

The Covenanter



January 2024



	2								
SON HOUSE + A	MONDAY 1	TUESDAY 2	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6			
Fello	Office Closed Today		Coalition Mix & Bake Brownies 9am/Kitchen WM Ringers 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	Coalition Prepare Meal 9:30am/Kitchen	Coalition Food Prep 9am/Kitchen Tai Chi 11:30am, FH Serve the Meal 3:30pm/FH-gather 4:00pm/Depart				
SUNDAY 7	MONDAY 8	TUESDAY 9	WEDNESDAY 10	THURSDAY 11	FRIDAY 12	SATURDAY 13			
Communion Worship Svc. "The King's Brass Concert" 10:30 am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am	Tai Chi II:30am, FH Hannah Circle 6pm, Rm 30I	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary PS Board Mtg 10:30am, Rm 301 Bereavement Group 4pm WM Ringers 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary						
SUNDAY 14	MONDAY 15	TUESDAY 16	WEDNESDAY 17	THURSDAY 18	FRIDAY 19	SATURDAY 20			
Congregational Meeting after 10:30am Service Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30 am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am	Office Closed Today	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Family Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary Bereavement Group 4pm WM Ringers 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	Neighbors & Friends Trip to Mt. Dora 9am, Leave Ch 5pm, Return Communion Svc Westminster WP 11am Deacon Meeting 7pm, Rm 301	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH				
SUNDAY 21	MONDAY 22	TUESDAY 23	WEDNESDAY 24	THURSDAY 25	FRIDAY 26	SATURDAY 27			
Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30 am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary Bereavement Group 4pm WM Ringers 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	Session Meeting 7pm, Rm 301					
SUNDAY 28	MONDAY 29	TUESDAY 30	WEDNESDAY 31			_			
Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30 am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am "The Great American Big Band" Concert 3pm	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	Coalition Mix & Bake Brownies 9am/Kitchen PS Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary Bereavement Group 4pm WM Ringers 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	CONGREGATIONAL ***********************************					



Welcome La'Shai Huff-Bichet, our new Children's Ministry Coordinator!

Children's Ministry Coordinator





Hello, I' m

La'Shai Huff-Bichet

"I am beyond blessed and excited to serve the youth of Winter Park Presbyterian Church and Preschool. It is my goal to cultivate a safe, engaging learning environment for all children to grow their faith in Christ Jesus. Through intentional teaching and activities we will surely raise a generation that loves the Lord."



Education/Certifications

Bachelor of Science in Education Florida Director's Credential Child Development Associate Florida Teaching Certification

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28



My Family

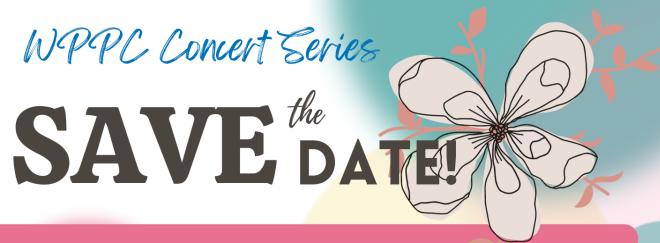
Contact:

E: <u>LaShaibrielleH@winppc.org</u> P: 407-647-1467 <u>400 S. Lakemont Ave.</u> Winter Park, FL 32792

Prayer Request:







2023 / 2024

BRAUN/SMALL DUO CLASSICAL VIOLIN & PIANO Sunday, October 22 3pm **THE GREAT AMERICAN BIG BAND**Sunday, January 28 3pm

25TH ANNIV. ORGAN CONCERT ADAM BRAKEL, ORGANISTSunday, November 12 3pm

CENTRAL FL SUNSHINE FLUTES
Sunday, March 10 3pm

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MUSIC BASILICA CHOIR MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE Sunday, December 17 3pm MAGIC OF BRONZE
CENTRAL FLORIDA'S COMMUNITY
HANDBELL ENSEMBLE
Sunday, April 28 4pm

Please note the time change from 3 to 4pm.

