


STAFF
Rev. George T. Head - Pastor Rev. Bill Chegwin - Pastor Emeritus Rev. Bev Richardson - Parish Associate Gale Luttrell - Office Administrator Babs King - Choir Director Tim Murphy - Pianist Steve Looney - Sound Engineer Bruce Wilson - Custodian Audrey Geer - Nursery Attendant Susan Stuckey - Librarian John Bros & Floris Rogers - Slide Techs Marshall Wright - Media Susan Church - Faith Community Nurse
 Our Staff

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES
<div> <div> December Birthdays 12/4 Pat Stonebraker 12/5 Eric Wolf 12/7 Wilma McCarey Ellie Osterhaus 12/10 Charles Fahey Wanda Ulewicz 12/11 Bob Begley 12/13 Nancy Christian 12/14 Sandi Wirth 12/16 Mike Barringer 12/18 Marsha Fenstermaker 12/19 Mary Martin 12/22 Carol Kurfis 12/27 Anne Jensen Bruce Wilson </div> <div> December Anniversaries 12/5 Mark and Joan McCain 12/7 Bud and Honeybee Chappell 12/12 Rodger and Nancy Christian </div> </div> <div>  <p>DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES</p> </div>

ELDERS/DEACONS
<div> <div> Elders 2024: Ed Carter - Finance/Personnel Margaret Catanzariti - Worship Frank Ibbotson - Property Management Chuck Johnson - Safety and Security Jim Kennedy - Education Anne Perdue - Clerk of Session/Personnel Floris Rogers - Fellowship Ralph Stonebraker - Missions Susan Stuckey - Education Dennis Toth - Property Management Marshall Wright - Worship </div> <div> Deacons 2024: Sharon Bradshaw Leigh Chegwin Debbie Devine Audrey Geer Pam Gravelding Barbara Johnson Trish Kennedy Laurie Lee Ellenorr Osterhaus Jackie Toth Wanda Ulewicz Chris Williams Sandi Wirth </div> </div> <div> Deacon of the Month: Audrey Geer </div> <div>  </div>

CHANCEL FLOWERS
<div> December Chancel Flowers  </div> <div> 12/1 Available 12/8 Available 12/15 Available 12/22 Available 12/29 Available </div>




December 2024

509 Magnolia Street, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168 386-428-2397

BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE



BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE
 December 8, 2024, at 4:00pm

The secular culture of our times, heightened by advertising, and the focus on the fun and enjoyment of the holiday season, including happy people at neighborhood parties, smiling children opening an excessive amount of neatly wrapped packages, and families lovingly cooking and eating around a table with abundant and well-prepared food, can mean isolation and sadness when someone can't live up to that unrealistic expectation.

A **Blue Christmas Worship Service** is designed to support people who are grieving or dealing with difficult times. The worship service acknowledges the darkness of life and the complex feelings that can come up during the Christmas season. It names, identifies, and allows for the sadness that accompanies this time of year when so many are overcome as their joy and sorrow intertwine. The service is an invitation for anyone who wants to come and set their burden down, and for a community to hold them and their pain in a time of worshipful togetherness.

At this time of year when the nights are longer and there is more darkness, the service is a chance to reflect on the darkness and light, both in a literal sense and in the emotions and experience of our lives. When the darkness feels overwhelming, we can take comfort in knowing God meets us there and that there is light, through the birth of Jesus.

At this time of year, when sadness and joy come together for so many, the worship acknowledges that reality and includes opportunities for the expression of grief, pain, and heartbreak as well as to focus on the promise of hope found in Jesus Christ.

First Presbyterian Church is having our initial Blue Christmas Worship Service this year and everyone in the congregation is invited. If you are dealing with sadness or difficulties in your life – come. If you are not and life is going well and joyous for you – come and support those for whom this is not the case.

Our service, on **Sunday, December 8 at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary**, will include scripture, music, candle lighting, and a message of hope from Rev. Sheryl Sumlin-Walker, Pastor of United Presbyterian Church in Port Orange. We are inviting the churches with whom we share Colors of Hunger and many of the people who share in ministry using our facility via the recovery programs.

The service will be followed by a reception in Eubank Hall to continue to support one another with care, fellowship, and some light refreshments.

Blue Christmas Worship Service – a way to show God's love through Jesus and that God meets us where we are – wherever that is, especially in times of darkness.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CHURCH

The 150th Anniversary Task Force met on Monday, November 11 and below are some of the updates and highlights as we begin our celebration this month:



- 1. The first event to begin our celebration is our participation in the **New Smyrna Beach Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7 at 4:30!** The parade theme is “A Christmas Carol”, which is perfect for our anniversary – past, present, and future! Our float will be the nativity of Jesus, for that exemplifies the meaning of Christmas for us. We will have 150th Anniversary banners on each side of the float, Christmas music recorded by our choir, and walkers dressed in circa 1875 clothing (thank you to The Little Theatre) handing out bookmarks with attached crosses and candy that tell of our 150th as well as upcoming events – the Christmas Cantata and Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. **COME TO THE PARADE AND CHEER US ON!**
- 2. **On Tuesday, December 17 at 1:00 in Eubank Hall**, Presbyterian Women are sponsoring the **New Smyrna Beach High School Showdolls**, a national award-winning dance team. The enthusiasm and energy of these young women is contagious, yet even more important is their discipline, desire for and dedication to excellence, and determination to achieve their goals. The program is a gift from Presbyterian Women (free), so **COME and ENJOY the SHOWDOLLS**, followed by a reception.
- 3. **Sunday, January 5, 2025, our Dedication Worship Service.** We will celebrate the first worship service of our 150th Anniversary Year! Yes, it will be a year-long celebration with a variety of activities, so we are beginning by dedicating the year, the new banners (outside and inside), and all the activities throughout the year in gratitude to God’s faithfulness to this congregation and community for 150 years. **COME, WORSHIP, and CELEBRATE!**

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session met on Monday, November 18 and below are some of the highlights:

- 1. Current Active Membership is 162
- 2. Approved a Blue Christmas Service for Sunday, December 8 at 4:00pm.
- 3. Approved two motions from Property Management to create two plaques to be displayed outside of the Newman Building. One is dedicated in memory of William “Bill” Newman and the second is in memory of Chuck Nighswonger, founder of the Bike Ministry.
- 4. Approved the transfer of money from our reserve investment account to fund the reroofing of all north campus buildings. That is everything except the sanctuary.
- 5. Approved the Personnel Committee recommendation to give 4% raises to all employees for 2025, as well as approving an updated Position Description for the Sound Technician.



MISSIONS/SISTER CHURCHES



Central FL. Presbytery
Disaster Relief

Sister Churches of the Month

Other churches in our presbytery, please lift up prayers.

- 12/1 First Presbyterian, Eustis
- 12/8 New Life, Fruitland Park
- 12/15 Glenwood Presbytery, Glenwood
- 12/22 Community, Howey-in-the-Hills
- 12/29 Eastminster, Indialantic



SESSION NEWS

1/01/2024-10/31/2024 (10 months)

Income/Expenses	
\$ 23,984.00	\$ 349,341.25
22,713.65	320,989.71
\$ + 1,270.65	\$ 28,351.54



1/01/2023-10/31/2023 (10 months)

Income/Expenses	
\$ 28,436.45	\$ 327,645.80
26,503.41	275,626.78
\$ + 1,933.04	\$ 52,019.02

ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER:

2024: 560 (4 Sundays)
2023: 710 (5 Sundays)



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF FPC

Building God's Kingdom in our Community



November was a very full month thanks to YOU and our Hearts of Hope women. While our goal was to deliver 175 Operation Christmas Child boxes - **203 were delivered!** After your donations were used to shop for and fill boxes, we'll be sending Samaritan's Purse a check for \$1,764.89 to be used for postage/packing/delivery costs and additional copies of the Bible study The Greatest Journey.

December will be a full month of praise and celebration!

- Our annual Christmas luncheon will be held at Hidden Lakes following our regular meeting on Monday, December 9.
- 150 canned hams will be delivered to Gifts of Love food pantry by Hearts of Hope in recognition of our FPC 150th anniversary. Our prayer is that these gifts will make Christmas even more special for our local community.
- On Tuesday, December 17 at 1:00 p.m. you and your friends are invited to a free performance of the New Smyrna Beach Showdolls in Fellowship Hall. A punch and cookie reception will follow. Please come and share the joy of the season.



