



First Presbyterian Church

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March, 2022



Just these lines....to welcome a new month and a new liturgical season — Lent — which comes from the word “lengthen” as the days are getting longer — and hopefully warmer, as I can’t remember a “colder for so long winter.” Yet, when people have asked me to put in a word to our Lord about the temperatures, rain forecasts — their team winning an upcoming game, my standard reply is: “Sorry, I don’t do weather or sports events!”

One of my favorite Bible commentators has written a Lenten prayer that we will all do well to pray and heed and follow —

A Prayer for Lent
by William Barclay

Lord Jesus Christ give us in all our life the discipline which will enable us to walk in your footsteps, and which all your true followers should show.

Help us to discipline our passions and desires, that we may never in an unguarded moment do that which we would afterward regret.

Help us to discipline our appetites, that greed and gluttony and self-indulgence may have no part in our lives.

Help us to discipline our speech, that no false or untrue word, no soiled or impure word, no bitter or angry word may ever pass our lips.

Help us to discipline ourselves in our work, that slackness, idleness, laziness and carelessness may find no place in our lives, that we may not try to find how quickly we can do a thing but how well we can do it, that we may be more concerned with how much we can put into a task than with how much we can get out of it.

Help us to discipline ourselves in our pleasure, that no pleasure may ever so master us that it takes away the will-power to resist it.

Help us to discipline ourselves in our devotion, that we may faithfully share in the public worship of your people, and that no day may ever pass when in the silence we do not speak and listen to you.

Help us to discipline even our thoughts, that they may never move in any forbidden pathways or linger on any forbidden thing, so that we too may be pure in heart and so see you.

This we ask for your love’s sake. Amen.

*In Faith, Hope and Love,
Pastor Raymond
(850-765-3659)*



PRESBYTERIAN QUESTIONS, PRESBYTERIAN ANSWERS

Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

Jesus died so the Scriptures would be fulfilled (Matt. 26:3-56). But he also had chosen to die as he “set his face to go to Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51), knowing throughout his ministry that suffering lay ahead (Matt. 17:2; Luke 22:15). While Jesus is said to have been handed over to his enemies “according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God” (Acts 2:23), he asserted of his life: “I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again” (John 10:18). Jesus saw his suffering and death as giving his life as “a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). Thus, we have the sense that God sent Jesus into the world to die to bring salvation (John 3:16-17; Rom. 5:8; Eph. 2:11-22), and that this was a mission that Jesus, as the eternal Son of God, willingly accepted and fulfilled.

Why, then, did Jesus have to die?

Presbyterians affirm theologically that Jesus died as the substitute for sinful humanity, offering himself in his death as the deepest possible expression of God’s love, and bearing in himself the sins of the whole world (Isa. 51:5-6; 1 John 2:2). The way in which the cross of Christ redeems, saves, and reconciles has been variously understood. But Jesus’ death is his sacrifice, offered in love, for the sin of humanity. He

bore our sin (Isa. 53:12; 1 Pet. 2:24) to make us righteous in God’s sight (2 Cor. 5:21). Christ redeemed us from the curse of having broken God’s law (Gal. 3:13) and died for us — unrighteous sinners that we are — in order to bring us to God (1 Pet. 3:18). Martin Luther spoke of a “happy exchange,” in which Christ’s righteousness is given to us while our sin is laid on him.

The death of Christ on the cross does for us what his life and teachings cannot fully do. It brings us into a right relationship with God. This is why the cross is the central symbol of Christianity. God accepts the death of the Son of God as the means by which our sin is forgiven and our reconciliation with God is accomplished. Jesus freely offered himself as the sinless sacrifice to represent us, absorb our sin, bring us peace with God (Rom. 5:1), and “remove sin by the sacrifice of himself” (Heb. 9:26).

Pastor Donald K. McKim

Historic FPC Organ Restoration Is In Process!

Certain sections of the organ were picked up on 1/11/22; and completion could be in 3 to 4 months — or possibly sooner. Watch for an announcement of an Organ Rededication Sunday!!!



Mission and Services Committee Meeting March 9th at 11:00 am Fellowship Hall

FEBRUARY SESSION NOTES

1. Opened (Donna Moore) and closed (Bill Stevens) our meeting with prayer.
2. Welcomed Paige Lawson of our 2022 confirmation class.
3. Approved re-establishing continuing education funds in our church budget for our choir director and organist/pianist.
4. Approved establishing an egress in our chancel modesty panel so that our organist/pianist can go from the organ to the piano and back without leaving the sanctuary.
5. Hear that our sound system committee is meeting with a second sound tech this week and will make a report soon.
6. Heard that we are planning a Holy Week/Easter direct mailing to share a welcome with our community. (Our best welcome committee is all of us inviting family, friends and neighbors to come to church with us!)
7. Heard a report from Betty Pettis and Lou Roberts regarding the recent Presbytery of Florida meeting in Tallahassee.
8. Heard reports from the Worship, Administration, Congregational Care and Property and Operations committees and our church treasurer. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Our giving is up for the first two months of this year!
9. Heard that our new adult Sunday school class has grown to twelve, and there's room for twelve more, plus!
10. Approved Betty Pettis and Beth Westmoreland as additional check signers.

