



First Press

The First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

September 2006

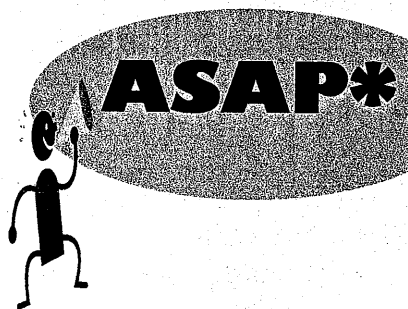
Rev. Dr. Bob Smith - Interim Pastor
Rev. Dr. John R. Harland - Parish Associate

September Communion

In September we will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the second Sunday (September 10th). Jesus said: "Do this in remembrance of me."



Look What's New 4 U!!!



Kindergarten-
5th grade
Wednesdays
3:30-5:30p.m.
Sept. 13-Dec. 13
Sign up
ASAP!

After School at Presby *
After School Fun
Recreation & Games
Yummy, healthy snacks
Arts & Crafts with Miss Marlene
Visiting Storytellers
13 Weeks

Registration forms are available in Jim Thomas Hall and the church office on August 27th. Registration will close September 8th. Students will be accepted after that date if space is available.

FPC partners with you in the cost of ASAP. Your fee for the 13-week program will be \$40 per child; fees for additional children in the same family will be \$25. Scholarships are available by contacting Pastor Bob Smith in the church office.



Mission Night
Church Night Supper
Sunday, September 10th, 6 p.m.

"The church exists by mission as a fire exists by burning".

Emil Brunner

You are invited to catch the vision of our F.P.C. congregation in mission beyond the boundaries of our local church:

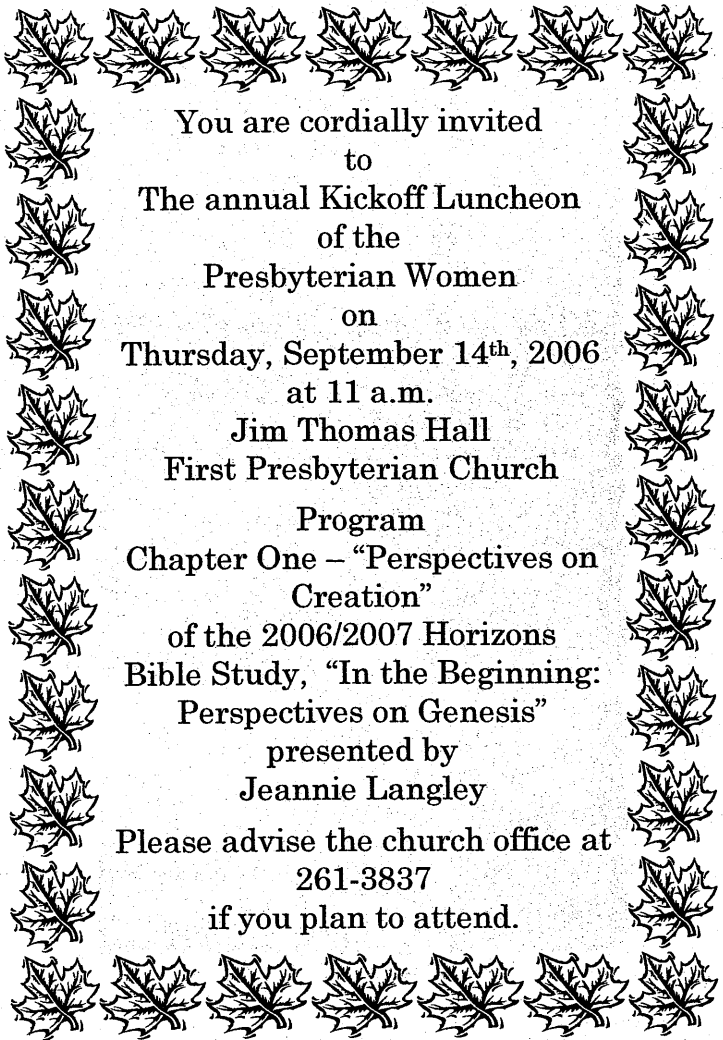
- † Mission Opportunities with Orphans in the Republic of China (Jesse Duke)
- † Mission Ministry in Africa (Brian Seuter)
- † F.P.C. Adult Mission Trip Opportunities
 - Brazil – (to work with our missionary friends, the DeLille family)
 - United States – (to assist those recovering from natural disaster or struggling in poverty)

Plan to bring your favorite vegetable, salad or dessert. Entree will be provided. Call the church office (261-3837) to let us know you're coming.

