

MIPC PRESS

Merritt Island Presbyterian Church
February 2025

LOVE

Pastor Christina's Corner



We each experience and show love in different ways. Yet, love is so very important to who we are and how we see the world. So often when we find ourselves alone, afraid or worries, we fill our thoughts with the negative lies that tend to keep us more and more isolated.

Next time you find yourself feeling like you aren't loved just as you are; go through these verses. The Bible is filled with scriptures sharing how much God loves us.

This morning (January 27) when I was talking to the preschool kids about the story of silly Jonah I was reminded once again that no matter what, no matter how far we run, no matter the bad things that we do, the ways we disobey, the anger we share towards others—God will always love us.

God loved the Ninevites, the animals, and even Jonah who flat out turned away from God. Every time I read the story of Jonah I am reminded of the agent of God's love that the whale was. That God used it as a way to save and protect Jonah. Who and what are the agents of God's love in your life? How can God use us to be agents for others?

No matter what, always remember that YOU ARE LOVED! Just as you are, YOU ARE ENOUGH!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Christina

Preschool



The new year is under way! From October to January is always such a busy time for us at the Preschool. We stay busy with the Fall Festival, the family Thanksgiving feast, Breakfast with Santa and the Live Nativity.

All these programs take a lot of time and energy, but we have so much fun doing them.

Now we settle into our routine for the new year. We have been enjoying our new Contemporary Worship on Friday nights at 5 PM—we serve dinner and then have an interactive, family friendly worship service.

This new year we put out flyers and gave out invitations for this new service. It is our hope that more of our preschool families will start attending.

We are looking forward to a wonderful new year and the coming of Spring. Happy New Year everyone.



*Tammy Lewis & Robyn Mills, Preschool Co-Directors
Pat Smith, Preschool Elder*

Worship

In January we were blessed by many special services:

- On Jan. 5 we celebrated the first Sacrament of Communion in 2025.
- On Jan. 12, Baptism of the Lord Sunday, we ordained and installed our new Elders and Deacons.
- On Jan. 26 we had our annual Congregational Meeting and Meeting of the Corporation right after worship. We received the 2024 Annual Report and 2025 Budget, elected a 2025 Nominating Committee, and appointed new Corporate Officers.

February brings Love! Our first Sunday of February is Scout Sunday. We welcome Troop 343 to worship where they will present the colors, and serve as ushers and liturgists. We also celebrate the sacrament of communion.

On February 9, Elder Milt Seapker will preach, with Pastor Christina assisting in the pulpit. We excited to hear another message from Milt! This is also 5 Cents Per Meal Sunday.

As always, we thank our musicians Jennavon Brown and Jeana Lutz, and Joyce Walker who fills in as needed, for their commitment and willingness to share their talents with us every week. James Neihouse and Dale Greenawalt are also very much appreciated for producing the video and running the audio, which enables us to live stream our services on Facebook. This has become a huge benefit for those who are either homebound or traveling and cannot attend worship in person.

And thank you, MIPC Congregation, for your continued prayers and support as we embark upon this new year!

Blessings,

MIPC Worship Committee

Mission/Outreach



FAMILY PROMISE WRAPUP —FIRST HOSTING ***We did it!***

Frances and Cheryl (Co-coordinators) are happy to report that January 12-19, our first FP hosting of one family of 8 was very successful! They resided in the spacious Activities Room and, though they all got bad colds, the mom said how much she appreciated our help.

It required an amazing **33** people—all but two are MIPC folks, the other two were Theresa and Kevin Riley from Rockledge Presbyterian.

Family Promise asks us to do a guesstimate of how many hours it took for all 33 of us to take care of the family and it came to **378** hours. (This does not include the many hours Frances and Cheryl spent on meetings and planning.)

The important thing is that most or all of the 33 volunteers have said they enjoyed it and have expressed interest in helping when we host again, **September 28- October 5th**. Next time we will probably have two or three families so this first experience with just one family helped us work out some of the potential challenges.

