



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.

**Special
Youth Event**

**Sunday,
March 3rd, 2019**

**Soup and Baked Potato Bar
Fundraiser for Montreat**

Kaleo Youth wants YOU to join us for food, fun, and fellowship! Relax and visit with friends while enjoying homemade soups, bread, and a wonderful baked potato bar all hosted by the youth. All proceeds will go towards helping pay for the retreat to Montreat Youth Conference this July
Immediately following the one church service at 11am



2018 group at Montreat, North Carolina



Dr. D. Ronald Watson, Pastor

Dear Friends,

Since the Session had its retreat on the first weekend of the new year, we have been discussing ways to become more unified as one church. On February 17, your elders took a bold new step in this direction. We are going to promote the idea of **unity** as we celebrate **communion**. And this is the idea:

COMMUNION + UNITY = COMMUNITY

For March, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be on the first Sunday (March 3rd) as usual, but we will only have one worship service at 11 am that Sunday. We will, in that service, incorporate different worship styles of all of our services. Yes, we will meet in the sanctuary to accommodate the size group from 3 services which we anticipate. We will serve communion in trays this time, though we also anticipate we will serve by intinction (dipping bread into a cup) the next time we will have communion.

Our youth will also be having a **fund raiser for Montreat** on this same Sunday, March 3rd, a soup and potato meal after the one service. We hope that you will plan to attend and worship and then come make a donation for the youth group and enjoy fellowship together in our Fellowship Hall. Our youth have an experience like no other in going to the mountains with 1000 new friends and spending time with God in what we know as "a thin place," where heaven and earth are a bit closer together.

Your teaching and ruling elders are hopeful that our church will be blessed in many ways with this celebration, that we might celebrate communion in unity, and enjoy a regular meal after this holy meal. Not only will you be demonstrating your commitment to Christ and to Christ's church, but you will also be supporting your youth group by coming to lunch afterwards.

I hope that you find this change a welcome one, a welcoming one, and a new opportunity for spiritual growth and unity in Christ.

In His Name,
Ron



Rev. Natasha Sudderth, Associate Pastor

Dear FPC,

Alright, let's just say it....committee work can seem tedious! There, I said it. As tedious as committees can be they are the single most important thing for a healthy thriving church. Pastors are great but in our Presbyterian tradition our session leaders, deacons, and committees are the glue. Consider for a moment the many things that must take place to keep things going in your home. The same kinds of things happen here every day at FPC and our committees make it all happen. When committees are not functioning or have no members, the church and its ministry noticeably suffers. FPC committees meet once a month to plan and make decisions about the church and its ministry. Our current ruling elders are hard at work serving the committees of our church. However, a few committees are still in need of the members of our congregation to serve on them. If you feel God calling you to serve in a particular area or ministry please contact the committee chair or the church office.

Mary Moore: Fellowship

Jeff Baker: Finance

Bill Futch: Christian Education

Jarl Hagood: Missions and Outreach

Cindy MacKay: Worship

Joe Vorwerk: Membership

Van Akin: Building & Grounds

John Reiss: Ushers

Grace and Peace, Natasha

Ash Wednesday Service



Wednesday March 6th,

7pm in the Sanctuary

For those who are unable to come to the service at 7pm, FPC pastors will be available during office hours for the imposition of ashes .

David Bedenbaugh, Music Director

Join us in March for another fantastic concert in our ongoing concert series. The Amazing Steel Drum Ensemble will perform on Sunday March 24th at 3:00 p.m. The happiest music in the world comes from the beautiful hand-crafted steel drums and the adults and young people that make up the "Amazing" Steel Drum Ensemble. This group began in 1993 and has played for church services, clubs, festivals, weddings, and parties. They have amazed people wherever they have gone.

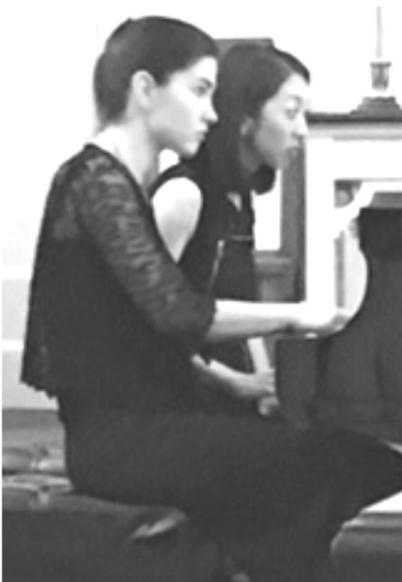


This music has the power to move people; sometimes the whole room begins to move and clap and sway. The special sound of steel drums seems to fill folks with joy. People dance and make conga lines and just really enjoy themselves.

