



# First Presbyterian Church

310 Plantation Road, Perry Florida



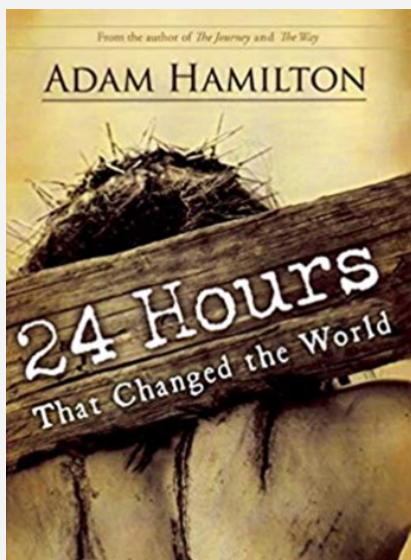
## February

### 2020 Newsletter

Pastor Natasha will be offering a Lenten Bible Study Wednesday evenings and another during the day.

If you would like to participate please sign up in the church office so we can order enough books.

This is a video and discussion based study.



## Presbyterian Church Bulletin

October 29, 1944



### OUR CHURCH SEAL

#### Meaning of the Emblems

- The Dove:* Represents the Holy Spirit descending from heaven. (John 1:32.)
- The Star:* Represents Christ Himself. (Num. 24:17; Rev. 22:16.)
- The Lamp:* Represents the Witnessing Church. (Matt. 5:14 and 16.)
- The Burning Bush:* Represents the Indestructible Church. (Exodus 3:1-11.)
- The Laurel Wreath:* Represents Victory and the Church Triumphant.
- The Scroll (at the bottom):* Carries the Latin inscription which means "The light shineth in the darkness."

#### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday from 9:00a.m.-12

Office Phone: (850) 584-3826

Web Address: [www.firstpresperry.org](http://www.firstpresperry.org),

Email Address: [office@firstpresperry.org](mailto:office@firstpresperry.org)



## Words from the Pastor

Dear Church Family

In a recent sermon on Paul's letter to the Corinthian church I wrote my own letter to the members of this congregation. I wanted to first and foremost express my gratitude to God and to you for the blessing of being called to serve as your pastor. I have been so pleased to discover such a loving and healthy congregation.

“I Natasha, called to be a minister and a disciple of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the church of God that is in Perry, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. In the short time I have been here, I have come to know and love a congregation of disciples who work hard, always look up, and seem to always strive to see the good in all, and be the good for all. I see a congregation who seeks to serve God passionately, people who are dedicated to the ministries of this church.”

Paul's letter to the church in Corinth was written to address specific divisions and problems. From what I can tell our church family does not share the same issues. However, we know that all church have issues and Paul's words do have something to teach us about being “the church”. I, the pastor, along with the session, and you the congregation, have a task ahead of us to prayerfully discern together God's call for the ministry of FPC. We cannot possibly know where God is leading us if we do not first take the time to look back at our past. God has been forming and re-forming our Presbyterian congregation for a very long time. Taking time to look back at God's work in our own church community reminds us of the One Foundation that has supported, inspired, and formed FPC through the years. We are able to remember and honor those whose faithful work carried out the will of God through the specific ministries of the past, and then better understand the miracle of the Body of Christ in change and continuity. What a gift it is that the Holy Spirit who formed the church in Corinth, is the same that formed FPC in Perry from day one. So as we look back in gratitude for the saints who served before us, let us strive to remain open the Spirit of God today.

“In the power of the Spirit, Jesus Christ draws worshiping communities and individual believers into the sovereign activity of the triune God at all times and places. As the Church seeks reform and fresh direction, it looks to Jesus Christ who goes ahead of us and calls us to follow him. United with Christ in the power of the Spirit, the Church seeks “not [to] be conformed to this world, but [to] be transformed by the renewing of [our] minds, so that [we] may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Rom. 12:2). (Foundations of the Presbyterian Church) Grace and Peace, Pastor Natasha



# This & That

February  
2020

## FPC Youth News

20 of the FPC and FUMC youth took time to share their Christmas joy by caroling at Advent Christian Village. Thank you to all who organized and participated in this special event. What a blessing in sharing the Joy of Christ.