Have a heart that never hardens, a temper that never tires, a touch that never hurts.

-Charles Dickens

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



You are cordially invited
 to
 The annual Kickoff Luncheon
 of the
 Presbyterian Women
 on
 Thursday, September 14th, 2006
 at 11 a.m.
 Jim Thomas Hall
 First Presbyterian Church
 Program
 Chapter One – “Perspectives on
 Creation”
 of the 2006/2007 Horizons
 Bible Study, “In the Beginning:
 Perspectives on Genesis”
 presented by
 Jeannie Langley
 Please advise the church office at
 261-3837
 if you plan to attend.

Mature Adult Christians (MAC) Kick-Off

The MAC group is kicking off their new season with a luncheon to be held at the Fernandina Beach Golf Club on Thursday, September 21st at 11:30 a.m. MAC membership is open to any member of First Presbyterian Church who is 50 or over.



Meetings or other programs are held once a month. Some programs are at the church while others are in other locations in the area. One overnight trip is planned. The schedule for the upcoming year will be presented at the kick-off meeting.

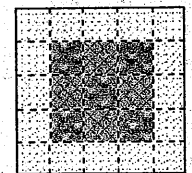
The cost of the kick-off luncheon is \$13 per person, which includes tax and tip. Reservations are needed by Thursday, September 7th. The Golf Club wants to know two weeks in advance how many to plan for. To make a reservation, send or bring your check to the church office by September 7th.

Your check is your reservation. The menu includes baked chicken, potatoes, beans and corn, with salad and dessert, tea and coffee.

If you are or want to become a MAC, you are invited to come for good food and good fellowship, and to learn about the programs for the upcoming year.

The P and Q'S are Back

Otherwise known as Presbyterians and Quilters, this group made the banners that hang in the sanctuary under the leadership of Gail Niedernhofer.



We are organizing a new project and invite all quilters both new and experienced to join us. The Baby Quilt Project will present a quilt to infants baptized in the church whose parents are current and active members of FPC. For information call Jane Turney at 261-2519.

Endowment Fund

From generation to generation, the First Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund has been supported by the financial contributions of individuals and families who believe our church is important in their lives.

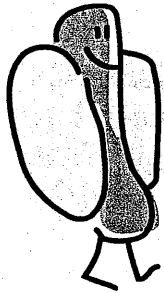
The Endowment Fund benefits our church in two distinct ways:

- As a financial resource for increasing the outreach of our church.
- As a legacy for future generations of our church.

First Presbyterian Church is a special place of faith to many who have served faithfully and who have made financial commitments to its mission and programs. Please help our family of faith move strongly forward. We invite you to include our church in your financial and estate planning.

Youth Kick-Off
Sunday, September 17th
6 p.m.

Junior & Senior High Youth
 and their families are invited to the Youth



Kick-Off Tailgating banquet:
 chili, hotdogs and more!

Get the scoop on:

- Weekly Fellowship Programs
- Retreats
- Special Events
- Parents get medical forms & permission slips taken care of for the year!

Come prepared to party! And have some fun! (it could get a little messy). Wear clothes you don't mind messing up or getting wet!!

Questions? call Becca Gillespie

Kerygma is Back!

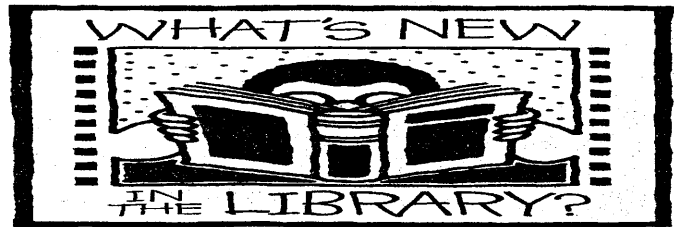
Amos & Hosea: Boundaries, Tough Love, Amazing Grace

This exciting study, facilitated by Terri Korn, will begin on Tuesday, at noon, on September 12th. The study will last for eight weeks.



This study challenges study groups to join the prophets in being boundary-crossers; to cross the boundary between religion and politics, or that boundary between "us" and "them". Amos' and Hosea's message is surely relevant for a society such as ours, divided on issues of theology, politics, economics, government, and morality. We need to hear about God's tough love and amazing grace which are extended by the Lord to a people who have often broken the divine heart.

Please call the church office by September 4th to sign up so you can receive your materials in time to prepare for the first session.



We have a library at FPC! Does this come as a surprise to any of you? If so, you are not alone. So, here is how to get to it; walk in the door at Jim Thomas Hall, turn right, keep walking until you pass the copier and you are there!

There are two rooms to the library, the first features videos and audio books, the second, books. It is very easy to check out a book, almost as easy as getting to the library in the first place. Just find the book you want, remove the card in the pocket at the inside back of the book, write your name and date on the card and drop the card in the box on the table. The suggested time for keeping materials is three weeks. But, our library needs help.

We need to update our holdings and consider the books that need to be de-accessioned. Fortunately, we have a budget for books and we will be purchasing many new books and audio books in the coming months. We will keep you updated as to new acquisitions. Recent acquisitions to look for:

Adult Inspiration

- For She is the Tree of Life
- Grandmothers Through the Eyes of Women Writers

Faith in Words

- A Celebration of Presbyterian Writers, edited by Ann Weems and Louis B. Weeks

Children's Books

- Green Plagues
- Lamb and The Snake in the Grass by Kathleen Long Bostrom

If you have suggestions for authors and/or books you would like to see in our library, please contact Sandi Neal at skneal@aol.com or by phone at 277-8270.



Nominating Committee

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

Progress (n) - Movement, as toward a goal, advance.

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is happy to report that not only are we making progress, we believe we are making great progress.

Your PNC has been meeting every Tuesday evening since March reviewing potential Senior Pastor candidates. We have reviewed a great number of pastor's Personal Information Forms (PIF) and have spent many hours discussing each one's theological ideas as well as education and professional experience. To date the "For Further Consideration" stack is much smaller than the "No Further Consideration" stack, but there is still work to do.

We will continue to consider PIF's until the end of August, at which time we will begin the process of interviewing and visiting potential candidates. This interview/visitation process will take a number of months to complete, but we feel sure we are working on God's schedule and are doing what we are supposed to do to find that one person he has already selected to be our next Senior Pastor.

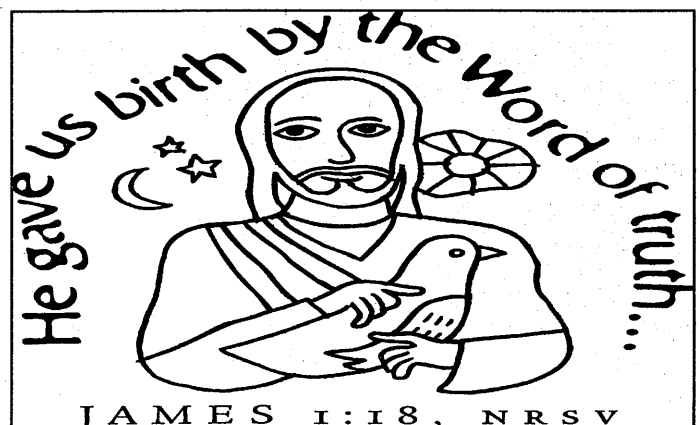
As always, please feel free to talk to any PNC member should you have questions about this process. We welcome your feedback, and we ask for your continued prayers for our committee as we continue our work.

Session Notes

The Session began its August 15th Stated Meeting at 5:30 p.m. with a light supper to welcome Reverend. William Emery and Reverend Gabe Goodman who came for St. Augustine Presbytery's Triennial Visit. Using surveys previously completed by FPC elders, the visiting pastors led a discussion evaluating various aspects of the leadership, life, and ministry of our congregation. They expressed very positive conclusions as to the present ministries and future prospects for our church.

The Session also:

- + Heard an update on the work of the Pastor Nominating Committee.
- + Received with approval the report of the Christian Education Committee with the list of teachers for the upcoming year.
- + Approved the recommendation of the Worship Committee that the next Holy Communion be moved up one week earlier to September 10th.
- + Approved the Mission Committee's recommendation to hold a Mission Night Program and Supper on September 10th.
- + Approved an expenditure of \$4000 to build two ramps for homes of disabled persons living at poverty levels.
- + Received a report from Elder Mac Noden on the July 8th meeting of St. Augustine Presbytery.
- + Heard the Deacons' report on fall activities and visitation schedule.



Word from the Pastor

My customary Monday morning "to do" list waited on my desk. It helps jump start the new week. Maybe you keep such a list of what you have to do each day. Some things on the list prove important. A few necessary. One or two essential. Sometimes those distinctions blur and *everything* looks essential. You and I both know that's rarely true. So what is essential?

One morning sifting through my list, I recalled something I read in Radical Grace, a book by Richard Rohr which I occasionally use for my daily devotions:

"Somewhere each day we have to fall in love, with someone, something, some moment, event, phrase. Somehow each day we must allow the softening of the heart. Otherwise our hearts will move inevitably toward hardness. We will move toward cynicism, bitterness, fear and despair. That's where most of the world is trapped and doesn't ever know it."

The Middle East teeters on the brink of greater chaos, terrorist threats capture our headlines, our beloved Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) seems divided on many issues. Those are enormous realities. However, our essential daily commitment remains unchanged. To express love up close so that the channel of God's love for us, in us, and through us won't get clogged up.

Every day brings to us choices. Make this your choice. Today – this day on which you read the "First Press" – express your love to someone. Say it. Show it. As you do, remember this. Right now God is loving you. There is no time, no place, no situation in which God is not loving you. God is always loving you.

Sincerely,
Bob Smith

P.S. God is *always* loving you.

1824

1824, a new young adult Sunday morning class, begins September

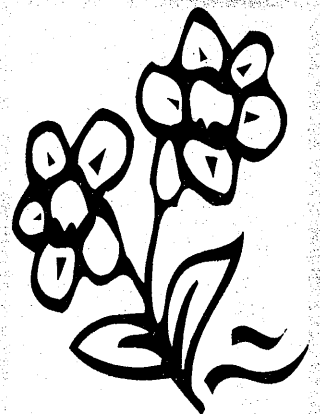


CLASSES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

3rd for the 18–24 year age group. Becca Gillespie will lead a study of the book Letters From A Skeptic, by Dr. Gregory Boyd and Edward Boyd. All young adults are invited to participate in this class developed just for you. The class will meet in room 1 of the Educational Wing behind Jim Thomas Hall. Call the church office, 261.3837, to sign up for this study and reserve a copy of the book.

Flower Calendar

- September 3rd - Teri Korn in loving memory of her husband, Rus and her parents.
- September 10th - Libby Ozmer in loving memory of her husband, James McGiffin Ozmer .
- September 17th - Anne Bass in honor of her family.
- September 24th - Alice and Joel Payne in honor of Dr. Smith and his wife Phoebe.



September 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Aug 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Oct 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

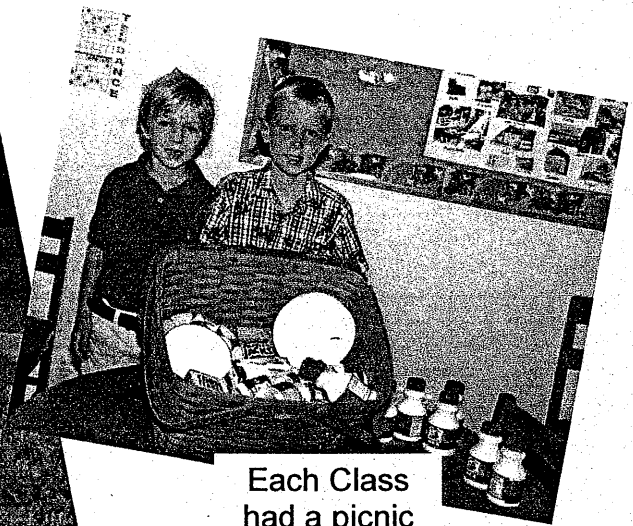
**Spiritual Growth Opportunities at FPC for all ages
Sunday Mornings at 9:50 a.m. (except where noted)***

Class	Leaders	Study
3 and 4 year olds	Kim Scheele, Anita Hammond	Creation, Noah, Abraham and Isaac
Kindergarten	Ginny Grupe, Lyn Davis	Creation, Noah, Abraham and Isaac
1st and 2nd Grade	JoAnn Hord, Shirley Owens	Creation, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph
3rd and 4th Grade	Doris Holloway, Lisa Caddy	Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph
5th Grade	Kathleen Hardee, Jeannie Langley	Exodus, 1 Samuel, 1 Kings, Psalms, Matthew, Mark, Luke, James
Middle School	Nancy Scofeld	Lifestyles of the Not So Rich and Famous-Anna, Thomas, Barnabas, Lydia, Priscilla and Aquilla
High School	Dina and Roger Martin	Experiencing God
1824	Becca Gillespie	Letters From A Skeptic: A son wrestles with his father's Questions about Christianity by Dr. Gregory Boyd and Edward Boyd. This is a new class for 18-24-year olds and will begin on September 3 rd in the High School room behind JTH.
The Original Adults	Mac Noden, Ann Thomas, John Patterson and Bill Wade	The Present Word - International Bible Study Lesson for Christian Living
Salt Shakers	Sally Ericksen	Beginning Sept. 17th Knowing Scripture - Video Series by R. C. Sproul. The author helps us dig out the meaning of Scripture for ourselves. He lays the groundwork by discussing why we should study the Bible and how our own personal study relates to interpretation.
Christian Living	Jayne Conkin	When God Doesn't Make Sense by James Dobson. Every person who lives long enough will eventually encounter circumstances that are difficult to explain theologically. From years of counseling experience, Dr. James Dobson offers assurance of God's constant care, even when human suffering is beyond our comprehension.
Faith and Friends	Stan Everett and Stephanie Kirkpatrick, Rich and Claudia Welshans, Jessie and Becky Duke and Barbara Kent Holland	C. S. Lewis' Reflections On the Psalms. This will be a 12-week study beginning August 27 th . Pick up your book at the first class meeting.
Kerygma*	Terri Korn	Tuesday @ noon in JTH Amos and Hosea, seven weeks, September 12 th through October 31 st .
Advent Study*	Bob Smith	Finding Your Story in the Advent Story On three Tuesdays in Advent (December 5 th , 12 th , 19 th), Pastor Bob Smith will lead a study in which we will find our own story in the experiences of three persons who played significant roles in the events leading up to the first Christmas.