The "Amazing" Steel Drum Ensemble gives their families a chance to do things together. Young people learn the skill and discipline of making music, and they gain the courage to perform it in front of crowds of listeners.

The band plays for donations, which supports their camp program and makes up a majority of their budget. They also have had the pleasure and challenge of producing three recordings, available on CD or as a high-quality MP3 download from their website. They love to play for us each year, performing with as many as a 20-piece orchestra to really get the party cranking! So be sure to come join the fun on March 24th at 3pm in the sanctuary!

Duo Decca Concert, Feb 10, 2019



Duo Decca pianists bring life to FPC's new Steinway!

Duo Decca—Ariadne Antipa and FPC's pianist/organist Kosumo Morishita—delighted its receptive audience on Sunday, February 10th with a lengthy four-hand piano concert. The program consisted of works by composers Poulenc, Schubert, Brahms, Skelton, Mozart and Piazzolla. Ariadne Antipa and Kosumo Morishita are pictured left to right in both pictures.



Hannah Batten, Youth News

February

Sundays – Youth Group: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., room 21
Wednesdays – Fellowship Dinners: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

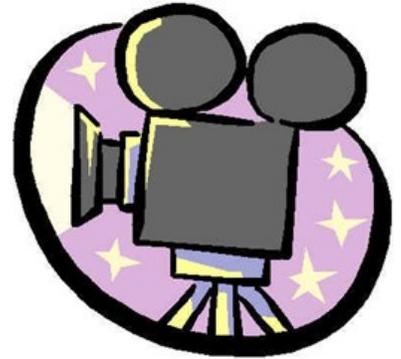
SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 3rd - Montreat Fundraiser
Saturday, March 2nd 4:30 p.m. – Participating Youth Setup
(Fellowship Hall)

Kaleo Announcements

Faith in Film

Kaleo youth will soon participate in a brand new study called Faith in Film facilitated by our Director of Youth, Hannah, and our Associate Pastor, Natasha. In this study we will watch films together while looking for God in each story in order to become better at discerning God in our own lives. Stay tuned for dates and more details!



Montreat Fundraiser

Very soon, members of Kaleo Youth that are signed up to go to Montreat Youth Conference this summer will have a fundraiser that will help in covering the cost of attending Montreat. Keep an eye out for further details of this fundraiser!



PW Women, Pat Greaves, Moderator

We're almost at the end of Winter and looking forward to warmer days of Spring. Thanks to all who support the mission programs of Presbyterian Women. In March we will study "God with Us as Emmanuel" in the Horizon's Bible Study book *God's Promise, I Am With You*, by Amy Poling Sutherlun. We welcome newcomers. If you're interested in joining a Circle please feel free to contact anyone listed below or Pat Greaves, Moderator, at 236-0716. Come and join in Christian fellowship.



THE SPRING GATHERING will be held on Saturday, April 6th. Watch for details to come. This will be a time of reflection for Lent.

THE BLANKET FUND is coordinated by Church World Service. Because of the generosity of our congregation, blankets can provide warmth and comfort to those without homes when they need them most. Each blanket costs only \$10, but any donation will help towards this mission project of PW. It is a vital and powerful resource for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement. "They are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity." 2Corinthians 8:2. Donations will be accepted through March using the Blanket Fund donation envelop in the pews and/or provided by your Circle Treasurer.

Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings for March 2019 Bible Study and Fellowship with your Sisters in Christ					
	Date	Time	Meeting Place	Contact	Phone
Bible Moderator Mentoring	Tuesday, March 5	5:30 p.m.	Room 1	Tom Weaver	622-6028
Coordinating Team Mtg.	Tuesday, March 5	7:00 p.m.	Room 1	Pat Greaves	236-0716 or 352-362-0013
Circle 1	Tuesday, March 12	2:00 p.m.	Conference Room	Esther Arango-Palencia	732-6626
Circle 3	Monday, March 18	10:00 a.m.	Louise Kail 2361 NW 51 st Terrace	Louise Kail	369-1284
Circle 4	Tuesday, March 12	6:30 p.m.	Conference Room	MaryBeth Rivers	625-3372
Circle 7	Tuesday March 12	11:00 a.m.	Choir Room	Susie Marta	304-5416
Circle 8	Tuesday March 12	2:00 p.m.	Room 1	Lois Clardy	622-3053

Presbyterian Women's Program Meetings for March 2019 Ways to Serve with your Sisters in Christ					
Program	Date	Time	Location	Contact	Phone
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Thursday, March 28	1:30 p.m.	Conference Room	Liz Diener-Dickmann	732-6368
WeCare Sewing Ministry	Monday, March 25	9:30 a.m.	Room 1	Evelyn Weaver	622-6028



Grief Share Group

Planning Meeting

Thursday, March 7th

10:00 a.m. in Conference

There will be an important meeting on Thursday, March 7th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room to discuss the possible options for continuing the Grief Share Group. This meeting is open to anyone interested in joining the discussion. Please join Rev. Natasha Sudderth for this important meeting. If you are searching for a place to serve in our church and are interested in possibly leading this group please contact Natasha or attend this meeting. It is our hope this meeting will result in an abundance of support so this important ministry will continue.

