



# Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church  
Marianna, Florida

## February 2, 2012

Located on the corner of Jefferson and Clinton Streets

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 – 5:00  
Friday 8:00 – 3:00

Phone: (850) 526-2430

Fax: (850) 482-7745

E-mail: [firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net](mailto:firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net)

Website: [www.firstpresmarianna.org](http://www.firstpresmarianna.org)

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

Published Semi-Monthly Volume 12 Number 3



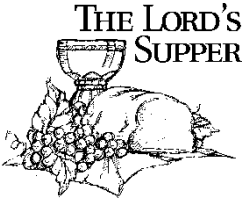
## From the Pastor

**Where do we go from here?** As Rachel and I start to make plans for our retirement, that certainly is a question that we have been considering and with which we will be grappling over the next few months. At the same time I have heard several of you asking the same question as you have heard the news of my desire to retire. The initial answer is that our Session and I will be seeking the guidance of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Florida as to what next steps we both should take. I have never retired before, so I will be appreciating their guidance as much as any of you who have not been part of a congregation from which a pastor has retired in many years. The Committee on Ministry is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, February 14. We look forward to having more information after that meeting.

**Where do we go from here?** One of the reasons for taking some time before retiring is that Rachel and I would like to be as helpful as possible in making the time of transition for each of you as easy as possible. One of the questions that we will be asking each committee and any individuals who are interested, "What do we need to do in the next few months to make this time of transition easier for you?"

**Where do we go from here?** Since we announced our plans to move to Tustin, California, where our son and daughter-in-law live, many have asked us, "Where is Tustin?" Tustin is in Orange County, southeast of Los Angeles, and is located between Irvine, where John Wayne Airport is located and Anaheim, of Disneyland and Angel's fame, and just south of Garden Grove where the Crystal Cathedral is located. I hope this helps to pin-point it for some of you. As we move closer to our moving time, we will be sharing more information about the location and our projected apartment.

**Where do we go from here?** I pray that God will continue to guide us and to lead us as we move into an unknown future, confident that the God who has led and guided us in the past will always be with us.



## Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on February 5

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated our Worship Service Sunday, February 5 as we reflect on the strength God offers to all who wait upon the Lord based on Isaiah 40:21-31. The choir's anthem will be "On Eagle's Wings," with words based on Psalm 91 and music by Michael Joncas arranged for choir by Douglas E. Wagner. Anyone who is unable to attend our Worship Services on a regular basis and who would like to receive communion at home following our service next Sunday is invited to contact the church office at 526-2430 so that arrangements may be made.

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## Sharing I Corinthians 13 at Covered Dish Supper

At our covered dish supper on **Wednesday, February 8** at 6:30 p.m. anyone who would like to share a translation or paraphrase of the "Love passage" in I Corinthians 13 is welcome to do so.

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## Circle Meetings

All ladies are invited to participate in one or more of the following circle meetings on Monday, February 6:

Circle 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the church parlor

Lunch Bunch Circle at 11:30 a.m. with Betty

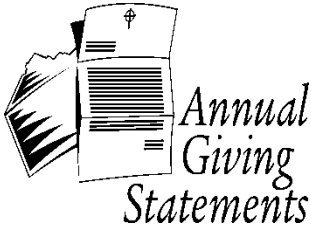
Joyce Hand, 4334 Second Avenue, 482-5066

Circle 2 at 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall

Good News Women's Circle at 7 p.m. with Cindy

Morgan, 4384 Angela Drive, 482-5332

*The Wildflowers Circle for Younger Women will be held later in the month. For more information on this Circle please contact Merian Milton at e-mail: [merianmilton@embarqmail.com](mailto:merianmilton@embarqmail.com) or at 526-7557.*



## **Did You Get Your Statement?**

Statements of individual giving to the First Presbyterian Church during 2011 were mailed out on January 26. If you did not receive your statement or have any questions about it, please contact Valerie Marlow, our Administrative Assistant, at 526-2430 or e-mail to [firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net](mailto:firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net).

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## **Did You Know?**

... that history was made on Sunday, January 22 as we shared in the Service of Ordination and Installation for our new Ruling Elders who have been installed to the Class of 2014 of our Church Session? Our new Ruling Elders are Ginger Green, Jackie Homoney, Ernest McNeill and Gina Stuart. With Ginger Green's ordination this is the first time in the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Marianna that we have had a father, mother and son who have all been elected and ordained as Ruling Elders.

