

STAFF

Rev. George T. Head - Pastor

Rev. Bill Chegwin - Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Bev Richardson - Parish Associate

Gale Luttrell - Office Administrator

Carol Poole - Office Assistant

Babs King - Choir Director

Tim Murphy - Pianist

Charlie King - Organist

Steve Looney - Sound Engineer

Andy Walter - Custodian

Audrey Geer - Nursery Attendant

Susan Stuckey - Librarian

Floris Rogers - Slide Tech

Marshall Wright - Media



Our Staff

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

September Birthdays	9/24 George Hunter
9/3 Jackie Smith	Carol Robinson
9/4 Carolyn Peters	Joye Shaffer
9/6 Laurie Lee	9/25 Janet Horton
9/10 Wilson Johnson	9/25 John Robinson
Mark McCain	9/30 Jim Harper
9/11 Ellen Kimbell	
9/13 Sue Rottmann	September Anniversaries
9/15 Patti Snow	9/10 Alan and Rae Lyn Dobson
9/16 Buddy Rippeon	9/14 Ken and Diane Grether
9/18 Pam Bennisson	9/30 Richard and Ellenorr Osterhaus
Doreen Coln	
9/20 Bill Chegwin	
9/21 Al Imbert	

MISSIONS/SISTER CHURCHES

Mission of the Month of September

Good Samaritan Purse


Sister Churches of the Month

9/7 Markham Woods, Lake Mary

9/14 Graceway, Leesburg

9/21 Lake Square, Leesburg

9/28 Wekiva, Longwood



CRUISIN TO THE CARIBBEAN

Bob and Diane Anderson would like to invite you to join them on the MSC Seashore for a Bahama and Western Caribbean Cruise **October 18-26, 2026**. We will be joined by members and friends of United Presbyterian Church (Daytona Beach). This will be a time of deepening friendships and making new ones. For more information and

ELDERS/DEACONS

Elders 2025:

Ed Carter

Margaret Catanzariti

Diane Grether

Laurie Grizzard

Jim Kennedy

Anne Perdue

Floris Rogers

Ralph Stonebraker

Susan Stuckey

Dennis Toth

Marshall Wright

Deacons 2025:

Debbie Devine

Anne Jensen

Barbara Johnson

Trish Kennedy

Carol Kurfis

Jodie Loveday


Jackie Toth

Wanda Ulewicz

Beth Vercolen

Chris Williams

Sandi Wirth



Deacon of the Month:

Beth Vercolen

SESSION NEWS

1/01/2025-7/31/2025 (7 months)

Income/Expenses

\$ 37,725.77


\$ 262,263.28

37,136.51

239,227.34

\$ 589.26

\$ 23,035.94



1/01/2024-7/31/2024 (7 months)

Income/Expenses

\$ 48,798.29

\$ 273,404.23

23,048.65

207,083.61

\$ 25,749.64

\$ 66,320.62

ATTENDANCE FOR JULY:

2025: 614 (4 Sundays)

2024: 610 (4 Sundays)

CHANCEL FLOWERS


September Chancel Flowers

9/7 Available

9/14 Available


9/21 Available

9/28 Available



registration follow the link below. Check out the details on the link and register soon (a per room deposit is required at the time of booking). We look forward to cruising with you!

https://form.jotform.com/Ahoy_Cruises/OCT182026cruise



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Good News

SEPTEMBER 2025

GRIEFSHARE – From Mourning to Healing

In July the Session approved a new ministry for our church entitled, **GriefShare**. If you are grieving the death of a loved one – spouse, parent, sibling, child, friend, or someone else, we welcome you to join our initial group, beginning on September 18th.

GRIEFSHARE BACKGROUND:

1. GriefShare has been active for over 25 years, with 100,000 groups worldwide.

2. Jodi Henry, a member of our congregation, is the committed lay leader with experience in grief, compassion, and spiritual maturity. Other trained leaders will be assisting her.

3. There are many causes for Grief but this program focuses only on a loss of a loved one.

4. The loss does not have to be a recent one. Grief can continue for years and being in GriefShare may assist in moving forward.

WHAT IS GRIEFSHARE?

1. A Christ-centered, lay-lead, 13-week program to provide a deep level of care to those grieving the death of a loved one.

2. It applies biblical principles as they deal with the grief and life stresses that come with loss.

3. It is a turn-key approach, including leader training, which the leaders at First Presbyterian are doing in August and early September.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE TOPICS COVERED IN THE MINISTRY?

Difficult emotions like anger, fear, and anxiety; loneliness – avoiding isolation; relationships and responding to insensitive remarks; guilt and regrets; questions for God; and guidance on how to move forward.

