



FIRST NEWS

"Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ"

November 2019

As we enter November, our church and culture focuses on major holidays that demand great energies as we celebrate. Thanksgiving is a time to gather as family and friends. We plan for where we will celebrate, how will we decorate, are there travel demands, are we responsible for cooking, and if we are a guest, what do we bring for our hosts. At Christmas, it is more of the same only magnified. There are the lights and the parties and the church services and the gifts.

For many, these two holidays are the favorites for the year. The reason is not because of the busyness or the decorations or the food. We embrace Thanksgiving and Christmas because of the "giving." For Thanksgiving we give our "thanks" for all the blessings that we have received, the vast majority of which are, as the baseball term implies, "unearned." We simply, prior to the meal, bow our heads, hold someone's hand, and give thanks for the gift of "bread and breath!"

At Christmas we celebrate the gifts we give and the greatest of gifts that has been given to us. As we celebrate the coming of the Savior, we are awed by the love of God and God's willingness to "dwell in the flesh." We respond to this life-giving gift from God by giving gifts to others. We give gifts in response to God's love and so we can bring joy, as Pastor Michael states, "to those we love and those we ought to love!" The act of thanks and the act of giving are critical characteristics of our faith and exemplified throughout our November and December celebrations.

The biblical New Testament greek word for thankfulness or giving of thanks is "Eucharisto." It is the traditional word for the celebration of communion, "the Eucharist." The biblical New Testament word for giving is "Dosis." It means the act of giving or the act of giving one's self to the needs of another. The word "Donor" comes from this Greek word. This dependence on thanks and giving is why I believe we love the celebrations of November and December.



There is also the celebration of First Presbyterian's annual Generosity/Stewardship Initiative. This initiative always celebrates giving and our opportunity to respond to the blessings we have received from God in Jesus Christ. Just as with Thanksgiving and Christmas, just as with "Eucharisto" and "Dosis," we can realize our deep spiritual need to respond to God through giving.

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As the Rev. Rob White will remind us this November,

"Gratitude and generosity go hand in hand. You cannot possess one without the other."

As we seek to have a great and festive and meaningful November and December, let us focus on our giving! Let us prayerfully discern our giving to God's church! Let us prayerfully discern our thankfulness for unearned grace at Thanksgiving. Let us prayerfully discern the depth of God's love at Christmas as we give gifts to honor God's greatest gift to us.

May God Bless you during these two months. Remember, I am thankful for all of you!

Sincerely,

Tim Womack

WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS

A "DOCTOR'S NOTE"

It is official! In case you missed it, we had an amazing celebration and commencement for our very own Dr. Jacob Craig on October 20. His doctoral degree was officially conferred on September 25, and he is excited to start his new journey as a Doctor of Sacred Music. We know he will continue to do amazing things for our congregation.

As many of you know, the Orchestra and First Pres Youth group have been planning and fundraising for a mission trip to South Africa that will be November 23-30, 2019. They will travel to Potchefstroom, South Africa, to spread joy, faith, fellowship, and music to the orphaned and court-appointed children living at the Abraham Kriel Child Care Center. The orchestra will hold several performances, including the Center's end-of-the-year celebration and the LiggieFees music and lights festival. We have been working hard to raise the additional funds needed and are almost there! We would like to thank all those who have graciously donated toward this mission. It will truly be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all involved and we can't wait to share all about it upon our return!

Our fall installment of artwork in the Galleries at First Pres has been well received. If you have not had a chance, please take a moment to visit our galleries located in the Lobby of the Center for Christian Life, the Gietz Music suite, and the E.T. Smith lounge. This rotation includes local artists May Brandt, Karin Delagi, and Lisa Rose. All of the works are for sale, please contact the artist directly (contact information can be found on each gallery label) for more information about purchasing.

Have you enjoyed our music department? Interested in becoming a part of this amazing group of musicians? We would love to have you join us! The Chancel Choir and Handbells welcome anyone who wishes to sing or play! Contact Jacob at jacobcraig@firstpresvero.org or 562-9088 for more information.

