



The Presby Press

November 2024

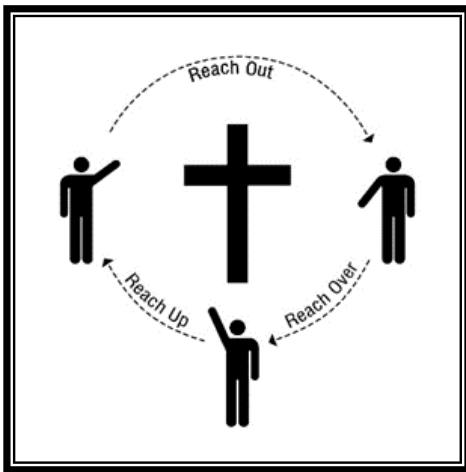
A Publication of First Presbyterian Church, ARP, Sebring, Florida

Pastor's News and Notes

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31

FPCS 2024 Renewal Theme

Reach Out, Reach Over, Reach Up



Our 2024 theme comes from the Great Commission that Jesus gave His church:

Jesus said:

Proclamation: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Reach Out: Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,

Reach Over: baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Reach Up: teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Promise: And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:18-20

Restoration of God

What does the future hold for me? This is an often-asked question by many. Most ask this question thinking only in terms of the time of the dash. The dash is that part on a tombstone that comes between the a date of birth and a date of death. While the dash is important to God, it is not the most concern he has for you and me. In our study of First John, we have come to understand that God wants us to think in terms of eternity rather than the limits of a dash. In 1 John 5:13 we read:

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life.

In the dash of our current life, God is using that limited time to engage in a restoration project. He is restoring the lost sheep of His kingdom from a temporal relationship that leads to death to an eternal relationship that leads to life. And in this time of the dash, our Heavenly Father wants us to know, without a doubt, that our eternal future is secured in His Son Jesus Christ for those who believe. Please join with me in this Thanksgiving season, to praise God for his mighty work of restoration



November 3: 1 John 5:6-13 – Communion Sunday

November 10: 1 John 5:14-21

November 17: 2 John – Fellowship Sunday

November 24: 3 John

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Pastor's News and Notes

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Restoration of the Church Body

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The outreach committee is working hard on upcoming events to reach out to the local community of Sebring. Thanks to Joshua Klatt, of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Placid, who is organizing the upcoming Psalm sing. Thanks to Cecil Hess and other local churches for their wiliness to join us in a Community Thanksgiving Service. And thanks to the Caring Christian Women of FPCS for organizing our participation in the Veteran's Angel Tree campaign. These are great opportunities to come along side folks who are without a church home and invite them to fellowship with our church family. Details for these upcoming activities can be found within this newsletter.

Restoration of the Church Building

Many of you have mentioned that our sanctuary bathroom remodel is looking good. We thank Outreach North America for the grant that allowed for this restoration that was much needed. We are also thankful that our church family came through the latest hurricane without significant damage. Our church building however, needs restoration as it suffered some roof damage. The deacons are working with local contractors to get the work done as soon as possible.

Restoration of our Nation



It is concerning that there are some who want to tear apart our country. By God's grace, our forefathers instituted a system of government that safeguards against those who would do so. For those safeguards to continue we, the people, must do our part and vote. To vote is our duty. To vote is our right. To vote is our voice. When we fail to vote, we give up our desires to someone else. Whether it is voting for a representative or on a state amendment, it is incumbent on

each of us to not be influenced by those whose agenda is to oppose God and the rule of our Lord Jesus Christ. By seeking truth, we will know what the right vote is. I encourage everyone to prayerfully seek the truth on each vote option and turn out and let your voice be heard.

Current Financials

As of the first three quarters of 2024 (Jan – Sep), we continue to operate at a deficit. As many of you know we are dependent on outside financial support during this restart period. Praise the Lord not only have we received financial help from our denominational board of Outreach North America and from the Florida Presbytery, but several individuals outside of our local church family have generously contributed to helping us during this time of need. Please continue to pray for God's provisions. Here is the current breakdown of our finances this year from January to September 2024:

Income: \$101,715.
Expenses: \$115,668.
Net Total: \$ -13,953.

