



July/2025 E-GRAM

Hello, **Everyone,**

Happy Summer, to you! And Happy Birthday, America!

This July, we not only celebrate the nation's Independence Day, but I also hope that during this summer, you will find time for enjoyment, relaxation, and hopefully, some vacation too. I hope many of you will have the opportunity to have fun, spend time with family, and enjoy some well-deserved time off.

Last Sunday at our church, we started celebrating the Fourth of July with a wonderful musical concert organized by our music director, Sue Brems. Nick Miceli sang almost all the greatest patriotic songs, while his wife Ann did a fantastic job narrating the stories behind some of them. Sue and Ann also hosted an enjoyable "name that tune" game, which brought a lot of laughter. A huge thank you to Nick, Ann, Sue, and everyone else who helped us raise funds for the Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans' Nursing Home.

I am also excited about July. Through our Presbytery and the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the ELCA, beginning this month, I will be serving as an interim pastor at another local congregation. This is a unique opportunity for me to help shepherd another church during their time of transition. I am

confident that this experience will be both meaningful and enriching, and I look forward to bringing back fresh perspectives, renewed inspiration, and making new friends too.

Please keep me in your prayers as I take on this new role, and continue to support one another here with the same warmth and faithfulness you always have.

Blessings,

Pastor Syl



PENTECOST SUNDAY



Summer Luncheon

Pr. Syl and his wife Betania met with Cathy and Sandy Asaro, along with Pam Omar, for a super fun summer luncheon.



Leadership Training



From left to right Ruling Elder Sandy Asaro, Pr. Syl and Rev. Melana Scruggs led Leadership training on Saturday, June 21, 2025.



PEP (PEOPLE ENJOYING PEOPLE)



The PEP group met for lunch at Donato's Italian restaurant and enjoyed delicious Italian dishes and great company. Join us next time and enjoy this special time too.

June Birthdays & Anniversaries



Celebrating our June birthdays and anniversaries. Birthdays are Sue McConochie and Holly Parkin. Also, the Anniversary of Charles & Carolyn Brox.

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office at 941-625-5045.

Music Concert in celebration of the birth of America on July 4th 1776!

The concert Featured Nick Miceli performing well loved patriotic music and lots of surprises. All proceeds will be given to the Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans Nursing Home. Monetary funds raised for a total of \$560! Thank you to all who donated.





**Served
Army**

**Served
Airforce**

**Served
Marines**

**Served
Navy**



**This group participated in the “Name That Tune/States.” What a fun time!
Those who participated received patriotic prizes for joining in on the fun!**



May Blessing Tree donations for the Boys and Girls Club.



During **June**, our **Blessing Tree** collected items for **The Boys and Girls Club**. Monetary donations of **\$325** came in as well as backpacks and other school supplies **Thank you to all who donated for the children.**

Please help donate for our **July Blessing Tree**. We will be collecting shoes for the **Kiwanis Shoes For Kids Project** See details later in newsletter.

Baby ducks and Mama came by for a visit.

Mama and her ducklings came back to the place they were born. Mama hatched the eggs back in April right in our office bushes. They came right up to our glass office door to say hello. They were all so cute as they chirped and looked in.





July's Blessing Tree Kiwanis Shoes For Kids

Since the beginning, we have partnered with the Kiwanis Shoes to collect shoes for kids. Suggested sizes are children's 5 to adult 12.



Every **Wednesday** at **12 noon**, our Prayer group meets at First Pres. All are welcome. There is power in prayer, and we know we can make a real difference in people's lives if we just pray.

Movie & Pizza Night



Join us on **Tuesday, July 22, 2025** at **6:30 PM**, to watch a movie that shows us God can use us no matter what stage of life we are in. We will enjoy delicious pizza, popcorn, and drinks.

PEP (People Enjoying People)
No PEP luncheons for the months of July & August.

STAINGLASS ORNAMENT CLASSES



If you are interested in making **stain glass ornaments**, please sign-up for classes with Weldon DeGroot for specific Saturdays from **10 a.m. until noon**.



Meet our July Pet of the Month.

