

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

BIRTHDAYSANNIVERSARIES

November Birthdays

11/1 Barb Johnson

11/3 Emily Veracka

11/4 Larry Horton

Linda Stephens

11/5 Susan Stuckey

11/6 Jack Heckendorn

11/11 Barbara Hales

11/14 Stephen Stolz

11/16 Jean White

11/18 Bob Arfstrom

Jim Boland

Barb Cole

Diane Grether

11/20 Mickie Ascherl

Debbie Devine

Alan Dobson

11/23 Dennis Toth

11/27 Jane McConnell


November Anniversaries

11/5 Doug and Kim Forcino

11/9 Dennis and Barb Cole

11/12 Vaughn and Cindy Crowl

11/26 Gary and Christine Williams



MISSIONS/SISTER CHURCHES



Mission of the Month

Mission of the Month of September

Celebrate Recovery

Sister Churches of the Month

11/2 First Presbyterian, Debary

11/9 First Presbyterian, Deland

11/16 Westminster, Deland

11/23 Deltona Presbyterian, Deltona

11/30 First Presbyterian, Eustis

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:

Sandi Wirth

SEPTEMBER SESSION NEWS

1/01/2025-9/30/2025 (9 months)

Income/Expenses

\$ 23,586.67 \$ 311,244.96

42,405.18 316,591.80

\$ -18,818.51 \$ -5,346.84


1/01/2024-9/30/2024 (9 months)

Income/Expenses

\$ 30,653.89 \$ 325,357.25

31,977.84 298,276.06

\$ - 1,324.22 \$ 27,081.19



ATTENDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER:

2025: 658 (4 Sundays) 2024: 734 (5 Sundays)

NOVEMBER CHANCEL FLOWERS

11/2 Available


11/9 Flowers given by Beth Vercolen in loving memory of my parents, Rose and Dan Lanni.

Flowers given by Flowers are given in recognition of our Presbyterian Women leaders who are being installed today. Pat Stonebraker, Cindy Crowl, Diane Grether, Brenda Roy, Darlene Kreigh, Norma Carter and Becky Bros. May the Presbyterian Women go out and serve, doing everything in God's name with love.

11/16 Flowers given by Debra Bennett in honor of my wonderful husband, Dale's Birthday, Happy Birthday!

11/23 Flowers given by Anne Jensen in loving memory of my family, Carlton and Esther Jensen and Marilyn Jensen Ayles.

11/30 Available



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Good News

NOVEMBER 2025

NEWS FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends,

As autumn arrives and we witness the changing colors of the season, we are reminded of the cycles of renewal and gratitude that shape our spiritual journey together. It is once again stewardship season—a time for us to reflect on the gifts we have received and the ways we can share those blessings with our church community and beyond.

Stewardship is more than an annual campaign or a financial commitment. It is a spiritual discipline rooted in gratitude, generosity, and faithfulness. When we practice stewardship, we recognize that all we have is a gift from God, entrusted to us for the good of others and the flourishing of God's work in the world.

This year, as we enter stewardship season, we invite you to consider how your time, talents, and resources can help nurture our congregation's mission and ministries. Whether through volunteering, participating in worship, supporting outreach efforts, or making a financial pledge, your contribution is vital to sustaining our life together.

We are grateful for your faithfulness and the many ways you have supported our church. Your generosity enables us to offer meaningful worship, educational programs for all

ages, care for one another, and outreach to our local community. Together, we make a difference that extends far beyond the walls of our sanctuary.

In the coming weeks, you will receive information about our stewardship campaign and opportunities to respond. We encourage you to prayerfully reflect on how you can participate, knowing that every gift matters and every act of generosity is a reflection of God's love at work among us.

If you have any questions or would like to talk more about stewardship, please reach out to me or any member of our stewardship team. We are here to support you as you discern your commitment for the coming year.

Thank you for being part of our church family and for the ways you share your gifts with open hearts. May this season be one of joy, gratitude, and renewed purpose for us all.

Your pastor and friend,

Rev. George T. Head



FINANCIAL STATEMENT PREPARATION

The CPA the church has worked with for several years is going through a serious health issue. Because of this issue, she is unable to assist the church with financial statement preparation. Unfortunately, we do not know when or if she will be back. During this period, we need a financial person who is familiar with ACS church software. This person would assist with month-end closings and bank reconciliations. If you or someone you know is proficient in the ACS church software and is looking for part-time work, please contact Ed Carter or Anne Perdue.



