

Glad Tidings

July 2017

Calendar:

August 3 PCT (Presbytery Coordinating Team) Forest Hills Pres 10 am
All are welcome to attend.

August 12, 2017 Bible Study Event

FPC, Maitland *with the author!*

Presbyterian Women
Central Florida Presbytery
2017 Bible Study

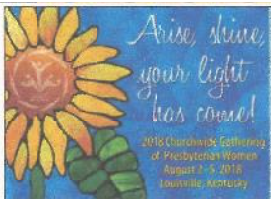
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2017
Maitland Presbyterian Church



October 14 – 10~2 First, St. Petersburg
Spice Your Soul

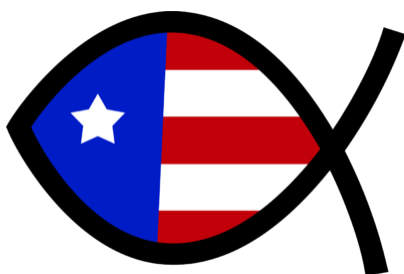
February 17, 2018 Annual Gathering,
FPC Crystal River – 9:30 am registration

August 2-5, 2018 Louisville, KY
Churchwide Gathering



Who is going with us?

Registration \$425; rooms \$144 and up.
What are you doing **now** to send someone or two from your PW group?



To keep up with what is going on with Presbyterian Women Churchwide, check out presbyterianmission.org and pcusa.org/presbyterianwomen

Find us locally at pwtampabay.com and we are on Facebook as Presbyterian Women of Tampa Bay.



From Churchwide:

The first portion of our PW purpose is “to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study” ... What better way to accomplish this than with the Horizons Bible study published by PW each year? Written by leading theologians and pastors in the Reformed tradition, it provides contemporary research and background information along with probing questions perfect for small-group study. Focused biblical learning encourages meaningful conversations with our fellow circle members, strengthening both our faith and our relationships. One of the side benefits of having a nationwide Bible study, is that I can discuss this year’s (or a previous year’s) Bible study with women in churches, presbyteries, or synods other than my own.



And now put the PW Purpose to work!!!

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves: to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,

- Prayer Chain
- Bible Study – not just *Horizons* study!!! Attend other studies during week/month
- Attend Spiritual Retreats
- Help sponsor VBS, children, family activities

to support the mission of the church worldwide,

- Support the PW Mission Pledge and other special offerings.
- Christmas Joy, Sharing God Love, Birthday, Thank, Pentecostal
- Attend conferences to become knowledgeable of missions
- Disaster kits, health kits, baby kits

to work for justice and peace,

- Plan a PW event and invite different ethnics/cultures
- Be a poll worker/take food to workers
- Support spouse abuse networks
- Give away daily smiles
- Volunteer at women's shelters, spousal shelters, human trafficking shelters

and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

- Adopt a person/couple unable to attend church and make them feel a part of the congregation
- Take them a bulletin
- Take a meal
- Visit with them
- Take communion to them, with Pastor or Elder
- Give a subscription to college student
- Intentionally invite young/old person to special events – call, invite **and then** pick them up!!!

We hope the above is helpful to you. Take care and yes we like to hear your feedback!!!

Spice Your Soul

Work your magic to promote the PW Fall event Spice Your Soul. Open to all women attending a Presbyterian Church (and friends) in the Tampa Bay area. From 9:30 am (registration) - 2 pm on Saturday, October 14 at First Presbyterian of St. Petersburg, FL, on Beach Drive and 7th Ave. North.

PW in the Presbytery leadership is offering a one-day spiritual retreat for women who want to enjoy each other and gather information on strengthening our own bodies, minds, and souls. We want to offer a short devotional time followed by some classes where we will have chair yoga, Bible Study Helps, time to enjoy the beautiful waterfront setting in your Walk with God. Discover something from nature, a leaf, seed pod, feather - that speaks to you about your union with God and nature.

Chair yoga gives us a chance to explore movement while we leave our “stuff “ waiting outside the experience. Our God moves thru our lives in so many ways we can join and enjoy the freedom of our bodies.

A very simple snack will be available as a mid-morning strengthener. Lunch will be a healthful salad and beverage provided by the First Presbyterian's Women's group. We thank their session for allowing us to meet in this lovely setting and to the volunteers who care for their sisters in Christ..

We are hoping to offer more classes and if you are able to suggest a subject benefiting women's health, body mind and spirit please notify Robin Becker 522 3414. We may need help identifying leaders for these activities:

Nutrition

Guided meditation

Skin care for our aging skin

Nature Walk with God

Please make your calendar and sign up early - we want this experience to be a Blessing to each of our women. Registration forms coming with the **August Glad Tidings**.



So how is your summer going? Are you in town, out of town, planning a trip, recuperating, or just feeling the blessing of these crazy, lazy days of Summer? Keep cool, refreshed, and maybe we will see you in August in Maitland or October at the Spice Your Soul event.

just take this minute. this minute is your time with god. god gives life and new life — life on earth and new life in christ. you can read this because you are alive, but you chose to take this time because of the new life god promises. so take this moment to be refreshed.

NEVER FORGET YOUR FRIENDS!

Many years ago, a newlywed young man was sitting on a couch on a hot, humid day, sipping frozen juice during a visit to his father.

As he talked about adult life, marriage, responsibilities, and obligations, the father thoughtfully stirred the ice cubes in his glass and cast a clear, sober look on his son.

"Never forget your friends," he advised, "they will become more important as you get older."

"Regardless of how much you love your family and the children you happen to have, you will always need friends. Remember to go out with them occasionally, do activities with them, call them ..."

"What strange advice!" thought the young man, "I just entered the married world, I am an adult and surely my wife and the family that we will start will be everything I need to make sense of my life."

Yet he obeyed his father; Kept in touch with his friends and annually increased their number. Over the years, he became aware that his father knew what he was talking about.

Inasmuch as time and nature carry out their designs and mysteries on a man, friends were the bulwarks of his life.

After 60 years of life, here is what he learned:

Time passes. Life goes on. The distance separates. Children grow up.

Children cease to be children and become independent. And to the parents it breaks the heart but the children are separated of the parents.

Jobs come and go. Illusions, desires, attraction, sex ... weaken. People do not do what they should do. The heart breaks. The parents die. Colleagues forget the favors. The races are over.

But, true friends are always there, no matter how long or how many miles they are. A friend is never more distant than the reach of a need, barring you, intervening in your favor, waiting for you with open arms or blessing your life.

When we started this adventure called LIFE, we did not know of the incredible joys or sorrows that were ahead. We did not know how much we would need from each other. Love your parents, take care of your children, but keep a group of good friends. Dialogue with them but do not impose your criteria.

