



*First Presbyterian Church*

*4437 Clinton Street  
Marianna, FL 32446*

850-526-2430

fpcmarianna@gmail.com

July, 2022



Just these lines.....as we enter a new month.....to share with you something that got my attention in a Tallahassee Democrat article about this time last year. The author is Sheryl Boldt, who is a sales executive for Wave 94 Christian Radio.

**Is America Too Independent?**

**As we celebrate our country's independence, I'd like to ask you to consider praying for the United States to become more dependent on God.**

**I'm not minimizing how celebratory and significant it was when the 13 colonies declared their independence from Britain. I join fellow Americans every Fourth of July, grateful to be living in this amazing country.**

**I love America. I have no doubt you do, too. I wonder, though, if we, as a nation, have inadvertently become too independent. Perhaps we need to consider how much our nation needs God's guidance. I realize the people of our country have always been at odds with each other — even in the early days when many, if not most, were Christians. But we mustn't give up seeking wisdom from the God of all wisdom, Who doesn't have a political agenda.**

**I'm confident if we (as individuals and as a nation) humbly seek God's direction with all our hearts, as if we're convinced we can't survive without His guidance, we could be a country whose values and priorities God can bless.**

**What could happen if we chose to practice Proverbs 3:6 (ESV), "In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths"? What would happen if we allowed God to show us where our paths differ from His?**

**As we seek God, recognizing how desperately we need His direction, we'll become better equipped as a nation to help our own people and other countries. The more America realizes her dependence upon God, the stronger she'll be. The more dependent we are on Him, the less likely we are to implode as a nation. Will you join me in praying for our country — including our leaders.**

**Father, we praise You for Your wisdom, power and magnificent holiness. We're thankful for Your faithfulness and extravagant mercy. It is because of Your greatness and compassionate nature that we humbly come before You, praying for America.**

**Forgive us for our growing independence from You. Help us see the catastrophic future for our country if we continue to trust in our own way. Give us wisdom to seek You and Your ways so you can use the United States of America for Your purposes and glory.**

**America needs You, Lord. We are completely dependent upon You. Amen!**

I look forward to celebrating our "freedom" in Christ with you to begin July, as we celebrate America's 246th birthday the next day.

Let me know if you'd like to get together this month to chat/pray.

In Faith, Hope and Love,

*Raymond*

(850-765-3659)

## PRESBYTERIAN QUESTIONS,

## PRESBYTERIAN ANSWERS

### What is the “priesthood of all believers”?

The “priesthood of all believers” is a phrase associated with Martin Luther in the sixteenth century, and is often related to his concern that all Christians can act in “priestly” ways — by praying to God directly, and not having to go through a church’s “priest” — and that all believers may teach the Christian faith to others on the basis of their own reading of the Scriptures. Linked with Luther’s view that we are justified by faith alone (“justification by faith”), the priesthood of all believers became a liberating feature of the Protestant Reformation, since it meant that individual believers had great freedom and were not forced to go to God through the church’s priests, and could read and interpret the Bible for themselves.

Presbyterian theology recognizes the truth of Luther’s perspectives. We go on, however, to see also that the church itself as the covenant community of God is a “chosen race, a royal priesthood” (I Pet. 2:9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10). We are made “priests” through Jesus Christ, who is the only true priest (Heb. 3:1) and who has called us into our ministries through the new covenant he has established (I Cor. 11:25).

This means that the church has a calling, or vocation, to be “priests” in that we have a corporate responsibility and a privilege as God’s believing, covenant people. Our “priesthood” is to offer Jesus Christ to the world, offer ourselves as “a living sacrifice” (Rom. 12:1), and pray to God on behalf of our sisters and brothers in Christ as well as on behalf of the whole world (James 5:16). Individual congregations act as a microcosm of the whole church and carry out the mission and ministries of the church on behalf of God and God’s kingdom in the person of Jesus Christ. To participate in the church is to have a “priestly” ministry to others and for others. Those ordained by the church as “ministers of the Word” carry out certain ministerial functions. But all members of the covenant community in the church as the people of God have our ministries to carry out as well. We all share in the corporate “priesthood of all believers.”

*Donald K. McKim*

# SUMMER 2022 OPPORTUNITIES FOR FPC CHILDREN/YOUTH AND THEIR FRIENDS!

## SHORT BIBLE STUDY ON 3 PARABLES OF JESUS

Wednesdays — July 13, 20 and 27

In the fellowship hall

With Pastor R to be followed by

A free mystery lunch out (??!!)

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## COOKOUT AND MOVIE NIGHT

One Saturday in July at the church

Details will be forthcoming!

