



# *The First Press.*

February 2016

*First Presbyterian Church of Hernando*

*1455 McIngvale Road, Hernando*

662-429-6646

[www.fpchernando.com](http://www.fpchernando.com)

## MISSION NIGHT WITH OUR YOUTH

Our youth and their parents recently worked together to make and bag up over 600 bologna sandwiches for the First Presbyterian Church of Memphis soup kitchen. Each person that comes to eat at the soup kitchen is given 2 bologna sandwiches - so this is a big help for that ministry!



### **Congregational Meeting**

The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, February 7th after the 11:00 worship service for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church and Rev. Robert A. Hatcher Jr.

**There will be no early service on Sunday, February 14th.**

**Newsletter Deadline: Thursday, March 24**

**Email articles to : [fpctonia@comcast.net](mailto:fpctonia@comcast.net)**

### **Worship Volunteers**

#### Liturgists

**February 7** Chip Hatcher

**February 14** Chip Hatcher

**February 21** Cydnie White

**February 28** Susan Gladney

#### Ushers

**8:45** Robert Carter  
Steve Phelps

**11:00** Ken Gurley  
Cindy Gurley  
Cody Klein  
Cathy Thompson  
Sharon Wright

#### Communion Servers

**8:45** Steve Phelps  
Robert Carter

**11:00** Fred Shambach  
Mabry Anderson  
Pam Hill  
Donna Eiland  
Sharon Walker  
Frank Jue

#### Communion Preparation

Jim & Jessica Nicklay

#### Greeters

Mary Shambach

## Prayer Requests

**Please remember in prayer this week:** Chip Pfisterer, Donna Hall, Bobbie Duke, Mildred Davidson, Ryma Calvert, Jean Taylor, Shannon Eiland, Georganne Johnson, June Halsted, Mollie Pounders, Elaine Sullivan

Miriam Crotwell and family in the passing of her husband Calvin Crotwell

### **Please remember family members of our congregation:**

John Burnham (Eenise Farris' nephew), Peggy Douglas (Eenise Farris' sister), Gaye Montgomery (Dallygene Reeves Daughter), Ken Remington (Becky Remington's father), Irene Hicks (Ashleigh Hick's grandmother), Pam Liscea (Maury Brown's sister), David Smith (friend of Mabry & Carolyn Anderson's), Dustin Lofton & Colton Burnett (nephews of Laura Guy, custodian of the church), Bobbi Farias & Family (Mary Reiss' daughter)

## PRAYER MINISTRY



Our Congregational Care Prayer Ministry, an intercessory prayer group, has been hard at work offering prayer up for our church family and their friends and families. When there is an immediate need for prayer these ladies have it covered.

There are times in all of our lives when we are facing a crisis and need prayer - not several hours or days later - but right then. This is what the prayer ministry will provide. If you have a need for prayer, please contact Linda Cooksey at (901) 483-5556 and she will inform others.

If you are willing, when you receive a telephone call, to stop what you are doing and pray for one in need, please sign up in the narthex or the church office for this new ministry.

### Shepherd's Center of Hernando

Shepherd's Center of Hernando will meet Thursday  
February 11th, 10 AM  
at Parkway Baptist Church.  
Come and enjoy the fellowship. Please contact  
Barbara Cleveland at  
(662) 449-1632 with questions.



The Out to Lunch Bunch  
will meet for their  
February luncheon

at Windy City in Hernando on  
February 26th at 11:00 a.m.

Please let Betty Davidson know if you will be  
attending. (662-562-5570)

| Financial Report            | December    | YTD          |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Contributions               | \$40,094.28 | \$294,407.38 |
| Miscellaneous Contributions | \$5,916.50  | \$139,795.28 |
| Designated Contributions    | \$3,389.00  | \$24,788.45  |
| Pass-Thru Contributions     | \$3,406.00  | \$10,119.36  |
| Total Income                | \$52,805.78 | \$469,110.46 |
| Total Expenses              | \$37,443.07 | \$432,184.93 |
| Excess Income/Expenses      | \$15,362.71 | \$36,925.53  |

This, then, is how you  
ought to regard us: as  
servants of Christ and as  
those entrusted with the  
mysteries God has  
revealed. <sup>2</sup> Now it is  
required that those who  
have been given a trust  
must prove faithful.

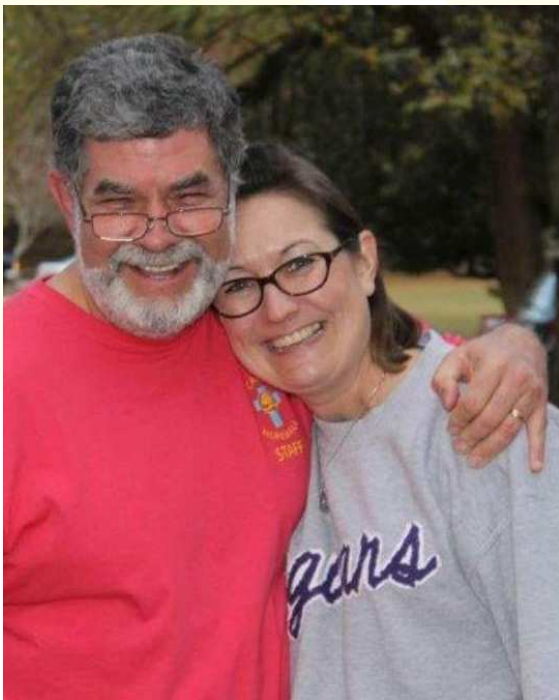
1 Corinthians 4:1-2



## "MONTHLY MEMBER HIGHLIGHT"

Our church is filled with many kinds of people – leaders, workers, participants, center stage people and behind the scene people. It takes everyone to keep our church serving the Lord and living out our mission statement. We have tried to recognize members for their contributions through the years but we would like to take this a step further by highlighting a church member who gives above and beyond what is normally expected.

This month our church would like to give a shout out to Melinda Hatcher. Melinda helps in so many different areas of our church ministry. This last year she has helped with our youth programs by teaching our high school Sunday school, Wednesday night and Sunday nights. If the youth need a place to meet she and Chip welcome them in their home. Melinda has been a small group leader at Montreat for several years and is on the planning team for the 2016 conferences. She helps with VBS, the Church Retreat, drives the van, and so much more. Melinda is very active in the Presbyterian Women and has been a past Moderator. She has always been active in mission activities and this past year she and Chip opened their home to help a family that needed a helping hand. Melinda, you are a wonderful example of service in our church family. Thank you for everything you do. And Melinda, we will miss you and Chip as you embark on a new adventure.



## CHOIR NEWS

Happy February!

We are gearing up for our Easter Celebration and need YOU! Yes YOU! the one singing their heart out and can sing in the CHOIR!

OR.....Maybe the one who can play bells! Join Us for one of our rehearsals.

- The Kirk Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00, Members that are in Wednesday night classes come when you can.
- The Hand Bell choir meets every Monday at 6:15 p.m.
- Children's Sunday school singing has also started back. We need some of their voices to begin our Sunday mornings with excited praise! Please consider coming to Sunday school as a family, so they can participate.



Blessings  
Ryan



**Presbyterian Women (PW)** offers women in the church meaningful ways to live out their faith in the midst of a caring community of women. For more than 200 years Presbyterian women's groups have strengthened the Presbyterian Church and played a major role in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and witnessing to the promise of God's kingdom.

- **Tuesday Evening Circle** will meet on Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Sharon Walker.
- **Tuesday Morning Circle** will be meeting on February 9th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- **The PW CT meeting** will meet on Sunday, February 28th at 4:00 PM in the Jenny Sandridge room.

### Kroger Rewards Program

Don't forget Kroger rewards program. Please register your Kroger card for the benefit of our church. You must re-register your card each year. If you have an email address you can register (or re-register your card) at [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). If you do not have an email address you can call 1-866-221-4141 - our organization number is #81152.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## ADVENT FOOD PROJECT

As part of our Advent Journey we participated with the Society of St. Andrew to support their nationwide gleaning and food distribution. I wanted to report that we collected \$208 from the banks and \$100 from the Breakfast with St. Nicholas. Thank you to everyone that participated.



