



Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church
Marianna, Florida

February 7, 2013

Located on the corner of Jefferson and Clinton Streets

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

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Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

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Website: www.firstpresmarianna.org



LENT: A SEASON OF PREPARING

Lent: it is a funny word. We confuse it with “lint”, the fuzzy gray stuff we find under the bed, or that sticks to the shoulders of a blue blazer. Lent: the word actually comes from the Old German, from the same root as the word “length.” And originally, Lent was the season of the year when the days were growing longer. Still is, as I notice almost every afternoon.

Lent: it is really a forty day season, not counting Sundays. It reminds us of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting after His baptism and before His temptation.

Lent: the liturgical color is purple, the color of repentance. It is a time to repent of our sins, to contemplate how we have sinned and why we have sinned.

In the old days, it was a season of self-denial. And in many Christian traditions, people still give things up for Lent, as a sign of their repentance, or to identify in some small way with the fasting of Jesus, and His temptation.

We Presbyterians don’t do fasting or self-denial well. We left that to the Roman Catholics, the Orthodox, the Episcopalians. I remember some of my Roman Catholic friends in school giving things up for Lent.

Loretta Harris gave up chocolate one year, and Coca-Colas another. We considered her devout.

Red Hall gave up spinach every year. Probably still does. And he gave it up year round, not just for Lent.

But the thing about giving things up for Lent is that you can take them up again. You see, we don’t really give them up. They are just lent for a while.

The Psalmist asked: “What shall I render to the Lord, for all His benefits to me?”

The answer is that nothing we could give, or give up, would ever be enough, ever be sufficient, for the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. And it wasn’t the sacrifice in the wilderness; it was the sacrifice on the cross.

That is what Lent really is, the season when we prepare for Holy Week, to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

Some prepare with prayer, with Bible study. Some prepare by buying a new Easter outfit. Lent: a season of preparation. How will you prepare this year?



Lenton Luncheon Series to Focus on Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Interim Pastor Ted Land will lead a series of devotionals based on the words and work of German Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer during the Lenten season this year.

Bonhoeffer, the subject of many books and several motion pictures, was a hero of the Resistance movement in Germany during World War II. He was one of the authors of the Theological Declaration of Barmen, which is a part of the Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) He was also Adolph Hitler's personal prisoner, and one of the last to be executed before Hitler's suicide and the fall of Nazi Germany.

Christian Education Committee Announces Lenten Luncheon Schedule

The annual Lenten Luncheons during the Lenten Season will begin on Tuesday, February 19, from 12 to 12:50 pm in the fellowship hall. The menu will include soup, sandwiches, dessert and beverages and will be prepared by the ladies' circles and the men of the church. Everyone is invited to come, and bring a friend.

February 19 – Wildflowers Circle

February 26 – Good News Women

March 5 – The Lunch Bunch

March 12 – Circle I

March 19 – Circle II

March 26 – FPU Men



Handbell Ringers Needed

The JuBELLees Handbell Choir needs handbell ringers. No experience is required. We will be practicing on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning to play the handbells, contact Charlotte at 482-0097.



Join us for Sunday School

Enjoy cookies, juices, hot chocolate and coffee every Sunday prior to Sunday school, from 9:15 until 9:45. Whether you are new to Marianna or a life- long member, gather for a time of fellowship,

make new friendships and to ask about our Church.

There are classes for all age groups between 9:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. including three classes for Adults.

The Adults in the parlor will be studying,

February 10 Full Life in Christ *Colossians 2:6-16*

February 17 Clothe Yourself in Christ *Colossians 3:5-17*

February 24 *Colossians 4:2-6*

Upstairs the Adult Class in Room 4 will be studying the texts to be used in our worship service and the Adult class in Room 2 will be praying the texts to be used in our Worship Service.

Presbyterian Beliefs and Reformed Theology in the Fellowship hall taught by Rev. Dr. Ted Land

Ruling Elder and Stewardship Training At Dogwood Acres

Dogwood Acres will be hosting a Ruling Elder and Stewardship Training Session on Saturday, February 23, entitled "The Measure by which we stand" and "A Way of Life and a Witness to the World".

There are Registration forms on the table outside the Fellowship hall, or you may pick one up at the Church Office. The registration deadline is February 15, and the cost is only \$10.00 which includes breakfast and lunch.

Dogwood Acres Wish List for 2013

There is a wish list that Dogwood Acres has compiled for this year. The list is posted on the wall outside of the fellowship hall. Anyone interest in making a donation, please contact Kevin Veldhuisen at 850-535-2695 or e-mail director@dogwoodacres.org. This list is also available from the church office.

**“Come Grow with Us”
A Gardening Retreat Workshop
March 8-10 at Dogwood Acres
Retreat Center**



A Gardening Workshop will be held at Dogwood Acres Retreat on March 8-10. The topics that will be covered over the 3 day retreat are Raised bed garden construction, Composting, Organic gardening, Landscaping with native plants and Cooking fresh. There are brochures on the table outside the fellowship hall with a registration form. The weekend includes lodging, meals and all workshops. If you need information you can call 850-535-2695.

Covered
Dish
Supper



February Covered Dish Suppers

The Wednesday night Covered Dish Suppers continue during the month of February. Come and join us for a nice evening and bring one of your favorite dishes to share with all. The class on “What Presbyterians Believe also continues during the month of February after the Luncheon at 7:01 p.m.

