



Our Vision - Our Mission

To spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to our community and the world.
To be an inclusive downtown community of faith that seeks to embrace everyone in growing spirituality.



THE REV. DR. D. RONALD WATSON, JR.
PASTOR



We have new faces around First Presbyterian!

Bill Harrel-Church Visitor

Bill was raised in an American Baptist family and Church in New Jersey. He graduated from Stetson University with a BS in Business. For thirty four years he was in corporate accounting and finance roles, picking up a MBA in Economics and Finance along the way. Concurrent with his corporate career, he spent 30 years as Adjunct Instructor at various NY, NJ colleges, including Rutgers University in NJ for 15 years, teaching Accounting and Economics. Bill then retired and attended seminary at Eastern Baptist Seminary and graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary, with a Master of Divinity degree. Ordained as and American Baptist in upstate NY, he spent six years as an ABC senior pastor in Burnt Hills, NY. He then enjoyed 4 years serving as Pastor of 3 ABC churches in Pa. Married to Barbara Ann (Chemist, BS Fordham U.), they been Ocala residents for about 9 years now and have 2 daughters, Laura and Lisa — in New Jersey and Virginia, and a son, Steven in New Jersey. The Harrels have six grandchildren that are “all around somewhere.”

Bill will primarily assist the pastor in congregational visitation, but he will also assist in worship from time to time. He began his work on June 6th.

Carol Piatnek McCoy-Interim Director of Choirs

A native of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, Carol has a Bachelor in Music in Voice Performance from the North Carolina School of the Arts, a Master of Music Theory from the University of Florida, as well as a Ph. D. in Music Education with an emphasis in Music Theory, also from UF. A career musician, she served most recently at First Presbyterian Gainesville for 25 years as Assistant to the Director of Music, including being the Adult Handbell Choir Director and Cherub Choir Director. Carol has a music studio in Gainesville where she continues to teach voice, piano, music theory, and composition. She has two sons and a daughter who is also a professional musician in violin. One of her dreams is to start a cat rescue/adoption home. Ask Carol about her cats!

Carol will direct the Chancel Choir and Bell Choirs. We also are happy to announce that she will be restarting our Children’s Choir. A longtime resident of Gainesville. Carol will officially begin her work in the middle of July. She is contracted to work through the end of the year.

FPC Welcomes (continued)

Leslie Athananson-Guest Musician

Born and raised in Ocala, Leslie Athanason, 28, began playing guitar when she was 13 years old. Through the years she wrote songs, recorded an EP, and performed at various venues, churches, and events. Leslie achieved a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Florida, then became a licensed optician through Hillsborough Community College. But her heart kept pulling her back to music and the arts. She now joyfully works as an entrepreneur and an artist in many forms, including as a painter, designer, small business owner, and a musician and vocalist at First Presbyterian Church. Leslie

married Athanasios (Tom) Athanason in November, 2017, and they are living happily ever after with their three dogs.

I encourage you to worship at your church whenever you are in town this summer. I am very pleased to have Bill, Carol, and Leslie on our ministry team. They are a talented trio! Please introduce yourself to them, and remember, you can help them get to know you by wearing your name tag each Sunday.

Yours in Christ,
Ron

Peggy Wiechmann, Clerk of Session

SESSION BRIEF – JUNE 2, 2019

- Approved a letter of Transfer for Carol McCammon to Fort King Presbyterian Church, Ocala.
- Approved George Tomyn as Elder for the Class of 2021.
- Approved hiring of Carol Piatnek McCoy as Interim Director of Choirs from July 17, 2019 to December 29, 2019.
- Approved the purchase and installation of a security camera system parts and equipment from Mid-State Fire and Systems in the amount of \$3,550.
- Approved to elect Rusty Juergens from the Session for the Nominating Committee and get a representative from the Music Program and one from the Presbyterian Women and 3 others from the general membership. A Called Congregational meeting to elect those members will be held on June 30, 2019 at 10:55 a.m.
- Approved hiring of Bill Harrel as a church visitor to help with Pastoral Care and other needed duties for a year without remuneration and give him compensation for mileage.
- Approved to invite guest preachers Walter Laseter, Joe Pickard, Bill Harrel, Dan Graham, and Dale Steward to fill in during Dr. Watson's vacation dates



The church
office will be
closed
Thursday,
July 4th

Hannah Batten: Youth and Children Ministries

MONTREAT 2019

This year our Kaleo high school youth will be attending Montreat Youth Conference July 21st - 27th, along with the Fort King Presbyterian Youth!

Please pray for each of our 11 attending youth, as well as our 4 chaperones, for safe travels and a fun, spiritually-renewing week in the beautiful North Carolina mountains.

