

First Family News

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAKELAND, FL
PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY
MARCH 10, 2010 - VOLUME XXXV, NO. 5



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
175 LAKE HOLLINGSWORTH DR.
LAKELAND, FL 33801
863-686-7187
EMAIL: INFO@FPC LAKELAND.ORG

Free CPR/AED Training

Free CPR/AED training for adult, child and Infant, including step-by-step life saving skills for CPR, is being offered by Matt Holcomb 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 13 in the Youth Hall. Information for heart attack/stroke, important risk factors, choking/drowning and first aid will also be covered. A certification card will cost \$5.

Newcomer Orientation and Luncheon

Spend time with Pastors Mike and Craig learning about FPC, its history, its mission and ministry, and about being a part of a Christian family of faith. The next New Member Orientation is Sunday, March 14, in Room 317, following the 10:30 worship services. Email bev.jones@fpclakeland.org or call 686-7187 to reserve your spot.

Strawberry Smash

The annual LightShine Strawberry Smash is scheduled for Sunday, March 14, at 6 p.m. This is the annual fund raiser for the LightShine trip to the Montreat Music Camp. Please come out to applaud the talents of our young people, and help them raise funds for their music camp experience.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a brief Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 14, following the 10:30 services, for the purpose of dissolving the third associate pastor position.

Home Communion

The Elders and pastors will take Communion to our home bound members on Sunday afternoon, March 14.

Men's Breakfast

The next L.A.M.P. Breakfast will be Thursday, March 18, at 7 a.m. with Doug Gordin, the coach of the Florida Southern golf team. Bring a friend and enjoy hearing Doug and have a great breakfast!

FPC Book Club

The FPC Book Club will discuss "Sara's Key" by Tatiana de Rosnay at the next meeting on March 18 at 10:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

For all children from Toddlers through Fifth Grade. Join us on the front lawn on Saturday, March 27, at 9:30 a.m. Don't forget to bring your basket!

LENTEN JOURNEY

We called our 125th anniversary celebration "A Journey of Faith." That is also an appropriate title for the Lenten observation. Our life is a journey of faith, and no where is that more clearly seen than in the days and weeks leading up to Good Friday and Easter.

I invite you, in these last couple of weeks before Holy Week, to prepare yourself spiritually. Look again at the Gospel accounts of Christ's final days (Matthew 26-28; Mark 11-16; Luke 22-24; John 12-21). Spend time each day in meditation and prayer. Attend worship on Sunday. Reassess your personal walk with God.

- March 28: *Palm Sunday*
- April 1: *Maundy Thursday*
Communion at 7:00 p.m.
- April 2: *Good Friday Tenebrae*
at 7:00 p.m.
- April 4: *Easter Sunrise* at 6:30
on the front steps. Continental
breakfast in Welcome Center
following service.
- April 4: Identical *Easter Classic Services* at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.
in the sanctuary. Vine Service
at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Please mark these dates on your calendar, and plan to be with God's people as you continue on "your journey of faith."

—Pastor Mike Loudon

Thank You

• Thank you for your loving cards, notes and donations in memory of Ben. We both loved serving God with you - Ben with "Heaven Help Us" and myself with Circle 2. Ben is now in the arms of our Lord and I have moved to Hamden, CT, the town where our daughter lives. It is a joy to be close to her and our grandson. God bless you all as you serve Him. —Love you, Alyce (Jodice)

• Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to all the wonderful volunteers and committees who helped make the events run so smoothly. I and the Kitchen Committee appreciate you.

—Gwynn Butterfield,
Food Service Director

The Time-Line of FPC

A beautifully bound book of events at FPC, in Lakeland and in the world from 1885 to present day is available in the church office for \$5. The information in the book was thoroughly researched by Peggy Snow and Susan Rogers and is a wonderful keepsake of FPC's history.

Genie Watkins Honored

On Saturday, February 20, 2010, eleven of our PW group joined about 165 other women at St. Andrew Presbyterian, Sun City Center, for the 20th Annual Gathering of PW in Tampa Bay Presbytery. Presentation of the PW Honorary Life Membership is a highlight of the meeting. After past recipients were recognized, this year's presentation by the Presbytery Coordinating Team was made to none other than our own Genie Watkins!

Community Workday

We are going to Oscar J. Pope School on Saturday, April 10, from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. to help the staff with landscaping, the teachers with classroom projects, and much more! You are invited to join us at OJP and stay for a picnic lunch as we seek to be God's blessing in our community! (Date change from March 13.)

Spring Men's Retreat

Save April 16-17 on your calendar for the 2010 Spring Men's Retreat at the FFA Lodge on Lake Pierce. Cost is \$95/person, which includes meals and lodging. Scholarships are available. Pick up a brochure in the church office, or contact Kenny Ellis at 686-7187 or kenny@fpclakeland.org. Deadline for registration is Sunday, April 4.

FPC Summer Activities

Information on all camps and VBS and registration forms are available in the church office and on the church web site, www.fpclakeland.org. Click on Activities.

Parlor Renamed

The Session voted February 23 to name the church parlor the "Raymond Parlor" in memory of Dr. Charles Raymond, the longest serving minister of our congregation. Dr. Raymond was our pastor for 21 years, and also served as the Scout Master of Lakeland's Boy Scout Troop in the 1930's.

Please Save:

- Campbell's "Labels for Education"
- "Box Tops for Education" from General Mills products
- Cancelled postage stamps (cut no closer than ¼" around the stamp)
- Empty clear prescription bottles, preferably with the labels peeled off
- Samples of shampoos, toothpaste, soap, etc.

Please place these items in the collection box located under the stairs near the main office. These are used to benefit the Duvall Home, Talbot House and Oscar Pope School.

Easter Plants

Order your Easter Plants now for the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Prices are \$6.95. Order forms are available in the church office.

PEACE Rally
March 22, 2010
7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian

Lakeland Concert Band

The Lakeland Concert Band will hold their next dance on Friday night, March 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Big Band Music mostly from the 40's, 50's and 60's. Admission is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

For more information, please contact Norma Plank at normaplank@gmail.com.

"Save the Date"

Saturday, May 1
church wide spring clean up.