

First NEWS T

First Presbyterian Church—Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ!

January 2018

A New Year: The Resolve to Breakthrough

According to Christianity Today, “New Year’s Day is one of the oldest and most widely observed holidays in the world. First celebrated about 4000 years ago in Mesopotamia during the spring equinox, New Year’s has moved on the calendar and has adopted various traditions and rituals.”

Setting personal resolutions at the beginning of the year affords evaluation and renewal. Americans may be especially looking forward to such renewal this year. What should we resolve to do and what should we resolve to be in the coming year?

For First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach, our resolution should be that we have a breakthrough year in ministry. We are in such a strong position to do great work in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the end of 2017 we overcame financial adversity, and we overcame an enormous gap to cover our ministry finances. In 2017, we also established a new organizational plan that will allow us to focus on the five core responsibilities of the church, what we are calling the five talents; discipleship, fellowship, hospitality, mission, and worship. First Presbyterian Church had staff transitions, and we are working to make sure that we continue to have in place the staff that our congregation needs to satisfy the ministry that God has placed before us.

2018 offers us the opportunity to break through some amazing areas of ministry. Here are some of our corporate resolutions:

 There will be a commitment by the Worship Talent Committee to focus on offering the very best worship experience possible. This will partly be realized in an initiative to update and upgrade our sound, lights, cameras, security, and staff and volunteer training.

 Through the Hospitality Talent Committee, the New Member experience will be restructured to make this critical process more informative, more accessible, and replicable for each month of the 2018 calendar year.

 The Fellowship Talent Committee will continue to offer fellowship events with a commitment for growth in the number of offerings and the number of those in attendance. These include, but are not limited to Wednesday Night Dinners including (TIM Talks [Theology, Innovation, Ministry]), Health Fairs, Joy Trips and Joy Journeys, Church-Wide Retreats, Marriage Enrichment Retreats, and Special Congregation-Wide Dinners and Gatherings.

 The Discipleship Talent Committee (formerly Christian Education) will continue its superb Christian education ministry for adults, youth, and children while also integrating RightNow Media into the active life of our church family. Our hope is that we can promote Christian discipleship well beyond the confines of our campus.

 The Mission Talent Committee will have its hands full promoting the mission focus of the church. With the continued focus on sharing Christ’s love and salvation locally, regionally, and globally, the Mission Talent Team will guide the church in our response to human needs and seek to alleviate human suffering. Beyond our care for orphanages and “hand-up” ministries, one new mission endeavor will be an adult mission trip led by the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program (PDA).

Our resolve, our resolution, is to grow our volunteerism and congregational participation in ministry so that our members, and those we serve, will grow in our love and commitment to God through Jesus Christ. That is a noble resolution! Make it your own!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The first Sunday of each month is Communion.

The second Sunday is our 2¢ a meal offering.

8:00a.m. - Worship in the Chapel

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Worship in the Sanctuary

9:10a.m. - Children's Sunday School (concurrent with Worship)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

Wednesday Night Dinners will start up again this month, with our traditional Birthday Dinner on January 10, in McAfee Hall. Doors open at 5:00pm for you to leisurely enjoy your salad bar and beverage. Dinner begins at 5:30pm. Terri Walters, our chef, will be serving up the below delicious meals:

January 10 - Salad Bar, Broccoli Cheddar Chicken, Diced Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, Birthday Cake



January 17 - Salad Bar, Spaghetti with Sausage and meatballs, Texas Garlic Toast, Assorted Pies

January 24 - Salad Bar, Pork Chops, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Brownie Bar

January 31 - Salad Bar, Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Mixed Veggies, Chocolate Pudding with Whip Cream

SUNDAY PREACHING SCHEDULE

January 7, 2018

"Epiphanic Moments"

Dr. Tim Womack

Matthew 2:1-12

January 14, 2018

"Called by God"

Dr. Tim Womack

I Samuel 3:1-10

January 21, 2018

"Courage to Proclaim God's Message"

Dr. Tim Womack

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

January 28, 2018

"Making Space for Others"

Dr. Tim Womack

Corinthians 8:1-13

NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING MID-JANUARY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES & THE BIBLE

Join the journey, with Pastor Graham, as he takes you back to ancient archaeological discoveries that confirm scripture. Via power point pictures and Bible text, you will study Ancient Babylon, Tyre Petra and Jerusalem. This five week study begins on Sunday, January 14, in the Schumann Conferencing Center, from 10:00am - 10:50am. For more information and registration contact Anne Adams.



