

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Walton Beach, Florida

# ACTS



*Welcome  
Rev. Dr. John Stringer  
and Mary Nell*

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

---

*In just a short time, I have been graciously welcomed into our church family. You have a huge heart! I hope you can feel my excitement in being here with you. I feel a deep sense of call from God to be your Interim Pastor. Together, you, as the congregation, and I your new Interim Pastor, have chosen each other to continue on our spiritual journey. Uniting with the mission of Christ, we are forming a relationship that will enable us to be open to where God wants to lead us.*

*I believe that we have great potential and I can feel the enthusiasm of energy in the short time I've been here. With great potential, we also have great responsibility to keep rooted and based in Scripture as our written guide and listen to where God is leading us into the future. Scripture tells us that we should "forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead."*

*As we move forward, I want to remind all of you of the benefits of spiritual education and worship, the joy of community, and the richness of fellowship with other believers. It is so good to be together and gain strength from each other.*

*With the support of our Session, I will begin to make pastoral visits to all of our members. Please let me or Pam Haynes know of your availability for me to come and visit, or if you are more comfortable visiting in my study, we can arrange that. I want you also to know that I am available to you anytime, day or night.*

*My phone number is 303-241-2945.*

*As we work together, let's allow our faith to grow toward the brilliance of God's Light. Let's be aware that we are more than merely surviving and what we do here is connected with the Living Christ.*

*Yours in Christ,*

***Pastor John***



# Cookie Ministry



Cookie Ministry has a new schedule: starting in October we'll be baking every **Wednesday** at 12:30pm. It's fun and rewarding.

You are invited to come and help bake and pack. Cookies are delivered to organizations that operate a hunger program: One Hopeful Place, Children in Crisis, Trinity Methodist lunch program and Opportunity Place.



# WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Every year on the first Sunday in October, on **OCTOBER 2ND** this year, Christians around the globe celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is a day to remember that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and that every Christian Church and any denomination that promotes Christian unity are one. On this day, people draw faith and inspiration from seeing that they are part of a community that boasts millions of believers and worshippers.

**A Bed 4 Me Foundation** is a 501(c)(3) organization providing beds to children and teens that would otherwise be sleeping on the floor or other inadequate spaces.

We surprised the directors of “**A Bed 4 Me**” when we presented the sheets and comforters that were collected over the summer. The brightly colored sheets with fun designs especially for kids will bring delight to the children and teens when they receive their bed.

Thank  
you  
for  
everything!





## *Notes From Jackie Hails*



In the Fall, we start looking forward to cooler temperatures, less traffic from vacationing beachgoers, and Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Planning for our Christmas music begins for me in mid-August, since the beginning of Advent is in late November and our Christmas Music Sunday is on December 11th. If you don't currently sing in the choir and would like to join us for our Christmas Music Sunday, please come at 8:45 on Sunday mornings for choir rehearsal. Everyone is welcome!

Handbell rehearsals resume on Wednesday, October 5th at 3:30 p.m. We hope to play once in November and again on December 11th. I appreciate these dedicated ringers who rehearse faithfully each week to share their talents with you and for the glory of God.

As your organist/music director for almost 23 years, I've had the opportunity to work with several ministers (installed and Interims). I'm so thankful for Jim Rollins and his willingness to serve the Lord whenever called upon. He is such an asset to the life of our church and has been such a blessing during this transition time. I'm looking forward to working with our new part time Interim Pastor, John Stringer. We welcome him and his wife, Mary Nell, to our congregation and pray God's blessings on his ministry here.

I hope to see you in worship services in the coming weeks. Those of you who haven't "gotten back in the swing" of church attendance since the pandemic, please consider coming back to live worship. Please come back and welcome the Stringers to our fellowship, recommitting your lives to serving the Lord in our community! We miss you! Please make church attendance a priority!