Wishing you a wonderful month of friends, fellowship, food, and fun. Happy Thanksgiving!

GENEROSITY

CONSECRATION SUNDAY IS COMING

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God, by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's Generosity Team has selected the *New Consecration Sunday* Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, November 10, 2019, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

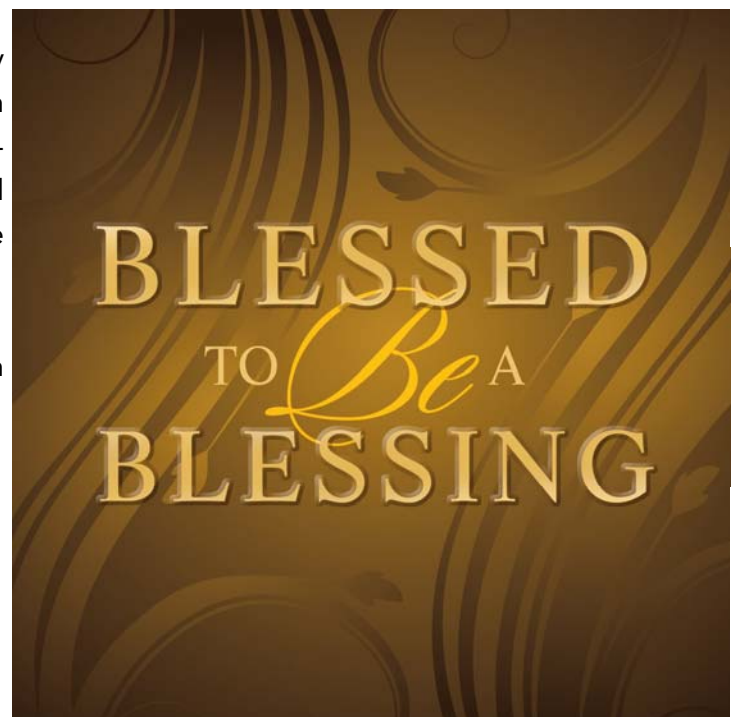
Every guest and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We also urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team, our church Elders, Deacons and Trustees. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

*Steven Harrison and Linda Masterson,
Consecration Sunday Co-Chairpersons*



MISSION

HOW TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Save the date for the annual Samaritan Soup Bowl event, coming to First Presbyterian Church on November 7th. Held this year in E.T. Smith Lounge and the nearby patio, the Soup Bowl will open its doors to members, friends and guests from the community from 11:30am to 1:00pm. Your \$5.00 donation includes a delicious bowl of soup, bread, beverage and a cookie. All proceeds directly benefit the Samaritan Center.

If you'd like to help set-up or serve, please contact Carol Smoyer.



THANKSGIVING HOPE BASKETS



A local outreach mission of our congregation has been a Hope Basket food drive during the Easter and Thanksgiving seasons. Year after year the generosity of our congregation in providing food for this local mission has always been amazing. During the 2018 Thanksgiving Hope Basket food drive, our congregation donated enough food to feed approximately 350 people. That 350 number breaks down to 76 families that included about 200 children, 42 seniors, as well as community service organizations, like the Samaritan Center, Safe Space and the Children's Home Society. The blue food bags will include a sheet of suggested food items to donate. The blue food bags are still available in the church office. Please take one or more bags and return it filled with food the week of November 4th. You can return the bag to the sanctuary on Sundays or to the Church office any weekday. Thanks for your prayerful consideration about how much you can donate this Thanksgiving season.

Prayer Net

Email prayer concerns to:
firstpresprays@gmail.com



Have a prayer request? Please email the dedicated group of people on our prayer team who will lift you up in prayer!

WEAR ME!

As a friendly reminder, we encourage our members and regularly attending guests to wear your name badges any time you're on campus or attending an FPC function. It's extremely beneficial for many reasons! If you do not have a name badge, kindly stop by or call the church office. We will gladly get you one.



Your Name Here

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF VERO BEACH

HOSPITALITY

JOINING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The holidays is a great time to invite those you know who have been guests to FPC for worship, a fellowship dinner, bible study, or some other event/program to consider becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church.