EVENING IN EGYPT

To RSVP contact
Carly Albright at
(352) 362-7120

We are calling kids of all ages to come explore and engage in fellowship. Join us on July 12th from 5 - 9 pm for a fun evening of games, crafts, food, and fun in Egypt! This is the first installment of our new Kids Night Out program which will take place on the second Friday evening of every month.





Our theme for Vacation Bible School this year was: ROAR! Life is Wild, God is Good. The more than 120 children who attended were able to learn all about when life: is unfair, is scary, changes, is sad, and is good that GOD IS GOOD. Through Bible lessons they were able to relate to the Israelites as they went from Egypt to the Promised Land in five days!

This year we decided to do something different and instead of a loose change drive we did a canned good drive for Interfaith. With over 530 cans (>640 lbs) collected, and the boys bringing in the majority of the cans, the week ended with me getting a pie in the face from Ron. This makes us even after the girls won last year. I would like to thank each and every one of the over 50 volunteers listed on the following page who allowed us to make VBS possible this year. Without you it would not be possible to have this ministry to the children be so successful year after year. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Rhonda Kirk who transformed our Fellowship Hall into an African Savanna. Our church is known for its decorations and how we are able to take the kids to a new place each year. None of this would be possible without Mrs. Rhonda. We greatly appreciate everything that was done for our church and these children.

— God Bless, Casey Miller



Volunteer List:

Carly Albright, Jackie Albright, JJ Albright, Emma Andrews, Colin Andrews, Bailey Asbury, Landyn Baines, Hannah Batten, Harry Batten, Stacey Batten, Savannah Bennett, Bill Bowen, Joann Brandt, Luke Bruce, Marilyn Bruce, Carol Carpenter, Donna Claus, Brooke Cole, Levi Cole, Symon Cole, Kyle Daya, Eileen Demarest, Mary Dingman, Cane Fernandez, Beth Futch, Brooke Gilkes, James Gilkes, Brayden Gleason, Lyndsay Greene, Annsley Greene, Carter Grodi, Robyn Guest, Madeline Hanks, Kelsey Hearn, Jarl Haygood, Maren Kimball, Rhonda Kirk, Cooper Knoblock, Macon Knoblock, Ashley Lafferty, Caitlin Lafferty, Rebecca Lee, Evelyn Longo, Bridey Magamoll, Katie McDonnell, Kelsey McDonnell, Mary Moore, Ian Morin, Kendall Reese, Megan Riley, Luke Riley, Amy Schlenker, Caroline Schlenker, Karen Schmidt, Shirley Stone, Landen Thompson, Livia Thompson, Blake Tuman, Brennyn Valdes, Jules Watson, Katherine White, Cameron White, Derek White



Presbyterian Women, Pat Greaves, Moderator

To ALL the women of First Presbyterian Church of Ocala



Thanks to all who support the mission programs of Presbyterian Women. In 2019 PW celebrates its 31st Anniversary through ministry as well as financial gifts to ensure that PW will continue to make God's world a place of hospitality and abundance for God's people for another 31 years and beyond.

We will have a summer break (June through August) from our Circle meetings and begin again with our new 2019-2020 PW Horizon's Bible Study book *Love Carved in Stone*, by Eugenia Anne Gamble. You may order your study book through your Circle Leader or call Pat Greaves at 352-362-0013. The cost remains at \$10 and you can purchase a \$15 large print edition as well. We welcome newcomers. If you're interested in joining a Circle, September will be an excellent time to come and join in Christian fellowship with other women in FPC.

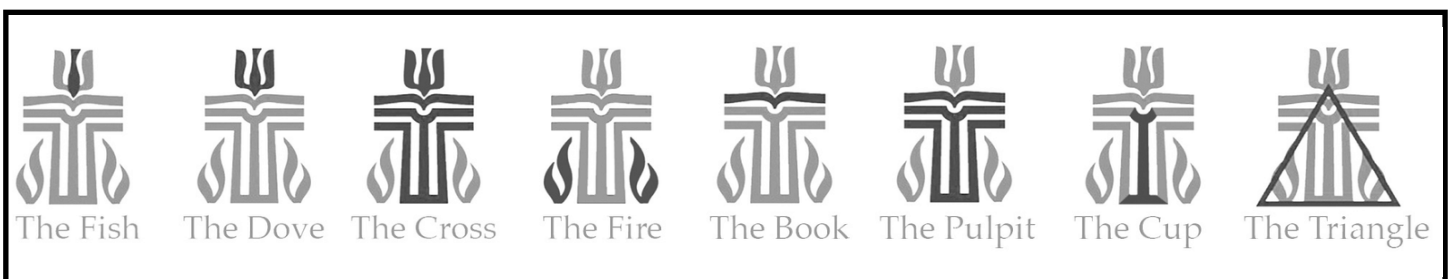
We will recycle our old study books. You can give them to your Circle Leader or place them in the PW closet at the bottom of the stairway on the side of the Fellowship Hall and near the Conference Room.