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## **Games Night on Saturday February 11**

Games Night will be held on Saturday, February 11 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to bring a table game and snack to share.

# Church Committees for 2012

**The following is a list of our church committees and their responsibilities for 2012 together with the Ruling Elders who serve on them**

**Administration:** Betty Joyce Hand, chairperson, and Marcus Green  
*Administers the finances of our church, our insurance program, coordinates the work of the Endowment Committee and Stewardship program, and supervises the work of our Administrative Assistant, Valerie Marlow, and our pastor, Huw Christopher.*

**Christian Education:** Ginger Green, chairperson.  
*Coordinates our Christian Education programs for all ages, including Sunday School, Youth Groups, M and M's, Lenten Luncheons, Vacation Bible School, Montreat, Dogwood Acres, youth and children's music programs, special Bible and other studies, prayer and reflection times for adults, as well as supervising our Nursery Assistants: Mary Skipper and Branham Skipper.*

**Evangelism and Fellowship:** Kip Blighton, chairperson, and Jackie Homoney  
*Coordinates our fellowship activities including covered dish suppers, breakfasts, Games Nights, church picnics, PALS Luncheons, Live Nativity and other special events, as well as helping us to reach out in concern to one another, and to those who worship with us, and seeking to make our church known in our community through our website and in other ways.*

**Mission and Service:** Mary Ann Gibbs, chairperson, and Ernest McNeill  
*Encourages our concern for the needy in our own community and throughout the world including the work of our Food Pantry, support of the programs of our General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery, Thornwell Home for Children, Presbytery's Camp at Dogwood Acres and Monroe House at Sunland and other local community programs, such as Habitat for Humanity and the Salvation Army, and organizes all of our special offerings.*

**Property and Operations:** Bryan Milton, chairperson, and Scott Yant

*Supervises the work of Melissa Krebeck, our custodian, and the maintenance, good repair and appearance of all of our church buildings, including the manse at 4380 River Forest Road.*

**Worship and Music:** Joy Lewis, chairperson, and Gina Stuart

*Supervises the work of our church musicians, Stanley Littleton and Larry Nelson, and our handbell program, as well as planning for our regular and special worship services, including the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, as well as funerals and weddings at the church.*

**Endowment:** John Milton, V, chairperson

*This special committee oversees our 1835 Endowment Fund, encourages other Endowment Funds, and support of the church through wills, bequests and other special gifts.*

*If you have any questions about a committee's work, please contact the respective chairperson.*

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## **Clerk of Session Resigns**

The Session has accepted, with the gratitude for her service, the resignation of Ruling Elder Debbie Moxley as an active member of our Session and also as the Clerk of our Session, in order that she may be able to assist her husband, Travis, who has been called as the Interim Pastor of the White Pond Baptist Church in Alford. Our 2011-2012 Nominating Committee has been asked to nominate to the Session another active or inactive Ruling Elder to serve as our Clerk of Session for the remainder of 2012.

# SouperBowl of Caring to Help Food Pantry



The SouperBowl of Caring offering will be our Food Pantry offering for February. All contributions made this month will count towards our SouperBowl of Caring totals. As of Friday, February 3, \$.00 has been contributed. During the four Wednesdays in January we served 427 families consisting of the following age categories (0-18) 427, (19-59) 338 and (60+) 287 for a total of 1087 individuals.

In addition to the faithful financial support of so many towards our food pantry we also appreciate those who give of their time and talents to make this ministry possible. The following people will be serving

Bagging on February 7: Donna Moore, Bill Boyenton and Betty Pettis

Serving on February 8: Nancy Kowalczyk, Jo-Anne Rountree, Donna Moore and Marianne Lonsinger

Bagging on February 14: Mary Ann Gibbs, Donna Moore and Marianne Lonsinger

Serving on February 15: Louise Pumphrey, Nancy Kowalczyk, Cindy Morgan and Jo-Anne Rountree

If you would like to help with our food pantry ministry, please contact Marianne Lonsinger at 526-2858, or Valerie Marlow at the church office, 526-2430, or [firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net](mailto:firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net) for more information.

Appreciation is extended to the Junioresettes of Marianna High School, sponsored by the Marianna Woman's Club, for the recent gift of food for our food pantry.

