



Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church
Marianna, Florida

March 2015

Located on the corner of Jefferson and Clinton Streets

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Education Hour 9:45 a.m.

Phone: (850) 526-2430

Worship 11:00 a.m.

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TIME “MARCHES” ON

One of my dearest old friends, Joy McAlvey, who lived to 104 plus years of age, taught me that as we grow older, the years do pass more quickly. “It’s all about percentages,” she said. She explained that to a five year old, a year is 20% of life, and that is a lot. At age ten, 10%. By age 50, a year is just 2%, and that is hardly anything, and at 100, it is just 1% and that is nothing at all.

This year is one of those years that is flying by. Here it is the first of March already. Lent has begun. Easter is barely a month away. Daylight Savings Time is coming back, whether we want it to or not. I think one of the reasons time seems to be flying by is that I sense my time with you is drawing to a close.

When I came here in November of 2012, I really thought I’d spend about a year as your interim pastor, maybe a little more, and then go back to life in retirement. To be honest, I had a loan with fourteen more payments to make, and I hoped the position here would last long enough to see the loan paid off. It has been! I think if my math is correct, I’ve been here 28 months.

The Book of Order used to limit interim pastors to two years. The present language can be interpreted differently, and the Board of Pensions has ruled that temporary positions can be renewed on a year to year basis. And that is what my position with this church is: temporary.

That I have come to love you is no secret. That I enjoy the children of this church beyond measure is obvious as well. That we have made friends here that will be our friends for the rest of our lives is true.

This church has accomplished much during this interim time. There may be a little left to do. But somewhere out there, God has prepared the person who is to be your new pastor, your next pastor.

Keep praying for the Pulpit Nominating Committee, that they will be able to discern the Holy Spirit’s calling to them as they seek the one the Holy Spirit is calling to this church.

I can honestly and openly say to you that I felt the Holy Spirit calling me here two and a half years ago. And I can honestly and openly say to you that I feel the Spirit stirring in me these days, as the days grow longer from sunrise to sunset even as they are speeding by on the calendar.

Time “Marches” on...and the Spirit is in the March winds that blow.

Interim Pastor, Ted Land



Lenten Luncheons

THE SIX GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH

Our Lenten Lessons Continue

Most people have heard of the Seven Last Words from the Cross, and have probably attended Good Friday services where those sayings of Jesus were the focus of the service. We'll have one here in our sanctuary during the first week of April, God willing.

The Six Great Ends of the Church are lesser known. They are a part of our Presbyterian heritage, a part of what makes us who and what we are as a church, as a denomination.

Those Great Ends of the Church will be the focus of our Lenten Luncheons, and are being prepared and served by the Presbyterian Women's Circles, except for March 31, which will be the Presbyterian Men's Luncheon Day.

March 3: Circle 1

March 10: Circle 2

March 17: Lunch Bunch Circle

March 24: Good News Women and Susie Barber's Culinary class

March 31: Men of the Church

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



Youth Group News

The Sr. High Youth Group will be hosting a Montreat Luncheon on Sunday, March 22, 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.

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.



Adult Education Hour

Enjoy cookies, juices, hot chocolate and coffee every Sunday prior to Education hour 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 10:45 a.m. including three classes for Adults. The Adults in the parlor will be studying:

- March 1 The Lamb of God
John 1:29-34
- March 8 Jesus Promises an Advocate
John 14:15-26
- March 15 The Spirit of Truth
John 16:4b-15
- March 22 Receive the Holy Spirit
John 20:19-23
- March 29 The One Who Comes
Mark 11:1-11
-



Special dates to remember in March

- Second Sunday in Lent, *March 1, 2015*
- World Day of Prayer, *March 6, 2015*
- Third Sunday in Lent, *March 8, 2015*
- Daylight-Saving Time Begins, *March 8, 2015*
- Girl Scout Sunday, *March 8, 2015*
- Fourth Sunday in Lent, *March 15, 2015*
- First Day of Spring, *March 20, 2015*
- Fifth Sunday in Lent, *March 22, 2015*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *March 29, 2015*
- Holy Week, *March 29-April 4, 2015*

Ladies Circle Meetings

All ladies are invited to participate in one or more of the following circle meetings on the following dates:

Monday, March 2

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

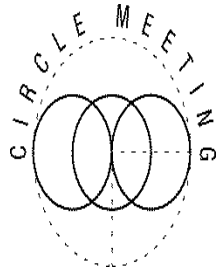
Circle 2 at 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall

Wednesday, March 11

Wildflowers at 6:30 p.m. at Jennifer Stafford

Monday, March 16

Lunch Bunch Circle at 11:30 a.m. at Betty Joyce Hand

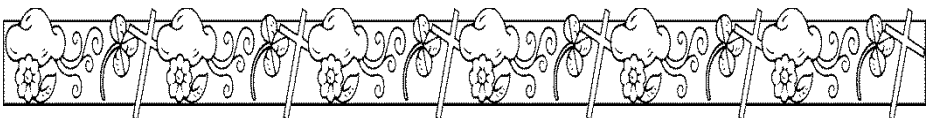


Habitat for Humanity Challenge Build

Our Church, through the Mission and Service Committee will be providing afternoon snacks for the College students and other volunteers working on the 20th Collegiate Challenge build of the **Jackson County Habitat for Humanity** on Monday and Tuesday, March 8 and 9. Snacks, fruit and drinks may be brought to the church office or be left in the church kitchen and marked "Habitat."