SPOTLIGHT ON BENEVOLENCES

We help support so many great benevolences right here in our community, and we value all that they do. Skill Day Center is one of these benevolences. Catherine and Calvin Jones saw the need to have a safe place after school for needy children and felt God telling them to open a center. Then one door opened another and everything fell into place. A lot of community support came their way, and a center was built. The Jones' take no salary and run the center strictly on donations of supplies, money, and volunteer time. As they say, God has provided. One of our members suggested they apply to FPC for our quarterly grants years ago, and we have played a role ever since in keeping the center open. Many of our members and PW groups also take supplies there on a regular basis. So thank you FPC members, for your generosity!

Jarl Hagood

Peggy Wiechmann, Clerk of Session

SESSION BRIEF – FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Welcomed Mike and Joyce Akridge and Paul and Jane Miller into membership by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Approved transfer of Edward and Vicky Honkus to Roscoe United Methodist Church, Coshocton, OH.

Approved a motion to accept with regret the resignation of Janie Scott as a Ruling Elder.

Approved the election of the following Corporate Officers and Check Signers: President: Bill Futch, Secretary: Peggy Wiechmann, Treasurer: Sheryll Goedert, Directors: Tom Weaver, J.J. Albright. Check Signers: Bill Futch, Peggy Wiechmann, Sheryll Goedert, John Peterson, Jeff Baker.

Approved a motion to receive the Security Ministry Program Report.

Approved a motion for approval for the Christian Outreach Committee to put fliers and envelopes in the Sunday bulletin on February 24, 2019 for a Blanket Ministry. This program receives donations to purchase blankets for homeless residents in Appalachia.

Approved a motion for the Youth Group to have a Chili/Potato Bar lunch on March 3, 2019 directly after the 11:00 worship service. This is a fundraiser for the youth program of our church.

Approved a motion to have only one service on the first Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. to include communion. This begins on March 3, 2019. Also, to move the Stated Session meetings to the first Sunday of each month following this service at 12:15 p.m.

Our Annual Yard Sale

March 14th (members only)

March 15-16 (open to public)

As you start cleaning out your closets, kitchens, and garages, please keep us in mind. This has been the major money raising event for the past several years. We especially need the members' contribution this year.

Appliances are always popular but please be sure that they are in clean working order. You can start bringing items to the church on March 10th after the 9:30 service. Thank you for all your donations. If you have any questions please call:

Lannie Mercer 352-629-3354 or



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to make this Yard Sale a Success!

FPC Welcomes New Members



Paul & Jane Miller come to First Presbyterian Church via reaffirmation of faith. Jane is the mother of FPC member John Bennett and loves music. She has been a member of the choir and plays the flute in the Kingdom of the Sun Band. Paul is a retired engineer who worked at Lockheed Martin for 38 years. Paul is now a realtor who enjoys playing golf and loves music.



Michael & Joyce Akridge come to First Presbyterian Church via reaffirmation of faith. They are close friends with Bob and Pat Greaves. The Akridges, who have been in Ocala since 2001 are originally from Kentucky. Michael and Joyce were instrumental in forming the Ocala Palms Worship Community Church several years ago. Joyce will be a member of the FPC choir and loves music. Michael over the years has been active in the church choir and church band. He has been a lay minister and also has taught Sunday School.

LAKI'S
GREEK & ITALIAN RESTAURANT

*ALL
are
welcome*

Out to Dinner Group
will be at Laki's at 5:30 p.m.
on March 21st!

Make reservations by noon on Monday, March 18 by
calling Evelyn and Tom Weaver at 622-6028.