**Society of  
St. Andrew**



## Lent Devotion Books

Lent is the name given by the church to the 40 days (plus seven Sundays) leading up to the resurrection of Jesus. Traditionally, Lent is a time for penitence – a time to consider our misdeeds and to seek God's forgiveness for them. Often people chose to give up something during Lent but I would like to ask you to do something extra during Lent: take on the spiritual discipline of daily Scripture reading, reflection, and prayer. We have special Lenten devotional booklets that are available around the church. In this booklet, you will find readings for each day of the Lenten season, from Ash Wednesday through Easter. The theme of this year is "While Still Far Off." It is based on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-32. Throughout the reflections, you will see the phrase "prevenient grace." That's what we call God's grace that "comes before" any action on our part. It means that, like the father in the parable, God reaches out to us when we are lost, loving us in spite of ourselves and longing for us to come home. Another way of saying this is that God loves us "first, best, and most."



## Wednesday Family Night

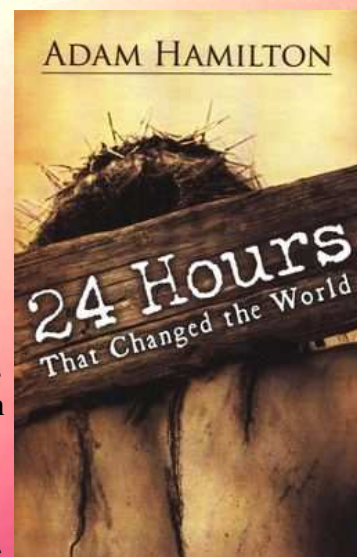
Join us on Wednesday nights for dinner, singing and a program. We have classes for all ages 4 through adults, and a nursery. Join us for a night of fun, food, study, and fellowship.

Please note: If the schools gets cancelled because of bad weather we will not meet that night. With this policy we don't have to wonder whether we are meeting or not.

## Bible Study

### *24 Hours That Changed the World*

In his inspiring book *24 Hours That Changed the World*, Adam Hamilton guides us, step by step, through the last day of Jesus' life. This is designed to help us better understand the events that occurred during the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. Each chapter is designed to help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you never have before. Whether you are a long time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join us on this inspiring journey. This will begin February 17<sup>th</sup> and continue through the month of March. Wednesday at 6:30. Julie Ward will be leading this class.





**Sunday  
Feb. 7th**

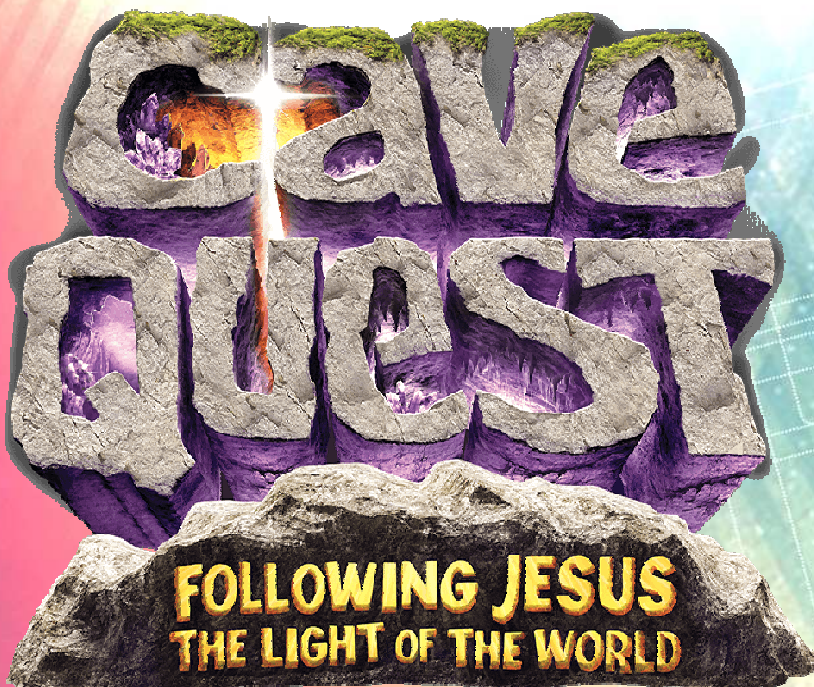


**PYF & UFO  
are hosting lunch on the 7th  
to raise money for their  
Hopewell & Montreat trips.  
Take out will be available**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

## **Sunday School Assembly Is Back!**

Starting February 21 from 9:30 until 9:45 am. Adult, PYF, UFO and children classes will meet together in the Fellowship Hall. Ray Hill will share congregational concerns, prayer requests, music and the birthday bank. This would be a great opportunity to find a class or reconnect with the group you haven't seen in a while.



