



On Sunday, April 1st, we will be celebrating the wonder and joy of Christ's resurrection from the dead with several special services – and one special breakfast!

- ◆ This year the Presbyterians will be joining with other church communities to celebrate an ecumenical Sunrise Service sponsored by the Cooke County Ministerial Alliance. The service, which will start at 7:00 AM, will be held at the Leonard Park pavilion.
- ◆ At 9:00 AM the Fellowship Ministry Committee is hosting an Easter Sunday Brunch in Tyler Hall! Serving will end at 10:15 AM so come early to church – with your guests – and enjoy a great time of fellowship!
- ◆ Then – at 10:30 AM – we will gather for our special Easter morning worship service as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ from the tomb! There will be lots of special music so invite your neighbors and friends and come join the celebration! And don't forget to bring flowers to decorate our Easter Cross!



*Easter
Sunday
Celebrations*

Come celebrate Easter Sunday with us!



ALL Women are invited to the

Presbyterian Women's Spring Brunch

Celebrate our Blessed Womanhood

Saturday, May 5th, 10:00am

A delicious brunch will be provided.

Join us for fun and prizes. Bring a Friend!

Don't worry- we will be finished in
time for all to enjoy the Spring
Fling at Leonard Park!

"Blessed be you of the LORD, my
daughter. Ruth 3:10

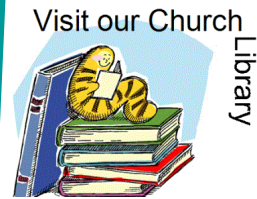


ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

On Easter Sunday, April 1st, our church will be taking up a special denominational offering called "The One Great Hour of Sharing." This offering goes to assist communities as they recover and find hope after natural and other disasters, to aid communities around the world in reducing hunger, and providing resources and education to communities working to overcome poverty and injustice.

Your financial support to this special offering makes a difference in peoples' lives so give generously.

According to a 2014 article, there are 5 ways that reading improves your health:



- Reduced stress
- Improved memory
- Younger brain
- Increased empathy
- Increased tolerance for uncertainty

Who wouldn't want to have less stress and feel younger and have an improved memory? There are many wonderful books in your church library. As the days grow longer take advantage of the opportunities that await you at the library.



- That June Sherrill did a great job as March's pulpit assistant?
- That every Session committee is looking for folks who want to use their spiritual gifts?
- That Jean Putnam appreciates all your calls and cards and visits after her recent fall?
- That it was great to see John Powell back in church after his recent bypass surgery?
- That the "New Life" Leadership Team is alive and well as we continue to seek God's vision for our church?
- That Mary Frances and Chop Van Pelt appreciate your continued prayers?
- That Daphne Kehrli is our "Superstar of the Month" for April?
- That Lydia Ansley had a good time visiting family in California?
- That this year's "Holy Week" services and events were a real blessing?
- That Carla and Charlie Waters continue to appreciate your prayers?
- That Cameron Gilliland is doing great and appreciates your support?
- That the flu season just might be over with?



Notes
From John

During World War II a certain city church in London was all set to celebrate their annual harvest Thanksgiving festival. Everyone in the church had already brought their "first fruits" from their gardens and farms and had placed them in the sanctuary – and in the center of those gifts stood a sheaf of corn. The service was never held, however, because on that Saturday night there was an air raid and the church was destroyed by bombs.

The congregation was devastated, but then something unexpected happened. On the bomb site where the church once stood there appeared some shoots of green in the spring. All through the summer those shoots grew until they were harvested as corn in the fall. Not even the bombs and the ruins could kill the life of the corn and its seeds. Life is stronger than death.

This is the hope Easter brings. Christ was crucified and died on a cross. Yet he rose to a new and glorified life. Life really is stronger than death.

Peace, John



Rev. Hare will be out of the office from Monday, April 2nd through Sunday, April 8th, on vacation. Mr. Tracy Ebarb, a Commissioned Lay Pastor for the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., will be our guest preacher on Sunday, April 8th. Tracy and his family live in Lindsay and has visited our church several times, so come and welcome him to our pulpit!

In case of an emergency during Rev. Hare's absence, contact Matt Chalmers, Clerk of Session, or the church office.



On March 3, 1918 the official dedication of the First Presbyterian Church took place. The reporter for the Gainesville Daily Register wrote that "the main auditorium has an inclined floor and will seat comfortably about 300 without chairs. By raising the partition to the Sunday School department an auditorium is formed that will seat something like one thousand people. The pews are massive, beautiful and comfortable and all of the furnishings are of the same character."

APRIL SESSION MEETING

The Session will meet for its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, April 15th, at noon in the Seekers' Classroom. All written committee reports are due in the office by Thursday, April 12th.

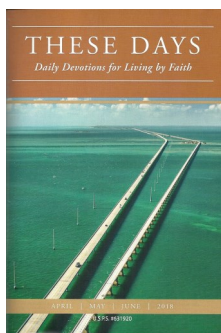
MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, April 24th, at 8:00 AM at the Fried Pie on the square! All the men of the church are encouraged to come and enjoy a great time of food and for solving all the world's problems!



Have you ever wondered why so many of us feel poor? Well – it's because we worship and want things we do not have. It's called "the adoration of the unpossessed." It's a form of materialism that expresses itself when we adore not what we already have, but what we don't have and wish we

did. It's a kind of religion that competes with our faith – and only by emptying our lives of this modern form of idolatry can we begin seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.



These Days devotional guides are now available in the Sanctuary windows.

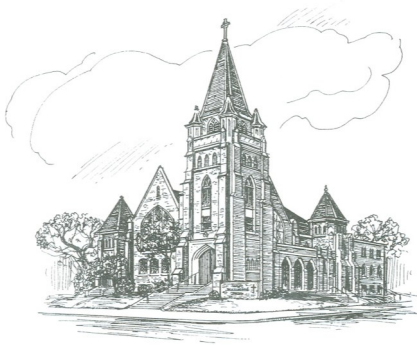
 A Special Thanks goes to
 Pam Cooper for making the
 signs for Easter for Outreach,
 cards for Congregational Care,
 and all she does.
 Thank You Pam!

GIFT
Girls In Fun Together
Thursday
April 5, 2018
5:30pm @ The Rib Crib



Rev. Hare's Sunday sermons are available on the church webpage! Just go to www.fpcgainesville.net – click on the "Sermons" link at the top of the page – then click on the dropdown tap – and you're there!

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With Spring in the air and the arrival of longer days, it seemed like a great time for the Book Club to return to fiction. So, our selection for April is The Welcome Committee of Butternut Creek by Jane Myers Perrine. When twenty-five-year-old Adam Joseph Jordan, in his first ministerial job, shows up to lead the flock at the Butternut Creek Christian Church in a small Texas town, Miss Birdie and her friend Mercedes plan to educate him on how things should be done-starting with finding him a wife. As Adam deftly dodges their matchmaking and works to build up the church, the ladies turn their attention to another bachelor in town, veteran marine Sam Peterson who was injured in Afghanistan. Sam just wants to be left alone but the community of Butternut Creek and the Butternut Christian Church do not know how to do that. It will take all of Miss Birdie's and Mercedes energy and scheming to whip the pastor into shape and help Sam realize he doesn't want to be alone. This is the first in a series of books about Butternut Creek. Come and join us as we see how Adam makes out in his first job and if he and Miss Birdie can become friends. The Book Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the parlor at the church at 7:00 p.m. April's meeting will be on April 24. For questions, contact Shana Powell.