

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Walton Beach, Florida

# ACTS

**FOR GOD SAVED US AND CALLED US TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE.**

*He did this, not because we deserved it.*

**BUT BECAUSE THAT WAS HIS PLAN**

**FROM BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF TIME —**

*to show us His grace through Christ Jesus.*

From I Timothy 1:9



## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JOHN



While community is a buzzword, it remains an elusive experience. We all hunger to belong, but community is not built in meetings and events. Rather, community is nurtured in mutual service and interdependence, in significant interaction and vulnerability, in shared stories and common purpose.

My grandfather used to remind me that you could learn something from anyone, if you are willing to listen and be present. Now, not all lessons are created equal, but I've learned to never discount the value of what a person brings to the table. There is something the couple who has been married for 60 years can teach you about commitment that you cannot learn in a book. A parent who cares for their sick children will teach you more about unconditional love than a conference. And the list goes on: faithfulness from the member who has been attending the same church for 75 years, perseverance from one who has been battling a chronic illness, or joy from a child painting on a canvas. You can't experience these in a classroom.

I have been blessed with the opportunity to study with some amazing people, both teachers and students. I've been a part of some wonderful courses, conferences, and retreats. As a pastor, it is so tempting to equate these experiences with becoming an expert at life. But the truth is, many "experts" have watched churches die in their presence. Experts won't save the church.

Here is what I believe God is reminding me about life and learning:

\*There comes a time when I need to put the books down and let members of the church teach me, and watch God get to work. I have to show up, not just on Sundays, but the rest of the week as well.

\*Don't get so caught up in knowledge, career advancements, or being in control, that I forget to be present to those around me, especially my church family. Not only to learn, but to grow, surrender to, and experience this beautiful gift called church community.

\*Don't overlook people because they don't fit the mold of success or have authority, or it's inconvenient to my schedule, or I'm not called to a particular ministry.

There are amazing people who pass by us daily. Don't miss the lessons they have to share because they don't have the title, haven't written a book, or don't add some preconceived idea of what you think adds value to your life. Build relationships with those around you and let God's Spirit form and teach you through those interactions. We are all called to surrender and love one another.

In the process, you might be surprised how much you have to give in return.

Grace and Peace—Pastor John



***MANY THANKS.** . . . Bob and I want to express our appreciation for the prayers and texts received regarding Bob's recent illness and surgery. Having a caring church family helps to ease the pain one always feels when dealing with an unexpected illness and surgery of a loved one. We thank God every day for all of you. Blessings, **Barbara & Bob***



# Presbyterian Women

PW CIRCLES RESUME IN SEPTEMBER.

We have two circles that meet in morning and afternoon. Pick one that fits your schedule and join us:

Joy Circle — 1st Tuesday, 9:45 am

Fellowship — 1st Thursday, 2:00 pm

Did you know the Presbyterian Women collect pop tabs and send them to Ronald McDonald Charities?

Mayrelizbeth is the PW Super Saver Coordinator. Please help us save tabs, it's an ongoing collection. Bring them to the Narthex or church office.

*PW DATES to REMEMBER:*

Birthday Luncheon  
Tuesday, August 13, 11:30 am

At *RED LOBSTER*

*Ladies'*  
**LUNCHEON**

Birthday Luncheon

Tuesday, September 17, 11:30 am

"Dirty Labor Day" Gift Exchange

More Info TBD—check Bulletin

Thank you to  
all who have  
donated bed-



ding for A  
Bed 4 Me  
during June  
and July.

The sheets  
and com-  
forters will

We need your help!  
Please give to Silver  
Sunday. Donations  
received any day in  
the Fellowship Hall or  
Office.



Dear FPC Family,

Words are inadequate in trying to express my gratitude for the Retirement Celebration in my honor on June 30th. From the beautiful roses, the cards and letters, the generous love offering, the delicious mail and reception, to the prayer of blessing for me rendered by Pastor John—all were so special and meant so much to me as I enter this new season of life. The delicious cakes baked by Kim Moran were "over the top." Thanks to each of you who had a part in planning this special day. You will always be in my heart. **JACKIE HAILS**

Every **first Sunday** of each month we collect non-perishable food items, small toiletries, and monetary donations for Sharing-Caring.



# COOKIE BAKERS WANTED!!

Starting back up on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 12:30 p.m.

Meet in the Kitchen area to bake cookies for the homeless.

So far over 70,299 baked!

Contact Sharron Land for info.



The annual Church Rummage Sale is scheduled for **August 23 & 24**. Yes, a two-day sale! Now is a great time to clean out your "stuff" and bring donations to the church. Proceeds from the sale will go to local missions.

It will be a **HUGE** sale, you definitely want to come shop for a "treasure".

Barbara Blackburn is the leader of this event and needs volunteers to set-up on Thursday, August 22. Please contact her if interested.

The **SERVV MARKET** will also be open during the Rummage Sale on August 23-24. Shop for unique items that make great gifts. Contact Lila Mendel for info.



