



## First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Church school : 9:15 a.m.

110 North Adams Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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email: office@oldfirstchurch.org

website: www.oldfirstchurch.org

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Pastor's Blog: brantcopeland.com

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

January 2, 2011

*Let Justice Roll*



*From Tallahassee to Atlanta*

### ***Two Mission Experiences Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church February 8-10, 2012 & March 18 – 23, 2012***

First Presbyterian Church is excited to offer two mission experiences for church members this winter. In both instances we will be working with those who are homeless or struggling with poverty in the Atlanta area. We will be helping to minister with and provide services through various church-related agencies. We will also have the experience of living together in Christian community, starting and ending each day in prayer, study and reflection.

**February 8 – 10: For college students and adults:** We will set out from Tallahassee and meet in Conyers, Georgia, to spend the afternoon at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit learning about the monastic life and the prayer habits of the monks. From there we will travel onto Columbia Seminary in Decatur, Georgia to settle into our guest rooms. Our days on Thursday and Friday will be spent in working with Mercy Community Church in the Virginia Highlands area of Atlanta. We will assist in providing morning hospitality, will be part of their prayer and bible study time, will spend time with other members of the community feeding people in the area and then will have time for prayer and reflection with the Church's pastor, Chad Hyatt. There will be time for a meal with the Young Adult Volunteers (Thomas Guthrie's group) one evening as well as a chance to visit the King Center for Non-Violent Social Change. Space is limited to 10 people. Adults of all ages are welcome. Transportation is NOT provided, though car pooling is encouraged. We will leave Tallahassee on Wednesday, February 8 at 7:00 a.m. Bring a bag lunch to eat en route. We will meet at the Monastery's Welcome Center at 12:30 p.m. Friday, February 10, our program will end by mid afternoon and participants are then on their own to head home or make their personal arrangements for staying in the area. Cost: \$80.

**March 18 – 23: For High School Students & Adults:** We will work directly with DOOR ministries in Atlanta, going in small groups to work alongside those in local agencies around the area. Specifically we will work with Central Presbyterian Church's Outreach and Advocacy Ctr., Mercy Community Church and a farm run by the Mennonite Church. Each of these organizations assists those who are homeless or caught in the cycle of poverty. We will stay at St. Mark's UM Church and will be hosted by DOOR's Young Adult Volunteer employee, Thomas Guthrie. There will be time to explore the downtown Atlanta area, enjoy some local eateries and entertainments as well as meet those who have devoted their lives to doing Christ's work in the world by ministering to the poor. Space is limited to 14 people. Adults who attend will be asked to serve as chaperones to the high school aged students who will also be on the trip. Transportation is provided. We will leave Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Money for lunch en route both ways is necessary. Friday morning we will eat breakfast, pack up and leave for Tallahassee, so we will be back by early afternoon. Cost: \$150.

**Space is limited!! Register now to hold your spot.**

**For more information or a complete itinerary of either trip, contact Christy Williams at  
Christy@oldfirstchurch.org**

## January Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings

Circle	Date	Time	Location	Hostess	Study Leader
New Circle	8th	9:15AM	FPC Library		
Lydia	8th	4:00 PM	Calvin Room/FPC	N/A	Marian Moore
Rebekah	10th	10:00 AM		Marge Meeter	Carol Lou Phillips
Deborah	10th	6:00 PM	Hostess home for dinner	Sue Hightower	Mary Kutter
Society of Saints	12th	11:45 AM	Fireside Room	Westminster Oaks	Betty Wright
Mary and Martha	16th	6:00 PM			
Dorcas	17th	11:45 AM	Westminster Oaks Club House for Brunswick stew lunch	Joan Custis and Patsy Kickliter	Ellie Miller
Together In Service	24th	9:30 AM	Room 206/Ed. Bldg.	N/A	N/A

### Prayers for our College Students

Please keep the following college students and chaperones in your prayers as they travel to North Carolina to participate in the annual Montreat College Conference: Lillian Cleveland, Emma Lowry, Sarah Norcini, Ben Payne, Kendall Richards, Simon Carsey, Spurgeon Smith and Christy Williams. This year's theme is "Seeking Stars".



#### FINANCIAL NOTES

It is not too late to make payments on your 2011 pledge to First Presbyterian. To make sure your payment get credited to the correct year, please note in the Memo section of your check that the payment is for 2011.

Offering envelopes for 2012 are now available in the hallway of the Education Building. If you do not see a box containing your envelopes, please let us know.

