

This week at FPC

September 1—September 7, 2022

A Letter From The Watsons

Dear Friends,

First, Jules and I want to thank you for the lovely reception you all honored us with August 21st after worship. Thank you also for the gifts, cards, and flowers. Words seem to be inadequate at times like these, especially after making five years of memories together. We will always treasure you all in our hearts and pray for you. We know you will do the same.

Second, I want to make sure you all know how much I appreciate the work and the people who make up the Way Forward Committee. I participated in their process from the very beginning, including working with the Nominating Committee to select them. I consider each one not only a friend in Christ but also good hearted people with strong faith. The process that we all went through together, along with my daily prayer life, gave me the sense that God was calling our relationship as pastor and congregation to an end. But I am reminded of what a faith journey takes in 1 Peter 1:6-7

“In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

I charge you to trust these people moving forward.

Third, I have mentioned the staff, but every single one of them is very gifted and serves you with strong faith. They will help you in the times ahead. Pray for them.

Lastly, I want to thank the Session for their graciousness in my departure. It was not an easy process, but we worked through it together, with God’s help.

May God bless you in the next chapter of what has been 165 years of ministry in Ocala. May your faith journey take you to new places.

Grace and Peace, Ron and Jules

NOMINATIONS FOR ELDERS AND DEACONS - The Nominating Committee has begun their work of seeking elders and deacons for the class of 2025. Elders are chosen for their wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. They, together with the pastor, have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church. Deacons are chosen for their compassion, witness, and service sharing the love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the lonely or anyone in distress. If you, or someone you know would like to serve as either an elder or a deacon, please contact that person first to ask if they are willing to serve. Please contact Peggy Wiechmann if you are interested. 231-881-3435 or bpwiech@gmail.com.

FOOD DRIVE

It’s hard to believe that summer is already over and the children are back at school. The price of paper goods, books, and even food has grown tremendously! Many families in our community are in great need. Please join us on **September 18th** to help us provide food for Interfaith. We’ll be in the church parking lot from **9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Thank you so much for your continued support.



The office will be closed Monday, September 5, 2022 in observance of Labor Day.



Mrs. Blue Montsdeoca’s funeral service will be at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 4th in the sanctuary.

PRAYER LIST

The Andrews family (on the death of Wilma)
Eddie Alderton (friend of Dale & Tari Ambler)
Caroline Benton (friend of Helen Quinlan)
Pat Bishop
Cede Blackwell (great-niece of Mary Kauffman)
Andy Carlisle
Ella Charnley
Shirley Cochran
Mina DiGeronimo
Beth and Sharon Follmer (Dorothy Siemons’ daughter and granddaughter)
Ruth Fraser
Bob Greaves (Hospice at home)
Barbara Harrel
John Hagood
Hope Hill (friend of Richard Grosso)
Mark and Melanie Heuer (son-in-law and daughter of Julia Wirono)
Victoria Johnson (great-granddaughter of Christine Johnson)
Richard Jones (brother-in-law of Margaret Trump)
Jolene Kai (daughter-in-law of Ginny Miller)
Scott Kinnaugh (son of Dorothy Siemons)
Lanier Lance (sister of Bill Tucker)

Celine Mack
Skip McDonald
Chris and Peyton McLoney Brown
Ron McMillin
Gloria Miller
Albert Peek
John Peterson
Annette and Joseph Pickard
Fritz Rain (friend of Marybeth Olson)
Bobbie Ripple (sister of Mike Poteet)
Frank Roberts
Jerry Rost
Michael Rou (cousin of Dr. David Albright)
Janie Scott
Betty Smith (friend of Pat Bishop)
Jean Spiwak (daughter of Ruth Fraser)
Renee Timmer
Debbie Tompkins (sister of Rusty Juergens)
Richard and Sandy Valvo
Bill Wiechmann (husband of Peggy)
The Willard family (on the death of Kathy)
Bo Williams
William Wright
Jeffrey Yawn (grandson of Betty Williams)

This Week’s Daily Bible Readings

| This Week’s Daily Bible Readings | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| God’s Renewing Word of Wisdom | | | Sunday | September 4 | John 6:1-24 |
| Thursday | September 1 | John 5:1-18 | Monday | September 5 | John 6:25-59 |
| Friday | September 2 | John 5:19-29 | Tuesday | September 6 | John 6:60-71 |
| Saturday | September 3 | John 5:30-47 | Wednesday | September 7 | 7:1-24 |