

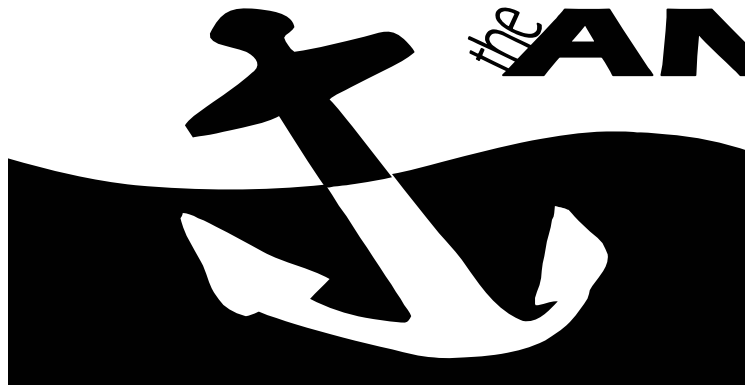


First Press

The First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

February 2009

Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr. - Senior Pastor
Rev. Bert Swearingen - Parish Associate



the ANCHOR

Contemporary
Worship
Sunday @ 11:00
511 Centre Street

First Presbyterian

For quite some time we have been prayerfully considering whether a third service would be appropriate in the life of our church family and what that service would look like. After much planning and preparation, that vision has now become a reality. On Sunday, February 15th, at 11:00 a.m., we will hold our first Contemporary Worship Service in the Anchor!

Providing an additional service at 11:00 a.m. in the Anchor will allow us to keep our existing 8:30 and 11:00 o'clock traditional worship services as they are while maintaining a high level of commitment to our Sunday school program.

This service will feature musicians leading praise songs and a videotaped sermon by Dr. Siegling on the big screen. Before the service begins you may enjoy fellowship with coffee and donuts served at 10:40a.m. on the Centre Street sidewalk.

After 150 years of sacred traditional worship, First Presbyterian bravely steps into the technical age offering an alternative worship experience for the post baby boom world.

Worship is at the very heart of our faith. Throughout the Old and New Testaments there are numerous examples of worship and of its centrality in the life of God's people. Worship is essential to the Christian experience because it provides us with the occasions whereby we humbly come before God with praise and adoration, thereby experiencing God's presence in a special way.

Our prominent location on Centre Street provides a convenient and visible worship center with easy access for visitors, tourists and locals in a less formal atmosphere. This worship opportunity is being added to our already filled worship services on Sunday mornings to meet the needs of a growing and diverse community. Please visit and keep this service in your prayers that God would use it to expand His kingdom and touch the hearts of those in need. Through sincere worship experiences, we receive strength and guidance for the daily duties of life. Simply put, taking worship seriously testifies to the vitality of our faith. May God bless our efforts for His Glory at First Presbyterian Church.

Welcome Doug Ganyo, Our New Associate Pastor

The oldest of 12 children, Douglas Richard Ganyo was born in the Red River Valley of North Dakota. He was baptized and confirmed at the Federated Church of Grafton, ND where, under their Presbyterian pastor, he was nurtured in the faith. In College he was challenged further and gave his heart and life deeper in a personal relationship with Christ.

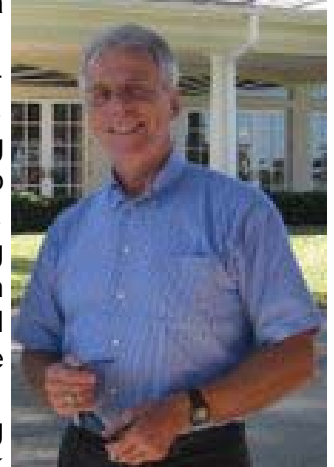
An Air Force Christian Officer's small group was instrumental in sending Doug to Gordon - Conwell Seminary near Boston, MA. During his first "call" in rural Iowa Doug began further study at Dubuque Seminary leading to a Doctorate in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Dubuque Presbyterian Seminary.

In the ministry, Doug has served several churches in multiple roles, ranging from solo pastor in a small church, to head of staff and senior pastor positions, and associate pastor specializing in pastoral care. He has always been very active at the Presbytery level and was a commissioner to General Assembly.

Following graduation from high school, Doug's love of God's creative wonders led him to the State School of Forestry, Bottineau, North Dakota. It was there he met Judy and after two years of dating, they were married in Bottineau and transferred to Minot State University.

While going to school full - time, Doug also worked in radio and T.V. broadcasting. This career, however, was cut short by the Vietnam War and Doug served in the U.S.A.F. for five years. Traveling with military and ministry, Doug and Judy have lived in a total of 15 different cities in 10 different states, coast - to - coast both North, South, East and West. "We are proud of our family origins in North Dakota, and we have been blessed to get to know people and places throughout the United States of America." The Ganyo's now live at 9915 Fort Caroline Road, Jacksonville, where their three oldest children, Scott (Santa Clarita, CA), Shari (Jacksonville), and Naomi (Gainesville) often come to visit. Their youngest, Amanda, is at

home and is finishing a Master's degree at UNF before her upcoming wedding June 26, 2009. Judy and Doug are grandparents to one boy and four girls, with Naomi expecting their 6th grandchild in March. Doug, Judy and family often hike the ancient Timucuan trails nearby. Doug loves to bike, rock climb, and backpack, and he creates stained glass art as his hobby. Judy works at Jacksonville University, attempts to prioritize family life, and tries to find time for genealogy.



Greetings in the name of Christ,

Your church family, through its leadership, has been seeking an Associate in Pastoral Care and Congregational Development to complement your excellent Senior Pastor. Our Lord has blessed me with years of experience in organizing and leading ministry in care giving. When others share their hopes, hurts, and dreams, I find that my compassion gets inspired by the Holy Spirit. I read about your many ministries of service and it seems that my gifts and talents uniquely meet your position description. So it is that I eagerly anticipate sharing my God-given gifts in outreach, teaching, and congregational development.

I have found that creatively organizing, developing, and sustaining small groups in spiritual formation is an effective way in building the pattern of growth as described in the Bible, book of Acts.

Judy and I have been in much prayer, seeking God's will for our future, and we feel confirmed in this "call" to join you in following Jesus. I welcome your prayerful support as I look forward to being able to join your talented and dedicated staff.

- Pastor Doug

Presbyterian Women News

The Presbyterian Women had a lovely installation service at the 8:30 AM church service on January 11th. Dr. Siegling led the service and at the end of the service Sandi Neal presented a beautiful banner that she had quilted commemorating Presbyterian Women. The banner will be hung in Jim Thomas Hall over the fireplace.

For the PW mission Project the circles will be collecting personal items for Barnabas and the Elderly.

The 25th Annual Gathering of the Presbyterian Women will be January 31st, 2009 at Riverside Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville. Nine PW women from FPC will be attending.

February Circle Meetings

- ★ Elizabeth Circle –February 12th, 10 a.m., Jim Thomas Hall
- ★ Esther Circle – February 12th, 1:00 p.m., Ruth Reader's home
- ★ Lydia Circle - February 9th, 6:30 p.m., Joy Drewry's home
- ★ Martha Circle – February 11th, 10:00 a.m., Jane Turney's home
- ★ Ruth Circle - February 8th, 10:00 a.m., Georgette Gile's home

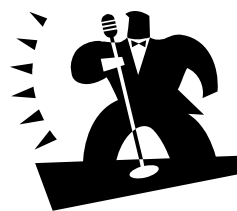
Out of the Saltshaker

The **Saltshakers** Sunday school class has begun a new DVD series "**Foundations of Apologetics**" from the Ravi Zacharias International Ministry team. In Great Britain you often see signs in doorways that say "mind your head". Ravi has often said, "What I believe in my heart must make sense in my mind." This curriculum is to help us "mind our heads" by making sense of what we believe in our hearts. All are welcome to join us for this series at 9:50 am in our classroom in Jim Thomas Hall. Even if you missed the first sessions, YOU ARE NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US! This is an excellent series and you will be richly blessed.

Talent Show MAC Style

Ladies & Gentlemen, Step right up to the greatest show on Earth!

Thursday, February 19th, in Jim Thomas Hall, a talent show like you have never seen before. It is the first and perhaps last Senior Talent Show at First Presbyterian Church featuring



some well known talent, some obscure talent, some undiscovered talent and some Idol rejects. Sign up early, arrive early, get the best seat in the house, enjoy a catered lunch by Sonny's Bar-B-Que, and then prepare for the show! The cost is \$12.00 per person. Make your reservation by check no later than February 12th in the church office. See you at 11:30 a.m.