WHAT DO I DO TO PARTICIPATE?

1. You will make a 13-week commitment to attend a weekly program at the church on Thursday afternoon from 1:30 to 3:00, from September 18th to December 18th.

2. The cost is \$20 for your individual Participant Guide. Scholarships are available if needed.

3. The Registration is completed online, so look for the instructions in a Sunday Bulletin early in September.

A COMMON QUESTION:

I'm a private person; do I have to talk or share personal grief? No, you will gain a lot of information and insight by watching the videos, using your Participant's Guide, and listening to the experiences of others.


Grief never ends, but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness nor lack of faith, it is the price of love. If you are grieving, register and join us this fall as we walk from mourning to healing.

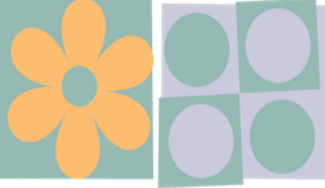
ADULT VBS

Rev. George leads a great crowd of VBS attendees. Topic for the VBS week was on "Music".

Lunch was served by our great ladies of Fellowship.

Good food & fun!!!





ADULT VBS

150th ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

The 150th Anniversary Task Force met on August 11th to make plans and confirm details for the last four months of our 150th Anniversary celebration year. The focus of this report is on September.

Presbyterian Women will be providing \$150 worth of feminine products to the counselors of New Smyrna Beach Middle and High Schools.

The Mission Committee is overseeing the renewal / renovation of the nursery, so you will see some activity there in the next month.

We are acknowledging and thanking the seventy-five (75) Advent Health NSB Auxiliary Volunteers for the many services they provide for patients and families in our local hospital during their Auxiliary meeting in October. We will provide two gift baskets for them to give away and a gift bag of “goodies” for each volunteer. One of the items in the gift bag will be a handwritten thank you note, as we did for the staff of the



New Smyrna Beach Library in July. On **September 14th** blank note cards and an instruction sheet will be available for you to take, write a thank you (you may take more than one!), and return to the church by September 28th. Thank you! We appreciate your help in continuing our 150th Anniversary Celebration by thanking others in our community.

Be sure to mark your calendars for October 5th at 3:00, when we will present a free concert, ***A Musical Pot-pourri***, for the congregation and the community, with piano, organ, guitar, and vocals from the choir and others. It will be followed by a lovely reception.

UPCOMING EVENTS!! BE AWARE!! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Below are some events / activities that are not normally scheduled on our church calendar. For some there are details elsewhere in this Good News Newsletter, or they will be available in the months to come. Mark your calendars so you will be aware and can participate!

October 5 – in the Sanctuary at 3:00 followed by a reception: as part of our 150th Anniversary celebration the Chancel Choir and Friends are presenting a free concert for our congregation and community, ***A Musical Pot-pourri***. It will include secular and sacred music with piano, organ, guitar, singing, and some surprises.

November 4 to 25 – on Tuesday mornings from 10:30-11:45 – a weekly **Speaker Series** on “The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Church” with Rev. Bob Anderson, Rev. Katy Cuthill, Rev. Bev Richardson, and Rev. George Head.

December 2 – as we conclude the final month of our year-long 150th Anniversary Celebration, we will be hosting the day long **Central Florida Presbytery Meeting** for as many as 200 people. We’ll need volunteers for parking, registration, and greeting. Just as im-

portant is the opportunity for you to attend (yes, it’s open to everyone) to experience the worship, service, and business of the Presbytery.

February 2 - March 15, 2026 (Exact dates/times TBD) – **Geography and History of the Holy Land** This weekly six-week class, led by Rev. Bob Brown and Rev. Bev Richardson, is open to anyone interested in the geography and history of the Holy Land as an aid to understanding the Bible, the roots of their faith, and current events. It may be of special interest to those planning to go on the EO trip to Israel in March.

October 18-26, 2026 – A 7-night cruise for members and friends of First Presbyterian and United Presbyterian in Port Orange to the Western Caribbean and Bahamas, led by Rev. Bob Anderson, on the MSC Seashore.



2025 HURRICANE PREPARATION TASK FORCE

Your 2025 Hurricane Preparation Task Force met on August 11 and continues to finalize details to ensure First Presbyterian is prepared if a hurricane comes our way.

