



First Press

The First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

June 2006

Rev. Dr. Bob Smith - Interim Pastor
Rev. Dr. John R. Harland - Parish Associate

Vacation Bible School 2006 - SonTreasure Island

We're making final preparations for this year's Vacation Bible School that will be held June 12th -16th from 9 a.m. - noon. First Presbyterian Church and the United Methodist Church are once again joining together for a very special VBS. At this time our registration is closed, but you may call the church office at 261-3837 and have your child's name added to our waiting list if you have not registered your child.

Our theme is SonTreasure Island, which will have a fun and exciting island atmosphere where children will have a great time singing, watching skits, creating crafts and playing games. But most importantly, they'll discover the treasure of God's amazing love. Through their adventures, children will discover that God's Love is Giving, God's Love is Kind, God's Love is Caring, God's Love is Forgiving, and God's Love is Forever.

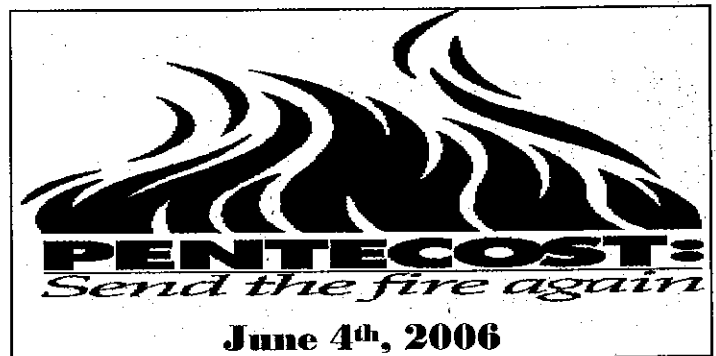
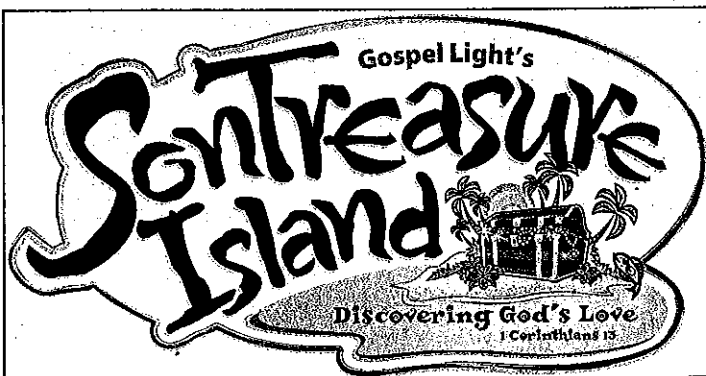
We would like to thank the following adult volunteers who have been serving as directors from First Presbyterian Church. They have been instrumental in the planning and

will be assisting our youth and adult volunteers during VBS:

- ♥ Bible Story Tellers - Jeannie Langley
- ♥ Music - Joanne Carroll
- ♥ Crafts - Barbara Noden and Marilyn Flynn
- ♥ Recreation - Becca Gillespie
- ♥ Guides - Barbara Heymann
- ♥ Children's Snacks - Charlotte Bowling
- ♥ Security - Ron Heymann
- ♥ Opening/ Closing - Roger Martin
- ♥ Sets - Joe Waas
- ♥ Administrative - Shirley Owens and Terri Korn

Thanks also to the many other adults and youth who will be volunteering. 6th Street (from Centre to Alachua) will be blocked off for the entire week.

We will have lots of volunteers on hand to greet the children, so we are asking parents to please drop your child off at the corner of Alachua and 6th Street each morning. They will be carefully escorted to Maxwell Hall to meet their group leaders.



Please submit articles for the newsletter as early as possible, but no later than the 20th of each month.

VBS Volunteers

Many thanks to our VBS volunteers

Administration

- ♥ Tricia Kirkendall - adult
- ♥ Barbara Ross - adult
- ♥ Emily Kunzelmann - adult

Bible Story Tellers

- ♥ Jerry and Marilyn Rogers - adult
- ♥ Jeannie Langley - adult
- ♥ Susan Clark - adult
- ♥ Pat Arnold - adult

Crafts

- ♥ Barbara Noden - adult coordinator
- ♥ Marilyn Flynn - adult coordinator
- ♥ Beth Tilton - adult
- ♥ Judy Loper - adult
- ♥ Carolyn Burke - adult
- ♥ Hannah Duke - 6th grade
- ♥ Nicholas Clark - 8th grade
- ♥ Beth Carroll - 11th grade

Guides

- ♥ Barbara Heymann - adult coordinator
- ♥ Erica Rodriguez - 10th grade
- ♥ Amy Steffen - adult
- ♥ Mim Walker - adult
- ♥ Pam Grant - adult (261-6779)

Security

- ♥ Ron Heymann - adult coordinator

Recreation

- ♥ Darren Smith - adult coordinator (491-4958)
- ♥ Steven Rodriguez - 11th grade
- ♥ Stephen Whitman - 12th grade
- ♥ John Cazell - 12th grade
- ♥ Michael Flynn - graduates this year

Sets

- ♥ Joe Waas - adult

Music

- ♥ Joanne Carroll - adult coordinator

Children's Snacks

- ♥ Charlotte Bowling - adult
- ♥ Barbara Dahlgren - adult

Nursery

- ♥ Jayne Conkin - adult

More VBS News

- ♥ We always have a hungry crew of children as well as adult and youth volunteers during Vacation Bible School. We would like to request the following items be brought to the church office or church kitchen and marked VBS: ice pops, goldfish, granola bars, lemonade mix and any adult snacks like fruit, cookies, chips, peanut butter and jelly.
- ♥ Because of the great response to supply VBS with shoeboxes, we now have more than enough...many thanks to those who brought them.
- ♥ Attention all VBS participants: please bring a white t-shirt in your size with your name either attached with a label or written in permanent marker on the tag. We will be making tie dyed shirts in arts and crafts one day.



MAC News

The MAC Luncheon on May 18th was not the place to be if you were on a diet! Our 2nd Annual Low Country Boil was outstanding. As usual, Donna did a wonderful job cooking and no one left the building hungry.



The need for doing something for our armed forces' personnel serving overseas was discussed. It was decided we would purchase phone cards. A generous collection was taken. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please call Mary Hughes, 321.2660.

In June we usually have a Dutch Treat Luncheon on the Town. Since we started the year with a great lunch at B.A. Pig, it was decided to end the year there as well. Join us for lunch at B.A. Pig at 11:30 a.m. on June 15th.

Nassau County Council on Aging

On Sunday, June 25th, Dr. Al Riser, the new Executive Director of the Nassau County Council on Aging (NCOA) will share a Minute for Mission with our church. Located adjacent to the hospital, NCOA is busy on a daily basis with activities for seniors over 60 years. Classes range from crafts to genealogy, and a midday lunch is free to any senior who calls in to reserve a seat, by 9:30 each morning from Monday to Friday. Full or part time day care is also available during the week for families and caregivers so that they may work, shop or just have respite time.

Home services for their clients include over 1000 Meals on Wheels delivered each month, and other companionship services include: reading, running errands, transport to doctor appointments, insurance assistance, homemaking skills and just plain chatting. As with all care-giving agencies, there is a need for more volunteers. Many of the clients at NCOA live in older homes which need some yard work, or perhaps minor plumbing or electrical repair.

All of the 15 daily clients at NCOA live on a limited, fixed income and like all of us, they love special events. They would welcome a pizza party or fried chicken for a lunchtime treat. If you have a special interest or skill NCOA would welcome you to share with their seniors. Please contact NCOA at 261-0701 to spend time with some special seniors.

Mission Notes

Members of First Presbyterian continue to serve Christ in mission.

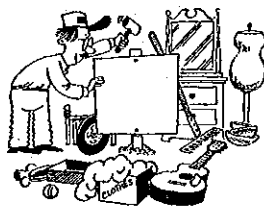
- ♥ Jesse Duke returned this month from a mission trip to China with "Grace and Hope for Children, Inc.". Jesse reported: "The 16 other days we spent in China were almost non-stop activity, traveling to seven orphanages and visiting with over 300 foster families and children. We were all impressed with the stark difference between the children who still remained in the orphanages and the children who lived in foster families. There was so much happiness that it is hard to put into words... We now have 320 kids in foster care and 280 plus waiting for sponsors."
- ♥ Charlotte Knight and Mary Jo Higgs will join others this month on a mission trip to Guatemala with Buckner Orphan Care International. They will work providing child care and also work in Vacation Bible School.
- ♥ Brian Seuter leaves this month for a four-week mission service in Ghana, Africa aboard the hospital ship "Africa Mercy".
- ♥ The congregation received a letter of thanks from Samaritan's Heart International for its recent gift of support.



Mark Your Calendars Now

Church Garage Sale - July 15th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Start collecting your "good-but-not-wanted items" for the garage sale. No clothes please. We will need volunteers during that week.



New FPC Website

<http://www.1stpres-fb.com/>

Often the first place someone moving to our area checks to find a church home is the internet. Now they can discover much about FPC's history, worship, mission, Christian education, facilities, and . Members of our congregation can find on this site current activities and events.

Presbyterian Women's News

Thank you to all who supported the Networkers Mother's Day Card program. The Presbyterian Women raised over \$750 which will be used to provide education and netting for women and children in malaria-ridden countries around the world. Ten dollars per person will provide these needs, so you have helped at least 75 women - 150 counting their unborn or newborn babies, and probably more considering other children most likely will also be sleeping under this netting. May God continue to bless you as you have blessed others.



