

Stained Glass Gazette

First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, GA

May 9, 2019

A Year of Reflections!

2018-2019 has been a whirlwind year for the Gillespies, Belva and Richard. Do you realize that Belle and I first met you roughly a year ago next week? The session committee, charged with locating your Interim Pastor for this time of transition, spent about an hour and a half on the telephone with me. At the end of that memorable conversation, the committee invited Belva and me to come visit Moultrie and check “things” out for ourselves. We accepted! We quickly got ourselves together and drove to South Georgia in time to take in the last WATCH of the year, last year’s Youth Auction and Dinner. And here we are! Next Wednesday will mark one year since we all met face to face for the first time! Feels like a life-time! Feels like only yesterday!

Close to the end of one of our recent session meetings, we reached that space of time when business was completed and the elders were engaged in general conversation when one elder asked me, “How are we doing?” I remember that I initially responded, rather quickly, “We’re doing okay!” Then I thought for a moment and realized the question was much more deeply serious, “No, ...how ARE we doing?” On my way home that night, I was beating myself up, because I wasn’t ready for the question. But it is indeed the question de jour!

If you will allow me to put my counselor’s hat on for a moment, I will tell you that we/you have needed this year to settle, to sort out feelings about where we have been, who we are, how we got here. Am I going to leave? Am I going to stay? Are there really such graces in life as healing and reconciliation? How do they happen? Are they happening among us? What does that commandment (the Law of Christ) Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper really mean for us: “Love one another as I have loved you!”? You will recall that those 12 scalawags who followed Jesus so closely were about as well suited for community with one another as oil and water!

I want to assure you that we are making progress in many of these areas of our life together, just mentioned, and more. These upcoming months will be a time of organizing ourselves to begin the concerted search for your next called pastor. It is a process, as you know, one that will not be rushed when rightly done. I am convinced that you/we have needed this time I have been with you to get to the place where we are today. I am not sure I have done anything especially unique, other than try to be your pastor. In my years of ministry, I have learned to appreciate God’s schedule, and God’s often unexpected agenda! It is not always like our own. I laugh out loud when I think of what someone recently said to me: “If you want to make God laugh, tell Him what your plans are!” So true! If it were not so, I’d be in Mississippi! Feels like only yesterday when we were.

These months have been a great year for Belva and me. We love Moultrie! We love you! You are a wonderful church! We offer prayers and blessings for you and for ourselves as we continue our journey into whatever it is God has in store for us next!

The Peace of Christ be with you!

Dr. G.

CONCERNS

Immediate Concerns

*Tom Crawford (Josh Hancock’s grandfather) *Pastor Wayne Woods *Scott Hart (Lacey Hart’s father-in-law)
*Pearl Grandy *Jane Fraser *Glenda Bivins (Ricky Griffin’s mother) *Justin Williams (Rhonda Blanton’s cousin)
*Phil Keeny *Joanne Harsh Meredith

On-Going Concerns

*Bill Acuff *Joyce Laabs *Anne Carlton *Mitch Britt (Alice Griner’s son)
*Luna Chappell (Verna Moon’s great granddaughter)

FLOWERS

*The flowers in the church on Sunday, April 28 were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our son **Bailey Heard** by Mr. and Mrs. Buck Heard*

*The flowers in the church on Sunday, May 5 were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Fran Soos** by Jim Soos*

HELPING HANDS COLLECTION BOX

In April-June we will be collecting items for the Mommy Mall at Hope House. Mothers can pick up items they need for their babies. Please bring diapers, baby wipes, baby lotion, baby shampoo – anything a baby might need.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS



Begins May 28
Monday—Thursday 9 AM—4 PM
Friday (regular schedule) 9 AM—3 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon's Meeting

Sunday, May 12, 8:15 AM

Ladies' Evening Circle

Monday, May 13, 7:00 PM
Home of Joan White

Missions Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 14, 5:30 PM

Last WATCH

Wednesday, May 15

Friends of the Church Committee

Wednesday, May 15, 5:00 PM

Worship Committee Meeting

Sunday, May 19, 8:30 AM

Christian Education Committee

Sunday, May 19, 8:30 AM

Stated Session Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 6:30 PM

Congregational Care Committee

Wednesday, May 22, 4:30 PM

THANK YOU!

As the school year comes to a close, we need to thank the ladies who have made the WATCH children's activities possible. Besides learning about God, the children also had so much fun.
Preschool Teachers: Beth Cannon & Gina Cox
K-1st Teachers: Carrie Norman & Marisa Taylor
2nd-3rd Teacher: Susan Pearson
4th-5th Teachers: Charissa McKellar & Lisa Zeanah
Recreation Leader: Katie Cato
Choir Teachers: Laura Hall & Tom Whiddon

CHURCH T-SHIRTS

FPC Youth are doing a church t-shirt order as a fundraiser.

