

OUTREACH

Winter 2023

Christmas Outreach

Dr. Tom Hawkes
Christ Presbyterian Church
Fernandina Beach, FL

We are planning two Christmas-oriented outreach events in December as we move from core group formation phase toward our first public worship.

The first event is a Christmas themed drop-in hosted in our home. We plan to invite everyone we have met in our two years here to come during a four-hour window. Our core group will help prepare for and host the time as well as being on hand to greet people. We plan to have materials about our church plant available as well as other giveaways.



We call this event a gathering event. In our church plant in North Carolina we tried many different outreach efforts but consistently found these gathering events to be the most effective. They combine informal surroundings—in this case our home, a mixture of church and non-church friends,



food, and a very light program, perhaps just a few minutes—here we plan to mention our church plant and the upcoming worship events, while giving out material about our church.

The second event will be a Sunday evening worship service, held a few days after the open house. We are planning a service of lessons and carols with a short homily on the importance of the incarnation of Christ. Again, we will invite everyone we know, both by handing out invitations personally, and also through electronic invitations.

Please pray that the Lord will use these events to draw those who do not yet know him, into a saving relationship with him, and also, to find other Christians who would like to be part of this new work.



WHAT'S NEW?

Josh Garrett



Second Presbytery has called Rev. Josh Garrett as an explorer toward planting Redeemer Community Church in Macon, GA. The core group has been gathering to sing, pray and study the Bible since Easter of 2023. Josh and Lindsay Garrett began the process of ONA church planting assessment this summer, and Josh was received into Second Presbytery as an Evangelist on December 5, 2023.

Redeemer Community Church seeks to worship God. This is particularly expressed in our core values: **We commune deeply** with God and one another. **We serve each** other and our city. **We celebrate** because Christ is making all things new.

Besides corporate worship on Sunday morning, men and women regularly gather together for Bible study. The men have been studying the book of Romans and the women have been looking at the book of Jonah this fall. Another group gathers to study the ancient context of the Old Testament. Leadership training will begin in January.



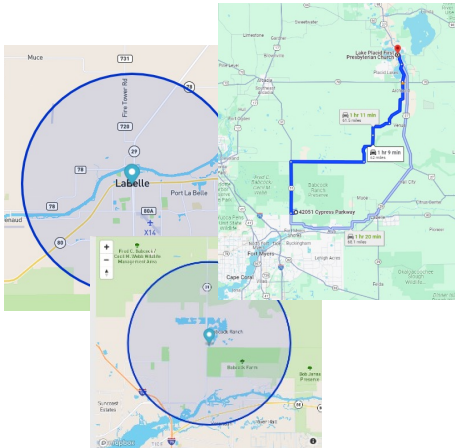
Please pray for God to raise up godly men and women to serve in the leadership of the church. Also, pray that God would give us wisdom as we seek to bless Macon, Georgia by making disciples who know God and proclaim Christ's lordship in every area of our lives.

Vision into Action

Rev. Jim Klukow, ONA Program Coordinator

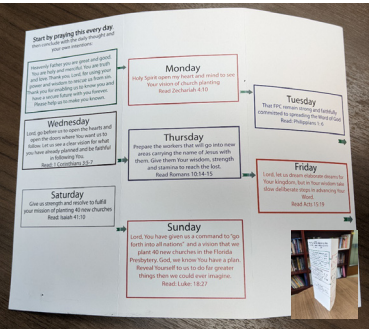
Inspired by a vision to extend its ministry through church planting, First Presbyterian Church Lake Placid sought assistance in better understanding two potential church planting sites.

With a team of six men, I helped interpret two MissionInsite (MI) reports on the potential church planting sites. The MI reports described the characteristics of two communities located about sixty miles from the church. The committee learned the Labelle and Babcock Farms communities were quite different from each other, so much so, that they would likely necessitate diverse types of church planters. One community is dominantly Hispanic-speaking while the other is English-speaking.



Using objective demographics gave the group content and confidence that they could make informed decisions and move forward with the ministry of church multiplication.

First Presbyterian Church Lake Placid has produced a “Start by praying this every day” tri-fold stand-up card to remind people how important prayer is when planting new ARP churches. You can request copies of this unique prayer reminder by calling the church at 863-465-2742 and asking for the *Church Planting Daily Tri-fold Prayer Guide*.



