



September 2017



Sing Unto the Lord

**DON'T  
GO  
TO CHURCH.  
BE THE CHURCH.**

## Faith In Action Sunday

September 24, 2017

On Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, we will be cancelling our morning worship service and will once again be out in our neighborhoods serving others as part of "Faith In Action Sunday!" This year's projects are as follows:

- ◆ We will once again be preparing and serving a brunch to all our area's first responders!
- ◆ We will be collecting "Thinking of You" greeting cards that will be distributed to the local nursing home facilities!
- ◆ We will be delivering meals for DASH – and visiting with the clients to see if they need any kind of additional assistance such as changing batteries in smoke detectors!
- ◆ We will be handing out bottled water as various locations around town where folks might be enjoying the day outside!

Remember our slogan for "Faith In Action Sunday": "Don't go to Church – Be the Church!"



Organ Re-Dedication Service  
September 24, 2017  
4:00 PM

On Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, we will re-dedicate our reconstructed sanctuary organ with a special service. The service will include music by Barbara Brady, John Dill, and Alyse Hokamp, and will be followed by a reception in Tyler Hall. Everyone is invited!

GIFT ~ Girls In Fun Together  
Thursday, September 7, 2017  
5:30 PM ~ @ Rib Crib



Although Angel Boxes was on vacation most of the Summer, we were able to send 10 boxes to St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa Ok. Our small group continues to paint the 4th Monday of each month at 2:00 pm. Anyone interested in joining us can come by to check it out. You don't have to be an artist. If you can paint a wall, you can paint a box. Just remember, it is far a good cause. We bring comfort to Mothers who have lost their babies by providing a memory box to place items for their lost child.



## The Book Club Is Back

The Book Club will have the first meeting of the Fall on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Braums. Our subsequent meetings will also be held at Braums at 7:00 p.m. Our theme this year is friendship and the various forms that it takes. For the Fall, we will have a change of pace and read some non-fiction books. We will return to fiction books in the spring. To make it easier on everyone, I am listing the books for the Fall—the months of September, October, and November. Reminders of the books will be included in upcoming newsletters.

Several book clubs in Presbyterian churches are reading The Friendship of Women-The Hidden Traditions of the Bible by Joan Chittister and that will be our book for the September meeting. It provides a good introduction to a discussion of friendship.

Our book for October will be I'll Push You-A Journey of 500 miles, Two Best Friends, and One Wheelchair by Patrick Gray and Justin Skeesuck. That meeting will be on October 24.

As this is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation it seemed appropriate to read something about Martin Luther but with a twist. While the short book Luther and His Katie by Dolina MacCuish does look at Luther's accomplishments the book is also very much about his friendship and subsequent marriage to Catherine von Bora and her influence on his ministry. She was a former nun and how they got together would make a great movie. It will be our book for November and that meeting will be on November 28, the week after Thanksgiving.

With so many activities going on in December the Book Club will not meet then but will resume meetings in January with fiction books.

Discussion questions are available for each book for everyone to use as they read. Copies of those questions will also be available at each meeting and will be the basis for our discussions. For the questions please call or email Shana Powell at [shanapowell97@yahoo.com](mailto:shanapowell97@yahoo.com).

# XYZ

Remember X Y Z ?  
Well, come to Tyler Hall @  
11:30am on Thursday, September  
21st for a game day.

Bring your lunch. Drinks and cookies will be furnished by Barbara Marshall and Landi Phillips.

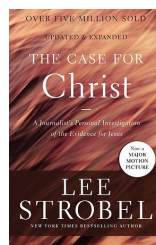
If you have solid color marbles, poker chips, dominos or Yahtzee dice please bring them.

We will decide time and day for future meetings.

All Seniors and all who aspire to be senior are invited.



Rev. Hare will be out of the office from September 4<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> on study leave. Rev. Ralph Graham will be preaching on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. In case of an emergency, contact Matt Chalmers, Clerk of Session, or the church office.



The Parlor Bible Study group will begin on  
September 10th @ 9:00am

We will be studying "*The Case for Christ*"  
by Lee Strobel.

- ◆ Is there credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the Son of God?
- ◆ Skeptics dismiss the Jesus of the Gospels by claiming there is no evidence in the case for Christ. Lee Strobel disagrees. The former legal journalist and one-time atheist knows how to ask tough questions. His own search for truth about Jesus led him to faith in Christ.
- ◆ You will journey along with Strobel on a quest for the truth about Jesus. You will sift through fascinating historical evidence as you weigh compelling expert testimony. In the end, you may very well see Jesus in a new way and even, like Strobel, find your life transformed.

SERMONS ONLINE! ~ Rev. Hare's Sunday sermons are available on the church webpage! Just go to [www.fpcgainesville.net](http://www.fpcgainesville.net) – click on the "Sermons" link at the top of the page – then click on the dropdown tap – and you're there!



- That June Sherrill did a great job as August’s pulpit assistant?
- That the Outreach Ministry Committee is still collecting large duffel bags for the State School?
- That Reynolds Ansley is now the Worshipful Master for the Gainesville Masonic Lodge, #210?
- That this year’s “Creative Arts Camp” was a great success?
- That Jack and Ginger Walker really know how to throw an anniversary party?
- That we’ve posted a video of the church that Benjamin Turbeville did on the church’s Facebook page?
- That John and Shana Powell spent some time cruising on Route 66 last month?
- That our “Back To School Sunday” was lots of fun?
- That we will be hosting a “Walk Thru the Bible” Seminar on October 14<sup>th</sup>?
- That John and Amanda and Claire and Sam Warren had a great time in Colorado this summer?
- That there’s probably someone you know who would love for you to email them a copy of your newsletter?



