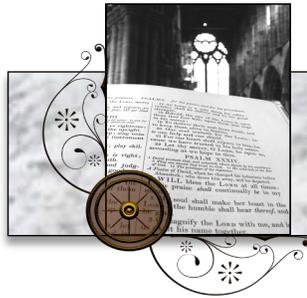




*Our Vision - Our Mission*

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

*Dear Friends,*

The congregation did vote to sell the Bonecutter Island property in what seemed to be a unanimous vote. We had at least 78 people who joined us online or in person, and I wanted to thank you all for your participation. Our consultant for Youth Ministry and Contemporary Worship, the Rev. Jimmy Cazin, is leaving to become the interim pastor of a church in Northport, Florida. I want to thank Jimmy for helping us in transitioning into our online worship experience. He has been a good friend to FPC Ocala, and we will miss him.

One of the best parts of the congregational meeting on Zoom was seeing so many friendly faces from church! It reminds me to urge you all to contact people you know by zoom as often as you can. Being together can never be replaced, yet seeing each other certainly lifts our spirits.

As long as we are within guidelines suggested by our leaders, we will continue to have one service at 9:00 a.m. Online services also will continue as long as we remain in our struggle with this invisible and silent enemy. May God grant us the strength and wisdom to prevail.

Peace to you all, Ron

**Session News**

**2020-21 Nominating Committee Members**

- Mary Carstenn
- Bill Dolin
- Jean Morse
- Becky Schatt
- Peggy Wiechmann, Chair

The Nominating Committee invites you to recommend members to serve as elders and deacons for the Class of 2023. If you are going to put a member's name up for nomination, please make sure you have spoken to that person first. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world. The office of Deacon is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office. Please send your suggestions by email or call Peggy Wiechmann, [bpwiech@gmail.com](mailto:bpwiech@gmail.com), 231-881-3435.

## Interim Associate Pastor

Rev. Walk Jones

### Sharing Christian Spirituality Online

I learn more by teaching than reading or listening. That's because to teach I have to read and listen carefully to prepare myself and my lesson. Then I put my whole self into teaching the ideas. I'm learning a lot about Christian Spirituality this summer. For five of the last six weeks I've been sharing a brief history of Christian Spirituality from several sources, especially Bradley Holt's book *Thirsty for God*. I appreciate the way he surveys so much history and theology in short bursts. I've shortened his ideas even more and shared a few words each Wednesday on the church's YouTube channel.

If you are watching the Wednesday Words, write and tell me what you think. If you are not watching them, I invite you to go back and review the ones since late June. There seems to be a yearning for deeper spirituality these days, a closer relationship with God. I'm in the middle of telling the history of Christian Spirituality (with a break July 29 for Bible School). In August I'll talk about the connection between Christian action and contemplation, then we'll close out the series.

Some members of the church may think they cannot watch the church's services and midweek words on YouTube. But many have phones, tablets, or readers that do access YouTube. Most television sets made in the last five years are 'smart tvs' that have the internet, including YouTube. (My TV may be smart, but I'm not the smartest user). If you are able, I hope you will watch our worship, the Wednesday words, and now Staycation Bible School. As I have written before, if you can't access our recorded worship, ask for help.

First Presbyterian is a great church and I continue to be honored and pleased to be a part of your pastoral leadership team.

### August Birthdays

**1**

Skip McDonald  
Bill Bowen  
Brian Shotwell

**4**

Kevin Brooks

**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

**12**

Mary Morris

**13**

Ruthanne Reiss

Ken MacKay

Chris Gilman

**14**

Travis Barrineau

**16**

Luke Patrick

**18**

Blue Montsdeoca

**20**

Lois Dolin

Rusty Juergens

**21**

John Kirk

Richard Kirk

**23**

Lex Peek

Sarah Bennett

**24**

Craig Cannon

**25**

Richard Faust

Paralee Johnson

**27**

Dave Taylor

Cathy Edwards

**28**

Matha Cieplinski

Barbara Tomyon

**29**

June Dunn

Rose Roberts

**30**

Ann O'Hart

Chris Hasselkus

Pat Bald



## We miss the music and tech skills of the late Chris Storey

The week of July 19th, the church was devastated to hear of the death of our sound engineer and contemporary musician, Christopher Storey. Here is what we know as told to me by his half brother, Tracy Montague.