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Your Name Here

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF VERO BEACH

Need one? Get one, wear one! Call or stop by the church office so we can get you a nametag.

Older Adult Ministry

MEET & GREET LUNCH

If you enjoy meeting new people and “doing lunch” at different restaurants each month, then this is the group for you! Join us on Tuesday, January 16th as we enjoy the ambiance and food of Vero’s newest eatery...The American Icon Brewery! We will meet at the restaurant located at 1133 19th Place, VB, at Noon. To make a reservation, contact Anne Adams.

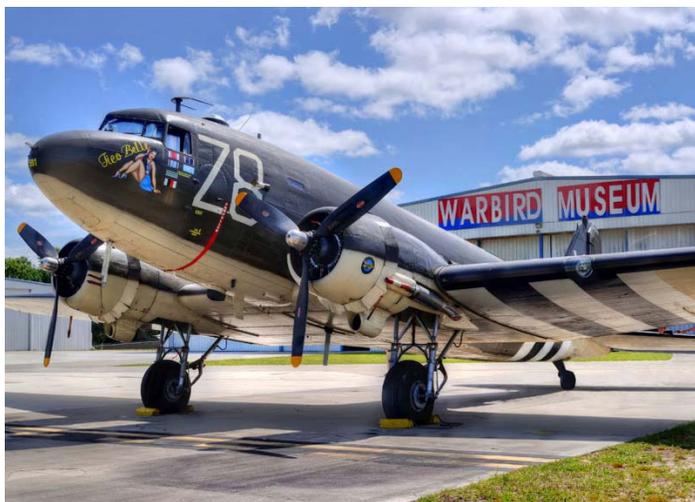


SHARED GRIEF LUNCHEON

If you are experiencing grief, we would like to invite you to our “Shared Grief Luncheon”, on Monday, January 29, in E.T. Smith Lounge beginning at Noon. Led by Susan Long, our Faith Community Nurse, we will be discussing steps to help you walk through the stages of grief. For more information and reservations please contact Anne Adams. All are welcome – bring a friend!

TO YOUR HEALTH LUNCHEON

You are invited to a live seminar and lunch on Tuesday, January 30, in the Schumann Conferencing Center at Noon. Dr. Robert Brugnoli, Director of the Mental Health Association, will speak on removing the stigma of depression. Seating is limited so please register early for this informative seminar. A light lunch is included in your \$5 registration. Please contact Anne Adams for more information



JOY TRIP

Plan on joining us on Thursday, January 18, as we travel to Titusville to visit the Valiant Air Command Warbird Air Museum. Exhibits include memorabilia dating from WW I to the present and up to 50 vintage warbird aircraft in three restoration and exhibition hangars. Following our tour, we will have lunch at the famous “Dixie Crossroads Restaurant” where the food and service usher in a wave of Southern hospitality! Your \$15 cost includes: admission/tour of the museum and transportation. For more information and reservations contact Anne Adams.

Children & Family Ministry

QUEST KIDS CLUB

Sign up now for Quest Kids Club resuming on Wednesday, January 10th. This faith based, after school program equips the mind, body and spirit of elementary school age children in our community. We pick up at many of the surrounding schools or you can drop off your child. Contact Anne Adams for more details and registration.



Arts & Music “Notes”

FIRST ANNIVERSARY ART SHOW

The Galleries at First Pres would like to announce its First Anniversary Art Show Reception, which will take place on Sunday, January 14th, 2018 from 3:00PM to 5:00PM throughout the campus of First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach. Featured artists are: Aksel Sand Pederson, Sheila Lougheed, and our first combined exhibition featuring husband and wife artists: Bob and Suzanne Berran. We will also be showcasing selected sculptures and pieces from the private collection of Art and Jean Budden. This show celebrates our very first year of successful exhibitions featuring 3-month rotations of work from local artists as well as our own private collection of donated pieces. You'll find the exhibitions in several locations including the lobby of the Center for Christian Life, the Mighell Chapel, the Gietz Music Suite and E.T. Smith Lounge.

