

First Family News

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAKELAND, FL
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It's Cool in the Furnace

First Presbyterian Church will proudly present the Summer Fine Arts Camp musical, "It's Cool in the Furnace," on Saturday afternoon, July 24, at 3:00.

Over sixty campers, directors, and student assistants are involved in our camp production this year. The production is based on the third chapter of Daniel, in which Nebuchadnezzar requires the Hebrews to worship the idol he has built rather than to worship their God.

Come and see how God protects those who are faithful to His calling. **Admission is free.** Bring your friends and enjoy this delightful look at a very familiar biblical story.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

We at FPC have heart felt thanks for all those who helped make our VBS *High Seas Expedition* a successful journey this year!

Blessings that we had 2 local churches who wanted to use our decorations, lessons, etc. for their VBS We were so happy that we could share our VBS with them!

Memorial Display

We have the privilege of displaying a Memorial Cross Remembrance for our Fallen Floridian Heroes on our front lawn July 24, through Aug. 2. This is a traveling tribute that originated in Northeast Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg during the Memorial Day holiday, then it was displayed at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church in Town 'N Country for the 4th of July holiday. Please be sure and stop by to see the meaningful display and tell others about it!

If anyone is interested in helping with the set up or take down of this project please contact Dan Blanchard at ddbanchard@verizon.net or Jackie Hansen at jackie@fpclakeland.org

Warrior Walk

Saturday, July 31, from 9 – 11 a.m., the Warrior Walk, an event to honor our U.S. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who have been killed in action while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, will be held at FPC.

Preschool Camp

During the week of July 26, FPC will offer summer preschool camp for ages 3-5 from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. The cost is \$85.00. Registration forms are available in the preschool office (between 9:00 & 1:00). Call 616-9196 for more information.

We are pleased to announce that First Presbyterian Church has implemented a loss prevention program provided by RedLine Solution, LLC. This program allows all of us to get involved. We are requesting every member's assistance to help the church safeguard the property of both the church and its members from loss. FPC will pay cash rewards to anyone who submits information concerning theft (tipster) to RedLine Solution. RedLine Solution provides total anonymity to anyone when making a report regarding problems. Calls are answered out of state. Your name is never asked, and your identity will not be known. You will never have to testify or get involved. Tips can be submitted 24/7/365 online at www.redlinesolution.com, through a phone call to 800-301-8789 (no Caller ID – no recording), or by sending a text message to Redline + information to 274637. You do not have to pick up your own reward; you can have someone else do this for you. How does this system work? Visit www.redlinesolution.com for full details or call Elena Nicholas, Director of Finance and Administration, 686-7187 ext. 236.

On-line Giving

We believe that giving is vitally important to the spiritual growth of believers. At FPC, we are committed to helping you grow in your faith in a variety of ways and giving is an important step in that process. For your convenience, we wanted to make you aware that you can give online through our web site. For tithes and offerings we have E-Check available which is an Electronic Fund Transfer. This is the most economical method for the church that allows you to contribute online. Please know that due, in part, to the high merchant fees associated with credit cards, we will no longer be accepting credit cards for tithes and offerings.

—Elena Nicholas, Director of Finance & Administration

Interested in Bluegrass?

The FPC Bluegrass Ensemble is looking for anyone who wants to play bluegrass/folk music. Skill level doesn't matter! The group meets on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. For information about the Ensemble, contact Anthony Ison at 863-712-9472 or e-mail AglenIson@aol.com.

Summer Choir

It's a great time to rehearse and sing with the choir—just to try it out. Summer Choir meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 and sings only at the 10:30 classic worship service. Everyone who likes to sing is welcome to come and join us.

Women's Retreat!

"A Woman's Path," September 17-19 at DaySpring Conference Center in Ellenton. Registration is \$135. Drop registration and payment off in the church office, attention: Jo Ahearn.

**College Small Group
Bible Study
Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
Call the church office
(686-7187 ext. 242)
for location.**

Successful CROP Walk

We nearly doubled the FPC walkers this year, from 16 to 29, and added \$1000 to our donations for a total of \$3,349.10. Thank you to those who walked and to those who donated to the walkers. We would not have been able to do this without the help and organization of Susie Moerschbacher and Lisa Scott. Thank you so much, ladies.

—Kathryn Delk

Great Food Drive!

Thanks to everyone who helped FPC donate a total of 6,851 pounds of food to our needy and hungry neighbors in Lakeland! Representatives from Volunteers in Service to the Elderly, Salvation Army, Talbot House, Parker Street Ministries, Lighthouse Ministries, and Anchor House picked up your donations, plus the bulk purchases from our mission budget. The need for food never ceases! If you want to donate food any time during the year, or put together a food drive on your own, in your neighborhood, or with an organization to which you belong, contact one of these ministries directly or consult with FPC's mission coordinator, Nancy Bertram (686-7187 or bertramfl@gmail.com).

8:15 Chapel Service

The 8:15 Classic service will be held in the Chapel through August 15, then will move back to the Sanctuary on August 22.

Congregational News

Congratulations . . .

. . . to Elizabeth Blanchard, daughter of Dawn & Don Blanchard, who was selected as a recipient of Polk State College's Public Service Scholar scholarship. She will start her senior year at Lakeland High School in the fall.

. . . to Ginny and Mike Houghton on the birth of a son, Thomas Banks Houghton, on July 14, and to grandparents Joanne and Ralph Allen.

Prayers and Sympathy . . .

. . . to Ray and Kathy Dhue on the death of Kathy's brother, David Jahnke of Colorado Springs, on July 4.

Pedal Power Ministry

Grandchildren visiting this summer? FPC's Pedal Power Bicycle Ministry currently has a good selection of boys and girls bicycles available for your grandchildren's visit this summer. Contributions are graciously accepted for parts to refurbish bikes that are then provided free of charge to children and adults in need. If you have any questions, contact 863-712-4087 or e-mail pedalpower@teddyhogan.com.

Caring For Generations

Thank you to all who contributed to the "Caring For Generations Offering" on Mother's Day. We sent \$2,232 to the Florida Presbyterian Homes and Westminster Presbyterian Homes to be used to benefit residents whose financial resources are insufficient for meeting current care costs.