Christopher was at church Sunday morning, the 19th. Later that same day, he was getting ready to return to the church when he collapsed at home. His girlfriend called 911. Paramedics were able to restart his heart, but Christopher never regained consciousness. He died early that week. Having tested negative for Covid 19, and having an up to date donor status, Christopher's kidneys and liver were donated to three transplant recipients. His family takes solace in the fact that three people are alive today thanks to Christopher's contribution.

If you went to traditional services, you knew Christopher as the man working the sound board. Those who went to the 9:30 service knew a man that could play the drums and the bass guitar at the same time! He also was an extraordinary lead guitarist, a talent he shared with the church from time to time. All of us on the church staff who knew Christopher and worked closely with him miss him terribly.

He is survived by his girlfriend Kirstin, two daughters in California, his father, two half brothers and a half sister, in Mississippi. Christopher will be laid to rest in Petal, Mississippi, just outside Hattiesburg where he was from. The date of the service has not been set at this time. I do not have any information about where to send memorial gifts, but I'm sure that a donation to the church music fund in his memory would be appreciated by his family.

Peace to all, Ron

## PRAYER LIST

**Claudia Markham-Ahl** (recovering from surgery)

**Betty Lou Beyers Austin**

(Hospice, friend of Eileen Demarest)

**Jim Bennett** (brother of John Bennett)

**Pam Butcher**

**Andy Carlisle**

**Ralon Carson** (grandson of Jessie and Joe Moseley)

**Jimmy Cazin** (starting at a new church)

**Shirley Cochran**

**Martin Cook**

**Kathy Cooley** (on the death of her father)

**Stewart and Diane Edwards**

**Bill English** (nephew of Pat Bishop)

**Hank and Maranell Fleming**

**Bill Green** (friend of Richard Grosso)

**Barbara Gowie**

**Dick Hancock**

**Johnie Johnson** (son of Tommy Johnson)

**Betty-Ann Jones** (sister of Margaret Trump)

**Brenda Jones and family**

**Ken Kramer** (brother-in-law of Evelyn Longo)

**Kathy Lance** (daughter-in-law of Lois Lance)

**Lois Lance**

**Grietje Lewis**

**Renate Lipp** (friend of Nita William)

**Kevin Lloyd** (cousin of Lee Ann Drake)

**Celine Mack**

**Skip McDonald**

**Jessie Moseley**

**Christian Myers** (friend of Julia Wirono)

**Raul Nieves** (brother of Mina DiGeronimo)

**The Rodgers family** (on the death of their aunt,  
Barbara Albert)

**Michael Rou** (cousin of Dr. David Albright)

**Joanne Steel** (friend of Eileen Demarest)

**Baldwin Switzer** (on deployment with the Navy)

**Nancy Wells** (daughter of Shirley Wells)

**Kathy Willard** (on the death of her mother,  
Mary Jean Grelle)

**Nancy Wollett**

**Evelyn Yorlano**

(on the death of her sister, Barbara Albert)

# Staycation Bible School kids explore

Staycation Bible School videos were released last week, July 27-31. We are glad to announce that not only did we reach children in Ocala, but also were able to reach children in other Florida cities, as well as children out of state! It was a fun week of learning that: AWESOME are YOUR feet! They carry God's love wherever you go!

Each day we were able to explore a place where Jesus once traveled. Virtually, we visited a lake, a boat, a quiet place, an upper room, and the world. During each journey we heard a story about Jesus, reflected on the theme of the day, explored the story through singing, dancing, arts, crafts, science, and games! Also, we explored areas where the Presbyterian Church is doing mission work in the world, chose an activity that leaves a mark of God's love in our community, and connected to spread the good news with a travel buddy!

