

Church of the Palms

Worship

May 8, 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 in Christ. 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 will be in the summer. Please watch the bulletin for date and time. Pre-registration is not required and you are welcome to attend.

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.

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, you may watch the live video stream of our 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary worship service on our website, www.churchofthepalms.org. 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.

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

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary C. Walters, by her husband Roy W. Walters, Jr. and her children: Roy W. Walters, III, Christine Walters-Crowther, Carolyn W. Fox and Ruth S. Walters.

Sacrament of Baptism

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today at the 9:00 a.m. worship service in the Garden are Cooper Charles Ehrlich, born October 10, 2010, son of Brian and Sharon Ehrlich; and Justin Mark Edwards, born July 7, 2008, son of John and Jennifer Edwards. Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today at the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Garden are Stephanie Marie Horn and Brooke Regina Thompson.

In Memoriam

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Michael Counen, who died May 3, 2011.

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

Pastor Tim Reynolds

Responding To The Word

Songs of Affirmation

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 are placed in the wheelbarrow up front. For more information about programs and activities at Church of the Palms there is a “5-Minute Window” at 8:55 a.m. and 10:25 a.m. in the Campus Center, or you may visit the “Welcome Center” just outside the doors. Following the service, Pastor Tim will be available in front of the stage for anyone with comments, questions or concerns.

2011 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Skye Ambrose

Blaire Bennett

Nicole Victoria Blanchard

Sebastian Lee Branton

Andrew Eric Brown

Keaton Scott Dimick

Stephanie Marie Horn

Alexis James

Garrett Klein

Brooke Regina Thompson

Worship Leadership

Pastor: Tim Reynolds (treynolds@churchofthepalms.org)

Program Director: Steve Lenz (steverlenz@gmail.com)

Technical Director: Mike Bassett (mbass66@verizon.net)

Worship Leader: Megan Mooney (megmooney@hotmail.com)

Worship in the Sanctuary

Third Sunday of Easter

9:15 and 11:00 a.m.

WE GATHER

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(9:15 a.m.) Mary Baker

(11:00 a.m.) Bob Luedeka

Wondrous God, present with us when we do not know it, valuing us when we do not care for ourselves, planting in us the seed of your word even when the soil of our hearts is hard and unyielding, open our eyes to recognize you here. May we sense your presence next to us. May we hear your voice. May we know your touch. May we see you in one another and in the beauty all around us. May your reality emerge deep inside each life, transforming our thoughts and deeds and our relationship with one another. Amen.

PRELUDE

“Called As Partners In Christ’s Service”

John Zundel

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #464

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

*SENTENCES OF PRAISE

INTROIT (9:15 a.m.)

“Jesus Loves Me, Me, Me”

Pennie Aust

God’s Kids: Ann Jones, Director

Jesus loves, Jesus loves, me, me, me.
It’s written in the Bible you see, see, see.
The Bible tells me so, O I know, I know, I know.
Jesus loves, Jesus loves, me, me, me.

Jesus loves, Jesus loves, you, you, you,
It’s written in the Bible you see, see, see.
The Bible tells me so, O I know, I know, I know
Jesus loves, Jesus loves, you, you, you.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

O God, we confess that we rush through our days without recognizing your presence with us. We follow our busy diversions without reference to your will for us. We strive for financial success and personal recognition, while you call for obedience to truth and genuine mutual love. Purify our souls, we pray, and redirect our priorities. May we be born anew through your living and enduring word. In Jesus' name we pray. 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

LIFE AT CHURCH OF THE PALMS

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

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2011 CONFIRMATION CLASS (9:15 a.m.)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY

"Far Above Riches"
Chancel Choir

Tom Fettke

Far above riches, far above honor,
Lasting beauty beyond compare.
She is more noble, she is more precious.
Treasure this one whose life we share.

Woman of honor, priceless companion,
Wife and mother and faithful friend,
Shepherd and servant, teacher and helper,
She lives a love that has no end.

Morning and evening, summer and winter,
Ever faithful and glad to share;
Touching and lifting, tenderly giving,
In her we feel our Father's care.