All are invited to view our galleries. Join us for our Opening Reception on January 14th to meet the artists themselves, or come visit during our public viewing hours: Monday through Thursday from 12-3pm. Guided tours are offered every Wednesday between the hours of 3pm and 5pm.

If you would like more information about this event, please contact Jacob Craig, Music & Arts Director at (772) 562-9088 or email at jacob@firstpresvero.org.

Con Brio String Quartet to Perform January 21st

Our first concert of 2018 will be held in the Sanctuary at 4pm on Sunday, January 21. We are pleased to host an internationally acclaimed string quartet comprised of Valentin Mansurov, Marina Lenau, David Pedraza and Aziz Sapaev. Each of these talented, young players has received numerous scholarships and competitive awards. Based in southeast Florida, they perform individually with the Symphony of the Americas, the Palm Beach Symphony, and the Florida Grand Opera. Together, Con Brio is prepared to delight with their skill, passion and energy. Admission is free; a love offering will be taken.

Our remaining concert series events are as follows:

February 4th, 2018: Four Hand Piano featuring Sergey Belyavskiy and Jacob Craig

March 4th, 2018: Joe Jamerson, Trumpet

April 29th, 2018: Christoph Seybold, Violin



Church-Wide News

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL NEWS



What a month we had in December! The preschool held its annual Pajama Drive, and we are so thankful that the Church participated this year. We had so many donations and it was a huge success! Between the preschool and the Church we collected 112 pairs of pajamas! Scholastic Book Club will donate 112 books to go with them, and they have been donated to Hibiscus Children's Center in Vero Beach. A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated!

January will be a busy month with assessments and celebrating our 100th Day of School on the 26th!

Save the Date: FPP will be participating in the 'Pre-K Party and Kindergarten Round-up' at Indian River Mall on February 24th.

PRESCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

If you love children and have a morning free then this is the volunteer opportunity for you! We are in need of a music/drama leader to work with our preschool children ages 2 thru 4 on music, movement, theater & fun! For more information contact Lori Rudolph at 772-257-7238 or by email; Lorie@firstpresvero.com.

HEALTH & WELLNESS EXPO

Mark your calendars for our annual Health & Wellness Expo on Tuesday, February 6. Our community partners will be providing a variety of health screenings, educational materials and referrals to community resources. This health awareness event is in McAfee Hall from 9:00am – 1:00pm. You will be able to walk around to each table and enjoy a healthy snack, talk with experts in the health field and take home valuable information that will motivate you to make positive behavioral changes. Plan on spending the entire morning so you can attend the many breakout sessions being offered. This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Anne Adams or for Vendor information contact Susan Long. All are welcome. Bring a friend!



The 5 Talent Church: an Explanation

Hopefully you have heard about the new leadership initiative of First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach called “The Five Talent Church.” I believe there has been a lot of talk about this change in our operating structure while there is also much that is still misconstrued. Here is a quick explanation. This initiative will take all of 2018 to truly solidify, yet it is a work that is in progress.



The Five Talent Church structure focuses on two scripture passages. First, the parable of the five talents. The gist of the parable is that if you are a “five talent” church, you need to double God’s investment! The second passage is from Acts and it emphasizes what the disciples were doing in ministry at the time of Pentecost. The activities of the disciples were (you guessed it), “discipleship, fellowship, hospitality, mission and worship.”

The Five Talent Church is more of a change in focus than structure. Before, we had 11 standing committees. With this change we still have 10. The change is on the focus of Christian ministry and how your willingness to volunteer fits in to one of the Five Talents. If you sharpen the pencils for the pew pads you are promoting Divine Worship. If you are assembling boxes of food for the Hope Baskets you are satisfying ‘Christian Mission.’ If you teach second grade Sunday school class or volunteer for Vacation Bible Class you are making “Disciples!” Everyone needs to know how they are growing God’s investment! That is why we are doing this initiative.

