



First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Church school : 9:15 a.m.

110 North Adams Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Phone (850) 222-4504 Fax (850) 222-2215

email: office@oldfirstchurch.org

website: www.oldfirstchurch.org

www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch

Pastor's Blog: brantcopeland.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 AM—12:30 PM AND 1:30PM—5:30PM, Monday—Friday

February 6, 2011



VALENTINE'S POTLUCK

Congregational Care invites you to our annual Valentine's potluck dinner on Sunday, February 12 at 6:00 pm in the Westminster room. Bring a main dish, side dish or salad to share - we'll provide dessert, and Carla Connors and Tim Hoekman will provide the musical entertainment! Child care will be available for younger children.



Raleigh Gail Fixel

Daughter of Will and Sarah Fixel

Baptized January 29, 2012



Lydia and Deborah Circles , Information Changes

Lydias will meet at 3:00 p.m. on the 12th in the Oak Room of the Parry Center at Westminster Oaks. Deborah Wisnant will be the study leader and Mary Hodges will be the hostess

The **Deborah** circle meeting on the 14th is at 7 p.m. at the home of Karen Bickley; unfortunately, NO dinner!!

Water for all Nations Raffle

In May Elizabeth Platt will tell the Inquirers' class about Water for All Nations (WAN), an NGO registered here and in Tanzania. Geophrey Mbatta, an engineer and President of Wan, has mastered a technology to bore wells manually. He will oversee the boring of his first well in Lichuli Village in Tanzania in June. A fundraising Tanzanian dinner and raffle for WAN will be held at the Lincoln Center Gym on 438 West Brevard Street in Tallahassee, Saturday, February 25th at 6:00. Tickets are \$25. Email Elizabeth at:

ejplatt@embargmail.com to order tickets.

To learn more about WAN, log on to

www.waterforallnations.org.



Palmer Avery Corzine

Son of Charlee Taylor & Chris Corzine

Baptized February 5, 2012



FPC Coffee Sunday

February 12, 2012

Remember, \$1.00 per bag goes to disaster relief.



PASTOR'S COLUMN

Brant S. Copeland

Pastor's Column

Fundamentalism comes in all shapes and sizes. The kind I'm most familiar with is the Christian variety, but there are other forms as well.

Recently the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) changed its constitution. We removed language that functioned as a bar to the ordination of Lesbian and gay officers (ministers, elders, and deacons) and replaced it with language that states: "Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit

joyfully to the lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life . . ."

This seems to me to be a very high standard. You'd think that submitting to Jesus' lordship in all aspects of life would be challenge enough. Some brothers and sisters are not happy about this, however. One session (local governing body) wrote to Florida Presbytery:

We cannot mold scripture into something it is not simply for political or cultural whimsy, nor can we pervert it to accommodate sinful behavior without fear of impunity. It is imperative that our church clarify in a righteous manner by putting into practice the teachings of the Bible as it pertains to fidelity and chastity for all leaders of our church. We believe in the infallibility of the Bible and sacred truths it teaches us, both the Old and New Testaments, where we learn that these sins are clearly not the intended design of God's perfect creation for a man and a woman.

(I think the writer meant either "without fear of penalty," or "with impunity" but, you get the drift.)

Fair enough. Don't tamper with an infallible Bible. The problem is, the Bible endorses lots of practices that modern Christians reject (beating your wife, killing your children for disobedience, polygamy, Levirate marriage) and forbids others that modern Christians accept (wearing clothing of differing cloth, touching women while they are menstruating, getting tattoos).

A little interpretation is called for, isn't it? But we tend to be rather selective in our interpretation. Some bits of the Bible we keep in the file folder marked "infallible" and others get filed under "no longer applies." Clearly, the writer of the passage above thinks the Bible contains a blanket condemnation of sexual intercourse outside the marriage of one man to one woman. The fact that it does no such thing is irrelevant. We must stick to the fundamentals.

There's also a political form of fundamentalism. For the majority of the Florida Legislature, capping tax revenue is fundamental. Thus, if lawmakers manage to pass a bill requiring internet giants such as Amazon to collect sales taxes, the Governor won't sign the legislation unless it's "revenue neutral."

In other words, the State can't possibly bring in more money for Early Learning, healthcare, or education, even if it's money already owed under current law. "No new taxes" (or even old taxes collected from internet dead-beats). It's fundamental.

I recall a bumper sticker: "The Bible Says It. I Believe It. That Settles It." Replace "The Bible" with "Grover Norquist" and you've got a bumper sticker that would sell like hotcakes.