On the third Sunday of the month, we hold our new member meetings in the Chapel after the 9:00 and 11:00 am worship services. This translates to Sunday the 17th in November and Sunday the 15th in December.

If you believe you know of a person or couple who is ready to join the FPC family and would like us to contact him/her/them, kindly call or email Robyn Thompson at 562-9088, ext 122, Tuesday-Thursday or robyn@firstpresvero.org.

FELLOWSHIP

HOLIDAY JOY TRIP

Sign Up Now for the SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019 JOY TRIP To One of Florida's Premier Holiday Season Events!

First Baptist Church Orlando Presents The Singing Christmas Trees! This is an exciting presentation of Christmas Wonder featuring a huge choir, full orchestra, powerful drama and a beautiful display of 250,000 lights on two 45-foot-tall Christmas Trees.

THIS JOY TRIP INCLUDES 12:30 Lunch in McAfee, prepared by our Chefs Carol & Kari, and healthy snacks on the ride home. The show begins at 5pm and lasts 2 hours. Cost for this Joy Trip is \$30 per person. For more information contact Deb Alich, daalich@comcast.net or 772-999-3644.

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW!! This event sells out quickly...only 27 tickets are available!



SPECIAL SHARED GRIEF LUNCHEON

If you are experiencing grief, we would like to invite you to our "Shared Grief Luncheons" which will take place every second Tuesday and the last Monday of each month. Each Grief Lunch will take place in E.T. Smith Lounge, beginning at 12:00pm. Led by Susan Long, our Faith Community Nurse, we will be discussing steps to help you walk through the stages of grief.

Our November 12th Luncheon will focus on "Surviving The Holidays" and will go from 12:00-2:00pm.

Your \$5 cost includes lunch. All are welcome! Kindly contact the church office at 772-562-9088 to RSVP as reservations are REQUIRED.

SUNDAYS @ FIRST PRES

November 3, 2019
"Promotion of Social Righteousness"
 Rev. Dr. Tim Womack
 Micah 6:6-8

November 10, 2019
"Formed & Reformed"
 Rev. Rob White, guest minister
 Jeremiah 18:1-10

November 17, 2019
"New Creation"
 Rev. C. Michael York

November 24, 2019
"The Nature of Our King"
 Rev. Dr. Tim Womack
 Jeremiah 23:1-6

Thanksgiving Day Worship - 10:00AM

WORSHIP TIMES

8:00 am - Worship in the Chapel with Communion

9:00 am & 11:00 am - Worship in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:10 a.m. - Children's Sunday School (concurrent with Worship), held in the Children's Wing of the Center for Christian Life.

OTHER SUNDAY HAPPENINGS

1st Sunday - we serve Communion (at 9 & 11am services). It is also the Sunday we hold our Wholeness & Healing Service in the Chapel after each worship service has concluded.

2nd Sunday - we collect a "2¢ a meal" offering—which is an ohms offering rooted in the tradition of placing a few cents in a jar or can at every meal as an expression of thanks for everything we have received. The offering raises awareness and funds for the fight against hunger.

3rd Sunday - "Membership Sunday," or "Joining Sunday," where members of the Session and other church leaders meet with those who desire to join the church. This gathering is held in the Chapel after worship services. It is also the Sunday we introduce new members to the congregation who joined the previous month .

For additional information, please visit the church website:
www.firstpresvero.org.

NOVEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group)	2 9:00AM 4th Annual FPC Car & Motorcycle Show
3 8:00AM Worship - Chapel 9:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 10:00AM Wholeness & Healing 10:10AM Adult Sunday School 11:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 12:00PM Youth Group 12:15PM South Africa Mtg 3:00PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	4 7:30AM Preschool 10:45AM Regency Bible Study 1:00PM Sarah Circle 1:00PM PW CT Team Mtg 4:00PM Hospitality Team Mtg 7:00PM AA	5 7:30AM Preschool 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 10:30AM Handbell Choir 4:30PM Deacons' Mtg Team 6:30PM Al-Anon	6 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM Quilting/Sewing/Crafts 3:30PM Quest Kids Club 5:00PM Wednesday Dinner 6:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM Burgess Bible Study 6:30PM Officer Training 6:35PM Chancel Choir	7 7:30AM Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10:30AM Palm Garden Service 11:30AM Samaritan Soup Bowl 5:30PM Preschool Staff Mtg 6:30PM Naomi Circle	8 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group)	9 10:00AM FPC Quilting Group 11:00AM New Member Brunch 1:00PM Mended Hearts
10 Consecration Sunday 8:00AM Worship - Chapel 9:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 10:10AM Adult Sunday School 11:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 3:00PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal *Special brunch after each service. RSVP Required.	11 OFFICE CLOSED - Veteran's Day 10:45AM Regency Bible Study 1:00PM Grace Circle 3:00PM Trustees' Mtg 7:00PM AA	12 7:30AM Preschool 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 10:30AM Handbell Choir 11:00AM Ruth Circle 12:00PM Pathways Through Loss 1:00PM Grace Circle 1:00PM Discipleship Team 1:30PM Missions Team 6:30PM Al-Anon	13 7:30AM Preschool 11:00AM Fellowship Team 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM Quilting/Sewing/Crafts 2:00PM Quest Kids Club 2:00PM Endowment Committee 5:00PM Wednesday Dinner 6:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM Burgess Bible Study 6:30PM Officer Training 6:35PM Chancel Choir	14 7:30AM Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 6:30PM Naomi Circle	15 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group) 7:15PM Bingham Small Group	16 5:30PM AA Gratitude Dinner
17 8:00AM Worship - Chapel 9:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 10:00AM New Member Mtg 10:10AM Adult Sunday School 11:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 12:00PM New Member Mtg 12:15PM South Africa Mtg 3:00PM SCSO Concert 3:00PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	18 7:30AM Preschool 8:00AM Hope Basket Prep 10:45AM Regency Bible Study 7:00PM AA	19 7:30AM Preschool 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 10:30AM Handbell Choir 6:30PM Al-Anon	20 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM Quilting/Sewing/Crafts 3:30PM Quest Kids Club 5:00PM Wednesday Dinner 6:00PM Burgess Bible Study 6:00PM Al-Anon 6:30PM Officer Training 6:35PM Chancel Choir	21 7:30AM Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10:30AM Grace Rehab 6:50PM Session Mtg	22 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group)	23
24 8:00AM Worship - Chapel 9:00AM Worship - Sanctuary 10:30AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 11:00AM Worship - Sanctuary	25 7:30AM Preschool 10:45AM Regency Bible Study 12:00PM Pathways through Loss 7:00PM AA	26 7:30AM Preschool 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 10:30AM Handbell Choir 6:30PM Al-Anon	27 7:30AM Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM Quilting/Sewing/Crafts 6:30PM Al-Anon 6:35PM Chancel Choir	28 Office Closed HAPPY THANKSGIVING 10:00AM Worship Service	29 Office Closed 12:00PM Al-Anon 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group)	30

Monthly Ministry, Committee or Talent Team Meetings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage - 4th Thursday; 10am - Baines Rm • Hospitality - 1st Monday; 3pm; Heritage Rm • Missions - 2nd Tuesday; 1:30pm; Earnshaw 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustees - Monday of the full week prior to Session; 3pm; Earnshaw Rm • Worship - 4th Thursday; 4pm; Earnshaw Rm
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- Deacons - 1st Tuesday; 4:30pm; Earnshaw Rm
- Discipleship - 2nd Tuesday; 4pm; Baines Room
- Fellowship - 2nd Wednesday; 11am; Baines Rm
- Finance & Policy - 1st Thursday; 3pm; Earnshaw Rm

- Heritage - 4th Thursday; 10am - Baines Rm
- Hospitality - 1st Monday; 3pm; Heritage Rm
- Missions - 2nd Tuesday; 1:30pm; Earnshaw
- Personnel - Tuesday prior to Trustees Mtg; 3:30pm; Baines Rm, as needed
- PW Team - 1st Monday; 1pm; Adult Activities Rm
- Session - 3rd Thursday; 6:50pm; Earnshaw Rm

- Trustees - Monday of the full week prior to Session; 3pm; Earnshaw Rm
- Worship - 4th Thursday; 4pm; Earnshaw Rm

Subject to change, at the discretion of each committee/
ministry team, as needed.

FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS IN NOVEMBER

November 6th - Salad bar, Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Cracker Barrel green beans, Birthday Cupcakes

November 13 - Baked Sausage and Cheese Rigatoni, Broccoli, Garlic Bread, Pumpkin Crunch Cake and Ice Cream

November 20 - Taco Bar with Fixings, Nacho Chips and Cheese, Black Beans, Rice , Oreo Stuffed Chocolate Chip Cookies

We will not host a dinner event on November 27th as it is the day before Thanksgiving. We will see you back for December birthdays on December 4th!

Happy Thanksgiving!

MEET N GREET DINNER

Our resident foodies will venture to a new spot for DINNER on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, AT 5PM with a visit to Southern Social, 1932 14th Ave., Vero Beach. Please make your reservations not later than NOVEMBER 12 by calling or emailing Deb Alich at (772) 999-3644 or daalich@comcast.net or by signing up in ET Smith Lounge. We will have a private dining room to ourselves, so come one, come all!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

JUST DAYS LEFT TO DONATE TO THE MISSION OF CARE

November 10th is the final day to open your heart to children living in two struggling Christian homes in Nairobi, Kenya. Any amount you donate will be meaningful, whether the \$7 that buys nearly 3 gallons of calcium-rich milk for little ones who typically go without, or the \$60 (Habiba House) or \$165 (Helping Hand Care Centre) which ensures that rent can thankfully be met for another month. Supporting this mission is a tangible way to share His love this blessed Christmas season. Kindly make your tax-deductible contribution payable to Presbyterian Women, with a designation notation for "Jali Familia Mission." See envelopes in pews.



CHRISTMAS TREE LANE IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

In just a few short weeks, the Christian Life Center will once again transform into a gala holiday mecca, as the Presbyterian Women's "Christmas Tree Lane" celebrates its 65th consecutive year on Saturday, Dec. 7th. From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., holiday boutiques brimming with gift ideas & stocking stuffers, incredible bargains, and a delicious bounty of homemade cookies/goodies will radiate the season's joyous spirit while generating monies for worthy charities.



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FELLOWSHIP

Every now and then, Christmas Tree Lane offers a new twist, and for this 65th rendition the event's largest venue – the immensely popular Unique Boutique – will be sited in McAfee Hall. This vast new space allows all its wonderful donated items to be displayed in one convenient area, with no need for shoppers to tackle stairs or wait for an occasionally troublesome elevator.

All your other favorite boutiques are returning as well: our Quilting, Sewing & Crafts Circle's enchanting hand-crafts, the always intriguing Artisans' Gallery (with many returning talents!), and our reliably strong draws, Cookies -by-the-Pound and Mrs. Claus' Pantry. And, yes, again this year we'll be raffling off an original handmade quilt created by our members and a Gift Card Christmas Tree.

As in the past, purchases will be by cash or check only; some artisans may accept credit cards.

So set aside December 7th and advise your friends & neighbors as well. If you'd like to volunteer at Christmas Tree Lane, contact Co-Chairs Joan Irvine (joanirvine@sbcglobal.net) or Maggie Fleming (margaret.fleming48@gmail.com) or, better yet, attend our next Presbyterian Women meeting on Nov. 4th.

