



*Our Vision* — To be a church that shares God’s love through Jesus Christ with everyone.

*Our Mission* — We are an inclusive historic downtown community of Christian faith. We seek to welcome all people through prayer, meaningful worship, and supportive groups while sharing our talents and resources with those in need.

## From the Transitional Pastor’s Desk

The Rev. Dr. Walk Jones

# Lent is Coming

It confuses me that Christmas is always December 25 and Easter varies greatly based on the moon phases in the spring. This year Easter will be early, on March 31. Which means Ash Wednesday comes forty days before it on ... any guesses? Valentine’s Day, February 14!

Ash Wednesday always begins our Lenten journey towards Jesus’ Last Supper, Crucifixion, and Resurrection. We will have a service in our sanctuary on February 14 at noon to begin our Lenten journey with prayer and reflection. Members who want ashes on their forehead or hand in the shape of a cross may receive them.

During Lent I will lead a study of the book Short Stories by Jesus about the parables Jesus taught, especially understanding them through the eyes and ears of his disciples and first hearers, residents of the Holy

Land long ago. It will be offered in person in the morning and again by zoom in the evening. Watch the bulletin and Inspire for the days and how to get the zoom link.

During Lent our worship becomes a little more somber, the liturgical colors are purple and we start symbolically walking towards the Upper Room and Calvary. But stay tuned, the story does not end in Jesus’ tomb! In late March we’ll celebrate his resurrection.

Walk

### Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of the Ashes



February 14th  
at  
Noon

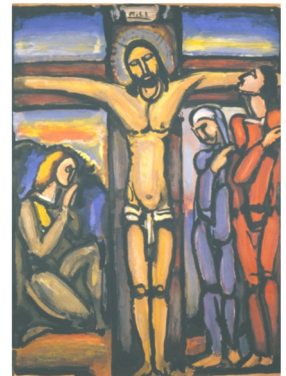
*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Amen.”*

### Christian Art at CF’s Webber Gallery

By Walk Jones

The art department at CF has arranged a special exhibition by Georges Rouault, a well-known Christian artist of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The exhibit runs through March 17, and Tyrus Clutter CF Professor of Art and Art History will be giving lectures to church groups on certain Sunday afternoons.

*Georges Rouault*



Let’s meet there together on **Sunday, February 25 from 2 to 3pm** at the Webber Gallery to see this art and hear Dr. Clutter’s lecture about this interesting exhibit. He will give the lecture on February 4 and 25 and March 3 and 10, from 2-3 PM, so you may go when it is convenient, but I think it would be interesting for us to go together.

# Session News and Announcements

## Session Brief – January 7, 2024

- Approved the election of Todd Dailey as Corporate Treasurer.
- Approved the election of the following Corporate Officers: Van Akin, President; Todd Dailey, Treasurer; Peggy Wiechmann, Secretary; Todd Carstenn and Tom Weaver, Directors.
- Approved the request from Ron and Mary McMillin to be removed from our membership rolls.
- Approved Jacquelyn Sexton and Tom Weaver as Commissioners to the Presbytery February 3, 2024 Stated Meeting at Camp Montgomery.
- Approved the 2024 Proposed Budget.
- Approved the recommendation from Building and Grounds for “Guidelines for the Use of the Church Facilities, Policy for Distribution of Keys, a Facility Use Request form, Facility Use Request-Playground, Use of Church Equipment and Wedding Policy.
- Approved dates for Stated Session meetings for 2024.

Session	Diaconate		
<b>Class of 2024:</b> Todd Carstenn, Pat Greaves, Amy Johnson, Bentley Johnson (Youth Elder), George Tomy, Tom Weaver, Peggy Wiechmann, Jim Yancey <b>Class of 2025:</b> Jo Ann Brandt, Denise Caskey, Todd Dailey, Mary Dingman, Marcia Dove, Bill Tucker, Katherine White <b>Class of 2026:</b> Van Akin, Bob Drake, Jacquelyn Sexton	Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
	Evelyn Longo Martha Petry Raul Roman Alice Russell Terri Tucker Barbara Whitt	Sue Brawner Lannie Mercer Amy Schlenker	Ann McCoy Esther Arango-Palencia

## Presbyterian Pilgrimage



There will be a wonderful Christian retreat weekend here in Ocala from April 12-14 at The Retreat.

Pilgrimage is a spiritual renewal weekend to renew and invigorate your faith in Jesus Christ and to build a greater understanding of God's love for you and His will for your life. The retreat is a long weekend, from Friday at 4:00 pm to Sunday at 4:00 pm; two and a half days to celebrate and express Christ's love for you. It will be held at The Retreat 6455 East Silver Springs Blvd.