Here are some bullets:

- The Session, the Deacons, and the Trustees continue to meet as they always have as the leadership boards of the church with the Session the policy making board of the church.
- There will be 5 Talent Committees, 4 Pillar Committees (Nominating, Personnel, Buildings and Grounds, and Finance), and lots of team or project team doing the work of the church (i.e. ushers, greeters, new member team, memorial reception team, etc.)
- A major hope is that we can increase participation in the ministry life of our the church by the congregation. It is believed that people will be willing to serve in specific tasks with defined responsibilities instead of being asked to sit on a “committee.”
- The goal is also to promote our members willingness to start and try new ministries and to allow for greater freedom and spontaneity.
- While this will take time to truly sink in as a new structure, the focus is on growing the church through participation and by owning the facts that First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach is a Five Talent Church.

This is a new endeavor. We ask that you have patience and mutual forbearance toward each other. We believe that this change in focus can yield amazing results or we would not have attempted such a change. We ask that you examine anew your personal calling and gifts. Compare them to the needs of the church. Plug yourself in to ministry. If we all do this, then we will increase God’s investment in us and we will share the love of Jesus Christ to our community and to the world!

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OFFICE CLOSED—New Year's Day 7:00PM AA	2 8:00AM BNI Networking Partners 10:30AM Handbell Choir 2:00PM Primo –Various 4:00PM Christian Education Mtg 6:30PM AI-Anon	3 11:00AM Luncheon for Preschool Staff 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM First Presbyterian Quilt Group 4:00PM Practice - Dr. Bertie Centerbar 4:00PM Middle School Youth 4:00PM Primo - Annsley Tate 5:30PM High School Youth 6:00PM AI-Anon 6:15PM Chancel Choir	4 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10:00AM Sewing & Crafts 10:00AM SilverTones 10:30AM Disciples Bible Class 10:30AM Palm Garden 2:30PM Primo - Various 3:00PM Finance & Policy Meeting 4:00PM Worship, Music & Arts Mtg 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group) 6:30PM Naomi Circle	5 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM AI-Anon 3:30PM Primo - Sue Lorimier	6 12:00PM PW Annual Meeting
7 8:00AM Sunday Chapel Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday Worship Service 10:20AM IRE Van Pick-Up 11:00AM Sunday Worship Service 5:30PM Youth Fellowship	8 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 10:30AM Caring for the Caregiver 10:45AM Regency Bible Study 11:00AM Ruth Circle 1:00PM Grace Circle 1:00PM PW CT Meeting 2:00PM Friends After Diagnosis 2:00PM Primo - Terri Ellis 3:00PM Trustees Meeting 6:30PM Primo - Judi Lampert 7:00PM AA	9 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 8:00AM BNI Networking Partners 10:30AM Handbell Choir 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 2:00PM Primo –Various 6:30PM AI-Anon 6:30PM Deacons' Meeting	10 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM First Presbyterian Quilt Group 3:30PM Quest Kids' Club 4:00PM Practice - Dr. Bertie Centerbar 4:00PM Middle School Youth 4:00PM Primo - Annsley Tate 4:00PM RightNow Media—Training Session 5:00PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30PM High School Youth 6:00PM AI-Anon 6:15PM Chancel Choir 6:30PM RightNow Media—Training Session	11 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10:00AM SilverTones 10:30AM Disciples Bible Class 2:30PM Primo - Various 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group)	12 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM AI-Anon 3:30PM Primo - Sue Lorimier	13 10:30AM BethWe 10:00AM FPC Quilt Group 10:00AM Deacon Training 10:00AM Memorial Service—Elaine Fox 12:00PM Mended Hearts
14 8:00AM Sunday Chapel Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM Adult Sunday School w/Graham 10:10AM Information Sunday: Membership 10:20AM IRE Van Pick-Up 11:00AM Sunday Worship Service 3:00PM Galleries @ First Pres Reception 5:30PM Youth Fellowship	15 OFFICE CLOSED—Martin Luther King Day 2:00PM Primo - Terri Ellis 3:00PM Trustees Meeting 6:30PM Primo - Judi Lampert 7:00PM AA	16 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 8:00AM Learning Alliance 8:00AM BNI Networking Partners 10:30AM Handbell Choir 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 11:45AM RightNow Media—Training 2:00PM Primo - Emily Dreher 2:30PM Primo - David DeGraeve 6:30PM AI-Anon	17 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM First Presbyterian Quilt Group 3:30PM Quest Kids' Club 4:00PM Practice - Dr. Bertie Centerbar 4:00PM Middle School Youth 4:00PM RightNow Media—Training Session 4:00PM Primo—Annsley Tate 5:00PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30PM High School Youth 6:00PM AI-Anon 6:15PM Chancel Choir 6:30PM RightNow Media—Training Session	18 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10:00AM SilverTones 10:00AM Sewing & Crafts 10:30AM Disciples Bible Class 10:30AM Grace Rehab 2:30PM Primo - Various Instructors 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group) 6:50PM Session Meeting 7:00PM Small Group—Bingham/Adams	19 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM AI-Anon 3:30PM PRIMO - Sue Lorimier	20 8:00AM Learning Alliance 1000AM Friends After Diagnosis
21 8:00AM Sunday Chapel Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM Adult Sunday School w/Graham 10:10AM Session Meets w/New Members 10:20AM IRE Van Pick-Up 11:00AM Sunday Worship Service 12:10PM Session Meets w/New Members 4:00PM Concert Series—Con Brio 5:30PM Youth Fellowship	22 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 10:45AM Regency Bible Study - Dr. Tim 2:00PM Primo - Terri Ellis 6:30PM Primo - Judi Lampert 7:00PM AA	23 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 8:00AM BNI Networking Partners 10:30AM Handbell Choir 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 2:00PM Primo - Emily Dreher 2:30PM Primo - David DeGraeve 6:30PM AI-Anon	24 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM First Presbyterian Quilt Group 2:00PM Quest Kids Club 4:00PM Practice - Dr. Bertie Centerbar 4:00PM Middle School Youth 4:00PM Primo - Annsley Tate 5:00PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30PM High School Youth 6:00PM AI-Anon 6:15PM Chancel Choir	25 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 9:00AM Preschool Chapel 10:00AM Heritage Committee 10:00AM SilverTones 10:00AM Sewing & Crafts 10:30AM Disciples Bible Class 2:00PM Church Life 2:30PM Primo - Various Instructors 4:00PM Worship & Music Mtg 6:00PM AA (Magnolia Group)	26 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM AI-Anon	27 9:00AM Officers Training
28 8:00AM Sunday Chapel Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM Adult Sunday School w/Graham 10:20AM IRE Van Pick-Up 11:00AM Sunday Worship Service 5:30PM Youth Fellowship	29 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 10:45AM Regency Bible Study - Dr. Tim 12:00PM Shared Grief Luncheon 2:00PM Primo - Terri Ellis 6:30PM Primo - Judi Lampert 7:00PM AA	30 7:30AM Men's Breakfast - C.J. Cannon's 8:00AM BNI Networking Partners 10:30AM Dr. Tim's Bible Study 2:00PM Primo - Various Instructors 6:30PM AI-Anon 7:00PM Annual Meeting	31 7:30AM First Presbyterian Preschool 12:00PM Overeaters Anonymous 2:00PM First Presbyterian Quilt Group 3:30PM Quest Kids Club 4:00PM Practice - Dr. Bertie Centerbar 4:00PM Middle School Youth 4:00PM Primo - Annsley Tate 5:00PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30PM High School Youth 6:00PM AI-Anon 6:15PM Chancel Choir			

Mission and Social Concerns

SHARING GOD'S LOVE LOCALLY—STORIES FROM OUR DODGERTOWN READING HEROES

For many many months now, several members and friends of First Presbyterian Church have been spending time—usually an hour per week—working with young students at Dodgertown Elementary. The majority of the work is spent with second graders as they work to master basic reading skills. A handful of our volunteers also spend time in the afternoons working on basic math skills as well. What you will read and encounter below are stories of heartfelt experiences during their time with these under-privileged children. Please read on...