Weekly Youth Prayer Meetings

All church members are invited to attend a weekly prayer meetings on Tuesday mornings in Kafe KAOSS to pray for the youth of the church. We will pray every Tuesday that school is in session. Meetings will begin at 7:30 a.m. and last 20 to 30 minutes.

Counting Blessings!

I am counting blessings, thanking God and thanking you for your prayer support over the last 14 months!!! Rob is coming home. Where he has been, I could not go; my heart has gone. What he has seen, my eyes can't see; I will not know. He left home a soldier boy and comes back a veteran of two wars. He served in Iraq for a year and in Afghanistan for 14 months. He's seen too much for one so young. He will turn 24 on February 26th. He should be back at Ft. Bragg by the end of February, maybe in time for a birthday celebration! I ask for one more prayer—pray him home safely! God Bless you and God Bless Rob.

Doris Davis



Groups of 8 kicked it off again on January 23rd for four rounds of dining with other members of FPC. They will be gathering in February, March, April and May in homes, at restaurants or picnics around town. See if you can spot them! They will be the loud table hopefully in the back. Occasionally, someone in the group is unable to make the date. If you would like to fill in sometime at a table of 8, give Doris a call in the office at 261-3837. You may get to have some fun even if you didn't sign up this time.

FPC Library News

New in adult fiction:

The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig is one of those rare but beautifully written stories of family love and commitment exploring life in Marias Coulee, Montana beginning in 1909.



Following the death of the wife and mother of the Milliron family, the necessity for a housekeeper became apparent. Father and the three Milliron boys placed an ad in the *Westwater Gazette* and received in reply the five simple but confounding words "Can't Cook But Doesn't Bite".

Upon arriving in Marias Coulee, widow Rose Llewellyn and her brother, Morris Morgan, bring west with them "several kinds of education" none of them of the textbook variety and life will never be the same. This book has everything you could ever want in general fiction!

The FPC Library now has four copies of The Shack by William P. Young. If you have been waiting to read this, you now have the opportunity to do so.

Retired books sale:

The sale of "retired" books from the FPC library is ongoing and will continue throughout February. Books will be on the library rolling cart and will be priced at \$.50 for paperbacks and 1.00 for hardcovers. A special deal of \$5.00 per shopping is also available. Check it out!

Spring Break Ski Trip

Senior high youth and young adults are invited to a ski trip to Winter Park, CO the week of spring break, April 5th - 9th. Chaperones are also needed for this trip. The cost for the trip will be around \$550. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Wade Preston in the church office at 261-3837.



AARP Driver's Safety Class

We will have an AARP Driver's Safety Class offered here on February 23rd and 24th from 8:45 to 1 p.m. on both days. Class size is limited so call the church office at 261-3837 to enroll.

Rev. Bert Swearingen, a certified instructor, will be the teacher. With a certificate of completion, you can save on your auto insurance.

Confirmation Class Begins

The 2009 confirmation class will begin on February 27th with an introductory dinner with parents. Official classes begin on March 8. Confirmands will be confirmed at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, May 31st. If you are interested in having your child attend confirmation classes, please contact Doris Holloway at 277-8366.



MISSION NEWS



The Mission Committee has begun making plans for this New Year. When you attend the Wednesday night dinners, you will notice the *Two Cents a Meal* canisters on the tables. The money collected in these containers will be used to feed the hungry—75% will go to Presbytery for world hunger, and the remaining 25% will be used locally. On February 22nd, the Sunday before Lent begins, we will have containers available for you to take home, fill with your spare change, and then return to the church on Palm Sunday, April 5.

Last summer a team from our church joined with Amelia Baptist for a mission trip to Matewan, West Virginia. Plans are being made to return for another *Summer Mission* in June, and our church has again been invited to participate. If you are interested in learning more about this great experience, where God's love is joyfully shared with the people of that area, please contact Marlene Strobach.

In December, we were honored to hear Mike and Marty Edwards speak during the Sunday School hour. Mike, familiar to many as the owner of Ed's Comfort Solutions, and his wife Marty were preparing to begin full-time mission work in Honduras in January. Their inspiring words told of God's call for them to the mission field.

On the fourth Sunday of each month, the committee focuses on a different group with its *Minute for Mission* during worship services. January's mission focus was Kim Brown, missionary in Thailand.

The Mission Committee extends a loving thank you to outgoing Chairperson Gail Niedernhofer, with grateful hearts for her Christian spirit and her faithful leadership.