Special thanks to Jean Morse for her willingness to represent Presbyterian Women on the Nominating Committee for the Church's Officers for the year 2019-2020.

Circle Duties: July, Circle 1; August, Circle 3

Presbyterian Women's Program Meetings for July and August 2019 Ways to Serve with your Sisters in Christ					
Program	Date	Time	Location	Contact	Phone
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Thursday, July 25 th , August 22 nd	1:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Liz Diener-Dickmann	732-6368
WeCare Sewing Ministry	No meetings in July and August				

The symbolism of the Presbyterian Church (USA) cross



PRAYER LIST

Brent Barber (Gera Fleming's son-in-law)

Bill Blackwell (Mary Kauffman's brother)

Bob Brady (on the death of his wife Viann)

Jeanette Bryant

Barbara Christensen

Randall & Linda Deyton (Pickard family
prayer concerns)

Kathy and Terry Donovan (Nita Williams' friends)

Maranell Fleming

Barbara Gowie

Pat Greaves

Richard Grosso

Gary Harward

Betty Ann Jones (Margaret Trump's sister)

Brian Kuhn (Rusty Juergens' friend)

Kathy Lance (Lois Lance's daughter-in-law)

Gisela Lehner

Grietje Lewis

Celine Mack

Anna Marie Miller (Hawthorne)

Gloria Miller (Avante Rehab)

Ray Newhouse (Pat Bishop's brother)

Maria Nieves (Mina DiGeronimo's sister)

Raul Nieves (Mina DiGeronimo's brother)

Brenda O'Quinn (Elaine Cox's sister)

Betty Sue Powell (The Akins' friend)

Charlene Preston

Dave Proctor (Sue Straub's son-in-law)

Richard and Fritz Rain

(Mary Beth Olson's friends)

John Reynolds

(Suzy Heinbockel's brother)

Andrew Richner (parent of VBS student)

Tania Sayre (Mary Kauffman's daughter)

Janice Schafer (Palm Garden)

Wes Schultz

Delores Shotwell

Steve and Keith Shotwell

Betty Jeanne Spencer

(Lady Lake Specialty Care)

Jill Hester Whitaker

Bo and Sally Williams

Please also remember in prayer all of the missions we support.



First Presbyterian Church Ocala gives thanks for the life of **Viann Brady**, who joined the saints of light on June 13, 2019.

With believers of every time and every place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We currently are seeking members who are able to assist with serving Communion (when needed), and not currently an elder or a deacon. Communion is usually on the first Sunday of the month. If you would like to assist, please fill out the form below and return it in the offering plate or drop it in the office!

Thank you, The Worship Committee

Name

Contact Info

Service You Attend

FPC's Thank yous

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all the cards, prayers, love and support for our family during this time. Ron, Kosumo, and Choir thank you for helping make Fred's Memorial Service so nice. Pat and ladies thank you for the reception.

Michele, Tim, Mike, Dan and Families

Dear FPC,

Thank you so much for choosing me for the scholarship! It will help so much during my time at USF!

Thank you, Yancey Guest

Dear Bereavement Committee,

We are humbled by your kindness and generosity in helping to celebrate and remember the life of our grandfather, Henry "Jake" Shirer. We are so grateful for the caring and supportive community that surrounded our grandfather, and we can't thank you enough for all that you did to make this difficult time a bit brighter.

With sincere thanks, Lauren and Taylor Gilbert

Dear Church friends,

Words cannot express my thanks for your prayers, flowers, visits, food and phone calls.

I feel so thankful for you all. They have added some more P.T. for me, but I know I will be back soon.

God Bless you all, Deloris Shotwell

THANKS to all for your love and support during my recent hospitalizations and rehab. By the Grace of God I continue to gain strength each day and am so thankful to be home. I will be having additional surgery the end of August and solicit your prayers for a full recovery. Special thanks to Ron for his several visit to the hospital and Bill for his visit and phone calls. May God Bless one and all!

Love, Pat Greaves

From the Fellowship Committee



Art Connection

Fellowship with others celebrating God's gift of creativity and beauty.

Celebrate Christmas in July!

