



PCPC LIFE

PALMA CEIA Presbyterian Church

3501 San Jose • Tampa, Florida 33629 • 813.253.6047 • www.palmaceia.org

August 2009

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO THIS Summer?



It's unanimous! After taking a family poll regarding a favorite summer memory, we all chose the first ever Van Aelst family of six bike ride around Hilton Head Island. Brian and Ellery rode tandem, Cade and Brinley rode in a bike cart behind me and Sydney rode her own bike. It was adventurous as we navigated the island, dodged puddles on the beach and braved the heat of the day. A memory we will not soon forget.

-The Van Aelst Family

Summer began in April for me. A highlight was a visit to a cemetery on a country road northeast of Pittsburgh, PA, at the Pleasant Unity Presbyterian Church (on my annual genealogical quest). Having finished my task, looking for some grave sites, I entered a beautiful sanctuary and joined a small group having Sunday school. They were studying the story of Lydia in Acts. I learned the women had been studying "Jesus in the World of Luke" just as we had at PCPC. Having more cemeteries to find I didn't stay "for church" but how pleasant it was to join in unity with those sisters and brothers in Christ.



-Joanne Snyder



Every summer with our kids gets better and better. We do more on vacations and let them explore new things and places to go. It's so fun to see their personalities blossom and watch them grow each day.

-The Stichter Family

"In recent messages from Mike Peacock and John DeBevoise, we have been challenged to experience and appreciate the miracles all around us. While vacationing in the Asheville area and celebrating my sister's 40th wedding anniversary (the love of families is an everyday blessing and miracle), we watched with joy and wonder the flight of lightning bugs (fire flies). What a miracle of God and a beautiful sight. Surely God is good even in the smallest of creatures."

-Charlotte Hunter



PASTORAL MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

This month is the month when a great percentage of this congregation is climbing back into school, either as students, teacher, administrators, or as parents launching students. It is I think a significant enough moment and enterprise that we ought to surround it with prayer. People are oftentimes writing me concerned that schools don't offer enough or any formal prayer. A good place to start is by praying ourselves. Here is a prayer I'm using this month.

INSIDE AUGUST

Save the Date

For more details contact our office at 813.253.6047

August 2

Parish Nurses will be in the breezeway from 9:30-11:15 a.m. for individual consultation related to your health care (check the PCPC Weekly and e-news for more details).

August 8-12

Women's Retreat in Montreat

August 9-13

PCPC Arts Camp

August 16

Deadline for the school supplies on the Giving Tree. Please keep bringing in your canned goods for Beth-El.

August 19

Chancel Choir resumes rehearsals at 7:00 p.m.

August 23

Sunday School teachers' luncheon for 2009-2010
C310 & C311, 12:00 p.m.
Upward evaluations begin today.

August 25

Preschool reopens for the school year.

August 26

Upward evaluations continue.

August 30

All-church BBQ, following the 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

Summer	1
Inside August	2
Pastor's Column	1 & 3
Worship	3
Preschool	4
Mission	5 & 6
Save on Green/Life	7
Youth	8
Fellowship	9-10
Discipleship	11 & 12
Pastors' Summer	13
Special Interest Story	14
Connection	15

PCPC Vision Statement

We are called to be a community of disciples in Jesus Christ, who, seeking unity in the faith, are living our lives in joyful obedience to God's Word. Worshipping Christ, learning in Christ, growing in Christ, caring in Christ, acting in Christ, reformed in Christ.

PCPC LIFE

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Edited by Katie White with the support of Diane King

Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, you may e-mail it to communications@palmaceia.org, call (813) 253-2202 or place it in Katie White's box in the church office. The deadline is the 2nd Monday of the month.

E-News:

If you are interested in receiving PCPC news via our e-news system, please send an e-mail to communications@palmaceia.org.

