



# Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church  
Marianna, Florida

## March 2014

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.

Worship      8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

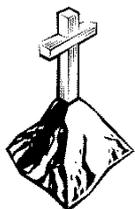
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## **LENT: THE DAYS GROW LONGER, OUR FAITH GROWS STRONGER**

The liturgical season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a day of repentance, of contemplation of one's own mortality. The words intoned as the ashes are applied, "Dust thou art, to dust thou shalt return," remind us of death. I haven't presided over many Ash Wednesday services. But when I do, I use instead these words: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Lent is the season that builds towards the climactic event of the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday. As with most of our traditions, we borrowed it from our pagan forebears, baptized it, made it our own. The very word, Lent, comes from the same root word as the word "length", and simply tells us that this is the season of the year when days are growing longer. And indeed they are. More sun light. Balmy breezes instead of chilling winds. The sky is bluer, the clouds are whiter, the grass is greening, trees are budding, flowers are blooming, all nature is coming back to life after a winter of death.

But Lent is a season of repentance and remembrance as well as a season of anticipation. It is a season of contemplation. In the earliest days of my memory, we Presbyterians did not observe Lent. We left that to the Roman Catholics, the Episcopalians, the Lutherans. But the Women of the Church (as they were known in those days) had what was known as a Season of Prayer and Self-Denial. That season captured the spirit of Lent. It replicated what the more liturgically minded folks were doing. Giving up something for Lent was a part of that. But the prayer, the Bible study, the daily devotionals, that was a part of what the Season of Prayer and Self-Denial was about as well. The goal was to strengthen our faith. My hope, my prayer, for our church in this season of Lent is that as the days grow longer, our faith will indeed grow stronger.

Your interim pastor,  
Ted Land



Lenten Luncheons

## Lenten Luncheon Series to Focus on Commitment to Christ

Reaffirming our commitment to Christ is something that we do every time we recite the Apostles Creed.

It is something we do every time we pray. Every time we sing a hymn, or read a scripture, that inspires and uplifts us, we reaffirm what we believe.

During the Lenten season, we will build on the foundation laid in stewardship season last year to strengthen our commitment to Christ.

The Lenten lessons will be part of the Lenten Luncheon series beginning Tuesday, March 11 starting at 12 noon.

Topics for the Luncheons will be:

Prayer, March 11

Bible Reading, March 18

Worship, March 25

Witness, April 1

Giving, April 8

Serving, April 15.

Luncheons will be prepared and served by the Presbyterian Women's Circles, except for April 15, which will be Men's Luncheon Day.

Everyone is invited to come and also invite your friends and neighbors.

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## Adult Sunday School Schedule

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:

March 2 An Eternal Kingdom 2 *Sanuel 7:4-16*

March 9 Son of David Psalm 89:35-37; *Isaiah 9:6-7; Matthew 1;18-21*

March 16 Peter's Report *Psalm 110:1-4 Acts2:22-24,29-32*

March 23 Worthy Is the Lamb *Revelation5:6-13*

March 30 Triumphant and Victorious *Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1-11*

Upstairs the Adult Class in Room 4 will the 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.

# **DID JACK AND HIS MAGIC BEANSTALK COME FROM THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS?**



First Presbyterian Church of Marianna is pleased to present two hours of fun and learning for children with Little Windows, the Appalachian and Irish music duo of Julee Glaub and Mark Weems. An interactive family event for children, parents, even grandparents.

When: Saturday, March 15, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Where: First Presbyterian Church of Marianna Fellowship Hall

Ages: 3-12

Come and travel with us from the mountains of Appalachia to the rolling hills of Ireland through music, song, dance, stories and tales of long ago. Hear, see and touch various instruments from both traditions...fiddle, banjo, flute, Irish drum, and more.

.....Learn to flat foot dance, how to ham-bone, and dance an Irish reel.

.....Learn to count to ten in Irish language, and how to say hello to your neighbor.

.....Learn songs from Ireland and Appalachia with the fiddle, banjo, and more...and share in a song circle.

.....Hear tales of immigration and the life of Annie Moore, a wee girl from Ireland who was the first immigrant to Cross Ellis Island.

.....Hear a Jack Tale as told from the mountains of North Carolina and join in the story through mime.

For more information contact Julee or Mark at [www.littlewindows.net](http://www.littlewindows.net) or Interim Pastor Ted Land or Worship and Music Committee Chairperson Kitty Myers, or call the office at 526-2430.

