



# PRESBY PRESS



## The Pastor's Pen

Merry Christmas,

The season of Advent is upon us. For some, this is the busiest time of the year. Just last weekend, I cooked, shopped, baked, cleaned, decorated and preached. That doesn't include all the other little things that need to get done. But, like most people, I need to slow down and take a look around me. There are people who are suffering. People who don't know how to reach out to others and people who may not want to reach out. But December is truly the time when we need to check on each other – especially those who seem to have fallen away from church. So I challenge you. During the month of December, send a card with a note to someone you haven't seen in a while. Tell them how much they have been missed. Encourage them to come back and worship with us. Imagine how you would feel if you received lots of notes from your church family. I suspect it would be a wonderful Christmas present. And while you are at it, don't forget the baby Jesus. The birth of our Lord is more important than any cookie or present because His Birth gave us Life. Merry Christmas!

With Christ's Love, Jo and Remy

## Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals Scripture Reference

### December 7

Isaiah 40:1-11  
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
 2 Peter 3:8-15a  
 Mark 1:1-8

### December 14

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
 Luke 1:46b-55  
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

### December 21

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
 Luke 1:46b-55  
 Romans 16:25-27  
 Luke 1:26-38

### Nativity of the Lord December 25 (Dawn)

Isaiah 62:6-12  
 Psalm 97  
 Titus 3:4-7  
 Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20  
**Christmas Day**  
 Isaiah 52:7-10  
 Psalm 98  
 Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]  
 John 1:1-14

### December 28

Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
 Psalm 148  
 Galatians 4:4-7  
 Luke 2:22-40

### Must Do List

Finish repairing the stained glass windows

### In This Issue

Lectionary for Sundays	1
Pastor's Pen	1
Session Highlights	2-3
Presbytery notes	3-4
Calendar of Events	4
Calendar	4

### December's Birthdays

Jimmy Stewart	15
Eva Haveard	28
Wilburn Christian	28

### Events this Month

<b>December 5</b>
Holiday Faire
<b>December 7</b>
Christmas cantata, 10:30 a.m.
Fellowship dinner, 10:30 a.m.
<b>December 8</b>
Partners in Prayer, 6:30 p.m.
<b>December 14</b>
Presbyterian 101, 9:30 a.m.
Communion service, 10:30 a.m.
<b>December 15</b>
Partners in Prayer, 6:30 p.m.
<b>December 19</b>
Caroling & cocoa, 6:30 p.m.
<b>December 22</b>
Partners in Prayer, 6:30 a.m.
<b>December 24</b>
Communion service, 6:00 p.m.

# Session Highlights

First Presbyterian Church  
Milton, FL  
October 9, 2014

## Session members present:

Tammy Mendiola  
Margaret Neustaedter  
Jean Mourey  
Betsy Dodson

## Absent:

Leslie Yandle

## Guest present:

Linda Lade

## Moderator:

Moderator Pastor Jo Kublik

**Welcome/Quorum/Call to order:** A quorum was declared. The meeting was called to order with prayer by Jo and with a reading from Psalm 84.

**Approval of Minutes:** All members present have read the minutes of the last meeting. Tammy noted the material she has is for special needs adults, not children. She also noted we will decorate the church on Nov 24th not 25th. A motion was made to accept the report as corrected. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Betsy reported no unusual expenditures in the past month. A motion was made to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Clerk of Session:** Nothing to report. Linda noted that the Presbytery assumes that all members of the Session have been reading The Pelican Report. Jean will investigate how we should be receiving this.

## **Committee Reports**

**Property:** Betsy reported we have \$8,270 in the restoration fund. This means we are nearly to our goal of \$10,000.00 for window repair. Jo requested reporting showing contributions to the fund.

**Christian Education:** Tammy reported Wyatt Hayslip is enjoying Sunday school and his parents are very grateful we are providing this. She also stated we need to provide a group for adults. Linda requested new material for the Small Group Study. She had material from the Presbytery that we could use.

**Stewardship:** Margaret reported as of this time \$23,140.00 has been pledged for the year 2015. Jo requested a tally of time and talents pledged.

**Worship:** Sunday, December 28, Jo and Margaret will be absent so Tammy will lead a music praise service. Tammy noted her mother, Sharon Stebbins, is an organist & might be willing to play. Jo stated she will be able to conduct the service January 4, 2015, instead of being out as planned.

**Membership/Mission:** Linda Lade reported from the CMST meeting The Presbytery has over \$100,000.00 to be used to start new churches. She said it had been stated that we have no outreach program at the UF/FS campus. Tammy interjected that the students are all commuter students. Jean noted the school does participate in community events. She will contact the school to research to possibility and/or need for outreach. Linda reported the Presbytery also has a large budget for restoration grants. Betsy will contact Dr. Ted Land to inquire as to how we obtain these funds.

**Nominating Committee:** Linda Lade has agreed to serve another term on the Session.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Jean reported she will be walking around the church neighborhood introducing the church to its neighbors. Jean reported the fans can be ordered as handouts for our Scratch Ankle booth. She will research outlets for fans with our contact information printed on the backs and bags.

Tammy reported we have completely furnished three rooms at the Children's Home. We have also provided blinds, blankets and mattress pads and a few other items not on the list. The bed frames are presently stored at the furniture store until the house is more secure. There is a remaining balance in the fund and she and Jeanette Harman will decide what this money should be used for. Tammy has arranged for the two women organizing the home to speak at our luncheon on Nov 2, 2014, so they can tell our congregation about what they are doing at For The Children.

Tammy will be holding session training on November 15, 2014. After discussion the decision was made to hold the Christmas cantata on Dec. 7, 2014. The Holiday Faire will be held December 5, 2014 from noon to 8:00 p.m.

Tammy is contacting vendors and Jeannette will organize food and volunteers for the event.

Jo reported one person attended the Presbyterian 101 class.

Jo reminded everyone of the "Faces of Children" workshop being held October 18, 2014, and encouraged all to attend.

Jo, Margaret, Tammy and Betsy will leave for Montreat immediately following the service on October 19, 2014.

November 30, 2014, is a fifth Sunday and also the first Sunday of Advent. Therefore, we will not have a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Praise service that day.

Jo outlined her plans for our Partners in Prayer meetings beginning Wednesday, December 3, 2014. These will be held at 5:30 p.m. for 30 to 45 minutes.

Jo will hold Presbyterian 101 classes on Sunday mornings in December.

Christmas Eve service will be held at 6:00 p.m.

Tammy remarked that we have not used the old hymnals. She asked if we could use the old hymnals every other month. Her son, Michael, would change the hymnals in the pews. It was agreed this can be done.

A discussion was held regarding Advent candles. It was decided to order new pillar candles and put a protective covering on the table underneath the wreath. Margaret will order 6 electric candles for the children to carry during the service.

The budget was reviewed. Margaret explained the licensing needed for video and music. Tammy advised purchasing "The Total Producer" package for movies and/or videos which will protect the venue with no regard as to who is producing the event. The CCLI license for music is to make unlimited copies for one group. A motion was made to accept the budget. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was closed with prayer.

**Jean's Presbytery Report:** I went to the Presbytery meeting today. This is what I learned.

Joan Wooten is now the moderator elect for the synod.

They have a "Peace making fund" of approximately \$5000.00 per year. This is a discretionary fund set up to aid in settling disputes, i.e. travel money to attend seminars, bring together parties who can help or need to be helped.

There will be a leadership training seminar January 10, 2015, at Government St. Church in Mobile. Cost is \$15.00 per person. If interested, I have applications and more information.

I have a copy of the 2015 budget that will be voted on at the January meeting if anyone wants to look it over.

Next year there will only be three stated Presbytery meetings. They would like the districts to hold one meeting a year in lieu of the fourth Presbytery meeting.

Port St. Joe/Wewahitchka requested money for roof repairs (\$5000 requested toward a \$25,000 expense). Presbytery reported approximately \$52,000 in church redevelopment funds. This was voted on and passed. I have more information on this also.

As you can see it was a very informative meeting and I am glad I went. The next stated meeting will be held on **SATURDAY**, January 24, 2015, in Quincy. Not sure where that is but it would be great if more than one person goes. It's kind of lonely being just one. Love to you all.

## **Calendar of Events**

### **December**

- 12/1: Partners in Prayer (PIP), 6:30 p.m.
- 12/5: Holiday Faire, 12 noon to 8 p.m.

12/7: Christmas cantata, 10:30 a.m.  
 Fellowship dinner, 11:30 a.m.  
 12/14: Presbyterian 101, 9:30 a.m.  
 Communion service, 10:30 a.m.  
 12/15: Partners in Prayer (PIP), 6:30 p.m.  
 12/22: Partners in Prayer (PIP), 6:30 p.m.

12/24: Christmas Eve communion, 6:00 p.m.  
 12/25: Christmas Day



# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Partners in Prayer, 6:30 p.m.</b>	2	3	4	5 <b>Holiday Faire, Noon – 8 p.m.</b>	6
7 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Cantata worship, 10:30 Fellowship dinner, 11:30	8 <b>Partners in Prayer, 6:30 p.m.</b>	9	10	11	12	13
14 Choir Practice, 8:45 Presbyterian 101 and Sunday School, 9:30 Communion worship, 10:30	15 <b>Partners in Prayer, 6:30 p.m.</b> <b>Jimmy Stewart</b>	16	17	18	19 <b>Caroling and cocoa, 6:00 p.m.</b>	20
21 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30	22 <b>Partners in Prayer, 6:30 p.m.</b>	23	24 <b>Christmas Eve communion, 6:00 p.m.</b>	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26	27
28 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30  <b>Eva Haveard Wilburn Christian</b>	29	30	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>			