For more information check out the website: <https://floridapresbyterianpilgrimage.org/>



## Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one*

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

Contact Us Today

**When:** Sundays, 3:30—5:00 pm  
February 4 to May 5, 2024

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church Ocala  
511 SE Third Street, Ocala, FL

**Contact:** Raul Roman (727) 389-6072

**Register:** [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup)

[griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org)

# Presbyterian Women, Pat Greaves, Moderator

## To ALL women of First Presbyterian Church of Ocala



Here we are going into February already. 2024 is moving right along. I pray you are enjoying your time with Circle members and invite anyone you know who doesn't participate in PW, to come and join you in Christian fellowship and Bible study as Women in Christ in Presbyterian Women. CIRCLES will study Lesson Six in February of *Sacred Encounters: A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus*, by Olive Mahabir. The main idea of the lesson is that God calls us to affirm that each person is a child of God who should be treated with dignity and equity.

**THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** will meet on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. The group includes both knitters and crocheters and welcomes anyone who is interested in this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Coordinator, Liz Diener-Dickmann.

**UPDATE ON THE FPC COOKBOOKS....**we have given \$980 to Interfaith Emergency Services/Food for Kids and have another check ready to send. We are closing in on selling the remaining cookbooks. We will continue to sell the remaining cookbooks until they are all sold. There are less than 25 remaining!!! All monies will be donated to IES/Food for Kids program. Won't you help us? Thank you for your support of this wonderful endeavor. They make very nice gifts. You can find copies to purchase on the tables in the narthex of the church or contact Pat Greaves. Thanks for supporting this mission project.

*"We ask you, Master, be our helper and defender. Rescue those of our number in distress; raise up the fallen; assist the needy; heal the sick; turn back those of your people who stray; feed the hungry; release our captives; revive the weak; encourage those who lose heart. Let all the nations realize that you are the only God, that Jesus Christ is your Child, and that we are your people and the sheep of your pasture. Amen."*

*Pope Clement of Rome, c. 35-96  
(taken from the study book)*

Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings for February 2024					
Bible Study and Fellowship, and ways to serve with your Sisters in Christ					
	Date	Time	Meeting Place	Contact	Phone
<b>Coordinating Team Mtg.</b>	Tuesday, February 6th	5:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Pat Greaves	352-236-0716 352-362-0013 cell
<b>Circle 3</b>	Monday, February 19th	10:00 a.m.	Georgene Nolan 2473 NW 59 <sup>th</sup> Terrace, Ocala Palms, Ocala 34482	Liz Diener-Dickmann	352-620-2831
<b>Circle 4</b>	Tuesday, February 13th	6:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Debbie Koch	352-873-7459 630-254-8844 cell
<b>Circle 8</b>	Tuesday, February 13th	2:00 p.m.	Room 1	Lois Clardy	352-622-3053
<b>PRAYER SHAWL</b>	Thursday February 22nd	1:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Liz Diener-Dickmann	



## Music News

# THE KING'S BRASS

*A Feast for the Ears, Mind and Soul*



## Christian Education



**Monday, April 1st is the DEADLINE to apply for FPC Post-secondary school education SCHOLARSHIPS!**



Applications for the fall 2024 term are available in the church office. **The deadline to submit applications to the church**

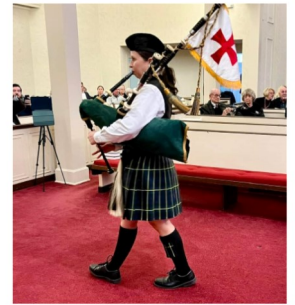
**office is by the end of the workday on Monday, April 1st.** FPC members and their member dependents or children may apply for scholarship assistance. Applicants may apply once in a calendar year. Direct questions to Scholarship Committee members--Chair Kay Yancey, Cindy Andrews, Todd Carstenn or Tom Weaver.



# Remembering our Scottish Presbyterian Heritage

## FPC's **Kirkin'** of the **Tartans**

January 21, 2024  
10:00 a.m.  
Worship Service



# More Announcements

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



Please help us tackle hunger in our community as we collect food and hygiene items for those among us who are less fortunate. Join us Super Bowl Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

in the church parking lot, where donations will be accepted for **Interfaith Emergency Services.**

Some suggestions for food and hygiene items that have been requested by Interfaith are:

### FOOD ITEMS:

Canned Vegetables/Fruit  
Spaghetti Sauce Dry or Canned Beans  
Canned Meat Canned Soup Pasta and Rice  
Peanut Butter/Jelly Macaroni & Cheese

### HYGIENE ITEMS:

Shampoo/Conditioner Deodorant  
Bar Soap Shaving Cream/Razors  
Bodywipes Diapers, all sizes  
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes  
Feminine Products Combs Toilet Paper

*Thank you for your continued generosity.*



## Interfaith Emergency Services

It's that time again! We are signing up participants for dinners in 2024. First Presbyterian does this on the second Thursday of each month. Those who have done it say it's always a blessing, and we know it's a blessing to those we serve. Thank you to all members who participated in 2023!