#### Food First Sunday

**January 8th**

**First Presbyterian Church**

Food items are usually collected the First Sunday of each month and distributed to ECHO and to Elder Care Services! This month you have the opportunity to add to our offering this second Sunday of the month.

#### 2012 COFFEE SUNDAYS

**January 8; February 12; March 11;  
April 15; May 13; June 10; July 8 ( No  
coffee sales in August; so, stock up in  
July); September 9; October 14; No-  
vember 11; and December 9**

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





**PASTOR'S COLUMN**  
**Brant S. Copeland**

## Pastor's Column

Frank Loveless was born in 1901. He grew up in Spade, Texas, which is less than a wide spot in the road; it's just a junction where farm roads intersect. When Frank was a 16 years old, he was working his father's cotton field with a horse-drawn plow when a tractor salesman appeared. The vendor was driving a truck and towing a trailer on which was perched a brand new McCormick tractor. He backed the newfangled thing off the trailer and asked Frank if he'd like to give it a go.

Frank had never driven a tractor. I'm not sure he'd ever driven a car. He climbed up on the contraption and started down the row of cotton he'd been working with his horse-drawn rig. When he got to the end of the turn-row, he pulled back hard on the steering wheel and yelled, "Whoa!"

The tractor, obviously hard of hearing, continued on its course, crashed through the barbed wire fence and came to rest in a ditch. Steam gushed from the punctured radiator.

The salesman managed to the tractor back on the trailer and drove away. Frank went back to his horse-drawn plow. So much for technology.

Frank Loveless was my grandfather.

Although I'm not exactly a Luddite, it's clear that I am not genetically predisposed to technological innovation. My son Adam has been blogging for years. He must get it from his mother's side of the family. It was Adam who convinced me to enter the blogosphere, and I do so with considerable trepidation. You can read my blog at [brantcopeland.com](http://brantcopeland.com). It's called "First Drafts." That was Adam's idea, too.

I have lots of reasons for reluctance. For one thing, I'm not sure I have time to keep this up. For another, I have serious doubts that anything I would write would be worth reading. Most of all, I fear that, having expended my full allotment of words on a weekly sermon, I won't have any left for a blog. Or at least no words worth posting.

The Vision Team at First Presbyterian and a number of people I've been talking to about the future have assured me, however, that First Pres needs to have a presence beyond our website. So, here we go.

Oh well, I can always go back to the horse.

### **January 8, 2012 Lectionary**

*(Baptism of the Lord)*

*Genesis 1:1-5      Psalm 29*

*Acts 19:1-7      Mark 1:4-11*

## Church School

Childcare is available for infants through preschoolers on Sunday mornings from 9:15 a.m. – Noon. Infants and toddlers are in our main floor nursery and our preschoolers are upstairs in room 305. There are Heavenly Helper childcare workers in each room.

### Adult Church School Classes

#### ABC (Adult Bible Class)

Calvin Room, #202

The Adult Bible Class is continuing our study of I Samuel. Please read II Samuel, chapters 2 and chapter 3. Visitors are always welcome.

#### Faith and Families Class

Third Floor, Room #307

We are meeting this Sunday upstairs. We will be getting information about our upcoming January series. Join us.

#### Hearing and Sharing the Word Class

Room #203

#### Inquirers' Class

Westminster Room

Leo Sandon will again be our leader as we watch and discuss the next segment of the PBS series, "God in America." This segment, "A Nation Reborn," treats religious controversies surrounding slavery and the Civil War.



Middle School Youth Group

High School Youth Group

January 8, 2012

Youth groups will begin again on Sunday, **January 8** where we will practice re-using and re-cycling in both groups as each holds a "White Elephant Gift Exchange". NO purchasing a gift allowed. WRAPPED gifts must be something you already have around the house or received as a gift yourself. Bring gifts with you to youth group on 1-8-12. Middle School group will meet in the Westminster Room and the High School Group will meet in the Calvin Room. See you there!

Middle School group will meet in the Westminster Room and the High School Group will meet in the Calvin Room.

*See you there!*



#### 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



**FPC Coffee Sunday  
January 8, 2012**

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



**Mid-Week Adult Enrichment Series**

**January 18, 25**

**(Please note this date change!!)**



**“Reformist vs. Traditionalist in Islamic teaching and law:**

**What Contemporary Muslims are Arguing About!”**

**By Shannon Dunn**

Shannon is completing her PH.D at FSU. Her dissertation examines how modern Muslims address tensions within their tradition about the role of women.

Dinner is at 5:30 with the program starting at 6:15. 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 the Monday prior to the session.

Announcements for the newsletter should be submitted to [newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org) by noon Mondays.



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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**