

FLINT RIVER PRESBYTERY

Responding to God's Call

LeaderPak January/February 2010

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CALENDAR

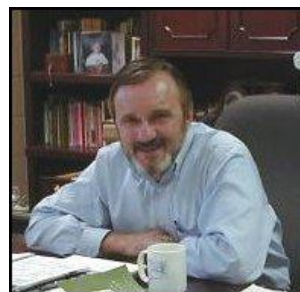
...with apologies for being late, here is the calendar for the rest of January:

26th - South Clergy Grp
noon, 1st T-ville
27th - Central Clergy
Grp

Vision and Goals for 2010

BETWEEN A ROCK & A NEW PLACE

With the economy still in a shambles it is hard for you (and for we at the Presbytery office) to keep current programs going, no less plan new ministries. The thought of spending (I would prefer to call it "investing") scarce resources in unproven programs gives us heartburn. But the alternative - cutting vital missions at the same time that the needs are growing - is even more unpalatable. So I invite you to join me out on the proverbial limb this year. If you will let us, your staff is going to keep on doing all the things we have been doing (and even more) - trusting our great God to provide.



- * Seven churches are going full steam ahead in a transformational project we are calling "Reformation".
- * A consultant will keep working with our African-American Churches
- * Our coffee house NCD is going to get up and running
- * We're going to visit 15 churches and talk about vision
- * COF is going to be OUTSTANDING
- * We are going to make sure our children and youth have memorable, faith-affirming experiences this summer
- * We want to do everything possible to make sure every

noon,
Presbytery
29/30 - COM retreat
3 pm to 3 pm
29th - CME retreat
10:30 am to 4
pm
29/30 - Council Retreat
6 pm to 3 pm
(all 3 retreats at
Norman Park)

PERSONALS

Melissa Coleman's father died in December; also *Paul Coats'* mother. *Jim Huffaker* spent more time in the hospital, but he is doing much better. *Paula Hoffman's* ordeal with her ankle will soon, we trust, be behind her. (She's up.....on one and a half feet and two crutches.)
Jason Micheli's examination was sustained, and his ordination approved, during a called Presbytery meeting on Jan 7. His ministry as campus minister for The Abbey will begin in mid February.

Resource Center

Review by Connie Fritz

How would we respond to our Savior if he walked into our home town today? Would we recognize him, or would

one of our churches has a pastoral leader, and that these leaders have opportunities to improve their ministry skills

There's more I could add, but I trust you "hear" what I am saying: *God didn't put any of us here to hunker down and hide. He is calling us to trust him, to use the brains and talents He has given us.....and to willingly risk for the sake of His children. The One who told Peter to climb out of the boat and walk his way, is calling us to climb out of our comfort, and walk his way.*

I am praying for you. Please pray for me and for all of your staff in Flint River Presbytery.

Lay School of Theology - CEN



2010 is an exciting time for our presbytery as we look ahead at the possibilities for deepened discipleship and expanded mission in SW Georgia.

One of our new and exciting outreaches is "The School for Lay Renewal", which has been created to deepen our relationships with both God and neighbor.

Available for all Flint River Presbyterians as well as any other interested individuals, this weekly school has been designed to deepen spiritual lives, enhance Bible and theological knowledge, and provide practical skill sets for congregations.

Classes will be held on Saturdays at the presbytery office in the upcoming year so please mark your calendars and check out our website at www.flintriverpresbytery.org to learn about the specific topics covered in these events. Click on "Calendar and Events" and then on "Special Events".
Registration information can be found here as well.

Upcoming dates to note include the following:
February 6, March 13 (*Celebration of Faith), April 10, May 1, June 5, July 10, August 7, September 11, October 2, November 6, and December .

Each class will begin at 10:00 AM and break at 12:00 PM for lunch. Class will resume at 2 PM and conclude at 4 PM.

we, like the people of Auburn in the movie "JOSHUA", be skeptical and suspicious of his good deeds and apparent miracles.

The movie Joshua really makes you think about how often we might actually encounter Christ in the form of another and how we might be the hands, feet and face of Christ to others. Soul stirring and thought provoking, yet down to earth enough for young children to grasp the theme, I recommend this movie for all ages. JOSHUA is great for a church wide family movie night-especially during Easter season.

Parish Paper

[January Parish Paper](#)
[February Parish Paper](#)

Our organization's purchase of a subscription to The Parish Paper INCLUDES

1. Permission to provide copiesto our staff and to the congregations within our jurisdictionin any of the following ways: E-mail, Postal, newspaper, newsletter, meetings, training events, and our Web site.

Individuals are welcome to stay for an entire day or participate in either a morning or afternoon section alone.

The cost is minimal: \$20 for a full day of class and \$10 for a half-day of class. Registration information can be found on our website - www.flintriverpresbytery.org under the Special Events page.

Upcoming topics will cover a broad range of subjects such as:

- a. Communication and Conflict
- b. Biblical studies of 1 & 2 Samuel, focusing on the life of David
- c. Music as Prayer
- d. Reading the Bible Like it Matters
- e. Youth Ministry
- f. Spiritual Lives of Families & Children

For more information or to provide ideas for further classes, please contact Rev. Deb Bibler at debibler@bellsouth.net.

Guatemala - CME

A Gathering in Guatemala



We are excited about Guatemala, and can't wait to tell you about it! If you'd like a presentation about our trip to Guatemala, and our partnership that is unfolding there, please let us know. There is a place for you and your church in this partnership.....But meanwhile, here are some basics about our trip.

Four representatives from Flint River Presbytery traveled to Guatemala in early December to work with a contingent of the Union Sinodica Femina of the Presbyterian Church of Guatemala (IENPG), with the goal of developing a written covenant of partnership. The FRP group consisted of FPC Tifton Pastor Rev. Carrie Mook Bridgman, Covenant PC Associate Pastor Rev. Tim Olds of Covenant, All Saints PC Elder Bain Cowell, and FPC Columbus Elder Pam Moye,. All four serve on the Flint River Presbytery Commission on Mission and Evangelism. The Sinodica leaders included Sinodica president Bety de Sánchez, , recording secretary Juana Erlinda Yac, and regional leader (their title is Obrera) Marina de Monterrosa. PC(USA) Mission Co-

2. Permission for each congregation within our jurisdiction to (a) photocopy or electronically distribute for local use as many copies as it needs, (b) post them on its Web site, and (c) quote sentences and paragraphs.

Congregations within our organization's jurisdiction to which we distribute The Parish Paper do NOT have permission (a) to delete the copyright notice, (b) to re-write, paraphrase, or change the wording of sentences and paragraphs, or (c) to give ANY THIRD PARTY-other than our staff and constituents- permission to photocopy or reprint (in any quantity, no matter how small, whether for free distribution or for sale).

Worker Amanda Craft helped plan and facilitate our work together, and will continue to play a guiding role in the development of our partnership.

Our FRP Gang of Four, the three Guatemalan women, and Amanda (often aided by Amanda's husband Omar, and her 6 month old son Ethan Alexander) gathered in Guatemala to pray, get to know one another, and dream of how we might work together. Much joy, fellowship, good food, laughter, and, we are convinced, good work, ensued....I believe the Holy Spirit was indeed present among us.

This potential partnership is the result of an exploratory trip by 11 individuals from FRP in October of 2008. Those who went on that trip met with several potential partner groups; all were deemed worthy but after much prayer and discernment, we decided to pursue a partnership with our fellow Presbyterians of the IENPG, and specifically with the Union Sinodica Femina (the equivalent of our Presbyterian Women) in the Western Highlands region around Quetzaltenango (known colloquially as Xela).

The partnership covenant agreement we developed will, we hope, be approved at our end by the Commission on Mission and Evangelism and Presbytery Council at their meetings in January and ratified at the Presbytery meeting in February. The Union Sinodica will approve the document at a January meeting.

We are excited and enthusiastic about the potential of this partnership for our presbytery and for the Guatemalans. While FRP has never had, to my knowledge, an international mission partnership, many PC(USA) presbyteries have developed successful and enduring partnerships similar to what we plan.

Our partnership, as described in the covenant document, will include mutual prayer, frequent communication, and annual exchanges of visits. We identified several potential projects we would like to pursue together, including:

- Leadership workshops for Guatemalan women
- Vacation Bible Schools in Guatemala (their school break is November-January)
- Scholarships for Guatemalan students, especially girls and young women.
- Skill-building workshops and courses focused on small business development, in areas such as sewing, animal husbandry, agriculture, and literacy;
- U.S. medical-team visits to underserved areas;
- Guatemalans' assistance in organizing Flint River's

outreach to Hispanic immigrants.

But who knows what will develop? The covenant will initially be for a period of 3 years, but we have annual evaluations with the opportunity for revision, and will, we hope, renew the covenant after the initial 3 years.

If you want to know more, feel free to contact me or any of the others. We will be glad to do a presentation at your church about the trip and the partnership, and also to answer any questions you may have about how you might become involved as an individual.

Peace and blessings in this new year,

Pam Moye
Moderator of FRP Commission on Mission and Evangelism
pambmoye@charter.net

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