There is no charge for the concert, although donations will be accepted.

Meet and greet reception to follow each concert.



400 S. Lakemont Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32792 (407) 647-1467 | winppc.org



THE KING'S BRASS CONCERT SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 | 10:30 AM

Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass provide innovative worship for young and old alike through the "best in sacred brass music."

For more than twenty years, The King's Brass have performed over one hundred concerts each season with three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, keyboards, and percussion.

Playing a wide variety of music from Gabrieli to hymn classics, from Handel to jazz spirituals, from Christmas carols to patriotic marches, The King's Brass uses all corners of the concert hall to lift hearts and spirits in praise.

Please join us!



400 S. Lakemont Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32792 | 407-647-1467



January 10th @ 4pm

The death of those precious to us changes our lives forever. We may discover this when we were young with the deaths of family or friends. The word bereaved may not have meant anything to us, but instinctively we understood. As time passed, we noticed how few if any talked about the deaths. No one checked in to see how we were doing. It was as if the deaths had never happened, yet inside we were experiencing deep pain and many confusing new thoughts and feelings.

A six week group using "The Understanding your Grief Journal" by Alan Wolfelt, starts January 10th. Dennis Salmon will be the leader. The cost is \$14.00 for the book. Scholarships are available.

Please call the church office (407-647-1467) to sign up.

WPPC Concert Series Presents



3 PM

SUNDAY JANUARY 28TH



THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THE CONCERT, ALTHOUGH DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

A MEET & GREET WITH REFRESHMENTS WILL BE HELD FOLLOWING THE CONCERT.



WPPC News & Info

NEW MINISTRY—"NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS"

The new WPPC Adult Ministry will begin the new year with a trip to Mt. Dora on January 18th. We will leave from the church promptly at 9:00 AM and return at 5:00 PM. We will be traveling on our very own WPPC bus and by private car if we fill the bus. Lunch will be on your own as you enjoy the lovely Mt. Dora setting. To reserve a place, call the WPPC office, 407-647-1467. Reservations will close on January 15th.

What a wonderful way to start the new year! This is a time to renew old friendships, make new friends, and enjoy the fellowship that comes from being with our Brothers and Sisters. The proposed name for this group is "Neighbors and Friends". It is a name that reflects our mission of providing fellowship opportunities for our members and encourages us to reach out to others. So, let's gather as "Neighbors and Friends" to begin the new year. And, mark your calendars for a luncheon on February 15th at WPPC. Details will follow in the future.

5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING—JANUARY 28TH

Sunday, January 28, is our first quarterly collection for 5 Cents A Meal. Please continue your support for P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian's Answer To Hunger). Your contributions support the <u>Second Harvest Food Bank</u>, which distributes meals to partner feeding programs across our six-county area; <u>Society of St. Andrew</u> (SoSA), which coordinates gleaning events with volunteers to provide fresh, nutritious produce to local food banks; <u>Alliance for International Reforestation (AIR)</u> in Guatemala, which plants trees to provide fruit and prevent mudslides, as well as build and install fuel-efficient brick stoves in remote, poverty-stricken villages; and <u>Madagascar Project</u> (Dan & Elizabeth Turk, PC(USA) Missionaries). Dan trains seminary students in the planting and cultivation of fruit trees, and helps Elizabeth implement a community health program, teach AIDS awareness and advise the family planning program.

Your contributions help our partners combat hunger in so many ways and so many places. Thank you for your continued support. ~The Compassion Committee

RELATIONSHIPS IN ACTION (RINA) SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS • ROOM 301 @ 9:15AM

January 7th - The Holy Land Revealed: The First Jewish Revolt—Jerusalem Destroyed

In A.D.66, the First Jewish Revolt against the Romans began amid rising tensions and hostilities between Jews and non-Jews at Caesarea that quickly spread to Jerusalem and the rest of the country. We will explore the leading characters and events associated with this major period of instability in Jewish history.