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## BEGINNING GOLF LESSONS

With FPC's Cole Payne and Bill Stevens

Ages: rising 3rd—6th graders

——ONE MORE CLASS——

Monday: July 11

10:00 am to noon

*This class has been small with a lot of individual attention and very successful.*



Sunday, July 17

HANGER 38 OR URBAN AIR In Tallahassee

Followed by dinner with the Gutermans

At an amazing restaurant!

Leave time TBA

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For Info. Call Mr. Barry (850-209-1918)

Mr. Jared (760-717-0604)

Pastor Raymond (352-817-8700)

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## BEGINNING ART CLASSES

With FPC's Anna Barber and Aggie Schack

Ages: rising 2nd—5th graders

——NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATES——

Tuesdays: July 19, and 26 Aug. 2

10:00 am to noon

Fellowship Hall

*This class is full; and we have a waiting list if you'd like to get your child on it.*





# MONTREAT 2022

## “More Than Enough”

*LuAnne Law reports that they had an absolutely wonderful, amazing time. “It’s such a blessing to spend time with youth learning more about our God and experiencing the beauty of His creation.” They climbed Lookout Mountain and went rafting on the French Broad in North Carolina! Enjoy the pictures!*



# NEWS

## AROUND OUR CONGREGATION

### CONGRATULATIONS

Colton Hinson and Aiden Milton are all-stars on their local third-grade baseball team! In a picture in the Jackson Times, Colton is leading his team in prayer! Graham Milton is also on an allstar team.

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### NOLAN RACKLEY

It was nice seeing Nolan enjoying a glass of lemonade with friends at Maddie Moore's stand! (Jackson Times).

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### Marianna Mariners Swim Team

Members on this year's team from our church include first cousins Eva Marie, Jacob and Stephen Stafford, Andrew Law and Will and Macy Andreu.

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### "VERBATUM"

"When Jesus called his disciples he didn't put flyers in the synagogue and put some type of poster in the village square. It was a personal invitation.:

—George Sears

### SEWING/CRAFT GROUP

**SEWING WITH LOVE** continues meeting on Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the church office. The group is now making bags for folks to use with walkers or wheelchairs with compartments for cell phones. One of our church's new small groups for fun and mission! Call Donna at 850-765-3659 for information.

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CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS  
are available in the church office for  
\$10/each or 2 for \$15.

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### COOKBOOKS

We have ordered 100 cookbooks and they are supposed to arrive by the first week of July. We will have just a few extra copies, so watch your emails for their arrival and then you may call Connie (850-526-2430) should you decide you would like to purchase one (\$20).

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## Historic FPC Organ Restoration Scheduled to be Completed Soon!

Thanks for everyone's patience and awesome support for this most worthy effort! Watch for an announcement of an Organ Rededication Sunday filled with music, which has been and is such an important part of our church's worship to God!



## June Session Notes

1. Opened (LuAnne Law) and closed (John W. Milton) the meeting with prayer.
2. Aggie Schack presented a visual presentation on cribs/nurseries as we're re-opening/re-furnishing our nursery.
3. Approved a financial report from church treasurer, John W. Milton.
4. Heard reports from the May 21 Presbytery of Florida meeting at Dogwood Acres, Mission and Outreach Committee, our Worship Committee, Admin., committee and our PNC.
5. LuAnne Law gave a very positive report of the past week's Montreat youth conference. All of our students want to return in 2023.
6. John W. Milton gave an organ restoration report. Various sections that were sent away for re-building will soon be returned and techs from Jacksonville will be in Marianna soon for a week, re-assembling everything.
7. Approved purchasing a new sound system including new speakers if needed.
8. Elected Beth Westmoreland as commissioner to the August Presbytery of Florida meeting at the Grace Presbyterian Church in Panama City.
9. Discussed a security plan for our church on Sundays. A plan will be presented at our August stated meeting or sooner at a called meeting.
10. Gave thanks seeing Bud Wierman, Eli Payne and Ginger Green back in worship.
11. Pastor Raymond commented: "While we have our challenges as do all churches, our glass is certainly much more full than empty. So many members & friends do so many good things for our church! Praise be to God!"

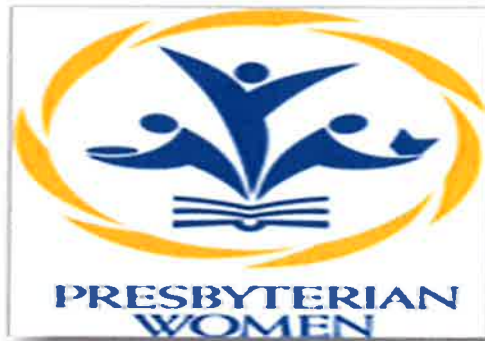
Elder of the month for July: Betty Pettis

Assistant Elder of the month for July: Matt Milton

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### SUMMER GIVING

Thanks for everyone's faithful giving, especially in the good 'ole summer time when some of us are out of town some. We can give online; we can mail our gifts to the church; or we can place them in an offering plate on Sunday. We're paying our benevolences monthly now; and the operations of our church continue daily. "On the first day of the week, each of us is to set aside a portion of what we have for the work of our Lord." I Corinthians 16:1



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

**NO MEETINGS JUNE, JULY  
AND AUGUST (Except for  
Lunch Bunch)**

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Circle 1: Chair is Joy Hinton  
Meets 1st Monday at 10:00 a.m.  
fellowship hall

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Circle 2: Chair is Dot Carpenter  
Meets 1st Monday at 12:30 p.m.  
fellowship hall

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Circle 3: The Lunch Bunch  
Chair is Peggy Peacock  
Lesson Planner — Rotates  
Meets 3rd Monday at 11:30 in fellowship hall

**THEY WILL MEET YEAR ROUND**

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

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**OUR  
CHURCH STAFF**

Raymond Guterman	Interim Pastor 352-817-8700
Kenneth Kelley	Choir Director 850-557-1198
Christine Yoshikawa	Organist
Connie Butts	Office Manager
Melissa Forehand	Food Pantry Coordinator
LeAnn Heineman	Custodian

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**BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER FOR  
BOB COWEN WHO IS TURNING  
100 YEARS YOUNG IN EARLY AU-  
GUST.**

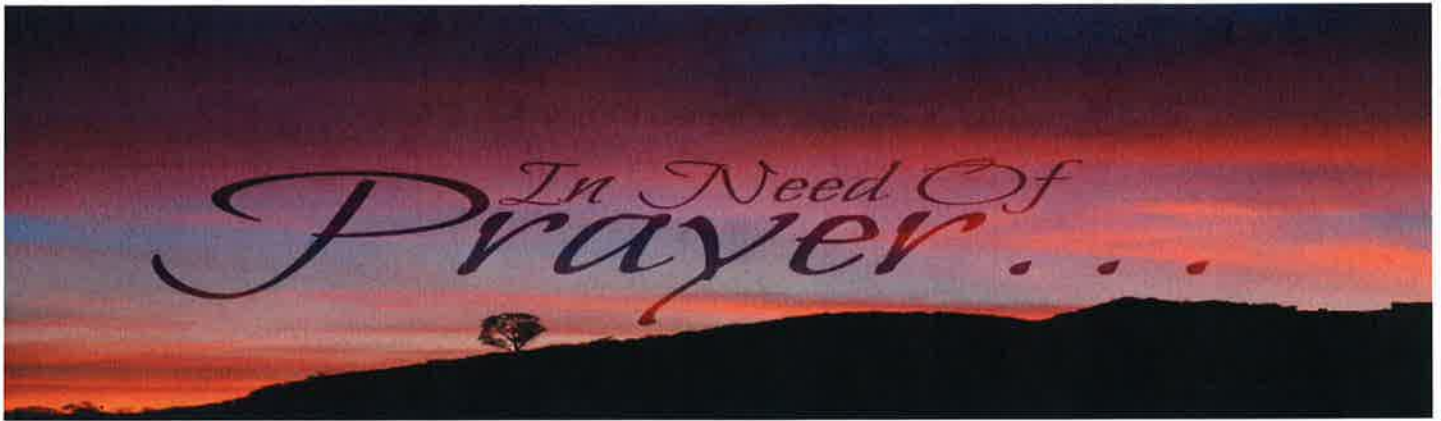
*A very faithful member of our church since 1965, and a leader in our community, Bob will become 100 on August 4; and we'll be having cake and punch after worship on Sunday, August 7. We'd like to surprise Bob with 100 birthday cards; so during the month of July, mail a card to our church (Mr. Bob Cowen in care of First Presbyterian Church, 4437 Clinton Street, Marianna, FL 32446) and we'll present them to him!*

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Hurting families in Buffalo and Texas  
Frances Brock (requested by Kathy Roberts)  
Family and friends of Andrea Granger  
Bud Wierman  
Joy Lewis  
Drue Lewis (Joy Lewis' sister-in-law)  
Richard Teague (Joy Lewis' brother-in-law)  
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  
Our Food Pantry mission  
Peace with Russia and Ukraine  
Summer 2022 at FPC





## FPC MISSIONS

### EXCITING FPC FOOD PANTRY NEWS MAY 2022 REPORT

331 households were served including 785 people. 277 of the homeowners were 60 years or older and 200 are under 18 (children and grandchildren.)

