family is sincerely extended to the McDaniel and Blighton families in Ed's recent passing in Dothan.

(John 14)



**WOMEN'S GROUPS
AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
MARIANNA, FL**

Circle 1: Chair is Joy Hinton

Meets 1st Monday at 10:30 a.m.
fellowship hall

Circle 2: Chair is Dot Carpenter

Meets 1st Monday at 12:30 p.m.
fellowship hall

Circle 3: The Lunch Bunch

Chair is Peggy Peacock

Lesson Planner — Rotates

Meets 3rd Monday at 11:30 in fellowship hall

Circle 4: The Wildflowers

Chair is LuAnne Law

Lesson Planner — Rotates

Meets 1st Wednesday at 6:30 in homes

**WOW!
A Christmas Play
For Children**

The Christmas season is steadily approaching; and the kids, myself and Mr. Kenneth are getting excited about the Children's Christmas pageant. WOW! is a short Christmas play that faithfully tells the story of Jesus' birth in a contemporary fashion. There are 5 hymns throughout that we all know and love!

Practice will be at Wild Wonderful Wednesdays at 3:30. Dress rehearsal will be Sunday, December 12 immediately following church and the production will occur on Wednesday, December 15 at 6:30 pm.

For each practice attendance the children will earn a special Christmas ornament that will be presented following the production. This is an opportunity to earn 8 beautiful ornaments! Please let me know if you have any questions.

*Amanda Barber Hinson
(850-718-3198)*

100% Accountable to Our Members

End of month financial statements are now being posted on the bulletin boards in the church office and Narthex. Call us if you have any questions.

PRESBYTERIAN QUESTIONS, PRESBYTERIAN ANSWERS

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

AND STEWARDSHIP

What does it mean to be a faithful member of a church?

To be a faithful church member is to express one's faith in Jesus Christ and the desire to be his disciple, to share his love, and to serve him as a part of the church as the body of Christ.

A most basic question to ask of anyone wishing to become a member of a Presbyterian church is: "Who is your Lord and Savior?" The reply is: "Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior." Question: "Do you promise to be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?" Answer: "I do.."

In these questions and answers, a profound life-changing event is recognized. To become a member of a Presbyterian church is to proclaim publicly one's allegiance to Jesus Christ. It is to vow to live a life of discipleship in which one grows in faith and service to Christ, and, through the church, to the world. The church member assumes responsibility for supporting the church in a variety of ways: through worship, education, mission and ministry, stewardship of resources, financial contributions, and other means. The church is the place where one's Christian life "takes shape." Joined in fellowship with other believers in the body of Christ, the member of Christ's church is part of the "communion of saints" — of all Christian believers throughout the world — as well as part of a local congregation where one's faith in Christ is lived out daily.

While "joining" the church occurs through simple affirmations, it takes a lifetime to live out the implications of church membership. Uniquely, the church is the only organization where to become a member one has to admit one is unworthy of membership! To acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior is to confess our faith and trust in him — and not ourselves — for eternal salvation. It is to announce that one's life does not belong to oneself, but to our Lord Jesus Christ. This profession is made publicly as a witness to the world and as a visible confession of faith. One's commitment to the church is the implication of one's confession of faith in Christ. We do not live out our Christian discipleship alone, but in the community of believers who have also professed their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

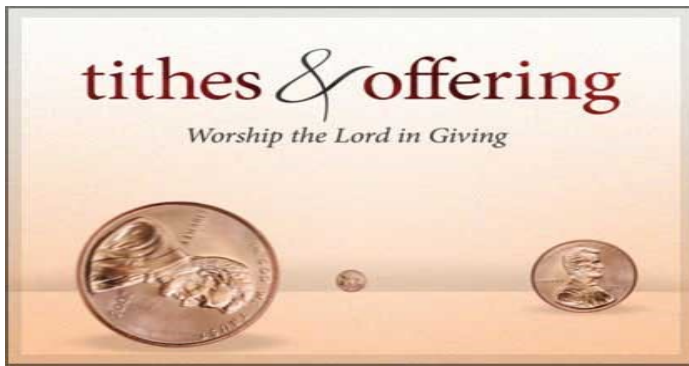
Donald K. McKim

HELP NEEDED

Our Presbytery of Florida wants members of our church to serve on one of our presbytery committees in 2022!

Call Nominating Committee member Glen Hodges (850-545-5791) or speak with Pastor Raymond for information.

Meetings are held on Zoom or at nearby Dogwood Acres, between Chipley and Vernon.



Monthly need for 2021 budget	21,334
Received through October 24	<u>12,075</u>
	(9,259)
Year-to-date 2021 budget need	213,340
Year-to-date received (10/24/21)	<u>160,734</u>
	(52,606)

(These figures do not include special fund giving.)

"Over and Above"

Let's make sure that our contributions for the Organ Restoration Fund are "over and above" our tithes and offerings for daily operating our church and extending our mission. Administration Committee

FROM OUR

1835

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Our Endowment Committee would like to remind us that donations made to the 1835 Endowment Fund in honor of or in memory of someone special 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. In October, donations were made to the 1835 Fund in memory of Larry & Hazel Nelson, Edward McDaniel and Stanley Littleton.