January 14th - Audrey Ball

Audrey Ball, Founder and Director of Transitions Orphan Assistance Foundation, will update us on our families in Odesa, Ukraine and Germany, as well as news about our Christmas Project, *Spreading Love and Warmth in Ukraine*.

January 21st - Reta Jackson, Part 1

The RinA class will read Joyce Carol Oates' famous short story, "Where are you Going? Where Have you Been?" on January 21st and discuss the themes and meaning on January 28th. This is the story that Reta Jackson's students at Lake Mary High took home to read and discuss with their parents without even being assigned to do so, and many felt it the most important piece of literature they had read.

January 28th - Reta Jackson, Part 2

Having read Joyce Carol Oates' famous short story, last week, we will discuss the themes and meaning of the story, "Where are you Going? Where Have you Been?" This is the story that Reta Jackson's students at Lake Mary High took home to read and discuss with their parents without even being assigned to do so, and many felt it the most important piece of literature they had read.

News From Wendy Stafford WPPC Health Care Coordinator

How to Boost Brain Health and Slow Mental Aging with 10 Intriguing Tips

Just as our bodies and organs break down as we age, so do our brains. While the cognitive aging process can't be stopped, there are ways we can slow it down, according to Dr. Brett Osborn, a Florida neurosurgeon and longevity expert. Below are 10 of his top recommended changes you can make to slow brain aging and boost cognitive health.

Check out these 10 important tips to know.

1. Exercise regularly

Humans were born to move, and a sedentary lifestyle is a detriment to not only our bodies, but also our minds. 30 minutes of endurance training five days per week, or one hour of strength training three days per week and two 30-minute endurance training sessions are recommended.

2. Get plenty of mental stimulation

Challenging your brain can help build cognitive reserve is the brain's resistance to damage. Dancing, playing more difficult games, creating arts and crafts, doing puzzles, reading, learning a new language or picking up a musical instrument is essential to maintaining brain health and resilience. The age-old adage applies here: Use it or lose it.

3. Eat a balanced diet

Nutrition plays a crucial role not only in the body, but also in brain health. Your diet should be low in sugar and refined carbohydrates, high in anti-inflammatory fats, and replete with colorful vegetables, particularly greens. Sticking to a Mediterranean diet with lots of olive and avocado oil, omega-3 fats from fish or flax, a moderate amount of protein from lean meats, and a lot of greens as well as blueberries and spinach are known to promote healthy brain function. Building them into a smoothie or using a "super-food" powder as a drink fix is also a tasty way to get fruits and veggies.

4. Optimize your gut health

If your <u>gut is healthy</u>, often so is your brain. If you eat properly, for example, you will produce optimal levels of serotonin that regulate appetite and mood. It has also been noted that an imbalance in the gut is often seen in people with Alzheimer's. Avoiding fast food and sugary sodas, eating a lot of green leafy vegetables, and supplementing your diet with fermented foods such as kefir, sauerkraut, low-sugar yogurt or aged cheese, as these also promote intestinal health.

5. Get enough quality sleep

Getting a restful night's sleep is essential for memory formation, cognitive function and overall brain health. "Those who sleep poorly are at a much higher risk for the development of Alzheimer's disease. Limit screen time and exposure to blue light that interferes with the production of melatonin, the body's sleep hormone. Another tip is to reduce the ambient temperature of your bedroom — 65 to 70 degrees is optimal. Avoid caffeine, alcoholic beverages and heavy meals before bed, which can disrupt sleep. Exercising regularly also helps to lower cortisol and facilitate sleep.

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6. Manage stress levels

Chronic stress has detrimental effects on brain health. Over time, high cortisol levels suppress the immune system, meaning a reduced ability to fend off infections." Cortisol also elevates blood sugar, he added, which can lead to a variety of health problems, including insulin resistance and Type 2 diabetes, primers for Alzheimer's disease. Practicing relaxation techniques such as meditation, yoga or deep breathing are helpful for managing stress.

