

E-Blast News

Jan 10, to Jan 17, 2021

Dear Saints:

We are about to take a quantum leap in time in the story of Jesus's life. We stop briefly at Jesus' visit when he was 12 with his parents to the Temple in Jerusalem. He stays behind to talk with the leaders in the Temple who are amazed by him. But we move on from this in only 11 verses to a grown-up John-the-Baptist and a grown-up Jesus. In a first jump of 12 years and a second jump of 18 years we only know that Jesus, "increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor." This leaves a lot unanswered about Jesus' life, upbringing, training and profession. An even longer jump seems to take place in John's life as we are just told in the Gospel According to Luke, that the word of God came to John and he began to travel preaching a baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

This great jump lands us with John the Baptists baptizing in the wilderness on the banks of the Jordan and Jesus coming to him. Somehow, John in this unreported time managed to make King Herod so angry that John was arrested and imprisoned.

With his Baptism, Jesus ministry begins in earnest. It is an incredible story and somehow the words of Dr. Seuss come into my mind, "Oh, the places you'll go! The things you will see! You'll be on your way up! You'll be seeing great sights!" The difference, of course, is that what

we shall see in Jesus' story is real and leads to life abundant and eternal. It leads to deep joy. It is our salvation.

So, join us this Sunday, in person or online. The journey starts.

A word about something else entirely. I would guess we are all in shock about the events of Wednesday in Washington.

- This is a time for us to be very careful to be dealing in verifiable facts and not rumors.
- It is a time to remember that our unity is in Christ and in Christ alone.
- It is a time for us to be gentle with one another.
- It is a time to avoid grand pronouncements about what we think is happening.
- it is a time to assign blame with the greatest of care and with the awareness of the potential of our own culpability.
- It is a time to pray for our nation and for each other and for the larger world.

A second word, a good friend of mine died yesterday of Covid-19. We are experiencing the highest infection and death rates we have yet seen. My friend had visited our church 4 or 5 times, including before Christmas. On Friday he attended a party, on Tuesday he felt ill, on Thursday he died. This disease is no fantasy or game of courage. So, I ask you to: **Be very careful. Seek out vaccination. Wear your mask – even after the first shot. Keep your distance. Communicate safely and often. Check up on each other. Pray that in God's healing grace this pandemic may be ended. Love one another even as Christ loves us all.**

Yours in Christ's Service,

Will Browne

Church Prayer List

FPC MEMBERS

Tom & Arlene Anderman

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), 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



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



First Presbyterian Paper Angels

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

10 th	9:45 am	Sunday school
	11:00 am	Worship
12 th	6:00 pm	Grief Share First Baptist Church loss of a spouse
13 th	6:30 pm	Handbell Practice
14 th	6:00 pm	Grief Share First Baptist Church loss of a loved one
15 th	2:00 pm	Worship/Music Committee Meeting/duplex

Attendance/Offering

Attendance Last Sunday: 32

Offering Last Sunday: \$3,469.00

Via Facebook: 0

Year to date: \$ 3,469.00



January – Birthdays

**5 Ron Jacobson, 7 Addison Gilll, 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

2021: Beth Liszak, Mitzie McGavic, Johnny Maassen, 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.