Presbyterian Book of Order

True or False

1. The teaching Elder and Ruling Elders are the head of a Presbyterian church.
2. Not all Presbyterian churches have Elders.
3. The word “Presbyterian” is first seen in the Old Testament – presbyterous and means “deacon”.
4. No quorums are needed for session or congregational meetings.
5. Our presbytery is named The Panhandle with the office located in Panama City.
6. Our national denominational office is in Lexington, KY, and is painted blue because the multi-floor building was donated to our church by a group of University of Kentucky alum.
7. The Nominating committee is elected each year by the various committees of our church.
8. Elders are elected by the Session.
9. Pastors are elected by the Session.
10. The pastor and three Elders can call a Congregational Meeting on any given Sunday to take place at the end of the worship service.
11. Any issue on members’ minds can be discussed and voted on at Congregational Meetings.
12. Pastors can approve upcoming baptisms and weddings with no session concurrence.
13. Session meetings are to be opened and closed by reading poetry.
14. The annual church budget is approved at a congregational meeting each January.
15. The Session has the authority to amend the Call (salary, benefits) of the Pastor.
16. The presbytery is not involved in the Calling of a new pastor in a local church.
17. The worship committee has the final say as to what scriptures are read and what hymns are sung in the Sunday worship service.
18. Any changes in the salaries of non-ordained staff have to be approved by the congregation.
19. In the Presbyterian Church USA, completion of seminary guarantees a student being ordained and appointed to a church.
20. The purchased or sale of property and/or borrowing funds can be approved by the Session.
21. Presbytery’s councils and committees are made up of pastors within the presbytery.
22. The presbytery’s executive is appointed by the General Assembly.
23. Our synod (Flint/Suwanee) is made up of all of the PCUSA churches in Georgia and Florida.
24. When the General Assembly meets every other year, in Lexington, the commissioners are 1/3 Teaching Elders (pastors) 1/3 Ruling Elders (lay) and 1/3 Deacons.

ALL OF THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE FALSE. IF YOU’D LIKE TO LEARN WHY AND WHAT WOULD MAKE THEM TRUE, SPEAK WITH PASTOR RAYMOND OR A MEMBER OF SESSION.

NEWS

AROUND OUR CONGREGATION

VIRGINIA MILTON ON DEAN'S LIST AT CHIPOLA

Congratulations to Virginia who had a perfect 4.0 for the fall semester!

OUR YOUTH

SQUAD — Our middle schoolers celebrated Valentine's week by having dinner at one of our local Japanese restaurants. Each student got a love letter from their mother. Our group created and delivered valentines to residents of a nearby group home.

SENIOR HIGHS — Our senior highs are improving their croquet skills. Presly Busby won the 2/16/22 match; and Leader LuAnne Law is "competitive." Students are also excelling in "wordle." Thanks much for your car wash to support Ukrainians!

2022 BETA — A number of our students did well. One of Anna Barber's paintings won first place!

Pray for our youth — that their experiences here at our church will remain a positive influence — a sense of direction — in their life as they grow up and go out into the world.

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. Lots of laughs come out of this room. The group is now exploring pillows for folks recuperating from surgery. Call Donna at 850-765-3659 for information.



THE SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH BUNCH...

...will meet next on the second Sunday of March (3/13) at Ruby Tuesday, where one of our members loves the salad bar! We hope you'll plan to join us!

MORE NEWS AROUND OUR CONGREGATION

DO YOU KNOW....

Members/friends of our church that you'd like to include in our "News Around the Congregation" section? Let us know!

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is sincerely extended to Sharon Bannerman, Deborah Methewuse and family in Buddy's recent passing. (John 14)

THANKS, FPC CIRCLES

Thanks to Circles 1 and 2 and the Lunch Bunch Circle for a wonderful meal on Ash Wednesday.

Thanks to our Wildflowers whose recent Christmas brunch provided well over \$1,000 for Camp Anderson's Christmas ministry with foster children.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

A new directory with updated phone numbers, etc. is forthcoming!