AED EDUCATION

AED EDUCATION – NOVEMBER 12 at 1:00 IN EUBANK HALL

In our society where acronyms are common (ATM, FAQ, BOGO), one that may save your life, or the life of someone you care about, is AED – Automated External Defibrillator, and many of us are unfamiliar with both the acronym and the device itself. It is a sophisticated and yet easy to use medical device to analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electric shock (defibrillation) to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

An AED is designed to be user friendly by the public until medical personnel arrive. To help ensure we are prepared in a medical emergency during worship or an activity at the church, First Presbyterian has two AEDs – in the narthex of the sanctuary and in Eubank Hall, so you can make a difference in the life of a person who may be having a cardiac arrest.

A video education time is being held for everyone in the congregation on **Wednesday, November 12 at 1:00 in Eubank Hall**. This is not a certification class, simply an opportunity to learn about the use of the AED. Come join us!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF FPC



Building God's Kingdom in our Community

With hearts full of love, our "Hearts of Hope" Presbyterian Women gathered for their October Bible study, fellowship, and meeting on October 13, as is their tradition on the second Monday of each month. In a spirit of gratitude, we rejoiced in honoring the Beacon House of the Domestic Abuse Council with the Presbyterian Women's 150th Anniversary October award, as a testament to their faithful service.

We were blessed to welcome Cassidy Melanson, Program Manager from Edgar's Farm, and Dee Wilson of Easter Seals, who shared the work of their community partnership in equine therapy. This holy ministry touches the lives of around 100 local people, from ages 4 to 85, each uniquely formed by the Creator, some carrying the burdens of MS, CP, autism, or other challenges. Through the gentle motion of horseback riding, which mirrors the sacred rhythm of walking, these individuals find renewal in body and spirit. The blessings of equine therapy are manifold: it fosters focus, discipline, core strength, flexibility, and coordination, while nurturing social bonds, teamwork, communication, and improved posture. In caring for the horses—through grooming, tending stalls, and feeding—these souls learn the quiet virtues of responsibility and patience, reflecting God's tender care.

In a spirit of joyful service, nine of our Hearts of Hope women felt called to volunteer at Edgar's Farm, eager to share in this mission. With grateful hearts, Presbyterian Women offered a humble gift of \$330 to Edgar's Farm, a donation that will provide six lessons of this life-giving therapy to a deserving person, helping them draw closer to God's healing grace.

Thanks for the generous donations from our congregation, Operation Christmas Child boxes were shopped-for and boxes packed on October 20. As you can see every Sunday morning, the stack of boxes is growing steadily higher and we anticipate a generous donation on behalf of First Presbyterian Church again this year. A bit more shopping and packing to come but we'll be ready to make delivery on Monday, November 17. Remember, if you are packing boxes, the last day to turn in will be **Sunday, November 16 at FPC**. Don't forget to pray over every box for God's blessing for the physical, spiritual and emotional well-being of the child that receives your gift.



MISSION TEAM - 150 RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS



2025 Mission Trip to Augusta, Georgia – October 26 to November 1.

Preparations continue for our faithful FPC team as they journey from New Smyrna Beach to Augusta, answering God's call to serve. This is no ordinary trip—it is a sacred mission, a divine opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ to those still reeling from the storms.

Please lift them up in prayer:

- For safe travel and protection under the Lord's watchful eye
 - For strength, compassion, and discernment as they minister to hurting hearts
- For open doors and divine appointments that allow them to bring comfort, hope and healing



A Sacred Offering to FPC from the Mission Team

As we enter the final quarter of our 150th Anniversary year—a season of reflection and thanksgiving—the Mission Team continues to prayerfully seek ways to live out our guiding vision: *Renew, Rejoice, Reconnect, and Remember*. In this spirit, we are joyfully preparing a tangible gift to our church family: a renewal of our nursery space, dedicated to the youngest among us who are beginning their walk with Christ.

Though this project was not part of the 2025 church budget, the Mission Team felt led to set aside funds as a faithful offering—an investment in the spiritual formation of our children and a testament to God's enduring presence in our congregation. This refreshed space will serve as a welcoming haven where little ones can experience the love of Jesus through care, play, and community.

Once the space is complete, we will share photos—or better yet, we invite you to come and witness firsthand how the littlest seekers of Christ will be embraced in a space designed to reflect His light and love.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Since our last highlights in the Good News Newsletter, the Session has met on September 15 and October 20. Highlights of these meetings include:

1. Received new members Seth Collins and Vickie and Mark Slinghuff-Andrews. Seth was introduced to the congregation on September 21 and Vickie and Mark on October 26.
2. Heard the report that during one of the many thunder / lightning storms in the past month, several of our electronic components – computer, monitor, TV, etc. – were damaged and have needed to be replaced.
3. The 2025 Stewardship Campaign, “Living Your Life with Grace and Gratitude”, will begin on October 26, with Dedication Sunday being November 16.
4. Received the report from the Education Committee on the Speaker Series, “The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Church”. Detailed information is in an article in this newsletter.
5. Approved an education / training on the use of an AED (Automated Electronic Defibrillator) for the congregation. Details are in an article in this newsletter.

SESSION
HIGHLIGHTS

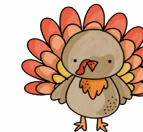
6. Received the report from the 150th Anniversary Task Force which included:

> Presbyterian Women gave more than \$150 worth of hygiene items to the New Smyrna Beach Middle and High School counselors, as well as to Beacon House for the prevention of Domestic Abuse.
> Gift bags with personal thank you notes written by the congregation were given to each of the AdventHealth Auxiliary Volunteers.
> The concert, A Musical Potpourri, was held for the congregation and the community, followed by a lovely reception.
> The Mission Committee, along with the Property Management Committee, has renovated / updated the nursery.
> The congregation has submitted recipes for the 150th Anniversary Cookbook, which will be published by early December.
> A companion booklet to the 150th History booklet compiled last year is being written which contains activities, programs, ministries, and people in our history.
> Coming up: On December 6, we'll ride bicycles in the New Smyrna Beach Christmas Parade to highlight our Bike Ministry. If you want to ride and don't have a bicycle, the Bike Ministry will have one for you. Watch for details!





NOVEMBER 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:30 am - AA Mtg
2 Communion Sunday/Gifts of Love 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour	3 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - AI-Anon 4:00 pm - 150th Anniv Task Force/Rm 2 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	4 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 10:30 am - Education Event in EH 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon	5 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 10:00 am - Holy Spirit/EH 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	6 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 11:00 am - Deacons Mtg/Rm 2 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm/PW/Gathering Rm 1:30 pm - Grief Share Mtg/Rm 6 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery	7 7:30 am - AA Mtg Office Closed	8 8:30 am - AA Mtg .
9 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour/Minutes for Mission	10 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Men’s Breakfast 9:30 am - PW Women in Chapel/EH 10:30 am - AI-Anon 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	11 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 10:30 am - Education Event in EH 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon	12 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 10:00 am - Holy Spirit/EH 1:00 pm - AED Training/EH 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	13 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 1:30 pm - Grief Share Mtg/Rm 6 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery	14 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am –12:00 pm/ PEO Office Closed	15 8:30 am - AA Mtg 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Harmony Sound Waves Concert/ EH .
16 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour	17 7:30 am - AA Mtg 10:30 am - AI-Anon 4:30 pm - Session Mtg/Rm 2 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	18 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 10:30 am - Education Event in EH 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon	19 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 10:00 am - Holy Spirit/EH 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	20 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 1:30 pm - Grief Share Mtg/Rm 6 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery	21 7:30 am - AA Mtg Office Closed	22 8:30 am - AA Mtg
23 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - Fellowship Hour	24 7:30 am - AA Mtg 9:00 am - Men’s Breakfast 10:30 am - AI-Anon 1:00 pm - Colors of Hunger 6:00 pm - AA Mtg	25 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - PB&J 10:30 am - Education Event in EH 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Chronicles Bible Study/Rm 2 6:30 pm - Harmony/Chapel 7:30 pm - Narcotics Anon	26 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:30 am - Men’s Bible Study/Rm 6 9:00 am - Sewing Group 10:00 am - Holy Spirit/EH 6:30 pm - Choir Practice	27 THANKSGIVING/OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 am - AA Mtg 8:00 am - No Newman’s Crew 8:30 am - PB&J 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm/No PW/Gathering Rm 1:30 pm - No Grief Share Mtg/Rm 6 6:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery 	28 7:30 am - AA Mtg Office Closed	29 8:30 am - AA Mtg
30 10:00 am - Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary 11:15 am - No Fellowship Hour						