

*Happy
Valentine's
Day!*

FEBRUARY 2010 BUGLE

*First Presbyterian Church
Volume 8, Issue 2*



*Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert Shettler
Associate Pastor: Rev. Larry Hendon*

Glorify God, Make Disciples and Meet Human Needs.

Sunday Worship

8:30 a.m. Iona Chapel
Communion

10:55 a.m. Sanctuary

February 7

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Good News

Mark 1:1-20

February 14

Transfiguration of the Lord
The Healing of Simon's Mother

Mark 1:21-38

Communion

February 17

Ash Wednesday

Begin On Your Knees

Mark 1:15

Communion

February 21

First Sunday of Lent

*The Healing of the Man With the
Withered Hand Paralytic*

Mark 2:1-12

February 28

Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m.: Rev. Dr. Jack Hurse

10:55 a.m.: Keeter Lecture Series

Rev. Dr. Peter Walker

See Back Page

Dr. Bob's Message

First Presbyterian Church

It has been estimated that 58 percent of the members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) did not grow up in the denomination. The congregation here at First is very close to this percentage. Therefore, I want to give a brief polity lesson on elders. The session is composed of elders. Being an elder is a calling from God that is affirmed by the church and is one who is an example of spiritual leadership. There are two kinds of elders, "ruling elders" and "teaching elders." The ruling elders come from the congregation and are elected to serve in three-year cycles. We are currently taking nominations from the congregation for elders who will compose the class of 2013. Please submit your nominations to the church office.

Welcome New Member to First Presbyterian Church

Edward I. Carley

January 3, 2010



Church Triumphant

H. B. Clark

January 27, 2010

Mrs. Margaret Gahan

January 15, 2010

Mr. Fredric (Fred) Hill

January 14, 2010

Mrs. Mildred (Billie) Ruelke

January 9, 2010

The teaching elders are the pastors, and their primary duties are to preach and teach the Word of God and to preach and teach proper doctrine. Listen to the words of The Reverend Doctor Frank Harrington the former pastor at Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

My own view is that preaching is the central task of the preacher. All else in ministry radiates from the effectiveness of the man or the woman in the pulpit. The pulpit is your best opportunity to be an evangelist, your best opportunity to be a pastor, your best opportunity to be a prophet. The pulpit sets the tone for the parish.

The preacher ought to consider himself as God's chief dreamer in the church – as the standard to articulate the dream God has placed on the heart, so that preacher and people together can make the dream come true. That is the central task of the preaching minister.

The sermons for three Sundays in January (January 10, 17 and 24) build on Harrington's statement and are designed to give vision to our new purpose statement: **Glorify God, Make Disciples, Meet Human Needs**. If you would like a copy of the sermons you may order them from the office on CD or go to our website and download them. The Acts 16:5 team will continue to engage in prayer and conversation around this purpose statement the growth and ministry of this congregation. On the following page you will find a summary of the three sermons with questions to generate thoughts, prayers and actions. Please contact the members of the Acts 16:5 vision team with your thoughts, insight and input. Their email addresses are on the bottom of the sermon summary on page. If you would prefer to send them by mail please send them to the church office at 106 SW Third Street, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

February 17th is Ash Wednesday and then we are into the season of Lent. The focus of our worship in this season of Lent will be on the Gospel of Mark. I want to encourage each of us to read through the Gospel of Mark as often as possible to prepare for the season of Lent. Mark is sixteen chapters long and can be read through in a week by reading two or three chapters a day.

To help in our preparation and study here is a short introduction to the book of Mark:

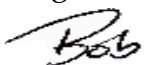
Mark is the oldest and one of the three synoptic Gospels; the other two are Matthew and Luke. Synoptic means that they are similar. Some scholars say as much as sixty percent of Mathew and Luke come from Mark. John Mark, a young follower had a shaky beginning because he was abandoned by Paul. Later they reconciled, and John Mark became a close friend of Simon Peter.

Mark also became the interpreter and writer of Peter's remembrances of the life of Jesus Christ; thus we have the Gospel of Mark. The action in Mark is Christ. Mark uses the historical present tense 150 times. Jesus comes, Jesus says, Jesus heals are all in the present tense. There are more miracles recorded in Mark than in the other Gospels. Our study will be around the healing power of Jesus Christ. Our study of the Gospel of Mark will begin on Sunday, February 7 and continue through Easter Sunday, April 4. (See the February sermons listed on the front of the Bugle.)