Interfaith Dinner Network

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." "The King will reply, I tell you the truth whatever you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine you did for me."

Matt 25: 39- 40

On Tuesday, January 20th, 2009 First Presbyterian served 48 dinners to homeless and needy people. Eunice Kurtz prepared her famous meat loaf and volunteers made macaroni and cheese. We also had mixed vegetables and pound cake with peaches and whipped cream.

10 volunteers helped in the kitchen, served guests and distributed ice tea, coffee and Pepsi. The next dinner that FPC will host will be on February 17th.

We would love to hear from others who would like to be the chairperson for one dinner. Responsibilities would include deciding on a menu, shopping for food, and getting volunteers to help prepare, cook, serve and clean up at Hope House. Perhaps you are in a church group that would like to take this on for one dinner. A Sunday School class at the Methodist church volunteered to do a dinner next week. Possibilities would be a Sunday School Class, the MACs, youth group, a church committee, Session, Deacons, Groups of Eight or just a friendly group of people that would like to get together and serve dinner at Hope House.

We continue to ask for volunteers to help with the dinners as this is an ongoing ministry and our church has committed to the whole year. We thank all of you who have already signed up and we look forward to calling on you for help. If you cannot physically help but would like to make a monetary donation that would also be helpful. If you feel that you can help out please contact Bill Erickson,

Listening to that Still, Small Voice Between B-U-S-and Y

Traditional evangelism, where Christians could simply tell people the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ and they could readily make a decision between simply believing or not, has gone the way of the electric typewriter and the pay phone. It still works, but for a very small minority.

We are in the age that Paul spoke of when he said that people would be “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (2 Tim 3) People are so constantly inundated with information and noise from every side that our information is just one more bit of traffic whizzing by.

One of the things that causes a person to slow down and become receptive to Truth is pain. Thank God for pain! It slows us down, opens our minds, and makes us receptive to any ray of hope that may shine through. Pain is a touchstone of spiritual wisdom. The work of the evangelist today is to meet people in their pain, and to *be* that ray of hope. But it’s not enough to simply speak words of wisdom. We have to bear witness to that which we would convey. What a challenge to those of us who are b-u-s-y doing what we think is the Lord’s will! We must learn to become as receptive as those in pain in order to be useful to them and to the Lord.

Jesus did not just speak. He was One with the words that He gave out. It was not just words that people heard, but the essence of the words they “heard” in their hearts. He was a ray of hope, not only to the place and time that He came to, but to the world, because what He spoke was eternal Spirit and Truth. He was the Word. For Him, speaking truth was not “teaching”, but conveying the Spirit of the Father’s love to all who had “ears to hear”.

Before we speak to anyone about Jesus we need to check ourselves to “see how we are in the faith.” Ask yourself, “Am I simply repeating what I know *intellectually* to be true, or am I firmly established in this *Spirit* of truth?” One sure measure of this is our willingness to listen, without any motive other than to be the ears of Jesus.

Listening brings out the best in both speaker and listener. Listening is often the best medicine for any sort of pain. You may have heard the saying, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” The most effective way to show caring is to just take time to listen. It is in the listening that the Holy Spirit becomes a bridge between us and others. Then the Holy Spirit does the “evangelism of the heart” where both speaker and listener receive “pain management”. Then we both begin to experience what Jesus was all about.

Jesse Duke

Welcome Our Newest Member

Sharon Williams was born and raised in New Jersey. She is a graduate of Claremont Academy in New York and has a Business Administration degree. Sharon has lived on Amelia Island since 1997 after joining The Ritz Carlton. She transferred to The River Club in Jacksonville and recently celebrated her 9th anniversary as their Controller. She has lived in 14 cities in 25 years and enjoys antiquing, reading and walking the beach.

Presbyterian Men News

Presbyterian Men will meet on Thursday, February 12th at 6:30 PM. Our speaker will be Wade Preston, Director of Youth and Families. Wade will give us an overview of youth activities and then focus on the challenges our young men face in today’s complicated world.

Please plan to be with us. Call in your reservation by 5 p.m. on Tuesday to help plan for the meal.

Communications Committee

At its January meeting, the committee, under the new chairmanship of Dean Dobbins, began their internal discussion about the deployment, maintenance & handling of the various AV equipment in the church. One of the newest initiatives involved the purchase of a new video camera to support the recording of Pastor Holton's sermons that will be shown in the contemporary service in the Anchor. The committee was pleased to receive the gift from the Scofield family of a new camera tripod for this purpose.