God of all comfort, fountain of blessing,
Ever loving in all you do.
Thank you for giving far above riches.
Gladly our Father we lift our praise to you.
Gladly we lift our praise to you. Amen.

*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.**

*HYMN #473

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 14:25-33 (Pew Bible N.T. p. 78)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Out of the Nest” Dr. Stephen D. McConnell

WE GO

***HYMN #555** “Now Thank We All Our God”

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
With thee began, with thee shall end the day.
Guard thou the lips from sin, the heart from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name.**

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
Judy Lutes	Assistant Organist

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, 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 and Kindergarten	Room 114
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Faith Boosters – 1st through 5th Grades

Begin your day in the Chapel with food, fellowship, and gathering time. We are beginning a new unit today, “Paul: Who can be a Christian?”. 1st and 2nd graders are to be picked up in the Chapel at 10:15 a.m.

1st & 2nd Grade	Edible	Room 206
3rd Grade	Zoom	Room 207
4th & 5th Grade	Ingenuity	Room 205

**Childcare for children Birth – 2nd Grade
is available from 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. in Room 101**

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 Students

Students worship with their families today.

Adult Spiritual Formation

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

Today we continue the study "Jesus, Lord or Legend." In this series, Dr. Paul L. Maier uses the "three lanes" of geography, archaeology, and history on a journey back to the first century to retell the life of Jesus and the birth of Christianity by building bridges from evidence outside the Bible into the Scriptural record. Each segment of this DVD study is followed by discussion, fellowship, and prayer. Please join us as we learn, share, and pray together.

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

The first century Christians had to suffer for the faith that Jesus was the Messiah. The Book of Hebrews, circulated among the early church, explains why that faith is important for their salvation and exhorts them to persevere in the face of adversity. A famous quote comes from 11:1, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Discussion led by Tom Webber.

Book Group - Sunday, May 15, 3:00 p.m. - Chapel Reception Room

The book we'll be discussing is Sarah by Marek Halter. This Biblical fiction story is based on the Biblical account of Sarah, the wife of Abraham, and their combined journey as they follow the one true God. Everyone is most welcome to join us for this enlightening and enjoyable session! We do plan to continue our monthly discussion opportunities right on through the summer. Questions? You are encouraged to contact Doris Kamphuis, 360-8474, rakamphuis@aol.com or Suzanne Butsch, 378-3412, rando250@verizon.net.

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, 2:00 p.m. - Room 208-210

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, May 10, 6:00 p.m. - Chapel Reception Room

We will be discussing Letters 1-5 of The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. Newcomers are welcome.



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

Beginning a Study of the Book of Hebrews. Origen, a theologian of the early church, wrote that "Only God knows who wrote Hebrews." Luther attributed it to Apollos, a contemporary of the Apostle Paul, who is mentioned in his letters. Regardless, Hebrews is an excellent study - half interpretive and half exhortation to stay firm in the faith. Led by Tom Webber and Rev. Fred Marsh.

Adult Spiritual Formation (continued)

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

Our small group study and fellowship begins a new series, "Old Testament Challenge - Creating a New Community." This audio-based study, narrated by John Ortberg, offers a new discovery of the life-changing relevance of the Old Testament and its relationship to the New Testament. Join us in our faith journey. Ben and Bernie Morgan, moderators.

Wednesday Dinner - May 11, 5:00 p.m. - Campus Center

Join us for a family friendly dinner before the Children's Musical! Donations are appreciated. 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.

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

Now that Easter has come and gone, what does it mean for us to be Easter people? This is precisely the question we will be pondering as our 6:12 classes continue in the Easter season!

May 11 – No class; all are invited to attend the Children's Musical

May 18 & 25 – The Living Spirit

During his last supper with the disciples Jesus said the following in speaking of his impending death: "... I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you." (John 14:15-17) Join Pastor Bruce as we continue in this post-Easter season with a two-week look at the person and work of the Holy Spirit. We'll look together at the mysterious third person of the Trinity, perhaps the least understood and most infrequently discussed topic relating to our Triune God.