Do you remember those old Western movies where cowboys would be driving a herd of cattle and they suddenly came to a swollen stream? There would always be this moment of confusion in which the herd would shy away from the wild water, and turn back and refuse to dive in. Then, with a little prodding by the cowboys, one gutsy steer would wade out into the swirling stream. And once that steer made it successfully to the other side, the other cows would follow until the whole herd made it across.

Gutsy giving – yes, even tithing – is like that. God is constantly urging and prodding us to consider crossing over into that bold standard of stewardship. When one brave soul wades in and makes the commitment, his or her “matter of giving” leads others to follow their example.



The Men’s Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM at the Fried Pie on the square! All the men of the church are encouraged to come and enjoy a great time of food and for solving all the world’s problems!



The regular meeting of the Session will be held on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Seekers’ Classroom.

All written committee reports are due in the office by Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.



The budget is always a concern and price increases on anything are never a good thing.

From the Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting April 21, 1985: “A letter from KGAF on an increase in rates was read. The Pastor recommended to the Session to consider discontinuing our radio broadcast but continue it as a budgeted item for such time as it takes to purchase quality equipment for the weekly taping of Morning Worship and its distribution, together with players to all interested persons. The Session voted to discontinue radio broadcasts effective June 1, 1985. Jim Norman will investigate the equipment necessary for taping Morning Worship.”



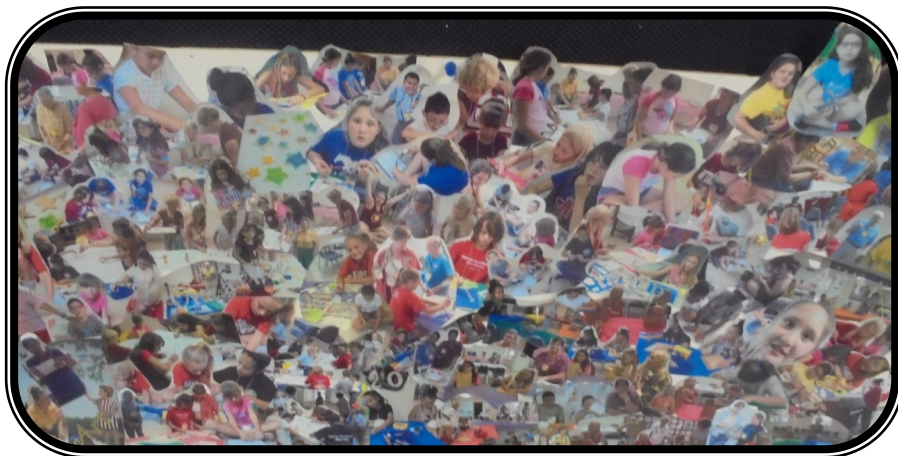
Everyone is invited to come watch Cecil B. Demille’s “The Ten Commandments” Showing in Tyler Hall on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm. Popcorn, candy & Cokes will be available for a donation.

All donations will go to DASH.



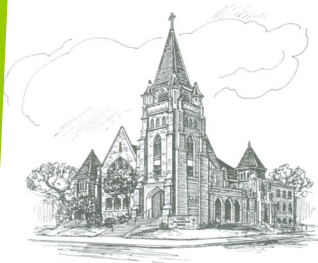
Retha and Sylvia would like to offer their sincere gratitude to all of the people who volunteered their time and food to make our "Shining Stars" Creative Arts Camp a big success. A special thanks goes out to Lydia whose food committee kept us "well snacked" each day. Thanks to our adult leaders, Judy Neal, Janis Skupin, Susan Moss, Pam Cooper, Lydia Ansley, and chairman, John Powell. A very special recognition to a "leader in training"-Jayce Hubble. She agreed to be our official photographer and a blue finger expert on the floor demonstrator of how to hammer little decorative nails into plywood.

To Reverend John who brought us a relevant devotional each morning with his cheery, "Good Morning" call expecting an enthusiastic response from our eager art campers. Retha was assisted by Barbara Brady in choosing our theme song this year and came in from Sanger for the rehearsal Friday. Thanks, Barbara. A big special appreciation to Earl, Reynolds and Clyde who supported each idea thought up by their willingness to make the ideas possible by moving tables, toting supplies, running errands and just being there. And, to our Special Secretary, Sarah, who kept us straight with her organized registrations. She also printed the daily photographs and added them to Face Book each day. Many Thanks to Everyone...WE DID IT!!!!





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**NEW LIFE**

## The “NEW LIFE” Renewal Process Continues!

The New Life Leadership Team thanks everyone who took the time to respond to our historical survey! More than 60 church members shared their stories and their memories of our church, and offered insight into our church’s valued and meaningful ministries and traditions. The team is currently reviewing all the interviews and will identifying those traditions and core values that are really important to our life together.

Stay tuned as we get ready to begin our next “New Life” phase in which we will explore what it means to be Jesus’ disciples and not just members of the church! Please be in prayer as we seek God’s leadership and direction and vision for First Presbyterian Church!

## Reformation Tenets Remembered

This year we are celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation Movement from which our Presbyterian heritage got its start. In order to honor that anniversary, Rev. Hare has been preaching throughout the summer on what’s called “the Basic Tenets” of the Reformation.

So far in this series we have looked at “Grace Alone,” “Faith Alone,” “Christ Alone,” and “Scripture Alone.” On Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Hare will conclude this sermon series by preaching on the tenet called “Soli Deo Gloria” which is Latin for “To The Glory of God Alone.” Since God has made all things and in divine love sent his Son to become our Savior, this glorious Triune God alone is the one to be praised and honored.

Come discover once again what we, as Presbyterians, believe and how these beliefs impact who we are and what we do!