Meet **Stu**, our **July Pet of the Month**. This handsome guy belongs to Sue McConochie. He is her lanai anole lizard. He shows up every evening for a visit. He appears to know his name and comes when called and shows no fear as he waits to be fed bugs. Attempts have been made to get him to shake hands.



Do you want to see your pet here? Send Pam a picture of your pet to pastorsecretary@fpcpc.com, and your little friend could be one of our Pets of the Month.

Join us online on Zoom



Sundays at 8:05 AM.
To connect, go to www.zoom.us
Click "Join" on the right-hand
upper corner
Meeting ID: 9678044713
Passcode: X9b77j



Mondays at 8:00 AM.
To connect, go to www.zoom.us
Click "Join" on the right-hand
upper corner
Meeting ID: 87832080869
Passcode: 396015



Tuesday, July 1

- Food Pantry - from 8 to 11 AM.

Wednesday, July 2

- Prayer Group Meeting - noon.



Thursday, July 3

- Office Closed in observance of the 4th of July.



Sunday, July 6

- Continental Breakfast - from 7:45 to 9 AM.
- Adult Sunday School - 8 AM. On Zoom at 8:05 AM.
- Children's Sunday School - after Children's Blessing.

Monday, July 7

- *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom - 8 AM.

Wednesday, July 9



- **Prayer Group Meeting - noon.**
- Food Pantry - from 4 to 6:30 PM.
- Bells Rehearsal - 6 PM.

Sunday, July 13

- Continental Breakfast - from 7:45 to 9 AM.
- Adult Sunday School - 8 AM. on Zoom at 8:05 AM.
- Children's Sunday School - after Children's Blessing.

Monday, July 14

- *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom - 8 AM.

Tuesday, July 15

- Food Pantry - from 8 to 11 AM.

Wednesday, July 16



- **Prayer Group Meeting - noon.**
- Bells Rehearsal - 6 PM.

Sunday, July 20

- Continental Breakfast - from 7:45 to 9 AM.
- Adult Sunday School - 8 AM. On Zoom at 8:05 AM.
- Children's Sunday School - after Children's Blessing.

Monday, July 21

- *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom - 8 AM.

Tuesday, July 22

- **Movie & Pizza night** featuring *Father Stu* - 6:30 PM



Wednesday, July 23

- **Prayer Group Meeting** - noon.
- Bells Rehearsal - 6 PM.



Sunday, July 27



- Continental Breakfast - from 7:45 to 9 AM.
- Adult Sunday School - 8 AM. On Zoom at 8:05 AM.
- Children's Sunday School - after Children's Blessing.
- **Celebration of July's Birthdays & Anniversaries.**

Monday, July 28

- *Lectio-Divina* with Wintergarden Pres on Zoom - 8 AM.

Wednesday, July 30

- **Prayer Group Meeting** - noon.
- Bells Rehearsal - 6 PM.



Thursday, July 31

- **Called Presbytery Meeting** - 10:30 AM at First Pres.



MEMBER ON FOCUS

Have you met?



Patty Bevens

Patty was born in New Jersey and raised in the Dutch Reformed Church. She married Steve Bevens in 1976. They had two children, Meredith and Trevor. They moved to a small town outside of Princeton, New Jersey. Her husband Steve, worked for AT&T International and traveled extensively before retiring in the year 2000. Patty was a stay-at-home mom who also had part-time jobs to meet the school bus.

Once the kids left for college Patty and Steve sold their house and decided to move to Yardley, Pennsylvania. Not finding any Dutch Reformed churches in the area, they became members of the Newtown Presbyterian Church. Patty worked for Mercedes-Benz as a liaison between 350 dealerships in the U.S. and Germany, with their marketing initiatives. In 2012, Steve was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, and within three years, Patty retired to take care of her husband. They made their move to Florida in 2016 for the climate, as well as opportunities for Steve and to be closer to Patty's sister.

Patty and Steve joined First Presbyterian Church about 7 years ago. They attended services together until the decline of Steve's cognitive abilities became more prevalent. Patty continued to care for her husband as he struggled with Alzheimer's until his passing last year. Patty struggled with the loss of her husband and is grateful for Donna Young, who was

instrumental in getting her back into church. "She never gave up on me, and I am so thankful," Patty said.