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

Friday Morning Bible Study continues the study of the Gospel of Mark. Follow along with us as we study Chapter 14, looking at the "Little Apocalypse", the prediction of the destruction of Jerusalem, and the beginning of the Passion Story.

“A Joyful Noise” Mike Markaverich

Today at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

At this free concert you'll enjoy Mike's unbelievable artistry, infused with a quick sense of humor and strongly inspired by the playing of Art Tatum and Oscar Peterson. Enjoy this solo jazz pianist's performance of songs dedicated to "Mom."



“Life School Musical” Children’s Music Ministry

Wednesday, May 11, 6:30 p.m. in the Campus Center

Have you been to school lately? Are you seeking the Keys to Life? “Life School Musical” will be presented by Kids of the Kingdom on Wednesday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the Campus Center. Life, what a blessed gift from our Lord! Please join the children in the classroom on May 11 as they present the Keys to Life.



“Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior and my hope is in you all day long.” Psalm 25:4-5.

The Hard Sayings of Jesus – A Church of the Palms Sermon Series

Some of Jesus' teachings didn't make sense, especially to the disciples; others were (and still are) controversial; most of them challenged conventional thought. (And still do!) He promised, however, that if we live out what he taught, we will rest on a foundation that will withstand the uncertainties and storms of this life. But can this be done? Is it really possible to live out Jesus' teachings in this culture? Join us in both the Sanctuary and The Garden for a 6-week sermon series entitled “The Hard Sayings of Jesus” as we explore some of the tougher, more difficult, and more controversial sayings of Jesus to examine what he really meant and how it applies to our lives today.

Time Tithers Serve Others

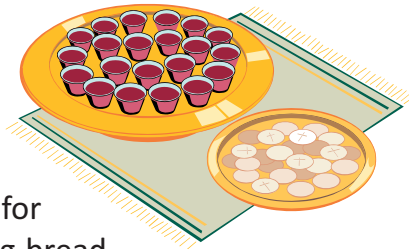
Time Tithers are persons who have made a private and personal covenant with God, promising Him that they will, on average, devote at least one-tenth of their discretionary time to studying his Word and doing his work. They strive to use their God-given gifts in service to others. Some of the projects 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 at 941-927-8585 or email timetithers@gmail.com.

Sharing Your Gifts, Serving With Love

As we live into our mission statement “Equipping Disciples for the Service of Christ” we want to provide you with one place to look where you may find opportunities to fulfill a calling that God has put on your heart. God has gifted each one of us, so it is our responsibility and joy to serve others using these gifts. In doing so, we not only build up the body of Christ, but we grow in spiritual maturity, as well. Keep in mind, there are many ongoing areas to serve within our Church, community and world. If you need more direction, please contact Laurie Haas, 924-1323 who will set you up with a coach to explore other mission and service opportunities.

Invite Some Friends Into a Meaningful Ministry

The Sanctuary Communion Preparation Team is still in need of new members. A team consists of 4-6 people who would be responsible for purchasing and slicing bread, filling bread



trays and cups and helping to clean up after services. The more teams we have, the more folks who get to share in this wonderful ministry. Maybe you have a group of friends who would like to do this important ministry one month of the year. Or would you just like to plug into another group? If you can help in any way, please call Mary Baker, Chair of Music & Worship, 926-2594.

Memorial Service Teams

“Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.” Our Church has a special ministry opportunity for members to assist with ushering and service arrangements for memorial and funeral services. When in grief, we look to God and his people for support. Caring volunteers are being organized to work in teams to usher and assist during the memorial services. If you can offer help for just one month during the year or be on-call as a substitute, we need you. Pray about this important role through which you can serve God. For more information call Pastor Bruce Hedgepeth, 924-1323.

Can You Sew a Panda?

We need to sew a few panda bears to be used as table decorations for Vacation Bible School the week of June 13. After that week, we will donate the bears to our local Fire Department to share with kids they encounter. We will share this special project to serve others with all of our kids at VBS. If you can sew for us, please contact Cindy Lanoue, 922-1826 or email cindy@kangastel.com for the pattern and directions.