FPC Classifieds

If you have something you'd like to sell or give away, or something which you're looking to purchase or get for free, send (email or mail) your ad to the church office and we'll let everyone know.

FPC Family has leather leaf fern to share. (850-765-3659)

"VERBATUM"

"We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.

—Madeleine L'Engle



2022 SESSION

Class of 2022

Amanda Hinson
LuAnne Law
Bryan Milton
Matt Milton

Class of 2023

Mel McLure Lundgren
Donna Moore
Aggie Schack
Bill Stevens

Class of 2024

Betty Pettis
Lou Roberts
Beth Westmoreland
Scott Yant

Clerk of Session for minutes — Jan Howell

Clerk of Session for membership records — Beth Westmoreland

Our 1835 Endowment Committee

Chair: Chuck Morgan

Members: Guy Green, LuAnne Law, Amy Milton,
John Milton V., Jack Peacock, Larry Spivey,
Beth Westmoreland

Meets quarterly

Our Pastor Nominating Committee

Chair: LuAnne Law

Members: Mel McLure Lundgren, Mary Ann Gibbs,
John W. Milton, Andy Tinsley

Our 2022 Nominating Committee (to nominate
Elder Candidates to the congregation in the Fall)

Mel McClure Lundgren, Donna More,
Tom Stadslev, Lee Shook, LuAnne Law

Our Church Treasurer John W. Milton

Our Church Staff

Raymond Guterman

Kenneth Kelley

Christine Yoshikawa

Connie Butts

Melissa Krebeck

LeAnn Heineman

Interim Pastor

352-817-8700

Choir Director

850-557-1198

Organist

Office Administrator

Food Pantry

Coordinator

Custodian

OUR COMMITTEES

Administration

Chair: Beth Westmoreland

Members: John W. Milton, Larry Spivey.

Christian Education

Chair: LuAnne Law

Members: Jim Gibbs, Mel Lundgren, Yvonne
Melzer, Ashley Rackley, Mary Lu Andreu

Congregational Care

Chair: Jan Howell

Members: Yvonne Melzer, Alma Milton, Donna
Moore, Aggie Schack, Andrew and Gina
Tinsley, Muriel Turner

Meets quarterly

Evangelism and Fellowship

Chair: Amanda Hinson

Members: Mel McLure Lundgren, Lauren Lyons,
Gerriann Milton, Peggy Peacock,
Jennifer Stafford

Property and Operations

Chair: Scott Yant

Members: MaryLu Andreu, Mel McLure Lundgren,
John W. Milton, Matt Milton, Lou Roberts,
Xylpha Schwehm, Barry Stafford

Meets as needed

Worship and Music

Chair: Donna Moore

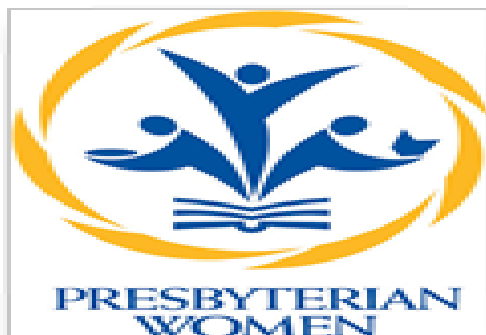
Members: Macky Gortemoller, Joy Hinton,
Kenneth and Leslie Kelley, Tom and
Joan Stadslev, Edward Syfrett

Mission and Service

Chair: Betty Pettis

Members: Sharon Bannerman, Mary Ann
Gibbs, Linda Koenig, Kathy Milton, Bill and
Susie Stevens, Gina Tinsley

***Pray for all of our leaders (staff and volunteers)
daily. Want to serve on a committee? Call the
chair or Pastor Raymond!***



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
or in homes — check the bulletin for details
each month.

Circle 4: The Wildflowers
Chair is LuAnne Law
Lesson Planner — Rotates
Meets 1st Wednesday at 6:30 in homes

