



# Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church  
Marianna, Florida

## August 1, 2013

Located on the corner of Jefferson and Clinton Streets      Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Sunday School	9:45 a.m.	Phone:	(850) 526-2430
Worship	11:00 a.m.	Fax:	(850) 482-7745
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## SHARING MEMORIES

Polly and I recently celebrated our 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. That, of course, brought back a lot of memories. But it occurred to me as I remembered that summer of 1968, that more happened than a wedding.

For one thing, that was the year that Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. were killed. When we arrived in Louisville in July for “Baby Greek”, the west end of the city was still smoking from the riots and destruction.

We didn’t have a television set. But we read in the newspapers about the nominations of Hubert Humphrey and Richard Nixon. The American Independent Party held its national convention at Freedom Hall, and nominated Governor George Wallace of Alabama as its candidate. And their office was in the same building where Polly worked for a finance company.

In September, I began working as the student assistant pastor of Stuart Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, downtown, near Central Park, and next door to the famous Cabbage Patch, a “settlement house.” Nearby were Belgravia, St. James Court, and the Rosanna Hughes Home for Elderly Presbyterian Ladies.

It was a strange mixture of faded glory, genteel poverty, and juvenile delinquency.

That church no longer exists. Members moved to the suburbs, and joined churches there. The “old faithful” died off. I believe the pastor under whom I served was the last full-time pastor of the church. And I’m not sure he was full-time.

It became a church with few members, a decaying building, and a significant endowment.

When it closed its doors, about ten years after I served there, they gave the property to the Cabbage Patch. The endowment was divided between the agency that provided Presbyterian retirement homes, the Presbytery for future new church development, and the seminary for field education, the kind of supervised ministry in which I had served the church.

The last seminary intern I supervised before I retired was a Louisville student who benefited from a scholarship from that fund nearly thirty years after it was established.

I learned a lot in that church, and from the people there. I remember names, and faces, and stories.

It was a place where God was worshipped and served. But the neighborhood changed, people moved away, and it became obsolete. But all these years later, the memories, and the legacy, linger on. I don't know how many seminarians trained there during the years the church was alive and active, but I know one who benefitted greatly from the experience.

First Presbyterian Church of Marianna also has a goodly legacy of seminary students who trained here in days gone by. Some of them I know, and I know this church helped them prepare to be the ministers they became. To God be the glory! May the memories abound!

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## From the Church Office

Valerie Marlow, our Church Administrator will be out of the office from Wednesday, August 21 thru Friday, August 23. She will be traveling to Charleston, S. C. for the annual Administrative Personnel Association (PCUSA) National Convention where she will be taking classes for continuing her education in Church Administration. She would like to share with you an article that was recently published in Presbyterian Outlook Magazine.

These Ship Pilots are Called and Trained...

In I Corinthians 12 it is a little surprising that the only spiritual gifts that Paul lists twice are those of administration. One of the Apostle Pauls terms refers to a pilot of a sailing vessel. In the ancient world, the pilot knew the seasons, the stars, the currents and where the sandbars were in various ports. Paul, an experienced traveler, may well have had this image in mind. The administrator is critical for the safe passage of the ship of the church. He or she does not set the course nor determine the cargo, but rather guides the ship out of harbor so it can sail to its predetermined destination.

Administration directed by the Holy Spirit is not to be devalued. A disorganized church is one that wastes time and money and discredits the work of God. Pauls image reminds us that an administrator is one who takes orders from the chief, Jesus, as the head of the body, and follows the direction of the session, but nonetheless has critical knowledge and expertise that make the journey safe and possible. (from Administration as a Spiritual Gift, by Earl S. Johnson, Jr., June 24, 2013 issue of Presbyterian Outlook magazine).

# Stewardship Quote and Scripture For the Month of August

In *Green Like God* (FaithWords), Jonathan Merritt insists that caring for the planet isn't a "right-left" issue but a "moral-immoral" issue. When Christians find common ground about being stewards of creation, he says, we fulfill God's divine plan and encounter him more easily.

