

First Presbyterian Church, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida

ACTS

Watermelon Vacation Ice Cream Humidity Sunshine



Summer
Time!

Baseball Beach Thunderstorms Cookouts Gardening

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Church of the Presbyterian Family,

As we officially start Summer in June, I am reminded that summers are often a time to slow down, travel, and spend time with the people in our lives. How many of us remember the summers of our youth fondly for the care-free lifestyle that summer brings? What are some of your favorite summer memories and activities?

Perhaps, like my wife, Mary Nell, what you like about summertime is the longer days. Maybe you are like me in putting up with the summer heat. And yet, we often fill our summer days with visits to family, vacations, hiking adventures, going to the beach, picnics, sitting by the pool or back yard cookouts. By the time fall arrives we need a rest from our “lazy” summer.

Many of these activities have a connection of being in relationship together. This summer, I wonder what it would be like to incorporate some spiritual practices in our summertime fun.

Let's have some fun that enriches and brings joy to our soul. As we begin summer may we ask the following questions:

- *What seeds of faith have we planted this Spring that we want to nurture and see grow this summer?
- *What brings joy to our soul? Perhaps it is visiting others or maybe it's rediscovering a favorite childhood hobby, like art. Maybe it is walking along the beach.
- *How can we intentionally plan trips to bring joy to our soul?
- *What provides rest for your spirit?
- *What is one spiritual practice you have never tried but want to explore this summer?

Spiritual practices are things that help you connect with God in new ways and that draw us closer in relations with God. Examples include:

- *Prayer journeys—walking and praying for your neighborhood and neighbors as you walk.
- *Spending time in God's word—begin devotionals or revisit your favorite book of the Bible. Read, meditate, and pray to promote communion with God.
- *Having a prayer buddy.
- *Volunteer in our community.

Summertime is upon us, so let us bring it on with excitement and the fullness of God's grace and goodness.

I hope that your days this summer will remind you of the joys of your childhoods and the joys of spending time with family, friends, and your church community.

Near or far, know that I am glad to be with you, and that you bring joy to my life and to my heart.

Pastor John

PRAYER PILLOWS

Prayer pillows have been distributed to Fresenius Dialysis Center FWB and were much-appreciated! Big thank-yous to Barbara Blackburn, Penny Carter, & Krisha Brister for helping make the 2nd batch! Penny gave us a great starting place for the next batch & made it EZ to put them together. We made 140 pillows on April 12!

Sharing & Caring celebrated 40 years (1985-2025). S&C provides groceries, prescription vouchers, Friday lunch bags, ready-to-eat food, and personal care items to those in need. Clients are able to obtain items once every 30 days from their last visit. In June, FPC will collect donations for S & C for the entire month. You can help by volunteering your time, donating money, or donating items. (List will be available in the Narthex in June.)



Kim Moran will be the moderator for The Chosen—Season 3. Dates are June 1, 8, 22 and 29 (subject to change).



Congratulations
GRADUATES!



Kyla Brister from FWB High School

Jett Brister from Colorado School of Mines with a BS in Quantitative Bioscience & Engineering



The Golden Agers are taking a break for the summer months but will resume in the fall.

EASTER SUNDAY 2025!







MAY

Shanna Land03
Wyatt Stringer.....06
John Toth.....11
Cort Brown.....15
Mark Burson.....19



Abigail Nicks 5
Fred Pryor.....17
Darla Reichwald.....25

The PW Spring Fling is May 20!
The Theme is "Butterfly Bliss"

Catered by Corner Café

\$15/per person/6 under free

Meet at 5:00 pm; eat 5:30 pm

Games & prizes 4 adults & kids

All are welcome!

Sign up on the Willing Wall!



May 18, 2025

Bring a side or dessert to share!

Happy Anniversary



George & Fran Goodall May 17
Mark & Helen Edwards May 22
MG & Kim Moran May 26

Barbara Blackburn/Bob Stevenson June 16
Dick & Pat Hansen June 30

If the church does not have your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office so we can update our records.

It's time to clean out the clutter! Bring all your unwanted items to the church for our annual rummage sale.

All proceeds will be donated to mission/hunger programs.

Don't wait!

We are accepting items now.



AUGUST 22/23

We are still collecting tabs from aluminum cans. Please contact Mayrelizbeth Pryor to turn them in.



Financial Statement

INCOME:	Apr 2025	2025 totals
Offerings	\$14,469.00	73,963.52
Other Income.....	0	340.00
Misc inc/interest.....	2,261.56	5,962.22
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$16,730.56	80,265.74
EXPENSES:		
Clergy Compensation.....	2,912.10	11,162.60
Worship Committee.....	470.33	1,726.33
Christian Education.....	0	111.69
Witness & Outreach	4,683.32	14,412.91
Admin. & Finance.....	5,545.55	26,142.69
Property Committee	1,387.74	15,995.62
Fellowship	141.50	226.10
TOTAL EXPENSES	15,148.34	69,866.34
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES.	\$1,582.22	\$10,399.40

Golden Agers Luncheon

Hostess Mary Nell Stringer did a great job with the 50's, 60's, and 70's Trivia Game and decorations for the Luncheon on March 11th. Jim March and the Fellowship Committee prepared a wonderful meal of pulled pork and chicken with all the sides! There was a good turnout!



MAY-JUNE 2025



First Presbyterian Church



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**Please consider signing up on the
Willing Wall to place flowers in
the Sanctuary on a Sunday of
your choice.**

The following usual events will
not be scheduled in the Summer
months:

Children's Sunday School

Joy Circle

Fellowship Circle

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!!

Porch de Salomon provides necessities
such as food, clean water, and home
construction to indigenous people in
need in Panajachel, Guatemala. FPC
has provided financial aid to this organ-
ization for many years and has also sent
teams to work at their site in Guatema-
la. If you are interested in joining a
mission trip to Guatemala, please con-
tact the church office. For more infor-
mation about the group:
porchdesalomon.org.

VISION STATEMENT:

*To be the hands, feet, and heart of Jesus
Christ in the world.*

MISSION STATEMENT:

*Guided by the Holy Spirit, to grow as dis-
ciples of Jesus and share the love of God
with all.*