ORGAN REPAIRS

In October, donations were made in memory of Hazel Nelson, Edward McDaniel and Stanley Littleton and in honor of John & Alma Milton and Lou Wilkinson.

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!



Edward Syfrett
Sandra Daffin
Frankie Stewart
The family of Ed McDaniel
Roy Turner
Shelby Vlieg (requested by Ellie Lawson)
Bob Ward (requested by Mary Wierman)
David Hand (Betty Joyce's son)
Jay Hoyt Rackley (requested by Ginger Green)
Alisa Gunter Goldberg (Jake Gunter's daughter)
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)
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, Pastor Nominating Committee and
Elder Nominating Committee
Our church and all churches
Our missionaries — Jim and Jodi McGill and children in Niger
Our men and women in the armed services and their families
Stewardship growth in our church



FPC MISSIONS

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

Matthew 25:35

November 5th

Bud Wierman

November 11th

Natalie Bedini

November 15th

Brent Bedini

November 27th

Lindsy (Milton) Chance

November 29th

Cooper Milton

November 30th

Bryan Moore

*This is a list of the birthdays of which
we have been made aware. If your No-
vember birthday is not listed, please let
the church office know so that we might
update our list.*



Pray each day for our church's mission
agencies and projects as we seek to be
faithful to our Lord's great commission!

The Presbytery of Florida
Dogwood Acres Presbyterian Camp
FPC Food Pantry (part time staff & food)
Marianna High Fellowship of Christian
Athletes
Thornwell Presbyterian Home for
Children in Clinton, S.C.
Innovative Charities of Jackson County
Habitat for Humanity of Jackson County
FPC Sewing With Love (supplies)
Jim & Jodi McGill and children PCUSA
Missionaries in Niger and South
Sudan

(We're exploring two new local Christian
missions for 2022!)

WHY CHURCH ELDERS?

Why do we bother? Why not just have one person do everything? It may be so much simpler. Or why even have anyone do anything; why can't we just meet on Sundays and praise God?

The answer to both of these questions is that God has plans. God calls us to praise Him and love and serve Him and our neighbors. God is up to something in the world, and He wants to include all of His children in on the fun. There are certain functions that have to happen in order for the life of the church and its mission to the world to go on. Elders coordinate, facilitate and participate in these ministries & missions, making sure they happen.

And on the other hand, we don't have just one person do it because God's Calling and ministry belong to the whole people of God. We would give away a great privilege if we asked one person to do our share of the things needing done.

Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders (Pastors) don't take the people's place in worship and ministry. They agree to help insure the people's place, working to encourage and nourish the people's being the church — here, near and far. Sometimes we hear people say that they don't like organized religion. One wonders if they would like disorganized religion any better? Presbyterians like to do things "decently and in order" with plenty of room for the Holy Spirit to work as He will and wants.

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 21, at the end of the service to hear from our nominating committee and elect four elders, class of 2024. Pray and be present!

GROWING IN MISSION, MISSION, MISSION

2021 Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Marianna Winn Dixie — Tuesday, December 7
There is a sign-up sheet with time slots on the bulletin board between our kitchen and sanctuary. Call Mary Ann Gibbs (850-482-2188) if you have questions.

2021 Operation Christmas Child

Samaritan's Purse/Franklin Graham
Shoe boxes will be available in worship at FPC this Sunday, 10/31/21. This is a super teaching tool with our children and grandchildren about the real meaning of Christmas. We fill the box with gifts for a certain age child (choosing boy or girl). The Gospel of Jesus is added to each box in the language of the children who'll receive it; and then they're sent all over God's world, including the USA. Boxes are due back to the chancel of our sanctuary by Sunday, November 14 so children can receive them by Christmas Day. Call Pastor Raymond (352-817-8700) if you have questions, as he and Donna ""shop"" each year with their grandchildren!

Christmas Card Shower

A friend of the Gutermans is in prison in Brooksville, FL; and we're invited to "visit" her this Advent/Christmas with a card.

We can sign the card "Friends from FPC, Marianna" and simply place the card in an offering plate or on the communion table; and we'll address it and mail it to Brenda — in hopes that she'll get a card each day of December.

(Call/see Pastor R if you have questions.)



October 5, 2021

Clerk of Session

First Presbyterian Church

4437 Clinton St

Marianna, FL 32446-3436

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Tru(v I tell you, whatever you did for one o.f the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40 NIV)

You're changing lives! Your generosity will provide hope and healing to hurting families in communities across Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. We believe family changes eveiything

-and that serving children and families is just like serving Christ himself. None of that would be possible without you, and we can't thank you enough!

Because of your kindness, we can provide safe homes for neglected children, family support and in-home therapy for families, education for students working towards graduation, and so much more. Together, by God's grace and your support, we are turning despair into determination, fear into courage, and trauma into triumph - THANK YOU!

If you'd like to see first-hand how you are making a difference, let us take you on a personal tour of the Clinton, SC campus or help you connect with one of our outreach programs in FL, GA, or SC. Please contact Jill Gibson at 864.938.2739 or jill.gibson@thornwell.org, and we will be happy to make arrangements.

Sincerely,

Jill Gibson

Vice President for Mission Advancement Contribution:

\$250.00 received on 10/4/2021

P.S. Follow our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ThornwellHome to see live videos and photos of your gift in action!