- ◇ *I asked a precious little girl with a great reading deficit if anyone reads with her at home...she said "no". So I asked if she had ever asked anyone at home to read with her..."I asked my Mom,,but she said she doesn't do that"..Then I asked if there were any books in her home....again the "no" reply. On the verge of tears for her, I looked up to the counter in front of us and saw a box of Clorox Wipes.....that inspired me to tell her that everything that comes into her home (except fresh fruit and vegetables) has words on it...I told her to try and read cereal boxes to start....and copy down any words she couldn't figure out (she did understand phonics to a certain extent)..and bring them in to her teacher who could tell her what they were....and her sad eyes brightened! When I told her teacher about the encounter she told me that she would find a way to get some books she could send home with the little angel....."Reading" with them is not all we do.....giving them attention and listening to them is probably more important....*
- ◇ *One morning at "reading time" I was helping a student rebraid her hair and experienced for the first time the feel and texture of African American hair. It was a delight and I wondered why I had never had the opportunity before....It was a turn around experience actually. An African American student (not the same one) shyly asked me if she could touch my hair. I wonder what she thought.? No end to experiences you discover from a reading volunteer job.*
- ◇ *This is from one of the second grade teachers at the school: I cannot tell you how much your presence and love means to my myself and my children. Your presence provides what many are lacking. You are such great role models for them as well. You can see how excited they are when you enter the room. They love and appreciate you so much and I am so grateful for your faithfulness to our kids. You are truly a blessing. Well done, good and faithful servants...*
- ◇ *Ms. Scot, a Second Grade Teacher, is always full of good ideas in getting the children to learn their Math facts. She prompted me to sit on the carpet with a two-foot game board which had 144 answers to math questions. ($17 - 9 = 8$) 8 was on the board, and $17 - 9$ was on a card that they drew. They played this game very enthusiastically, especially when I used my phone stop-watch to time them from the moment they drew a card to the moment they achieved the correct answer! They did not even know it was recess time!*

We continue to be in need of more volunteers to help the second grade classes at Dodgertown Elementary that we have "adopted." In addition to helping with reading for an hour in the mornings, there are opportunities to assist with simple math in the afternoons. Carol Smoyer from Missions is the coordinator for our church and works very hard to fill each morning and afternoon slot. Please consider joining the dedicated Heroes already in place! You may contact Carol Smoyer directly at 567-0929 or clsmoyer@bellsouth.net

Helping

Each Other

Reach

Our Dreams!



Men's F.O.C.U.S. & Fellowship

At an impromptu meeting of the Men's Fellowship this morning, December 12, 2017, at breakfast in Cannon's Restaurant, the following officers were elected by the members present.

Paul Lane Ives: President
Stanford Erickson: Secretary-Treasurer

Rodney Keefer: Vice President
Don Brown: Breakfast Chairman

After the beginning of the new year, we will begin selling tickets and complete arrangements for our gala Valentine Sweetheart Dinner to be held on Saturday, February 10, 2018. Kindly save this date and stay tuned for announcements and information in the coming weeks.

Presbyterian Women

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 6TH TO SPOTLIGHT THORNWELL AND INSTALL 2018 OFFICERS

It's Annual Meeting time for the Presbyterian Women, and this year's program is a high-interest one you won't want to miss. The luncheon meeting commences at 12 Noon on Saturday, Jan. 6, in McAfee Hall, and all women of the church are encouraged to attend. Guest speaker is Jean Homrighausen, Mission Advancement Officer for Thornwell for the State of Florida. And while many of you are familiar with Thornwell as a long-standing mission of Presbyterian Women, its wide scope today may surprise you.



Thornwell dates back to 1875, when a young Presbyterian minister in Clinton, S.C., sought to provide a supportive home for 10 children orphaned by the Civil War. Today, that Clinton location offers a beautiful campus where children in need find safe & loving homes in family-style residences or through placement in foster-care families. Just as important, Thornwell's outreach to children now extends to 14 different locations in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina.

Following what is sure to be an informative update on the mission of Thornwell, the PW Coordinating Team's officers for 2018 will be installed.

While the Annual Meeting luncheon is complimentary, courtesy of the PW Coordinating Team, kindly call the church office at 772-562-9088 to reserve a place so that we know how many to expect. We look forward to greeting you on the 6th!



A BIG THANKS FOR MAKING CHRISTMAS TREE LANE SO SUCCESSFUL!