Merritt writes: "One of the reasons God is so protective of the earth and one of the reasons he charged us with keeping and caring for it is because he is singing through it .... That alone should produce in us a deep appreciation for the creation and a passionate worship for the One who made it."

We obligate ourselves to bring the first fruits of our soil and the first fruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the Lord. *Nehemiah 10:35*

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## Pulpit Nominating Committee Reports

Your Pulpit Nominating Committee (PNC) has been hard at working towards finding the new Pastor for our Church, which God has already chosen for us. The PNC has been meeting weekly, and has started receiving and reviewing Pastor Information Forms (PIF). The Presbyterian Church USA has adopted a new form for both prospective Pastors and Churches seeking Pastors; so there is a small learning curve on both sides.

The PNC is comprised of Jennifer Stafford, Chair, Kathy Roberts, Secretary, Amy Milton, Jim Gibbs, Natalee Milton, Matt Payne, Ginger Green, and Chuck Morgan, alternate. Please keep these people in your prayers as they work to find the next Pastor for First Presbyterian Church of Marianna, FL

If you would like to review our Ministry Information Form, (MIF) or the Church Assessment Tool (CAT), both are on file in the Church Office.



## 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,

August 4 Festival of Booths *Ezra 3:1-7*

August 11 Community of Confession *Nehemiah 9:2,6-7,9-10,30-36*

August 18 Dedication of the Wall *Nehemiah 12:27-36,38,43*

August 25 Sabbath Reforms *Nehemiah 13: 15-22*

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.

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Evangelism & Fellowship  
Committee

## Monthly Fellowship Schedule Begins

**Covered dish suppers** will resume on August 14<sup>th</sup> and will continue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays thru November. The sharing and caring along with the prayer of thanks begins at 6:30 p.m. Special programs or presentations will begin at 7 p.m. In closing, volunteers are needed to help prepare tea and to set out the utensils and service ware. To volunteer or to present programming, please contact Kip Blighton or Carol Homoney.

**Game night** resumes on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a game and/or a snack along with your family and friends. We'll play until the fun is over or the snacks are exhausted, whichever occurs first. For more information contact Kip Blighton or Bob Pittman.

Although it is several months away, this year's **Trunk-or-Treat** is a train theme titled "Get on Board with Jesus." The E&F committee will provide pre-cut train cars made of corrugated cardboard for participants to decorate. Don't miss the train on this exciting community event. Last year's Noah's Ark made huge waves and this year's Trunk-or-Treat train will leave them in their tracks! For more information contact Kip Blighton or Carol Homoney.



## WORLD MISSION DISPATCH

This month, the Mission and Service Committee of First Presbyterian Church, Marianna, is focusing on the country of India and PC (USA) mission worker Rev. Thomas John.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOMAS JOHN:** Rev. Thomas John serves the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as the companionship facilitator for the Joining Hands Against Hunger program in India. In this capacity he is the liaison between the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) and a network of congregations in the Presbytery of Sacramento, California, linking with Chethana, an antipoverty network of some 20 grassroots organizations in South India.

Thomas is a theologian, an educator and an ordained minister of the Church of South India. He has served the Union Christian College, Aluva, in the state of Kerala, India, for more than 33 years as professor and head of the department of psychology. He was the general secretary of the Student Christian Movement of India from 1990 to 1994. In 1994-1995 he was mission partner in residence in the Worldwide Ministries Division of the General Assembly Council (now Presbyterian Mission Agency) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR INDIA:** Presbyterian work in India began in 1834. The PC (USA) now works through mission personnel, Young Adult Volunteers and partner church relationships. Special ministries include ministries to street children, HIV/AIDS and social justice programs. Other mission emphases include parish ministries, social, health and community development, unity and ecumenical relations, education, children's ministries and evangelism. The church has had a significant and invaluable impact on the Dalit community and promoting harmony in this richly diverse cultural and religious nation. The PC (USA) also joins with its partners in these ministries: church development/ redevelopment, food aid, higher education, human rights advocacy, hunger, leadership development, ministry to minorities, theological education, women's work and youth ministries. Challenges faced by the church in India include growing interreligious tensions, ethnic violence, exploitation and discrimination based on caste and gender, inequitable distribution of wealth, poverty, overcrowded conditions and limitations of medical infrastructure.