Another opportunity for Bible study during Lent will be the annual Keeter Lectures. The Reverend Doctor Peter Walker will lead the lectures on Sunday, February 28, 2010 during the Sunday school hour at 9:30, the 10:55 a.m. Worship Service and a lecture at 7 p.m. See more details on the back of the Bugle and on our website at www.1stpc.org.

Please continue to pray for our session, staff and congregation; especially keep Pastor Larry in your prayers. As always you are in my prayers.

Blessings,



What is an “Act of God?” I remember hearing about a little boy who was safely tucked away in bed. All lights were out. After a while, here came the little fellow with his blanket. “Mamma, I’m scared,” he said. “Don’t be afraid, honey,” she said, “God is in your room with you.” Scampering back to bed and hiding under the covers, he finally got enough nerve to peak out. “God,” he whispered. No answer. “God,” he said, “If you’re in here, don’t move! You’ll scare me to death.” Unfortunately many people would consider an act of God to be threatening and possibly destructive.

As I was reading the editorial page in our local newspaper recently I was gripped by the “cartoon” which was featured on the editorial page. It was depicting the situation in Haiti following the earthquake. Piles of rubble filled the horizon. On the left side over the devastation were the words, “Act of God.” On the right side of the picture, aid was being given and the words “Humanitarian Acts” was written. Hmm. I’m not sure how the cartoonist intended his work to be viewed. One possible interpretation is: “Isn’t it good that we know how to give good gifts and help one another, but watch out for God.”


I understand that insurance companies use the phrase, act of God, in policy statements in order to give name to an event and not necessarily to explain that event. So an “Act of God” is any disastrous event or circumstance causing loss which cannot be prevented or caused by humans. Nevertheless, the implied message in the mind of many is that God must have chosen to cause these events for some inexplicable reason. It’s a mystery, and God has his reasons. I don’t find that line of thinking very helpful, nor do I believe that it depicts what we see in Scripture. This is especially true of the Christian New Testament as viewed through the lens of the life of Jesus Christ, and I would submit to you that it is all to be viewed through the lens of Christ, who is the living center.

Sometimes we need to reflect more deeply upon the revelation given to us in the Lord Jesus, and we need to apply these insights in a more thorough way. We need to connect the dots. I want to invite you to an opportunity for focus and reflection. You’re invited to the *Lenten Luncheons. Here, we will follow-up on the sermon series that Dr. Bob is preaching on the miracles of Jesus. We will think through these acts of God together, pray together, and break bread together (bring your own bag lunch).

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Larry

*Lenten Luncheons	
When	February 25 through March 25 Thursdays 12 noon to 1 p.m.
Where	Gordon Hall
Leaders	Barry Curtis and Rev. Larry Hendon



Children's Choral Festival

Five children's choirs will unite in a festival service of worship in the Twenty-Third Annual Children's Choral Festival on **Sunday, February 7, 2010, at 4:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary of St. Patrick Church, 412 NE 16th Avenue. The program will feature anthems performed under the direction of Deborah DesForges.

Deborah Waln DesForges has been teaching vocal skills to children in Florida public schools since 1974. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia Wesleyan College and a Master of Music in Music Education from the University of Florida. Since 1977 Ms. DesForges has taught music at Glen Springs Elementary School in Gainesville, Florida, where she currently serves as the Music Teacher and Fine Arts Chair. This year, she will also be teaching music at J.J. Finley Elementary. She also serves as the District Liaison for Elementary Music for Alachua County Public Schools.

Ms. DesForges has been recognized statewide for excellence in teaching music and superior knowledge of children's choral techniques and music literature. She has presented workshops and lectures for the Southern Division of the Music Educators' National Conference, Florida Elementary Music Educators' Conference, the University of Florida Music Education Department, the American Guild of Organists, school districts throughout Florida, and served as a vocal adjudicator for the Music Teachers' Association.

In 1994, Ms. DesForges founded the Gainesville Youth Chorus, which has become an internationally recognized touring choir, participating in the European Cultural Initiative for the Young Generation held in Vienna, Austria, June, 2002; a concert tour of Ireland and London in 2005 and Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic in 2007.

