



Winter Park  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# The Covenanter

OCTOBER 2020



***“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Hebrews 12: 1b-2a***

Greetings,

As we creep into October, I would like to take the opportunity and welcome our new officers. The following people have agreed to serve our church as Elders and Deacons and will begin their training this month. Please send them a card or call them or when you run into them, be sure and tell them thank you. I would also like to give thanks to God, not only for our new officers, but for those who are currently serving. No one could have imagined the decisions our current officers would have to make. We humbly give God thanks, while also praising the Lord, for all people who sense a call to servant leadership within the church. Please pray we will continue to be guided by God’s Spirit and that we may “run with perseverance the race marked out for us,” striving to keep in step with what Jesus would have us do.

New Elders: Syd Davis, Fred Kittinger, Malcom MacDiarmid, Jim McKinney, and Dawn Sumrall.

New Deacons: Ron Eelman, Betty Johnston, Sevilla Morse, Cynthia Nants, Jyme Smith, and Dennis Schmalstig (two year term)

Additionally, the Session decided at their September meeting to reopen the sanctuary for public worship. We will be posting the guidelines and procedures for this in the days to come. However, beginning on October 25<sup>th</sup> of 2020, Reformation Sunday, services will resume here at Winter Park Presbyterian Church. To begin with, we will have one service in the Sanctuary at 10:30 on Sunday mornings. However, we also recognize that many of you - for a host of reasons - may not be able to attend. To that end, services will continue to be recorded and made available online. For specifics about gathering, be on the look out in the days ahead for information, and as always if you have questions please contact the church.

Of course, we have challenges ahead. It seems from my perspective, life is a series of challenges. Obviously, sometimes we make things harder on ourselves than we should, we become focused on this or that. We can become bogged down in the details. We can even become weary – seemingly as if running in a bad dream and being unable to move. We sense these moments the most when our eyes, our focus is not where it should be.

If we are anything like the first followers of Jesus and those who have come after, we will certainly make mistakes along the way. However, things worked best for them, and I believe things work best for us, when we keep Jesus at the center of our gaze. As servant leaders, as members within the Body of Christ, we all have wonderful opportunities ahead of us to love and serve within our community. We may fail at times, even come up short, but in the meantime, I pray instead of fixing people and problems, we will be found “fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.”

Until we are together again...

Look up, Reach out and Pray,

-Pastor Darren



We are happy to announce that WPPC will resume in person Worship Services on October 25th! There will be one service in the sanctuary at 10:30 AM.

More information coming soon!



*Grateful, Thankful, Blessed*



## Policies and Procedures for Congregational Gatherings

To ensure the health and well-being of our WPPC families and our community, we have adopted the following policies and procedures for congregational gatherings:

**If you are part of the most “at risk” among us, please consider minimizing your exposure.**

**\*PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING FEVER/COUGH/OTHER SYMPTOMS.**

### BUILDING ACCESS

Please enter the Sanctuary through the main doors only. At the end of our worship service, you will be directed out the side doors. There will be no access to other areas on Sundays. As you depart please maintain adequate distance.

### SEATING

Seating will be restricted to every third pew.

We ask that families in the same household (including students and children) sit together at one end of a pew, leaving the inside of the pew empty.

Handicap accessible seating will be available.

### ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS

Bulletins and communion elements will be placed on the empty pew in front of seating. We will not have a greeting time during the service. All shared materials have been removed from the sanctuary. If you choose to attend, you are encouraged to bring your own Bible.

Hand sanitizer stations will be available.

Tithes and offerings will be collected upon exiting the Sanctuary or you may make an online contribution or mail.

Mask usage prescribed per temporary Orange County mandate.

### KIDS WORSHIP & CHILDCARE

There will be no children’s worship or childcare available. We ask that children be seated with their families in the Sanctuary.

### SANCTUARY USAGE

Following each service, pews and contact surfaces will be wiped down with approved cleaning solution. After the sanctuary is emptied, the doors will be closed and air conditioning will run for 30 minutes to cycle room air. Additionally, before each service the air conditioning will be turned on for no less than 30 minutes before attendees will be allowed to enter.

### WORSHIP ALTERNATIVES

We will continue to offer online worship for those who do not yet feel comfortable gathering in the Sanctuary.

**\*AGAIN, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING FEVER/COUGH/OTHER SYMPTOMS.**



**DRIVE THRU EDITION!**

Trunk or Treat has become a tradition here at Winter Park Presbyterian Church... you didn't think we would let a Pandemic stop us, did you?!

