

Stained Glass Gazette

First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, GA

February 14, 2019

Devotionals: Sources of Inspiration

In teaching our group of First Presbyterian Inquirers in recent weeks, I have emphasized that Presbyterians are “The People of Four Books.” 1) The first book, our primary source of authority in knowing God, and ourselves as God’s people, is The Bible. In the Bible God encounters us in the stories of His involvement in the life of Israel, leading up to God’s coming to us in Jesus Christ, whom we meet personally in the New Testament. 2) and 3) The second and third books that mark Presbyterianism together form the constitution of the PCUSA, The Book of Confessions and The Book of Order. The Confessions are documents that outline and express the beliefs of our Reformed Faith down through the centuries. The Book of Order outlines the foundational tenets of the church theologically, how we govern ourselves, how we order worship, and how we handle issues demanding internal discipline. 4) The fourth “book” on our “Presbyterian Book Shelf” is the compilation of each of our Personal Experiences in life.

Each one of us has a different and, dare I say, exciting story to tell! Our faith acknowledges that God has been present with us from the beginning, watching over us, caring for us, guiding and sustaining us through the years, all along the different, unique twists and turns of the journeys bringing us to the places where we are. This is true even for those who do not yet acknowledge God’s existence or presence with them. But for people of faith, our experiences and God’s place in those experiences are the stories and the chapters in each one’s fourth book!

Whenever I attend a session meeting, deacons meeting, committee meeting or teach a Sunday School Class, the part of each meeting I anticipate the most is the opening devotional. I have yet to hear a poor one. The ones that touch me the deepest, the ones I remember, the ones that strengthen me and keep me keeping on are the ones in which you share a story or a chapter from your Book of Experience. We are all in this life journey together. Our stories are the tales of who we are, who we are as children of God, who we are as the family of God in our work, worship and play here at MFPC. Sharing ourselves, telling our stories, laying out before others those places where we see the Bible, our Lord Jesus, our personal experiences all intersecting, may be the most difficult thing any of us will be called upon to do. Yet, the impact of your story on others is dynamic. It is inspirational, I assure you. God gives us one another that we might support, strengthen and inspire one another.

These things being said about our importance for one another, whenever I feel my spiritual well running low, I have a place I go regularly on the internet in search of drinks of inspiration. Many of you have devotional sites that support you. I would love to hear about them. My favorite devotional site is the Center for Action Contemplation, organized by Fr. Richard Rohr, a Franciscan Priest. Fr. Rohr comes from a tradition of Contemplative Mystics. His devotions are simply outstanding, and seldom fail to give me something to think of throughout the day. Give him a try. Follow the link below. Look him up on YouTube as well.

<https://cac.org/jesus-human-and-divine-weekly-summary-2019-02-02/>

One final word of encouragement: whenever you are called upon to give a devotional, don’t panic! You have a great story to tell in your personal book of experience. Tell us who you are, and how your experience fits into the greater experience of who we are as God’s people at First Presbyterian Moultrie. Our stories are our gifts to one another!

Blessings to All! Dr. G.

CONCERNS

Immediate Concerns

*Allen Chandler (Shirley Chandler’s son) *Bob Norris *Jane Fraser *Glenda Bivins (Ricky Griffin’s mother)
*Justin Williams (Rhonda Blanton’s cousin) *Ben Harrison *Joyce Laabs
*Phil Keeny *Joanne Harsh Meredith +

On-Going Concerns

*Anne Carlton *Mitch Britt (Alice Griner’s son) *Baby Max Herndon *Ann Vereen (Jerry Vereen’s daughter
-in-law) *Bill Acuff *Luna Chappell (Verna Moon’s great granddaughter) *Sherry Rentz

CHILDREN & YOUTH ICE SKATING & JACKSONVILLE ZOO TRIP



Due to lack
of interest!

INSTEAD.... WAKULLA RIVER TRIP

Monday, February 18

Leave church at 10:00 am.

Bring your own lunch or buy something at the Soda Fountain. Play on the playground & take a boat ride down beautiful Wakulla River.

This trip is open to children and youth.

Cost: Child 3-12—\$5 Ages 13-64—\$8

WORSHIP STREAMING

Sunday morning worship services will now be live streamed on YouTube. Search for Moultrie First Presbyterian Live.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Committee Meeting

Sunday, February 17, 8:30 AM

Stated Session Meeting

Tuesday, February 19, 6:30 PM

Friends of the Church Committee

Wednesday, February 20, 5:00 PM

Christian Education Committee

Sunday, February 24, 8:30 AM

Congregational Care Committee

Wednesday, February 27, 4:30 PM

Men's Breakfast

Sunday, March 3, 8:30 AM

Presbyterian Women Executive Board

Monday, March 4, 10:00 AM

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2019-2020

Preschool registration is now open for church members and current preschool families. We have programs for ages 1-4. Registration forms are available in the



church office. Be sure to sign up now if you are interested as spots go quickly and registration will open up to the public after February 15.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED

The Presbyterian Preschool program is seeking applicants for the 2 year-old teaching position. Melanie Rykard is retiring at the end of this school year, after many years of service. If you are interested in the position, please leave your resume in the church office marked to the attention of Katie Jenkins, preschool director.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children ages 3 through 2nd grade may leave church to go to Children's Church after the children's sermon. They meet in Mrs. Kimberly's room in the Stegall Building where adult leaders will lead a lesson appropriate for young children. Parents can pick up their child after church from Mrs. Kimberly's room.

