



ACTS

First Presbyterian Church, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida



BE JOYFUL
IN HOPE

PATIENT IN
AFFLICTION



FAITHFUL
IN PRAYER

Romans 12:12

- - - - **LOVE ONE ANOTHER** - - - -

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:9-13

On Saturday, May 19, 2018 the Presbytery of Florida installed Rev. Dr. Roy Martin as General Presbyter. I was asked to give the charge to the presbytery as we start on a new journey together. I think those same things apply to our journey together that continues to call us to faithful discipleship in the name of Jesus Christ. So, I share that list, hoping that during the summer months, we will take time to think about these things and renew our commitment to love one another and seek a spiritual reawakening within our own souls, within our community of faith and within our world.

PRAY! Pray for one another. Pray for your pastor. Pray for our individual congregation. Pray for our presbytery. Pray when you rise in the morning and when you lay your head down at night or when you are sitting in the drive-thru at Wendy’s or waiting in the check-out line at Publix or when you’re walking on the treadmill. There is never a wrong time to pray. Pray without ceasing. Pray, pray, pray! Then pray some more!

LISTEN. Listen with all our sensibilities. Listen with the eyes of our hearts. Hear, as brothers and sisters in Christ are expressing opinions that might be the opposite of our own. Hear what the Holy Spirit is whispering in our ears, or roaring through our midst. Hear the flames of faith crackling all around us. Hear the burst of holy breath calling dry bones back to life. (memories of Pentecost!) Our living God always has a Word to share!

LEARN. Or RE-LEARN. Old habits die hard, but it is never too late to learn new ways of doing old things or learning fresh new practices. Learn from experience, wisdom, and leadership to be prepared to move forward. It does not have to be “the way we’ve always done it.” Learn from our children, our parents, our friends, our leaders. Learn the beloved Bible stories once again. It’s amazing how many still apply to life in the 21st century. Let’s learn and build on the Word that the Lord is speaking to us today!

COMMUNICATE. We can call or text. We can email or snail-mail. We can twitter or Instagram or whatever is the hot application this week. We can talk, write, sign. Take your pick, but we must communicate. I’m pretty sure that for all our God-given talents and skills, most of us are not mind-readers. Our success or failure depends on making our ideas, questions, concerns known in a positive way with a positive attitude. The best way to spell communicate is S-H-A-R-E!

FOLLOW. If Jesus had not attracted followers, the church would not look the same. Followers are the hands and feet of Jesus working in his name now. Followers or disciples are the ones who were commissioned to pick up the mission of proclamation and service in response to the grace they discovered in knowing the Son of Man. Every congregation needs followers, but not the kind eager to earn personal favor or blindly tag along with the crowd without thinking critically for themselves. The church needs followers who will question; followers who will challenge; followers who will support and encourage; followers who will lead!

PRAISE. *“The chief end of humankind is to glorify God and enjoy God forever ,”* according to the first question of the Westminster Shorter Catechism. A little praise and glory goes a long way in building up the community of faith. And it’s ok to praise one another also. We all thrive on kinds words, reassurance of effort, personal acts of joyful response. It also comes along with a hefty dose of respect. Praise is also quite contagious. It makes a tremendous difference when we gather together to offer thanks and praise to God for our blessings and opportunities.

Now, may we be a blessing to God!

Peace, **Sharon**



Notes from Jackie Hails

In March, 2014, while attending the Southern Division Convention of the American Choral Directors Association in Jacksonville, Florida, I heard a performance of the old hymn, *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*, arranged by Eric Nelson. This beautiful arrangement for SATB choir, piano, flute and cello impressed me so much that I purchased the music for our choir last summer.

The hymn, originally published in 1887, was the combined efforts of three people: Anthony Showalter, Elishu Hoffman, and Sam Duncan (Showalter's nephew). While Showalter was writing letters of consolation to two of his former students whose wives had died, he ended each letter with Deuteronomy 33:27, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms...". While pondering the words of that verse, the lyrics of the chorus came to his mind. He asked his friend Elishu Hoffman to write the verses, and his nephew Sam Duncan to write the tune for the poem as a class assignment, but the hymn was published under Showalter's name.

On **June 17th**, our choir, guest flutist Robin Horne, and guest cellist Judy Houlgate will present this anthem during our morning worship service. Both of these ladies are professional musicians, well known in our local area.

They will also provide Prelude and Offertory selections during the service. I hope each of you will plan to attend this very special service of worship and praise to our Lord.

***What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.***

Refrain

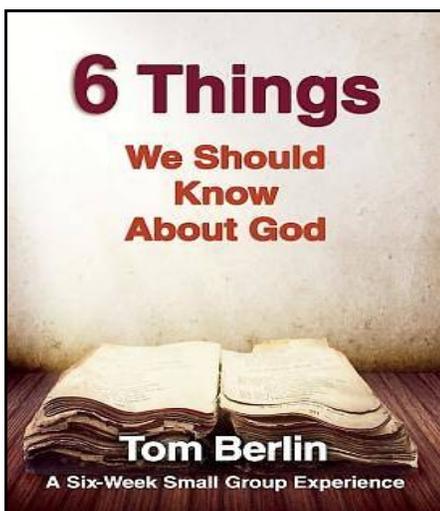
***Leaning, leaning, safe and secure
from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the
everlasting arms.***

***O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from
day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.***

Refrain

***What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.***

Refrain



New Bible Study begins , Wednesday, June 13

"6 Things We Need To Know About God"

In this six week study we will learn about the different qualities of God's character and discuss ways we encounter God in our daily lives. This will help us to learn about the character that God wants to form in each one of us.

The dates for the study are: June 13th, June 20th, June 27th, July 11th, July 18th and July 25th at 2:00.

Beat the heat and come join us!

BACK ROW:

Phyllis March

Barbara Blackburn

Susan Cook

Jennifer Brown

Melissa Burson

Krishna Brister

FRONT ROW:

Kim Mitchell

Barbara Fallin

Nancy Nicks

Kim Moran



PW GATHERING

PW held its Mother-Daughter Gathering on Wednesday, May 16. Program Coordinator Rosanna McCurry and Assistant, Phyllis March, chose a patriotic theme. Decorations of red, white & blue included American flags, flowers and other beautiful decorations on each table.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious buffet catered by Corner Cafe. May PW birthdays were celebrated which included Pastor Sharon, Brady Genz and Halle Sanders.

“Hysterical Revue” presented by Rosanna McCurry and the PW Players was a very entertaining treat!

The PW Birthday Offering Dedication “Welcome to This Place” was delivered by Theresa Nicks. Collections received totaled \$513 which will go to three designated missions dedicated to helping abused women and children.

Installation of new PW officers was conducted by Pastor Sharon: Moderator, Barbara Blackburn; Moderator-Elect, Grady Genz; Secretary, Krishna Brister; Treasurer, Melissa Burson; Together in Service Coordinator, Kim Mitchell; Historian, Barbara Fallin; Program Coordinator, Rosanna McCurry; Assistant Program Coordinator, Phyllis March; Super Saver Coordinator,

Mayrelizabeth Pryor; Joy Circle Co-Chairs Lila Mendel and Carol Davis; Fellowship Circle Mayrelizabeth Pryor; and Shalom Circle Chair Theresa Nicks.

A surprise presentation of an Honorary Life Membership award was given to Rosanna McCurry for all her contributions to PW. Phyllis March read a letter of recognition from Susan Jackson-Dowd, Executive Director, Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Church (USA). Rosanna’s daughter, Diane, pinned on the very meaningful butterfly design gift. Everyone joined in applauding Rosanna who is now a part of a select group who has been so honored.

Special patriotic music was presented by Sugar Beech Chorus. It was a beautiful presentation by talented singers. It was made even more special because our very own Chris Rollins is a member of the group! Enjoyed by all!!

Moderator Barbara Blackburn accepted the gavel from outgoing Moderator Linda Petteway. Barbara thanked Linda for her leadership for the past two years and presented her with an appreciation gift of a beautiful scarf and necklace.

Closing prayer was given by Pastor Sharon.



Dates to Remember:

We do have the monthly birthday luncheons even though most circles break for July and August. Be sure and sign up for reservations.

Birthday Luncheon
Tuesday, June 19, 11:30 am
at Red Lobster

Tuesday, July 17, 11:30 am
at Two Trees

PW Coordinating Team
Tuesday, August 14, 9:30 am

Tuesday, August 21, 11:30 am
at Olive Garden

**CURRENT ELDERS
AND MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS**

Admin & Finance
Steve Cahoon, Fred Pryor

Christian Education
Chris Rollins, Mayrelizabeth Pryor

Fellowship
Phyllis March, Mark Burson

Property
Jim March, Dick Hansen

Witness & Outreach
Krisha Brister, Susan Cook

Worship
Kim Mitchell, John Drain

Pray for our Elders.



Ice cream social! Join us on August 19, 3:00 to 5:00 pm for homemade ice cream and a hymn-sing! Get your cranking-arm ready and bring your favorite homemade ice cream to share with all. Invite your friends and neighbors to cool off from the summer heat with a sweet treat and share in some fun and fellowship!

The bloodmobile will also be onsite and will have a free beach towel for each person who donates! Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex.

Congratulations

An award of merit was presented to Phyllis Merritt from Escambia High School at the 75th Anniversary Celebration on May 8, 2018 at the Saenger Theater, Pensacola. The school recognized Phyllis for her significant contribution to the Arts.



**Rummage
Sale
August 25**

Mark your calendars for the Church Rummage sale on 25 August, 8 am -1 pm. Start cleaning out and bring unwanted items to the toddler room in the CE building. Collection of items is ongoing. If you would like to help with the sale, please contact Barbara Blackburn.

Financial Statement

APRIL '18 YEAR to DATE

INCOME:		
Offerings.....	\$8,073.75.....	64,886.25
Other/Misc.....	150.00.....	820.00
TOTAL INCOME.....	8,223.75.....	65,706.25
EXPENSES:		
Clergy Compensation.....	\$6,163.54.....	25,329.17
Worship.....	213.81.....	1,387.65
Christian Education.....	589.99.....	681.27
Witness/Outreach.....	2,533.33.....	3,933.32
Admin. & Finance.....	10,917.47.....	47,399.82
Property.....	2,388.11.....	9,396.66
Fellowship.....	83.35.....	724.48
Loan Interest Expense.....	390.42.....	1,583.54
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	23,280.02.....	90,435.91
Excess Income/Expense.....	-15,056.27.....	-24,729.66
Transfer fm Investment Acct.....	10,000.00.....	30,000.00



Happy Birthday!



JUNE

Kimberly Townsend	05
Ryan Bohnsack.....	07
Jennie Langham.....	09
Lillian Goodwyn	12
Fred Pryor	17
Dottie Eubanks.....	18
Denise Richardson	19
Rebecca Ashmore	21
Paul Singleton.....	21
Rachael Hamilton	28

God Bless You!

JULY

Carol Davis	02
Anne Singleton	06
Elijah Nguyen.....	20
Clara Zepernick.....	21
Garrett Carter	23
Dick Hansen	25
Marlene Naylor	25
Rosanna McCurry	26
Ann Cahoon	27
Mark Edwards.....	28
Melissa Pryor.....	29
Mary Christie	31

AUGUST

Jeanie Caughman.....	01
Sara Vaughan	01
Denise Deason	03
Susan Cook	07
Sherryl Haller	08
Patti Bohnsack.....	12
Sue Pedersen	17
Tom Shealy	17
JoAnn Raspberry	19
Susan Sanders	19
Brody Hall.....	20
Margaret Hannover	20
Krishna Brister	22
Beth Crawley	24
Anne Haskins	29
Susan Porter	30
Jean Clemons.....	31



Koltun & Rachael Hamilton	June 06
Barbara Blackburn/Bob Stevenson	June 16
Harry & Joyce Boyd	June 23
Rob & Patti Bohnsack	June 27
Dick & Pat Hansen	June 30
John & Brittany Thompson	July 01
Fred & Mayrelizbeth Pryor	July 10
Fred & Barbara Rhinehardt	July 20
Tom & Ann Sipos	July 31
Craig & Lorna Dock	August 07
Bill & Lila Mendel	August 30
Tom & Margaret Shealy	August 31

COMMUNION SCHEDULE



JUNE 3rd

Serve/Set-up: *Beth Crawley, Marlene Naylor*

Serve/Clean: *Lila Mendel, Sue Pedersen*

JULY 1st

Serve/Set-up: *Theresa Nicks, MG Moran*

Serve/Clean: *Pat Hansen, Chris Rollins*

Heartfelt thanks for serving



◆ FPC was well represented at “Feed the Need” food packing event. Thank you Barbara Blackburn, Krisha Brister, Susan Cook, Chris Cook, Phyllis March, and Chris Rollins.

◆ We enjoyed an abundance of delicious food at the church picnic, many thanks to everyone who helped prepare, cook, and clean up.

JUNE - JULY - AUGUST 2018

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Return service requested.

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Pam Haynes, Office Administrator
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FEED
THE
NEED



Six volunteers from FPC helped with the Feed the Need food-packing event on May 5th. It was a great success! FPC contributed \$600, which sponsored food and supplies for two tables. Our table was in charge of packing beans and rice meals. Each volunteer had a responsibility: pouring in measured scoops of beans, rice, soy, vitamins, and vegetables into a bag that feeds six people. The bags were weighed and labeled and then placed into boxes. Our table was very efficient; we packed 13 boxes! 6 meals per bag, 36 bags per box = 2808 meals packed from just our table! Boxes were distributed to local area food pantries. Sharing and Caring in FWB received 163 boxes. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and hard work!