*As a recipient of USDA food to distribute through our food pantry, this institution is an equal opportunity provider, and required to meet all of the guidelines approved for such an agency and USDA commodities recipient.*

## **Presbytery Meets on Historic Day**

As Huw Christopher, as the retiring moderator, called the meeting of the Presbytery of Florida to order on Saturday, January 28 at Edgewater Beach Resort on Panama City Beach he pointed out that it had been on January 28, 1841 at the First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee that the Presbytery of Florida had been constituted. The first churches to be members of the Presbytery were those in Madison, Monticello, Tallahassee, Quincy and Marianna. It was reported in the February 20 edition of the Tallahassee newspaper, *The Floridian*, that “the business of the Presbytery was conducted with a degree of diligence, harmony, and decorum that would have been credible to an older body.” The history of the Presbytery also states that “the new Presbytery provided nurture and resources to assist the charter churches in carrying out their mission and in aiding the formation of new churches as settlers moved into the territory” (page 4 *Presbytery of Florida 150 Years 1841-1991 Frontiers in Faith* by Hendrix Chandler) *An invitation was extended for the second meeting of the Presbytery to be held in our church in Marianna.*

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### **Church members participate in Program at Disciplefest and Presbytery Meeting**

As part of the meeting of the Presbytery of Florida

... Jim Gibbs as the Treasurer gave an encouraging report about the finances of the Presbytery during 2011.

... Sara Jean Hargis reported on her great experience living at the Presbyterian University Center in Tallahassee.

... Mary Ann Gibbs was the commissioner from our Session.

... Huw Christopher led the opening worship service which included the installation of the new moderator, Ruling Elder Jean Norman from the Trinity Presbyterian Church in Pensacola.

As part of the Presbytery of Florida Disciplefest

... Huw Christopher, Rachel Christopher, Ginger Green, and Mary Bevis Schmidt, attended various workshops.

... Huw and Rachel Christopher led a “get acquainted” program for the clergy/educator/spouse retreat

... Rachel Christopher enjoyed meeting Ruling Elder Sally Hinchman, the new Transitional Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery. Rachel and Sally were students together at the Presbyterian School of Christian Education for the school year 1970-1971.



# Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation on Sunday, February 12

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation will be held at the conclusion of the Worship Service on Sunday, February 12. The following items will be included on the agenda of this Annual Meeting

1. A report on our Church Finances for 2011
2. A review of our Church Budget for 2012
3. The Session will recommend:
  - a. That the active elders on the Session form the Board of Directors to manage the affairs of the corporation for the year 2012 as required by the By-Laws of the First Presbyterian Church of Marianna, and that these said directors be also recognized as the trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Marianna in accordance with the *Book of Order* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) *G-4.0102*
  - b. That the following persons be elected to serve as the officers of the corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Marianna for 2012:  
President: Marcus Green  
Vice-President: Betty Joyce Hand  
Secretary-Treasurer: Ginger Green
  - c. That in addition to the officers of the Corporation the following directors be listed on the corporate papers filed with the State of Florida: Bryan Milton, Mary Ann Gibbs, and Gina Stuart.
  - d. That the terms of call for Huw Christopher, pastor, as reflected in the 2012 Church budget be approved.  
*(The only change from 2011 to 2012 is a slight increase in the Medical Insurance Contribution as required by the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). These annual terms of call will be pro-rated for the time until Huw's retirement.)*

# **Please Join Us for a Special Morning on Sunday, February 12**

**9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. - Breakfast** will be served by our Evangelism and Fellowship Committee.

**9:30 a.m. to 9:55 a.m. - “I Love Sunday School” Assembly** for all ages in the fellowship hall led by our Christian Education Committee.

- ✦ Come ready to share your favorite Sunday School Story
- ✦ Come ready to share the name of a favorite Sunday School Teacher

**9:55 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School Classes for all ages**

**10:35 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. - Children’s Music in the fellowship hall.**

**11 a.m. - A Celebration of Compassionate Love of God** based on II Kings 5:1-14 and Mark 1:40-45, with special music by our choir and JuBELLLees.

**11:55 a.m. - The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation.** *(see separate article in this newsletter)*

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## **Sunday School Classes for All Ages**

Our Christian Education Committee invites everyone to the “I Love Sunday School” Assembly beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 12. If you have never tried Sunday School, this will be a great day to give it a try – hopefully you will come to love it too. Following that Assembly there will be classes for all age groups including three adult classes. The Adult Class in the parlor will be studying, “Freed from Law Through Christ,” based on Galatians 3:1-14. Upstairs the Adult Class in Room 4 and the Young Adult class in Room 2 will be studying the texts to be used in our Worship Service from II Kings 5:1-14 and Mark 1:40-45.