PCPC Anchor line: (813) 254-PCPC

"O Great Teacher; we lift up to you this month those who prepare to enter the tasks of teaching and learning. Give teachers energy, wisdom, patience, and passion to follow their calling. Work through them to shape the minds and hearts of your people to follow your paths and understand something of your purposes. Help them to be Good Shepherds of your flock. Give students the means to discern Your call in their minds and hearts. Grant them inquiring minds and energy and humility to learn. Help them to hold an awareness of the gift and power of education so they might be good stewards of the opportunity before them. Look with Your mercy on those with special needs and challenges and send help to them through your Spirit. Give teachers and students alike courage, and keep them safe from any danger in their schools. Help parents to discern where support for students and teachers is helpful and possible. Enable us together to learn to love You with all our hearts, minds and souls."

We pray in the name of the one the Disciples called "Teacher," Jesus Christ Amen

Pastor John
Rev. John T. DeBevoise

worship^{today}

PREACHING IN AUGUST

August 2

Connection: Nicole Partin
Traditional: Mike Peacock
Vespers: A Quiet Service of Prayer

August 9

Connection: Geoff Kohler
Traditional: Nicole Partin
Vespers: A Quiet Service of Prayer and Communion

August 16

Connection: Geoff Kohler
Traditional: John Debevoise
Vespers: A Service for Healing and Communion

August 23

Connection: Geoff Kohler
Traditional: Nicole Partin
Vespers: A Prayer Service for The Start of School and Communion

August 30, Barbecue Sunday

Connection: Geoff Kohler
Traditional: John DeBevoise
Vespers: A Quiet Service of Prayer and Communion

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

CONNECTION WORSHIP

8:30 & 9:45 a.m. in the gym

VESPERS WORSHIP

6:00 p.m. in the chapel

WORSHIP

CELEBRATING 30 Years...

By Nancy Little, Director of the Preschool



In August, the preschool opens its doors for the thirtieth time. It takes a great many hands and hearts to make that possible! You know who you are!

This year, I am excited about seeing Judy More as her grandson Davis Stauffer starts preschool. If she tags along with Davis' mother one of those days, she will be returning as a grandparent where once she came as a young mother, bring-

ing Copeland. I am privileged to remember this from my early years as the preschool director.

As Judy said to me in the pew, "This doesn't happen everywhere." And indeed, we have many church preschool families active into the third and even fourth generation.

Also in August, we will greet some military families new to Tampa, some children at risk, some families who travel in from New Tampa, and some families whose ethnicity is different from ours. With every confidence, I know they also will be greeted as part of the family, in the pattern of Christ. And again, I know this doesn't happen everywhere!

A church preschool is a wonderful opportunity to create the beloved community spoken of in the Bible and a place where God extends us the opportunity to "fill in the blanks." I lost my own sweet parents in my twenties. But in God's providence he provided Edith Williams, Mildred Geer, and Carolyn Cooley, my mothers in the faith. To help me remember that I was a beloved daughter, God gave me Irvine Williams, Joe McKell and Chuck Greenwood. Without my own daughters, I sat in the pew next to Mary Pat Pead, watching her grow to adulthood. And I take great pride in preschool graduate and teacher Laura Mullinax as she serves our church as an ordained elder.

I look forward not only to the chance to "mother"

the families at the preschool this year, but to be mothered and mentored by Lorena MacGregor, who volunteers with us and brings her 27 years of experience directing the Temple Terrace Presbyterian Preschool. This way she gets to keep a good eye on great grandchildren Mac and Ian!

From generation to generation, we find that God has designed a larger family than we could have imagined, if only our eyes are open to his abundance. A church preschool is one place where that can be manifest. Around our children we bring our most tender efforts. In their service we may have our best chance to build community.

Some have said that it takes a village to raise a child. I agree that "all hands on deck" is a good idea. But perhaps it takes a child to raise up a village.

In preschool, the children and families can discover that they are part of a family larger than they knew.

Please pray with me that the preschool will be an agent of grace in the coming year to those who learn and those who teach, to the mothers and fathers letting go that first time, and the grandmothers and grandfathers who stand by remembering how hard it was! And please pray especially for the little ones struggling to make that first attachment outside the family. May our efforts be worthy of them! May we find a way to share the abundance of our love to the larger family of God. Let the children come!

"Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." ~Luke 18:16

PRESCHOOL

SET *the* CHALLENGE

This year our **Giving Tree** mission supports Beth-El Ministry and the FED Ministry. Please read about both programs below and help support their communities. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Beckham or Caroline Burt. Thank you for your many blessings.

Beth-El Ministries Canned Goods Drive

The Presbyterian Church has a significant ministry to farm workers in the Ruskin area called The Beth-El Mission. The ministry is shaping a congregation while providing many services and assistance to the working poor in that area, many of whom are agricultural workers (picking the food we eat). One of the services the Beth-El mission offers is a “Food Pantry” where they offer canned and dry food goods to impoverished farm worker families. The pastor at Beth-El, Ramiro Ros (who went into the ministry out of the PCPC congregation), reports to us that the mission has felt the economic downturn. In 2008 Beth-El was averaging 275-290 families per week receiving a bag of groceries. This year they have seen over 450 families each week.

PCPC is adding “Canned Goods for Beth-El” to the Giving Tree drive during August. The goal is to see if PCPC can bring enough canned goods and dry food to stock the Beth-El Food Pantry ministry for the month of September.

Please bring in food on Sundays or any day and place it under the Giving Trees across the campus or the Fellowship Hall. Items needed are rice, beans, flour, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned processed meat and pasta. The Beth-El website is www.beth-el.info.

The Giving Tree

The “Back To School” giving trees are up in the Narthex and the Gym. Please help the children through our FED Ministry by taking an apple from the tree and returning the school supply listed on the apple by **Friday, August 16**. Please place all donations under the giving trees or in the church office. Thank you for your generosity.

FAITH CAFÉ

Donated items are needed for the Faith Café. We are in desperate need of clothing for men and women (pants, shirts, socks, dress shirts), as well as toiletries (travel shampoo, conditioner, soap, razors, shaving cream).

Faith Café has had four break-ins over the past month and many of the items we give away were stolen. Please help support this ministry. For questions, please contact jeanette.conley@hotmail.com.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...” ~Matt 25:35

MISSION



PRESBYTERY MISSION UPDATE

At the May 28, 2009 meeting of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, a motion was passed regarding how to address a severe budget shortfall for 2009. This motion included the elimination of two full-time positions at the Presbytery office, and cut in half the amount of support Cedarkirk and Beth-El Farmworker Ministry receive from the Presbytery. A fundraiser will be conducted by the Presbytery Stewardship Committee to collect extra funding for Beth-El (www.beth-el.info) and Cedarkirk (www.cedarkirk.org).

Along with paying per capita dues (of approximately \$13 per member), PCPC has provided the following additional support to Presbytery mission in late 2008 and early 2009:

- \$7,500 in unrestricted mission support both in 2008 and 2009, which helps to fund Beth-El, Cedarkirk, new church developments, campus ministries, and several other missions of the Presbytery, and \$40,000 so far is designated mission support for 2009.
- A \$3,000 gift to Transfiguration Faith Community (www.transfigurationstpete.org), a new church development of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay in downtown St Petersburg, which will focus on reaching the unchurched and serving the poor.
- Approximately \$4,000 towards the school at Beth-El (through the 2008 Joy Offering) along with \$2,000 in designated gifts from PCPC members to Beth-El in 2009.

The Witness and Service Committee will discuss making a donation towards the Presbytery-wide fundraiser for Beth-El and Cedarkirk at their August meeting.

lend A helping hand

H.O.M.E.S

Housing Offering Mentoring Education and Support (H.O.M.E.S.)

Metropolitan Ministries recently built townhouses to serve as transitional housing for families who complete the ministries' "Uplift U" residential program. While Metropolitan Ministries will provide these families with a case worker and access to its daycare facility and charter school, they are asking local churches to "adopt" a family to mentor. Mentoring opportunities could include tutoring children, assisting families to develop a budget, providing opportunities for spiritual growth, teaching job and computer skills, etc. The Witness and Service Committee would like to survey congregation members' interest in participating in H.O.M.E.S. If you would like to know more, please contact Chris Lumia at clumia582@yahoo.com or 763-6400.