If you have suggestions for us please share them, and please know how much you volunteers were appreciated.

And if you would like to join us as a co-coordinator, we would welcome the backup!

*Cheryl Mahan (321-431-9623) & Frances Fernald (321-427-4477),
co-coordinators*

Stephen Ministry



*Bear one another's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
Galatians 6:2*

Stephen Ministers multiply ministry by providing high quality care to:

- those grieving the loss of a loved one
- terminally ill people and their families
- people who are homebound
- victims of disaster
- the hospitalized

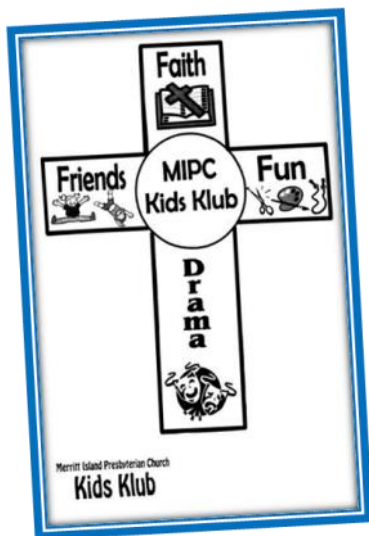
and countless other situations when people are experiencing a crisis or difficult time and could benefit from on going, one-on-one Christian care.

MIPC, in partnership with Grace Methodist church, has a strong Stephen Minister program. If you or anyone you know who might be benefitted with a Stephen Minister, please call Pastor Christina or Craig Smoot (321-223-4841, Stephen Minister liaison). All is held confidential.

Faith Formation Ministries



Kids Klub Spring semester is off to a great start! They will perform **"The S.A.L.T. Company"** in May. If you know anyone who might be interested in this amazing ministry please contact our Performing Arts Director, Mary Lou Tipton at 321-544-7234 or iccone1@yahoo.com, or Pam Poland, Faith Formation Ministries Associate at 321-452-5689 ext. 1003 or mipcffm@gmail.com.



Faith Formation Ministries



One Purpose Productions Spring semester is off to a great start! They will perform “**What’s Growing Under Your Bed**” in April. We are very excited to be working with our new Music Director, Christi Griffith, and can’t wait to further develop the kids’ gifts and talents! If you know anyone who might be interested in this amazing ministry please contact our Performing Arts Director, Mary Lou Tipton at 321-544-7234 or iccone1@yahoo.com, or Pam Poland, Faith Formation Ministries Associate at 321-452-5689 ext.1003 or mipcffm@gmail.com.

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/MIPCPerformingArts

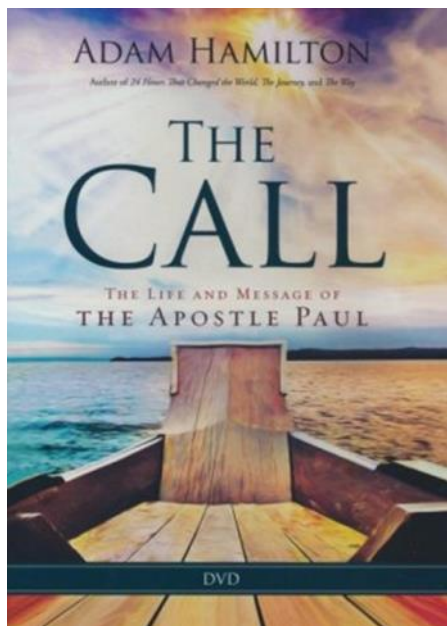


Faith Formation Ministries



Adult Faith Enrichment Class Sunday Mornings 9:00 a.m. Session Room & Zoom

"The Call, The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul"



with Milt Seapker & Dave Hertzler

The apostle Paul and his fellow missionaries turned the ancient world upside down by preaching a gospel of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. Now journey with Adam Hamilton to the ancient sites themselves in Greece and Turkey and hear penetrating insights that have profoundly shaped every branch of Christianity.

Come join us in person or on Zoom!

The link to join will be sent out with your weekly bulletin.