Ms. DesForges was selected for Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2002 and 2005, recognized as an Outstanding Volunteer in the Arts by the City of Gainesville Cultural Affairs Board, selected for Who's Who in Education for 2005-2006 and Who's Who Among American Women 2006-2007. She is a member of the Music Educator's National Conference, the Florida Elementary Music Education Association, past chairperson for the Alachua County Arts for a Complete Education, and member of the Alachua County Education Association.

The festival with a choir of approximately 60 voices includes choristers from Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church, St. Augustine Catholic Church and Student Center, Holy Trinity Episcopal and St. Patrick's Interparish School will provide a unique opportunity for the larger community of faith to join in singing hymns and hearing anthems. Father Roland Julien of St. Patrick Church will preside. For more information, please call 372-4641.



Twenty-Third Annual
Children's Choral Festival

Featuring the Children of:

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
First Presbyterian Church
Gainesville Youth Chorus
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
St. Augustine Catholic Church
St. Patrick Interparish School

Deborah Desforges, Conductor

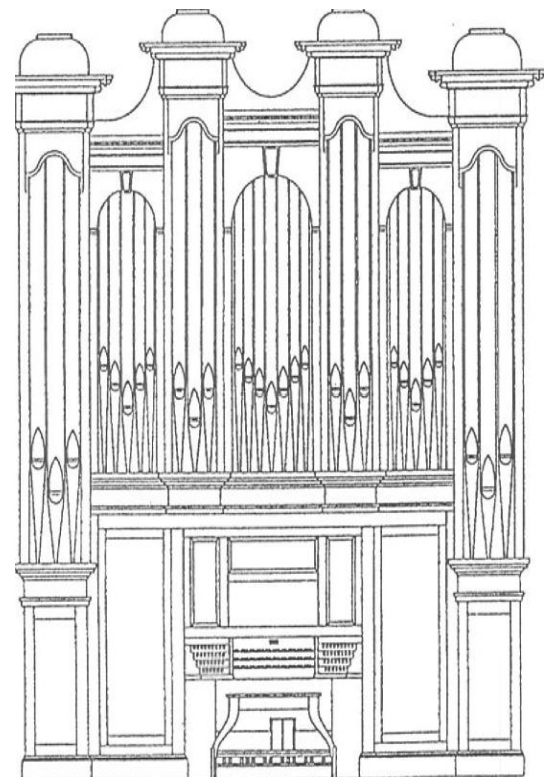
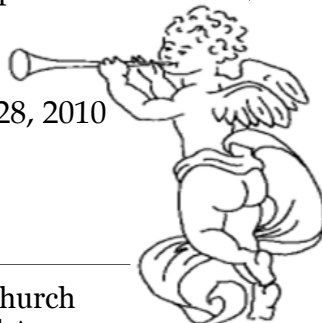
Sunday, February 7, 2010 at 4 p.m.
St. Patrick Catholic Church
550 NE 16th Avenue

Music
First Presbyterian Church
2009-2010

Organ Plus
Paul Basler, horn
Ronald Burrichter, tenor
Arthur Jennings, trombone
Janna Lower, violin
Leslie Odom, oboe
Brenda Smith, soprano

Sunday, February 28, 2010
4:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
300 Southwest Second Avenue
(with convenient and ample parking)



The Concordia Choir

The Concordia Choir, conducted by René Clausen, will perform in the sanctuary on Tuesday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. A covered-dish dinner in Gordon Memorial Hall at 5:30 p.m. will precede the concert.

The Concordia Choir with a long and distinguished history, dating to its beginning in 1920, is widely considered one of the world's premier undergraduate vocal ensembles that tours the world, sings for royalty and garners praise from critics. The 74-voice choir continues to affirm its reputation as one of the nation's finest *a cappella* choirs and a leader in interpreting and advancing the Lutheran choral tradition. René Clausen, world-renowned composer and conductor, recently celebrated his 22nd year at Concordia College. He is conductor of the acclaimed choir and artistic director of the award-winning Concordia Christmas Concerts where he directs five choirs and a full symphony orchestra featuring 435 student musicians.

The choir, which has performed in nearly every major hall in the United States including Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center, has toured extensively throughout Europe, recently featured on a BBC radio show broadcast across the United Kingdom. Their recordings are distributed nationwide making it one of the top-selling college choirs in the United States. They have performed for the King and Queen of Norway and sung with The King's Singers.