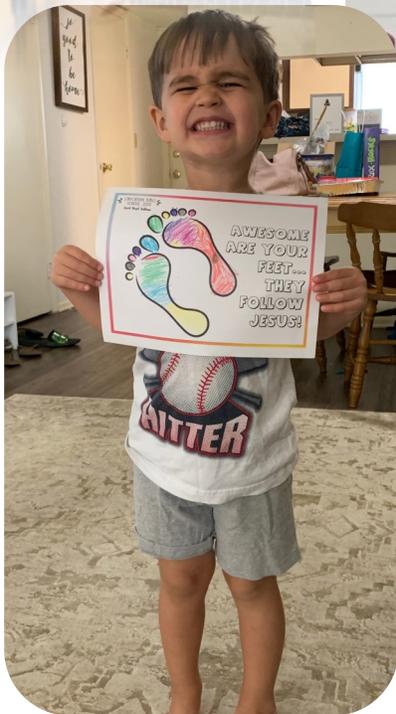
We want to thank our volunteers who tried something new and became video stars: **Carly Albright, JJ Albright, Leslie Athanason, Rev. Jimmy Cazin, Christina Diuguid, Rev. Dr. Walk Jones, Caroline Kimball, Faith Runyon, Hope Runyon, and Rev. Dr. Ron Watson.** A special thanks to **EmmaBeth Bowman and Cole Webb** from Forest High School's Video Production team who edited and produced the videos for each day! Staycation Bible School would not have been possible without these many wonderful volunteers!

The videos are still available on the church's YouTube page and you can still have your children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren participate from home. If you are in need of a Staycation Bible School packet, please contact the church office to arrange picking one up.

In Christ, Casey Miller



# places Jesus traveled



# Presbyterian Women, Pat Greaves, Moderator

As we begin August, I continue to pray and hope that we will be able to get back together with our Circle meetings in September and to get back to some normalcy in the life of our congregation. I continue to pray everyone is staying healthy and I miss not being able to meet together. I pray that we can all encourage one another during these trying times. Give your Circle members a call as we grow stronger in our faith by being encouraged by one another. I solicit your prayers for wisdom in leading Presbyterian Women as we look towards planning for the fall and getting back together in our Circles in September.



**OUR NEW STUDY BOOKS HAVE BEEN ORDERED**, for the fall; entitled, *Into The Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. When the books arrive and as we get closer to September, Liz Diener-Dickmann will be in touch with our Circle Leaders to distribute the books.

As always, newcomers are welcomed to attend any Circle. If you're interested in joining a Circle please feel free to contact Pat Greaves, Moderator, at 362-0013. Plan to come and join in Christian fellowship in September.

Many thanks to Tom Weaver who has already started working on our handouts for the fall lesson series; and to all of our dedicated Circle Leaders and members of the Coordinating Team who play vital roles in keeping Presbyterian Women strong in our church. God bless each one and thanks for your commitment.

**THE COORDINATING TEAM** will meet on Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at 7 p.m.

**THE PW FALL GATHERING** will be held on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will include lunch. As we approach September you will be given an opportunity to sign up. We will conduct any business and take up any offerings (Birthday, Least Coin and Thank Offerings) that we were unable to do in the Spring.

**2020-2021 Officers and Program Coordinators:** Moderator, Pat Greaves; Vice-Moderator, Elizabeth Diener-Dickmann; Treasurer, Kristen Crawford; Secretary, Sharon Shirley; Church Women United, Gera Fleming; Together in Service-Missions, Lois Clardy; Bereavement and Hospitality, Debbie Koch; **Circle Leaders:** Circle 1, Esther-Arango-Palencia; Circle 3, Elizabeth Diener-Dickmann; Circle 4, Mary Beth Rivers; Circle 7, Susie Marta; and Circle 8, Lois Clardy.

**ALL Circle meetings, WeCare Sewing Ministry and Prayer Shawl Ministry** meetings and gatherings are cancelled until we resume in September.

Worship	Attendance	
	Facebook	Fellowship Hall
7/5	160	28
7/12	159	29
7/19	159	26
7/26	119	27

THESE DAYS devotional booklets are available in the fellowship hall. Members who are unable to attend worship may call or email the church office and request one. Often there are booklets on the door to the church office, but since the office is not staffed regularly the supply may run low.

