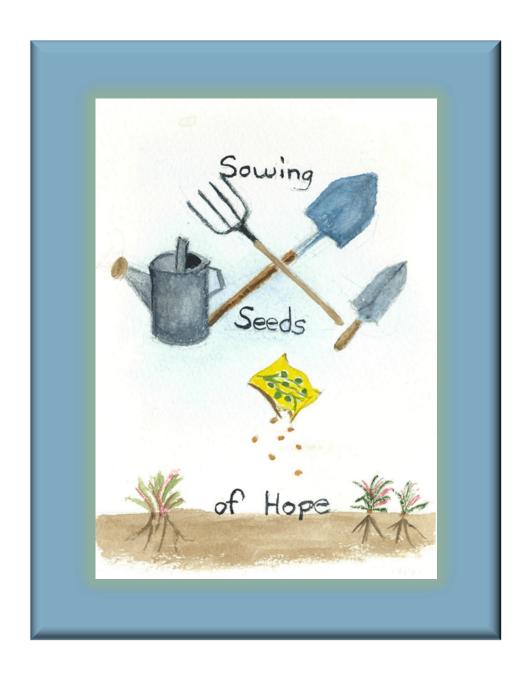


The Covenanter



September 2024



		2



After Abraham Lincoln became president, office seekers besieged him trying to get appointments to various jobs throughout the country. Once, confined to bed with typhoid fever, exasperated, Lincoln declared to his secretary, "I now have something I can give everybody."

It seems there are so many needs in the world. Wouldn't it be great to have something to give to everybody? And not merely our germs, but giving generous physical, tangible expressions of who we are, invested through our gifts of time, our abilities, and our financial resources.

The Scriptures repeatedly instruct us that giving is an act of worship and giving is also an act of faith. Giving reflects our inward heart, our gratefulness and thankfulness to God for all He has done for us. Giving is our response to the

gift we have received—the life found in Jesus Christ our Lord. To ensure our giving is not misunderstood, we find these words written to the Ephesians, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

We believe, we respond to God's goodness—that's the best we can offer. When we do, we avail ourselves to God's work in the world through us. We become less centered upon ourselves (perhaps as counter to our present culture as you can get) and our attention is refocused on love of God and love of neighbor.

In our often-nihilistic world, our generosity and faithfulness are also counter cultural. Giving implies an optimism towards the future. We are encouraged throughout the Bible to "not despair." The Psalmist says, "to lift our eyes unto the heavens for that is where our help comes from." Jesus even tells us, "Do not worry about tomorrow—it has enough worry of its own."

In short, when we share what we have, we say "no" to nihilism and have an opportunity to join together in sowing seeds of hope.



You will hear more about this in the weeks ahead, but as we approach the Fall we think about the harvest, and we think about our giving. We pray, discern and then act—**Sowing Seeds of Hope**. Below are some important dates:

- September 8th and 15th—Presentation Re-Vision, Re-Fresh, Re-New: 9:15-10:15 in the Chapel
- September 8th, 15th and 22nd—Sermon Series Re-Vision, Re-Fresh, Re-new
- September 15th—Welcome Home Luncheon: Please RSVP, no charge for lunch
- October 20th—Consecration Sunday: Luncheon to follow, update on Stewardship and opportunity for fellowship.

In addition to attending these events, we also ask that you would pray for our church during this season of discernment and faithfulness. Pray for those who will be sharing their stories with us, for the many people who have already given time, talent, and resources to our Stewardship efforts and for the opportunity we all have in: **Sowing Seeds of Hope**. Perhaps through our efforts in responding to God's grace—we'll discover we have something to give everybody.