Along with serving as a focal point for the annual Concordia Christmas Concert, the choir's renowned reputation was further enhanced in 2003 when it performed conductor Dr. René Clausen's composition *Memorial* at Lincoln Center and Riverside Church in New York City in memory of those who died in the World Trade Center. As a leading composer and arranger, he has dozens of commissioned compositions for famed performances, including *Memorial* and "Crying for a Dream" for the American Choral Directors Association. He is frequently a lecturer, composer-in-residence and guest conductor of such works as Mozart's Requiem, Beethoven's 9th Symphony, Brahms' Requiem and several of his own works, including the three-movement Gloria performed at Carnegie Hall in New York. He is the founder of the René Clausen Music Company and in 1998 he created the René Clausen Choral School, an intensive five-day program for choral conductors.

Clausen graduated in 1974 from St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, and received a Master of Music Performance and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Illinois, Urbana. Prior to his appointment as conductor of The Concordia Choir, Clausen was director of choral activities at West Texas State University, Canyon, Texas, and assistant professor of choral music at Wichita (Kansas) State University. He also served as senior editor of Mark Foster Music Company and as interim conductor of the National Lutheran Choir of Minneapolis. In 1996, Clausen was named the Paul J. and Eleanor Christiansen Chair in Choral Music at Concordia.

A free-will offering will be received to benefit the Shalom Presbyterian Church in Esteli, Nicaragua. For more information please call 378-1527 .

Stewardship Committee Report to Congregation

At the end of the 2008/2009 fiscal year, the total revenues of our church reached 92.89% of what was budgeted and our total expenses were 90.71% of what was budgeted.

Pledge receipts fell short of what was pledged to our church by \$50,256 – a 6% shortfall. The Budget and Finance Committee directed the Session and committees to reduce their budgets, in a proactive approach that trimmed expenses during this difficult economic time.

The total budget of First Presbyterian Church for 2009/2010 is \$1,036,975. It is funded in part by pledges received by July 1, 2009, totaling \$800,000. The shortfall (of \$236,975) is being met with investment income, fundraisers, special offerings, family contributions and unpledged/loose offerings, as has been the tradition at our church. The unpredictability of this funding is a destabilizing factor in the life of our church. We are most grateful to the faithful members of First Presbyterian Church, for their financial commitment to honoring their pledges to the general budget of our church, even in a difficult economy. To date, our pledged offerings are on target with what is budgeted.

Our goals are to explore methods to:

Encourage greater initiative on the part of our congregation to promptly respond to the pledge campaign by Dedication Sunday. Historically, only one-half of the pledges have been received by this date. This results in a prolonged stewardship campaign, which complicates the work of the Budget and Finance Committee in generating a realistic budget for the coming fiscal year.

Better engage the congregation in the stewardship of their time and talents and in the commitment of honoring their pledge of financial support.

Improve communication to the congregation regarding the progress of work and the use of resources by the committees.

Strengthen the Stewardship Committee by incorporating new persons onto this committee.

Encourage new members to pledge to the general budget of the church upon being received into membership.

Committee Members: Christine Riggs, Co-Chair, Perry Foote, Co-Chair, Richard Anderson, Jon Cannon, Jim McGrady, Lois McGrady, Norman Portillo, Nick Vellis, Hank Weech, Margaret Weech.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)



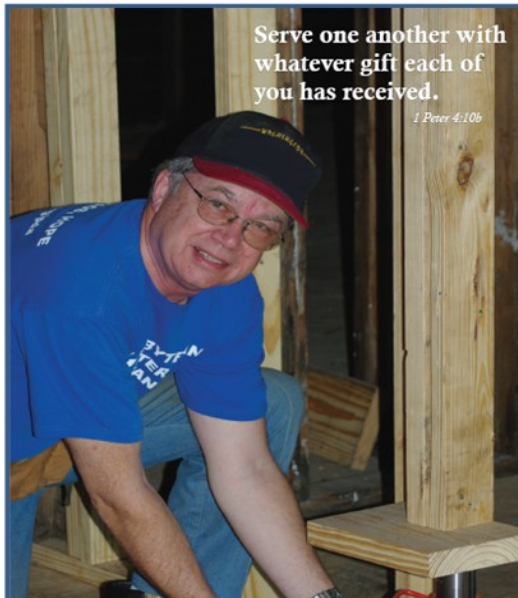
Emergency and Refugee Program

PDA is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

After a disaster, PDA works with communities to help meet the needs of survivors, by providing relief and aiding in recovery.

Each year, PDA responds to disasters in about 35 countries around the world and about 40 presbyteries in the U.S.A.

More information on the PDA responses to Haiti earthquake can be found at: <http://www.pcusa.org/pda.response/latinamerica/haiti-index.htm>



(Adapted from PDA)

How can First Presbyterian assist the Mission of PDA?

After a disaster, PDA needs the support of churches. Because we reside in an area prone to natural disaster, our support is especially crucial.

PRAY: Please pray for disaster survivors and those who assist them with rebuilding.

GIVE: Generous gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing and the PDA general account support the mission work.

ACT: Volunteer to join the FPC Disaster Team!

We seek to organize and prepare a work team that may be able to assist with future local or state disaster relief and recovery efforts. No special skills are required, only willing hands ready to help a neighbor.

If you are interested, please speak to any Global Missions Committee member, or contact the church office at (352) 378.1527 or communications@1stpc.org

Sunday School and Teachers

Children and Youth

4-5 Years Old	Patty Hill, Kathy Decker and Margaret Dowling	Room 113
1-2 Grade	Kim Ball, Margaret Lingg and Coleen O'Brien	Room 202
3-5 Grade	Nancy Spikes, Jeanne Marie Ritter and Ann Hager	Room 215
6-8 Grade	Charise Wolters	Room 217
Grade 9-12	David and Martha Osmun	Room 218

Gordon Hoover Class-(Room 115)

February 7	Galatians 6	Bob Bailey
February 14	Ephesians 1	Ray Davis
February 21	Ephesians 2	Rev. Fred Depenbrock
February 28	Keeter Lecture	No Sunday School

Present Word Class - (Room 211) During February, the class will look at Christ's interactions with others as testimonies to Jesus being the Messiah. For more information, please contact Cyndie Williams at cyndiewill1@gmail.com

Faith Odyssey - (Library) Betsy Berry is leading a discussion on a video series with Dr. Efirid on the Gospel according to John.

Please Join Us Sunday Mornings! Visitors and Members Welcome!

Time for Young Disciples

During the 10:55 a.m. Sunday worship service all children are asked to come to the front of the sanctuary for a children's lesson.

Little Kids-4-God

During the 10:55 a.m. worship service, children four years old through Kindergarten are dismissed after the Time for Young Disciples for a structured time of learning while having fun with Patty Hill, Kathy Decker, and Margaret Dowling. Children must be picked up by their parents in room 113 and signed out before the children will be dismissed.

Kids-4-God

During the 10:55 a.m. worship service, children first through fifth grade are dismissed after the Time for Young Disciples for a structured time of learning while having fun with Sharon Quackenbush and other leaders. Children will meet their parents in Gordon Hall after the service.

Youth Connection

Youth Connection is for youth in grades 7 through 12. The youth meet on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. immediately following the 4:30 Senior Choir practice. From 5:30 to 6 p.m. we eat supper, then from 6 p.m. until 6:45 we meet and discuss how our faith affects our lives and actions. The evening concludes with some recreation from 6:45 to 7:15. Please come join us!



Presbyterian Women Circles



Koinonia	Wednesday, February 3 @ 10 a.m.	Oak Hammock
Circle 3	Tuesday, February 2 @ 10 a.m.	Lib Harrer's Home
Circle 4	Tuesday, February 2 @ 9:30 a.m.	Gordon Memorial Hall
Circle 5	Tuesday, February 2 @ 6:30 p.m.	Pam Patton's Home
Circle 6	Tuesday, February 2 @ 12 p.m.	First Presbyterian Parlor
Circle 7	Tuesday, February 2 @ 9:30 a.m.	Gylena Anderson's Home



*The Membership Committee
Invites you to the*

*Mardi Gras
Covered Dish Dinner*

Delicious food and great company

*Just like the Big Easy!!
February 25, 2009
Gordon Memorial Hall
6 p.m.-Social, 6:30 p.m. Dinner*

It's Time for Sweetie Pies!

Production of sweetie pies will be Wednesday, Friday and Saturday each week through February 13. Plan to join us in the kitchen for rolling, peeling, filling, fluting, bagging and freezing hundreds of pies for the Nicaragua Mission Trip fundraiser. No skills required, we can train you! To sign up or order pies please check the sheet by the choir room or contact Evelyn Lewis at citytr122@bellsouth.net



Take a Pie To A Friend

Please consider delivering a cutie pie to a homebound member on Valentine's Day, February 14. This is a wonderful way to brighten someone's day, and your help would certainly be appreciated. The names and addresses will be in Gordon Hall after the 10:55 a.m. service. Thank you!