Want to join Hearts of Hope? All women are welcome on the 2nd Monday of each month. Want more info? Please reach out to Norma Carter at 317-409-0593.

CHRISTMAS PARADE



Please join us at the Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7th @ 4:30pm on Flagler Avenue and Canal Street for a celebration of our 150th Anniversary coming in March of 2025...our float will be presented and entered in the parade. What a beautiful nativity scene.



The beautiful creation of our Nativity Scene was constructed by Ron & Susan Church and Ralph & Pat Stonebraker. What talent to create a wonderful float to represent our Church. Thank you all for your hard work.



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

SAVE THE DATE!! Please join Babs King, choir director, Tim Murphy, pianist, Charlie King, organist, and the wonderful voices of our choir for a Sunday of beautiful music as we celebrate the Birth of Our Lord on December 15th with Fellowship after worship. Over the years the Christmas Cantata has been such a highlight during the Christmas Season. Please mark your calendar to experience the Joy of Music with the title of “Were You There On That Christmas Night?” by composer Lloyd Larson.



CARDS FOR REV. GEORGE






Still sending cards to George! I will be sending out a packet every week to him. Just place them in the blue basket in the Narthex on Sundays for me to pick up and send out or bring them to the office, which ever is easier for you all. I know George would love to have cards sent and it would be my pleasure to send them all out together as a package deal for him to read. If you wish to send separate then you would send the cards to his home in New Smyrna Beach and they are being forward to him in Jacksonville. Which ever you'd like to do. I am here to help put a big smile on George's face when he receives the love from his church family. Love to all from Gale.

THANK YOU FROM GALE

I wish to “Thank You”, everyone for your thoughtful cards, prayers, support and love after my surgery. I am back working in the office and so glad to be back although this is a long process for healing, never realized it. But everything went well with my surgery and on my way to recovery and good health. No cancer was found and that’s God’s remarkable prayer for me.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday/Gifts of Love 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour	2 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - Al-Anon 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	3 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 10:30 am - Education Mtg/Rm 2 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Romans Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony Sound	4 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 1:00 pm - Missions Meeting/Rm 2 1:30 pm - 4:00pm - Bike Ministry 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	5 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery 7:00 pm - AA Mtg	6 7:30 am - AA Mtg Office Closed	7 8:30 am - AA Mtg 4:30 pm - NSB Christmas Parade 
8 Mission Speaker/Mission Highlights 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour 4:00 pm - Blue Christmas Worship Service 	9 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Men’s Breakfast 9:00 am - PW Mtg/EH 10:30 am - Al-Anon 4:00 pm - 150th Mtg/Rm2 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	10 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Romans Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/in Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon	11 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 1:30 pm - 4:00pm - Bike Ministry 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	12 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 4:30 pm - Deacons Mtg/Rm 2 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery 7:00 pm - AA Mtg	13 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - PEO in EH Office Closed	14 8:30 am - AA Mtg Harmony Sounds Concert in Eubank Hall (TBA with time) .
15 Christmas Cantata 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour to Celebrate the Cantata with Desserts 	16 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - Al-Anon 4:30 pm - Session Mtg 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	17 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - Showdolls Event/EH 6:30 pm - Harmony Sound 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon	18 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 1:30 pm - 4:00pm - Bike Ministry 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	19 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery 7:00 pm - AA Mtg	20 7:30 am - AA Mtg Office Closed	21 8:30 am - AA Mtg
22 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour	23 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Men’s Breakfast 10:30 am - Al-Anon 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	24 Christmas Eve 7:30 am - AA Mtg 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service 	25 Office Closed 7:30 am - AA Mtg 	26 Office Closed 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery 7:00 pm - AA Mtg	27 7:30 am - AA Mtg Office Closed	28 8:30 am - AA Mtg
29 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour	30 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - Al-Anon 6:00 pm - AA Mtg COLORS OF HUNGER	31 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Romans Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony Sound 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon				