

E-Blast News

Jan 3, to Jan 10, 2021

Dear Saints:

This has been a dislocating and haunting year:

chaotic disease and politics;

fear of contagion and isolation;

loneliness for distant relatives and friends;

economic instability and loss;

people both of incredible bravery and insistent ignorance;

the world connected in ways we never imagined or desired; and

the death of many people, including some we knew and loved.

There have been surprising upsides – at least in anecdotal personal experience. For the first time many people are actually living in and enjoying their homes instead of just sleeping there. We have had time to get to know very closely the ones we live with and love the most. We have learned a lot about technology and now speak a language with words like ‘Zoom’ that doesn’t mean drive fast. We have relearned the importance of corporate worship and the difficulty of blowing candles out through our masks. We discovered that church members are faithful in their giving even when they cannot be present. We have slowed down the pace of our lives. We never knew before that there were so many Christmas movies!

A highly respected friend (who may have been quoting someone else) wondered if when the pandemic is over if we will not look back with nostalgia to the life we now live. Not that we would want the disease and

chaos back, but that we will not be so pressed to be clear about what we value most.

I think that what we value most is God and God's love experienced in family and friends and neighbors and strangers. What we value is that our lives can be a part of the surest victory in history – the triumph of God's grace and love over evil and hate. I pray for a 2021 that carries this lesson joyfully into the New Year.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Will

Happy New Year to All!

From the Session and Staff

Don't forget to drop your year-end donation off by December 31st.

The office will be closed but drop it thru the mail slot.

Church office will be closed Dec 31 and Jan 1

Church Prayer List

FPC MEMBERS

Tom & Arlene Anderman, and Wayne Gallant.

FPC – FAMILY / FRIENDS

Alan Adams, Victoria Cross, Pam and Rick Dodd, Carrie Evans (Judie Neeley's daughter), Heidi Evans (Bill Stander's cousin), Roger Evans, Terri Harrison (Shelby Bremer's mother), Carol & Sam Henry (Dana Holloman's parents), Hanna Joy Lepianka (Rich & Jean Borsmann's granddaughter), Keith Markey, Bobby O'Neal (Edith's friend), Ruth Ann Smith, JoLynn Wright (Bill Stander's cousin) and Landon Yoder.

MILITARY LIST

Julian Davis, Sean Davis, Ryan Maassen, and Cole Overcash

Homebound Members

We have members who are sick or haven't been outside due to the Covid-19 and You know they would love to have some cheer. How about sending out a card or two and let them know they are still loved and missed.

Jerry Anderman:	1013 E. Gibson St. Arcadia, FL 34266
Bob/Shirley Cullom:	807 W. Imogene St. Arcadia, FL 34266
Peggy Dees:	2692 NE Hwy 70 #747 Arcadia, FL 34266
Norma Fisher:	1013 E. Gibson St. Arcadia, FL 34266
Wayne/Marilyn Gallant:	2692 NE Hwy 70 # 626 Arcadia, FL 34266
Robert Treadwell:	2052 NE Floridian Circle Arcadia, FL 3426



Just a reminder we will be taking down the Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 3rd following the worship service.

If you are in need of offering envelopes please call the church office.

Presbyterian Church Paper Angels



Paper Angels... will begin Jan 11th and will continue every 2nd Monday of the month. The Congregational Team has developed a new way to get involved with our community. We will be supplementing items that Trinity Methodist food pantry does not provide. We have met and come up with a list of items that are needed and we will also greatly appreciate volunteers. These are the items we are starting off with and we may add more items to the list.

Bar soap, small liquid soap, tooth brush, toothpaste, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products (tampons, napkins), paper towels, travel size (body lotion, shampoo, and body wash) wipes and hand sanitizer.



Mark your Calendar.....

January 2021

3rd 9:45 am Ron's Sunday school class only
 11:00 am Worship/Communion/Installation of Elders
4th 2:30 pm Congregational Care/duplex

Attendance/Offering

Attendance Last Sunday: 23
Offering Last Sunday: \$4,909.00

Via Facebook: 44
Year to date: \$ 198,193.26



January – Birthdays

**5 Ron Jacobson, 7 Addison Gill, 13 Raegan Hancock, 14 Steve Hancock,
17 Max Fitzpatrick, 18 Polly Land, 26 Linda Carpenter, 27 Margaret Hays**



January – Anniversaries

3 – Ron and Tammy Jacobson

Bill and Marilyn Stander

4 – Rich and Jean Borsmann

22 - David and Kay Holloman

Church Mailing Address is:

First Presbyterian Church

20 N. Orange Ave.

Arcadia, FL 34266

SESSION

2020: Dave Bremer, Johnny Maassen, Mac Martin, Mary Ann Treadwell

2021: Beth Lyszak, Mitzie McGavic, Skip West

2022: Judy Kirkpatrick, Don Knoche, Jill Maassen, Bill Stander

2023: Jeff Adams, Ann Pepper, Ellie Sutphin, Edith Wildt

ELDERS EMERITI

Margaret Way

David Holloman

Be sure to sign up for our Facebook page and **like** our page. Each day we post a scripture verse and we put up live services and events. We post pictures as well.

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 give me a call at the office. 863-494-4434.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WEBSITE

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