They also discussed formalizing the use of the time and talent questionnaires by all committees of the Church. Also under review will be the condition and placement of the church sign on 8th Street adjacent to the veterinary clinic of Dr. Jim Hicks.

The committee received and accepted with regret the resignation of Charlie Monroe. Charlie, who is the proprietor of Digital Village, continues to help reduce A/V and printing costs for the church. He will also continue to manage the electronic delivery by e-mail, of the First Press. The committee recognized and thanked Charlie for his past, present and continuing non-committee service. The committee also recognized the past chairmanship of Mac Noden.

ACTS 16:5 ACTS 16:5

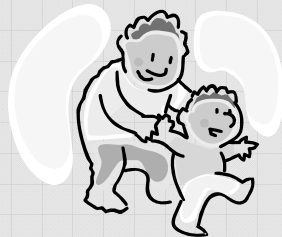
ACTS 16:5

"The churches were strengthened in faith and increased in numbers daily."

An invitation to First Presbyterian Church to join in a deliberate process of congregational transformation that is both communal and missional - serving our congregation, our surrounding community and the world. The Acts 16:5 Initiative is a three year process of ministry assessment and new ministry development that honors the past and looks to the future through a Biblically based vision, commitment, coaching and time. If you are interested or curious about this initiative, ask Dr. Siegling, our Elders or Deacons for a copy of the book, Twelve Dynamic Shifts for Transforming Your Church by Dr. Stanley Ott, president of the Vital Churches Institute.

MOM, ME

Our Mom,me Playgroup continues to meet every Thursday morning 9:30-11 a.m. with new moms and babies/toddlers joining regularly! You can be a part of this ministry of hospitality and nurture. Call the office to schedule a date to read a story or just to visit and play. Mom,me is a wonderful outreach to the families of our church and community. Participation is open to all. Spread the word.



20/20 on Thursday Mornings

Senior high youth, join Wade Preston on every Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m. in Kafe KAOS. This new program will help guide you in setting aside devotional time each day. Twenty minutes will be spent on reading scripture and twenty minutes on discussion. For questions, contact Wade in the church office at 261-3837.



1st CAFÉ Menu
February 4th – April 1st

<i>February 4:</i> Meat Loaf	<i>March 4:</i> Baked Chicken
<i>February 11:</i> Mexican Fiesta (Not Spicy)	<i>March 11:</i> Corned Beef
<i>February 18:</i> Pork Roast	<i>March 18:</i> Meat Loaf
<i>February 25:</i> Beef Stew (Not Spicy)	<i>March 25:</i> Penne/Sausage & Peppers
<i>April 1:</i> BBQ Chicken	

PB & J always available for the kids

RESERVATIONS

Can be made on Wednesday night, Sunday morning, and by phone to the church office by Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Dinners:

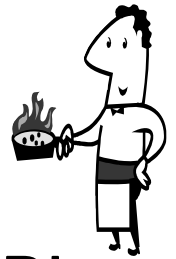
- Adults/Youth--(\$6.00 x 12)
- Children----- (\$3.00 x 12)
(11 and under)
- Family-----(\$18.00 x 12)

Coffee Service

- February 1st - Evangelism Committee
- February 8th - Finance Committee
- February 15th - Lydia Circle
- February 22nd - Martha Circle



1 CAFE



Wednesday Night Dinner

5:15 - 6:15p

Jim Thomas Hall



6:15 - 7:00p

**Nursery & Preschool
 POWER LAB for K-5th
 Middle School Groups
 Adult Forum**

February Speakers

The speakers and themes for our Wednesday night programs in February are

- February 4 - Eternal God: the Maker of Heaven and Earth. Bert Sweringen
- February 11 - Growing a Church or Growing Disciples. Dwight Bayley
- February 18 - The Heavenly Choir: 5 things all Christians should know about Angels. Becca Gillespie
- February 25 - Ash Wednesday: Putting First Things First. Holton Siegling

January Finance Facts

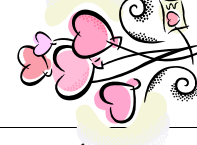

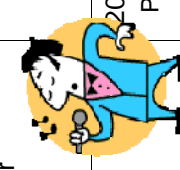

AS OF DECEMBER 30, 2008	
DECEMBER ACTUAL GIVING: \$ 108,822	ACTUAL GIVING YTD: \$786,738
ACTUAL GIVING YTD VS GIVING NEEDED TO BALANCE THE BUDGET: 106%	
MONTHLY NEED FOR 2009: \$67,917	

Praise the Lord!