Montreat Luncheon

The **Sr. Hi Youth Group** and their parents invite everyone to join them Sunday, February 10, for a luncheon in the fellowship hall after worship service. The donations from the luncheon will be used for their trip to the Montreat Youth Conference in June.



**Games and Movie Night on
Friday February 15**

Evangelism and Fellowship Committee invites everyone to come to the Games and Movie night in the fellowship hall. We're still playing games, and we'll play a family movie to boot. Remember to bring a snack to share and your favorite game.



SouperBowl of Caring Offering

The Souperbowl of Caring Offering was received last Sunday, February 3 totaling \$683.03 and 19 cans of food. All of this money and food will be used in our own food pantry, but the total will be reported to the national program. As of February 6, the national program was reporting a total of \$1,808,329.41 had been given by 2,973 different groups.



Food Pantry News

Our **Food Pantry Offering** for February will be received on **Sunday, February 17**. During the month of January our food pantry served 334 families consisting of the following age groups 229(0-18), 290 (19-59) and 169 (60+) for a total of 688 individuals.

If you would like to help with our food pantry ministry, please contact Mary Ann Gibbs at 482-2188 or e-mail: jimgibbsfl@embarqmail.com, or Valerie Marlow at the church office, 526-2430, or firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net for more information.

Volunteers Bagging and Serving in the pantry during the month of February are:

February 13th: Ron and Willie Mae Goold, Bud and Mary Wierman, Jane Powell and Barbara Mears

February 23rd: Bill Boyenton, Marianne Lonsinger, Sharon Bannerman, Mary Ann Gibbs, JoAnn Rountree and Kathy Milton

February 27th: Bob Pitman, Ernie McNeill, Cindy Morgan, Jane Powell, Ron and Willie Mae Goold.

We are in need of volunteers who can lift up to 40 pounds on USDA delivery days for about 2 hours once a month. Please call the office at 526-2430 if you can help.

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.



Memorials and Gifts

Appreciation is extended to all who faithfully continue to support the work of our church with gifts over and above their contributions to our annual budget. During the past month we have received the following gifts:

1835 Endowment Fund in memory of Milton G. Wynn, Sr.

1835 Endowment Fund in honor of Richard and Betty Joyce Hand

Gifts to the 1835 Endowment Fund were given by Bill and Jean Boyenton and Joanne Wynn

If you would like to make an honorarium or memorial gift to the 1835 Endowment Fund, you will find **Gold Envelopes** on the back of the pews in the sanctuary, or you may request an envelope from the office by phone at 850-526-2430, or email firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net



Sympathy

The sympathy of the Church is extended to the families of Albert and Kathy Stevens Milton and Bill and Susie Stevens on the death of Henry Clay Stevens on February 2.

Copies of Sunday Sermons Available

Copies of Pastor Ted Land's sermons are available on the table in the Church narthex, and on the church website at www.firstpresmarianna.org



Happy Valentine's Day

Don't forget your loved one's on Thursday, February 14.



Our Prayer Calendar: Ernest McNeill (father of Ernie McNeill), Mel McLure Clark (requested by Mary Bevis Schmidt), Twanna Dunaway (requested by Jackie Spivey), Tom Dozier (requested by Jackie Spivey), Joanne Rountree, Joy Gilbert, Piper Montana Smith (niece of Polly Land), Carolyn Land Page (niece of Ted Land), Ron Wierman (requested by Bud and Mary Wierman) and Judy Spear (requested by Marianne Lonsinger).

On-Going Prayer Concerns: Adam Stafford (nephew of Barry Stafford), Barbara Black (requested by Nancy McMullin), Inez Crawford (cousin of Frankie Stewart), Harold Pumphrey (son of Louise Pumphrey) and Carolyn Baxter (requested by Cindy Morgan),

Homebound Members and Friends:

Jackie Parramore
Jessie Stuart
Eileen Drew

Marianna Health & Rehabilitation Center:

Christine Crews
Lottie Fite

Signature Health At the Courtyard

Raynell Morris (mother of Don Morris)
Bert Andrews
Ilene Culpepper

Homebound Members and Friends Out of Town:

Eloise Turner – Gainesville
Isabel Keaton – Tallahassee
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 in Afghanistan

Gordon Blighton (brother of Kip Blighton) at Norfolk Naval Station
Steven and Drew Blighton (Brothers of Kip Blighton) at Ft. Bliss, Texas

Prayer Calendar Policy: An individual's name will be placed on the Prayer Calendar (in the Bulletin and in the Newsletter) if: 1) an individual requests his or her own name be placed on the list, or 2) a family member of the individual makes the request, or 3) a non-family member makes the request with the knowledge and approval of the individual. Names of individuals will be included on the Prayer Calendar for a four week period.



**RULING ELDER
OF THE MONTH
Mary Ann Gibbs**

Church Session

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Scott Yant 526-9108
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A black and white illustration of a birthday cake with three lit candles. Above the cake, there are several small circles representing confetti or streamers. Below the cake, the text "This Month's Birthdays" is written in a decorative, cursive font. The entire illustration is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

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
Amy Rehberg Feb. 26
Carolyn Wilson Feb. 27

Flowers for the next few weeks are provided by:

February 10 Ron and Willie Mae Goold
February 17 Don and Charlotte Hunter
February 24 Jim and Mary Ann Gibbs and
Frankie Stewart



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

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