Wednesday, July 17, 4-6PM in Fellowship Hall

We'll be making ornaments for our Giving Tree, clay angels, cards for our members and enjoying our usual water-color and community coloring. Fun for all ages and abilities – bring a friend! And a snack if you'd like. No charge, although donations are always appreciated to help cover materials.

Art Connection will not meet in August. See you Sept. 18th!

Out to Dinner Group will
Have its July Dinner at



754 NE 25th Ave, Ocala

On July 18th, 5:30 p.m.

RSVP by July 15 to

Mary Beth Olson

(352)304-5469

Check the Inspire for August details!

Congratulations

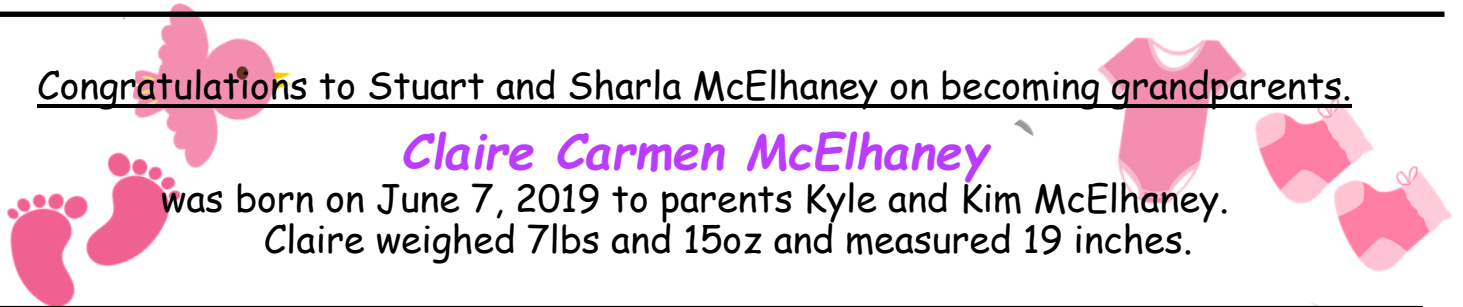
Caity Peterson, daughter of John and Gwen Peterson, recently graduated from the University of California, Davis, with a Ph.D in Ecology, focusing on Agricultural Ecology. As a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, at U.C.Davis, she studied crop -livestock systems and traveled to South America to focus on the ecology of soybean and beef production. She hopes to go on to a career in land stewardship and sustainable agriculture.



Congratulations to Stuart and Sharla McElhaney on becoming grandparents.

Claire Carmen McElhaney

was born on June 7, 2019 to parents Kyle and Kim McElhaney. Claire weighed 7lbs and 15oz and measured 19 inches.

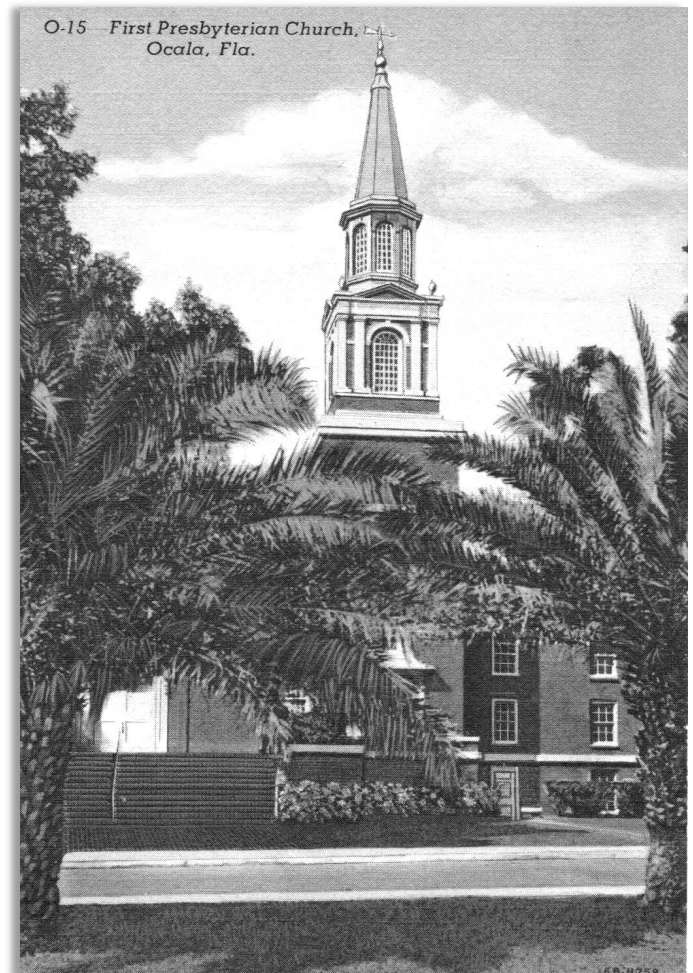


We Need a Meals on Wheels driver
for the 4th Tuesday every month.