Life among fundamentalists will always been challenging, no matter where you find them.

I welcome responses to my columns. To comment, please go to my blog: brantcopeland.com.

February 12 2012 Lectionary

(6th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

Childcare

Childcare for infants through pre-K children is available in our education building from 9:15 – Noon on Sundays. Infants and toddlers are cared for in our nursery on the main floor. Preschoolers have a classroom on the third floor, room 305. *Heavenly Helpers Agency* provides our babysitters and they are all background checked and trained in caring for children as well as CPR/First Aid. Volunteers also assist sitters in the nursery.

Adult Church School Classes

Hearing and Sharing the Word Room #203

ABC (Adult Bible Class) Calvin Room, #202

The Adult Bible Class is continuing our study of II Samuel. Please read II Samuel Chapters 11-12. Visitors are always welcome.

Faith and Families Room #206

We will be watching the last segment of Miss Representation – “this film explores how mainstream media contributes to the under-representation of women in influential positions in America and challenges the media’s limiting and often disparaging portrayals of women, which make it difficult for the average girl to see herself as powerful.” Join us for the viewing and the discussion.

Inquirers Westminster Room

Woolworth's drugstore lunch counter on South Monroe Street was the site of one of the first civil rights accommodations actions in Tallahassee in 1960. This Sunday, Dan Donovan, with the City of Tallahassee Planning Department, will talk to us about the City's efforts to memorialize this part of the city's history through the installation of a Civil Rights Heritage Walk at this and other important civil rights sites throughout the city.



Nursery Volunteer Feb 12

Mary Kutter



**Middle School Youth Group
High School Youth Group**

This Sunday, Feb. 12, 2012

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Both groups will join our church family at the annual pot luck supper. We will eat and then head to the Calvin Room for games and conversation.

**First Tuesday College Gathering
Tuesday, February 7 at 7:30 p.m.**

**We will meet at the Presbyterian University Center
(PUC).**

We will be talking about the book, [10 Things Jesus Never Said and Why You Should STOP Believing Them](#). Copies of the book will be available.



First Presbyterian Preschool

We are currently registering children who will enroll at Preschool in August 2012. If you are interested in knowing more about a fall 2012 opening at First Presbyterian Preschool for a two year old, three year old or four year old, please call Andra Copeland at the Preschool, 222-4587. The Preschool also participates in the state of Florida VPK program (Voluntary Prekindergarten). Children who are four years old, on or before September 1, 2012 are eligible for VPK.

*** Limited openings are available for immediate enrollment at Preschool. Please call Andra for more information. 222-4587

**Mission Experience in Atlanta
Feb 8 – 10**

Please pray for those of us travelling to Atlanta to serve, pray and reflect on this Mission experience this week. Those participating from Tallahassee include: Jose Cruz, Jim Davis, Amy Guthrie, Doug Throm, Meredith Walker, Christy Williams, Walter and Marian Moore. Those participating from Atlanta include: Chad Hyatt and Thomas Guthrie.

**Presbyterian Women's Winter Gathering
Salad Pot Luck
Sunday, February 19 Westminster Room**

Bring a salad (to the kitchen before worship), then join others for lunch, conversation and a stimulating program following worship. The program will feature our own Elizabeth Platt, retired from FSU College of Education, who will speak on her experience last year as a Fullbright scholar in Bangladesh. Her topic will be "Role-Playing as Empowerment of Women in Rural Bangladesh". "Empowering Bangladeshi Women through Re-enactment of their Lives"

All are invited - male and female, member of a circle or not.



We are looking for your musical talent!

If you are an adult, play an instrument, and would be interested in playing for worship some Sunday, please contact Michael Corzine, Organist & Choirmaster, at mcorzine@fsu.edu.

We are also canvassing the Sunday School and Youth Groups for musicians among our children and youth. We will then create a database of instrumentalists, young and old, for future use.



Mid Week Adult Enrichment Program

"Classic Herman Miller"

February 15, 2012

5:30 dinner

6:00 leave to go see exhibit at FSU

7:30 Back at church

Dinner is \$6.50 per person with a family cap of \$15. Children under 12 eat free. Reservations are necessary if you plan to eat dinner and the best way to make them at this time is to call the church office at 222-4504 no later than noon on Monday, February 13th.