Our Women's Circles do not meet in the summer. However, we will resume our activities at a Fall Kick-Off Luncheon on September 14th. Please mark your calendars for this important date.

Holiday Bazaar

It is time to begin planning our Holiday Bazaar. We are on the calendar for November 4th, 2006. At the June 4th Tea, there will be a display for some of the workshops that are going to be available and we need everyone's assistance. Please stop by the table and sign up for one or all of the workshops. They are designed to be easy and even the non-crafter will have fun while socializing with our Presbyterian Women. Items needed to be on the look out for:

- Stamps and canceled postmarks (especially overseas)
- Old Calendars – with pretty pictures
- Cigar Boxes – with hinges and fasteners
- Detergent Boxes – approximately 11" x 7 ½ "x 6"
- Clear Smooth Vases – any size / not rippled

Please place any of these items in the box in the JTH labeled Holiday Bazaar. journey toward maturity in Christ.

All ladies are cordially invited
To
The Annual Birthday Tea
Of the
Presbyterian Women
On
Sunday, June 4th, 2006
4 to 6 p.m.
Jim Thomas Hall
First Presbyterian Church
Music by Pat Lovejoy, Celtic Harpist
Annual Birthday Offering
Lifetime Membership Award
Hat and gloves optional, but encouraged!
Please call the church office at 261-3837
If you plan to attend

JUST 4 YOUTH!

- The West Virginia Mission Trip is getting closer and closer!! Yee Ha!
- The Middle School "Lock-In" took place Saturday night, May 20th. Fun, food and no injuries always makes for a good time!!
- The All Youth Beach Volleyball Picnic is planned for June 9th so mark your calendars, and let the church office know you're coming so we'll know how best to plan.

Inquirer for Ministry

It was the pleasure of the Session at its last Stated Meeting to officially sponsor member Becca Gillespie as an Inquirer for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This is the first step in the process leading to ordination.

Becca is presently a student in the Jacksonville satellite program of Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. She will now come under care of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of St. Augustine Presbytery. We pledge Becca our support and prayers as she pursues this calling.

Word from the Pastor

This Sunday, (June 4th) we celebrate the **Day of Pentecost**. It brings in the Season of Pentecost – a long season which lasts until the beginning of Advent (December 3rd). It's the season of the Holy Spirit.

Although Presbyterians cling tightly to the doctrine of the Trinity, we've had a weak concept of the Holy Spirit. Maybe it's because we emphasize order and control in the Presbyterian Church, and the Spirit breaks in at unexpected times in unexpected places in unexpected ways beyond our human control. Perhaps the source of our timidity about the doctrine of the Holy Spirit is that it emphasizes God's presence with us *now*. The Holy Spirit is God with us in our lives *now*; God not waiting up in heaven for us when we die, but acting *now* in the family, vocational, social, economic, and practical areas of our everyday lives.

Some of us, consciously or unconsciously, may prefer that God stay out of our earthly business. Some of us may feel that current issues such as health care for the poor, criminal justice, public education and policies to relieve massive suffering in places like the Sudan are outside the arena in which the Spirit of God can and does and should work through God's people today. Should decision making in those and other critically important areas of individual, local and national life be kept isolated from the influence of the intended will of God as best we as Christians can discern it from the word of God and the Spirit of God?

The Holy Spirit of God is the One who motivates and empowers Christ's church -- the single institution called to be "salt" and "light" in this darkening world around us. This season of Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit of God can use even ordinary people like us to make a difference in that world. This season of Pentecost is a time for seeking God; a time for being found by God; a time for being used by God as an agent of God's redemption and transformation of the world around us.

Sincerely,
Bob Smith

P.S. See you this Sunday as together we celebrate the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

News From the PNC

Although it seems like we have been doing this forever it has only been 10 weeks since the PNC officially began the pastor search process back in March. Last Tuesday evening we met our first milestone.

At its regular monthly meeting this past Tuesday night, the Session approved the Church Information Form (CIF) produced by the PNC. As you remember this is the form we are required to submit to the presbytery so they can match it with pastors who have their personal information on file at PCUSA headquarters.

Our CIF is now posted on the PCUSA

web site and we will begin receiving matches very soon. The PNC now moves to the next stage of its mission, which is the reviewing of potential candidates for our Senior Pastor. We will not only be receiving matches from the presbytery on our CIF, but we will also be receiving information from other pastor candidates who either have read our CIF or have been referred to us by people who are aware of our opening.

We will continue to update you both through the newsletter as well as Minute for Mission opportunities during Sunday worship service.

FPC Youth Program Mission

The Youth Program goal of First Presbyterian Church, Fernandina Beach, Florida is to encourage, nurture and provide opportunities for young people to learn how to develop and grow in a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit by:

- prayer
- involvement in bible study
- fellowship with each other, adult leaders, the church family and the community
- supporting mission opportunities (locally, nationally, internationally, globally)
- working with children, other youth organizations, the less fortunate, adults and the elderly
- living more Christ centered lives
- making Christian decisions in daily situations
- learning to appreciate diversity

The Youth Ministry of FPC is

- Growing a generation of believers who are rooted in the Word of God. (John 1:1)
- Connected to youth, their parents, and the church family (Hebrews 10:25)
- Passionate about worshipping the living God (Romans 12:1)
- Going out into the world to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19-20)
- Fearless about sharing the Way, the Truth, and the Life to those who do not know Christ. (Romans 1:16)

Hurricane Crisis Training

The Presbytery is offering a three-hour crisis training course at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1521 NW 34th Street, Gainesville on June 11th from 2 to 5 p.m. This training is for all interested clergy and lay leaders and is free of charge. Please RSVP to the presbytery office at 800-440-9477 ext. 10. Please include your first and last name and the name of your church. If you have questions call Alisun Donovan at 352-214-0117.

Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday school hours will be the same as the regular school year (9:50 until 10:45 a.m.). Children and Youth will continue attending the class they were in until Rally Day, August 13th when they will be promoted.

Thanks to the following volunteers who will be teaching in our preschool through High School classes for the months of June and July. We still have a few slots that need to be filled and are indicated below. Please call the church office if you are interested in helping this summer.

Preschool

- June - Bunny Selby, Kathleen Hardee (June 4), Jayne Conkin (June 11) and Doris Holloway (June 18 and June 25)
- July - Annette George and Jodi Dawes (we need a team teacher for July 2 and 23)

K-2

- June - Shirley Owens and Lisa Waas (June 4, 18) Sandy Bowers (June 11, 25)
- July - Sandi Neal and Marilyn Roberts

3rd-5th Grade

- June - Denise Saxton and Barb Kent
- July - Tricia Kirkendall and Terri Korn

MS-HS

- June - Becca Gillespie and Catherine Hardee
- July - Katherine Scofield and Emily Kunzelmann

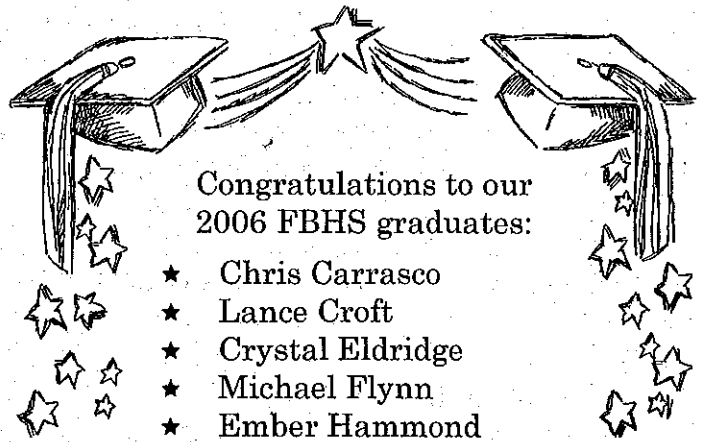
Preschool Children's Church

- June - Gail Niedernhofer and Jessica Flynn
- July - Doris Holloway



Flower Calendar

- ♥ June 4th - Polly Hord in honor of her children Tom, Max, and Jo Ann and her grandson, Max B.
- ♥ June 11th - Amber Amos and Lee McClain in honor of their wedding held in the sanctuary yesterday.
- ♥ June 18th - Marie Louise and Ernest Chaplin in memory of her father, W. A. Davis; and Barbara Burton and her children, Judy, Bob, Steve and Rusty in memory of her husband and their father, Marv Burton.
- ♥ June 25th - Nancy Duty, Ginger Lawrence and Nina Young in memory of their parents, Nancy and Clinton Her-ring; and Ellen and Dick Hultberg in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary and their children and grandchildren.



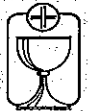
Congratulations to our
2006 FBHS graduates:

- ★ Chris Carrasco
- ★ Lance Croft
- ★ Crystal Eldridge
- ★ Michael Flynn
- ★ Ember Hammond
- ★ Ashlee McDonald
- ★ DJ Menz
- ★ Lillian Ritz
- ★ Thomas Rodriguez
- ★ Casey Williams

The future is yours.....

June Communion

Communion will be served on June 18th at
both Services.



First Press is published monthly as part of the ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

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Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
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LEE & NANCY SCOFIELD
 1978 LAKESIDE DRIVE S
 FERNANDINA BEACH FL 32034-5229

Sunday Worship Hours: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:50 a.m.
Thursday Morning Prayer Group: 8:00 a.m.