## **VBS ~ Cave Quest Following Jesus The Light of the World June 13 - 17**

We are beginning to make plans for our annual Vacation Bible School. Please note the dates and make your summer plans with this in mind. If you would like to take on the challenge of being a Station Leader please see Joyce Dean. Later this spring we will be recruiting small group leaders and helpers.





A simple prayer: “Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat” has inspired a youth-led movement to help hungry and hurting people around the world. This prayer, delivered by Brad Smith in 1990, gave birth to an idea. Why not use the Super Bowl weekend to unify the nation for a higher good: collecting dollars and canned goods for the needy? Since 1990 young people across the country have collected over \$70 million for soup kitchens, food banks, and other charities in communities. Every dollar collected is donated.

On Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, our youth will be standing at the doors of the church to collect a dollar or more from you as you leave. Please help support this worthwhile youth led program.



## HYGIENE KITS NEEDED

**The Ferncliff Camps and Conference Center in Little Rock, AR, is where the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) stores their supplies. We have been asked to help restock their Hygiene kits. As a church we would like to contribute to this.**

**Each kit contains the following:**

- hand towel
- wash cloth
- wide-tooth comb
- nail clippers
- bar soap (bath size in wrapper)
- tooth brush (in original single packaging)
- 6 standard band aids

**Please put all items in one gallon zip lock bag. All of these items can be purchased at a Dollar Tree and cost \$8-\$10 for the kits. The deadline to bring to the church is Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.**

# YOUTH NEWS

What To Do in February!

**7th - PYF & UFO - We Need All Hands On Deck!**



**1st** we will need youth to take up the Souper Bowl collections after both worship services (need some volunteers for the early service) .

**2nd - Soup Lunch** - We will be providing lunch for the congregation today. We need **ALL** youth parents to provide a crock pot of soup (any kind). We will provide the crackers, muffins, salad & cheese, etc.



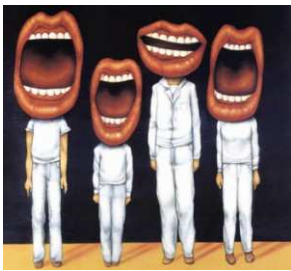
**3rd - After lunch** - we will meet for a fun afternoon in the sun (we hope)! We will get ready for the Super Bowl game by running football drills and

other games.

**Parents: Please help by providing a crock pot full of soup today. The youth will need to be at the church by 9:45. We will be through with the day's activities by 2:30.**

**14th: Big Day here at FPC - Chip's Last Day**

Please join us today for worship and lunch to bid farewell to Chip & Melinda (and family).



**PYF & UFO - 5:00-7:00 at the church**

Church Talk - What is All This Talk About Love?

**Beth Raffety to provide dinner**

**19th-21st - PYF - Camp Hopewell winter retreat. \$75.00 Please meet at the church by 5:30 on Friday evening.** You will not be stopping to eat dinner, so please eat before you get here or pick it up and eat on the bus. You can bring snacks and drinks to have in the cabin for the weekend, just make sure to clean up any messes.

Things not to forget: either a sleeping bag or twin bedding pillow, toiletries, **towels** (everyone forgets this), coat, bible.

Please leave **ALL** electronics (phones, ipods, etc.) at home. Use this weekend to unplug, make new friends and be present the entire retreat! Martin will be able to get in touch with parents if need be.

**Parents:** They should be back here at the church by 12:30 on Sunday.

**21st - No Meeting - Martin needs to sleep!**

**PULL UP  
A CHAIR**  
| AT CAMP HOPEWELL |

**28th - PYF & UFO 5:00-7:00 Mission Night**

Both youth groups will be working on projects around the inside of the church - **Parents:** Martin could really use some help keeping everyone on track. Please let him know if you can help.

**Leigh Smith & Blair Boyle will provide dinner.**

## UPDATE ON MONTREAT

Our fundraising efforts are beginning to pay off.

This plus a generous donation from a church member has helped us raise over \$4,000 to fund the winter retreats at Camp Hopewell and the Montreat trip. And we still have a couple of other fundraisers coming up. The cost of the Montreat trip will no longer be \$600

So - We need to get commitments and deposits (\$100) from PYF if they are planning to go to Montreat this summer. Once we have enough deposits we will reserve a house and start registering youth.

Either bring your deposits to the church office, give them to Martin or put them in the collection plate (please write Montreat in the memo line).



# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 5  | Trisha Nicklay<br>Dyke Sandridge              |
| 7  | Kevin Tully                                   |
| 8  | Evelyn Jewell<br>Sissy Ose<br>Katie Stribling |
| 9  | Dallygene Reeves<br>Chase Ward<br>Connie Ward |
| 10 | Billy Bierman                                 |
| 13 | Anna Johnson                                  |
| 14 | Rob Hatcher                                   |
| 15 | Mary Allison Mayo                             |
| 17 | Vicky Fili<br>Becky Remington                 |
| 18 | Nicholas Brown<br>Mary Shambach               |
| 23 | Ginger Lowrie<br>Araiya Pigg                  |
| 24 | Rose Baenke                                   |
| 25 | Mildred Davidson<br>Mark Eaves                |
| 26 | Michael Reisedge                              |
| 27 | Carolyn Faust                                 |
| 28 | Linda Burke                                   |

Farewell  
&  
Thank You



Potluck Lunch

February 14th

After the 11:00 worship service.

Come help us bid adieu to

Chip, Melinda,

Marshall, Katie & Robert

We are asking for everyone to bring salads &  
vegetables- Chicken, rolls & dessert will be  
provided.

Please help us get the word out to past members  
and friends!

No Early Service on the 14th



# A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Members & Friends,

The February newsletter is running a little late, and I am the one to blame! It's been harder than usual trying to figure out what to say. Melinda and I have been overwhelmed by the caring and supportive words from so many people after sharing the news that we will soon be moving to Hot Springs, AR. This new reality is at the same time saddening, exciting, and mildly terrifying!

I speak for Melinda and our children when I say that all of you at FPC have meant the world to us during our life here. It has been such a blessing to call Hernando home. And in many ways this place and this church will always be home to us. We are grateful for the plans to share a meal together with this church family on February 14th. I think it is fitting for Valentine's Day to be my last Sunday with First Presbyterian Church, for we have certainly shared much love together, and we always will!

I want to say a few words about what to expect during the next few months. Members of the session have already been in touch with members of St. Andrew Presbytery, the regional church council headquartered near Camp Hopewell at Oxford. Presbytery will consult with the session in the days ahead to provide FPC with an interim pastor for a few months. We will learn who that pastor will be in the next week or so.

There will be worship every Sunday as usual, along with Sunday school, Wednesday night supper and study program, PYF, UFO, Presbyterian Women, and all of our regular programs. The interim pastor will preach, lead worship, and perform pastoral duties for the church. The Session will still be responsible, as they have always been, for managing and maintaining the ongoing life of this congregation. The presbytery will play a supportive role for them and the interim pastor.

As the interim pastor and session lead the church over the next months, they will begin preparing for a longer-term interim pastor known as a transitional pastor, one who is trained in leading churches through periods between permanent pastoral relationships. It's likely that the session will have a transitional pastor in place sometime this summer. The transitional pastor will work

with the session to come up with a slate of nominees for a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) who will begin the work of preparing for the next pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hernando.

After their election the PNC members will work closely with the session and the presbytery as they develop a Ministry Information Form (MIF), which tells the story of FPC and the kind of pastor the church is looking for. There will likely be a congregation-wide mission study to help the PNC develop the MIF. Your input will be vital; there is no shortcut for this process, and the church will learn much about itself and God's call as the process unfolds.

The PNC will need the prayers and goodwill of the whole congregation as they work with the session and presbytery to understand who God is calling to be the next pastor of FPC-Hernando. When that day comes you will all be very happy, and I am sure all will say the next pastor was worth the wait! The process could easily take a year, and it probably should, considering how long I've hung around here!

I am already praying for God's will to be clearly revealed. I am praying for current session members, the interim pastor, the transitional pastor (whoever he/she may be!), and the Pastor Nominating Committee (whoever they may be). I'm praying for good communication between FPC and St. Andrew presbytery as this process unfolds. And I am confident that the Lord will bring FPC and her next pastor together in much the same way that I was brought here 25 years ago. One day you will be telling your friends, "*You will love our church's new pastor!*"

Yours in Christ,

Chip



# FEBRUARY 2016



| SUN   | MON  | TUE   | WED   | THU                        | FRI   | SAT   |
|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|
|   | <b>1</b><br>Boy Scouts 6 PM<br>Hand Bells 6:15 PM  | <b>2</b><br>PW Evening Circle 6:30<br>Pound / Zumba 5:30 PM | <b>3</b><br>Family Night 5:30 PM<br>Choir 7 PM                                      | <b>4</b><br>Zumba 5:30 PM  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br>Session Mtg 9:30 AM                   |
| <b>7</b><br>PYF/UFO Soup Lunch<br>PYF & UFO Mtg   | <b>8</b><br>Boy Scouts 6 PM<br>Hand Bells 6:15 PM  | <b>9</b><br>Pound / Zumba 5:30 PM                           | <b>10</b><br>Family Night 5:30 PM<br>Ash Wednesday Service<br>6:15 PM<br>Choir 7 PM | <b>11</b><br>Zumba 5:30 PM | <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b>   |
| <b>14</b> Chip's Last Sunday<br><b>No Early Service</b><br>Potluck lunch 12:00<br>PYF/UFO 5:00-7:00 | <b>15</b><br>Boy Scouts 6 PM<br>Hand Bells 6:15 PM | <b>16</b><br>Pound / Zumba 5:30 PM                          | <b>17</b><br>Family Night 5:30 PM<br>Choir 7 PM                                     | <b>18</b><br>Zumba 5:30 PM | <b>19</b><br>Camp Hopewell High<br>School retreat | <b>20</b><br>Camp Hopewell High<br>School retreat |
| <b>21</b><br>Camp Hopewell High<br>School retreat<br>Confirmation Class at 12                       | <b>22</b><br>Boy Scouts 6 PM<br>Hand Bells 6:15 PM | <b>23</b><br>Pound / Zumba 5:30 PM                          | <b>24</b><br>Family Night 5:30 PM<br>Choir 7 PM                                     | <b>25</b><br>Zumba 5:30 PM | <b>26</b>   | <b>27</b>   |
| <b>28</b><br>PW CT Mtg. 4 PM<br>PYF & UFO Mtg. 5  | <b>29</b><br>Boy Scouts 6 PM<br>Hand Bells 6:15 PM |   |   |                            |   |   |



## SESSION

|               |                 |                 |                |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class of 2016 | Chuck Davidson  | Kay Dawson      | Cathy Thompson | Kevin Tully     |
| Class of 2017 | Katie Chisamore | Brad Cook       | Beth Raffety   | Miriam Crotwell |
| Class of 2018 | Jimmy Hill      | Jessica Nicklay | Fred Shambach  | Leslie Bierman  |

## TRUSTEES

Jim Franks & Ralph Kennedy

## Church Directory

|  |                                       |                                  |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Robert A. Hatcher, Jr., Pastor . . . . . | email: fpcchip@comcast.net . . . . .  | Church 429-6646, Home 429-0402   |
| Joyce Dean . . . . .                     | email: fpcjoyce@comcast.net . . . . . | Director of Christian Education  |
| Tonia Marshall . . . . .                 | email: fpctonia@comcast.net . . . . . | Church Administrator             |
| Martin Carver. . . . .                   | email: fpcmartin@comcast.net. . . . . | Youth Ministry Leader            |
| Ryan Hays. . . . .                       | email: hays.ryan10@gmail.com. . . . . | Music Director                   |
| Carolyn Faust . . . . .                  | email: cfaust02@comcast.net . . . . . | Organist                         |
| Miriam Crotwell . . . . .                |                                       | Clerk of Session                 |
| Debbie Reed. . . . .                     |                                       | Nursery Attendant                |
| Cathy Thompson . . . . .                 |                                       | Sunday School Superintendent     |
| Cindy Runken (901-412-1047) . . . . .    |                                       | Presbyterian Day School Director |
| Linda Cooksey (449-8299) . . . . .       |                                       | Prayer Ring Coordinator          |

**Web Address: [www.fpchernando.com](http://www.fpchernando.com)**



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