



FPC Ocala

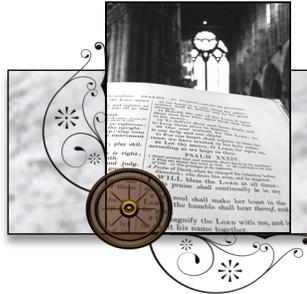
THE SPIRE

OCTOBER 2019

Member of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Volume 62 Number 10

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

Friends,

Like you, I always look forward to October. The air begins to cool a bit. Soft breezes send Spanish mosses swaying to and fro from the trees. People go outdoors again. A lovely stasis finds its way into our lives. We know it won't last, but we enjoy it while it is here. We enjoy this feeling at church as well. November will bring stewardship and Thanksgiving. December will bring Advent and Christmas. Let us enjoy the church events that October brings.

World Communion Sunday is the first of these, where we take communion on the first Sunday in October along with churches all over the world. For one day, we are united with all the saints at the table of our Lord. I hope you can make it. Our participation says something to the world about peace and hope. In the wake of rumors of wars, this is not a small thing.

Sunday, October 27, is a day you should mark on your calendar. Last year we had Trunk or Treat on the last Sunday of October. This year, we are making it bigger! We are adding barbeque and live blue grass music! The Ocala bluegrass band, Pasture Prime, will be performing at our athletic field. They will be also play some old classic church Gospel music. Think of this event as a post-FAFO (Fine Arts of Ocala)

celebration! (In case of rain, the event will be indoors in our Fellowship Hall).

October 30, at 7 p.m., we will have our second Jazz Vespers at church. It is not a concert, though people did clap for the music last time, which is fine. This time, we are making the service a bit more upbeat although it will also be contemplative. Jazz is a word that is quite broad. The jazz we play will be primarily influenced from the Cool Jazz era of the 1960s. "Jazz vespers, as a concept worship service and as an outreach ministry, began in New York City in the 1960s. Pastor John Gensel of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in New York City befriended the city's musicians and designed a service of prayer and jazz for folks who couldn't make it to Sunday morning services after playing late night gigs on Saturday night. Some were concerned that jazz music would attract a wayward, nightclubbing crowd to church. Pastor Gensel wasn't fazed. "That's the kind we want," he said. "The good ones can stay at home."- (from reformedworship.org). So come to Fellowship Dinner that evening and stay for worship. Someone said these words about the last service: "I have never felt the presence of God before like I did tonight." Come and see what Jazz Vespers is about.

Grace and Peace to you all,
Ron

Mission Trip to Puerto Rico with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Hurricane Maria was a deadly Category 5 hurricane that devastated Dominica, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico in September 2017. It is regarded as the worst natural disaster in recorded history to affect those islands. FPC is in the planning stages of a mission trip to Puerto Rico from (tentatively) May 26-June 3, 2020. We will provide non-skilled and semi-skilled labor (though skilled is great too!) and work out of El Guacio, a Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico. If you are interested in taking this journey, email the pastor or call the church office. We hope to have up to 15 workers and may partner with other local PCUSA congregations to achieve this. The minimum age to take the trip is 15. There is no maximum age! We need people to sign up by calling the church office. We also need a lay leader who will make the journey.

Peggy Wiechmann, Clerk of Session

SESSION BRIEF – SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

*Mourned the deaths of Anna Marie Miller on 8/26/2019 and Betty Jeanne Spencer on 9/1/2019.

*Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Karen Schmidt as Elder of the Session.

*Approved to proceed and organize a 2020 Mission Trip to Puerto Rico for church members, ages 15+ by the Christian Outreach and Mission Committee. Dates not yet determined.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS - 2019		
Actual Jan-Aug 2019	Budget Jan-Aug 2019	Difference
\$481,275	\$551,794	\$70,519

Attendance				
Worship services	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22
8:15 a.m.	43	33	28	43
9:30 a.m.	43	60	62	64
11:00 a.m.	91	74	86	84
Total	177	167	176	191

Fourth in our series on the PC(USA) seal: The Dove



The Dove

The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.

The slightly-flared shape of the Celtic cross also makes possible the transforming of the uppermost section into the shape of a descending dove. As a symbol of the Holy Spirit, the dove is intimately tied to the representation of the Bible, affirming the role of the Spirit in both inspiring and interpreting Scripture in the life of the church. The dove also symbolizes Christ's baptism by John and the peace and wholeness which his death and resurrection bring to a broken world.

October Birthdays



1	7	18	24	
Pat Bishop	Pam Curtis	Sharon Jank	Jane Geer	
Jim Edwards	12	Austin Albright II	25	
3	Bob Drake	19	Carolyn Mason	
Joe Dickman	13	Trusty Drake	Phyllis Von Ebers	
Joe Fante, Jr.	LT Manning	Virginia Millet	26	
Dianne McDonald	Kristen Crawford	Hank Goedert	Jane Hutcheson	29
4	14	20	Susan Raffa	Chip Morris
Bobby Bryant	Barbara Gowie	Neige Stabler	Lauren Beebe	30
5	Ross Steven Winfree	21	27	Dawn Michelle Kirk
Biddie Kirk	VonHayes Switzer	Jeff Hart	Tracy Hester	31
6	16	22	Walter Laseter	Sally Williams
Sam Langley III	Howard Behrens	Nita Williams	Danny Gilman	Jerry Murphy
Howell Winfree III	Evan Byrd	Jane Beebe	28	John Peterson
Mary Carsten	17	Allison McDonald	Hope Meffert	Jill Callahan
	John Scott Hagood	23		Kay Yancey
		Chris Johnson		

Thank You's to FPC

Dear Flower Ministry, The arrangement was beautiful and so appreciated. *Thank you, June Dennis*

Dear FPC, I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone for the books, balloons, food, clothes, flowers and visits given to me following my hospital and rehab stay. I appreciate and love all of you!

Sincerely, Barbara Gowie

Trunk Contest + Candy + Games + Prizes + BBQ + Bluegrass



*Trunk
or Treat*

Sunday, October 27

4:00-6:00 p.m.

on the

FPC athletic field

Family fun for all!!!

*fall
festival*



October 27th — Trunk or Treat!



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.



Christian Sympathy is extended to two of our shut-in families whose loved ones passed recently: Anna Marie Miller, Circle 3; and Betty Jeanne Spencer, Circle 7.

In our October Circle meetings, we will study Lesson Two, "Words of Love: Don't Trivialize My Name," in the Horizon's Bible Study book, *Love Carved in Stone* by Eugenia Anne Gamble. Study books are available through your Circle Leaders. Costs remain at \$10 and \$15 for large print. We welcome newcomers. If you're interested in joining a Circle please feel free to contact anyone listed below or Pat Greaves, Moderator, at 362-0013. Come and join in Christian fellowship. Many thanks for Tom Weaver who spends countless hours preparing the handout that goes with the lesson and holds the mentoring sessions each month. THANKS, TOM!

Countryside Presbyterian Church has extended an invitation to all of our ladies to a Tea on Saturday, October 12th, at Noon. Please RSVP to your Circle leaders or Pat Greaves (362-0013) prior to October 7th. You can dress up or go casual and bring your favorite tea-cup along. Dee Collier will introduce us to the Samaritan Women Jesus met at the well. Assorted finger sandwiches, cookies, muffins and fruit will be served.

The Annual PW Gathering in the Synod of South Atlantic will be held October 25-27, 2019 at Epworth by the Sea Conference Center in Georgia. Contributions of washcloths will be accepted for the disaster preparedness for Epworth.

The PW FALL GATHERING will be held on Saturday, November 9th, from 1:30 to 3:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings for October 2019					
Bible Study and Fellowship with your Sisters in Christ					
	Date	Time	Meeting Place	Contact	Phone
Bible Moderator Mentoring	Tuesday, October 1 st	5:30 p.m.	Room 1	Tom Weaver	622-6028
Coordinating Team Mtg.	Tuesday, October 1 st	7:00 p.m.	Room 1	Pat Greaves	236-0716 or 352-362-0013
Circle 1	Tuesday, October 8 th	2:00 p.m.	Conference Room	Esther Arango-Palencia	732-6626
Circle 3	Monday, October 21 st	10:0 a.m.	Pat Greaves 5623 NW 25 th Loop 352-236-0716	Liz Diener-Dickmann	908-377-8913
Circle 4	Tuesday, October 8 th	6:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Mary Beth Rivers	625-3372
Circle 7	Tuesday October 8 th	11:00 a.m.	Choir Room	Susie Marta	304-5416
Circle 8	Tuesday October 8 th	2:00 p.m.	Room 1	Lois Clardy	622-3053

PRAYER SHAWL....continues to make hats for Thornwell Children’s Home located in South Carolina. Most recently we have decided to make hats and scarves to send to “The Seamen’s Church Institute Christmas at Sea.” The institute sends these items to mariners to “warm their hearts and heads” during the winter.

We welcome all knitters and crochet’ers – come and join us for great fellowship and fun. Contact: Liz Diener-Dickmann, 908-377-8913

Presbyterian Women’s Program Meetings for October 2019 Ways to Serve with your Sisters in Christ					
Program	Date	Time	Location	Contact	Phone
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Thursday, October 24 th	1:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Liz Diener-Dickmann	908-377-8913
WeCare Sewing Ministry	Monday, October 28 th	9:30 a.m.	Room 1	Evelyn Weaver	622-6028

Pat Greaves expresses deep appreciation for your prayers and cards of support during these past 3 months as she looks forward to a full recovery and getting back to serving as Moderator of Presbyterian Women and other activities she supports in the church.

Your on-line purchase +  = support for PW’s MISSION HAVEN!

Some FPC PWs already have used AmazonSmile to acquire funds for PW’s Mission Haven. **AmazonSmile** is a simple and automatic way to support Mission Haven every time you shop—at no cost to you—when you shop at AmazonSmile. How do you do it? Simply go to **smile.amazon.com** on your computer or mobile device. On your first visit to smile.amazon.com, you’ll need to select **Mission Haven** to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You’ll see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages. The AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchase (excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes or service charges). The percentage may seem small, but it’s amazing how amounts accumulate!