As you likely know by now, our 63rd (yes, 63rd!!!) annual Christmas Tree Lane was a rousing success, enabling us to distribute more than \$12,500 to PW missions! When Christmas Tree Lane first debuted those many decades ago, who would ever have envisioned the major extravaganza that it is today, where the line of holiday shoppers waiting for the doors to open stretches out to the parking lot.

Christmas Tree Lane is a blessing to so many worthy causes – and it couldn't happen without the whole-hearted support of our many volunteers. Whether you donated items for sale, toiled for hours in your kitchen, or contributed zillions of hours chairing or serving on one of CTL's many committees, your role was vital – and so very much appreciated. To name each person involved would take far more space than we're allotted here, and that fact in itself is a credit to the high level of participation within this loving and giving church community.

An extra nod of thanks goes to Christmas Tree Lane's tireless Co-Chairs, Joan Irvine and Maggie Fleming, who somehow managed to stay on top of it all and adeptly handle whatever came their way with a good-natured smile.

So let's all catch our breaths . . . and maybe start dreaming up ideas for the next Christmas Tree Lane.

CATHIE BECK—PROFILE OF A PRESBYTERIAN WOMAN

By Ann Faunce

Cathie Beck grew up in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., with two sisters and a brother. Her parents raised them in the Lutheran Church, where her dad (who was Director of the U.S. Weather Service) played the organ. Once she had taken piano lessons for a few years and she knew how to read music, Cathie would turn the pages for her dad during the prelude and postlude.



After she graduated from high school, Cathie attended the Washington School for Secretaries for a year and then lived and worked in Washington, D.C. It was while she was there that she met her soon-to-be husband, Denny, who was a Marine Sergeant. It was a whirl-wind courtship, and 2 months after they met, they married. (They celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary in August.). It was less than a month after they married that Denny's brother was killed in Vietnam; and at his parents' request, Denny did not re-enlist. When his enlistment was up, they moved to Pottstown, Pennsylvania to be close to his family. They went on to have three sons- Denny, Jr., Gannon, and Cameron. Cathie's mother tragically passed away shortly after Cameron was born. Denny eventually became the second-youngest police chief in Pennsylvania for West Pottsgrove Township. He eventually got tired of the politics; and 10 years after he left the Marine Corps, he returned to it, first to the Reserves and then Active Duty. They sold their house and moved to Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC.

Her husband went into the Counterintelligence field, and they all had many adventures. Their first duty station was in Jacksonville, North Carolina. The boys were thrilled when they saw the ocean for the first time. From there they went to Okinawa, Japan; Stafford, Virginia; Havelock, North Carolina; Berlin, Germany (they were there when the wall came down); and Waldorf, Maryland.

By the time Denny retired, all three of their boys had joined the Marine Corps, although they did not make careers out of it. Their oldest son served in Desert Storm. Cathie either volunteered at her sons' schools or worked in each duty station. She worked for the Navy-Marine Corps Family Service Center in Okinawa, which gave support to families who needed assistance. She worked for a law office in New Bern, North Carolina; and she also worked at the Tempelhoff Army Aviation Detachment in Berlin. After Denny's retirement from the Corps, they settled down in a mountain home in Shickshinny, Pennsylvania. She says that for many of those years, she was not involved with any church.

While they were living in Shickshinny, Denny suffered his first heart attack. After he recovered, they decided that it was time for another adventure, so they sold their house and everything in it, bought a 5th wheel, and traveled to Wyoming where they worked at a campground in Buffalo for the summer. They enjoyed the culture of the area and had fun going to rodeos. They enjoyed it so much that they found jobs managing apartments for seniors. Cathie also found her way back to Christ while they were living in Cheyenne. Then 9/11 happened, and Denny believed he had to do something. They were also expecting their first grandchild (there are now seven). So back East they went, where he got a job with DIA (Defense Intelligence Agency) and they also got to play with their new granddaughter. After a few years they went to Grove City, PA, where he worked for OPM (Office of Personnel Management). That was their last stop before he retired from the government and they landed in Vero Beach in June of 2016. Cathie says that since his first heart attack, Denny has had four more; and the first year after he retired, he proceeded to have two strokes which have caused him to be homebound. And although he doesn't attend church, Denny will watch live-stream services and an occasional live-stream bible study.