Faith Formation Ministries



Activities Room—Sundays at 10:00 AM

Merritt Island Presbyterian Church offers Children's Church for Preschool-6th grade. Class starts after the Children's Message in our Worship service beginning at 10:00 a.m. Come join us for Bible stories, Crafts and Games! If you are interested, know someone who might be, or would like more information please contact Pam Poland at 321-452-5689 ext. 1003 or mipcffm@gmail.com.

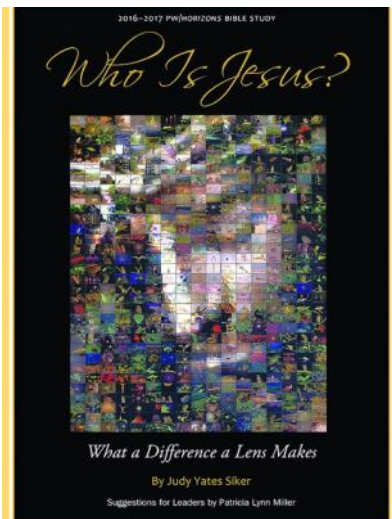


When we have infants or toddlers that need care during our worship service, Faith Formation Ministries can help. We have a rotation schedule set up for a wonderful group of volunteers. Our Ushers have a copy of the schedule, and can direct our guests to someone. For those who may not know, our new Nursery room location is in the church office next to Faith Formation Ministries.

Faith Formation Ministries



Faith Formation Ministries Bible Study Group
Fabulous Fridays!!
February 7th & 21st @ 2:00 p.m.



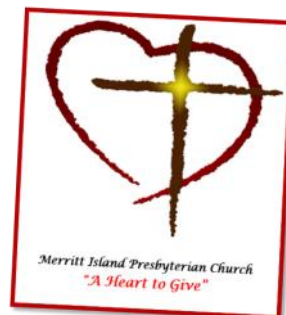
Our study is led by Julie Hill and is titled "Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes"

Come join us for a time of Faith & Fellowship in the Activities Room every other Friday @ 2:00 p.m.

Please contact Julie Hill for more information and questions.
cjzhill@bellsouth.net or 321-431-5333



Committed to
nurturing faith,
supporting mission,
working for justice,
and building community.



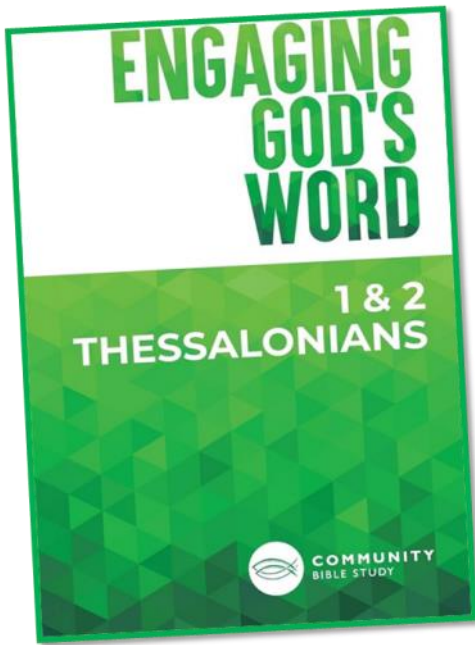
Faith Formation Ministries



**Men's Bible Study Group
with Milt Seapker**

Wednesdays @ 2:00 p.m. beginning Jan. 15

Location: 200 South Banana River Dr., E11, Merritt Isl. 32952



What will happen when Jesus comes again? What happens when people die? Are these the “end times?” The apostle Paul wrote two letters to the Thessalonians to settle their hearts and minds, and to guide them in confusing times. In this six-lesson study you will learn how to walk in a manner worthy of Christ that will give you confidence when He returns. Connect with the enduring truth of God’s Word. Come out of the clutter and clanging of our culture and discover the peace of meeting the God of the Bible in the pages of His Word. You will find simple tools that cultivate your understanding and engage your heart. Tools for transformation. You also will learn how to apply God’s Word in your everyday life. You are beginning an incredible journey!