If you do not want to wait until February 12 to try Sunday School, on February 5 there also will be classes for all age groups. That Sunday the Adults in the parlor will begin a new series entitled, “God’s Redemption” with that Sunday’s theme being, “Justified by Faith in Christ” based on Galatians 2:15-21. Upstairs the Adult Class in Room 4 and the Young Adult class in Room 2 will be studying the texts to be used in our Worship Service from Isaiah 40:21-31.



## **Habitat for Humanity Needs Workers**

The Jackson County Habitat for Humanity is looking for skilled and semi-skilled construction volunteers to work with College Students on the Spring Build, Monday, March 5 through Friday, March 9. If you can help, please contact Janet Harns at (850) 209-4410 or Leslie Fuqua at (850) 482-2187.

Our church will again be providing snacks for this Spring Build. More details of how everyone can help will be given closer to the time.

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## **Citizen of the Year**

Congratulations are extended to Judy Brooten who was recently recognized by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce as the Citizen of the Year. Among her many contributions to Jackson County was listed all of her work in the writing of our church history and her service on our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

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## **Boy Scout Sunday on February 5**

The members and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 170, which meets at our church on Friday evenings, will be present for our Worship Service on Sunday, February 5 as they observe Boy Scout Sunday. Troop members are Hunter Hutton, Senior Patrol Leader, Calen Sims, Patrol Leader and Liam McDonald, Den Chief. The Leaders are Steve Hutton, Scout Master, Robbie Sims, Assistant Scout Master, Mary Ann Hutton, Committee Chairperson, Brian McDonald, Committee Member and Angela McDonald, Committee Member. In 2011 the scouts, assisted by their leaders, performed 227 hours of community service that is 28.375 days of service based upon an 8 hour day! They planted and irrigated 55 trees at Camp ALAFLO, collected food with a great food drive at Winn-Dixie for our food pantry, performed flag ceremonies, posted colors, repaired flags, and fed the church family retreat at Dogwood Acres. In addition each of the scouts has been working on his merit badges toward Eagle Scout. At our service they will be presented with Good Turn America Patches for their excellent community service.



All children of the congregation through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
and their parents and friends  
are invited to share in a Valentine Party  
in the Fellowship Hall on  
Saturday, February 11  
between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

There will be crafts, singing, puppets and food.

***Everyone is invited to bring Valentine Cards  
to share.***

If you would like to help with refreshments, please  
contact Amanda Hinson at [cowgirl275@hotmail.com](mailto:cowgirl275@hotmail.com)  
or 579-5120.

If you would like to help in any other way or would like  
more information please contact Jennifer Stafford at  
[jenniferstafford@earthlink.net](mailto:jenniferstafford@earthlink.net) or 482-5025.



All members of the congregation are invited to be part of the **Souper Bowl of Caring** on Sunday, February 5.

On Sunday, February 5 young people from all over the United States and Canada will be sponsoring in their local churches a very special opportunity for church members. Church members will have the opportunity to make Super Bowl Sunday not only a “Sports Day”, but also a “day of caring and concern for those who are without even a bowl of soup to eat.”

Souper Bowl Sunday was a program developed by an Associate Pastor of the Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina in 1990. The Senior High Youth in his church contacted Columbia area churches with the idea of sponsoring a special collection of “Soup” and “Money” on Super Bowl Sunday in support of a charity of their choice. Souper Bowl Sunday went statewide in 1991 and in 1993 the first National Souper Bowl took place. Young people from all over our nation collected donations of soup and money to be used locally. All organizers requested was a report so that the aggregate each year could be determined.

**Results over the years:**

| Year  | Participating Groups | Results          |
|---|----------------------|------------------|
| 1990  | 22                   | \$5,700          |
| 1993  | 885 (30 states)      | \$144,000        |
| In 2011 \$9,605,368.28 in money and food was raised for local ministries to care for the hungry |                      |                  |
| 2005  | FPC Marianna         | 148 cans & \$554 |
| 2006  | FPC Marianna         | 201 cans & \$659 |
| 2007  | FPC Marianna         | 158 cans & \$657 |
| 2008  | FPC Marianna         | 228 cans & \$707 |
| 2009  | FPC Marianna         | 113 cans & \$791 |
| 2010  | FPC Marianna         | 132 cans & \$904 |
| 2011  | FPC Marianna         | 96 cans & \$945  |