7. Engage socially

Social engagement has been associated with high quality of life and overall well-being, and inversely related to depressive-type behaviors. Maintaining social connections and engaging in meaningful conversations can help keep your mind sharp. For better social engagement, it is advised to skip social media in favor of an old-fashioned phone call or in-person meeting.

8. Limit alcohol consumption

Alcohol has been recognized as a neurotoxin that accelerates brain aging in a multitude of ways. Alcohol disrupts the gut microbiome, the normally healthy microbes residing in the gut, causing inflammation that spreads throughout the body. Doctors recommended limiting alcohol consumption, or preferably avoiding it altogether. Some experts, however, believe that moderate drinking may provide some brain benefits. On the other hand, both chronic and irregular heavy alcohol intake were found in some reviews to cause cognitive impairment, she added.

9. Consider taking brain-boosting supplements

There are a multitude of supplements that may better your brain performance, enhance learning and memory formation, and/or lower cortisol, which slows brain aging. Some examples of brain-boosting supplements include omega-3 fatty acids, lion's mane extract, gingko biloba and Ashwagandha. Keep in mind that supplements are not FDA-approved; as always, before adding anything novel to your current medication or supplement regimen, discuss it with your physician, as some may interfere with or reduce the efficacy of your current medications."

10. Balance hormone levels

Hormones play diverse roles throughout the body, including the brain.

"Sex hormones like testosterone, estrogen and progesterone enhance cognition and may protect the brain from insults like a traumatic brain injury. Low levels, as is the case with testosterone, are associated with 'brain fog' due to heightened inflammation in the brain. This similarly applies to the thyroid hormone. Regular strength training, getting adequate sleep, and eating a low-glycemic, anti-inflammatory diet with lots of healthy fats are recommended.



There comes a time when we all may need assistance, in one way or another. As the church Health Care Coordinator, I am here to help you with your physical needs as well as your spiritual ones. Please note that we have available crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs for anyone who may need them, at any time. I understand that things happen – your wheelchair may need maintenance, or you have recently fallen and needed a walker or crutches and may not have the means to acquire one, or you may just need one temporarily to get you through an injury. We can help supply the needs of the congregation, so if you have a physical problem you need help with, please see me at church or email me at wendys@winppc.org if you have a need for any of these medical supplies. I am here to help if you let me know.



December 23, 2023

Dear Friends,

About a month ago, I invited you all to join in our Christmas Project to provide food packets and warm clothes for our orphan families in Ukraine. Your response was heart-warming and most generous. Our team in Odesa has been busy using your gifts to buy, sort, pack and send special Christmas packages for the families and staff of the Pishana Orphanage.













It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words. And so, I share with you some photos of what has been happening in Odesa in recent weeks.

Food packages, along with some warm clothing, have already been sent so that our families can enjoy a special Christmas dinner. Ukraine now celebrates Christmas on December 25 along with us and the rest of the western world, so we will be observing the holiday together. Additional gifts will be delivered to the families in the village after the traditional Ukrainian Christmas on January 7th.

Thank you so much for making this all possible! Thank you for sharing warmth, joy and love with our folks on the other side of the world, and please pray that 2024 will bring them the gift of peace. And now, I want to wish you all the *Peace, Joy, and Love of Christmas* as you celebrate this holy time with your families and friends.

With gratitude and love, Audrey

Donation Information

Checks may be written to: Transitions Orphan Assistance Foundation, Inc. 541 Evening Sky Drive, Oviedo, FL 32765 OR 3530 Diamond Leaf Lane, Oviedo, FL 32765 Online options to donate can be found on our website: www.transitionsoaf.org



Happy New Year Dear Church Family!