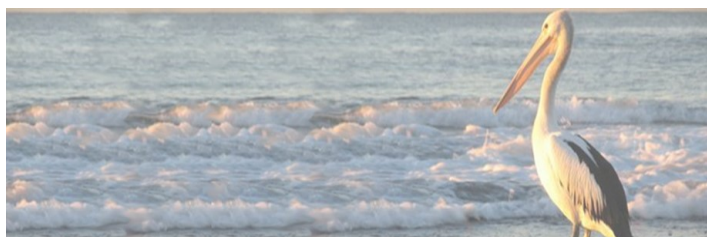
FPC's GROWING CONNECTION
WITH THE
PRESBYTERY OF FLORIDA

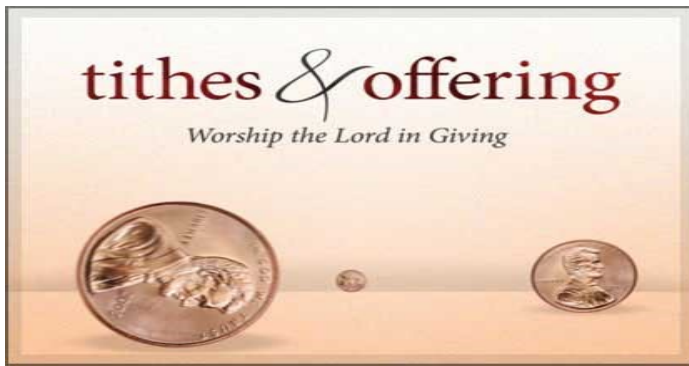
When our presbytery met at Faith Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, on Tuesday, February 22, our church was well represented. Pastor Raymond and Elder Betty Pettis served as commissioners; and Lou Roberts served as alternate commissioner. Betty served as liturgist during the morning worship service.

Pastor Raymond is the new chair of our presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Dr. Kenneth Kelley is a member of the presbytery's Committee on Ministry. Ernie McNeill is a new member of the Church Revitalization Committee; Leslie Kelley is the moderator of presbytery's Presbyterian Women; and Kathy Milton is a new member of our presbytery's New Church Development Committee.

We celebrate our growing connectional mission and ministry with the 45 PCUSA churches in the Florida Panhandle — from Monticello in the east to the Florida/Alabama line to the west — and all in between! Want to serve on a committee? Call or see Pastor Raymond.

What are 1001 Worshipping Communities? Read next month's newsletter!





| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Monthly need for 2022 budget | \$21,835 |
| Received through February 27 | <u>\$18,170</u> |
| | (\$ 3,665) |
| Year-to-date 2022 budget need | \$43,670 |
| Year-to-date received (2/27/22) | <u>\$51,698</u> |
| | +\$ 8,028 |

(These figures do not include special fund giving.)

SPECIAL FUNDS DONATIONS FOR FEBRUARY

\$ 1,331

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

We thank those of you who provide materials and supplies for various functions of the church and do not wish recognition or reimbursement. These in-kind contributions help our ministry and our budget.

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!

FROM OUR

1835

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Our Endowment Committee reminds 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 February, a donation was made in memory of Buddy Bannerman

ORGAN RESTORATION

In February, donations were made in memory of Tom Wilkinson, Buddy Bannerman and Dexter and Jay McCaskill and in honor of our Presbyterian youth.

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

In 2007 I had the pleasure of guiding a couple in our church through the planning and creation of a charitable gift annuity with the Presbyterian Foundation.

\$100,000.00 was deposited with the foundation. That created a monthly income of \$491.67 or \$5900.00 per year for them for life. 53 1/2% of that was tax free for 20 years! In addition, they got a \$37,030.00 income tax deduction that year! The annuity rate was 5.9%. When the annuity ends at their deaths, a permanent fund will be established in their name to benefit Christian education at First Presbyterian, Marianna. It is guesstimated it will be around \$40,000.00.

The minimum amount is \$25,000.00 and there is no maximum. If you are interested, I would be glad to talk to you and put you in touch with the Presbyterian Foundation that can give you current rates and numbers, as well as many other ways to keep enjoying our church's ministries throughout eternity and save on taxes!

John W. Milton V

850-718-6924 (cell)



Sharon Bannerman and family in Buddy's passing
Don and Ouida Morris on the death of Don's son
Jerry Gill (requested by Jared Roberts)
Richard Teague (Joy Lewis' brother-in-law)
Sandra Daffin
Roy Turner
Shelby Vlieg (requested by Ellie Lawson)
Jay Hoyt Rackley (requested by Ginger Green)
Alisa Gunter Goldberg (Jake Gunter's daughter)
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)
Mary Bevis Schmidt (requested by Mel McLure Lundgren)
Steven Quigley
Our Pastor 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
First Presbyterian Church, Mayfield, KY.
Our Food Pantry mission
2022 Confirmation classes
Peace with Russia and Ukraine



FPC MISSIONS

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

Matthew 25:35

March 1st

Alex Christopher

March 3rd

Bill Stevens

March 7th

Bryan Milton

March 8th

Anne Sims

March 12th

Chris Milton
Jared Roberts

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

Jackie Spivey
Tom Stadskev

March 29th

Jennifer Stafford

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

WHEN IS YOUR BIRTHDAY? WE'D REALLY LIKE TO KNOW SO WE CAN WISH YOU A HAPPY DAY!

(We're not asking your age --- just the date!)



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