February 2009

Phone: 904 261-3837
 Fax: 904 261-0056
 Email: churchoffice@1stpres-fb.com
 Web: www.1stpres-fb.com

1858 First Presbyterian Church — 150 years in the heart of Fernandina 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30a Early Morning Worship 9:30a Coffee Break 11a Traditional Worship 6:30p Youth Group	2 1st CAFÉ reservations due Monday by 4:30p.m. 4p CE mtg. 5p Teen CBS 6:15p Comm. Mtg. 6:30p Youth Comm.	3 7:30a Pray for Youth in Faith Café 9:30a Staff Mtg. 6:45p Mission mtg	4 1st CAFÉ 5:15p Meat Loaf 6:15p Power Lab, Youth & Adult Study 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	5 7:30a 20/20 8a Prayer 9:30a MOM,ME 2:30p PW Comm 5:30p Worship Mtg	6 Pastor's Day Off Church Office closes at 12p	7
8 8:30a Early Morning Worship 9:30a Coffee Break 11a Traditional Worship 12p Evangelism Mtg. in Library 6:30p Youth Group	9 1st CAFÉ reservations due Monday by 4:30p.m. 5p Teen CBS	10 7:30a Pray for Youth in Faith Café 9:30a Staff Mtg. 10a Member Care 6p Property mtg. 6p Worship mtg.	11 1st CAFÉ 5:15p Mexican Fiesta 6:15p Power Lab, Youth & Adult Study 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	12 7:30a 20/20 8a Prayer 9:30a MOM,ME 6:30p Presbyterian Men's Dinner	13 Pastor's Day Off Church Office closes at 12p	14 
15 COMMUNION ANCHOR Contemporary Worship 	16 1st CAFÉ reservations due Monday by 4:30p.m. 5p Teen CBS President's Day	17 7:30a Pray for Youth in Faith Café 4p Finance Comm. 5:45p Deacons 7p Session	18 1st CAFÉ 4:30p Staff Mtg. 5:15p Pork Roast 6:15p Power Lab, Youth & Adult Study 6p Bell Choir	19 7:30a 20/20 8a Prayer 9:30a MOM,ME 11:30a MAC Lunch & ACTS 16:5 Initiative Seminar 	20 Pastor's Day Off Church Office closes at 12p	21
22 8:30a Early Morning Worship 9:30a Coffee Break 11a Traditional Worship 11a The Anchor Contemporary Worship 12p Annual Congregational Meeting 6:30p Youth Group	23 8:45a-1p AARP Driving Course  5p Teen CBS	24 7:30a Pray for Youth in Faith Café 8:45a-1p AARP Driving Course 9:30a Staff Mtg.	25 12p Ash Wednesday Service 1st CAFÉ 5:15p Beef Stew 6:15p Power Lab, Youth & Adult Study 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	26 7:30a 20/20 8a Prayer 9:30a MOM,ME	27 Pastor's Day Off Church Office closes at 12p 7p Confirmand Dinner	28

Flower Calendar

- February 1st - Karen and Don McFayden in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.
- February 8th - Alice and Joel Payne in honor of their grandchildren.
- February 15th - Faye Birkett in loving memory of her husband, Buddy Birkett
- February 22nd - Marie Louise Chaplin in loving memory of her parents Angel and W. A. Davis and her husband Ernest Chaplin

There are several open dates on the Flower Calendar which is located in the Jim Thomas Fellowship Hall. If you would like to sign up, please do so or call Mary Tom Drew 261-5949.

Craft Bazaar Thank You

We would like to extend a further "Thank You" to everyone for the Holiday Craft Bazaar. Sunday, December 14th, put our total over \$10,000. What a wonderful manner to help those in need through missions.

We would like to request that when you go through your Christmas cards and you are thinking "What can I do with these?", that you please think of the PW bazaar. We can put them to good use! Just tear off the front and bring them to the church and put them in the bag marked *PW Christmas cards*.

Other occasion cards are welcome, too! Again, thank you to everyone for all the help.