Skilled and semi-skilled construction volunteers to work with students are also needed. If you can help, please contact Janet Harns at 209-4410 or Helen Callaway at 482-5835.

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Annual Report to the Presbytery

The Statistical Report for the year 2014 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, 2014: 235

Gains	9
Profession of Faith/Baptism	9
Losses	7
Death	7
Other	

Membership December 31, 2014: 237

There was 1 child baptism in 2014. The average attendance at our Worship Services during the year was 80.

Total Income for 2014 was \$282,944

Expenditures for 2014 were:

- \$ 177,974 for local church programs
 - \$ 18,040 for local mission projects
 - \$ 5,330 for other mission programs
 - \$ 3,338 per capita Apportionment
 - \$ 79,758 capital expenditures
 - \$ 38,522 Endowment Fund Contributions
- Total expenditures were \$ 284,440



Daylight Savings Time Begins March 8

Daylight savings time will begin at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 8. 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.



Washington County Public Library presents Matthew Gurnesy The Kilted Man

The Washington County Public Library will present Matthew Gurnesy, *The Kilted Man*, on Tuesday, March 3, at 6 p.m. at the Washington County Ag Center. This free performance is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a night of music from another part of the world. Veteran performer Matthew Gurnesy delights audiences with his rousing performances of traditional Irish and Scottish music.

Through the marriage of wit and finesse, Gurnesy charms his audiences, sweeping them into tales of wayward voyages, unrequited love and the vibrantly colorful lives of the every-man beloved of many Irish tales. His unique talents with traditional Celtic instruments such as the concertina, bodhran, bones and mandolin, add an air of authenticity to each piece and his stirringly rich bass voice provides the foundation for the hauntingly beautiful.

St. Patrick's Day trivia

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick's death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.



Dennis Maxson and John Maxson (requested by Carol Maxson, Destry Burch (requested by Mary Bevis Schmidt), Paul Burns (requested by Ernie McNeill), Louise Pumphrey, Mike Andrejko (requested by Mary Wierman), Ned

Grove, Margaret McRae (requested by Betty Joyce Hand), Eleanor Houyoux, Bill Nelson (requested by Hazel Nelson), Will Rountree (requested by Jo-Ann Rountree), Don Morris (requested by Jim Gibbs), Matt Lein, Gina Stuart, James Carpenter (Freddie's brother), Joy Gilbert, Daun Crews, Stanley Littleton, Kena Nelson, JoAnn Rountree, Dr. Wade Crankshaw (requested by Rev. Ted Land), Piper Montana Smith (niece of Polly Land), Millie Sica, Julie Stadskev and James Griffin.

Homebound Members and Friends:

Eileen Drew
Doris Irwin
Louise Hoy
Joy Gilbert

Homebound Members and Friends Out of Town:

Daun Crews (Tallahassee)
Edith Griffith (Dothan)

Signature Health at the Rehabilitation Center:

Raynell Morris Ilene Culpepper

Please remember those serving in our military:

Wayne Busby (son of Joe and Ginny Busby) at Naval Station in Rota, Spain

Jarred Roberts (Son of Lou and Kathy Roberts) at Camp Pendleton, California

Tyler Schaeffer (grandson of Valerie Marlow) at Tyndall AFB

Tom Abney in Afghanistan (son-in-law of Larry and Jackie Spivey)



MARCH

Elder of the Month Jim Gibbs

Church Session

Susie Barber	482-6034
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larryspivey@centurylink.net	
Scott Yant	526-9108
scottandcindyant@yahoo.com	



Mar. 1	Alex Christopher
Mar. 3	Bill Stevens
Mar. 7	Bryan Milton
Mar. 8	Anne Sims
Mar. 9	Daniel Oswald
	Terry Owens
	Presli Busby
Mar. 10	Lauren Peacock
Mar. 11	Sheila Kish
Mar. 12	Chris Milton
	Jared Roberts
Mar. 14	Jackson Milton
Mar. 13	Gina Stuart
Mar. 15	Artie Franz
Mar. 18	Cindy Morgan
	Patty Andreu
Mar. 20	Tina Wilson
Mar. 22	Susie Stevens
Mar. 24	Willie Mae Goid
Mar. 25	Dot Carpenter
Mar. 28	Mary Skipper
	Jackie Spivey
	Tom Stadskev
Mar. 29	Sarah Bedini
	Jennifer Stafford
	Allen Ward
Mar. 31	Emily Fuqua

Sanctuary Flowers in February are given by:

Sanctuary Flowers

March 1	Tom and Lou Wilkinson
March 8	Albert and Kathy Milton
March 15	Joy Hinton
March 22	Ron and Willie Mae Goid
March 29	Palm Sunday



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

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