MISSIONS



“YOURS, O LORD, IS THE GREATNESS AND THE POWER...FOR EVERYTHING IN HEAVEN AND EARTH IS YOURS.” I CHRONICLES 29:11

PCPC SHUT DOWN TO SAVE GREEN

Thanks to everyone who helped with PCPC's experiment in trying to dramatically reduce our electric bill by turning off the AC and much of the power for two weeks in July. It did require forbearance by some and shifting of calendars and locations by others, and we acknowledge that, and are grateful for your support.

We are trying to assess how much money we saved, but won't have that specific information until we get the next electric bill, after this newsletter deadline, but we anticipate and are hoping the bill will be at least two-thirds less for that period.

The art turned out to be figuring how far we could push the thermostat up without creating mildew in certain rooms. That was addressed in part by running the AC for a short period of time each day in certain rooms. We also discovered some spaces in which we think we can do a better job pushing the thermostat up more regularly across the year.

Hats off to Wally Wilcher, our facilities manager, for his excellent work during this period and the time leading up to it, and to our receptionist, Bruce Farnell, who rerouted many activities. It certainly took some managing. As we evaluate, we also will consider whether the project should be repeated next year. If you have further input into green week please email it to Wally at Wally@palmaccia.org, or call him at the church office. For now, the power is back on (only when it's supposed to be on)!

the LIFE of the church

WEDDINGS

6/13/09 Parker Lee Perez & Ryon Michael Sullivan
6/13/09 Ian Peacock & Stephanie Wright
at First Presbyterian Plant City
6/20/09 Kathryn O'Leary Carroll & Tyler Alan McCrary

BIRTHS

7/10/09 Catherine Lucille Biesecker, daughter of
Amanda (Glenn) & Nick Biesecker

NEW MEMBERS

6/28/09 Lee Andrews
6/28/09 Mary Bladen
6/28/09 Kathleen Garrett
6/28/09 Bill Hayward
6/28/09 Laura Hollingsworth
6/28/09 Devany & Robert Ledford
6/28/09 Nicole McCutchan
6/28/09 Patrick O'Connor
6/28/09 Susan S. & Donald G. Preston
6/28/09 Dallas Rich
6/28/09 Kristy Alicia Kim Schulhot
6/28/09 Lynn & John Weber
6/28/09 Julie Adcock Whitney
6/28/09 Richard Chris Whitney
6/28/09 Linda & Dennis Whittaker

DEATHS

6/16/09 Maury West

“...Our fellowship is
with the Father and
with his Son, Jesus
Christ.” ~ I John 1:3

DISCIPLE NOW! MIDDLE SCHOOL



This month we want to highlight our Disciple Now! Middle School trip. 30 middle schoolers spent a week working with America's 2nd Harvest, Beth El Farmworker Ministry, Cedarkirk, Metropolitan Ministries and Faith Cafe'. These students got a chance to dedicate their time and energy to significant ministries in our area. Each morning began with a message and devotional about a biblical look on poverty and a Christian's response. From there we would carpool to a local mission to work the rest of the day. Thank you to all of the parents who drove and made lunches. We appreciate your support!

MOVE UP NIGHT

Upcoming 6th graders

You are invited to Middle School Youth Group on September 2. MS Youth Group meets in the gym at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights. Youth Group ends at 7:30 p.m. and you should be picked up outside the courtyard. Youth Group is an awesome blend of crazy/messy games and deep biblical teaching. It is a chance to connect with other kids who want to have fun and get to know God.

Upcoming 9th graders

You are invited to High School Youth Group on September 6. HS Youth Group meets in the youth room at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday nights. Youth group ends at 7:30 p.m. HS Youth Group is a chance to get to know other high schoolers in a fun and carefree environment. Everyone is invited and everyone is welcome. Through youth group you will learn how to deepen your relationship with Jesus with leaders who are committed to your spiritual growth—all this in a place that encourages fun, authentic relationships.

youth 2009

PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH TRIPS

Please pray for the high school youth as they prepare for and attend their mission trip. Specifically, pray for God to use this youth group how He sees fit.