HELPING HANDS COLLECTION BOX

From January through March, we are collecting food for the Food Bank. Especially needed are canned goods: peas, soup, mixed veggies, potatoes, spaghetti sauce, fruit, and mixed fruit.



CORNERSTONES

Movie Night—Thursday, February 21, 5:30 pm at the church with pizza, popcorn and movie candy. We will be watching a James Garner film. Cost is \$5. Signed up: Susan P., Bea

“Tarzan” CCHS Musical—Sunday, February 24, 2:00 pm—We will eat lunch together and then go to the show.

Lunch on the Road to Wiregrass Restaurant in Quitman—Thursday, February 28, Leave at 11 am. Signed up: Susan P., Bea, Virginia, Lynda, Vicki, Molly, Art

Grand Ole Opry Salute to Veterans—Saturday, March 2—Meet at the church to eat supper before the show at 5:00 pm. Cost: \$20

“Arsenic and Old Lace” in Tallahassee—Sunday, March 3—We will have a quick sandwich lunch at church before leaving for a 2:00 show. Eat supper on the way home. Cost: \$22

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH SPORTS

Please come out and support our youth in the different activities they are in:

High School Tennis – Aaron Long, Fletcher Jacobs and Ian Smith—February 27th @ 4:00

Baseball 8th grade—Landon Griffin —games dates at home February 19th at 4:00

9th grade—Hayden Moore—February 25th @ 4:30 and 27th @ 4:00

Middle School Soccer—Ann Caroline Taylor and Emma Jane Norman—February 27th @ 4:00

High School Girls Soccer—Mary Madelyn Jacobs—February 22 @ 5:00

High School Boys Soccer—Bobby Ussery—February 22 @ 7:00

CCHS MUSICAL “Tarzan”

We have four youth in the musical this year! Brenna Blanton, Madeline Norman, Mary Madelyn Jacobs and Isabella Jacobs – Thursday, February 21st thru Sunday, February 24th. Youth will attend together on Sunday, February 24th. (If I have left anyone out please let me know.)

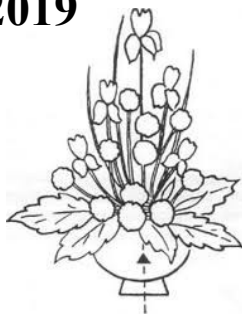
YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT

Sunday, February 17th movie in the youth room from 5-7. Coke and popcorn will be served. You can wear your pj’s and bring a friend!

FLOWERS 2019

The following dates are still available for flowers: March 31, June 2, June 16, July 14, August 4, August 11, September 1, September 8, September 29, November 10, December 1, and December 29.

If you are interested, please call or text Holly Beard at 229-798-0669. You may also call the church office at 229-985-3158.



INQUIRER’S CLASS

The Inquirer’s Class has been extended for one more Sunday. They will meet again on February 17.

WATCH & PLAYGROUND

Children at church on Wednesday night need to remain in the Fellowship Hall until the adults supervising the playground go to the playground. A few good men and women are needed to supervise the playground on Wednesday nights.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the church on Sunday, February 10 were given to the glory of God by Holly Beard

First Presbyterian Church

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FROM THE KITCHEN

Even though you will get this after Valentine's Day, I am wishing you a happy one. We fed 107 at WATCH this week. We had 12 cancellations and 14 no shows.

MENU for FEBRUARY 20, 2019

REGULAR: Baked Pork Chops, Creamed Corn, Cabbage, Buttered Carrots, Rolls/Cornbread, Watergate Salad, Salad Bar, Fruit

DIET: Baked Chicken, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar, Fruit

CHILDREN: Hamburgers, Fries

DESSERTS: Frozen Hawaiian Pie, Frozen Peanut Butter Pie, Cookies, Ice Cream

MENU for FEBRUARY 27, 2019

REGULAR/CHILDREN: Fried Chicken, Livers, Gizzards, Potato Salad, Rutabagas, Baked Apples and Carrots, Rolls/Cornbread, English Pea Salad, Salad Bar, Fruit

DIET: Baked Chicken, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar, Fruit

DESSERTS: Key Lime Pie, French Coconut Pie, Cookies, Ice Cream

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

In the busy life we live, will we stop long enough for God's teaching and comfort? Is there a better place to find peace in our lives than sitting at the feet of Jesus?

In Christ, Faye