INTRODUCING "THE BISTRO" AT CHRISTMAS TREE LANE

While the Ladies Luncheon of past years will be missed, the section of McAfee next to the kitchen will offer an appealing alternative: The Bistro. Separately screened off, here shoppers can dine in a festive holiday setting, where seasonal centerpieces accent elegant tables for 4 and 8. From 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., you can stop in for coffee and assorted pastries. For lunch, advance reservations are requested; walk-ins welcome only if space permits. Reservation times are 11:00 & 11:45 a.m. and 12:30 & 1:15 p.m. On the menu is a variety of salads (chicken, tuna, egg) & pasta or fruit, all set within a mixed-greens base and accompanied by a bag of chips. Croissants will also be available for purchase as well as tempting desserts. Coffee, iced tea, lemonade, and water will be provided. To reserve, contact Maggie Fleming (margaret.fleming48@gmail.com), Julie Otto (otomeister1@gmail.com), or the church office. Deadline for reservations is Monday, Nov. 25th.

GET READY TO BAKE, BAKE, BAKE!

We are SO very grateful for all the ladies of our church who devote literally hours in their kitchens to create delicious cookies and other homemade treats. A few reminders: All cookies MUST be in disposable containers (labeled with cookie name). Items for Mrs. Claus' Pantry (cakes, cupcakes, brownies, homemade pickles, relishes, jams, whatever your homemade specialty) must be ready to travel. Please: No whip cream; nothing refrigerated. Baked goods may be dropped off at the Christian Life Center the morning of Friday, Dec. 6th.

For more information, contact Cookies Chair Sue Coffey (suecoffey07@gmail.com) or Mrs. Claus' Pantry Chair Susan Foster (suef301@yahoo.com).



FELLOWSHIP

PROFILE OF A PRESBYTERIAN WOMAN—RUTH THOMAS

By Joan Irvine

Her tee shirt featuring a sparkly sewing machine states, “My machine is calling, I must sew.” This message defines our own Ruth Thomas, seamstress extraordinaire! Leading a group of dedicated sewers, Ruth is the inspiration and backbone of our Presbyterian Women’s Quilting Circle.

Ruth’s lifelong love of all needlework began in the mill town of Lorain, Ohio, nicknamed “The Steel Town,” which is located on Lake Erie, 30 miles from Cleveland. Her family of seven included her three brothers and one sister. Lorain, home of famed Poet Laureate, Toni Morrison, and is best known worldwide for its steel mills that employed both her parents. The family attended the Christian Temple Disciples of Christ where Ruth was in the youth group. During this time, she found a talent and a passion for sewing—even creating her prom dress for high school graduation!



After a brief time working at the mill, the allure of southern Florida drew young Ruth and a neighbor friend to relocate to Ft. Lauderdale where she found work at Circle K, rising to manager. There she met and married her husband, Richard. Their daughter Alissa was born and the family moved with Richard’s transfer to Vero Beach. Always busy, Ruth worked as Membership secretary at Community Church for several years as well as working for a food distribution service and later starting a home cleaning business. During her time at Community Church, she worked closely with First Presbyterian member, Patti Franz, and also met the then FPC Associate Pastor Fred Foy. With Patti’s encouragement, Ruth joined our church’s crafting group and that led to the Thomas family becoming members in 2006.

Ruth found a home in FPC with the crafting and sewing ladies group. When JoAnn Wheeler asked the crafting group to make items for the Abraham Kriel Children’s Home in Potchefstroom, So. Africa, the group became firmly established in their mission project. As their sewing began to diversify, former member Sharon Tar taught the group quilting skills. With this new direction, they made and auctioned a quilt at the annual Presbyterian Women’s Christmas Tree Lane fundraiser. Later this core group helped organize the first ever Quilt Show held in McAfee Hall. It was an amazing and successful feat accomplished in a short time, publicized and attended by hundreds in the community.

The quilters meet every Wednesday, from 2 – 5 p.m. in the Adult Activities room in the Christian Life Center building. Currently, their outreach projects include such endeavors as Quilts for Valor (for wounded veterans), Fidget Quilts (for Alzheimer’s patients), wall hangings, lap quilts, baby quilts and of course, many items that will be sold at our annual Christmas Tree Lane event, this year on Dec. 7. They need helpers and appreciate any donated material. Ruth explains, “You don’t need to be a sewer because we have many jobs putting these items together. It is open to anyone and is a pleasant way to meet other church members and contribute to the various community and church needs. We would welcome any church members to join us!”

