



# PRESBY PRESS



Volume 37

January 2014

First Presbyterian Church, Milton

Issue No 1



## The Pastor's Pen

Another year is gone. There were great times, good times and sad times but never bad times. We grew closer than ever and forged ahead. Windows were reinforced and there are plans for more renovations.

We had a very busy Advent Season. Our first (since we've been here) hanging of the greens. As I looked around that Sunday in November, I noticed nothing but happy people sharing God's love. Our Holiday Faire was a success! A few came together to learn about prayer. And then -- caroling! Our first time ever! Although the rain kept us indoors, we had so much fun singing and enjoying a meal together. (Ask Terry about the pipers!) It brought back wonderful memories of my youth and Christmases long ago; Christmas pageants and Santa Clause coming for a visit at our church. Christmas Eve, my favorite service, allowed us to once again sing our favorite carols and listen to the message of God's miracle of grace through scripture and through the eyes of a lamb. (If you missed it, you missed the performance of the century!)

*(continued on page 2)*

## Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals Scripture

### Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals Scripture Reference (Year B)

#### January 4

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:(1-9) 10-18

#### January 6 Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

#### January 11 Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

#### January 18

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

#### January 25

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

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### January Birthdays

Vaunda Leonard	2
Bill Harman	5
Bessie Bohannon	6
Antonella Moore	14
Margaret Neustaedter	15
Terry Neustaedter	16
Brad Schild	29

### Events this Month

#### January 4

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship dinner, 11:30 a.m.  
(Take down decorations)

#### January 6

Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

#### January 13

Presbytery meeting

#### January 14

Open Hearts Ministry, 6:30 p.m.

#### January 15

Session meeting, 6:00 p.m.

#### January 24

knotty prayers, 10:00 a.m.

#### January 28

Open Hearts Ministry, 6:30 p.m.



**WORK TO BE DONE**  
Stained glass windows and  
Fellowship Hall windows

February Fellowship Dinner  
hosted by Linda and Margaret

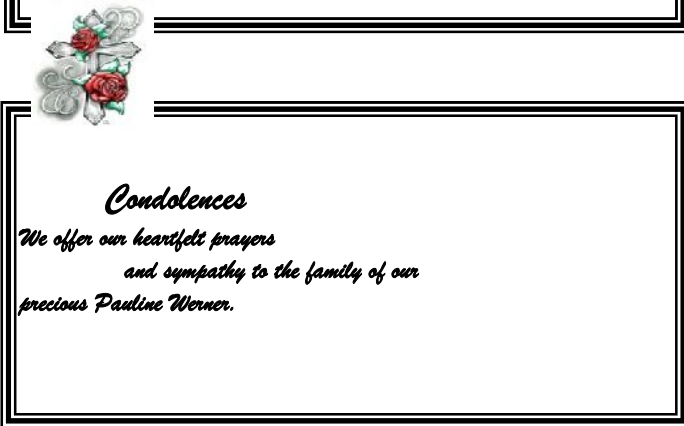
Joy, laughter, anticipation and wonder. These are the gifts of Christmas.

As we enter into the new year, we realize one thing we cannot control is the future. We can grieve or celebrate yesterday's actions, but yesterday is gone. Be sure to live today to its fullest. It is God's gift to you. If you regret yesterday, or dread tomorrow, you will not be able to recognize God's presence today. Your attention will be distracted from him who is right in front of you.

"So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries." ~ Jesus of Nazareth

Happy New Year to one and all! Remy and I are excited to continue to share in God's plan with you.

With God's love and His blessings, Jo



No Session Meeting in December

## WHAT'S NEW AT CHURCH

### knotty prayers

Not so long ago, it came to my attention that I'm the contact person for our Prayer Shawl ministry. I'm not sure how that came about, but with that being the case, I'm proposing a few changes:

I'm changing the name of our group to the "knotty prayers". The "knotty" represents our creations, because what is knitting and crocheting other than orderly knots. The "prayers" represent us as the active 'pray-ers', and it also represents what we do as we ply our craft (pray for those in need). As we offer our prayers, we are praying that the troubles (knots) in a person's life are eased (untangled).

Additionally, by taking the focus off the prayer shawls, we are freed up to work on other projects. However, I want to emphasize that we need to stay focused on working on projects to benefit others in need: newborn caps, chemo caps, caps for patients receiving dialysis; lap blankets for nursing home residents; and, yes, prayer shawls. My goal is that during our once-a-month meeting, we work on something to benefit others, and not ourselves.

Possibly by changing the focus from the prayer shawl, we can encourage others to participate in our monthly gathering. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please do not hesitate to share them with me. Blessings to each of you, Jeanette

### Tuesday Bible Study

We are starting a study of Luke and will be doing two chapters a month. (It is an easy study.) We meet in the fellowship hall at 10:00 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. Come and join us. Tammy has the books if you wish to attend.

## Session Highlights

First Presbyterian Church  
Milton, FL

## Open Hearts Ministry

We will begin a new ministry in January entitled “Open Hearts” and we would like to invite all members of our congregation to participate! We will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month (January 14 and 28) at 6:30 p.m. The focus of the ministry will be prayer and sharing the word of God with adults with special needs. We need YOUR participation for this ministry to be success! See you there.

## Sunday School

Sunday school is starting the “Present Word”. It is a true Bible study from the Presbytery. The studies are divided quarterly on different eras of the Bible. Sunday School

meets at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. If you wish to join the study, come to the Fellowship hall parlor. We will have the coffee and donut holes.

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>Happy New Year!</b> 	<b>Vaunda Leonard</b>	
<b>4</b> Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30 Fellowship dinner, 11:30 (Take down Christmas decorations.)	<b>5</b>  <b>Bill Harman</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>Luke Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Bessie Bohannon</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Communion worship, 10:30	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>Presbytery Meeting</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Open Hearts ministry, 6:30 p.m.</b> <b>Antonella Moore</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Session meeting, 6:00 p.m.</b> <b>Margaret Neustaedter</b>	<b>16</b>  <b>Terry Neustaedter</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30	<b>19</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>knotty prayers, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>25</b> Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Open Hearts ministry, 6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>29</b>  <b>Brad Schild</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

## Happy New Year

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of a popular location for celebrating New Years Eve.

S E I B A B N E W Y E A R S E V E Y  
G C H A M P A G N E T Y I M N S T T  
E N S S U E T H C D A N C E D R H R  
S Q I N F E T O O D M U A Y O E I A  
E F C G F I N A S L S U E R F K R P  
D H E F N F R R R R I A S E D A T S  
A I U S E I A S E B R D N I E M Y K  
R B B T T E S M T I E S A F C E F R  
A M T A Y I A N N O R L A Y E S I O  
P I S W L E V R O E F T E E M I R W  
N D E A R L E I N I H J V C B O S E  
D N E T R V O N T E T E A S E N T R  
A I S W I A A O R I N A S N R O H I  
Y G Y E O B I T N T E I R R U K C F  
O H W I N E I T S S K S I O H A T S  
N T Y L I M A F N O I S A C C O R T  
E T S A E F S N O I T U L O S E R Y  
S R E Z I T E P P A Y F R I E N D S

APPETIZERS  
BABIES  
BALLOONS  
BANNERS  
BUFFET

DECORATIONS  
END OF DECEMBER  
EVENTS  
FAMILY  
FATHER TIME

HATS  
HOLIDAY  
HORNS  
KISS  
MIDNIGHT

PARADES  
PARTY  
PUNCH  
RESOLUTIONS  
SINGING

CELEBRATE	FEAST	MUSIC	STREAMERS
CHAMPAGNE	FESTIVITIES	NEW YEARS DAY	THIRTY FIRST
CONFETTI	FIREWORKS	NEW YEARS EVE	TIARAS
DANCE	FIRST OF JANUARY	NOISEMAKERS	WINE
DAY ONE	FRIENDS	OCCASION	YEAR IN REVIEW