Annual Sock Drive

Join our annual event and contribute to the donation of new socks-any kind, color and size are welcome. This year we aim to beat our previous record of 575 pairs. Donations will be accepted through the end of February. You will find the donation basket in Gordon Hall. Thank you from the Local Mission and Service Committee.

Columbarium and Prayer Garden at First Presbyterian Church?

A member left a bequest to partially fund the building of a Columbarium at First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville, Florida. With a Columbarium, the church provides a consecrated place for remains of its members, enables families to extend their relationship with the church beyond the death of a loved one, and encourages a closer relationship with the church for families over the generations. A Columbarium helps us carry out our obligations as good stewards of the land and facilities provided for us by God through the blessings of this great church.

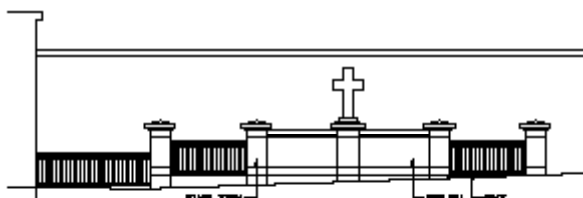
The Property and Art, Architecture and Archives Committees have been working on plans for building a Columbarium. Plans have been presented to Session and approved. The Columbarium and Prayer Garden will be built in the west side of the northern courtyard at First Presbyterian Church. The bequest does not fully cover the cost of the construction. Therefore, the Session has approved selling reservation niches and memorial pavers at pre-construction prices to raise the funds needed to build the Columbarium and Prayer Garden. A sub-committee has been formed to raise these funds and develop policies and procedures for our proposed Columbarium and Prayer Garden.

12" x 12" x 18" niches are being offered at a pre-construction reservation price of \$2,000*. The niches will be large enough to hold two urns. The fee is for the niche reservation only. Costs for urns may be obtained from your funeral home.

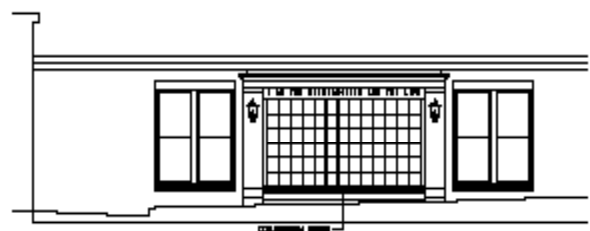
Bricks/pavers will be placed in the Prayer Garden. **Memorial bricks/pavers are being offered at a pre-construction price of \$100* per brick.** The brick/paver will be 4 inches x 8 inches and can hold three lines of inscription. Only 1,000 memorial bricks/pavers will be available.

If you are interested in reserving a niche at pre-construction price of \$2,000* or purchasing a memorial brick/paver at \$100*, please contact Trudy Bonerba in the church office at 352-378-1527 or by email at business@1stpc.org.

If you have any questions concerning the Columbarium and Prayer Garden, please contact any member of the sub-committee: Richard Anderson, Melda Bassett, Rick Childress, Maralyn Foote, Mack McLean or Louise Rothman.



VIEW FROM COURTYARD
(SECTION B-B')



VIEW OF COLUMBIUM



Don't miss out! These pre-construction prices will end April 30, 2010.

Brochures are available in Gordon Hall or the Narthex!

**If funds are not raised to fund the construction of a Columbarium, all monies paid at pre-construction prices will be returned to the donor.*

First Presbyterian Church
106 South West Third Street
Gainesville, Florida 32601
(352)378-1527

Bugle

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit # 302
GAINESVILLE, FL 32601

On Friday, February 12th we would like to offer Valentine baby-sitting for the church families. The time will be from 6 to 9 pm. We will ask for donations and the money will be sent to Haiti, via the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



LOVE WITH PURPOSE!

Romans 8:28

Keeter Lecture Series

Rev. Dr. Peter Walker

Wycliffe Hall, Oxford

February 28, 2010

9:30 a.m.	Christian Education Sanctuary	The Jesus Way	Luke 24
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service Sanctuary	Following the Real, Glorious Jesus	Luke 9:21-36
7:00 p.m.	Lecture Sanctuary	The Jesus Way	Acts 24