High School Mission Trip

Alaska, July 25 - August 5

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

No Youth Group August 2, 12, 16, 19, 23

August 7: HS and MS mystery event, 3:00-10:00 p.m..
Call the office to sign up.

August 9: Kenny's last Youth Group

August 30: Rainbow River

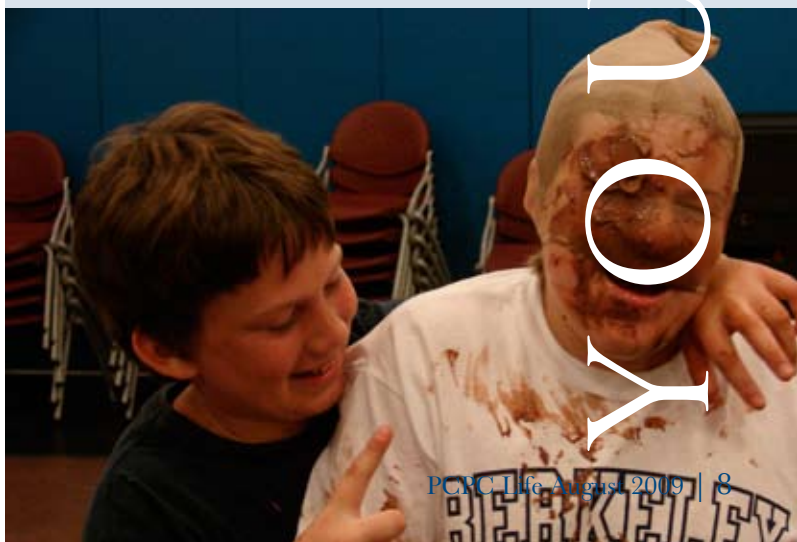
September 2: Middle School Move Up Night

September 6: High School Move Up Night

September 12: Rock the Universe

Youth contact is David Bonnema at
youth@palmaceia.org or (813) 253-6047.

YOUTH



CEDARKIRK *fun*

This summer, kids from our congregation enjoyed friendship and faith at Cedarkirk. Below are their reflections.

JESUS WELCOMES KIDS AT CEDARKIRK

"This was my first year going to sleep-away camp at Cedarkirk. They have the best food and we got to cook dinner one night for our cabin. My favorite was French toast. I had 5 other boys in my cabin. My counselor, John, was from Maryland. He was awesome! We did the zip line, tubing, canoeing, swimming, and arts and crafts. My favorite activity was the zip line. It was so high, 50 feet, but I survived!

After dinner we would go to the pavilion. This is where I learned about God. The one thing that keeps entering my brain is "Jesus Welcomes." This means Jesus accepts everyone. We learned the word "welcome," in different languages to remind us that God welcomes people from all over the world. We learned "ni mwamukiro" which is how the people in Kenya say "welcome" (My daddy had to help me look up how to spell it). We sang songs and learned Bible verses. This was one of the most fun weeks of my life. I can't wait to go back next year."
-Walker Thomas

"I liked Cedarkirk because it's fun, has good food, and teaches you about God. You do fun activities like canoeing, tubing, and swimming."
-Thea Schmid

"I liked Cedarkirk because it has so many different activities to do during the day. For example, zip lining, rock climbing, and tubing."
-Lexi Hutchinson

"I liked Cedarkirk because the staff is really nice also, I enjoyed Bible study and worship."
-Daphne Schmid

"The activity we liked best was the night swim and black light volleyball. We roasted a chicken over a camp fire. We did not like cutting the chicken up to roast, but no doubt that is a great life skill to master."
-Brook Farrior & Mary DeBevoise



NURTURE your FAITH

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women will resume their general meetings and circle meetings in the fall.