We appreciate the assistance of everyone in the congregation for completing the CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION FORM. The purpose of the form is to enable the church to be in touch with you or your emergency contact following a hurricane, if necessary. To give a little historical perspective, when Hurricane Ian hit in 2022, it was days, and in some cases weeks, before we knew that some in our congregation had major damage or had totally lost their homes. Even then, we were not prepared to give real assistance. We needed to do better. Therefore, a mission trip to Ft. Myers and the establishment of the Hurricane Preparation Task Force. If there is another serious hurricane, like Ian, we will be able to call to check on you. The forms are in the Narthex and the church office. Once complete, you may bring them to the church office or place them in the Offering Plate on Sunday.

In 2024, we worked with the American Red Cross to become a Community Partner and Emergency Overflow Shelter, if needed. We are NOT a pre-landfall shelter for the general public, but once the hurricane is past, if the Volusia County Shelters are full and there are still people in need of a shelter, we would become an Emergency Overflow Shelter, where we provide the space and the American Red Cross runs the shelter.

Having learned what is needed, if people from our congregation didn’t feel safe in their own home, we offered our building as a safe place to shelter during Hurricane Milton. We are prepared to do that again in 2025, so if a hurricane is headed this way, we’ll let everyone know through the church-wide “email blast” the details of what to bring and when to come. **Be Prepared...Be Safe**



MISSION TEAM - 150 RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

We give thanks and praise to God for all who have adorned our Random Acts of Kindness tree with leaves of love and compassion! It blooms gloriously, reflecting the abundant blessings of our 150th celebration.

To continue to give the congregation opportunities to spread Random Acts of Kindness the mission team is working on several 150th anniversary projects and hope you will join us.

- We have a committee working on refreshing the nursery. More information to follow and exciting changes will be coming this fall
- In October we are answering the call to serve in Augusta, Georgia on a disaster recovery mission trip. We will be helping those affected by hurricane Helena. The trip will be from October 26 to November 1. There is no experience needed. We will be given jobs that are in line with our skills.

- On August 17th First Presbyterian Church held an informational meeting for the Mission trip. We are now seeking the Lord’s guidance as we prepare the details. If you missed the meeting but are interested in going, please contact: Anne Perdue-anneb0415@gmail.com
- Then we continue into November with another “fill a bag” day during fellowship hour on November 23rd. The bags will be handed out to the diners during the PB&J Thanksmas meal on December 4th.

Please prayerfully consider joining us as we bring hope, healing, and Christ’s love to a community in need. Whether you feel equipped to build, pray, comfort, or simply be present, there is a place for you on this journey of faith.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pastor George will be on vacation September 22nd - 26th</p>	<p>1 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:00 am - Missions Mtg 10:30 am - AI-Anon 6:00 pm - AA Mtg</p> <p>Office Closed for Labor Day</p>	<p>2 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon</p>	<p>3 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Sewing Group 6:30 pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>4 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm/PW/Gathering Rm 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>5 7:30 am - AA Mtg</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>6 8:30 am - AA Mtg</p>
<p>7 Communion Sunday/Gifts of Love 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>8 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Men’s Breakfast 9:30 am - PW Women in Chapel/EH 10:30 am - AI-Anon 1:30 am - 150th Anniv. Task Force/Rm 2 6:00 pm - AA Mtg</p>	<p>9 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon</p> <p>Gale on vacation</p>	<p>10 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 6:30 pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>11 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm/PW/Gathering Rm 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>12 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am -3:00 pm/PEO</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>13 8:30 am - AA Mtg .</p>
<p>14 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour/Minutes for Mission</p>	<p>15 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - AI-Anon 4:30 pm - Session Mtg/Rm 2 6:00 pm - AA Mtg</p>	<p>16 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon</p>	<p>17 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Sewing Group 6:30 pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>18 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 11:30 am - Deacons Mtg/Rm 2 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm/PW/Nursery Rm 1:30 pm - Grief Share Mtg/Rm 6 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery</p>	<p>19 7:30 am - AA Mtg</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>20 8:30 am - AA Mtg</p> <p>Birthday Party for Patti Snow from her family in EH/Time? To Determined</p>
<p>21 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>22 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Men’s Breakfast 10:30 am - AI-Anon 6:00 pm - AA Mtg</p> <p>Rev. George on Vacation</p>	<p>23 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon</p> <p>Rev. George on Vacation</p>	<p>24 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Sewing Group 6:30 pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>Rev. George on Vacation</p>	<p>25 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm/PW/Nursery Rm 1:30 pm - Grief Share Mtg/Rm 6 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery</p> <p>Rev. George on Vacation</p>	<p>26 7:30 am - AA Mtg</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>27 8:30 am - AA Mtg</p>
<p>28 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>29 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - AI-Anon 1:00 pm - Colors of Hunger 6:00 pm - AA Mtg</p>	<p>30 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon</p>				