E-Blast News

October 18, 2026– October 25, 2026

Dear Saints,

I have recently come across some thinking by Drs. (PhD) Andrew Root and Blair Bertrand. They suggest that when a church is struggling (and most do) the answer is not in crafted mission statements or programs. The answer is remembering that God is the heart of the life of a church and the church is the body of Christ in the world.

This grabs my attention because for the last several weeks we have listened in Exodus to the story of Moses being led by God to lead the people out of slavery in Egypt. Again and again in that story human beings like ourselves fail to see that the action that really counts is the action initiated and taken by God. It is when we think we are the answer that we miss that God alone is the creator and giver of life and the actor in all history that matters.

Root and Bertrand suggest that when things seem difficult and the church is not becoming what we wish it would, that is the time to quit thrashing and to be still and wait… to wait and see what God will do. As they say, "God's people … encounter God and act in response to that encounter." At heart we are in a relationship with God and our role is to wait as we see what God will do in our midst. God acts, we respond - and that is more difficult than we can imagine.

Rather than a mission statement saying what we will do with God's church, we need a "watchword" that points us back to listening to how God is at work in and through us.

What has God done through First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia in the past? What was God doing when our church was born in a storm 128 years?

What is God doing through First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia now?

What will God do through First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia in the future?

Let us with patience wait until we see and then respond to the opportunities God puts before us.

Yours in Christ's Service,

will

A treasurer's request

All general offerings should be a separate check by itself to the church. Any other offerings such as Per Capita, Christmas Joy, or Samaritan's Purse can be on one check. This is so your donations can be correctly and accurately tracked.

Thank you,

Edward, Treasurer

Card Class



This Tuesday the Card Class will meet in the church office at 10:00 a.m. on October 20th. Due to the project possibly being a little messy, bring an apron or an older shirt to wear over your clothes. Please let us know if your are planning to attend by calling (863) 558-2155 The RSVP is greatly appreciated. After class, those who wish will go to MyShelly's for lunch.

Look what's coming...

Sunday	**October 18**	10:30 Choir practice 11:15 Worship Service Ctr. 4 Needy
Monday	**October 19**	5:30 Session meeting
Tuesday	**October 20**	10:00 Card Class
Wednesday	**October 21**	12:30 Bible study
Friday	**October 23**	12:30 Men's Luncheon
Sunday	**October 25**	10:30 Choir practice 11:15 Worship Service

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia, we would love to have you do so.

Please speak with Rev. Dr. Will Browne or Clerk of Session Mitzie McGavic

Contact information

Homebound members' addresses

For those sending cards...

Jackie Combs	9408 Rochester Rd., Minerva, OH 44657
Peggy Dees	1346 NE Hansel Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266
Norma Fisher	1013 E. Gibson St., Arcadia, FL 34266
MaryAnn Treadwell	11741 Lake Aston Court, Apt 113, Tampa, FL 33626
Skip & Terry West	1224 SW Scott Dr., Arcadia, FL 34266

Military

CM1 Ryan Maassen	13972 Shields Bridge Rd., Belle Haven, VA 23306

Church prayer list

FPC - MEMBERS: Becky Delahunty, Brian Harris, and Jackie Harris.

FPC - FAMILY/ FRIENDS: Charlaine Adams, Lance Andrewsen, Dan Bailey, Debbie Collins, family of Sue Fender, family of Eduwigis Angeles Fortanel, Esther Harvell, Ansley Head, Ernie Hewett, Bjorn Jiskoot, Donna Jones, family of Kathy Latimer, Lisa Letson, Pastor Sam Letson, Josselyn Lopez, Thomas & Jane Mooney, Amanda Nunez, Julie Nunez, and Sharon Shatney.

FPC - CONTINUING CONCERN: Ellen Abraham, Tom & Arlene Anderman, Barbara Bennett, Marsha Browning, Shirley Cullom, Peggy Dees, Mary Dow, family of Sue Fender, Earl & Kay Frierson, Jane Hayward, Gina Green, Ted Land, Jimmy Lanier Jill Logan, Keith Markey, Cary Mercer, Dan & Gail Morgan, Kenny O'Neal, Judy Onofri, Jim Reinhart, Stephanie Rohling, Gene Scott, Robert & Judy Smith, Emmie Titus, MaryAnn Treadwell, Debbie Webb, Terry West, Margaret White and Laurie York.

MILITARY LIST: Julian Davis, U.S. Army Medical Corps; Sean Davis, U.S. Army Medical Corps; E6 Curtis Johnson, U.S. Navy Medical Corps; CM1 Ryan Maassen, U.S. Navy Seabees ; Airman Roland Phelps.

Missions at work

Bill's Paper Angels

Collection for Bill's Paper Angels is the 1st Sunday of the month.

Nov. 1 (next collection date) **Oct. 26 (next distribution date)**

NEEDED: plastic grocery bags

Arcadia Center for the Needy

Collection for Arcadia Center for the Needy is the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Next collection date: November 15, 2026

NOTE: You may donate at any time. If donating by envelope, please put Arcadia Center for the Needy in the memo section. We also collect cans with pop up tops. These can be dropped off at the office.

Church information

Attendance/Offering

Attendance Sunday: **20** Viewed on Facebook:**18**

Offering: Year to Date: **$113,220.44**

Session

2026: Jeff Adams, Ellie Sutphin, David Maassen, Don Knoche

2027: Jackie Harris, Donnie Knoche, Tyler Maassen, Edith Wildt

2028: Dave Bremer, Becky Delahunty, Sue Maassen, Mitzie McGavic

Catch us on Facebook

Be sure to sign up for our Facebook page and **like** our page.

Also, visit our website www.firstpc.church we have information, pictures, services that you can listen to if you can't make it to church. If you have questions, or problems call the office. 863-494-4434.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WEBSITE

Type in www.firstpc.church
You will see the sermon on the main page now, so just click on it.

Celebrations



October birthdays

October 4—Rodney Hollingsworth

October 8—John Burtscher

October 14 —Layfe Jiskoot, Mac Martin

October 19 —Mike Cooley

October 20 —Cassie Lawrence

October 21 —Terry West

October 24 —Eden Esposito

October 29 —Ann Pepper

October 30 —Remi Jones