On Halloween, October 31, beginning at 4:30pm, WPPC will host *Trunk or Treat* once more, but this time, it'll be a drive thru edition! We will be taking over the Preschool Car Circle on this day. We'll have trunks out for display, adults dressed in costume, and of course, candy! Parents will bring Children by in their vehicles and they will stay in their vehicles as they drive through our trunk display and receive their candy!

What do we need to pull this off?

- **TRUNKS!** Just like last year I need people who are willing to decorate their trunks with various themes (I can help you find a theme if you need it, anything from easy to hard)!
- **CANDY!** This year it is very important that any candy donated will be delivered to the church bagged and sealed to make sure that it is safe for the kids to eat! Because of the pandemic, if you would prefer to donate cash, that is perfectly acceptable and encouraged.
- **YOU!** It wouldn't be Trunk or Treat without you and your enthusiasm. Even if you don't want to decorate a trunk (though I hope you do), to make it fun for the kids I want to have adults dressed in their own costumes come on out to join the fun. We'll make sure everyone stays properly distanced as we wave at the kids and remind them that even though the world looks a little different some things, like candy and costumes and happiness, never change!

If you can help with a trunk, with candy, or just by being a happy and safe presence, please contact Emily Wasser ([emilyw@winppc.org](mailto:emilyw@winppc.org)) immediately! We can do this!

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## Accolades for the Deacons

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As a result of the pandemic, the Deacons were forced to conduct all business by the exchange of emails. This, of course, resulted in limiting their normal spectrum of activities considerably. However, notwithstanding, the Deacons have persevered during this difficult time and have continued to reach out as best as possible to those in need of just a little comforting during this most stressful period of personal isolation. So far, during this period the Deacons have averaged approximately 76 cards sent out, 34 phone calls, 58 emails and 5 home visits every month since March and are deserving of a special “pat on the back” for their caring devotion to mission.

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## Deacon's Den

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The last six months have been a test of endurance. Curtailing public activities and association with friends and neighbors has left us feeling isolated. Relationships with loved ones may have become strained during this long time of frustration and uncertainty.

I look to the Psalms for help during difficult times. The Psalmists dealt with the whole range of emotions from joy and celebration to grief and suffering. Words of praise, longing, bereavement, doubt and joy written millennia ago remind us that human existence has not changed one bit. Even if our circumstances differ from those living well before Christ's birth, the core challenges remain the same.

Right now, I look for psalms providing reassurance and guidance for those undergoing trials. Today, I came across Psalm 119:105. It reads: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

I recently stayed at an unfamiliar house. I woke up in the middle of the night and couldn't find the light switch by the door. I stumbled in the dark to the bathroom door and to the closet. I bumped my head on hangers and scraped my fingers along a wall where the light switch should have been. I became increasingly disoriented. I finally found the switch by accident, and when I turned it on, the layout of the room became obvious. I couldn't figure out why I had had so much trouble locating something seven feet away from my bed.

This minor misadventure reminded me of times when I lost my way, when I didn't know how to fix messes I'd made. Or how to find a new direction after old habits no longer sufficed. I succeeded in righting my course when I slowed down and sought guidance and help. In those instances, I found a lamp and a path.

I believe that God provides the most direct aid when we ask for guidance and endurance in helping others. The light shines brightest when I ask not only for myself, but for those close to me. In a way, when we choose to accept God's assistance, we volunteer to become servants.

~Dennis Schmalstig, WPPC Deacon

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## Peacemaking Offering

### World Community Sunday ✦ October 4th

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World Communion Sunday is October 4th. It's exciting to think we'll be sharing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with Christians worldwide!

On that day we will collect your offering for Peacemaking, one of the four Special Offerings of the PC (USA). Our partners in the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly will use 75% of this offering for various peacemaking projects throughout the world. The Compassion Committee has selected *IDignity* (<https://idignity.org/>) to be the local recipient of 25% of our collection. This program was founded by members of five downtown Orlando churches in 2008 to assist the disadvantaged in Central Florida to navigate the complexities of obtaining their personal identification. The documents IDignity obtains on behalf of their clients enable them to apply for employment or school, obtain access to shelters, vote, seek help from social service programs, open a bank account or cash a check, secure housing, or overcome many obstacles to becoming self-sufficient. The cost to obtain these documents is high and demand for these services has yet to ebb. More than 120 volunteers serve 200-250 people in need every month. This connects to the global witness of Christ's peace.

Thank you for your generosity and donating to this Special Offering, furthering our Christian connection to those in our community who are less fortunate than we are. As we are still not meeting in our Sanctuary for worship due to the Coronavirus, you can take or mail your offering to the Church office, or you can give online at [www.winppc.org/give](http://www.winppc.org/give).

*Peace I leave you, My peace I give to you.* John 14:27

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## 2 Cents A Meal Collection

### October 25th

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Sunday, October 25, 2020, is the last of four quarterly collection dates for 2 Cents A Meal this year. Please continue your support for PATH. (Presbyterian Answer To Hunger). Your contributions support the Second Harvest Food Bank, which distributes meals to partner feeding programs across our six-county area; Society of St. Andrew (SoSA), which coordinates gleaning events with volunteers to provide fresh, nutritious produce to local food banks; Alliance for International Reforestation (AIR) in Guatemala which plants trees to provide fruit and prevent mudslides, as well as building and installing fuel-efficient brick stoves in remote poverty-stricken villages; and Madagascar Project (Dan and Elizabeth Turk, PC (USA) Missionaries), allows Dan to train seminary students in the planting and cultivation of fruit trees, and help Elizabeth implement a community health program, teach AIDS awareness and advise the family planning program. Your contributions in the past have helped our partners combat hunger in so many ways and in so many places.

You can mail your offering check to the Church office, drop it in the offering plate, or give online at [www.winppc.org/giving](http://www.winppc.org/giving). Thank you for your continued support.

- The Compassion Committee -

## The Art of Hospitality - Adult Education Opportunity

### There's still time to join us!



This semester, Marilyn Bryant and Pastor Emily will be facilitating an online class for adults entitled The Art of Hospitality. The class will examine practical ways a church can practice radical hospitality and the changes that we can make in our church, and in ourselves, in order to better welcome all who come into our church. This six week class is based on the model of hospitality used at Adam Hamilton's United Methodist Church of the Resurrection. Each class will include a short video segment, a time of discussion, sharing, and of course fellowship. Classes will be every Tuesday night starting September 22nd, and will be conducted via Zoom at 7:00PM. Each class should last no more than 60 minutes.

To be added to the roster for this class and receive the Zoom link, please contact Emily Wasser at [EmilyW@winppc.org](mailto:EmilyW@winppc.org)! All are welcome to join us, and we look forward to talking with you for this special opportunity to connect from the comfort of our own homes!

## Homeless Coalition COVID-19 Update



In the midst of the COVID-19 virus, this year has been a tough and disturbing time for all of us. You can imagine the Coalition is experiencing a significant increase in expenses as they diligently work to serve our homeless neighbors in need.

Prior to the pandemic, WPPC has supported the mission of the Central Florida Coalition for the Homeless by preparing and serving meals at the Men's Service Center on the 4th Friday of each month; since March we have not been able to serve so we are donating the funds we would use to prepare the meal. The Coalition also provides services to women, children and families. The fastest growing segment of the homeless population is families with children; the Coalition serves about 140 children with their families each night.

The Coalition has expressed an urgent need for the following donations:

- ◆ Hand sanitizer
- ◆ Thermometers
- ◆ Disinfectant spray/wipes
- ◆ Face masks
- ◆ Bar soap
- ◆ Bottled water

There is a large barrel outside of the receptionist desk at WPPC for all donations. All donated items will be delivered to the Coalition on October 15th.



WPPC Website: [www.winppc.org](http://www.winppc.org)  
 Online Giving: [www.winppc.org/give](http://www.winppc.org/give)  
 Sermons: [www.winppc.org/sermons](http://www.winppc.org/sermons)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WinterParkPresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/WinterParkPresbyterian)  
 Central Florida Presbytery: [www.cfpresbytery.org/](http://www.cfpresbytery.org/)

## LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know?

- Many early Christians were not baptized until death was imminent.
- Women occupied posts of prominence in the early church.
- The cross probably did not appear as a symbol in Christian art until the 4th century.
- The first country where Christianity became the official religion was Armenia in 294 A.D.

Who hasn't read the Reader's Digest? The Library has a book edited and published by the Reader's Digest giving the history of the beginning of the church in Jerusalem and its spread throughout the Roman Empire. Its title is, *After Jesus the Triumph of Christianity*. This book has unusually good illustration of the lives of Christians and the changing and growing ways of the church, defending the faith, decline of the Empire and dawning of the middle ages. Your library has a number of books on church history in section 270.

Thank you to the church members who recently donated a number of books to the library. Access to these books can be obtained by checking out those in the narthex, obtaining the library key from the front office, or coming into the library any Monday morning when an attendant is present to assist you.