The exhibition, designed by Eric Wiedegreen uses part of a rare collection of Mid-Century Modern furnishings (the **Pietralunga-Rossi Collection**), all manufactured by Herman Miller, Inc. Narciso Rossi was an upholsterer in the early 1950s through mid-

1970s at the Herman Miller plant in California, and acquired numerous pieces for himself for his own home. On the deaths of Rossi and his wife, these furnishings were recognized by their heirs as important as a collection representing some of the best work of some very renowned designers. Shown are period pieces by Charles and Ray Eames, George Nelson, Isamu Noguchi and Alexander Girard. Reissued new items by these designers (lighting, pillow, clock, etc.) complement this collection and give context. The fashion pieces (and vintage television) are critical to better understand that these pieces ... that seem the very definition of *contemporary* ... in fact were designed in the 1940s-1960s. It is interesting to note that most of the pieces shown are still in production today. They are all **CLASSIC Herman Miller**.

The exhibition is a recent winner in the ASID Educator Design Excellence Competition. A jury comment: "*This exhibit design pays homage to the era in which the Herman Miller pieces were first introduced. The use of fashion models and retro TV sets adds a touch of humor and playfulness. In an age fascinated with Mad Men, this exhibit hits the mark perfectly!*"

This will also be an opportunity to see the newly renovated **William Johnston Building** on the FSU campus. The \$49.2 million building is a showplace of new thinking for academic buildings and is structured around a 5-story glass atrium. The exhibition is housed in a 1000 square foot Gallery off the atrium on the first floor and will be open through March 16, 2012.

**Join us for a celebration of
Scottish & Cape Breton fiddle & piano!**

**Workshop/House Concert
with Ed & Neil Pearlman**

Neil Pearlman blends Cape Breton piano with jazz and Latin grooves – a new sound, yet true to traditional roots. Neil grew up playing music and dancing, and toured as a stepdancer with the Natalie MacMaster band. He has taught piano at Alasdair Fraser's Sierra Fiddle Camp, and has played with Alasdair Fraser, Natalie MacMaster, Mark O'Connor, and many others. In New York, Neil has played jazz and trad music at Carnegie Hall, the Bitter End, and other venues.

Ed Pearlman is one of America's best fiddlers in the Scottish style; he directed the Boston Scottish Fiddle Club 1981-99, has worked with Alasdair Fraser, Natalie MacMaster, Tony Cuffe and many others; Ed taught at Blazin Fiddles camp in Scotland, Maine Fiddle Camp, Swannanoa Celtic Week, Ohio Scottish Arts School, and writes the music column for *Scottish Life* magazine.

Thursday, Feb 23

Workshop 5:30 ~ Concert 7:30

Workshop \$8, Concert \$7, Both for only \$12
(\$2 discount for kids accompanied by parent)

Workshop 5:30-6:45

Scottish fiddling (other instruments and interested listeners are welcome)
Learn what makes Scottish music tick by focusing on a few good tunes

Share in a pot luck between workshop & concert!

Concert 7:30-8:30

Ed & Neil have a deep knowledge of the music of Scotland and Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, with jazz and Latin influences. Neil will also do a Cape Breton stepdance.

"Dazzling piano chops"
(Portland Press Herald)

**At the home of Tim Lynch
1515 Argonne Rd, Tallahassee**

"a sweet hybrid because
Pearlman ... obviously
truly loves the trad stuff."
(The Huffington Post)

Tim: t2lynch@yahoo.com or Aisha: theaisha@hotmail.com

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND OF WITNESS
AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY**

Thursday, February 16, 12:00 noon
Florida's Capitol Building

Governor Rick Scott has signed a warrant for the execution of Robert Waterhouse, convicted for the 1980 murder of Deborah Kammerer. The execution is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, February 15.

For many years our denomination--the Presbyterian Church (USA)--and the Session of First Presbyterian Church have publicly opposed the death penalty as an instrument of public policy. Accordingly, the Witness Council invites you to join with other like-minded citizens for a service of remembrance, to be held at noon on the day following the execution. The purpose is not to glorify Robert Waterhouse or to declare his innocence. Rather, it is to remember both Robert Waterhouse, executed in our name, and his family, and Deborah Kammerer, the victim of his crime, and her family. The service will also bear witness that we who gather at the Capitol believe capital punishment is wrong in principle.

For many reasons, opposition to the death penalty is growing fast, in Florida and elsewhere. Come and help demonstrate that trend to Florida's officials. You may park in the church's lot and join others who will leave the church at 11:45 for the walk to the Capitol.

Announcements for the newsletter should be submitted to newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org by noon Mondays.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
110 NORTH ADAMS STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED