



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.

Way Forward Committee News

Here is an update on what our Way Forward Committee has been doing and what we will be doing in the near future. Sunday, March 27 after church we had our first discussion meeting on the 40 Days of Prayer reading. We also had a Zoom discussion for those people who couldn't make it in person. The second and final discussion on the second half of the book will be on Sunday, April 10.

Additionally, the survey from Holy Cow Consulting will be sent out on April 11 and you will have approximately two weeks to complete it. If you do it online, it is required that you do it in one sitting. It will not save your answers if you stop. We also can make accommodations if you'd like to come to church to fill it out. And we will have paper copies available which we will then send in.

This is an exciting time of discernment and strategic planning for our church. We appreciate the part you all are playing in this endeavor as we look to the future.

Todd Carstenn, Chair of the Way Forward Committee



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

Dear Friends,

I have two great hopes for our congregation in April. The first is that you all experience a meaningful Holy Week. Each year, we journey with Jesus to Jerusalem: his triumphal entry, his cleansing of the temple, his time in the upper room, his moments in Gethsemane, his arrest, his scourging, his appearance before Caiaphas, his sentence before Pilate, his carrying his cross through the streets, his crucifixion, death, and burial. And then we wait. We wait for the God of all things to raise Jesus from the dead, conquering sin and death for us. It is a difficult but important journey. I pray that you will take the time to ponder these things and worship with us as you can.

I said I have two great hopes. The second doesn't seem to be fit to mention with the first, and yet, the second grows completely from the first, though it is only a survey. I pray that you will take the Holy Cow survey starting on April 11 and running until April 24, either online or by taking a paper copy and filling it out. Only because our calling is to serve Jesus Christ, the Lord of life, and because we fervently believe in the Gospel, it is imperative to know who we are as Christ's church, enabling us to serve him in the years to come.

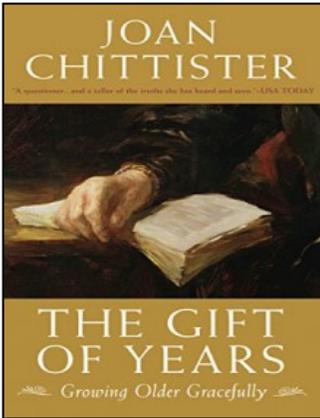
May you have a meaningful and uplifting Easter celebration. Praise God!



Peace, Ron

Interim Associate Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Walk Jones

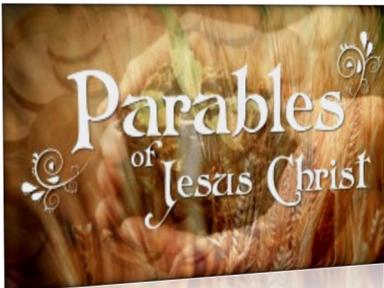


How do you view the aging process? Is it tinged with anxiety and regret? Or do you see it as an adventure, a time to find meaning, and a ripening? Or, is it a little of both? *The Gift of Years*, Joan Chittister's best-selling book, offers us the chance to look at this time of maturation with fresh eyes, with joy for what has been and optimism for what is to come.

This study is for all of us who are aging or have parents who are aging. Over seven weeks between April 19th and May 31st we will look at growing older and growing in maturity as Christians. We'll meet each Tuesday at the church at 11:00 a.m. and also on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Please contact the church office or Mary Dingman to register. Books are available through the church or directly through online booksellers, including used copies.

Education News

Bible Study with Our Sunday Morning Discussion Group



Some of the best passages in our Bible come from the parables of Jesus. While not always easy to read or put into action, parables provide us some of the best teaching by Jesus. Having a desire to hear God's word is at the heart of Jesus' words..."Let anyone with ears listen!" As we journey to Easter, here is the schedule of parables for Sunday mornings... remember, anyone can join us at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall:

April 3: The Net (Matthew 13:47-50) April 10: Palm Sunday - No class
April 17: Easter Sunday - No class

It has been a joy gathering together over the past 8 months discussing the Bible in a variety of ways with the sole focus being how God might be working in and around us. As we approach the summer months, Mike and I realize that we have several weeks where we won't be available due to trips planned, family events and pulpit supply in our Presbytery. Rather than create a chaotic or inconsistent schedule, we have decided to take a break this summer beginning right after Easter in order to plan for the start of the fall when we will return on Sunday mornings. Many blessings in Jesus' name...Dale Ambler.

Session News

Session Brief – March 6, 2022

- Approved following the CDC Guidelines and no longer require the wearing of masks in worship services, meetings, in the church office, etc. since indoor use of masks is not recommended at this time. Our policy will change as the CDC guidelines change accordingly. Members who feel they need to continue to wear masks are encouraged to do so.
- Approved a letter of transfer of membership for Howell and Nancy Winfree, II to Silver Springs Shores Presbyterian Church.

Announcements

Holy Week and Easter with First Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday - April 10

10:00 a.m.

*Maundy Thursday -
April 14*

6:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 15

12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. -
Sanctuary open for Prayer

Easter Sunday - April 17

10:00 a.m.

Sanctuary (bring flowers for the cross)



Please remember to bring flowers for our
cross on Easter morning.

Happy Easter from your Worship Committee



*Join Us for Holy Time
Every Sunday in April*



After worship join the
Fellowship Committee
For coffee & snacks
in the Courtyard.

Presbyterian Women, Pat Greaves, Moderator



In our respective Circles during April we will continue our study in Lesson Eight of “Mary in the Faith and Tradition of the Church.” No biblical woman has captured the imagination of the faithful as thoroughly as Mary. As someone who understands the fears and grief of motherhood, she has been a sympathetic figure to women through the ages. Mary is also the model disciple for all followers of Jesus. She allowed God to work in her despite the risk pointed others to faith in Jesus I hope that you have enjoyed the studies each month in our study book, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*. We will conclude the study book at our April 23rd Spring Gathering with Lesson Nine, “What Are These Women Doing in a Place Like This?” Tom Weaver will bring our closing lesson at the Gathering. Thank you, Tom.

Tom and Evelyn Weaver will continue to email Tom’s lesson outline to all the Circle members who have been receiving email or mail through the postal system. We will NOT be holding mentoring classes the first of each month. Thanks again to Tom and Evelyn for their labors of love.

CIRCLE 7 is gathering with Circle 8 on the second Tuesday of each month. We want to thank Susie Marta and Martha Petrey for their commitment to Circle 7’s ministry over these many years. Well done thy faithful servants of God! During this time of transition any one can choose a Circle that best suits their need. So feel free to join where you want. We do not want to exclude anyone who wants to participate in Presbyterian Women.

OUR NEXT STUDY FOR 2022-2023 will be *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight*. Please sign up for your copy through the Circle Leader. Cost of the study will remain at \$10.00 per book.

THE SPRING GATHERING will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a salad lunch. The Birthday Offering will be taken and we will hear the report of the Nominating Committee and install new officers. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. Cost for the luncheon will be \$5.00. You may sign up with your Circle Leaders or contact Pat Greaves at 352-362-0013.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will meet on Thursday, April 28th, 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. Did you know that the Prayer Shawl Ministry has made over 300 shawls and given them out with love and affection since its inception in 2007? If you’d like to join this happy ministry group, please come on April 28th or contact Coordinator, Liz Diener-Dickmann, with your questions.

THE COORDINATING TEAM will meet on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Please continue to keep the work of Presbyterian Women and its leadership in your prayers. Thanks to all of you for your love and support. May God continue to give us direction for Presbyterian Women and its leadership.

*“God, when we think of Mary as God-bearer,
we are reminded of how we each bear the seed of the divine within us.
With Mary, help us to make room for that seed, to nurture it no matter how counter-cultural its call;
to give birth to the creative life within and to nurture such birth in others.
Like Mary, help us to cultivate an attitude of listening whether we hear angels’ voices
or the simple words of our neighbors in need.
We give thanks for all who have brought life to birth in our hearts and
Imaginations, through their faithful listening and living.” Amen.
(Taken from the study book.)*

News from the Ministries

Interfaith Supper Sign-Up for 2022!

A big thank you to all of you who signed up to provide Interfaith Dinners in 2022! We still have November 10th available. FPC always provides a dinner on the second Thursday of each month. If you or your group (Sunday School Classes, Bible Study Groups, PW Circles, Friends, Deacons, etc.) are interested in signing up to provide dinner, please call or text Jarl Hagood at 352-867-9372 or jarlhagood@aol.com. Thank you for sharing your blessings and being a blessing!

The FPC Phone Prayer Chain

This ministry is a vital part of First Presbyterian Church. It is greatly appreciated by those it serves. Prayers are being heard and answered daily! Anyone who would like to join is welcome. It's a wonderful way to feel more connected and to serve your church and the Lord. All you need is a phone. Come join us!

First Presbyterian Deacons 352-843-0262 or email abrdvm@yahoo.com



Deacon's Corner

Psalm 136:1 –

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. (NIV)

Thank you, Jesus, for spiritual guidance in helping us to spread your love, care and concern with Interfaith, with Open Arms Village and with members here at your church. You have given us gifted leaders for whom we are so thankful. We are privileged as deacons to grow and learn together. You are always with us. We are truly blessed.



Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings for April 2022 Bible Study and Fellowship, and ways to serve with your Sisters in Christ

	Date	Time	Meeting Place	Contact	Phone
Coordinating Team Mtg.	Tuesday, May 3 rd	7:00 p.m.	Conference Room	Pat Greaves	236-0716 or 362-0013 cell
Circle 3	Monday, April 21st	10:00 a.m.	Louise Kail 2361 NW 51 st Terrace 352-369-1284	Liz Diener-Dickmann	
Circle 4	Tuesday, April 12th	6:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Debbie Koch	352-873-7459 630-254-8844 cell
Circle 8	Tuesday April 12th	2:00 p.m.	Room 1	Lois Clardy	622-3053
PRAYER SHAWL	Thursday April 28 th	1:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Liz Diener-Dickmann	

April Birthdays

2 David Albright	8 Nancy Livesay	15 Gera Fleming	22 Susie Marta	26 Tim Liberatore
3 Tola Hass	9 Michele Brooks	Mary Dingman	23 Suzanne Slaughter	27 Lanford Slaughter
4 Ali Vorwerk	Dave Bice	17 Pat Stephens	Bryan Runyon	Declan Caskey
Robyn Guest	11 Andy Carlisle	Terri Tucker	Rachael Heinbockel	29 Mayson Sprowles
6 Jimmy Butscher	12 Elaine Rost	19 Madelyn Luther	24 Valeria Curry	
Lannie Vorwerk	John Brawner	20 Mary Beth Rivers	Lewis Heinbockel	
7 Fran Belisle	13 Norma Giles	Chris Schuler	Emma Curtis	
Carey Bald	Emilee Grodi	Brad Dozier	Ava Curtis	
Reinhardt Switzer	George Harrison White	21 Steve Von Ebers		



Prayer List

Claudia Markham-Ahl (cancer treatment)
Wilma Andrews
Cede Blackwell (great-niece of Mary Kauffman)
Andy Carlisle
Ella Charnley
Shirley Cochran
Mina DiGeronimo
Adele Evans (friend of Richard Grosso)
Ruth Fraser
Barbara Harrel
Hope Hasselkus
Hope Hill (friend of Richard Grosso)
Mark and Melanie Heuer (son-in-law and daughter of Julia Wirono)
Alex Johnson
Jolene Kai (Ginny Miller's daughter-in-law)
Janice Kelly
Scott Kinnaugh (son of Dorothy Siemons)
Ken Kramer (brother-in-law of Evelyn Longo)
Lois Lance
Celine Mack

Skip McDonald
Ron McMillin
Bob Mikulski (friend of Dale & Tari Ambler)
Gloria Miller
Blue Montsdeoca
Kathy Mortensen (sister of Sharon Shirley)
Albert Peek
John Peterson
Annette Pickard (heart procedure)
Fritz Rain (friend of Marybeth Olson)
Bobbie, Bob Ripple and family
 (Mike Poteet's sister and brother-in-law)
Michael Rou (cousin of Dr. David Albright)
The Faulkner-Souder family (on the death of Marguerite)
Betty Smith (friend of Pat Bishop)
Shannon Tanga (granddaughter of Bill Harrel)
Debbie Tompkins (sister of Rusty Juergens)
Jason Trump (son of Margaret Trump)
Richard and Sandy Valvo
Larry and Lisa Waldren
Jeffrey Yawn (grandson of Betty Williams)



FPC gives thanks for the life of Marguerite Faulkner Souder who passed away on March 20, 2022.

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.

Children and Youth

Hop On Over to the Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday,
April 16th
10:00 a.m.

Please donate candy
(no Chocolate)
by dropping
off in church
April 3rd and 10th



MONTGOMERY PRESBYTERIAN
CONFERENCE CENTER
PRESENTS:

Light The Fire Youth Retreat

April 29th- May 1st, 2022

COME JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF AMAZING
ACTIVITIES, FELLOWSHIP, AND WORSHIP FEATURING
PAUL DEMER AND REV. DAMON P. WILLIAMS.

\$60 per person \$20. down due by Sunday, April 17th
remaining due day of the trip.

YOUTH PASTORS, TO SIGN UP PLEASE CONTACT MPCC AT:
(352) 473-4516
OR
OFFICE@MONTGOMERYCENTER.ORG



Paul Demer is a singer
and worship leader.
His music is featured
on Apple Music and
Spotify, and you can
learn more about him
at PaulDemer.com



MONTGOMERY
CENTER



Rev. Damon P.
Williams, Ph.D. is a
dynamic preacher
who has led huge
conferences around
the United States.




Thank You

God bless you for caring enough about those in need to support our ministry with a donation. Your support makes it possible for us to assist people with food, hygiene items, shelter, medication as well as other basic needs. In addition to helping the homeless, many of our clients are the working poor who fall into financial crisis by one unfortunate event in their life. A little help can make a big difference for those families. Thank you for giving of your resources to lighten the burden for someone else. The relief provided to those we serve is priceless. On February 24th, IES received a check for \$239.71.

In His service, Karla Grimsley– Greenway, CEO Interfaith Emergency Services

<u>Attendance</u>	2/27	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27
Worship Services					
10:00 a.m.	94	99	62	106	86
Online	113	125	130	97	79

Happy Easter

The church office
will be closed
Easter Monday,
April 18, 2022





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

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Sent with a prayer to:

Men's Breakfast

Thursday, April 7th at 7:30 a.m.
at Wolfy's Restaurant

2159 E Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, FL 34470

Contact
Dr. Jones
for
any
questions.
No need
to
pre-
register.

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