This patriotic family loves their Country and their God! When you talk with Cathie you see a quick sense of humor and openness and willingness to serve and help. She always sees the light! She mentioned how touched she was by the bulletin art showing Christ standing on the water holding out His hand! That picture has spoken to her and is taped to her refrigerator. She looks forward to walking through McKee Gardens for the first time. During Christmas Tree Lane, Cathie ran Mrs. Claus' Kitchen. As Maggie Fleming said, "Cathie's taking 'ownership' of our fledgling Mrs. Claus' Pantry was a blessing for us. She came prepared with everything she might need to make it a success and ran it flawlessly." Cathie will be the incoming Corresponding Secretary for PW. Cathie's favorite verse is I Corinthians 13:7. We are so glad Cathie is a member of First Presbyterian Church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANUARY!

2 Mr. Steven Franek
3 Mrs. Beryl Ford
3 Mr. Reggie Powell
4 Mrs. Marie Buchanan
4 Dr. Terry Long
5 Mrs. Jeanette Hustead
5 Deborah Winkler
5 Mr. Todd Dingee
6 Mrs. Janet Hempton
7 Mr. Bill Brown
7 Mr. Graham Pritchard, Jr.
8 Mr. John Schumann, Jr.
9 Mrs. Shirley Dennis
9 Mrs. Ana Gatzke
10 Mrs. Reita Byrket
11 Mrs. Jane Fleming
11 Ms. Carol Bradley
11 Mr. Cole Seagrave
14 Ms. Blanca Capute
14 Ms. Jillian Barley
16 Ms. Maggie Fleming
16 Mrs. Edith Sinnott
16 Mr. Charles Coxson, III
18 Mrs. Barbara Foster
18 Mrs. Liz Smith
18 Ms. Jan Mooney
18 Ms. Dottie Singleton
18 Mrs. Lisa Potochney
19 Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas
19 Mr. Bill Busby
20 Mr. Rob Nelson
20 Mr. James Peirce
21 Mr. Bill Weber
21 Mrs. Anne Adams
22 Mrs. Sue Broadhurst
22 Ms. Eileen Kennedy
23 Mrs. Phyllis Jennings
23 Mr. Jake Erickson
23 Ms. Tiffany Hamilton
23 Miss Makala Peirce
24 Mrs. Raleighine Hoppe
24 Mrs. Becky Stewart
24 Mrs. Barb Miller
24 Mrs. Laura Bradshaw
25 Mrs. Janet Johnson
25 Mrs. Ann Lewis
26 Mr. Graham Mattice
27 Mrs. Rosalie Allen
27 Ms. Marie Forrest

28 Mr. William Palmer
28 Mr. Phil Nixon
29 Mrs. Carole Coe
29 Mrs. Nancy Harmon
30 Mrs. Elva Burns
30 Mr. Jay Jay Kimble
31 Mr. Ralph Foster
31 Mr. Jim Brann
31 Mr. Sandy Samson, Jr.



OUR CHURCH LEADERSHIP

G. Timothy Womack, D. Min., *Senior Pastor*
Rev. C. Michael York, *Associate Pastor*
Graham Bingham, *Min. of Congregational Care*
Jacob Craig, *Director of Music and Arts*
Anne Adams, *Director of Christian Education*
Alex Hagood, *Youth Ministry Intern*

ELDERS

Class of 2018

Charles Harvin, *Norman Joost, *Will Kirk,
Anne Malsbary, Sam Murdough

Class of 2019

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

Class of 2020

Carol Campbell, *Steve Harrison, Steve Nystrom,
Noel Thompson
**indicates Elder/Trustee*

Trustees-at-Large

2018 - Robert C. "Smitty" Smith
2019 - Carol Beaty
2020 - John Reed

Clerk of Session - Connie Herr

Treasurer - Allan Bixby

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2018

Sue Broadhurst, Karen Deigl, Beth Dingee,
James Ewing, Michael Goodfellow, Bob Martin,
Sandy Thiel, Emily Zeigler

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

**indicates Moderator*

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January 10th and 17th at 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm
January 16th at 11:45 am (lunch included.)

Kindly RSVP to Anne Adams by phone at 562-9088 or email at anne@firstpresvero.org

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