The Presbyterian Women's 2009-2010 Board

President - Cheryl Fraser
President-Elect - Sherry Leffers
Treasurer - Connie Detrick
Program Planner - Nancy Nelson
Recording Secretary - Nancy Lorenzen
Corresponding Secretary - Anne Loomis & Diane Dees
Historian - Penny Dewell & Sally Glisson

Committee Chairs

Bible Moderators: Betty Jo Andrews & June Schmid
Circle Coordinators: Dona Clark, Joyce Henley & Julie Henley
Circle Assignments: Susan Clark
Membership: Julianne McKeel & Barbara Ryles
Spiritual Life & Worship: The Bible Moderators
Sympathy Service: Mary Hatton
Christian Community Action: Michelle Hill
Salvation Army Dolls: Joann Dawkins
Knitting: Karin Miller
Service Project: Dottie Banker, Lynn Cottrill & Frances Gallogly
Church Night Suppers: Ann McLaughlin & Anne Loomis
Sanctuary Flowers: Cathy Chambers
Special Occasions Flowers: Mart Pieper & Jane Carswell
Christmas Coffee: Tiffany Gould & Debbie Brock
Search Committee: Lynn Reynolds & Becky Charles

Circle Numbers & Chairperson

#1 Barbara Meng & Barbara Hopkins
#2 Eleanor Rayburn & Cynthia Mischler
#3 Ruthanne Ferrell & Mary Catherine Gould
#4 Mary Lou Bondi & Bettie Nelson
#5 Jo Goldsmith & Cretora Biggerstaff
#6 Sara Winston
#7 Michelle Hill
#8 Pat Spears

FELLOWSHIP

With One Another

WELCOME BACK BBQ

Join us for an all-church picnic on August 30 (following the 9:45 & 11:00 services). Be sure to check the PCPC Weekly announcements and our website for details about the all-church picnic, welcoming everyone back from a great summer.



“God is faithful,
and calls you into
fellowship with
one another!”

~I Corinthians 1:19

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir will resume singing in worship on Sunday, August 16, and rehearsals on Wednesday, August 19, at 7:00 p.m. If you love to sing, now is the time to consider joining the Chancel Choir. For further information please contact Nancy Callahan, PCPC Director of Music at 253-6047.

Dinner and Fellowship

The Chancel Choir will gather for dinner and fellowship Saturday, August 15, at 7:00 p.m. at Nancy Callahan and John Hyer's home, 2707 West Morrison Ave. If you have any interest in participating in the Chancel Choir, please join us.

Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinners will return on September 9. Watch for new booklets and buy your tickets in advance through the church office.

Sports Camp

This summer there was plenty of fellowship going on with the kids who attended sports camp. Thanks to those who made it happen.



FELLOWSHIP

adults & families

Adult Sunday School

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Sunday morning holds the opportunity for you to journey with fellow travelers on the road to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Our adult education department offers some phenomenal classes; please check the weekly bulletins for the most detailed and current information.

Sunday Scripture: The chapel
Faith in the Presbyterian Tradition: C310
The Interpreters: EM304
Lydia Bible Study: EM302

Other Study Opportunities

Sunday Afternoons

Matthew with the Wordrunners
A Sunday afternoon Bible study.
Joanne Snyder, E305, 4:45 - 6:00 p.m.

Mondays

Men's Bible Study
A start to your spiritual week (lasts for an hour).
Conference Room, 7:00 a.m.

Followers of the Way
A men's lunch and Bible study.
Bill Wallof, Fellowship Hall, 12:00 p.m.

Tuesdays

Women's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.
An hour of prayer, coffee and support.

Wednesdays (meets every other week)

Young Adult Women, The Bride's Room
6:30-8:00 p.m. Contact Nicole Partin at
253-6047.

Thursdays

The Mustard Seeds, C311, 10:30 a.m.
A women's Bible study on *Virtue and the Fruits of the Spirit*. Contact Betty Jo Andrews at
254-4959.