Pease contact Milt at 910-580-9344 or milton.s43@aol.com if you are interested in attending.

Faith Formation Ministries

Merritt Island Presbyterian Church

Presents

Friday Fellowship!

Every Friday @ 5:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

135 Cone Road, Merritt Island 32952

merrittislandpc.org

www.facebook.com/Merritt.Island.Presbyterian.Church

**Bring your whole family and come join us for
Dinner, Music & Worship! Interactive and family friendly
for all ages!**



A Heart To Give

Faith Formation Ministries

1. Our committee met on Monday, January 13th @ 1:00 p.m. in the Session room and on Zoom.
2. These are the current and proposed upcoming activities for 2025.
 - a. Children's Church is in Session for Spring classes.
 - b. Adult Faith Enrichment Class-Sunday mornings 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room and on Zoom. Our current study is **"The Call, The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul"** by Adam Hamilton and led by Milt Seapker and Dave Hertzler.
 - c. Women's Ministry: Fabulous Fridays Bible Study group: February meeting dates are the 7th & 21st @ 2:00 p.m. in the Activities Room. Our study is **"Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes"** led by Julie Hill.
 - d. Men's Ministry: Bible Study every Wednesday @ 2:00 p.m.: The current study is Engaging God's Word, Thessalonians 1 & 2 led by Milt Seapker.
 - e. Friday Fellowship Contemporary Worship Service: Friday evenings @ 5:00 p.m.
 - f. Easter Festival: Saturday, April 12th, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 - g. One Purpose Productions Spring performances: Saturday, April 26th & Sunday, April 27th @ 4:00 p.m.
 - h. Kids Klub Spring performances: Saturday, May 3rd & Sunday, May 4th @ 4:00 p.m.
 - i. Vacation Bible School: July 14th-18th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 - j. 15th Annual Women's Retreat: Saturday, September 20th
 - k. Fall Festival: Saturday, October 11th, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
 - l. 3rd Annual Preschool Christmas Pageant & Live Nativity: Monday, December 8th @ 4:00 p.m.
 - m. Our next committee meeting will be on Monday, February 10th @ 1:00 p.m.

Happy Valentine's Day & Blessings to all!

Pamela Poland

Faith Formation Ministries Associate

Patrícia Smith & Milt Seapker

Faith Formation Ministries Elders

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

10 Alecia Dutter
10 Olivia Carden
11 Paul Fernald
11 Christina Greenawalt
12 Shirley Bottomley
19 Marilyn Smoot
25 Lorrie Peek
28 Tom Boekhout

BUDGET UPDATE

YTD As of 12/31/24

Actual Revenue: \$212,536

Budgeted: \$199,000

Actual Expenses: \$220,060

Budgeted: \$213,710

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

14 Craig & Julie Hill
22 Lorrie & Larry Peek



please note

The deadline for input in the
March newsletter is **February 14**
(early this month!)



*The MIPC Press is printed by the Merritt Island Presbyterian Church,
600 S. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, Florida 32952.*

Rev. Christina Greenawalt
Pam Poland
Leslie Mitchell
Jennavon Brown
Jeana Lutz
Tammy Lewis
Robyn Mills
MaryLou Tipton

Pastor
Faith Formation Ministries Associate
Financial Secretary
Substitute Organist/Pianist
Church Vocalist
Preschool Director
Preschool Director
Performing Arts Director

**Each month, we feature an “Eco-Friendly Tip!” It’s our way of helping
conserve resources and preserve our beautiful Brevard beaches and
waterways. Here’s your February tip:**



*Did you know there are official tours of the Brevard County Disposal Facility
(aka The Dump)? We have taken a group there in the past and it is fascinating.
Keep an eye on your bulletins & newsletters for our next group tour.*

Do you have a tip to share? Contact mipresbyterian@gmail.com.

Please contact the church office if we can assist you in any way.



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1003: Pam Poland

1004: Rev. Greenawalt

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