Short Sleeve:	Long Sleeve:
Sizes YS—XL: \$20	Sizes YS—XL: \$23
2X —3X: \$22	2X—3X: \$25

For more information or questions, please contact Diane Herndon at 229-456-2510. Order forms are available at the church. **All orders and money is due by Monday, May 13!**

MFPC Treasurer Report

Month of April:	2019	2018
Receipts	\$84,996	\$63,332
Expenses	(\$42,111)	(\$37,078)
Net Income (Loss)	\$42,885	\$26,254
Year To Date:		
Receipts	\$209,659	\$195,194
Expenses	(\$160,665)	(\$169,899)
Net Income (Loss)	\$48,994	\$25,295

First Presbyterian Church

501 First Street SE

Moultrie, Georgia 31768

229-985-3158

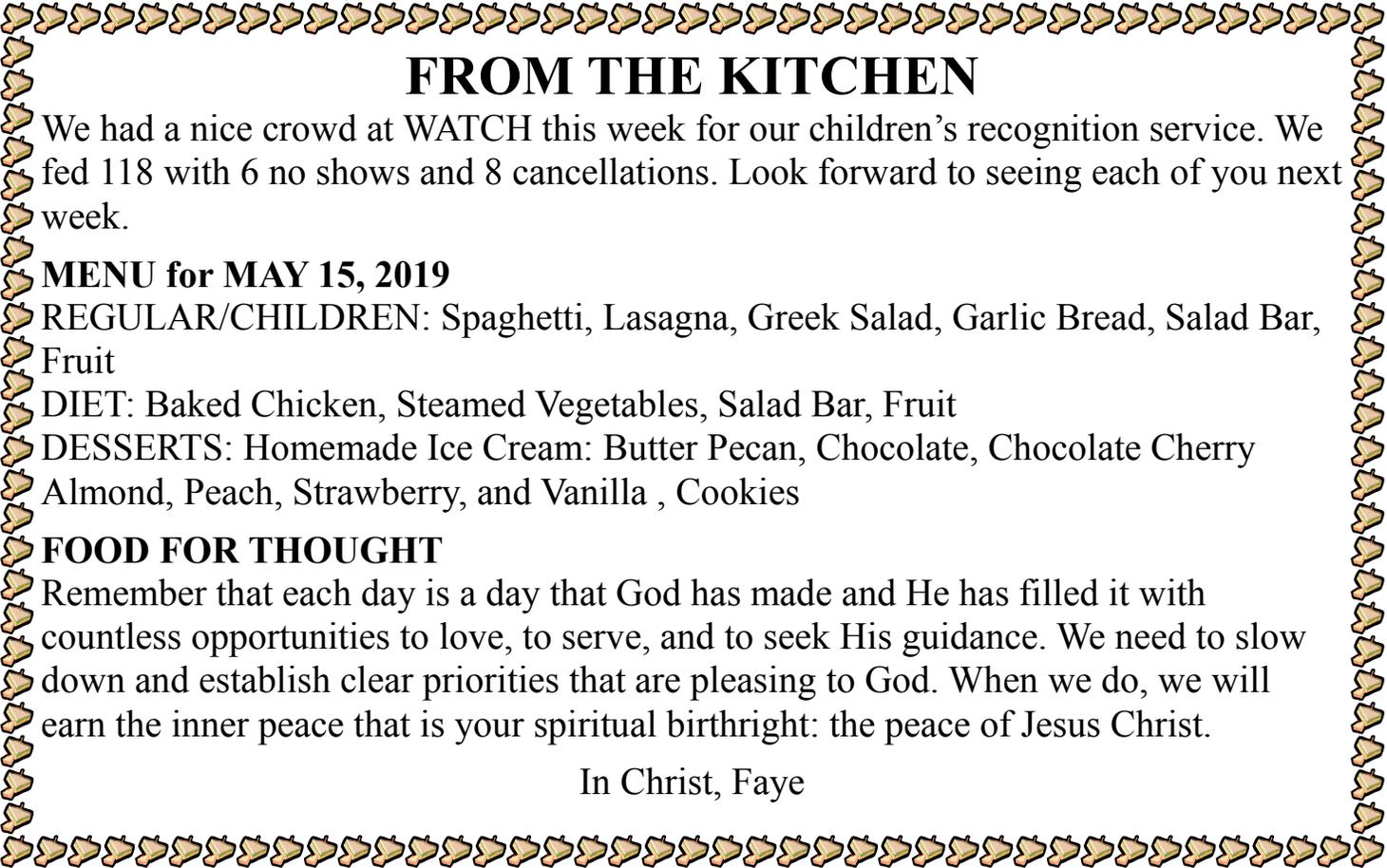
Fax: 229-890-9715

Email: 1stpres@moultriega.net

www.moultriefirstpres.com

Return Services Requested

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MOULTRIE, GA
PERMIT NO. 162



FROM THE KITCHEN

We had a nice crowd at WATCH this week for our children's recognition service. We fed 118 with 6 no shows and 8 cancellations. Look forward to seeing each of you next week.

MENU for MAY 15, 2019

REGULAR/CHILDREN: Spaghetti, Lasagna, Greek Salad, Garlic Bread, Salad Bar, Fruit

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

DESSERTS: Homemade Ice Cream: Butter Pecan, Chocolate, Chocolate Cherry Almond, Peach, Strawberry, and Vanilla , Cookies

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Remember that each day is a day that God has made and He has filled it with countless opportunities to love, to serve, and to seek His guidance. We need to slow down and establish clear priorities that are pleasing to God. When we do, we will earn the inner peace that is your spiritual birthright: the peace of Jesus Christ.

In Christ, Faye