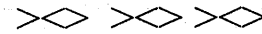




Adventurous Fifth Graders brave the elements at breakfast picnic.



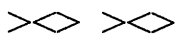
Each Class had a picnic basket full of great breakfast food



Rally Day 06



FPC is casting a wide net to pull in all kinds of fishes for our Sunday School programs this fall.



Parents enjoy a Breakfast of Champions inside JTH

MEET & GREET

Our NEW Members

Steve Boney has been a resident of Fernandina Beach for five years. He owns and operates a general contracting business, but still has time to enjoy occasional fishing and golf. Steven joins by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Tommie Sue Rabby moved here from Colorado earlier in 2006. She is a retired family practice physician. A native of Jacksonville, Tommie Sue is an avid football fan (college and professional) and also enjoys bridge. She joins by transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Durango, Colorado.

Janet and Mack Sisson bought their home in Fernandina Beach in 2000 and are gradually settling here as they move from Vienna, Virginia. Janet is a retired teacher and Mack very recently retired after 40-plus years with the Department of Veterans Affairs. They have two adult children who live in Virginia. They enjoy travel, sports and music (and will be welcome additions to our choir). They join by transfer from Vienna Baptist Church.

Christmas Shoe Boxes

You can be involved in a global mission project. Our church will again be filling age and gender appropriate Christmas shoe boxes for children in need, whether from poverty, sickness, war, natural disaster, etc. Will you help?



We need shoe boxes (preferably wrapped in Christmas paper) as well as your input. Ideas? Suggestions? If interested, call Peggy Smelt-Day (361-2065 or 556-6023) or Jayne Conkin (261-0346).

FALL CRAFT BAZAAR



We hope everyone is working on their projects for the Holiday Craft Bazaar, which is to be held November 4th, 2006. Workshops are underway and we hope, in addition to your projects, you can find time to attend some of the scheduled events. Fellowship and fun are the contagious side effects of time well spent as we prepare items for this year's bazaar.

We only have September and October left for preparation. The remaining workshop date for August is Tuesday, August 29th, 10:00 at the church. September dates include many opportunities to lend a hand.

- ♥ **Thursday, September 7th**, 4:30 p.m. at the Rouse's house (call Phyllis at 491-5202 – home or 415-5617 – cell for directions)
- ♥ **Tuesday, September 12th** at the church at 10:00 a.m.
- ♥ **Saturday, September 16th** 9 a.m. at the Rouse house (call for directions!!)
- ♥ **Wednesday, September 20th**, 4:30 p.m. at the Rouse house (again, call if needed).
- ♥ **Thursday, September 28th**, 4:30 p.m. at the Rouse house (call for directions!!)

If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Rouse at 491-5205 or Kay Crandall at 277-2932. We look forward to seeing you!!!

Thursday Morning Prayers

All members of the church family are invited to join in prayer for our church and our world on Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. in the sanctuary. Informal prayers are offered to our Lord for unity, for the Pastor Nominating Committee, for concerns of persons with needs within and beyond our congregation.



On Sunday,
September 3rd,
our youth step up
to the plate
to host coffee hour
between services.

Way to go FBPC youth!

AARP Driver Safety Course

There will be an AARP Driver Safety course offered for drivers 50 and older on September 25th and 26th. The class will meet in our church beginning at 8:45 a.m. and concluding at 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 and class size is limited. Reverend Bert Swearingen will be the instructor. If you have not taken the course in three years, it's time for a refresher. Call the church office at 261-3837 to register.

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

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FL 32034



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.