### Youth Schedule for February

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm at FPC

Parents are welcome.

**February 2**

Game Night

**February 9**

**February 16**

no Youth Group

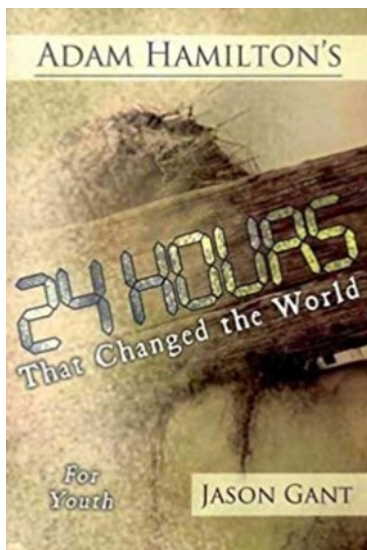
**February 23**

Bonfire and Smores night

**March 2**

Last Day to sign up  
for Montreat

### Group Study for Youth



Youth will be having a Bible Study during Lent that is both video based and discussion based.

The group will meet Wednesday evenings at 7pm.

Please let Janece know if you are interested.



### Montreat Youth Conference

July 25th-August 1st

Youth interested in attending need to register with their youth leaders. A \$50 registration deposit is due by March



2020 Montreat  
Youth Conference

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE UPCOMING ULTREYA

**When:** February 15, 2020

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church

**Time:** 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. BBQ Meal

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Ultreya

**Who should attend?** Everyone

**What does ULTREYA mean?**

Onward... to persevere, to continue onward.

Contact Nancy Bell, Rachel Poppell, or call the church office for more information.

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The word "ultreya" is a Spanish word meaning Onward..... to persevere, to continue onward. It was used by those making a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. James in Spain. The Shrine was situated on a high hill and the trail to it was very steep and rocky, causing the walk to be very laborious.

Those making the pilgrimage would encourage each other by shouting "ultreya!" There is no better term that we can use to encourage each other in our struggle for a deeper meaning in our life with Christ. "ULTREYA"!!!

Many people from First Presbyterian Church have attended Via de Cristo (cursillo) spiritual retreat weekends. The Ultreya is a monthly gathering of those who have attended a weekend, as well as guests, to gather for a time of singing, sharing stories of God's grace and, of course, food. Historically, Perry Ultreyas have been widely known for Bar-B-Que. Consider this your personal invitation to join in hosting our brothers and sisters in Christ from all over the North Florida and South Georgia area for the upcoming Perry Ultreya. If you have any questions or are interested in helping, contact Nancy Bell or Rachel Poppell.



### Sonrise Breakfast

Join us for Breakfast  
February 23rd.

Bring a breakfast item to share,  
so we can fellowship

# Safety and Security

at First Presbyterian Church

February 2020



The Session of FPC has directed Chuck Eckel to lead a team to consider safety and security improvements in the light of today's environment of attacks on churches and the people of the church.

**Mission Statement of the Security Team:** Improve church security to care for the flock of the church of God, addressing both spiritual and physical risks, informed by Scripture.

“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28)

Of course, Worship on Sunday morning and Fellowship on Wednesday evening are most important security considerations while continuing to be open and welcoming to those who seek Christ's love through this church body. In addition, improving weekday safety and security for the Rooms To Grow program and the church office staff and volunteers have high priority. Members of FPC have responded to join the Security Team and they have given time to develop important projects for FPC to take in this area. Pastor Natasha has been briefed on the planning and has offered helpful suggestions and made some additional requests. The Session has approved funding for these initial projects.

Over 30 FPC members attended an Active Shooter presentation by Layne E. Schultetus, retired sheriff's deputy and member of the Branford Presbyterian Church. Among several recommendations that Layne and other Presbytery resources provided were to train on First Aid and AED/CPR and to train our usher team in anticipating and handling routine and unusual needs of visitors. As a follow-up, 16 church members have completed the First Aid and AED/CPR training. An additional AED (Automated external defibrillator) has been installed in the Sanctuary narthex plus the one in the Fellowship / Office building.