You've probably noticed that almost all of the Deacon Den articles lately have been about LOVE. No matter what the topic or season, love just seems to naturally become the very heart of the article, because one of many beautiful, life-changing truths of the bible is that God is Love. 1 John 4:8 tells us, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is Love."

The bible speaks of God as our Father. Jesus taught us to pray to Abba, our Father and Paul told us that, because we are His children, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our Hearts, the Spirit who calls out, Abba Father.

Galatians 4:16

But *God's* definition of love differs from ours. His Love is self-sacrificing, forgiving, faithful, kind... yet, as a loving Father, it is also based on His Holiness. He knows that sin will harm us and others. Therefore, His Love is also Truth. And that Truth can be hard to accept when our desires are wrong.

That means, as we are His human "children", we are going to rebel in sin at times, rejecting His Authority, thinking we know better than our Father does. In this life, we are never going to be the "adult" because we can never be His equal, for He is perfect Holiness.

As we enter into our eternal life, our Father will create in us the clean heart we so sweetly sing and long for. We'll be pure-in-heart Spiritual children, no longer capable of any mistakes or sinful rebellion. Yes, even in heaven, we will remain His Beloved children...and finally...completely, united with Him.



This is the time of year when people make New Year's Resolutions. But we have no need for any human self-centered resolutions.

Our wisest goals as Christians are spiritual and they don't last for a month or a year, they are eternal!

May we strive to be loving and faithful in His Truth and seek His forgiveness when we aren't!

? Bible Quiz ? ??

In the book of Judges, the warrior Barak would go to battle only if a certain female leader went with him. Who was she?

- A. Rebekah
- B. Jael
- C. Michal
- D. Deborah



Answer: D (See Judges 4:1-10.)



"We'd love to have you speak, Ezekiel, but we're a non-prophet."



HAPPY NEW YOU!

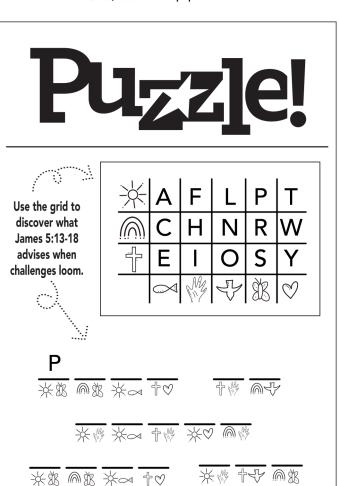
Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.

			JAN	JARY 2	2024			
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.		God	night	word	in	love	Jesus	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
0	glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ	а	
0	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
•	saw	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is	many	
\odot	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
•	he	again	through	earth	made	while	back	
)	28	29	30	31				
	new	if	and	creation				
)	The second Monday							
	One day before the 20th							
	The day before the first Friday The last weekday of the second week							
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	,	after the		_			AVA .	
	,	after 18					W.	
	The first day of the second weekend _							

The last Sunday _ _ _

The last day of the month



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COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS - Here's How to Help

Winter Park Presbyterian Church has been involved in a feeding ministry even before the Central Florida Coalition for the Homeless was created in 1987. We serve on the 1st Friday of each month. If you would like to donate your time to prepare the food during the week before the 1st Friday, please review the information below and contact the Team Leader listed. If you would like to serve, please sign up on the Coalition serving list posted in the hallway near the office, or contact Anna Caparis at 707-889-4768/annafromal@yahoo.com.

What	When
Bake brownies / Bonnie Gaughan 407-804-2565	Wed 1/3 9:00-11:00 AM
Prepare meal / Anna Caparis 707-889-4768	Thurs 1/4 9:30-11:30 AM
Bag brownies / Joann Robertson 407-678-8254	Fri 1/5 9:00-10:00 AM
Donate reading materials: Magazines for men, women, & children (news, cars, sports, National Geographic, religious magazines/booklets, paperback books)	All month: Place in COALITION giant storage box in Fellowship Hall.
Prepare to transport: Gather supplies, load food & supplies into bus Anna Caparis 707-889-4768	Fri 1/5 3:30-4:00 PM
Serve the Meal. Join us in the WPPC kitchen for departure to Coalition at 4:00 PM and return by 7:00PM. Volunteers please wear closed-toed shoes; it is a violation of health code to wear flip-flops. Please sign up in office hallway <u>and</u> call Anna Caparis (707-889-4768) by the Wednesday before if you would like to serve. The Coalition requires each volunteer to register.	Fri 1/5 4:00-7:00 PM NOTE: The church bus is reserved for this function.
Cleanup kitchen: Wash, sanitize items used; store supplies	Fri 1/5 7:00-7:30 PM
Financial Donation: Make check out to WPPC; note on the memo line	Anytime

HOMELESS COALITION TEAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Each month about 40 devoted WPPC volunteers handle the many tasks to provide and serve a wonderful meal to our guests at the Coalition. We are in need of additional volunteers for various projects, and backup volunteers when regulars must be absent.

Any of the above gifts, or your time, are so appreciated!

To help in any way, please contact: Anna Caparis

707-889-4768 or annafromal@yahoo.com



ONIGORI BIRITIDATO								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	1 Rick Davis Tom Russell	2 John Gehrig Claudia Hafich Carole Reece Audrey Santiago	<u>3</u>	4	5 Nancy Johnson Tiffany Osborne	<u>6</u> Lucienne Lee		
7 John Bartholomew	8 Eleanor McKechnie	9 Jo Davidson Johnnie McCarter Joseph Workman	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	12	<u>13</u>		
<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	17 Vicki Blanchfield Dennis Schmalstig	18 Debbie Workman	<u>19</u>	20 Meg Baldwin		
21 Lindsay Blood	22 Matthew Walker	<u>23</u>	24 Jean McGuire	<u>25</u>	26 Drew Byrne Rite Chasser Patricia Kiester	27		
28 Alyssa Kittinger Flo Tuck	29	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>					



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Eileen Silvers Ron Thompson	2	<u>3</u>	
4	5 Beth Danley	<u>6</u>	7 Cathy House Jayne Watkins	8 Jim McKinney Jeanne Vinci	9 Jan Hall Mike Yost	10 Sara Van Arsdel
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	13 Mark Beaty Vicki Hurd	14 Sally Naylor Dori Wentz	15 Aidan Smith Jack Watkins	16 Ed Matrick Judy Schmalstig	<u>17</u>
18 Anna Caparis	19 Fiona Harper Jyme Smith	20 Lenore Dillard	21	22	23 Christopher Baldwin	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	27 Michelle Stills	28 Barbara Edwards Craig Uttley	29 Denise Riccio		







The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. James A. Capps, Senior Adult Ministry Coordinator

Justin Chase, Director of Music

Penny Walsh, Organist

Sandra Shafer, Pianist

Scott Beck, Director of Handbells

Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant

Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant

Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant

La'Shai Huff-Bichet, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Wendy Stafford, Health Care Coordinator

Nicole Fye, Director of Preschool Programs

Adam Davies, Sexton

SESSION

2023

Syd Davis Fred Kittinger Malcolm MacDiarmid Jim McKinney Dawn Sumrall

2024

Mike Galyean John Gehrig Jayne Leach Audrey Santiago Sara Van Arsdel

<u> 2025</u>

Theresa Coker Mary Ferguson Cathy House Glenn Riccio Ron Thompson

DIACONATE

2023

Ron Ellman Betty Johnston Sevilla Morse Cynthia Nants Jyme Smith

2024

Lisa Dreasher Jerry Fitzgerald Nancy Galyean Andy Riccio

2025

Meg Baldwin Anna Caparis Lynne McKnight Debbie Pauzar Deborah Roberts

MISSIONARIES

Mark Hare & Jenny Bent - Costa Rica Dr. Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar