

Church of the Palms

Worship

January 2, 2011

“Equipping Disciples for the Service of Christ”



Need someone to talk to? A Stephen Minister can help, 924-1323

Need to hear a prayer or have someone pray for you?

Call the Prayer Line 924-9979

3224 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota, Florida 34239

Phone: (941) 924-1323 Fax: (941) 923-9594 - www.churchofthepalms.org

9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Worship broadcast live on Comcast Channel 189.

(Church Copyright License for all Music #706640)

Welcome to Worship at Church of the Palms

Whether you are a member or affiliate member of our church, a frequent attendee, or a first time visitor, we are glad you are here and invite you to participate in the many opportunities for worship, growth, and service. If you would like to learn more about the church, are considering how you might be involved, or are ready to make a deeper commitment through membership, we invite you to contact Pastor Tim Reynolds, 924-1323. The next orientation is January 9, at 10:15 a.m. in the Chapel Reception Room. Pre-registration is not required and you are welcome to attend.

Stephen Ministers

Stephen Ministers are trained, caring Christians who know how to listen and support people in crisis. If either you or someone you know would like a Stephen Minister's help, contact Dr. Bruce Hedgepeth, 924-1323.

Sanctuary Worship Aids - For your convenience, there are large-print copies of the Order of Worship and hearing devices that may be helpful as well. Packets containing worship activities designed for children are also available at the entrances to the Sanctuary and Campus Center. An usher can assist you with these needs.

Sermon Text - Copies of previous sermon text brochures are available in the Narthex in plastic tiered holders, the Campus Center, at the Welcome Center and in the Administration Building.

Televised Worship Service

On Sunday mornings our 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary worship service is broadcast on Comcast Cable Channel 189. For those who do not have Comcast, a video copy of the sermon is uploaded to our website the following Monday before noon. There is also an archive of sermons available on the website. DVD's of the entire service are available for purchase by calling the Church office. You may also watch the live video stream of our 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary worship service on our website, www.churchofthepalms.org.

In Memoriam

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Richard "Dick" Hart, who died December 19, 2010.

The Garden @ Church of the Palms

Modern Worship – Ancient Truth – Spiritual Growth

9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Gathering Around The Word

Call to Worship

Words of Welcome

Songs of Praise & Thanksgiving

Greeting One Another

Proclaiming The Word

Scripture Reading

Prayers of Supplication & Intercession

Songs for Illumination

Proclamation

The Garden Vision

Pastor Tim Reynolds

Responding To The Word

Celebration of the Eucharist

Invitation to Discipleship

Response of the People

The morning offering and gifts may be placed in the garden pail on your table or in the watering cans near the entrance. Canned goods for the food pantry may be placed in the wheelbarrow up front.

Today we will celebrate “Kidz in the Garden” at the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Garden. This will be a children’s worship experience in The Garden led by and designed especially for children, with music and a message specifically geared towards the youngest among us from kindergarten through 5th grade. We look forward to having you join us as worship in The Garden becomes truly inter-generational every first Sunday! If your child would like to participate in leading worship (or you would like your child to!), sign-up sheets will be available at the entrance of the Campus Center.

*Communion in The Garden @ Church of the Palms is received via intinction. When instructed by the Pastor, please proceed to the center aisle. Upon reaching the Table, break off a piece of bread, proceed to the cup on the side on which you are seated, and dip the bread in the cup. Anyone needing to be served in their seat is asked to remain seated; you will be served where you are.

Following the service, Pastor Tim will be available in front of the stage for anyone with comments, questions or concerns.

Worship in the Sanctuary

Second Sunday After Christmas

9:15 and 11:00 a.m.

WE GATHER

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(9:15 a.m.) Bob Baarson

(11:00 a.m.) Marty Guice

All blessing and honor be to you, Holy God, for the wisdom and insight you have offered us in Jesus Christ. Through him, the mystery of your will is becoming clearer to us. You introduce us to life in all its fullness, lived in the light of your grace and truth. Thank you for this holy season. Continue, we pray, to reveal yourself to us in this hour. Amen.

PRELUDE

“Go Tell It On The Mountain”

Spiritual

“I Wonder As I Wander”

John Jacob Niles

“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”

Robert MacGimsey

Barbara Dirks, Flute

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #63

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

*SENTENCES OF PRAISE

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

Save your people, God of goodness and light. You have blessed us with the peace of Christmas, but we reject your gift in our frantic striving. You destine us for adoption, but we go our own way. You send the Holy Spirit to lead us, but we block our awareness of your will for us in favor of our own selfish ambition. Restore to us the ability to discern and respond to the light you offer, we pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (together)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose
again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right
hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the commu-
nion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and
the life everlasting. Amen.**

WE SHARE

WORDS OF GREETING

(Please sign and pass the red covered friendship pad at the end of the pew.)

OFFERTORY

**"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"
Chancel Choir; Barbara Dirks, Flute**

J.S. Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round Thy throne.

Thro' the way where hope is guiding,
Hark, what peaceful music rings;
Where the flock, in Thee confiding,
Drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure;
Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead Thine own
In the love of joys unknown.

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 20:1-17 (Pew Bible O.T. p. 66)
Matthew 22:34-40 (Pew Bible N.T. p. 25)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Who’s In Your Corner?” Dr. Stephen D. McConnell

HYMN#66 (seated) “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Words of Institution
Prayers of Thanksgiving and Consecration
The Lord’s Prayer (together)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Distribution of the Elements
Music During Communion

“Mary’s Little Boy Child”
Barbara Dirks, Flute

Jester Hairston

Prayer of Praise

WE GO

***HYMN #379**

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** (together)

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

POSTLUDE

*Congregation, please stand if able.

Worship Leaders in the Sanctuary Today

Dr. Stephen D. McConnell	Senior Pastor
Dr. Bruce Hedgepeth	Executive Pastor
Rev. Phil Bliss	Visitation Pastor
Rev. Fred Marsh	Visitation Pastor
John W. Ferreira, C.A.G.O.	Director of Music Ministries

Call to Prayer

Would you get up early to pray for your pastors?
Join us Sunday mornings, 8:00-9:00 a.m. - Chapel Study (leave when you must)
Questions? Contact Margarete Bliss, (941) 359-6688

Sunday Mornings for Children - 8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School Childcare

Nursery	Room 101
Toddlers & Two Year Olds	Room 103
Three Year Olds	Room 103B

Children in PreK and Kindergarten begin their day in the Chapel for music at 9:00 a.m. After music they will be brought to their class. Parents are to pick them up at 10:15 a.m. from their class.

Pre-K	Room 105
Kindergarten	Room 114

Faith Boosters – 1st through 5th Grades

Begin your day in the Chapel for “Gathering Time.” A light breakfast will be served. Today we will have a special presentation of the Veggies Tales movie “The Wonderful Wizard of Ha’s.” Parents of 1st and 2nd graders, please pick up your son/daughter immediately after your Church service in the Chapel.

1st - 5th Grades	Room 207
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**Parents – See what your children are doing in class and find suggestions on what you can do at home to enrich your child’s learning experience. Go to www.churchofthepalms.org. Under “Families” click on “Children & Parents” go down the right hand side to “S’MORE GOD.” Click there to get to that page.

**Attention 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade students. Our “Bible Booster” program continues today. Remember to bring your Bibles with you each and every Sunday. Find out more details during “Gathering Time.”

Nursery care available - 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Room 101

Childcare for children age 2 - 7 available - 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Room 108

Children’s Choirs

God’s Kids Choir - 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel - Pre-K and Kindergarten.

Kids of the Kingdom Choir - 10:15 a.m. in the Chapel - 1st - 5th Grades.

If you have questions about the children’s choirs, please contact Judy Lutes, 921-4330 or jlutes@churchofthepalms.org.

“Sunday Morning Sabbath” for Middle and High School Youth

9:00 a.m. - Get refreshed, refocused, and renewed in the Lord. High school students meet in Room 208/210 and middle school students meet in Room 209 for worship and interaction before separating into age appropriate Bible study and discussion.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Seeds of Faith - Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - Room 211

Christianity: The First Three Centuries. How could a tiny, tortured faith become the most successful phenomenon in all of history? During its first three hundred years from Christ to Constantine, the Christian church struggled with external persecution and internal heresy! This new 8-week series features well-known historian Dr. Paul Maier. We begin this week by examining our “Sources of Information” - the New Testament, Roman authors, Josephus, the church fathers, and Eusebius, “the Father of Church History.” Next week will focus on Jesus of Nazareth - What Else Do We Know? (Messianic prophecies, the genealogies, John the Baptist, Pontius Pilate, Joseph Caiaphas). We expect this interesting journey into the past to provide us with insights for effective discipleship today. Please join us!

Christians Under Construction - Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - Room 209

With the New Year, we begin a study of the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Barbara Hohenshil leads the presentation and discussion based on “The Mystery of the Holy Spirit,” by R.C. Sproul, a leading Reformed theologian. Barbara also will draw on a work by Katherine Marshall, “The Helper.” In February, Tom Webber will lead a discussion of “Church and State - from Revolutionary times to the present.”

Book Group - Sunday, January 16, 3:00 p.m. Chapel Reception Room

Are you ready for quality reading and enjoyable, faith-energizing discussion with inviting people? Our discussion book for January is [The Red Tent](#) by Anita Diamant. This is the historical fiction account of Dinah, based on Genesis 34 in the Bible. The story is told from Dinah’s perspective, even though in the Biblical account no actual words of hers were recorded. This Old Testament woman’s culture and trials, strength and wisdom, are vividly portrayed in ways that can enable people everywhere to better discover those vital aspects of life that we all share. In this new year, won’t you join us? You would be most welcome! We meet each month, choose in advance the faith-based books we’d like to read, and have wonderful, enlightening discussions. Questions? You are encouraged to contact Doris Kamphuis, 360-8474, rakamphuis@aol.com or Suzanne Butsch, 378-3412, rando250@verizon.net.

Adult Spiritual Formation (continued)

Men's Study and Breakfast - Tuesday, 7:00 a.m. At the Dutch Heritage Restaurant on Bahia Vista Street; just east of Beneva Road. We begin with prayer for one another and others, followed by Bible study on the Gospel of John. Led by Dale Vollrath.

Ladies Prayer Group - Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. - Room 211

Ladies! Praying for adult children? Need encouragement? Join us for prayer. Questions? Contact Margarete Bliss, 359-6688.

**C.S. Lewis Reading Group Led by Dr. McConnell
Tuesday, January 4, 6:00 p.m. - Chapel Reception Room**

We will be discussing Chapter 5 of The Four Loves by C.S. Lewis. Newcomers are welcome.



Men's Bible Study - Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. - Chapel Reception Room

Join us in our study of the Gospel of Matthew. The Men's Bible Study has been a regular program since the formation of Church of the Palms in 1957. Led by Tom Webber and Rev. Fred Marsh.

Faith at Work - Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - Chapel Reception Room

Faith at Work has begun a new six-session investigation of the toughest objections to Christianity. This video-based series, "The Case for Faith," deals with those nagging questions and doubts that keep people from believing in Christ of fully committing themselves to him. How do we as believers grow in faith with our own lingering doubts at the same time? Join us in our study as we explore faith and reason. Moderators: Ben and Bernie Morgan.

Wednesday Dinner - January 5, 5:00 p.m. - Campus Center

Join us for food, fun and fellowship. Adults \$8.00; Youth \$4.00; Children \$3.00; Toddlers 2 and under - free. Fill out your reservation cards in the pew rack or call the Church office, 924-1323 or make your reservation online, www.churchofthepalms.org. Deadline: noon on Tuesdays.

Adult Spiritual Formation (continued)

Wednesdays @ 6:12 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Why 6:12 p.m.? Because Leviticus 6:12 says that the fire on the altar should never go out. These spiritual formation classes are designed to keep the fire in our hearts burning so that we go out into the world to serve in the name of Christ.

January/February – Beginning January 5, Dr. Steve McConnell will teach a series on The Parables of Jesus that will continue up to the beginning of Lent. Jesus used stories to communicate the truth of God's love, the reality of God's Kingdom, and the demands of following him. These stories are still read, studied, and told today by those who follow Jesus because the depth and many facets they contain continue to inspire, equip, and instruct us, even over 2,000 years later. What makes these stories so special? So relevant? So timeless? Please join Dr. McConnell for this enlightening and informative look at Jesus' parables as we continue to be inspired and instructed by them in the 21st century.

January 5 – The point of a parable - II Samuel 12:1-7, Luke 10: 25-37

January 12 – Parables of the lost and found - Luke 15

January 19 – Parables of "the moment" - Matthew 25 and Luke 12:16-21

Companions in Christ - Thursday, 6:30 p.m. - Room 209

22-Week Session - Walk with a group of traveling companions as you are introduced to the Companions in Christ program which is a small-group study that nurtures the progress of spiritual formation. In this study you will embrace spiritual formation as a journey, be introduced to several ways of meditation and praying with scripture, learn various forms and styles of prayer, discuss your call to service, and explore spiritual guidance. This class is now closed, please watch for announcements of future opportunities being offered through Companions in Christ, or contact Fee Mercer, 371-8091 or pmercerc10@comcast.net for more information.

Friday Morning Bible Study - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - Room 211

We resume on January 21 with a study of the Minor Prophets led by Pastor Tim Reynolds. If you would like to join the group, please contact Barbara Zeller, 378-3306 or email barzel@comcast.com.

Start the New Year Off Right with Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

What would your life look like if you had NO DEBT and were really IN CONTROL of your money? Most people struggle to make ends meet. They just have too much month left at the end of the money. If you have made mistakes and feel like your money vanishes each month, you are not alone. In fact, 70% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck, regardless of income. Financial Peace University is designed to teach you and your family how to get out of debt, stay out of debt, and build wealth. What's



more, you will learn how to do this according to biblical principles. You'll meet with your class each week to watch the video lesson and participate in discussion and accountability groups that will change your whole attitude about money! Dave breaks through the common financial jargon and explains how money really works in a simple, easy-to-understand style. You'll actually have fun as you learn about saving, budgeting, investing, giving, insurance, and more! FPU is, without a doubt, the best program available for personal finance. There will be two free preview classes with a question and answer session on Sunday, January 9 at 12:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Campus Center. You may also learn more by visiting www.daveramsey.com or speaking with Pastor Tim Reynolds (treyolds@churchofthepalms.org / 941.924.1323) These 2-hour life-changing classes begin on Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 208-210 and will run for 13 weeks. Class size is limited to the first 40 people due to space, so please register early.

Have You Been Hearing God Calling?

Yes, calling YOU! Have you felt a gentle touch upon your shoulder, a gentle nudge, a prompting of being His hands here on earth reaching out to those in need. There is a lot of work that needs attention in God's kingdom. Stephen Ministry is our congregation's one-on-one caregiving ministry. God works through Stephen Ministers to plant a seed of hope and healing in a person whose life seems barren and forlorn because of some crisis or tragedy. Through listening, praying, maintaining strict confidentiality, and sharing Christ's love, you will walk beside your Care Receiver towards healing and wholeness.

A Stephen Ministry training class is scheduled to begin January 15. If you feel called to this one-on-one caring ministry, or simply would like more information, I encourage you to:

- visit our Church of the Palms web site www.churchofthepalms.org
- contact Pastor Bruce Hedgepeth, 924-1323 or
- contact Fee Mercer, 371-8091, pmercer10@comcast.net

Stephen Ministers, through their one-on-one care and support, help to bridge the gap between God and those feeling alienated from His presence.

Do You Want To Get Into S.H.A.P.E.?

As we strive to become a place where Disciples are Equipped for the Service of Christ, we want to provide you with another opportunity to discover your unique S.H.A.P.E. (Spiritual Gifts, Heart-passions, Abilities, Personalities, Experiences). Learning about your special gifts is an important step in being equipped for the service of Christ. We believe that service to others not only gives your life deeper meaning, but it is also a key component to spiritual growth. Please join us in the Campus Center from 6:00-9:00 p.m. on Friday, February 4 and 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 5. Light refreshments will be provided, along with a lunch on Saturday. Register for the course online by January 26 and register for childcare if needed, by January 21. www.churchofthepalms.org/shape.html Please contact Bob Baarson, 400-9391 or email Baarson@comcast.net with any questions.

Thanks For Ringing The Salvation Army Bells

We had well over 150 Church of the Palms volunteers ring the Salvation Army bells at Macy's and Publix. What a wonderful response for a truly wonderful cause! Thank you for representing our church in the community in such a beautiful way. The Salvation Army wants to thank the many churches of all denominations and the many civic organizations who participated in the bell ringing program this year. We will have an opportunity to meet many of the clients who benefitted from the kettle program. We will also hear David Sutton speak about all of the many ways the Salvation Army is making a difference in this community. The Bell Ringer Volunteer Appreciation Rally will be held on January 9 at 3:00 p.m. at Church of Hope located North of Fruitville Road off of Richardson Rd. (1560 Wendell Kent Road, 34240). Help us represent Church of the Palms at this rally as we celebrate and learn more about the highlights of this bell season. RSVP by January 3 to 364-8845 X222. Thank you.

Kick Off The New Year With A Commitment Of Time

If you have the time, would you consider tithing it for the service of Christ? Time Tithers are persons who have made a private and personal covenant with God, promising Him that they will, on average, devote at least one-tenth of their discretionary time to studying his Word and doing his work. They strive to use their God-given gifts in service to others. Some of the projects they do to help and serve others in our community include installing grab bars (#1 job request), basic plumbing, Comcast box installation and minor home repairs. If you know of anyone, who needs some helping hands or if you are interested in learning more about becoming a Time Tither, please contact the Time Tither's cell phone, 927-8585 or email timetithers@aol.com

Bridge

Bridge meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel Reception Room on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Please RSVP to Bam Justice, 343-0521.

Give a Gift of Time to Back to Basics Tutoring

Consider giving a gift of at least one hour per week to tutor one of the students on the waiting list and use your God given gifts of teaching, listening, encouraging and caring. Tutors are needed to tutor students in 1st to 12th grade in subjects ranging from elementary reading, math and writing to high school algebra, geometry, precalculus, chemistry, biology and Spanish. This one hour or more could be on Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. or between 4:30 and 7:00 p.m. and/or Thursday between 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. when tutoring begins again on January 4. Call Ruby Dailey, 922-3294 or talk with her at the tutoring table under the Fellowship tree for more information and to volunteer.



ReHabitat - Final Work Days for 4074 Waikiki Dr. - We Paint!!

It is time to complete our work on the home for the Enriquez family! We need a big turn-out of volunteers on Thursday, January 6 and especially on Saturday, January 8 when we will paint the exterior (pray for good paint weather). On Saturday, January 15 we will finish the job with any final painting and landscaping. The Enriquez family has given notice on their rental home for the end of January, so it is up to us to finish their new home. Look for Tom Webber under the Fellowship Tree or contact him by phone, 379-3500 or email webber.thom@gmail.com.

Ushers Serving You in January

9:15 a.m. - Bill Brandenburg, Paul Goetz, Lee and Grace Greene, Monty Jackson, Bob and Edith Lane, Ann Lang,



Brigitte Lontz, David Lutes, Susan McKinnon, Jim and Betty Mills, Rick Spathelf, Mary Ann Usher, David and Tammy Whalen, Norm and Darlene Yost, Captain: Bob Nerthling.

11:00 a.m. - Elmer Compton, Emily Conklin, Jean Demeritt, Frank and Joyce English, Pat Frazier, Jackie Garn, Keith Hirst, Ben Morgan, Peg Pentz, Jane Delgado Semidei, Eleanor Smith, Carol Spangle, Alex Thompson, Brad Wilson, Co-Captains: Bob Luedeka and Dick Dyer.

Palms' Men Kickoff 2011

Come join us on Saturday, January 22 at 8:00 a.m. for the next Men's Breakfast. After we enjoy breakfast, you'll get to hear from Dr. Bruce Hedgepeth as he shares his journey of faith and the path to Church of the Palms. We will also share more on upcoming men's programs in 2011 and specific opportunities. Tickets are \$6 per person or \$10 for 2 (so invite a guest/friend). If you've joined the church in the past 6 months, come join us ... breakfast is FREE for new church members! Look for the Palms' Men's table under the tree to signup and get more details. On Friday, Feb 25 we have a Friday Night Dinner and program. We'll have a special guest speaker and a great dinner. More details will be coming, but please hold the date. You won't want to miss it.

Join Us For A Trip To “Echo”

One of our church’s mission projects is ECHO (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization). It is a Christian interdenominational organization located on a demonstration farm in North Ft. Myers. The Global Farm allows ECHO to provide resources through networking to missionaries and agricultural workers in over 180 countries. ECHO’s mission is to fight hunger worldwide through innovative ideas, information, agricultural training and a seed bank which provides seeds and plants suited to a country’s climate. ECHO recruits 10 interns each year from christian colleges for a one year internship program so that they are equipped to carry their practical experience to places of desperate need around the world. A trip is planned for Saturday, January 15 on our church bus. The bus will leave the church at 9:15 a.m. and return around 3:00 p.m. Come, see first-hand a local mission that is making an impact against poverty and hunger worldwide. Learn more and sign up under the tree or contact Helen Dickinson, 923-0125 for more information.

Women’s Exercise - Firm Believers

Osteopenia: A significant decrease in bone mineral density.

Osteoporosis: Loss of bone mass that occurs throughout the skeleton, predisposing to fractures.

Exercise strengthens your bones! Side to side and forward/backward movement increases the benefit. Exercise improves general strength and stability while it decreases stress and lowers blood pressure. So...what are you waiting for? The women’s exercise class meets in the Campus Center on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m., Monday and Wednesday at 9:45 a.m. and Friday at 9:30 a.m. for stretch and strengthen. The cost is \$15 per month. Your instructor is Ethel Webb, Certified Senior Fitness Instructor, Retired RN. For more information, call Ethel at 924-2765 or just come observe or try the class.

Hospitality Update

Have you noticed our new Campus Greeters and Guides with the yellow umbrellas? How about the new location of the Welcome Center? The Hospitality Team has been pouring energy into some existing ministries as well as implementing some new ministries to make everyone feel like they are at “The Most Loving Place in Town” whenever they arrive at Church of the Palms. We received nearly 300 responses from people who were willing to serve in this ministry area. We have attempted to contact everyone who was interested in serving. If you had filled out a yellow Hospitality sheet and weren’t contacted or if you are interested in learning more about where you can offer your smile and servant’s heart, please call Laurie Haas, 924-1323 or email LHaas@churchofthepalms.org.

Resurrection House Helps the Homeless

Resurrection House is very fortunate to be known by the members of Church of the Palms. We are one of the few churches or organization to remember them all year long with needed donations of every kind, including one way bus tickets. Thank you for all of the needed Christmas donations to keep the homeless warm. Just think if you were homeless, what would you need? Please continue to place your donations in the reception area of the Administration Office. Thank you for caring!

Perlman Music Program “Works In Progress” Recital

Free tickets are available now for the Perlman Music Program “Works In Progress” Recital, Tuesday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Featuring gifted musicians, ages 12-20+ from around the world led by internationally acclaimed concert violinist and conductor, Itzhak Perlman and his wife, Toby Perlman. All ages are welcome to attend. Free tickets are available in the Church office. Please contact John Ferreira, 376-6233, for more information.

Presbyterian Women’s Luncheon

The next Presbyterian Women’s luncheon Gathering will be January 14 at 11:30 a.m. This will be a baby shower for Healthy Start. Please bring an unwrapped new present for sizes preemies or new born. The shower is sponsored by Presbyterian Women’s Bassinet Ministry and the Priscilla Circle. Reservations are \$10.00 and can be made under the Fellowship tree on January 2 and 9. No reservations will be taken after January 9.

No Child Left Behind

Each year, at Emma E. Booker Elementary, it is a indisputable fact that no child, in the very youngest grades, get’s ‘left behind’ at Christmas. Because of the generosity of the women’s circles of the Church of the Palms and others, over 200+ children, each year, receive colorful, filled, holiday stockings. In the past ten years this Stocking Program has reached and brought joy to over 2,200 of Sarasota’s neediest children. From the bottom of my heart I send each of you my deepest thanks. I believe we are serving Him well. Sincerely, Dee Webber, Church of the Palms member.

Philippians: Mastering Life’s Deathly Hallows A Garden Sermon Series

The letter to the Philippians was a real letter written to real people dealing with real life. The Apostle Paul, writing from jail, instructs the little community of believers in Philippi on how to find confidence, joy, peace, contentment and true happiness in the midst of difficulty, adversity, hardship, worry and anxiety. These are lessons that still apply today. Join us in The Garden beginning January 9 for a 9-week series entitled, “Philippians: Mastering Life’s Deathly Hallows” and discover how to respond faithfully when life is happening all around you.

Family In-town Retreat

Don't miss the family in-town retreat on February 11-12 led by Family Builders facilitator, Tony Camp. The action-packed workshops will take place here at church on Friday night, and at the YMCA all day Saturday, including a wall-climbing/ropes course event. Tony will teach us the skills to keep parent-child communication open, fun, and loving! Children and student ministry is teaming up to bring families this exciting family bonding experience. Call 924-1323 for more details and to sign up!

Parents' Night Out

On January 29, children from birth to 2nd grade are invited to come to Parents' Night Out from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Children will enjoy a light supper and time playing and doing crafts while parents enjoy an evening out. Registration forms, can be found online, under the tree, or in the office, and \$5 per child are due by January 24.

Kids' Night Out

On January 29, kids in grades 3-5 are invited to come to Kids' Night Out from 5:00-8:00 p.m. They will help to prepare meals which will be frozen and distributed at a later date to families served by our Food Pantry. Thanks for your help kids! Registration forms, can be found online, under the tree, or in the office, and \$5 per child are due by January 24.

Family Fun Night

GO TEAM GO! Get ready for a football themed Family Fun Night in the Campus Center on January 21 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, kids, and neighbors come join us for a night of football themed activities and a movie. Bring your family team spirit!

For more information or to RSVP for children's events, please contact Debby Wendell, 924-1323 or email dwendell@churchofthepalms.org.

Middle School Pulse

Pulse will resume regular meetings on Wednesday nights on January 12.

High School Student Ministry

Thirty-Three will resume on January 9 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Calling All 8th Graders

For The 2011 Confirmation Class!

The Confirmation/Commissioning process for 8th graders who are ready to make a deeper commitment to their faith will begin on January 9, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 208-210. Confirmation classes will be held on Sunday mornings, with a lock-in on January 14. If your 8th grader has not registered yet, please contact the student ministry office.

Feed The Homeless Service Project

Brighten the day of needy people in our community and warm your own heart! Come feed the homeless with the student ministry as part of our ongoing Isaiah 58 Service Project on Saturday, January 8 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Sarasota Dream Center. RSVP to Derek Thompson or Moira Dunn.

For more information or to RSVP for Student Ministry events, please contact Derek Thompson or Moira Dunn, 924-1323 or email dthompson@churchofthepalms.org and mdunn@churchofthepalms.org.

Remember in Prayer

A newly revised weekly list of prayer requests is available on the literature racks, at the doors in the Sanctuary, the Campus Center, and the office. It contains people for whom there is a special concern as well as those who are serving in the military from Church of the Palms and a list of our supported worldwide and local mission projects and missionaries that appreciate our prayers. Our particular prayer request this week is to lift up our new Prayer Anchor efforts for the country of Nigeria as we partner in prayer with Wycliffe Bible Translators and our Wycliffe mission partners, Dale and Carole Hoskins, who work with 24 of the 231 Bible-less people groups in Nigeria.

A Prayer For Your Week

O Lord, our God,

You have spoken to us, your people.

You are the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end
of all there is, was, and ever shall be.

Through generations, people have wandered away from you,

putting their faith and trust in other gods – idols and ideologies:

materialism, self-acclaimed achievements, false teachings,
corrupt leaders, celebrities, fads and trendy creeds contrary
to your commandments.

Open our eyes to recognize and reject anything or anyone which

turns us away from you and your teachings.

You are the One true God, O Holy Father – keep us faithful that

all praise and glory is to you alone. Amen.

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today, Sunday, January 2, 2011

8:00 a.m.	Prayer Meeting	Chapel Study
8:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building
8:45 a.m.	Childcare	Room 101
9:00 a.m.	God's Kids Rehearsal	Chapel
9:00 a.m.	Sunday School	See Page 8
9:00 a.m.	Faith Boosters (Children)	See Page 8
9:00 a.m.	The Garden Worship Service	Campus Center
9:00 a.m.	High School Sabbath	Room 208-210
9:00 a.m.	Middle School Sabbath	Room 209
9:15 a.m.	Seeds of Faith (Adult)	Room 211
9:15 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Kids of the Kingdom Rehearsal	Chapel
10:15 a.m.	Later Service Childcare (ages 2-7)	Room 108
10:30 a.m.	Christians Under Construction (Adult)	Room 209
10:30 a.m.	The Garden Worship Service	Campus Center
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary

Monday, January 3, 2011

Church Office and Food Pantry closed.

4:00 p.m.	Administration and Finance	Room 211
7:00 p.m.	Deacons	Chapel

Tuesday, January 4, 2011

7:00 a.m.	Men's Study and Breakfast	Off Campus
2:30 p.m.	Tutoring	Campus Center
3:45 p.m.	Ladies' Prayer Group	Room 211
5:00 p.m.	Perlman Music Program	Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	Planned Giving Meeting	Room 211
5:30 p.m.	Creative Signers	Music and Arts Building
6:00 p.m.	C.S. Lewis Reading Group	Chapel Reception Room

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	Chapel Reception Room
8:25 a.m.	Women's Exercise	Campus Center
9:45 a.m.	Women's Exercise	Campus Center
11:00 a.m.	P.W. Bible Study	Room 211
4:00 p.m.	Faith at Work	Chapel Reception Room
4:00 p.m.	Building and Grounds Committee	Room 211
5:00 p.m.	Dinner	Campus Center
6:12 p.m.	Wednesdays @ 6:12	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Voice of Mission Meeting	Room 209
7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE (continued)

Thursday, January 6, 2011

7:30 a.m.	ReHabitat Project	Off Campus
2:30 p.m.	Tutoring	Campus Center
6:00 p.m.	The Garden Worship Team	East Meeting Room
6:30 p.m.	Companions in Christ	Room 209
7:00 p.m.	The Garden Worship Rehearsal	Campus Center
7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building
7:15 p.m.	Bridge	Chapel Reception Room

Friday, January 7, 2011

8:25 a.m.	Women's Exercise	Campus Center
9:30 a.m.	Stretching & Strengthening Class	Campus Center

Saturday, January 8, 2011

7:30 a.m.	ReHabitat Project	Off Campus
9:00 a.m.	Student Ministry Service Project	Off Campus

Sunday, January 9, 2011

8:00 a.m.	Prayer Meeting	Chapel Study
8:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building
8:45 a.m.	Childcare	Room 101
9:00 a.m.	God's Kids Rehearsal	Chapel
9:00 a.m.	Sunday School	See Page 8
9:00 a.m.	Faith Boosters (Children)	See Page 8
9:00 a.m.	The Garden Worship Service	Campus Center
9:00 a.m.	High School Sabbath	Room 208-210
9:00 a.m.	Middle School Sabbath	Room 209
9:15 a.m.	Seeds of Faith (Adult)	Room 211
9:15 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Kids of the Kingdom Rehearsal	Chapel
10:15 a.m.	Later Service Childcare (ages 2-7)	Room 108
10:15 a.m.	New Member Orientation	Chapel Reception Room
10:30 a.m.	Confirmation Orientation	Room 208-210
10:30 a.m.	Christians Under Construction (Adult)	Room 209
10:30 a.m.	The Garden Worship Service	Campus Center
10:30 a.m.	Confirmation Orientation	Room 208-210
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Financial Peace University	Campus Center
4:30 p.m.	Praise and Glory Singers Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building
5:30 p.m.	Cry Out for Justice (Student Ministry)	Room 208-210
6:00 p.m.	Financial Peace University	Campus Center
7:00 p.m.	Thirtythree (High School)	Room 208-210