Palms Meet and Greet

On Oct 15, several church members from FPCS met with about 25 residents of the Palms during a successful meet and greet session at the Palms. It was a great opportunity to meet our neighbors and to get to know them. We enjoyed the visit and appreciate them for joining us. In addition to meeting the residents, we also met Jim Spadola, the Executive Director of The Palms of Sebring. He was happy to have us come and invited us to return and join in with other activities planned in the future. Please pray that these initial connections will be fruitful and that it will expand to more folks coming to join us in our church family. Photos are posted on the next page.

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CCW News



The Caring Christian Women will be hosting the November fellowship luncheon on November 17. We invite everyone to this Pot Luck. Bring a favorite dish and the CCW will provide the drinks.



The Veterans Tree will be available on November 10 for you to pick up your tag. The tag will have information about necessities requested by a local veteran for Christmas. Use the tag to guide

your shopping and return the tag and the gift to the church by December 15.



We will again be selling poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary. The cost is \$10 for a 6" pot. More information and order forms will be in the bulletin in a couple of weeks.



The CCW is asking for your help on Saturday, November 30 at 10:00 to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. There will be something everyone can do to help.



Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes need to be turned in to the church by November 17.

Boxes and labels are available in the sanctuary. If you're not sure where to look, ask a greeter or Val. Samaritan's Purse asks for a \$10 donation per box, which can be made online. More information about how to pack a shoebox is available [here](#).

Pastor's News and Notes

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Photos from the Palms



Benediction+

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen

1 Timothy 1:17

Pastor Karl



NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Communion 	4	5	6 Life Explored 4:00	7 CCW 10:00	8	9
10 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Veterans Tree 4:00 Psalm Sing  ★ Veterans Day: ★ Thank You for Your Service!	11	12	13 Life Explored 4:00	14 2:00 Outreach Committee	15	16
17 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Last day for shoeboxes Fellowship lunch 	18 Deacons 4:00 Session 5:00	19	20 Life Explored 4:00	21 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 CCW 10:00	22	23
24 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00 Community Thanksgiving Service 4:00	25	26	27	28 Church office CLOSED  THANKS GIVING <i>day</i>	29	30 10:00 Christmas Decorating

NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- ◆ 1 Cal Lomelino
- ◆ 5 Kristie Busch
- ◆ 17 Jack Breed
- ◆ 19 Mary Lommelino

Anniversaries

- ♥ 4 Richard and Earleen Jumont
- ♥ 14 Hugh and Debbie Donahue
- ♥ 20 Daniel and Jeanette Stypa
- ♥ 26 Barney and Janine Hart

DECEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 2 Frank Busch
- 14 Diane Graves

Anniversaries

Note: We have started doing this for people who are organized and like to plan ahead. Next month we will publish December dates again and January



CHURCH STAFF AND OFFICERS

The Session

Jack Breed, Frank Busch, Jimmy Seay

The Diaconate

Dennis Green, Robert Harderwijk, Janine Hart, Jeanette Stypa

Trustees

Barney Hart, Calvin Lomelino, Patricia Villere

Staff and Congregational Officers

Karl Davis – Pastor
 Janine Hart – Church Administrator
 Dan Parsons – Sexton
 Barney Hart – Congregation Chairman
 Pat Villere – Treasurer
 Robert Harderwijk – Assistant Treasurer



The Presby Press is always looking for submissions, either on a one-time or ongoing basis. If you have a content idea or would like to provide content, please talk to Janine Hart or send submissions directly to the church email account.

First Presbyterian Church

319 Poinsettia Ave.
Sebring, FL 33870
863.385.0107
FPCSebring319@gmail.com

fpcs.church

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The Mission of our Newsletter is . . .

- **to inform**
- **to enrich**
- **to recognize service**
- **to build fellowship**