Until the Whole World Hears,

-Pastor Darren



SUNDAY 1	MONDAY 2	TUESDAY 3	WEDNESDAY 4	THURSDAY 5	FRIDAY 6	SATURDAY 7
Communion Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am Children's Church 10:30am	Office Closed Labor Day	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary WPPC Handbells 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	mensbar 3	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	SATORDATY
SUNDAY 8	MONDAY 9	TUESDAY 10	WEDNESDAY 11	THURSDAY 12	FRIDAY 13	SATURDAY 14
Communion Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30am-Sanctuary WPPC Vision 9:15am, Chapel Sunday School 9:15-10:15am Children's Church 10:30am	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH Hannah Circle 6pm, Rm 301	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary PS Board Mtg 10:30am, Rm 301 WPPC Handbells 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary		Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	
SUNDAY 15	MONDAY 16	TUESDAY 17	WEDNESDAY 18	THURSDAY 19	FRIDAY 20	SATURDAY 21
Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30am-Sanctuary WPPC Vision 9:15am, Chapel Sunday School 9:15-10:15am Children's Church 10:30am Welcome Home Luncheon 11:30am, FH	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Family Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary WPPC Handbells 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	Communion Svc Westminster WP I I am Neighbors & Friends I I : 30am, FH Diaconate Meeting 7pm, Rm 301		
SUNDAY 22	MONDAY 23	TUESDAY 24	WEDNESDAY 25	THURSDAY 26	FRIDAY 27	SATURDAY 28
Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am Children's Church 10:30am	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	Staff Meeting 10:30am, Rm 301	PS Chapel 9:35am, Sanctuary WPPC Handbells 6pm, Rm 102 Chancel Choir 7:15pm, Sanctuary	Session Meeting 7pm, Rm 301	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH	
SUNDAY 29	MONDAY 30					
Worship Svc. 8:15am-Chapel 10:30am-Sanctuary Sunday School 9:15-10:15am Children's Church 10:30am	Tai Chi 11:30am, FH					



VISION FOR WPPC

On September 8th there will be an opportunity to hear about visioning for WPPC presented by Pastor Darren, Pastor Jim Capps, and Ron Thompson. The Re-Vision, Re-Fresh, Re-New presentation will be held in the Chapel from 9:15 to 10:15am. If you can't make it on the 8th, a repeat session will be offered on September 15th. All are welcome.



You are invited to a

WELCOME HOME LUNCHEON

Sponsored by the Neighbors & Friends Ministry, a part of the Community Life Outreach Committee.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A WELCOME HOME AND WELCOME BACK LUNCHEON! THIS IS A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP AND A TIME TO CATCH UP WITH EVERYONE WE'VE MISSED DURING THE SUMMER. WE WELCOME ALL, INCLUDING OUR MEMBERS, THOSE WHO REGULARLY ATTEND, THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN GONE FOR THE SUMMER, FORMER MEMBERS, AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ABSENT FOR ANY REASON.

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY

15

11:30 AM

Plan to come and celebrate the joy that comes from being a part of this Community of Christ.

There is no charge for the meal. It has been graciously underwritten by an anonymous donor.

Please RSVP by 9/10

To RSVP, please tear off and place this form in the offering plate or call the front office at 407-647-1467.

I would love to attend the Welcome Home Luncheon on 9/15!

Name _____ # Attending ____



THE COLLECTION FOR UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS FOR KILLARNEY ELEMENTARY AND HEADPHONES FOR ALOMA ELEMENTARY FROM JUNE 30TH TO AUGUST 4TH WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL!

Headphones for Aloma Elementary

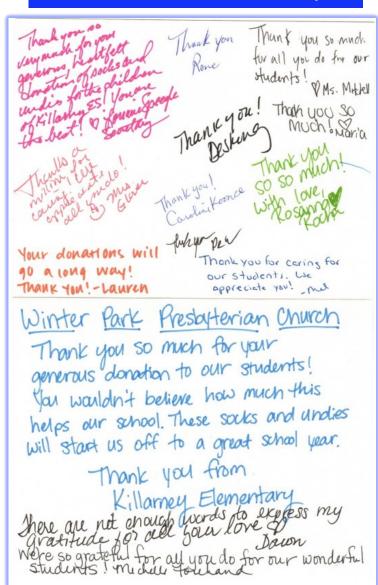
55 headphones were collected from the congregation and \$954.60 was given to purchase 172 headphones from *Five Below* for a total of 227 headphones. 161 were delivered to Aloma by Wendy & Frank Jamision, and Nancy Galyean on August 5th; the rest (66) were delivered by Mike Galyean on August 13th.