# Join Us for the Women's Fall Gathering

**When:** Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.at 5:30 pm

**Where:** Church Fellowship Hall

**Why:** To provide an opportunity for the women in the church to get together for fellowship, a meal and for the Women's Circles to make plans for their circle for the next nine months. Horizon Study Books will be distributed to members of Circle 1, Circle 2 and the Lunch Bunch Circle. These circles will be using the 2013-2014 Horizons Bible Study: An Abiding Hope: The Presence of God In Exodus and Deuteronomy by Reverend Janice Catron. Reverend Catron is a teaching elder in the PC(USA) and serves as pastor of John Knox Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. She has more than thirty years' experience working in churches, writing curriculum, leading workshops, and teaching. Janice earned a master's degree in English from Emory University, Atlanta, and a master of divinity degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She did her doctoral work in Bible at the University of Chicago, and wrote the *Horizons* Bible study, *Job: Faith Remains When Understanding Fails*, published in 1997.

The Good News Women and the Wild Flowers Circles can decide on the study materials that they plan to use and let Valerie Marlowe, Administrative Assistant know if they want for Valerie to order the material they wish to use.

A member from each circle will need to be selected to serve on the Honorary Life Membership Candidate Selection Committee. Dr. Land suggested that the pin(s) be awarded on Heritage Sunday, the last Sunday in October (10/27/13).

**Dinner:** The Christian Education Committee will provide a ham and the Circles will be asked to provide the following dishes: Circle 1=dessert; Circle 2=green vegetable casserole; Lunch Bunch=corn casserole; Good News Women=salad and bread; and Wild Flowers=pineapple side dish. The quantities should be two large casserole dishes or enough to feed 50 people.

Let's invite those women who are members of our congregation who are not regularly attending a Circle to do so as well as women who are attending church who are not yet church members or your friends who do not have a home church.



## Thanks to All Vacation Bible School Volunteers

Danielle Payne and LuAnne Law sincerely thank all who volunteered their time, talents, and resources to make VBS a huge success.

A great time was had by all of the children who participated. Check out the bulletin board in the hallway next to the fellowship hall. There are pictures of the children and adults who made this year's vacation bible school a huge success.

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## Rally Day Scheduled for Sunday, August 25

The Christian Education Committee is in the process of making plans for the Annual Rally Day Event. It is currently scheduled for Sunday August 25. Mark your calendar for this special event. More information will follow in upcoming Church Bulletins.

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## FPC has a New Weekly E-Newsletter

Check your e-mail for our newly designed Electronic Newsletter. If you are not receiving an e-mail from us every Friday afternoon, you can sign-up your e-mail address by replying to [firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net](mailto:firstpresmarianna@earthlink.net), or call the office at 526-2430, and we will add you to our e-mail list. The e-newsletter contains information on all events for the following week, and you are also able to access the Sunday Bulletin and our Church website with just a click of the mouse. You can even forward the newsletter to a friend.



## Food Pantry News

Our **Food Pantry Offering** for August will be received on Sunday, August 18. During the month of July our food pantry served 411 families consisting of the following age groups 321 (0-18), 453 (19-59) and 229 (60+) for a total of 1003 individuals.

If you would like to help with our food pantry ministry, please contact Mary Ann Gibbs at [maryanngibbs@embarqmail.com](mailto:maryanngibbs@embarqmail.com) or 482-2188 or Melissa Krebeck, Pantry Coordinator at the church office, 526-2430, or [fpcpantry@earthlink.net](mailto:fpcpantry@earthlink.net) for more information.

Volunteers serving in the pantry during the month of July are:

**Thank you for Bagging on Tuesday** afternoons at 1:30: Bill Boyenton, Marianne Lonsinger, Ron Goold, Bob Pitman, Mary Ann Gibbs and Donna Moore

**Thank you for Working in the Pantry** on Wednesday mornings: Hazel Nelson, Betty Pettis, Ron & Willie Mae Goold, Marianne Lonsinger, Sharon Bannerman, Louise Pumphrey, Donna Moore, Mary Ann Gibbs and Bud & Mary Wierman.

