

2020

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA



Pastoral Application Portfolio

McIntosh, Florida

WELCOME

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking time to learn more about our church as you consider where God is leading you in your search for a church to shepherd. We pray that God will give you clarity of mind, peace of heart and that a clear call will be made evident to you when He determines the time is right. We have included a brief narrative about our church to introduce ourselves to you with hopes that the information included in our packet will be useful in your endeavor. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions after you review the following information from Community Presbyterian Church (CPC), PCA.

Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Community Presbyterian Church, PCA Pastoral Search Committee

Kay Shinn, Chairman
Ruth Taber, Secretary
Bob Bruner
Beth Dickey
Mark Kniedler
Jean Stream

Contact Information:

Kay Shinn, Chairman
772-539-2065

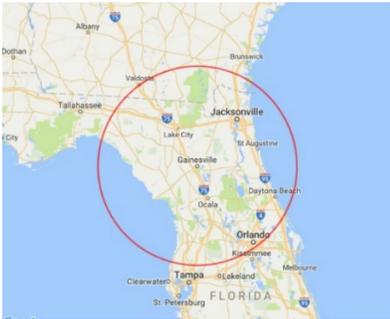
svngwthjoy@yahoo.com

Website: <https://mcintoshcpc.org/>

Facebook: McIntosh Community Presbyterian Church-PCA

OUR LOCATION

20098 U.S. Hwy 441, McIntosh, Florida



McIntosh, Florida (population 477) is situated between Gainesville (approximately 18 miles north, population 132,000) and Ocala (approximately 19 miles south, 59,100) (2017). The church is built on Christian's Hill and overlooks Orange Lake. The town of McIntosh has changed little since 1930; just a couple of blocks off U.S. 441, you will find lovely narrow quiet streets, many of them unpaved, and shaded from the Florida sun by centuries old oak trees draped with Spanish Moss.

The historic cities of Cross Creek, the home of author Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, and Micanopy, home of the 1991 Doc Hollywood film are only a short distance away. Other communities in the area includes Boardman, Flemington, Irvine, and Sparr, all of which are part of scenic Marion County, known for farming, thoroughbred horses, and beautiful hiking trails and springs.



McINTOSH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PURPOSE & MISSION

CPC Purpose: To glorify God in all that we do.

CPC Mission: To make disciples, who through following Christ, enjoy the fullness of life He offers both now and forever, thus glorifying God and inspiring others to become Christians.

Our means to accomplishing our Purpose and Mission are:

- Witnessing the Gospel
- Gathering for worship
- Committing to a Christian lifestyle
- Taking Christ into the community

Our hope for those who become part of our fellowship:

- To receive assurance of eternal life;
- To know how to use God's Word;
- To have useful knowledge of God's Word;
- To understand how to live a Christian lifestyle;
- To build up faith through fellowship with one another;
- To find support and encouragement in difficult times;
- To use your talents and skills in ministry;

To grow in grace and knowledge becoming mature in Christ.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- ❖ We believe that the Bible is the written word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit, without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God's truth. It is infallible and authoritative in matters of faith and practice.
- ❖ We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God's displeasure, except by His mercy.
- ❖ We believe that salvation is by God alone, as He sovereignly chooses those He will save.
- ❖ We believe God's choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- ❖ We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him for salvation.
- ❖ We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- ❖ We believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in God's people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- ❖ We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people unto Himself.
- ❖ We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

OUR HISTORY

Although we do not want to spend too much time looking back at what Community Presbyterian Church, PCA, was, it is important to understand some of the history to get a clearer picture of who the church is today.

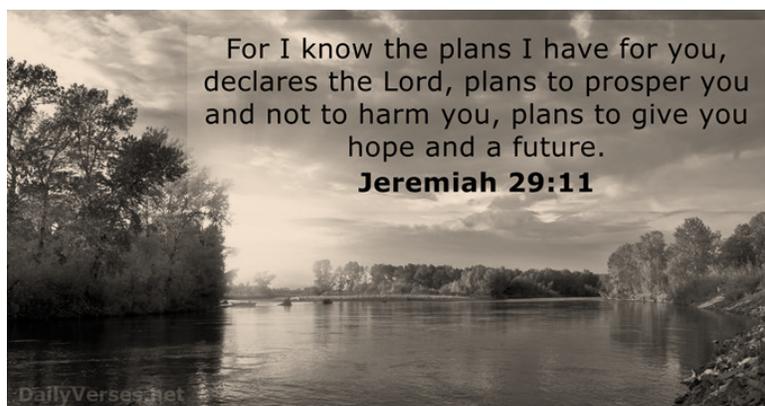
The basis of theological beliefs of the Community Presbyterian Church, PCA may be found in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms dating from 1647. In the Presbyterian Church of America the reformed faith is the theological position emphasizing God's Word as the infallible and inerrant authority for Christian living and lifestyles.

CPC was started in January 1990, with eleven adults (and their children) in the home of John and Kathy Walkup as a mission of Grace Presbyterian Church in Ocala. A Bible study began, and a small youth program that included CPC families, as well as others from the community. As the group grew, it transitioned from a home meeting to a small building (now the Tri-County Pregnancy Center), with the children/nursery in a member's mobile home. By 1993, they had a ground-breaking ceremony for a new Sanctuary.

As the building grew, so did the church population and activities. In 1998 the church moved their weekly Bible study from Wednesday night to Sunday; a Men's (monthly, then weekly) Bible Study began in 1999 and still meets weekly on Saturday mornings. In August of that same year (1999) a Women In The Church (WIC) group was formed. The first group of WIC officers were installed by Rev. James Walkup in May of 2000. A new Fellowship Hall was constructed in 2002 and has been used for Sunday School classes, children's nursery, and monthly Fellowship Luncheons, Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship, and special celebrations since that time. The church enjoyed steady growth through 2007, at which time it experienced a greater decline/loss of members than gained.

In the earlier years, CPC, PCA was very active with benevolent projects: Ocala/Marion County Right to Life, Inc.; Community Vacation Bible School; North Marion Interfaith (Reddick); Baby Bottle Fund (Tri County Pregnancy Center); financial assistance for several disaster relief efforts, as well as many activities within the church.

The church has been blessed to have been shepherded by: Martin Murphy, student at Reformed Seminary in Orlando (1990-1991), Rev. Dr. Benson Cain, retired missionary from Japan (1991-1995), Rev. James Walkup, retired Pastor (1995-2006), Rev. Lloyd, Pastor (2006-2008), Rev. Scott Simmons, Pastor (2008-present).



OUR CURRENT STORY

We have a small congregation but have several committed individuals to help guide and support the activities of the church. We have six Ruling Elders (2 are Emeritus); we currently do not have Deacons, though there has been discussion regarding the benefits of establishing this for our church, including appointing women to serve. The church has continued with many of the original programs (Men's Bible Study, Monthly Fellowship Luncheon, Birthday and Anniversary celebrations), and has continued in benevolent giving, including to disaster reliefs as they occur.

There is a combined Sunday School class for men and women led by the Pastor, along with a Sunday evening Bible Study, also led by the Pastor. There is no longer a formal WIC group; however, the ladies get together periodically for lunch, and some ladies meet on occasion for craft activities. The ladies are also responsible for organizing the monthly Fellowship Luncheon, and any other hospitality related activities.

In 2018, CPC became an Operation Christmas Child Drop-off location for our area, and we have been increasing our own collection efforts as a church-body over the past couple of years. We are also encouraging the other community churches to participate (or increase their participation).

Our church actively supports the Tri County Pregnancy Center. It is located on the church property and was the original building used by the small congregation in the early years. Other joint community efforts supported by our congregation includes the Community Vacation Bible School, McIntosh/Evinston Community Choir, and joint services for the Good Friday, Sunrise Easter Service, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Contata.

When our Pastor notified the congregation that it was time for him to retire, and enjoy more time with the grandchildren, we accepted his resignation with understanding after his many years of caring for the flock here at CPC. Our congregation elected a Pastoral Search Committee (PSC) and a survey was mailed out to all members of the church asking for input on the selection priorities. The PSC has taken time to review all input shared and spent additional time personally reflecting on our vision for the church's future, the reasons we are all here, and the things that mean the most to us. The following is a summation of the narrative results and the Pastoral Criteria Desired, and Congregational Priorities are listed on the attached forms.



Operation Christmas Child

- Ladies of the church, also known as "Crafty Ladies," to make items for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, including teddy bears and jump ropes. The church also sponsored a packing party and collected 130 shoeboxes.



Monthly Fellowship Luncheons & Cake Fellowships

VISION FOR OUR CHURCH MOVING FORWARD

1. To remain true to God's Word and the reformed faith; stand firmly on God's Word, preaching salvation through Jesus Christ alone.
2. To continue current outreach ministries and seek out new opportunities for community involvement from our church, including activities with other churches in the community.
3. To create a worshipful environment for all ages, possibly incorporating current hymns and songs with our traditional hymns.
4. Investigate additional use of technology in the worship service and/or church in general.
5. To ensure that those who enjoy our current worship style are included in decisions regarding changes.
6. Expand Children's/Youth Ministry: a young, dynamic youth minister for outreach to the children, especially in the McIntosh, Orange Lake, and Micanopy area.
7. Increase the role of women in the church; host Community Women's (Day) Conference; reestablish WIC.
8. Encourage congregants to serve using their gifts and talents; Lay Leadership assist Elders in evangelizing.
9. Expand projects selected to work on building teamwork, with the primary goal of getting better acquainted with more people in the congregation.
10. Actively visit church members (Pastor and Elders).
11. Energize the congregation to attend regularly; create an atmosphere of excitement to be in the House of the Lord.

Our church members are drawn to CPC,PCA because it closely adheres to the Word of God and Reformed preaching and teaching. The environment that has been established is one of a close-knit family with members unselfishly giving of their time as they are able. We are an aging congregation that likes the traditional ways; however, we also understand that some changes are necessary as we move forward. We believe that with encouraging leadership, holding firmly to the Reformed faith, Community Presbyterian Church, PCA of McIntosh will stand as a beacon of hope and light, foremost to our community, and secondly to the region from Gainesville to Ocala for the years to come.

**Commit your way to the
LORD; trust also in him;
and he shall bring it to pass.**

Psalm 37:5

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