Note: Anyone—not just PW members—can help Mission Haven by using AmazonSmile as you order from Amazon! For further information, contact **Evelyn Weaver** at 622-6028.

Mission Haven....

- Provides affordable short-term **housing** and friendly **hospitality** to mission co-workers of the Presbyterian Church USA).
- Furnishes a Clothes Closet of donated **clothing** for the missionary families as well as for students at local seminaries.
- Offers **prayers** and spiritual support and is located adjacent to Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is organized to provide aid to survivors of Hurricane Dorian in both the Bahamas and the U.S. Money is the major need at this time rather than shipping goods and supplies. To make a financial contribution please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church of Ocala. In the memo section write: “Hurricane Dorian Relief.” You may specify US or Bahamas.

PRAYER LIST

Jeanette Bryant
Randall & Linda Deyton (Pickard family
prayer concerns)
Stewart Edwards
Hank Fleming
Maranell Fleming
Barbara Gowie
Darrel Hudson (death of her mother,
Betty Jeanne Spencer)
Kathy Lance (Lois Lance's daughter-in-law)
Grietje Lewis
Celine Mack
Earl McNeel (Pat Greaves' brother)

Ray Newhouse (Pat Bishop's brother)
Raul Nieves (Mina DiGeronimo's brother)
Charlene Preston
John Reynolds (Suzy Heinbockel's brother)
Tania Sayre (Mary Kauffman's daughter)
Janice Schafer (Palm Garden)
Wes Schultz
Delores Shotwell
Steve and Keith Shotwell
Shirley Wells
Jill Hester Whitaker
Bo and Sally Williams
Diane Wirono

Please also remember in prayer all the people affected by natural disasters.



First Presbyterian Church Ocala gives thanks for the lives of **Anna Marie Miller**, who joined the saints of light on August 26, 2019, **Betty Jeanne Spencer**, who joined the saints of light on Sept. 1, 2019 and Claudia Markham Ahl's mother, **Joyce Markham**.

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.

Outreach Ministries

Serrv

**SERRV Sale coming to FPC
Mission Fair November 3rd!!!
9:00-12:15**

Why it all mattered

Refreshments will be provided by Presbyterian Women
and the Christian Outreach Committee

Every customer purchase and donation in 2018 helped sustain a string of happy occurrences...from empowering women and sending children to school, to planting trees and building wells. We believe in sustainable employment and fair wages because we know that behind every meaningful job are meaning-filled lives.

Thank you for helping us empower those lives and communities around the world!



**The 2019 Giving Tree Committee
is hard at work planning for FPC's wonderful
sharing of our blessings!
We will have more information in next month's
Spire so please stay tuned to see
how you can help.**



Fellowship

Wednesday Night Dinners

Join us for fellowship and always delicious food! A meat is provided each week and you are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. If that is inconvenient, a donation would be appreciated.

All ages are encouraged to attend.

A great way to end the work day – stop on your way home! During dinners in October, we will have the opportunity to hear speakers from some of the community benevolences that First Presbyterian sponsors.

Art Connection

An opportunity for fellowship through art – for all ages – no experience necessary & supplies provided

**Wednesday,
Oct. 16, 4-6 p.m.**

Fellowship Hall — dinner to follow!
We'll be painting a pumpkin and beginning our Advent Banner for the sanctuary!

Future dates: Nov 13, Dec 4



Fellowship on the Go

You are cordially invited to join us for an afternoon at

**Appleton
Museum
Sunday, Oct. 13
noon – 5 p.m.**

It is a free admission day to honor Mr. Appleton's birthday.



Kids' Night Out! Kids' Night Out!

We are calling kids of all ages to come, explore and engage in fellowship. Join us Friday, October 11th from 5-9 p.m. for an evening of games, crafts, tricks and treats at our Happy Halloween Celebration! This is the fourth installment of our Kids' Night Out program. Middle and high schoolers are welcome to share dinner and to earn community service hours. Contact Carly Albright at 352-362-7120 or carlyalbright55@gmail.com.

FPC's Scholarship Committee **Friday, Nov. 1st is the absolute deadline** **for applications!**

Applications for post-secondary education scholarship funds for the January term are now available in the church office.

The **absolute final deadline** to submit applications to the church office is by the end of the workday on **Friday, November 1st.**

FPC members and their member dependents or children may apply for scholarship assistance.

Applicants may apply once in a calendar year. Questions should be directed to Scholarship Committee members—Chair Kay Yancey, Todd Carstenn, Elaine Cox, Nancy Livesay, Paul Vonwinkel, Bonnie Vorwerk or Tom Weaver.

Don't forget! Friday, November 1st—deadline for scholarship applications to be submitted!





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

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Sent with a prayer to:

Watula South – Exterior Elevation

- Height – Massing – Proportion – SE 2nd Street



BUILDING #2
 SOUTH ELEVATION

BUILDING #1
 SOUTH ELEVATION

Elevation of proposed Watula South Townhomes south elevation facing SE 2nd St. and First Presbyterian Church’s main parking lot. More information coming as Building & Grounds Committee receives it.

THE SPIRE IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
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