Please support  
 First Presbyterian Church’s Food Pantry  
 and the Souper Bowl Program



**Our Prayer Calendar:** Bert Andrews, Jeannette Vickery, John Lewis, Kathy Sloan and Cheryl Waldee (requested by Susie Stevens), Betty Linton (mother of Frankie Stewart), Glenda Mullins (sister of Dot Carpenter) Grace Champion (requested by Joy Lewis), Bill McQuagge (cousin of Bob Pitman),

Laura Creasy (grand-daughter of Clyde Hand), Leo Ramin (requested by Bryan Milton), Steve Hebb (requested by Larry and Hazel Nelson, Melody Hatcher (daughter of Betty Jo Hatcher), Emory Singletary, Jr. (requested by Alex and Joy Lewis), Ken Roussy (requested by Alex and Joy Lewis)

**Presbytery Prayer Calendar:** February 5: Navarre Presbyterian Church; February 12: Pace Presbyterian Church.

**On-Going Prayer Concerns:** Terry Dyer (Former Presbytery of Florida Executive), Adam Stafford (nephew of Barry Stafford), Brad Southerland (father of Cindy Eade), Barbara Black (requested by Nancy McMullin), Christine Stubbs (requested by Susie Stevens), Inez Crawford (cousin of Frankie Stewart), Harold Pumphrey (son of Louise Pumphrey) and Jack and Shirley McGee (requested by Janie Harmon)

**Homebound Members and Friends:**

Jackie Parramore  
Jessie Stuart  
Ray Brendemuehl

**Chipola Pavilion**

Bert Andrews  
Jeannette Vickery

**Marianna Health & Rehabilitation Center:**

Christine Crews  
Lottie Fite

**Signature Health At the Courtyard**

Raynell Morris (mother of Don Morris)  
Ilene Culpepper

**Homebound Members and Friends Out of Town:**

Eloise Turner – Gainesville  
Isabel Keaton – Tallahassee  
Ruth Hinson – St. Mary's, Ga  
Bennie Fowler – Youngstown  
Julia Holmes – Mobile, Ala

**Serving in the Military:**

Ian Kowalczyk (son of Richard & Nancy Kowalczyk) on the USS Nimitz  
Wayne Busby  
Jake Vickery (Grandson of Jeannette Vickery) in Afghanistan  
Steven Blighton (Brother of Kip Blighton) in Korea  
Drew Blighton (Brother of Kip Blighton) at Ft. Bliss, Texas



**RULING ELDER  
OF THE MONTH**

**Mary Ann Gibbs**

**Church Session**

- |                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Kip Blighton                  | 482-4661 |
| clifford.blighton@us.army.mil |          |
| Mary Ann Gibbs                | 482-2188 |
| jimgibbsfl@embarqmail.com     |          |
| Ginger Green                  | 594-5724 |
| ginger@chipola.com            |          |
| Marcus Green                  | 482-3270 |
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| Jackie Homoney                | 526-2041 |
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| Bryan Milton                  | 526-7557 |
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| Gina Stuart                   | 526-2298 |
| ginastuart@gmail.com          |          |
| Scott Yant                    | 526-9108 |
| scottandcindyant@yahoo.com    |          |



- |                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Nancy Kowalczyk    | Feb. 1  |
| Isabel Keaton      | Feb. 4  |
| Julien Cumming     | Feb. 5  |
| Lottie Fite        | Feb. 5  |
| Lou Wilkinson      | Feb. 5  |
| Sam Andreu         | Feb. 6  |
| Branham Skipper    | Feb. 8  |
| Bud Strength       | Feb. 14 |
| Ruth Hinson        | Feb. 17 |
| Sarah Jean Hargis  | Feb. 19 |
| Sarah Hunt Oswald  | Feb. 22 |
| Ray Brendemuehl    | Feb. 24 |
| Olivia McDaniel    | Feb. 24 |
| Chuck Morgan, Jr.  | Feb. 25 |
| Charles LaFontaine | Feb. 26 |
| Laura Lonsinger    | Feb. 26 |
| Ashley Swearingen  | Feb. 26 |
| Carolyn Wilson     | Feb. 27 |

Flowers for the next few weeks in February are given by



*February 5  
February 12*

*Chuck and Cindy Morgan  
Jim and Mary Ann Gibbs  
Frankie Stewart*

First Presbyterian Church  
4437 Clinton Street  
Marianna, Florida 32446-3436

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