If interested, contact Jo Ann Brandt (671-1429). She will take you on the route to familiarize you.

The Other Side.

Last month we showed you the back of this postcard. The front of this early postcard reveals our church to us. The postcard is from the collection of Rod and Linda Reimer. The date on the back is 1953.



July Birthdays

1	7	14	20	
Carolyn Murray	Joyce Williamson	Lisa Waldren	Joseph Moseley	
Mary Brinker		Alex Palmer	Jessie Mosely	
2	Carol Carpenter	Harrison Bucy	21	
June Dennis	Sally Crafts	Madison Sharpe	Ann Richardson	
4	Josh Gilman	15	Sofia Arango	
Jim Yancey	8	Bo Rainbow	22	
Margaret Trump	Ted MacKay	16	Lisa Arango	
5	9	Scott Bourne	Steve Vincent	
Bill Dolin	Vann Wilke	Brooke Tucker	Chris Longo	
Jonathan Bryant	11	18	23	
Hunter	Sandy Clardy	Celia Arango	Mary Kauffman	28
Townsend	Carolyn Varner	Logan Smith	27	David Fuller
6	12	19	HL Winfree	29
Stewart	Jean Morse	Roxanne Schwaller	Roger Brandt	David Cook
McElhaney	Kyle McElhaney	Skyler Smith	Audrey Peek	Kaiden Winfree
Adam Kelly	13	Alexander	Camden	30
Sarah Kirk	Ron McMillin	Johnson	Diuguid	Ellen Matthews
		Bentley Johnson		



Getting to Know Your Ministries



Interfaith

God is doing amazing things at Interfaith. We continue to grow and expand our services to offer help, hope and healing to those in distress. Interfaith now offers mental health counseling as well as substance abuse counseling at our Center for Life.

We also just had our public restrooms remodeled and added showers. Our new ministry called "Showers of Blessings" is taking off and the people who volunteer and make sure the homeless have what they need to get a good shower are the ones that seemed to be blessed the most! Finally, with your help our Food 4 Kids program just wrapped up another year of serving weekend meals to children affected by poverty.

Because of our gracious partners, over 1800 children were served a total of 223,082 meals! To God be the glory for allowing us to be his love extended to those in need. May God bless you all for being a very important part of Interfaith Emergency Service is our prayer.

August Birthdays

1

Skip McDonald
Bill Bowen
Brian Shotwell
Leighton Luther

4

Kevin Brooks
Caroline Cook
6
Diane Morthland
Jeff Baker
7
Jennifer Carlisle
8
Ella Charnley
Jeff Grodi
Troy Barrett
Mac MacKay
Caroline
Schlenker
9
Marilyn Allsopp
Cody Peterson
10
Carlton Curtis

11

Roger
Drummond
Kylie
Gankiewicz

12

Jonathan Meyer
Mary Morris
Austin Schwaller
13
Ruthanne Reiss
Ken MacKay
Chris Gilman
16
Lloyd Kauffman
Luke Patrick
17
Jane Miller
18
Blue
Montsdeoca
Jim Giles
19
Taylor Ingram

20

Jeanette
Bryant
Lois Dolin
Rusty Juergens
21
John Kirk
Richard Kirk
22
Oleda Woods
23
Lex Peek
Sarah Bennett
24
Craig Cannon
25
Richard Faust
Paralee Johnson
Jannet Siebert
27
Dave Taylor
Cathy Edwards
Kayla Higgason
28
Barbara Tomy
John McMichael

29

June Dunn
Rose Roberts
Matt Kleckner

30

Ann O'Hart
Chris Hasselkus
Pat Bald
Avery Davis



Don't forget to
visit our website
for all the
updated
news!

www.FPCocala.org

Attendance				
Worship services	6/2	6/9	6/16	6/23
8:15 a.m.	33	34	48	29
9:30 a.m.	66	75	92	46
11:00 a.m.	117	100	189	100
Total	216	209	329	175



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

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Sent with a prayer to:

The word "Important" is written in a large, black, cursive font. Below the word, there are several horizontal red crayon strokes. A red pencil is positioned diagonally across the bottom right of the word and the crayon strokes, pointing towards the bottom right corner.

There will be a Congregational meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Ocala
held on **Sunday, June 30, 2019** at 10:55 a.m. in the Sanctuary for the purpose of
electing members for the Nominating Committee for the year 2019-2020.

THE SPIRE is a monthly publication of
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