## BACK 2 SCHOOL

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
REQUEST FOR KIM  
MORAN AND DEB  
CAHOON:**

**KLEENEX, LYSOL  
WIPES, PAPER TOW-**

**ELS, POST-IT NOTES (3 X 3), BLACK  
SHARPIE MARKERS, CRAYOLA COLOR  
PENCILS/MARKERS , BIC INK PENS  
(BLACK/BLUE) AND GIFT CARDS TO  
WALMART, SAMS, AND OFFICE DE-  
POT. THANK YOU!**



**August 11**

**8:00-9:30 am**

**Fellowship  
Hall**

### Menu to include:

**Bananas Foster French Toast**

**Scrambled eggs**

**All the fixins'**



## BIBLE STUDY

Sunday, August 4 at 2:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall

Kim Moran will lead the Bible Study using the videos of The Chosen series. You may have heard of the series; it is about the life of Christ as told from the disciples' point of view. Dallas Jenkins is the producer of the series. His father, Jerry Jenkins, was co-author with Tim LeHaye on the Left Behind Book Series. Light refreshments will be available.



Liturgist Training for those wishing to serve as Liturgist for the Sunday morning worship service, both new people and previously trained. Contact Pastor John or the church office to sign up.

**Sunday, September 8 after worship**

**Sunday, October 13 after worship**



***Please call the church office to add or remove someone from the prayer list.***

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Bob Stevenson</i>      | <i>Rosanna McCurry</i>  |
| <i>Nick Nicolopoulos</i>  | <i>Dan McCurry</i>      |
| <i>Martha Novinger</i>    | <i>Phyllis Merritt</i>  |
| <i>Theresa Nicks</i>      | <i>Shaine Engelkens</i> |
| <i>Ann Cahoon</i>         |                         |
| <i>Barbara Ellen Fulp</i> |                         |
| <i>Ann Woelfersheim</i>   |                         |
| <i>Brittany March</i>     |                         |

### FREE LEGAL CLINIC

**“Justice on the Board”**

**2nd Wednesday of each month**

**3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**In the Library**

## **Salad Potluck Lunch**



**September 22nd in the Fellowship Hall after worship service — all invited.**

- ♦ Please BRING salads and desserts.
- ♦ Meats and drinks provided.
- ♦ Contact Jim or Phyllis March if you have questions.



Jeanie Caughman ..... 01  
 Susan Pedersen..... 17  
 William Shealy.....17  
 Krisha Brister.....22  
 Beth Crawley ..... 24

Kyla Brister..... 04  
 Sharon Land ..... 10  
 Carol Bair..... 20  
 Charlene Howard..... 20  
 Steve Cahoon ..... 22  
 Helen Edwards ..... 27  
 Jett Brister..... 30

happy  
 Anniversary

*God Bless you  
 on your  
 birthday*

*If the church does not have  
 your birthday or anniversary,  
 please let us know so we can  
 update our records.*

William & Lila Mendel  
 August 30  
 William & Margaret Shealy  
 August 31  
 John & Ann Cahoon  
 September 17

Pray for our church officers as they serve God as leaders in this church; that God will guide and bless them in their service.

**CLASS OF 2024**

FRAN GOODALL, FRED PRYOR,  
 KIM MORAN

**CLASS OF 2025**

KRISHA BRISTER, SUE PEDERSEN,  
 JIM MARCH

**CLASS OF 2026**

BARBARA BLACKBURN, STEVE CAHOON,  
 MG MORAN

**The Officer Nominating Committee is presently praying and seeking elders for the Class of 2027.**

**Financial Statement**

**JUNE 2024    YEAR to DATE**

<b>INCOME:</b>		
Offerings.....	\$21,723.79	..... 110,086.09
Misc. Income.....	66.80	..... 5,995.21
<b>TOTAL INCOME.....</b>	<b>\$21,790.59</b>	<b>..... 116,081.30</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Clergy Compensation.....	2,493.66	..... 14,797.06
Worship .....	475.00	..... 1,472.48
Christian Education.....	105.00	..... 475.08
Witness/Outreach .....	0	..... 6,501.32
Admin. & Finance .....	10,433.75	..... 60,076.86
Property .....	2,667.08	..... 16,286.20
Fellowship .....	321.21	..... 321.21
Loan Interest Expense.....	218.67	..... 588.25
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES.....</b>	<b>16,495.70</b>	<b>..... 100,518.46</b>
Excess Income/Expense.....	\$5,294.89	..... 5,562.84
Transfer fm Investment Acc .....	10,000.00	..... 20,000.00



# August September 2024

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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Fort Walton Beach, FL



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Interim Pastor  
[pastor@firstpresfwb.org](mailto:pastor@firstpresfwb.org)

Lorilee Corbett, Office Administrator  
[office@firstpresfwb.org](mailto:office@firstpresfwb.org)

## GENEROSITY . . . STEWARDSHIP . . . ABUNDANCE

TIME • TALENT • TREASURE

# Stewardship

“LIKE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE MANIFOLD GRACE OF GOD,  
SERVE ONE ANOTHER WITH WHATEVER GIFT EACH OF YOU  
HAS RECEIVED.” 1 PETER 4:10