The Thomas’ have found ways in the church to serve and be served. Besides her involvement in anything crafting and sewing, Ruth is proud to have been a member of the Nominating Committee that hired Pastor Michael York and Richard is an incoming Deacon. Their oldest granddaughter will be attending the First Presbyterian Preschool in the Fall. Ruth and Richard enjoy camping and cheer for their home teams, The Cleveland Browns and the Cleveland Indians. But, their favorite pastime is caring for their beloved grandchildren, Evelyn and Elliott, while awaiting the birth of their third grandchild coming soon. Ruth shares that “I love watching them grow up in our church. They’re our favorite pastime!”

Longtime friend Patti Franz says of Ruth, “She is most loving and giving and is very talented,” In her quiet unassuming way, Ruth has organized and energized this dedicated group of women. She is a natural leader who looks for new ways to use her skill and talent; she organizes trips to quilting events and social outings while they produce exceptionally beautiful handmade items. Ruth “sparkles” when she speaks of the joy and satisfaction she’s found in the church. What a treasure and blessing we have with Ruth Thomas!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NOVEMBER!

Ernie Schaaf
1 Mark Bobseine
2 Norma Decker
2 Judith Taylor
3 Gayel Holt
3 Sara Ann Edgar
4 Vi Spencer
4 Sally Marquardt
4 Ann Faunce
5 Mimi Rutland
5 Lynsey Thompson
7 Anita Pew
7 Emily Zeigler
8 Lois Getz
8 Betty Wade
8 Jill Lawrence
9 Art Budden
10 Darrell Brock
11 James Larkin
11 Nanette Rappa
12 Phil Fauntleroy, III
12 Betty Judd
13 Grant Yukins
15 Mack Singleton
15 Elaine Brock
15 Jo Ann Wheeler
15 Stephen Gatzke
15 George Potochney
15 Beth Dingee
16 Tony Gross
18 Joe Smith, Jr.
18 Gloria Burnam
18 Dennis Croyle
18 Paul Stynchcomb
19 Isa Ponce-Jimenez
20 Hilary Dobson
20 Samantha Ekin
21 Patricia Harvin
21 Laurie Hawley
21 Michele Wagner
21 Jacob Strang
21 Lucia Romero
22 Nancy Allerman
22 Rebekah Crews
23 Susie Nystrom
24 Nancy Landis
24 Marilyn Brooks
24 Jean Budden

24 George Bryant
24 Ashley Wright
25 Gayle Peters
25 Hanson Peirce
26 David Lang
27 Phil LoGiudice
28 Mary Ross
28 Idaho Mike Ross
30 Jack Wagner



CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Rev. Dr. G. Timothy Womack, Senior Pastor
Rev. C. Michael York, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Fred Foy Strang, Min. of Congregational Care
Dr. Sam Rutland, Theologian in Residence
Jacob Craig, Director of Music and Arts
Jacob Strang, Youth Director
Carie Robbins, Director of Children's Ministries

ELDERS

Class of 2019

*Hilary Dobson, Carol Goodfellow, Terry Long,
*Bob Satola, *Bob Stuart

Class of 2020

Carol Campbell, *Steve Harrison, Steve Nystrom,
Noel Thompson

Class of 2021

Deb Alich, *Harvard "Bud" Johnson, *Carol Marks,
Kari Palmer
*indicates Elder/Trustee

Clerk of Session - Connie Herr

Treasurer - Scott Westermann

Director of Development - Allan Bixby

Trustees-at-Large

2019 - Carol Beaty; 2020 - John Reed; 2021 -
Melissa Shine

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2019

Nancy Allerman, Karen Boylan, Glenn Conn,
Kenneth Foster, Rod Keefer, *Susan Long, Rebecca
Palmer, Gloria Raines

Class of 2020

Peter Coe, Churchill Cooke, Maggie Fleming, Sally
Lowndes, Barb Schwin, Susie Stoughton

Class of 2021

Scott Berran, Sue Coffey, Michael Goodfellow,
Charles Hancock, Jan Satola, Floy Turner
*indicates Moderator

First Presbyterian Church

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