We have acquired walkie talkie sets for ushers and the nursery worker to communicate. A security camera system has been installed to record activities in the exterior of our campus. Ushers and others will have access to these images and, if an incident occurs, copies of the images can be provided to those investigating. Ushers will lock the more remote doors of our campus when worship starts. Worshipers will be directed the main sanctuary entrance and the Courtyard entrances to the bathroom and the nursery.

Additional projects on building access control will be initiated in the near future and details shared in upcoming newsletters. Chuck Eckel will be happy to receive any questions, comments, or suggestions.

Chuck Eckel



## FPC Prayer List

	Chuck Davis	Betty Lou Hendry
Danny Musgrove	Glenn Knowles	Fanette Chesser
Family of Sharron Dorman	Alice Farrell	Elvena Johnson
Loisell Coleman	Shirley Erwin	Ben Sunderland
Hattie Adams	Christina Lutz	

**THROUGH THE PRAYER CHAIN**, members of First Presbyterian are given the opportunity to turn to God in supplication for others. You may start a prayer request by contacting Margaret Poppell at [perryfpcprayers@yahoo.com](mailto:perryfpcprayers@yahoo.com).



### 224TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **Stated Clerk invites Presbyterians to 180 days of prayer, leading up to the 224th General Assembly (2020).**

In making this announcement, the Stated Clerk emphasizes that “daily prayer leading up to our denomination’s biennial assembly is a reminder that General Assembly belongs to God, and not to us.”

This cycle of prayer “reminds commissioners who are being called by their presbyteries that they will be making significant decisions about the future of our denomination. It also reminds us that members of congregations, as well as our ecumenical and interfaith partners attending the assembly, will be praying with and for us as we meet.”

In this call to prayer, all members of the church, from children through senior adults, are invited to consider our church’s past, evaluate its present, and plot a prayerful course into God’s future. Nelson adds that “this cycle of prayer will invite the Holy Spirit’s continued reign over our church, providing strength to make sometimes difficult decisions that are necessary at this particular time — calling the church to do 21st century ministry.”

The Stated Clerk believes that the 224th General Assembly (2020) will be one to watch as a denomination. He urges those attending — commissioners and visitors alike — to “look out from themselves and see the need of every church on every corner.” He encourages commissioners not to come just to cast votes, but to make a difference in the city of Baltimore.

Nelson invites all Presbyterians, whether commissioners to General Assembly or not, to join in this intentional cycle of prayer. “As we discuss the big issues that face us as a church, may our conversation be undergirded with prayer. I pray that we will do more than just vote, but that we will come with open hearts, open to God’s spirit possibly changing our minds about the issues we consider.”

Nelson concludes, “I hope that this General Assembly will be a time when we can come together not with a mindset of winning or losing, but with a realization that our decisions should be our discernment of what God wants us to do. I pray that every commissioner leaving the assembly believes that every decision may not have been what ‘I’ want, but that every decision will be what God wants.”

Please be in prayer for the commissioners who will be representing St. Augustine Presbytery at General Assembly. Those attending will be Sandra Hedrick, stated clerk of the Presbytery, Joe Medearis, Emma Cottrell, Cedrick Grant and Bob Bell.

We need your help with flowers for worship. If you have an interest in providing the flowers for worship please sign up. The sign up sheet will be in the fellowship hall on Wednesday nights, the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, or in the office. ... "In honor of an anniversary" .... "dedicated or in memory of a special person" ..... "to celebrate a joyful occasion" .... "Or just because you feel called to help out."