Patty is slowly getting involved and has recently become a Deacon. She has also volunteered in the Food Pantry after Sandee Pellerin introduced her to the opportunity. She is making new friends and meeting neighbors, and of course, spoiling her two grandchildren, Kerrienne, who is 10 years of age, and Ben, 13. She is also a voracious reader and enjoys the downtime to herself.

Patty's favorite food is Italian and her happy place and favorite vacation destination is Boca Grande. She loves the concerts and symphonies as well as discovering new restaurants.

Patty is happy she became a member of First Pres. She says the people are so friendly. She is glad to be part of the family.



Birthdays

July 2 - Charles Brox
July 3 - Mark Thompson
July 4 - America's birthday
July 9 - Richard Lund
July 11 - Tom Allessee
July 20 - Valciana Officer
July 21 - Judy Benson
July 24 - Kathy Alexander

Anniversaries

July 10 - Barbara & John Danylak
July 10 - Sue & Neal McConochie

Do not see your name here? Call the church office and let us know (941) 625-5045.

CHURCH OFFICIALS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- **The Board of Deacons** meets on the first Wednesday of the month at **1:30 PM**. **No meeting in July and August**. The next meeting is scheduled for **September 3, 2025**.
- **Pastor's Bible Study (Philippians chapter by chapter, verse by verse), every Tuesday at noon.**
- **Prayer Group meets Wednesdays at noon.**
- **The Finance Committee** meets on the second Sunday of each month at **10:30 AM**. **No meeting in July**. The next meeting is scheduled for **August, date TBA**.
- **The Worship Arts Committee** meets on the second Wednesday of the month at **11 AM**. **No meeting in July**. The next meeting is scheduled for **August 13, 2025**.
- **The Session** meets on the third Sunday of each month, at **10:30 AM**. **No meeting in July**. The next meeting is scheduled for August, date **TBA**.
- **Adult Sunday School** meets every Sunday at **8 AM**, including by Zoom.
- **Children's Sunday School** meets every Sunday during worship and after the Children's Blessing.
- **The PEP (People Enjoying People) will not meet in July & August.**
- **The Choir will not meet in July & August. Bells will meet July 9th.**
- **Movie & Pizza Night on Tuesday, July 22, 2025 at 6:30 PM.**
- **Called Presbytery Meeting - 10:30 AM at First Pres.**
- **The Prayer & Praise Service** may resume again in November.



Did you know you can add First Pres to your will or living trust, as your beneficiary? For example, one of the most advantageous ways to contribute to the First Presbyterian Church is through a gift of stock. Making a gift of securities is simple and offers some valuable financial benefits. You can give appreciated stocks to the church simply by transferring them into our account. The total value of the stock upon transfer is tax-deductible, and you will not be obligated to pay any capital gains taxes on the appreciation. For gifts of stock or gifts-in-kind, please contact the finance office for details or speak with our church treasurer, Elder Ambrose Woods.



Please pray for ...

Adams Family - strength & comfort
Cathy & Rick Armstrong - health needs
Bernadine & Tom Allesee family - safety & health needs
Susan Baivey - health needs
Eric & Ray Bittinger - health needs
Hazel & Jerry Brown - health needs
Carolyn & Charlie Brox - health needs
Heather DeGroot & family - strength & comfort
Barbara Edwards - health needs
Jean Heim - health needs
Marjorie Hill - health needs
Carolanne Hoehle - health needs
Senior Lee Family - health needs
Dottie Legee - health needs
Sue Littrell - health needs
Violet Logan/Green - strength & comfort
Donna & Loren Livengood - health needs
Richard Lund - health needs
Courtenay Mason - health needs
Brad Messick - health needs
Louis Miceli - health needs
George Mothershed - health needs
Julie Nunez - health needs
Valciana Officer - health needs
Ray Omar - health needs
Mavis Powell - health, strength & comfort needs
Samantha & Derrick Reams Family - strength & comfort
Olin Scott - housing needs
Danny Webb - strength needs

FPCPC FAMILY - If you know of anyone else who may need our prayers, please call the church office at 941-625-5045. Names will be removed after 3 months. If you wish to keep them on the list, please call the church office.

