

# The Presby Press

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 Renewal Theme**

25 in 2025

## Reach Out, Reach Over and Reach Up through Evangelism and Discipleship and Prayer

#### Year 4

It has been a joy for Nancy and me since we came along side this church these last 3 years. In that time, we have come to know the congregation and enjoy much love and fellowship. We rejoice in seeing the work the Lord is doing rebuilding His church. Many of you have given much in time these last few years as you caught the vision of rebuilding FPC. We don't know what the future holds, but we do know that the Lord is with us and is leading us to that future. I believe the future will be fruitful. I believe that because of the enthusiasm I see from each of you for this holy

body of believers. Thank you for keeping the faith and dedicating your time, talent and treasures to the Lord in order to keep this church as a gospel witness to the community of Sebring.

Our work is not over. June begins our final year of promised support by the Florida Presbytery and Outreach North America. Let us demonstrate to our supporters that their sacrificial giving has gone to a good work by making great strides in the growth of our church. I call on each of you to dedicate this next year to praying daily for our church.



We will have a special day of prayer and fellowship time on July the  $4^{th}$ . As we celebrate our National Independence, let us take time together to pray for our church's independence from outside support. Let us pray

that a year from now, we will be organized as a church once again. Please mark your calendars to set aside a prayer meeting at 7pm on July the 4<sup>th</sup> for a time of fellowship and prayer. Afterwards, for those who join us, we will retire to the lawn to watch the fireworks over Lake Jackson.

#### Synod 2025

Please keep the Ministers and Elders of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in your prayers. During the week of June 8<sup>th</sup>, the ARPC will meet at Bonclarken, North Carolina to conduct the annual business of the church. Please pray for safe travels, for unity of the members of the court, and for the advancement of the ARPC in the coming year. May God bless our denomination!

## **Pastor's News and Notes** continued from p. 1

#### **Business Outreach**



On April 29th, five of us joined together to reach out to the businesses on the circle. Janine Hart, Val Klossner, Pat Rhodes, Jeanette Stypa and I gathered at the circle to begin a new connection with our community of Sebring. We split into two groups and

spent an hour visiting with businesses around the circle. We met some nice people, handed out information about the church, and took the first step in relationship building. For many of us, this was a first step out in faith. God blessed us in this work by encouraging us that gospel ministry is a joy rather than a burden. Everyone we met was happy to meet us and most were surprised that a church would be interested enough to visit them. We are planning to return to the circle to expand our first encounter. Please be praying, in the meantime, that more folks will join us in this outreach, and that the Lord will bring new folks into our church through it.

#### Being a Disciple by Praying



The thread running throughout the various topics has been about prayer. Our church needs your prayers. The foundational support of all we are doing to grow this church comes through prayer. If our prayer is weak, our foundation is weak. If our prayers are strong, persistent and focused, God will honor them not only in blessing the church with growth numerically but individually. As we engage in praying that others would come to know Jesus and join our church, God is doing a work in us, growing us to become more like Him. When Jesus prayed his High Priestly Prayer, he not only prayed for Himself and His disciples but for each one of us. In John 17: 20-21 says: "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

In this prayer Jesus asks the Father that all who believe in him will be unified in Christ Jesus for a very important purpose: "that the world may believe". The unified church is God's gift that keeps on giving from generation to generation. Belief in Jesus is the most important legacy that our church gives to all who join us now and in the future. Let us continue to reach out to our neighbors and loved ones with the good news of Jesus Christ and invite them into the fellowship of believers. In this prayer by Jesus, He is showing us the importance of prayer, for it is the Lord who will build His church, and he builds it on the foundation of the prayers of the saints.



Sermon		Larger
		Catechism
June 8	John 7:53-8:11	71-73
June 15	Father's Day Rev Cecil Hess	74-76
	Luke 15:11-20	
June 22	John 8:12-30	77-79
	Fellowship Meal	
June 29	John 8:31-59	80-82
July 6	Communion	83-85
	John 9:1-41	

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#### **Member Anniversary**



Praise God that in May our church membership grew by two as Betty Jean Hatch and Val Klossner joined the church. If you haven't already done so, please extend a warm welcome into the church family.

We want to also wish a happy anniversary for the following brothers and sisters who joined our church in May:

Cheryl Cooke – 7 years

Cheryl Green – 24 years

Joanne Harderwijk – 17 years

Robert Harderwijk - 17 years

Bonnie Smart – 14 years

Fay Wood – 9 years

Nelson Wood – 9 years

May another year bring you joy in our Savior Jesus Christ and love for one another in our church family.



And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:10-11

Pastor Karl



We will have a fellowship luncheon on June 22 after worship. Nothing fancy-sandwiches, chips, fruit, etc., but the conversation and fellowship will be a lot of fun. Please plan to join us and bring a friend to church that day.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sunday School 9:30 Worship with commun 11:00			Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00	Deacons 4:00					FLAG DAY
15 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00	16	17	18	19 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8:30	20	21
22 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00	23	24	25	26	27	28
Fellowship Lunch	Surch .		Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00			
29	30					
Sunday School 9:30						
Worship 11:00						



#### **Birthdays**

- 7 Pat Rhodes
- 12 Nancy (Mrs. Karl) Davis
- 20 Phil White
- 22 Earleen Jumont
- 23 Rev. Karl Davis
- 24 Fay Wood
- 25 Lee Hughes

#### Anniversaries

- 26 Lee & Leslie Hughes
- 30 Bob & Pat Rhodes



## Birthdays

- 1 Cheryl Cooke
- 4 Jane Farrer
- 4 Roger Warrick
- 10 JoAnn Harderwijk
- 29 John Arnett
- 30 Val Klossner

#### Anniversaries

- 21 Cooke
- 21 Cal & Mary Lomelino
- 24 Jack & Sandy Breed

Note: We do this for people who are organized and like to plan ahead. Next month we will publish July dates again along with August.

## **First Presbyterian Church**

319 Poinsettia Ave. Sebring, FL 33870 863.385.0107 FPCSering319@gmail.com fpcs.church Like us on Facebook



# Church Staff and Officers



#### The Session

Jack Breed, Jimmy Seay, Roger Warrick

## The Diaconate

Dennis Green, Robert Harderwijk, Janine Hart, Pat Villere

#### 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.

## The Mission of our Newsletter is . . .

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





#### Dear First Presbyterian Church of Sebring,

As we mark 130 years of ministry at Palmer Home and reflect on another remarkable year, we're filled with deep gratitude and reminded that the most meaningful milestones are not numbers — but names, faces, and stories of transformation. Your generosity has helped write those stories.

Thanks to you, in 2024 alone, 268 children were able to experience a safe home and hope for their future. Your giving powered the following:

• Over 27,000 meals served

• Life-skills and vocational training for young adults in our Transitional Care Program

• Academic renewal for students including Ginny who, after years of falling behind in school, has now become the first to graduate in her family.

Now, thanks to a generous \$50,000 matching gift from the Johnny and Sue Bell Family of Gulf Breeze, Florida, your renewed investment can go twice as far. Every dollar you give before June 30th will be matched — helping us reach our \$100,000 goal.



Thanks to you, in 2024 alone, 268 children were able to experience a safe home and hope for their future.

## Please double your impact and give before June 30th by:

- F Visiting www.PalmerHome.org/donate
- Mailing your gift with the enclosed envelope
- Or call 662-449-2400 to discuss your continued impact

Thank you for considering this heartfelt invitation. Together, we can continue creating a future filled with hope for children who need it most.

Gratefully,

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Jessica Corley VP of Development

P.S. Your gift makes a life-changing difference — and now, it can go twice as far. Please give by June 30th to have your gift matched and your impact multiplied.



# palmerhome.org/donate