**Thank you** to Jack Peacock and his grandson Jackson Milton, Katie Foster, Scott Yant, Valerie Marlow, and Melissa Krebeck for unloading and stocking the Second Harvest USDA truck for the Food Pantry. A total of over 8,000 pounds of food commodities were stocked in the pantry, and over 500 pounds of bakery goods were delivered from Walmart and Winn Dixie Marianna Stores. Anyone who would like to help with the **monthly deliveries** are welcome to contact our Food Pantry Coordinator, Melissa Krebeck at [fpcpantry@earthlink.net](mailto:fpcpantry@earthlink.net), or call the Church Office at 526-2430.

The USDA deliveries are on the third Tuesday of each month.

*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.*



**Our Prayer Calendar:** Dr. Wade Crankshaw (requested by Rev. Ted Land), Stanley Littleton, Betty McArthur (requested by Ernie and Fran McNeill), Rosa Williams (requested by Hanni Daffin), Betty Crawford (requested by Beverly Hinson), Kena Nelson (requested by Larry and Hazel Nelson), Ise Daffin, Clara Jeanette Powell (requested by Jane Powell), Joe Busby (requested by Joe Busby), Mel McLure Clark (requested by Mary Bevis Schmidt), Twanna Dunaway (requested by Jackie Spivey), Tom Dozier (requested by Jackie Spivey), Piper Montana Smith (niece of Polly Land) and Millie Sica.

**Homebound Members and Friends:**

Eileen Drew  
Jessie Stuart

**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:**

Jackie Parramore  
Bennie Fowler – Youngstown  
Julia Holmes – Mobile, Ala

**Serving in the Military:**

Wayne Busby  
Jake Vickery in Afghanistan  
Jarred Roberts at Parris Island, S.C. (Son of Lou and Kathy Roberts)  
Gordon Blighton (brother of Kip Blighton) at Norfolk Naval Station  
Steven and Drew Blighton (Brothers of Kip Blighton) at Ft. Bliss, Texas



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## 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 Lou Roberts

**Gifts to the 1835 Endowment Fund** were given by Huw and Rachel Christopher

# AUGUST

## RULING ELDER OF THE MONTH

**Kip Blighton**

### Church Session

Kip Blighton 482-4661  
cliffordblighton@us.army.mil  
Mary Ann Gibbs 482-2188  
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Gina Stuart 526-2298  
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Scott Yant 526-9108  
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## BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

Betty Brendemuehl	Aug. 1
Bill Long, Jr.	Aug. 1
Debbie Moxley	Aug. 1
Susie Barber	Aug. 3
Bob Cowen	Aug. 4
Marcus Green	Aug. 6
Clay Milton	Aug. 6
Cindy Eade	Aug. 7
Harrison Fuqua	Aug. 7
Amy Milton	Aug. 7
Donna Moore	Aug. 9
Cole Payne	Aug. 11
Preston Skipper	Aug. 11
Allison Hutton	Aug. 16
Frankie Stewart	Aug. 17
Benjamin Alvarez	Aug. 18
Louise Hoy	Aug. 18
Richard Christopher	Aug. 21
Belinda Christopher	Aug. 24
Fred Carpenter	Aug. 26
Jeanne Cowen	Aug. 26
Gayle DiBenedetto	Aug. 27
Kitty Myers	Aug. 27
Cecily Smith	Aug. 27
Rebecca Wynn	Aug. 27
Jose Alvarez	Aug. 28
Virginia Milton	Aug. 28
Christine Crews	Aug. 29
Joshua Blighton	Aug. 30

Flowers for the month of August  
are provided by:

Aug. 4 Chuck and Cindy Morgan  
Aug. 11 Joy Hinton  
Aug. 18 Hanni Daffin  
Aug. 25 Jim and Ruth Hammett



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

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