#### Current Volunteer Needs

1. Weekly (Mondays) unloading of Second Harvest Truck
  2. Tuesday bagging (back ups needed)
  3. Wednesday distribution (back ups needed)
- Call Food Pantry Director, Melissa, (850-693 -1161) for information/to volunteer today!

Donations requested for the month of July are one-pound bags of dried rice and dried beans. Small bags of dog or cat food are now being accepted also. There is a basket in the hallway between fellowship hall and the sanctuary where we may place our donations or we may place them at the back office entrance on Sundays.



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

#### July 3rd

Kathy McCrary

#### July 4th

Tatum Milton

#### July 8th

Robert Hinson

#### July 13th

John Milton V.

#### July 14th

Kathy Roberts

#### July 15th

Mary Lu Andreu

#### July 21st

Matt Payne

#### July 23rd

Macky Gortemoller  
Frances McNeill

#### July 26th

Vikki Milton

#### July 27th

Beth Beasley  
Larry Spivey

#### July 31st

Jake Gunter  
Betty Hatcher

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



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR MISSIONARIES IN NIGER

Much has gone on with our family, in addition to all the changes in the world since my visit in 2016. That was a wonderful visit for me to meet college and high school students in addition to everyone at the church. And the area is paradise for someone with interests in geology like me. Thanks to all for that wonderful visit.

Jodi and I moved to Niamey, in Niger, in June of 2017, with daughters Salome and Selina, and sons John and Joseph, who were all in high school. Sons Jason and Michael were attending a school in Orlando and working part-time there. Salome and Selina graduated virtually in 2020 with all the pandemic issues, and Jodi and the kids returned to the US on the last Covid-related repatriation flight back to the US from West Africa. I remained behind until September of 2020 when flights opened up again, and joined the family in Mission Haven next to Columbia Seminary in Decatur GA right outside of Atlanta. Michael and Jason also returned to be living with the family there. Salome went to the American University in Greece for summer and Fall sessions, but has returned to the US again. John and Joseph just finished their junior year at Decatur High and will graduate from there next year. All the kids are working part-time jobs which are easy to come by, and without benefits, but all are doing well.

While Jodi was in Niamey, she helped establish the Nursing School for the new University of the Eglise Evangelique de la Republique du Niger (EERN) – the church with whom we work. I began working with the church on low-cost water, sanitation and hygiene programmes. After our return to the US, we made the decision that Jodi would remain behind so that John and Joseph would not have to change schools again, and they would be able to take advantage of all the many programmes available that are so helpful for them that they could not have here in Niger. So in remaining behind, Jodi has “retired” from PC(USA) and I have signed up for another 3 year term based in Niger. I returned to Niamey in June of 2021 to continue working with the WASH work of the church. I still am connected to South Sudan work, but it has been since November 2019 before the pandemic that I have been there. I hope to be able to travel there next month.

Back here in Niger, we as ex-pats are not allowed to leave the capital city by road due to some security issues in the area. However, I can fly to the Maradi Region of Niger and am able to work on rural WASH issues from there. So we are building the work of the Church in water sanitation and hygiene in the urban settings in Niamey, and in the rural settings around Maradi.

Please let me know if you have been receiving our newsletters. They are available online, but you should be getting hardcopies mailed to the church.

Please greet everyone at 1<sup>st</sup> Pres Marianna for me. I look forward to hearing how things are there at 1<sup>st</sup> Pres.

Jim

Jim and Jodi McGill

[jim.mcgill@pcusa.org](mailto:jim.mcgill@pcusa.org)

[jodi.mcgill@pcusa.org](mailto:jodi.mcgill@pcusa.org)





**INNOVATIVE CHARITIES  
of Northwest Florida, Inc.**

WWW.INNOVATIVECHARITIES.ORG

DIVISIONS:



King's Table Feeding Program: Food Pantry



Trumpeter's Song Mission: 'Needs & Seeds' Free Household Goods



'New Seasons' Thrift Store

June 11, 2022

First Presbyterian Church  
4487 Clinton Street  
Marianna, FL 32448

Dear Congregation,

Thank you so very much for your \$400.00 donation to Innovative Charities of NW Fla, Inc. This is truly a timely gift and will be put to very good use to fulfill the commission God has given us. We greatly appreciate your prayers and support. This is your temporary receipt for tax purposes until you receive the 2022 Year Contributions Statement in January 2023.

Again, thanks for helping to bring love & hope to the world through contributions to ICNF, which also funds Trumpeter's Song Missions and the King's Table Feeding Program. You are a blessing!

Sincerely,

Robert W. Arnold  
Director