**GRIEFSHARE** is held on Friday mornings from 10:30 to noon in Room 1 of our Educational building and online through Zoom. Participants may join any week by showing up or registering at <https://www.griefshare.org/groups> Please wear a mask if you come in person.

# Thank You

Dear First Presbyterian, Thank you all for the cards, visits and prayer during my recent illness, they all were and are greatly appreciate.  
Sincerely, Ellen Matthews

Dear FPC, I want to thank you and everyone who was so thoughtful at the time of my sister's death. I appreciate all of your condolences.  
Love, Wendi Moore

## *Thank You from benevolences*

Dear First Presbyterian family, We are so grateful for your continued support of our program. You are making a difference on the lives of many, so we truly thank you.

Many Blessings to you all, Project Hope Family

Dear Friends, It is our pleasure to acknowledge your gift for addition to The Theological Education Fund of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Your generosity, together with the investment management provided by the Presbyterian Foundation, continue to safeguard those whom God and the Church call as our next generation of ministers.

Sincerely, The Rev. Dr. Lee Hinson-Hasty  
Senior Director, Theological Education Funds Development

Dear friends of Pace, On behalf of the more than 3,000 girls who will walk through the doors of a Pace Center this year, and the 450 team members who work every day to support them, please allow me this opportunity to say thank you for your generous gift to Pace Center for Girls.

Gratefully yours, Pace Center for Girls Gift Processing Team

Dear First Presbyterian Church, On behalf of the staff and board of the Ocala Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Center, I would like to extend a personal thank you for your generous donation to the Domestic Violence Shelter.

With sincere gratitude, Judy Wilson, CEO

Dear First Presbyterian Church, Thank you for your contribution to the Public Education Foundation of Marion County and your continued support of the Take Stock on Children program.

Thank you again, Judi Zanetti, Exec Director

Dear First Presbyterian Church, We thank you all so much for your generous holiday donation of the wonderful gift bags you made for each of our teens as well as their gorgeous cuddly robes they so loved. We were able to purchase sweet outfits for each of the babies and toddlers with the Target gift cards you provided for each of them and the moms enjoyed dressing them up!

Blessings always,  
Diane Schofield, CEO, Founder Hands of Mercy Everywhere

Dear First Presbyterian Church, On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and future homeowners "Thank you" for having Habitat in your heart. It is because of your efforts we are helping families throughout Marion County. Habitat stands on God's foundation made of his children working together to please him and help others follow in his steps.

With kind regards, David Layman, President/CEO Habitat for Humanity, Marion County, Inc.

Dear First Presbyterian Church, Thank you for your generous support. Your gift helps reach people for Christ.

Blessings, The Cru Foundation

Dear First Presbyterian Church, Thank you for your gift to the FCA ministry and for being a part of what God is doing throughout North Central Florida Future Christian Athletes.

Your teammate in Christ, Noah Wilbanks North Central Florida Director



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

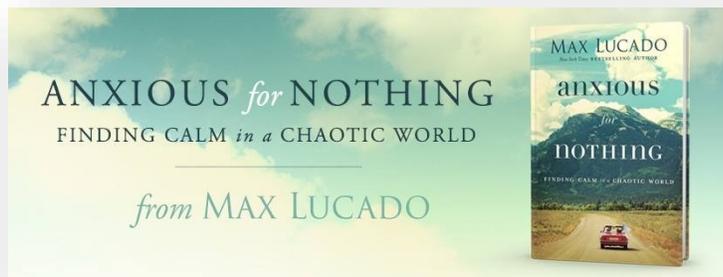
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Sent with a prayer to:

## Summer Book Study by Zoom

**BOOK:** Max Lucado  
**Anxious for Nothing**  
Finding Calm in a Chaotic World

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 13  
at 10:00 a.m.



Please join us as Rev, Walk Jones, our interim associate pastor assists us with our new way of studying together electronically while we are apart. The plan is to complete this study in five weeks. These weekly sessions will be approximately 90 minutes long and will include a 20 minute video component. If you are interested in joining us for this very time appropriate study please e-mail Mary Dingman at [RTDingman@aol.com](mailto:RTDingman@aol.com) so we can send you the zoom information. As purchasing a book is optional please indicate if you would like us to order one for you.

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