Call or text Jarl Hagood at 867-9372 or email [Jarlhagood@aol.com](mailto:Jarlhagood@aol.com) if you or your group would like to sign up.



Please join FPC as we celebrate

Scout Sunday, February 4th at 10:00 a.m. worship.

Attendance	10 am	Online
12/24	284	33
12/31	87	47
1/7	134	46
1/14	100	65
1/21	142	32



## February Birthdays

3

Chuck Opitz

4

Lois Clardy

5

Paul Miller

6

Bob McClary  
Mike Wiechens



7

Curtis Vollmer  
Smith

11

Doug Cone, II  
Heather  
Bookbinder

12

Adella Barrineau

14

John Reiss  
Maren Kimball

15

Doug Brown  
Linda Bookbinder  
Gary Albright

16

Donnie Slone

17

Madison  
Sprowles

18

Brenda Dauner  
Tracey Patrick

19

Don Hutto  
Rita Miller

20

Ray Charnley  
Debbie Koch

21

Vikki Hutto

22

Dick Blagus

23

Luke Lewis

25

Ken Petrey  
Edwina Smith  
Russel Dingman

26

Donna Bucy

27

Rachel Bookbinder

28

Cathy Taylor  
Floyd Johnson

29

Heather Guest

Beautify our sanctuary with



# Flowers

Each Sunday  
what a blessing  
to see some of  
God's natural beauty.  
Remember you can  
dedicate a lovely and  
meaningful bouquet to  
someone your love, even our Lord.  
Call the office (352) 629-7561

## Prayer List

**Pat Bishop**

**Bill Blackwell** (brother of Mary Kauffman)

**Tania Blackwell**

**Andy Carlisle**

**Ella Charnley**

**Shirley Cochran**

**Billy Davis** (grandson-in-law of David Demarest,  
cancer diagnosis)

**Mina DiGeronimo**

**Bob Dillinger** (Uncle of Wendie Moore)

**Lois Dolin** (on the death of her brother Ellis Wagner)

**Ruth Fraser**

**Gabby Gates** (friend of Dave Bice)

**Joe Glenn** (friend of Mary Kauffman)

**Sharon Grier** (mother of Lee Anne Drake)

**Dorothy Halliwell** (sister-in-law of Pat Interdonato)

**Bill and Barbara Harrel**

**Andrea Mogg Jacque**

**Victoria Johnson** (great-granddaughter of Christine)

**Lloyd Kauffman** (husband of Mary)

**Lanier Lance** (sister of Bill Tucker)

**The family of Mary Kells** (on her death)

**Celine Mack** (on hospice)

**The Martin family** (Judith, Jason, Nadia,  
Lisa and Lukas)

**Cordelia Bree McCully** (granddaughter of  
Mike and Teresa Poteet)

**Ron McMillin**

**Gloria Miller**

**Jodi Miller** (daughter-in-law of Ginny Miller)

**Bruce and Wendie Moore**

**Annette Morris** (friend of Mary Kauffman)

**Fritz Rain** (friend of Marybeth Olson)

**Ruthanne and John Reiss**

**Frank Roberts**

**Michael Rou** (cousin of Dr. David Albright)

**Janie Scott**

**Bob and Renee Timmer**

**Barbara Tomin** (on the death of her mother)

**Barbara Tortora and The Tortora family**

**Ann VanDenburgh**

**Robert Webber** (brother of Ginny Miller)

**William Wright**



**First Presbyterian Church**  
511 SE Third Street  
Ocala, FL 34471-2284

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## Lenten Study Feb. 20

Lenten Study begins February 20 is about Jesus' Parables using a book called Short Stories by Jesus and will be in Room 1 at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays and at 7:00 p.m. by zoom. Books may be picked up in the church office.

**Men's  
Breakfast  
Tuesday  
February 13, 2024**

**Wolfy's**

(2159 E Silver Springs Blvd.)

**7:30 a.m.**

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511 SE Third Street, Ocala, FL 34471  
Phone: (352) 629-7561  
[www.fpcocala.org](http://www.fpcocala.org)