A very interesting read is, *Spy* by Danielle Steel. A young woman is caught up in a dangerous double life on behalf of her country during WWII. In 1939, England is at war when Alex goes to London as a volunteer in First Aid Nursing. She's fluent in French and German, which makes her a perfect secret agent, leading life and death missions behind enemy lines.

*My Grandfather's Blessings* by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D. encourages readers to recognize the unexpected blessings in their own lives. She does this by illustrating her advice through simple yet powerful stories. This book is a reminder of the generation-to-generation transmission of wisdom that used to be commonplace.


~Doris Anguish, Librarian



## Bible Quiz

In Jesus' parable about people who hear and live by God's words, on what did the wise man build his house?

- A. rock
- B. sand
- C. grassland
- D. soil that was free of rocks



Answer: A (See Matthew 7:24-27.)

**oops!**

From a worship bulletin in San Bernardino, California:

~~job openings~~

We need a pariah coordinator.

~~This position is 20 hours a week~~

This parish could also use a proofreader!

From a church newsletter:

~~virtual opportunities~~

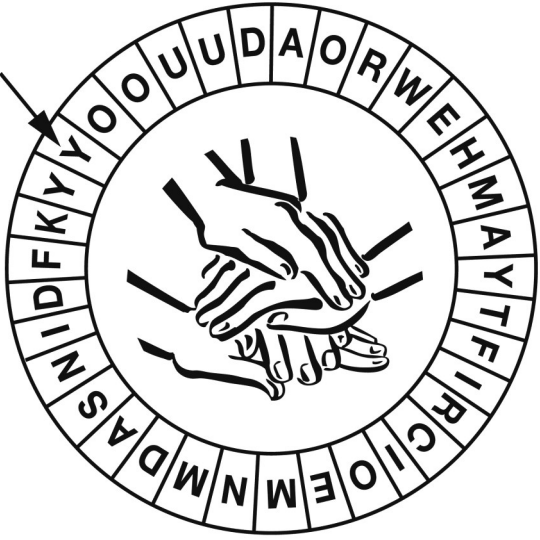
Sign up for an online evangelism course!

~~click here to register~~

That sounds like a dangerous course.

# Puzzle!

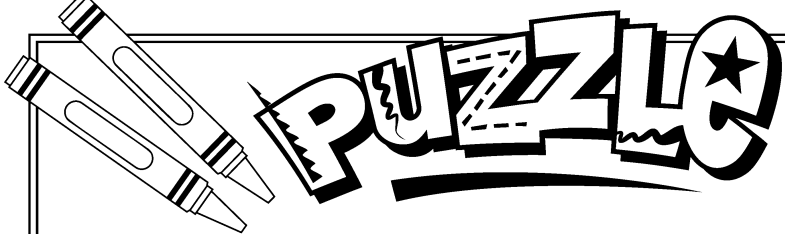
Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below to discover what Jesus says about his friends.



“ Y \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.”

JOHN 15:14, NIV

Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV



## A PLANTING PARABLE

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

*Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.*

**WORD BANK:** sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
3. To plant . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
4. Sharp part of a plant . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is harvested. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
6. To dry up and shrivel . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
7. Person who plants . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
8. The earth a plant grows in. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

“But the \_\_\_\_\_<sub>2</sub> falling on good \_\_\_\_\_<sub>8</sub> refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a \_\_\_\_\_<sub>5</sub>, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was \_\_\_\_\_<sub>3</sub> n.”

M A T T H E W 1 3 : 2 3 , N I V

Answer: root, seed, soil, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sow



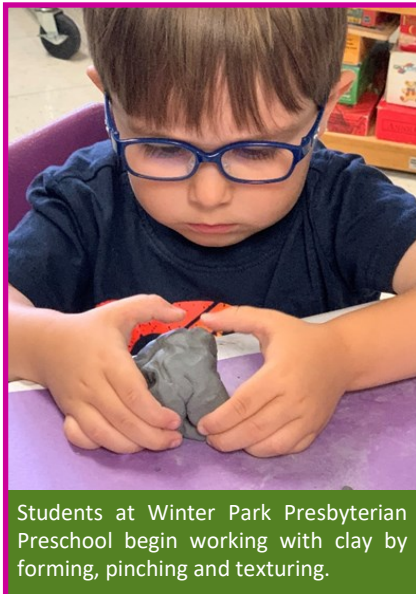
Outdoor painting fun in Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool art class for three year olds.