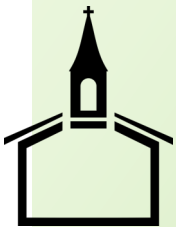


# FLOWER CALENDAR 2020 *As of 1/27/20*

January		February		March	
5 <i>Gregory</i>	2 <i>Halley</i>	1 _____			
12 <i>Bratton family</i>	9 _____	8 _____			
19 _____	16 <i>Pastor's Installation</i>	15 <i>Jeanne Rankin</i>			
26 <i>Refuge &amp; Jean Mennell</i>	23 <i>Gregory</i>	22 <i>Betty Culbreath</i>			
		29 _____			
April		May		June	
5 <i>Palms</i>	3 _____	7 _____			
12 <i>Easter</i>	10 _____	14 _____			
19 <i>Juanita</i>	17 _____	21 _____			
26 <i>Elise Yates</i>	24 _____	28 _____			
	31 _____				
July		August		September	
5 _____	2 _____	6 _____			
12 _____	9 _____	13 _____			
19 _____	16 _____	20 _____			
26 <i>Jeanne Rankin</i>	23 _____	27 _____			
	30 _____				
October		November		December	
4 _____	1 _____	6 _____			
11 _____	8 <i>Juanita</i>	13 _____			
18 <i>Anna Sirodanto</i>	15 _____	20 <i>Poinsettias</i>			
25 _____	22 _____	27 _____			
	29 _____				

# Time with the Children

February 2	Diana
February 9	Nancy Bell
February 16	
February 23	
March 1	
March 8	Diana
March 15	Nancy Bell
March 22	
March 29	
April 5	
April 12	EASTER Diana
April 19	
April 26	
May 3	
May 10 (Mother's Day)	Diana
May 17	



## CHURCH GROUNDS CLEAN-UP

February 7th & 8th

Come one, come all, there will be something for you to do.

**Please mark your calendars** and join us for workdays on February 7th and 8th at the church to get cleaned up and ready for our St. Augustine Presbytery friends to join us as we celebrate the installation of our new pastor. Please call me if you have questions. Bob Bell

## March Newsletter Deadline

If you have a note, announcement, or picture etc. to put in the **March Newsletter** please have your detailed info given to the office by way of email by **Monday, February 17, 2020**.

Email to [office@firstpresperry.org](mailto:office@firstpresperry.org)





**Missionary News :**  
**A Message**  
**From Cindy Corell**

Dear Merne + Bob!  
I wish you both a lovely and very  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:14

Thank you so much for all the love  
and kindness you have shown me. This has  
been a difficult year, but knowing you all  
and the people of First Presbyterian, Perry, love us  
and support us makes a big difference! Much love Cindy

To the Presbyterian Church  
members:

Words can't express how  
much our family appreciates  
your thoughtfulness, kindness,  
and Christian love you  
shared with us, for the  
past few weeks.

The ministers, current  
and past, the office  
people, ushers, the  
beautiful flower arrange-  
ment, music and the  
ladies that provided the  
food during the visitation.

We were so happy with  
all of it. Daddy would  
have loved it!

Thank you so much and  
God Bless each of you.

Love,  
The Brafford Family,  
Linda, Izzy, Ron, Janet, Rick  
and Susie, grandchildren  
and great grandchildren



Letter to FPC  
Members  
from the  
Brafford Family



# First Presbyterian Church of Perry

## February Calendar 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Presbytery Meeting
2 Worship 11am  Communion Sunday	3	4	5 Dinner 5:45 Potluck Team Choir 7pm	6	7 Church Grounds Clean-up Day 1	8 Church Grounds Clean-up Day 2
9 Worship 11am	10	11	12 Dinner 5:45 Jeanne & Warren Hilgendorf Team Choir 7pm	13	14	15 Ultreya 12-1pm BBQ 1-2:30 Ultreya
16 Worship 11am <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Pastor Installation Service 4pm &amp; Dinner</div>	17 Church Office Closed Charity Tracker	18	19 Dinner 5:45 Donna Sprigle Team Choir 7pm	20	21	22
23 Sonrise Breakfast Worship 11am	24	25	26 Dinner 5:45  Services 7pm	27	28 <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Session Retreat</div>	29 <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Session Retreat</div>



**Service of Installation**  
**The Rev. Natasha Sudderth-Davis**

It is with joy and thanksgiving that we invite you to participate in the service of installation of

***The Rev. Natasha Sudderth-Davis***

Natasha Sudderth-Davis has been called as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Perry.

*When*

**Sunday**  
**February 16, 2020**  
**4:00 p.m.**

*Where*

**First Presbyterian Church of Perry**  
310 Plantation Road  
Perry, FL 32348