Laki's Restaurant
3405 SW College Road, Ocala, FL

Attendance				
Worship services	2-3	2/10	2/17	2/24
8:15 a.m.	31	30	42	40
9:30 a.m.	95	78	73	80
11:00 a.m.	106	130	123	112
Total	232	238	238	232

March Birthdays

1 Julia Wirono Alison Luther	8 Michelle Burgess Christie Bald	15 David Arango-Palencia Margaret McMichael	22 Nancy Wollett Jeffrey Kochen	27 Weldon Leberatore
2 Celine Mack Ellen McCort LeeAnne Drake	9 Kent Adams Courtney Hart Yancey	16 Douglas Gordon	23 Diana Briggs	Ebony Molock
3 Doris Blagus Jeanne Vincent	10 Robert Greaves	17 Joseph Pickard Marion McClary	24 Linda Reimer Jordan Blair	28 Christopher Barrett
4 Neil Townsend Darrel Hudson	11 Jarl Hagood	18 Richard Gross Bill Crawford	25 Morgan Evans Mark Jank	29 Devon Wiechens
5 Marjorie Smith Tyler Brooks	12 William Russell Molly Militello	Larry Waldren, Jr.	Casey Diuguid	30 Rebecca Essick Felicia Runyon
6 Marlene Shepherd Timothy Byrd	13 Nancy Winfree Ronald Mosby Joe Vorwerk	19 George Tomyn		31 James Kirk
7 Rebecca Schatt Rhonda Slone Debbie Vincent	14 Maranell Fleming Michael Herbert Harry Batten	20 Larry Sprowles Harold Rivers Eileen Demarest		



PRAYER LIST

The family of Ruth Albright (*on her death*)

Brian Baker

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

Randall & Linda Deyton (*Pickard family
prayer concerns*)

Noemi DiGeronimo (*granddaughter of Mina*)

Mina DiGeronimo

Kathy and Terry Donovan

(*Nita Williams' friends*)

Ellen Drummond (*Brookdale*)

Maranell Fleming

Jamii Fuseler (*the Pickards' niece*)

Barbara Gowie

Gary Harward

Brian Kuhn (*Rusty Juergens' friend*)

Kathy Lance (*Lois Lances' daughter-in-law*)

Gisela Lehner

Evelyn and Chris Longo (*on the death of their friend*)

Anna Marie Miller (*Hawthorne*)

Luella Nazaruk

Ray Newhouse (*Pat Bishop's brother*)

Brenda O'Quinn (*Elaine Cox's sister*)

Charlene Preston

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

John Reynolds (*Suzu Heinbockel's brother*)

Janice Schafer (*Palm Garden*)

Wes Schultz

Betty Jeanne Spencer (*Lady Lake Specialty Care*)

Von Hayes Switzer (*deployed with the Navy*)

Dr. Michael Thomas (*Carol Carpenter's friend*)

Sid and Carolyn Varner (*on the death of David Varner*)

Sally Williams

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



First Presbyterian Church Ocala gives thanks for the life of **Ruth Albright**, a long time member who joined the saints of light on February 19th, 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.

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.

Thank You's to FPC

.....*Thank you*

Dear Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for the scholarships you gave me several years ago. They helped me pay for my Master's degree. My wife and I are now in a position where we can pay it forward and help someone else achieve their goals. Please accept this donation with our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you again and God bless!

Sincerely,
Kyle McElhaney

Dear FPC,

Thank you all for your help with the prescription bottle collection.

Sincerely,
Tom (Doctors Without Borders)

Dear FPC Staff,

We appreciate all of the sweet recognition Grietje received on her 90th Birthday. The songs, music and reception were very much enjoyed by her and the family!! Thank you so very much!

Sincerely,
Dick and Teresa Lewis

Just to let you know that the Wednesday Night dinner was especially well thought out and prepared by our Fellowship Committee. As for myself and the others around me, we were very appreciative of the work and the food prepared by this new committee. We all really enjoyed ourselves and were delighted with the food and the atmosphere. Thank you all so very much!

Sincerely,
MaryBeth Olson

Wed night supper was so much fun, our committee out did themselves ! Many thanks to all of you.

Sincerely,
Susan Raffa

Scholarship News!



Hoo's Listening?

**FPC's Scholarship Committee announces April 1 at 4:30 p.m.
as absolute deadline for applications!**

Applications for post-secondary education scholarship funds for are available from Andrea Jacque in the church office. The **absolute final deadline** to submit applications to the church office is by 4:30 p.m. 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. Questions should be directed to Scholarship Committee members—Chair Kay Yancey, Todd Carstenn, Elaine Cox, Nancy Livesay, Paul Vonwinkel, Bonnie Vorwerk or Tom Weaver.



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

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Sent with a prayer to:

Part of the FPC Ocala 2018-2019 Concert Series

Sunday, March 24th at 3:00 p.m



Amazing Steel Drum Ensemble

Hear the Islands in your own back yard. A good Spirit flows through this talented Orchestra.

Save the Date

April, 14th at 11:00 a.m. join us at
the Palm Sunday Contata.

FPC musicians will combine to tell the Easter Story

THE SPIRE IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
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