



Newsletter

First Presbyterian Church
Marianna, Florida

April 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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WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

I gathered with about 250 other Chipola Lady Indian fans on Sunday night, March 22, to welcome home the National Champion Junior College Basketball Team..

As they entered the Milton Johnson Center to a standing ovation, the sound system was blaring the 1970's rock band, Queen's version of "We are the champions."

One of these days, maybe in a sermon before I leave you, I will tell you about all the championships and near championships with which I've been associated in my life. And there are many. A trophy from one of them sits on the shelf in the pastor's study here in Marianna, amongst my other trivia and memorabilia.

Champions are winners. They've won the final victory. They have nothing left to prove. They are the champions!

I remember a conversation, late night, early morning, motel parking lot in Atlanta, Georgia, late 1970's.

Robert Day Miller, Director of National Mission for the Presbyterian Church (US) was one of the participants. Bob Larson, who served a church in Birmingham for decades, was another. We were talking about the unhappiness, the bickering, the fighting in our denomination, that is still going on nearly forty years later.

Bob Miller was sitting on the hood of a Toyota when he uttered one of the most profound and simple statements about the church that I've ever heard. He said, "When are we going to realize that we have won, that the victory is ours? We are the Harlem Globetrotters! We can never lose! Why don't we have fun and share the ball, and enjoy the game? We've won! The final victory is ours!"

Easter is the time when we celebrate that final victory. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Death, where is thy sting? Grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

We are the champions! We have won the final victory, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Thanks be to God, who gives us that victory!

And may the message of the victory of Jesus Christ over sin and death abide in our hearts and minds and souls and lives, not just on Easter, but every day of our lives.



HIGHLIGHTS OF HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY on March 29 begins Holy Week. The sermon title will be "Wave the Palms, Hail the King!"

The final **LENTEN LUNCHEON** on Tuesday, March 31, will be hosted by our Presbyterian Men, who will be responsible for the food for that day.

MAUNDY THURSDAY on April 2, a service with **COMMUNION** will be observed at 6:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY Our sanctuary will be open from 12 noon to 3 p.m. for personal quiet reflection, meditation and prayer.

EASTER SUNDAY on April 5. A special Sunday School program and between Sunday School and Worship, the annual picture of our church family will be made on the front steps across from City Hall. Rumor has it that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt as well.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Easter Sunday

Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated gifts, while Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32 percent.



The Sr. High Youth Group will be hosting a Montreat Luncheon on Sunday, April 12, after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. We are having an assortment of fresh salads for vegetarians and carnivores alike.



Adult Education Hour

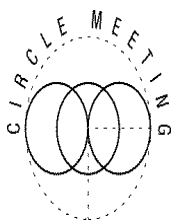
Enjoy cookies, juices, hot chocolate and coffee every Sunday prior to Education hour from 9:15 until 9:45. Whether you are new to Marianna or a life-long member, gather for a time of fellowship, make new friendships and to ask about our Church. There are classes for all age groups between 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. including three classes for Adults. The Adults in the parlor will be studying:

April 5 – Resurrection Guaranteed
1 Corinthians 15:1-11,20-22

April 12 – Love One Another
1 John 3:11-24

April 19 – Believe God's Love
1 John 4:13-5:5

April 26 – Watch Out for Deceivers!
2 John 1-13



Ladies Circle Meetings

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

Monday, April 6

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

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

Monday, April 20

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



The Youth will also be hosting a Carwash

on Saturday, April 25th at the carwash on Jefferson near Kelson. Please come support our youth group. The proceeds help the youth attend the Montreat Youth Conference in June. Please help encourage the future of these youth's in the Presbyterian community. Thank you we greatly appreciate all you do.

A Letter of Appreciation to the Congregation of First Presbyterian Church

Dear Ted,

We, as a family would like you to know how grateful we are for your memorialization of Vikki's Life. Each of us found your words passionate, humorous and loving, and ultimately extraordinarily comforting.

We also appreciated the beautiful music.

Your ministry reminds us yet again how lucky our brother Julien has been to have found a spiritual home that has offered him so much love and support over the years.

We also appreciate the lunch prepared by Julien's Sunday School Class. To host such a lunch was incredibly thoughtful (not to say delicious!). Please convey to each of them our sincere thanks.

You lead a very special congregation. In welcoming Julien into its midst so many years ago, it is abundantly clear to us that the members of the Church practice a faith that is both kind and generous. And for that we are profoundly grateful.

With love from the entire Cumming family,

Embree

Donigan

Georgia

Alfred



Marie Lanier (requested by Joy Lewis), Jane Powell, Libby Hutto (requested by Ernest McNeill), Dennis 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, Will Rountree (requested by Jo-Ann Rountree), Matt Lein, Gina Stuart, Daun Crews, Stanley Littleton, Kena Nelson, JoAnn Rountree, Dr. Wade Crankshaw (requested by Rev. Ted Land), Piper Montana Smith (niece of Polly Land), Sid Riley and Millie Sica.

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)



APRIL

**Elder of the Month
Kitty Myers**

Church Session

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Alma Milton	04/01
Jackie Reddoch	04/01
Jeff Hinson	04/03
Michelle Gortemoller	04/10
Betty Taylor	04/10
Barbara Page	04/11
Don Nowell	04/11
Evan Barber	04/12
Larrian Bedini	04/12
Mary Ann Gibbs	04/12
Alan Barber	04/14
Lisa Stevens	04/14
Amy Nelson	04/15
Robert Daffin	04/16
Louise Spivey	04/17
Charlton Keen Jr.	04/18
Brent Roberts	04/20
Dylan Rogers	04/20
Lu La Fontaine	04/21
Joanne Wynn	04/21
Beth Westmoreland	04/22
Andy Busby	04/23
Tommy Weeks	04/25
Deborah Mathewuse	04/26
Betty Blighton	04/29
Erin Westmoreland	04/29

Sanctuary Flowers in February are given by:

April 05 John and Alma Milton
April 12 Bill, Wilton, Jon and Terry McRae
April 19 Tom and Joan Stadskev
April 26 Jake Gunter

Sanctuary Flowers



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

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Return Service Requested
(Except "Temporarily Away")