The first weeks back at school have gone very smoothly as the children and teachers have settled into their familiar routines. This semester we are continuing Wednesday chapel lessons in individual classrooms and making separate visits to the sanctuary. We are having more fun outdoors with after school enrichment classes in Soccer, Mixed Sports, Science & Discovery, Nature Discovery and Garden pARTy + Clay for Art Lovers classes.

Our very talented and dedicated art teacher, Mrs. Cross is holding classes for three year olds and VPK students during the regular school day outdoors as well as in our art studio. Young children are naturally curious and creative! Students learn the fundamentals of art vocabulary, tool use and art

techniques from hand-building with clay for kiln firing to painting on different types of paper and canvas. They also engage with printmaking and other two-dimensional and three-dimensional works.

If you are or your family are looking for a preschool with a fabulous art program, we have a few spots left for this school year. Give us a call at 407-629-0727, visit our website [winppc.org/preschool](http://winppc.org/preschool), or browse our Facebook page for more info.




Students at Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool begin working with clay by forming, pinching and texturing.



No cookie cutter art in Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool art classes!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> <i>Abigail Lee Lucie Shannon Tyrone Shannon</i>	<u>3</u> <i>Myrna Erwin Sarah Hyatt</i>
<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> <i>Frank Jamison</i>	<u>10</u> <i>Karen Plater Christina Wilson</i>
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> <i>Clementine Yadav</i>	<u>14</u> <i>Rusty Baldwin Evelyn Wagenhauser</i>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> <i>Shirley Portz</i>
<u>18</u> <i>Carolyn Boyle</i>	<u>19</u> <i>Camden Dreasher</i>	<u>20</u> <i>Mervin Henning Ann McIntosh</i>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> <i>Monty Gettys</i>
<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> <i>Carolyn Arnold</i>	<u>27</u> <i>Jonathan Fagan Alan Woods</i>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>1</u> <i>Sharon Goodson</i>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> <i>Martha Heine Tiffany Seidule Edmund Short</i>	<u>6</u> <i>Debbie Pauzar</i>	<u>7</u> <i>Barbara Ogburn Ronald Peterson</i>
<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> <i>Gay Jung</i>	<u>12</u> <i>Sawyer Bartholomew Elaine Ellman Christine Rich</i>	<u>13</u> <i>Allen Shaw George Sumrall</i>	<u>14</u> <i>Helen Ammerman</i>
<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u> <i>Gayle Ernst</i>	<u>19</u> <i>Avery Erb Lauren Wagner</i>	<u>20</u> <i>Martha Campbell Sevilla Morse Reta Peterson</i>	<u>21</u> <i>Dail Pribil</i>
<u>22</u> <i>Sean Tallungan</i>	<u>23</u> <i>Curtis Harrison</i>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>29</u> <i>Samantha Blood</i>	<u>30</u>					



The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor  
 The Rev. Emily Wasser, Associate Pastor  
 Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant  
 Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant  
 Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant  
 Justin Chase, Director of Music  
 Penny Walsh, Organist  
 Susan Davis, Director of Handbells & Children's Music  
 Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs  
 Kenny Lovelace, Sexton

### SESSION

#### 2020

Doris Anguish  
 Marilyn Bryant  
 Rick Davis  
 Steve House  
 Larry Seel  
 Bob White

#### 2021

Phillip Anderson  
 Lisa Dreasher  
 Jayne Leach  
 Shaheed Mohammed  
 Peter Rice  
 Nelson Roe

#### 2022

Theresa Coker  
 Bonnie Gaughan  
 Fran Morrissey  
 Sean Tallungan  
 Michelle Trahan  
 Jay Van Hook

### DIACONATE

#### 2020

Ardyth Austin  
 Cathy House  
 Caroline James  
 Jim McKinney  
 Dennis Schmalstig  
 Matt Straub

#### 2021

Mike Galyean  
 Reta Jackson  
 Julie Kent  
 Curtis Koon  
 Sara Van Arsdel  
 Jeanne Vinci

#### 2022

Susan Davis  
 Jane Munns  
 Rachel Myers  
 Christine Rich  
 Meg Ball Thomas

### MISSIONARIES

Rev. Gordon and Dorothy Gartrell - Brazil  
 Jenny Bent - Dominican Republic  
 Mark Hare - Haiti  
 Dr. Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar

For Covenanter or Sunday bulletin submissions, please fill out a publicity request online at <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/> or contact Cindy Mitchum at [cindym@winppc.org](mailto:cindym@winppc.org) or 407-647-1467.