Would You Like To Help Welcome Our Visitors?

The heart of the Yellow Umbrella Greeters' ministry is to find and help newcomers to our church and to provide all with a warm welcome. Each Sunday, two to three new visitors have been found and given assistance locating where our services and/or Sunday School are held. Many times these visitors are walked to their destinations which is why you see yellow umbrellas in pairs. There is always someone at a "station." We have been successful only because of the generosity of our members time and spirit. As we go into the summer season, our snowbirds are leaving great holes in schedules and our ability to continue providing umbrella greeters in upcoming months is in jeopardy. Please help us help all who come to worship by calling or emailing either Jeannie Chase (JeanCatherine42@yahoo.com or 685-6305) or Linda Lehman (LLehmanFlorida@gmail.com or 567-6646). Your assistance once a month or as a substitute will help us keep this ministry going year round. Thank you!



Back to Basics Tutoring

The one-on-one tutoring on Tuesdays from 2:30 to 7:00 p.m. and on Thursdays from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. continues in the Campus Center until May 19. Since many of our tutors are returning to their northern homes, additional volunteers are needed for the students they tutor to continue in this ministry. Volunteer tutors are needed in subjects ranging from elementary reading and math to high school algebra, pre-calculus and biology. Stop by the Tutoring table under the Fellowship Tree or call Ruby Dailey, Tutoring Director, 922-3294 for more information or to volunteer.

Resurrection House “Replacing Homelessness with Hopefulness”

A day in the life of the Clients at the ‘Rez’ starts at 8:30 in the morning when the doors open up for registration. The client tells the volunteer at the front desk if they want a shower, have clothes to be washed, need new clothing or need to see a counselor or doctor. The laundry area can do about 80 loads a day and is where they can pick up soap, razors, toothbrushes, and toiletries. The clients are provided with breakfast while waiting for the shower or finished laundry. Some clients need to rush so they can go to their recently acquired job. So goes a typical day at ‘The Rez’. Now that the weather is warming up, RH is in need of summer clothing as well as personal items. A special need is for backpacks, bug spray/wipes, rain gear, and t-shirts. Please drop off your donations in a bag or container marked “RH” in the Administration building. Because of your response, COP is a “caring church.”



Decisions... What should I do with my life? What does God want me to do? How can I know? A Stephen Minister can serve as a listening ear while you explore these questions. Our Stephen Ministers have gone through extensive training because they are committed to providing Christian care for others experiencing many different needs. What’s more, you can rest assured that no one will ever know what is talked about in a caring relationship between you and your Stephen Minister. To find out more about Stephen Ministry, you can use the pew-rack Stephen Ministry request folder or call Pastor Bruce Hedgepeth, 924-1323.

Food Pantry Distribution Center Needs Substitutes

Substitutes are a vital part of the operation of the Food Pantry Distribution Center. Without them it would be impossible to keep the pantry open five days a week. Volunteers to substitute in the food pantry are needed, especially beginning now and until the winter residents return. If you can help during these months please contact Margaret Wenger, 870-3737 or pwenger4@comcast.net.

Presbyterian Women

We are considering holding a summer luncheon the later part of June with a fun type program. If you are interested, contact your circle leader. If you are not in a circle just call Alberta Adams, 924-8464 or leave a note in the PW box in the Church Office.

Honduras Discovery Trip

Plans are underway for an adult familiarization trip to Honduras on September 26-30. This will be a trip of information and discovery for those who have never been to Honduras and wish to experience Church of the Palms' mission partnership there. We will have an informational meeting on Sunday, June 12, for anyone interested in finding out more about what we will see and do while in Honduras. Please join us in the Chapel Reception Room at 10:15 a.m. for a brief meeting between services. At that time we will go over our tentative schedule and answer any questions you might have. If you can't attend the meeting, but want more information, please contact Jan Hunt, 925-3961 or Maxine Perry, 349-3282.

Remember in Prayer

An updated list of our supported worldwide and local mission projects and missionaries that appreciate our prayers is available on the literature racks, at the doors in the Sanctuary, the Campus Center, and the office. Our particular prayer request is to lift up our 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 and Chris and Christie Winkler and family as they continue their work in Nigeria.

Below is a list of people for whom there is a special concern as well as those who are serving in the military from Church of the Palms.

Edward Barth, Mae Borger, Adrienne Combs, Vickie Croucher, George Hallen, Howard Hays, Marvin Keyser, Pat Leach, Barbara Montgomery, Tom Nevin, Joyce Noyes, Norma Parker, First Lt. Tracy Prohoniak USMC, Herb Redemski, Robert Riedel, Jim & Catharina Scambelleurie, Lee Stewart, Sophie Stewart, Marguerite Taylor, Dolores Thooying

Names may be added to this list or extended for a period of 30 days by contacting the Church Office. Prayer requests may also be submitted to the Deacons' Prayer List on the green prayer cards which are located in the back of our pews and the Sanctuary Narthex.

“Support Our Troops”

On this Mothers Day let us remember that many mothers are serving in overseas armed conflict locations in support of the democratic principles we hold dear as a free nation. Other mothers here at home pray for their husbands, sons, daughters and other family members who are answering the call of our nation and cannot share this day in person.



Please join in sending a clear message that we all care for our deployed service members by filling a box with personal items and send it to a service member serving in “harm’s way.” Today you can help send that message of Christian love. Following all services you can pick up a box (or boxes) with “kits” under the Fellowship Tree. The “kit” contains all the information and addresses needed to fill and mail the box. Please be a participant in our efforts and pray for our troops daily. More information at www.supportourtroopsmoas.com.

A Prayer for Your Week

Dear Father, Giver of Infinite Mercy and Grace,

Your love for us is evident and so abundant every day in our lives.

You have blessed us with family and friends to share this walk in our earthly journey.

Forgive us, Lord, for just taking these your gifts and then failing to love you above all else.

We hear your Son’s words: His call to discipleship and eternal life comes at a personal price.

Following the teachings of Christ means making choices – sometimes so hard to do.

When torn by those around us who can influence us to sin or to turn away from you,

Being your disciple means we must faithfully choose to love “You” more than them, or life itself.

Our earthly relationships are very important to us, but cannot be more important than having a right relationship with you.

In our moments of choice, be with us, O God.

This week, we especially pray for those young people who have chosen to follow you in their Confirmation; speak to all who are struggling with choices to follow You and not the world.

Also, send your Holy Spirit to be with those on our Church prayer list in their hour of need.

Through your Son, Jesus the Christ, we offer this prayer, Amen.

Stamp Out Hunger

Children's Ministry would like you to help us sort food for the Annual Letter Carrier's Food Drive on May 14. This has become the nation's largest single-day food drive. In 2010, they collected a record-setting 77.1 million pounds of food donations. We are partnering with All Faith's Food Bank to sort all of the food that comes into the Ashton Post Office. We need volunteers to sign up for a 2 hour shift: 2:00-4:00 p.m. or 4:00-6:00 p.m. Families with small children can just sign up for one hour. Last year, we had a blast and we learned that they couldn't do it without us! If you can help come to the Children's table under the Fellowship tree today or contact Linda Nippert, 809-6343 or email linda.nippert@yahoo.com.

Middle School Pulse

Middle school students and their friends are invited to join us for PULSE each Wednesday from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Room 208/210. We have dinner, awesome games, and share our thoughts about God and his word. Bring a friend and \$5 for food.

High School Student Ministry

Join us tonight, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. for the Welcoming Party for our newly confirmed 8th graders.

Calling All High School Seniors

Each year a list of graduates is featured in the June Palm Fronds. If you or someone you know is graduating from high school, college or university, please contact Betsy Morris, 924-1323 or email bmorris@churchofthepalms.org. Include the student's name, school where he/she will be graduating and future plans. The deadline is May 18.



Pandamania Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 13-17 for children who are 4-years old through entering 5th grade. Forms and additional information is available on our website or at the Children's tables on Sunday morning. Please contact VBS Coordinator, Toni Gardner with questions: 487-0177 or email toni@villagegardner.com.

For more information or to RSVP for Children's or Student Ministry events, please contact Derek Thompson, Moira Dunn or Laurie Haas, 924-1323 or email dthompson@churchofthepalms.org, mdunn@churchofthepalms.org or lhaas@churchofthepalms.org.

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today, Sunday, May 8, 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
9:15 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 101
10:30 a.m.	Christians Under Construction	Room 209
10:30 a.m.	The Garden Worship Service	Campus Center
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
3:00 p.m.	Mike Markaverich Concert	Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	Kids' Musical Rehearsal	Campus Center
5:00 p.m.	High School Boys Small Group	Off Campus
7:00 p.m.	Thirtythree (High School)	Room 208-210

Monday, May 9, 2011

9:45 a.m.	Priscilla Circle	Chapel Reception Room
10:00 a.m.	Joanna Circle	Off Campus
10:00 a.m.	Deborah Circle	Off Campus
6:00 p.m.	Palm Singles	Campus Center
6:00 p.m.	String Class	Music and Arts Building
6:45 p.m.	Beginning Orchestra	Music and Arts Building
7:00 p.m.	Orchestra Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building
7:00 p.m.	Worship, Music and the Arts	Chapel Reception Room

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

7:00 a.m.	Men's Study and Breakfast	Off Campus
8:00 a.m.	Foundation Board Meeting	Room 211
9:30 a.m.	Mary Circle	Room 209
9:30 a.m.	Rachel Circle	Room 208-210
9:30 a.m.	Naomi-Lydia Circle	Chapel Reception Room
12:00 p.m.	Children's Committee	Room 202
2:00 p.m.	Ladies' Prayer Group	Room 208-210
2:30 p.m.	Tutoring	Campus Center
5:30 p.m.	Creative Signers	Music and Arts Building
6:00 p.m.	C.S. Lewis Reading Group	Chapel Reception Room

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE (continued)

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	Chapel Reception Room
9:15 a.m.	Memorial Garden Board	Room 211
4:00 p.m.	Administration and Finance	Room 211
4:00 p.m.	Faith at Work	Chapel Reception Room
5:00 p.m.	Dinner	Campus Center
6:00 p.m.	Pulse (Middle School)	Room 208-210
6:30 p.m.	Life School Musical	Campus Center
7:15 p.m.	Men's Ministry Committee	Chapel Reception Room
7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Thursday, May 12, 2011

9:30 a.m.	Mary Magdalene Circle	Chapel Reception Room
1:30 p.m.	Claudia Circle	Chapel Reception Room
2:30 p.m.	Tutoring	Campus Center
6:00 p.m.	The Garden Worship Team	East Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.	The Garden Worship Rehearsal	Campus Center
7:00 p.m.	Sophomore Girls' Small Group	Off Campus
7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building

Friday, May 13, 2011

9:30 a.m.	Friday Morning Bible Study	Room 211
6:00 p.m.	Session Retreat	Campus Center
7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Lock-in	Room 208-210

Saturday, May 14, 2011

7:30 a.m.	ReHabitat Project	Off Campus
9:00 a.m.	Session Retreat	Campus Center
2:00 p.m.	Stamp Out Hunger Service Project	Off Campus

Sunday, May 15, 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.	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

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE (continued)

Sunday, May 15, 2011 (continued)

10:15 a.m.	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Kids of the Kingdom Rehearsal	Chapel
10:15 a.m.	Later Service Childcare (ages 2-7)	Room 101
10:30 a.m.	Christians Under Construction	Room 209
10:30 a.m.	The Garden Worship Service	Campus Center
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
3:00 p.m.	Book Group	Chapel Reception Room
4:30 p.m.	Praise and Glory Singers Rehearsal	Music and Arts Building
5:00 p.m.	High School Boys Small Group	Off Campus
7:00 p.m.	Thirtythree (High School)	Room 208-210



Important Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 10:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary to act upon the request of the Rev. Tim Reynolds to dissolve his pastoral relationship with the Church of the Palms.