In His service,

*Jackie Hails*

## *Presbyterian Women*

Birthday Luncheon  
**Tuesday, October 18,**  
**11:30 am**  
**at Bay Café**

**Tuesday, November 15**  
**TBA**



***Circles have resumed after summer break.  
 ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED to join us for  
 Bible Study and fellowship.***

***Joy Circle: first Tuesday at 9:45am.***

***Fellowship Circle: first Thursday at 2:00 pm.***

***Did you know Presbyterian Women  
 collect pop tabs and send them to  
 Ronald McDonald Charities? Please  
 save your tabs and bring them to the  
 church office or the Narthex.***



- John Schuler .....1
- Jerry Black.....2
- Elizabeth Nicks.....2
- Linda Petteway.....2
- Bob Engelkens .....3
- Phyllis March.....3
- John Drain .....14
- Jackie Hails .....16
- MG Moran.....16
- Mayrelizabeth Pryor.....17
- Joanne Hamilton .....23
- Helen Rigdon .....23
- Debbie Weatherbee.....24
- Janet Wiley .....24

God Bless you on your  
Birthday!

# happy Anniversary

- Mark & Sherryl Haller  
October 21
- Jim & Chris Rollins  
October 23
- Richard & Shirley Knight  
October 24
- Jim & Debbie Weatherbee  
October 24

# Silver Sunday



Don't let coins jingle in your pocket! Bring your coins to church on the 2nd Sunday of the month for "Silver Sunday." All donations will benefit local charities.

*Many thanks to the Fellowship Committee and everyone that helped with the Salad Potluck lunch September 25. **Well done, team!***

*Every year you collect school supplies for us. You don't know how much it means to have a church that cares for members the way you do. We appreciate all the donations, and thank everyone that participated.*

*—Kim Moran & Elizabeth Noffsinger*



## GENEROSITY IS THE ESSENCE OF GOD'S JOY.

In October and November, part of our focus turns to stewardship as we work toward closing the fiscal year and planning the church's 2023 budget

Stewardship is the way that we can bless ourselves and bless other people. Generosity is the essence of God's joy.

<b>Financial Statement</b>	
	<u>August</u> <u>YEAR to DATE</u>
<b>INCOME:</b>	
Offerings.....	\$13,790.47 ..... 101,281.38
Misc. Income .....	43.13 ..... 1,099.35
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b> .....	<b>\$13,833.60 ..... 102,380.73</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Worship .....	1,648.40 ..... 8,591.25
Christian Education .....	00 ..... 311.55
Witness/Outreach.....	441.66 ..... 4,813.28
Admin. & Finance .....	18,756.27 ..... 100,207.59
Property .....	2,824.07 ..... 21,859.80
Fellowship .....	5.50 ..... 639.96
Loan Interest Expense.....	171.59 ..... 1,478.36
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> .....	<b>23,847.49 ..... 137,901.79</b>
Excess Income/Expense ... \$	—10,013.89 .... —35,521.06
Transfer fm Investment Acct....	10,000.00 ..... 35,000.00

# October 2022

Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 4  
Ft. Walton Bch, FL 32548  
Return service requested.



## First Presbyterian Church

134 Beal Parkway S.W.  
Fort Walton Beach, FL



PHONE: 850-243-3732

FAX: 850-243-3402

[www.firstpresfwb.org](http://www.firstpresfwb.org)

Rev. Dr. John Stringer, Interim Pastor  
[pastor@firstpresfwb.org](mailto:pastor@firstpresfwb.org)  
850-243-3731 / 303-241-2945

Jackie Hails, Music Director  
[music@firstpresfwb.org](mailto:music@firstpresfwb.org)

Pam Haynes, Office Administrator  
[office@firstpresfwb.org](mailto:office@firstpresfwb.org)

## Neighborhood "Trunk or Treat" October 29



FPC will be participating in a Trunk-or-Treat neighborhood event Saturday, October 29 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Each church will set-up in its

own parking lot so that neighborhood children can walk from church to church for treats and games. The Fire Department will be here with the bucket truck. You might get a ride to the tree tops!

Please plan to participate in this fun event by decorating the trunk of your car (creative and fun, but not scary) and handing out treats or by hosting a game for children to play (bean bag toss, etc.). We will set up in the parking lot on First Street. This is a great opportunity to get to know people in our neighborhood.

We are asking for donations of individually wrapped candy. Thank you for your help. Contact Barbara Blackburn if you have questions.