

First Presbyterian Church  
224 E. Mobile Street  
Florence, AL 35630



## MIDWEEK MESSENGER

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February 1, 2012

Dr. Richard T. Gillespie, Pastor

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The third Celebrate Life Blood Drive will be held the second Sunday of Lent, March 4, from 12:00-5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Please consider donating and telling your friends about this opportunity for giving the gift that can save lives during the Lenten season.

[Our Visitors on Sunday, January 29](#)  
[Ann Moran](#)      [Anne Norvell](#)

### *THANK YOU NOTE*

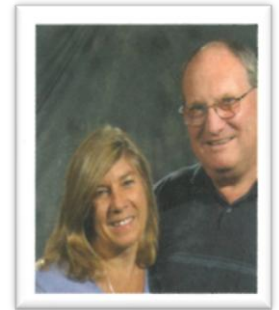
A note was recently received from Hollis Wilson, expressing his humble and sincere thanks to the anonymous donor – one among us – who gave a gift several weeks ago to The Help Center. This gift was given through the church, with a request that Hollis be allowed to direct the distribution of said gift. Many people received assistance in obtaining prescription drugs (some had multiple prescriptions) over the ensuing weeks.

Hollis closed his note with the following: “For the last fifteen to twenty years, the Help Center has given out approximately 300 New Testaments per year. We sure could use more volunteers on these mornings at the Help Center.”

*The Tennessee Valley Presbyterian Cursillo will be April 19-22, 2012 at Camp Maranatha. Applications are due February 1, but the deadline has been extended indefinitely. Applications are on the front counter and Jackie Zickler can answer any questions you have regarding Cursillo.*

### A VISIT WITH MISSIONARIES DAVE AND SUE THOMAS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

We will have an opportunity to meet and worship with the Thomases on Sunday, February 12. Dave and Sue were appointed as mission co-workers in 2001, serving as U.S. coordinators of one of the six Presbyterian Border Ministry programs. In 2007, Dave was appointed as regional liaison to Mexico to work alongside the elected leaders of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico. Dave will fill our pulpit on the 12<sup>th</sup>.



### FEBRUARY EVENTS

- February 8      Mission and Service Committee
- February 9      Congregational Care Committee
- February 12     3<sup>rd</sup> Century Agape Meal
- February 13     PW meet at Merrill Gardens
- February 14     Worship Committee and Stewardship Committee
- February 18     Stated Meeting of North Alabama Presbytery at St. Andrew, Decatur
- February 21     Men's Breakfast Gathering
- February 28     Stated Meeting of the Session

# PW NEWS



## SAVE THE DATE

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN MEETING** **Monday, February 13, at Merrill Gardens**

9:00 a.m. – Coordinating Team

10:00 a.m. – Meeting and Devotional

### **VALENTINE PARTY!**

## **RUFFLE SCARVES**

Thank you to those who knitted scarves! Keep knitting! We have plenty of yarn that you can use.

*Instructions from Anne Langstaff:*

Ruffle Knitted Scarves

Cast on 20 stitches (#8)

Knit 1 row, turn

Knit 8 stitches, turn, knit back to beginning

Knit 6 stitches, turn, knit back

Knit 4 stitches, turn, knit back

Knit across all 20 stitches.

Do it all over again, and again, and ...

## *PW feature*

### **THE HELP CENTER**

As Presbyterian Women, we are always looking for opportunities to volunteer for missions. Our own past PW Moderator, Irene Hutchinson (1965-1967), served on the first Board of Directors of The Help Center.

In 1982, approximately 20 churches in Florence and Lauderdale County accepted a proposal from the Ministerial Association to join in the formation of a "Help Center" to help meet the needs of citizens in our county and transients passing through our area. Prior to that time, many churches tried to meet such need in various ways. Some had established "clothes closets", discretionary funds for pastors, or programs for helping people with a variety of needs. For many reasons, it became obvious that a better job could be done meeting the needs of people through a cooperative effort. Therefore, Cooperative Community Ministries (CCM) was incorporated and certified as a charitable organization, meeting the State and Federal requirements for a non-profit organization qualified to receive tax-deductible donations. Dr. Wayne P. Todd was elected President, Irving Rudolph was elected secretary. Churches agreed to support The Help Center financially, with

time and resources, and name members to the CCM Board of Directors to help set policies and review operations. "Project Help" was also organized and modeled after a joint project from Nashville's utility board and the Red Cross, whereby \$1.00 could be added to a customer's utility bill and provided to local organizations to help those in need.

Many of our members have given their time and resources to The Help Center for over 30 years. As we plan our volunteer calendars for 2012, as Presbyterian Women, don't forget The Help Center to give you mission hours.

**"If you are not a missionary,  
you are part of the mission field."**

*Sermon, January 29, Dr. Richard Gillespie*

## **SAFE PLACE DONATIONS**

Safe Place is looking for donations of personal items for women and toys and games for children. If you would like to make a donation, please call PW member June Helton at 256-764-7461.

## **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday, February 5, 2012**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Dr. Richard T. Gillespie, Pastor

### **FEBRUARY 5 USHERS**

Nicki Graham

Reba Hamm

Gary Wilkinson

Hollis Wilson

### **READER**

### **FLOWERS**

Fleming

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

9:40 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Communion Worship/Congregational Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

4:30 p.m. Mission and Service Committee

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper/Vespers

6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Bell choir practice

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary choir practice

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Congregational Care Committee

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Noon-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Ministry

by: First United Methodist

Team Leader: Jan Pflueger

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

Noon-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Ministry

by: First Baptist Church

Team Leader:

## THE SOUP SCOOP:



Friday, January 27

Westminster Presbyterian Church, with Team Leader Carol Howdyshell, served barbecued meatballs, Tater Tots, fruit cocktail, rolls and cake to 72 guests.

Saturday, January 28

Grace Bible, with Team Leader Jackie Zickler, served scalloped potatoes and ham, green beans, rolls and peach cobbler to 81 guests.

### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

*O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

- Benedict of Nursia (c. 480-547)

### PRAYER LIST

#### HOSPITAL/ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

Irving Rudolph	Merrill Gardens
Dr. Will Doss	Merrill Gardens
Helen White	Green Oaks Inn
Margaret Fleming	Columbia Cottages
Dr. John and Evelyn Carter	Merrill Gardens
Mary Hatfield	Merrill Gardens
Charline Megar	Merrill Gardens
Sarah Leonard	Wellington Place
Dr. John Nofzinger	Wellington Place
Emmy Lesch	Belmont Village
Mary Holland	Glenwood Healthcare

#### HOME

Florence Duncan  
Freddie Tyree  
Dean Jones  
Bob Henning

#### RELATIVES

Mildred Pflueger, mother of Richard Pflueger  
Ann Moran, mother of Morris Cracraft  
Kurt Henning, son of Maureen and Bob Henning  
Mike Worley, brother-in-law of Rhonda Tyree  
Henry Tyree, Jr.

#### FRIENDS

Wanda Teel, friend of Jane Frith  
Nancy Perrit, friend of Lynn Johnson  
Rod Townsley, friend of Martha Anne and Henry Lee Parker  
Libby Glascock McDaniel, friend of Martha Barton

Corporal Brian Felber  
Sandy Young, friend of Irene and Robert Potts  
David Howell, acquaintance of Jean Paxton  
Tyler Calhoun, friend of Don Boggan  
Beverly Barry Frazier, friend of Susie and Jim Robinson  
Debbie Bradford, friend of June Helton  
Benjamin Coe Masters, friend of Don Boggan  
Pat Summitt, friend of Martha Anne and Henry Lee Parker  
Shirley Thornton, friend of Nancy Burrows  
Paige Cunningham, infant daughter of friends of the Williams family  
Morris Anderson, friend of Neil Money  
Nita Miller, friend of June Helton  
Donnie Akers, friend of June and Don Helton  
Betty Brown, friend of Jan Schroeder  
Amanda Segrest, friend of Ken and Landis Williams  
Deloris Jones, friend of Ann Craig

#### MILITARY

CPT Barry Crosby	Travis AFB, CA
CPT Brad McGee	El Paso, TX
CPT William Gillespie	Ft. Stewart, GA

#### Thanks for your prayers:

*Many thanks from Morris and Jordan Craft and their family for your prayers for their niece, Keely Allen. After a difficult pregnancy, she and her husband, Seth, are now the proud parents of a little 8-pound boy!*

**You are invited to an**

### **ART EXHIBIT**

featuring

Oil Paintings by **Carol Howdyshell**  
and

Watercolors and Drawings by **Arzetta Mims**

Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts  
*Upstairs Gallery*

February 1, 2012 – April 15, 2012

Gallery hours: 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.  
Monday – Friday

**AGAPE MEAL**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

In the first three centuries of the church, when "home churches" were the norm, it was typical for the congregation to share a meal after times of worship, prayer and praise. Over time, these events became known as "Agape Meals", or the Love Feast, during which time the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was also observed. It was a time when the congregation further knitted themselves together as the body of Christ.

The Agape Meal, which will be held in the fellowship hall after the worship service on February 12 is designed to recreate this experience, with a simple, Mediterranean style meal followed by observation of the Lord's Supper, with elders at each table to serve the elements. The Stewardship Committee will also use the time to discuss the formation of "The Third Century Fund", a standing endowment campaign that will promote the ministries of First Presbyterian Church for decades to come.

Please plan to join us for this event, which is at no cost to the participants, by calling your reservation in to the church office as soon as possible.

Thanks,  
Patrick Smith, Moderator  
Stewardship Committee

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Helen White
- 4 Nancy Muse
- 5 Joni Willingham  
Pam Favenesi
- 6 Morris Cracraft
- 8 Margaret Fleming
- 9 Richard Gillespie
- 12 Irving Rudolph
- 13 John Woodward
- 26 John Carter
- 28 Nancy Marbury
- 29 Ken Williams



**DO YOU HAVE A VEHICLE  
THAT YOU WISH TO SELL?**

Our custodian, Jerome Thompson, is interested in purchasing a good, used car or truck.

Please contact the church office if you have a vehicle for sale.