Underwear/Socks for Killarney Elementary

70 packages of underwear and 28 packages of socks, totaling 97 packages (each package contains 6-20 items) were collected. All were delivered to Killarney by Jody Tassos, and Nancy & Mike Galyean on August 5th. It was especially meaningful to the folks at Killarney since Jody retired from that school 25 years ago.



Thank You Note from Killarney





Jodi Tassos, Nancy Galyean, Rosanna Rocha and Donna Glover (Killarney)





Wendy Jamison, Sarah Giesler, and Nancy Galyean (Aloma)



After a busy Summer, we will once again start up our monthly meetings with a luncheon and program on

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 11:30am

We will meet in Fellowship Hall for a catered luncheon. The cost of the lunch is \$15.

Our program will be brought to you by Jennifer Hitchcock, a Master Gardener. She will delight us with the joys of indoor and outdoor gardening.

All are welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship around the tables.

Please make your reservation by Monday, September 16 by calling the WPPC office, 407-647-1467.

You may bring your own lunch if you choose to or just join us for the program.

Neighbors and Friends (N&F) welcome anyone who seeks to renew friendships and make new friends.

If you would like, please bring breakfast items as a donation for the food panty.

The N&F ministry is a part of the Community Life Outreach Committee. Our primary purpose is to provide social opportunities for fellowship that encourage and promote Christ centered interactions. The Fall and Winter schedule is coming together, and wonderful programs are being planned. Come and be a part of this growing and exciting ministry and do remember to bring a neighbor or friend!





NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS

On August 22nd, the Neighbors & Friends had an outing to *Hollerback's German Restaurant* in Sanford. They had a great time and enjoyed a delicious meal with friends and neighbors. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for information about the next outing. The next Neighbors & Friends lunch will be held on September 19th at 11:30am in Fellowship Hall.



COMPASSION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Frank Gamwell family left \$77,000 to the church. The Budget & Finance Committee suggested 10% (tithe) go to Compassion Committee "to distribute to the charities they support" and therefor the Committee has \$7,700 to spend.

- ♦ The committee planned to increase existing recipients of Int'l Benevolence to \$1,200 per year in the 2025 budget, so members voted to send that increase for 2024 now. Funding for each per year: Air Guatemala (currently \$850, increase of \$350); Walters-Wycliffe (currently \$850, increase of \$350); Dettweiler-Wycliffe (currently \$850, increase of \$350); Transitions Orphan Assist. Foundation (currently \$1,000, increase of \$200). This is a total of \$1,600 of the \$7,700.
- Since Santa Clara Presbyterian Church in Cuba has just been added to International Benevolence, the committee voted to set aside \$600 to assist that church in 2024; a total of \$600 of the \$7,700.
- In addition, the committee voted to increase existing recipients of Local Benevolence to \$1,200 in 2024: Center for Women & Families at Coalition (currently \$700, increase \$500); Christian Service Center (currently \$900, increase \$300); Health Care Center for Homeless (currently \$900, increase \$300); a total of \$1,100 of the \$7,700.
- ♦ The committee voted to award the 2 new Local Outreach organizations (IDignity and SALT) with \$900 to each group in 2024; a total of \$1,800 of the \$7,700.
- Finally, the Compassion Committee voted to send the remainder of the \$7,700 to *Transitions Orphan Assistance Foundation*, Ukraine, to support families that have fled to Germany and are in need of transportation and medical assistance; a total of \$2,600 of the \$7,700.

The Compassion Committee sincerely thanks the Budget and Finance Committee for this generous gift. We are committed to spread it diligently and quickly.

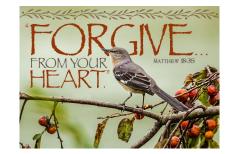


I am amazed at how anyone can hold hurts in their hearts towards someone. Jesus has forgiven us all our hurts towards him and nothing compares to that.

Sometimes it is a struggle to forgive but it is important to remember that we have no reason to hold anything against anyone because God forgives us. Our Lord gives plentiful teaching on this subject; he shared with his disciples about forgiveness many times.

The act of forgiving will never make a wrong right, but we are never to hold sins against others. The hurt, pain, and memory may still be there, but even if someone does not apologize, we must release them so we ourselves are not in bondage. Prison is a very sad place to live. Many believers live in a prison of unforgiveness. Even when the abuser repents, the abused still hold onto the hurt. The greatest hurts can sometimes come from those who are closest to us. One brother who was a co-leader for a Church movement said to me of the main leader, "He has loved me the most of anyone but also hurt me the most." When we open ourselves up to a deep relationship and respect, we also open ourselves up for the greatest disappointments and hurts. The humanness of men will fail and offend even the most anointed and wonderful Christian leader will fail at points. In marriages, friendships, work situations, we have suffered great hurts and disappointments. Such things done against us are not only hard to be forgiving but at times we feel to forgive would be wrong and we find reasons to seek some sort of retribution towards the individual.

Whether it's a simple spat with your spouse or long-held resentment toward a family member or friend, unresolved conflict can go deeper than you may realize—it may be affecting your physical health. The good news: Studies have found that the act of forgiveness can reap huge rewards for your health, lowering the risk of heart attack; improving cholesterol levels and sleep; and reducing pain, blood pressure, and levels of anxiety, depression and stress. And research points to an increase in the forgiveness-health connection as you age.



"There is an enormous physical burden to being hurt and disappointed," says Karen Swartz, M.D., director of the Mood Disorders Adult Consultation Clinic at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Chronic anger puts you into a fight-or-flight mode, which results in numerous changes in heart rate, blood pressure and immune response. Those changes, then, increase the risk of depression, heart disease and diabetes, among other conditions. Forgiveness, however, calms stress levels, leading to improved health.

Forgiveness is not just about saying the words. "It is an active process in which you make a conscious decision to let go of negative feelings whether the person deserves it or not," Swartz says. As you release the anger, resentment and hostility, you begin to feel empathy, compassion and sometimes even affection for the person who wronged you. People who are just naturally more forgiving tend to be more satisfied with their lives and to have less depression, anxiety, stress, anger and hostility. People who hang on to grudges, however, are more likely to experience severe depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), as well as other health conditions. But that doesn't mean that they can't train themselves to act in healthier ways.

Forgiveness is a choice, Swartz says. "You are choosing to offer compassion and empathy to the person who wronged you." When we do not forgive, we become bitter. Writer Anne Lamotte is quoted as saying "Bitterness is like eating rat poison and then waiting for the rat to die." We have all offended at some point and, in the end, we have all pierced and hurt the Son of God himself. Only Jesus can take away our pain and give us the grace to truly forgive.

-Wendy Stafford, WPPC Health Care Coordinator wendys@winppc.org or 321-422-8883

Deacons' Den Rewriting Your Life Debbie Pauzar

Writing anything that is important, something you want to express and share with others, is hard work. Rarely do our words flow into a masterpiece on the first try. It takes a lot of revising, changing and rewriting to improve upon our first draft. But by the end of all our efforts, it can become a beautiful, God-inspired gift, a communication, from His heart and yours, to another person's heart.

Life is a lot like writing. For what you think, say and do is your way of writing "The Story of Your Life".

But there is a problem. How can you *rewrite* your words that were so carelessly, cluelessly or intentionally spoken? How can you change self-centered actions? How can you revise what you should have done in the past... but chose not to? We call such things regrets: "I should have... could have...but I didn't".

Our story takes a dark turn when relationships are broken. If we are wise, we recognize our part in the brokenness but then find ourselves living with the pain of loss. We can't go back and rewrite the past.

Dear Church Family, only through God are all things possible. He will help you rewrite your story:

By trusting in the Lord, believing in His Word, regrets become powerful prayers of repentance.

God responds to our desire to rewrite our story with Grace. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt. We are forgiven.

Though we have accepted God's gift of Grace and are forgiven, the brokenness remains. We still wish to go back and rewrite the past. Yet how can we forgive ourselves...forgive others, for the pain we have all caused?

God can do the impossible. Through repentance & Grace, He is changing your innermost being.

Though you will continue to make regretful mistakes, Restoration & Joy will come from

the visible and spiritual changes as you evolve into His Masterpiece!

As His beloved child, your story can be rewritten in a new chapter, to repair relationships, to make amends. So, strive to obey God's Commandments. Then, seek forgiveness from those you have harmed. Love them as He loves us. Forgive those who have harmed you.

Relationships full of forgiveness & love, can be restored.

Just as our relationship with the Lord has been restored

through His Loving Grace.

But for those who are no longer living, we have no way to make amends. So, what do we do?

Accept God's forgiveness. He knows your heart. He sees your deep repentance. He doesn't want you to keep living in the pain of shame, broken relationships and unforgiveness. Let Him help you rewrite your story, to change how you choose to live each day going forward.

Forgiveness of oneself and others begins with this truth:

Forgiveness of oneself and others begins with this truth: No one is perfect. "There is no one that is good, not even one." (Ps 14: 3). Only Jesus was perfect and without sin!

So, hold on to these truths: God has forgiven you.

He perfectly loves all His imperfect children.

Amazing Grace Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace Amazing Grace

Honor His Sacrifice, His Gift of Grace. Let Him live in and through you.

Together, as your story is rewritten, His mercy and love defeats brokenness. Christ-like love is the only way to forgive yourself and to forgive others.

Choose to live the rewritten masterpiece He is creating you to be!



Who helped Samuel understand that it was the Lord calling him in the night?

- A. his mother, Hannah
- B. Moses
- C. his father, Elkanah
- D. Eli



Answer: D (See 1 Samuel 3:1-10.)

Puzzle!

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV). Put the words in order on the spaces below to complete the Bible verse.

JOHN 6:35

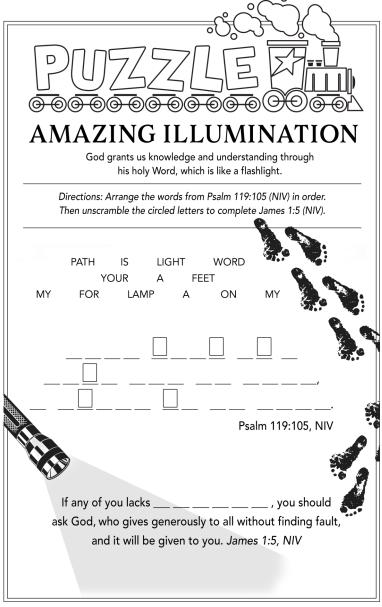
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 -John 6:35, NIV





Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool

September Newsletter

WELCOME BACK

We are so happy to be back in school and seeing all the smiling faces! We have new families that have joined us this year and are getting to know them while we also reconnect with our returning families. As we continue to build our preschool community we are committed to providing the best care for all of the children.

Chapel Program

Every Wednesday the children will gather in the sanctuary to listen and learn about the wonderful things that God does for all of us.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart"

Proverbs 3:5

What'S NEW?

We are proud to announce that we have finished up the construction of our new rooms and will open up our new Preschool Library/Music room! Art and enrichments will also begin in September!

What's Happening this month

Grandparents Day Breakfast September 9th

Open House
September 12th 5:30pm-7:30pm
This is a great time for parents and families to take a glimpse of what their child is learning and doing in their classrooms.

Community Helper Week September 16th -20th

Mommy and Son Dance September 20th

> Fall Clean-up September 28th

DUR PRESCHOOL STAFF



Nicole Fye Director



Rosaura Velazquez Assistant Director



Katie Daniels Admin. Assistant



Brandi Schroeder Art



Gretchen Griffin Infants Teacher



Macu Corcho Infants Assistant



Maria Vanegas One's Teacher



Gianna Mehrtens One's Assistant



Mallory Veltman Two's Teacher



Gail Cannaday Two's Assistant



Jessica Valentin Two's Teacher



Kyky Vera Two's Assistant

DUR PRESCHOOL STAFF



Terri Spears Three's Teacher



Delaney Pickett Three's Assistant



Aida Nassar Three's Teacher



Helene Rothell Three's Assistant



Marjie Hutchinson VPK Teacher



Marty Hall VPK Assistant



Melissa Booth VPK Teacher



Skye Kendrick VPK Assistant



Cecilia Osborn Floater



Valerie Beltrán Children's Min. Coord.



Adam Davies Maintenance





WPPC will NOT be serving at the Coalition in June, July, August, and September.

We will start collecting donations and signing up volunteers again in September.



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 / Anna Caparis 707-889-4768	Wed 10/2 9:00-11:00 AM					
Prepare meal / Anna Caparis 707-889-4768	Thurs 10/3 9:30-11:30 AM					
Bag brownies / Wendy Jamison 407-739-7858	Fri 10/4 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 10/4 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 10/4 4:00-7:00 PM NOTE: The church bus is reserved for this function.					
Cleanup kitchen: Wash, sanitize items used; store supplies	Fri 10/4 7:00-7:30 PM					
Financial Donation : Make check out to WPPC; note on the memo line "Coalition for the Homeless" - mail to WPPC or bring to the church office.	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

Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida is a Compassion Committee Ministry.



9/1 Edna Jordan

<u>9/2</u>

Rachel Myers Victoria Snyder

9/5

Larry Morse

9/10

Barbara Lane

<u>9/13</u>

Ray Schieber

9/16

Myrna Ham

<u>9/19</u> John Evans

9/21

Nicholas Frallicciardi Dona Stepp

9/22

Wendy Jamison Teresa Kountz

9/23

Barbara Halterman

9/25

Debby Roberts 🕖

9/26

Norman Hittinger

9/27

Warren Deatrick

<u>9/28</u>

Bill Branch

9/30

Mike Galyean
Dee Mamone
Nancy Ocque
Andy Riccio
Paula Smathers
Jim Spivey

10/2 Abigail Lee

10/9

Jerry Fitzgerald Frank Jamison

10/10

Karen Plater

10/14

Rusty Baldwin

10/17

Shirley Portz

10/18

Carolyn Boyle

<u>| 10/19</u>

Camden Dreasher

<u>| 10/20</u>

Ann McIntosh

10/26

Carolyn Arnold

10/27

Alan Woods

10/29

Bette Blanchfield







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
 Valerie Beltrán, Children's Ministry Coordinator
 Wendy Stafford, Health Care Coordinator
 Adam Davies, Sexton
 Nicole Fye, Director of Preschool Programs

Rosaura Velazques, Assistant Director of Preschool Programs
 Katie Daniels, Preschool Administrative Assistant

SESSION

2024

Mike Galyean John Gehrig Jayne Leach Audrey Santiago Sara Van Arsdel

2025

Theresa Coker Mary Ferguson Cathy House Glenn Riccio Ron Thompson

2026

Syd Davis Betty Johnston Shaheed Mohammed Nelson Roe

DIACONATE

2024

Lisa Dreasher Jerry Fitzgerald Nancy Galyean Andy Riccio

2025

Meg Baldwin Anna Caparis Lynne McKnight Debbie Pauzar Deborah Roberts

<u>2026</u>

Ernestine Beattie Sue Howard

MISSIONARIES

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