Go2 Advocate Retreat



Rev. Jim Klukow, ONA Program Coordinator

On a beautiful fall-colored weekend in October, Bonclarken hosted an overnight retreat for ONA and World Witness prayer warriors desiring to support local ARP church plants. Not only was the venue exceptional but so was the opportunity for men and women to interact with like-minded ARP members from around the country. Passionate advocates concerned about outreach and evangelism “cross-pollinating” with others was inspiring.

Lori Woods wrote me and said, “Hi Jim, thanks so much for the blessing and fount of information you sent us home with from The Advocates meeting!!” This was a typical response to the ONA/World Witness Annual Go2 Advocate Retreat.

Church Planter Mark Forbes attended the retreat and shared his experiences in church planting. He described what being a church planter is like. He also answered questions about the joys and struggles he faces. The retreat created an opportunity for the advocates to learn about Mark and brainstorm on how they could not only pray for him but also engage his and other planting missions in meaningful ways.

Hearing and engaging Mark was exciting, but meeting and discussing with other Advocates on how their churches could be more involved in planting, adopting, and supporting church planting

proved to be most rewarding. New ideas were presented, friendships were made, and I believe this retreat inspired many to assist in planting new ARP churches.

Karen and Mel Lewis told me that they “thoroughly enjoyed our time at the retreat and appreciate the brothers and sisters who worked to put it on and those who attended – a Godly group of people.”

There are currently about 50 advocates praying for our planters and keeping church members informed—but every church needs to be represented. The group ranges from teenagers to seasoned pastors. Each advocate senses the Holy Spirit urging them to personally engage in evangelism at various levels by supporting presbytery church planting efforts.

Help raise your church’s awareness on how they can participate in a grassroots movement supporting church planting. Contact your pastor and offer to be his resource for the latest updates on ARP church planting. Support and pray for our ministers as they break new ground for the Kingdom of God. In support of this initiative, I’ll be leading quarterly Zoom meetings starting on February 6, 2024 that offer resources, time to talk with a church planter, and an opportunity to share ideas and pray with advocates from around the U.S.

Moves of God’s Spirit often begin with prayer. You can join this prayer initiative by writing or calling me at the ONA office. Also, request a resource packet explaining what it means to serve as an advocate. After receiving the packet, speak to your pastor, pray about being involved in this movement of God, join the Zoom calls, and join the team. I look forward to hearing from you!

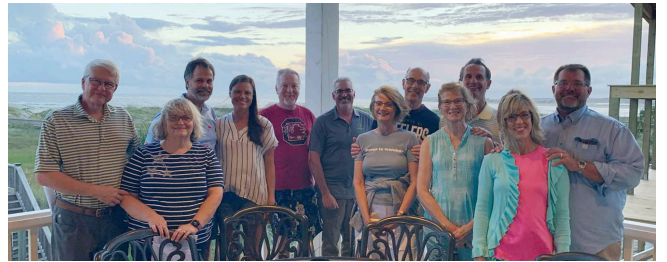
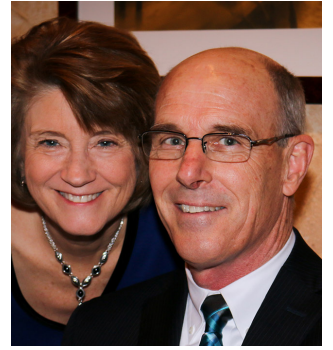


Rev. Wayne Frazier Retires



At the end of December, Church Strengthen Coach Rev. Wayne Frazier is moving into well earned retirement. The Board of ONA thanks Wayne for his faithful service. Over the past seven years Wayne worked with 70 ARP congregations through Framing the Future of Your Church and Ministry, Secret Guest Worshiper Surveys, and consulting with pastors. Rev. Brad Anderson says, "Wayne was nothing but a source of Godly encouragement and wisdom to me personally and Cayce Presbyterian Church as a

whole. We need more voices like Wayne's concerning church health and vitality. The Lord has used him mightily for this little corner of the Kingdom known as the ARP Church." Wayne will still do some limited consulting work with churches through ONA, and he will continue to stay in contact with and pray for churches he has worked with. The Board of ONA is in the process of studying the best way of moving forward in coordinating church strengthening and revitalization with ARP presbyteries.



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