# Confirmation Classes Begin March 16



A confirmation class for young people ready to become full members of First Presbyterian Church will be led by Interim Pastor Ted Land, assisted by Ruling Elders of the church. The class will be during the Sunday School hour, from 9:45-10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall. Make-up sessions for those who miss Sundays will be held from 5:30-6:15 on Wednesday evenings. Ordinarily, confirmation classes are made up of middle schoolers (grades 6-8), but older youth and younger children who desire to attend the class may do so. It is anticipated that the class will be ready and prepared to join the church on Easter Sunday, April 20.

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## Covered Dish Suppers Continue

You are invited to the Wednesday Night Covered Dish for a study of "The Life and Ministry of the Messiah". This DVD study is delivered by the renowned Ray Vander Laan and is part of the 12-volume series "So That the World May Know". Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and the DVD will begin at or around 7 p.m. For more information contact Kip at 850-209-1445.

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## Youth Group News

The Sr. High Youth Group will be hosting a Montreat Luncheon on Sunday, March 9, after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from the luncheons provide funding for the Youth to attend the Annual Montreat Youth Conference in North Carolina each summer.

Stay tuned for a couple of specialty Montreat Fundraisers in the very near future including a Smoked Boston Butt sale, cooked by our very own Chef Kip and a Secret Recipe Sauce Sale! Details will soon be available.



## Memorials and Honorariums

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 Christine Crews and Charlene Garraway

**Memorials** in memory of Christine Crews and Charlene Garraway

**Food Pantry** in memory of Christine Crews

**Gifts to the 1835 Endowment Fund** were given by Larry and Hazel Nelson, Robert and Beverly Hinson, Joanne Wynn, John and Alma Milton, Louise Wilkinson, Charles Wynn, Hanni Daffin, Tom and Joan Stadsklev, Jack and Peggy Peacock,

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## Thank You to.....

We would like to thank **Charlotte Hunter** for volunteering to lead the Choir during the Lenten and Easter season. It is greatly appreciated. The Worship and Music Committee continues their search for a Choir Director. If you know of anyone who might be interested in the position, please contact Kitty Myers, Committee Chairperson.



**Charlotte also reminds you that she still needs a couple more bellringers for the JuBELLees Bell Choir.**



## News from Property and Operations Committee

We would like to thank **Melissa Krebeck**, our custodian for her faithful work as Custodian over the last several years. She will be leaving her position at the end of the month. Melissa has accepted a part-time office position as the Administrative Assistant for St. Luke's Episcopal Church. We wish her luck in her new position. She will however continue her work as the Certified Food Pantry Coordinator.

Welcome to our new custodian **Diane Caputo**. Diane resides in Greenwood, Florida, and many of you may know her as the part-time coordinator for the Salvation Army until recently. The Salvation Army closed their Marianna office which was located in the Spivey House last year.



Food Pantry

### Food Pantry News

During the month of February our food pantry served 378 families consisting of the following age groups 81(0-5), 103(6-12), 117(13-18), 66(19-25), 115(26-39, 213 (40-55)) and 340(55+) for a total of 850 individuals.

If you would like to help with our food pantry ministry, please contact Melissa Krebeck, Pantry Coordinator at 372-4913 or [fpcpantry@earthlink.net](mailto:fpcpantry@earthlink.net) or Betty Pettis, Mission and Service Chairperson at [pettisbetty@yahoo.com](mailto:pettisbetty@yahoo.com) for more information.

**Thank you to our Baggers on Tuesday** afternoons at 1:00 p.m.

**Thank you to our volunteers who work in the Pantry** on Wednesday mornings

**Thank you** to Bryan Milton and Daffin Food Service for allowing us to store the overflow of frozen food product for our food pantry.

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







# Annual Report to the Presbytery

The Statistical Report for the year 2013 has recently been completed and approved by the Session. The report is submitted annually to the Presbytery of Florida and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Excerpts of the report are listed below.

**Membership December 31, 2012: 240**

Gains 5  
Profession of Faith/Baptism 5

Losses 10  
Death 2  
Other 8

**Membership December 31, 2013: 235**

There were 3 child baptisms and 1 adult baptism in 2013. The average attendance at our Worship Services during the year was 80.

Total Income for 2013 was \$260,118

Expenditures for 2013 were:

- \$ 204,313 for local church programs
- \$ 18,063 for local mission projects
- \$ 4,985 for other mission programs
- \$ 3,109 per capita Apportionment
- \$ 21,326 Endowment Fund Contributions

Total expenditures were \$ 251,796.

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## Daylight Savings Time Begins March 9



Daylight savings time will begin at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 9. Please remember to move your clock forward one hour before going to bed on Saturday night or you will be late for Sunday School and/or our Worship Services.

# Foreign Missions Dispatch by Joy Gilbert

This month kicks off our fifth-Sunday giving to foreign missions. The Mission and Service Committee of First Presbyterian Church, Marianna, announces that we have adopted to assist supporting missionary, Amy Davisson Galetzka, and her work in Burma (Myanmar).



## About Amy Davisson Galetzka's ministry

Amy Davisson Galetzka was appointed in February 1999 to serve as a long-term volunteer in northern Thailand, where she coordinates the Global Day of Prayer for Burma. In addition she assists with programs that facilitate ethnic unity and reconciliation among and between the ethnic peoples of Burma.

Amy went to Thailand with a college group from Malibu Presbyterian Church, Malibu, California. According to Amy, that experience challenged the group to analyze who their neighbor is and how they are active in serving others for the Lord. Amy herself was challenged to initiate a query into mission service and particularly to return to Thailand in mission work.

In 1998 Amy graduated from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, with a B.S. in international business. She attended Malibu Presbyterian Church while in college and was a student leader in the university ministries there. She is a member of Labish Center Evangelical Church in Salem, Oregon, and was a member of their youth council.

Amy was married to John Galetzka in July 2009 in Oregon. Her husband works for the California Institute of Technology as a field geologist and travels to countries like Nepal, Taiwan, Chile and Peru doing earthquake research. They travel together as much as possible and have in a rental house in Thailand.



**Myanmar, also known as Burma, was long considered a pariah state, isolated from the rest of the world with an appalling human rights record.**

From 1962 to 2011, the country was ruled by a military junta that suppressed almost all dissent and wielded absolute power in the face of international condemnation and sanctions.

The generals who ran the country stood accused of gross human rights abuses, including the forcible relocation of civilians and the widespread use of forced labor, including children.

The first general election in 20 years was held in 2010. This was hailed by the junta as an important step in the transition from military rule to a civilian democracy, though opposition groups alleged widespread fraud and condemned the election as a sham.

The Mission & Service Committee hopes you will join us in our support for our missionary and her work in Burma with generous prayers as well as finances.

### **June 2013 - Most recent update from our missionary Amy in Burma (Myanmar):**



One of our relief team medics doing dental care in Kachin IDP camp (For story:

<http://www.freeburmarangers.org/2013/06/22/not-free-or-safe-talks-bring-reduced-fighting-and-more-aid-but-thousands-remain-displaced/>)

You might have heard that things are getting better in Burma, and generally, in some areas, that could be true. Currently there are ceasefires with more groups at the same time than there have ever been before. Things are changing. Some more freedom in travel, ceasefire agreements, and other changes have really been praised by the international community. However, people who still are displaced and some who recently have been attacked are still watching as Burma Army camps stay in the same places and are resupplied. The presence of those who were recently attacking the communities continues to create insecurity. The opening for investment brings other issues like land confiscation and oppression as a result of development (while previously it was as a result of attack by the army). These are just a couple of examples of the complicated situation in Burma. I am continuing to learn from my co-workers from Burma about the implications of these changes in the communities where we work. If you would like to know more, please feel free to get in touch with me!



Johnny and Nadia with Sai Nawng and his daughter. He is one of our relief team leaders and his adorable daughter and Nadia were born only a couple days apart! (I highlighted part of his story is in my October 2012 Newsletter). Please pray for Sai Nawng as he leads relief missions to people in Shan State, Burma.

We continue to:

- live in Chiang Mai. I go to the office Monday through Friday and bring Nadia with me. A nice young lady helps take care of

her while we are at the office. I'm so thankful for another person in Nadia's life who loves her!

- work with the relief work for Burma, as there are still people displaced and in need of help there. Although the changes in Burma have stopped fighting in some areas, we will continue to focus on crisis areas as well as support the people in areas that are slowly getting more secure. The relief teams are requesting support for their missions. The medical help, encouragement and monitoring of the situation is requested by the communities. If you are interested in our Annual Report please let me know and I can email it to you.

- be thankful for good health.

Some new developments:

- Our Thai Foundation, Pan Rak or "Sharing Love"

Foundation, has been officially registered and we are excited to continue working with the projects that will be supported through this foundation!

- I am currently taking an online course called Poverty and Development for my master's degree in Intercultural Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. I'm thankful for the opportunity to learn more and think more critically about some of the situations I encounter each day and how my actions and responses could be more like Jesus'.

- Nadia started standing up, without holding onto anything, for a few seconds at a time! No steps yet, but it seems like she really wants to be on the move, so maybe by the next update she'll be walking!

Looking ahead to the coming months, I am thankful for continued time to work here in Chiang Mai. Johnny and Nadia and I will go to Singapore for five days for a conference (from Eagles Leadership group called "Be the Change") I will attend. We will also celebrate our four-year wedding anniversary!

And finally, a few prayer requests:

- for God's vision when I see people around me, that I will see each person as God does, created in his image.

- for healing for my mother. Her lung cancer has returned and we will know soon what the recommended course of action should be.

- for good family time while traveling and in Chiang Mai.

- for a new job for Johnny as his will end in mid-October.

Blessings, Amy



**Our Prayer Calendar:** Daun Crews, Larry Nelson, Jeff Hinson and Family, Louise Pumphrey, Joy Gilbert, Stanley Littleton, Bill Ansley (requested by Joe Busby and Scott Yany), Peter Ratzlaff (requested by Mary Skipper), Joan Byrd (requested by Dot Carpenter), Evan Tyler Coates (nephew of Barry and Jennifer Stafford), Becky Brewer (requested by Gina Stuart), JoAnn Rountree, Burton Fite (requested by Donna Moore), Sherry Stone (requested by Susie Stevens), Larry Stevens (requested by Kathy Milton), Peggy Keaton (requested by Joy Lewis), Dr. Wade Crankshaw (requested by Rev. Ted Land), Kena Nelson (requested by Larry and Hazel Nelson), Piper Montana Smith (niece of Polly Land), Millie Sica and Sue Land.

**Homebound Members and Friends:**

Eileen Drew

**Marianna Health & Rehabilitation Center:**

Lottie Fite

**Signature Health at the Courtyard**

Raynell Morris  
Ilene Culpepper  
Bert Andrews

**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 (Son of Lou and Kathy Roberts) at Camp Dam Neck, Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Drew Blighton (Brother of Kip Blighton) at Ft. Bliss, Texas  
Tyler Schaeffer (grandson of Valerie Marlow) at Lackland AFB, Texas  
Tom Abney in Afghanistan ( son-in-law of Larry and Jackie Spivey)

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## Devotional Literature Available

Copies of the new ***Our Daily Bread*** for March, April and May are available on the table in the narthex, on the table in the hallway outside the fellowship hall, and from the church office during the week.



**RULING ELDER  
OF THE MONTH**

**Peggy Peacock**

**Church Session**

- Kip Blighton 482-4661  
cliffordblighton@hotmail.com
- Ginger Green 594-5724  
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- Linda "Joy" Gilbert 482-3895  
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- Kitty Myers 482-8963  
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- Larry Spivey 592-5227  
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**Flowers for the Month of  
March are provided by:**

- March 02 Hinson/Kradel Wedding
- March 09 Albert and Kathy Milton
- March 16 Tom and Joan Stadskev
- March 23 Ron and Willie Mae Goold
- March 30 Ernest and Fran McNeill

*HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY TO:*

- Mar. 1 Alex Christopher
- Mar. 3 Bill Stevens
- Mar. 5 Kip Blighton
- Mar. 7 Bryan Milton
- Mar. 8 Anne Sims
- Mar. 9 Daniel Oswald  
Terry Owens
- Mar. 10 Lauren Peacock
- Mar. 11 Sheila Kish
- Mar. 12 Chris Milton  
Jared Roberts
- Mar. 13 Gina Stuart
- Mar. 15 Brantley Willis  
Artie Franz
- Mar. 18 Cindy Morgan  
Patty Andreu
- Mar. 22 Susie Stevens
- Mar. 24 Willie Mae Goold
- Mar. 25 Dot Carpenter
- Mar. 28 Mary Skipper  
Jackie Spivey  
Tom Stadskev
- Mar. 29 Sarah Bedini  
Jennifer Stafford  
Allen Ward
- Mar. 31 Emily Fuqua



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