FINANCE

2009 Church operating status as of June 30

	Annual Budget	Year to Date	% of Annual Budget
Total Income	\$1,750,000	\$757,030	43
Total Expenses	\$1,750,000	\$817,300	47
Net Income		-\$60,270	

Please note that June is 50% of the year, so expenses are not over budget. We continue to borrow from savings to cover the shortfall. All pledge payments are greatly appreciated.

Dear Friends,

I asked if I could add this letter to the statements being sent out mid-way through the year in order to say THANK YOU for your faithful giving to Christ's Church. Your giving makes this ministry possible. I am deeply grateful for each one of you!

The great bulk of the financial gifts to the church arrive in December. I'm thrilled for your gifts, whenever they arrive. But if it is possible for some of you to send along in July or August a portion of what typically you may send in December, it will sure help PCPC pay our monthly expenses. While our income seems to come mostly in December, our expenses are ongoing monthly.

Through the year we receive income, both pledged gifts and unexpected gifts. Like most churches we experience a summer slump in giving (perhaps it's a vacation factor). We cover the slump by borrowing from our savings account. This summer the giving slump seems deeper, and the borrowing is a bit heavier. The expenses are right on budget, even while we try to discern ways to cut costs further. And we are praying for, as we have had in the past, a generous December, which will help us make ends meet. But between now and then any summer help you might be able to send would be most appreciated, including your prayers for the church.

Here's my prayer: "God bless your church, and bless those who are such a blessing to your church, and use your church to be a means of blessing, especially for those in special need. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen."

In Christ's Service,
Rev. John T. DeBevoise

Children's Sunday School

9:45-10:45 a.m.

The nursery is located in Covenant Hall 103 (formerly Godly Play room), and Godly Play has moved to C101 (formerly the nursery).

Kindergarten is located in W207/209 (formerly the drama & puppet room).

Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity for your children to learn the Word of God while spending time in fellowship with their peers.

Godly Play

Children ages 3 through 1st grade are invited to participate in Godly Play following "The Time with the Children" in worship. Godly Play is located on the 1st floor of Covenant Hall.

Summer

PCPC Arts Camp

August 10-14 from 9:00-12:00 p.m.

This camp allows kids to explore the arts through the church. It is open to PK3-K and 1st-5th graders. The cost is \$75; registration forms are now available in the church office.

Scholarships are available. Contact Linda Beckham at linda@palmaceia.org or 253-6047 for questions.

FALL INTO TEACHING

Sunday School Teachers' Luncheon Meeting for 2009-2010 Session, August 23, 12:00 p.m. in the PW Room (3rd floor, Covenant Hall C310 & C311)

We will be meeting with our teaching teams for 2009-10. If you would like to be part of a fun teaching team next session, please e-mail nancyc@palmaceia.org with your room of choice or sign up for Kindergarten or Rotation (grades 1-5) in the 2nd floor, Westminster hallway or for Pre-K 2-4 in the 1st floor, Covenant Hall hallway (outside Godly Play). Come pick up your teacher's gift and bring your calendar, as we will be setting the teaching schedule for the school year.

UPWARD RETURNS



Upward season returns with a new addition! August is the time to pick up your brochures and sign up for another great year of Upward basketball or the new option of **Cheerleading**.

It's for all boys and girls Kindergarten through grade 4 and coaches are needed for all grades. Contact Alex Beckham (recreation@palmaceia.org) or Linda Beckham (linda@palmaceia.org) to get the basketball coaching spot of your choice. Marlo Woodward will be leading the teams for cheerleading.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

August	Upward registration begins
August 23	Sunday school teacher orientation
	Upward evaluations
August 26	Upward evaluations
Sept. 13	Upward games begin
Sept. 13, 20, 27	Welcome to Worship, classes for all 2nd graders & parents



DISCIPLESHIP

OUR PASTOR'S SUMMMER RESPONSE

What I Did This Summer

By Rev. Geoff Kohler & Rev. Nicole Partin



I went to Madison, NJ, named for James Madison, our fourth president. It doesn't appear that he ever lived in the area, but there is a fine bust of him in the center of town, so it's clear they enjoyed him there. And the town is delightful. The downtown area is a collection of

eateries and shops with a train station that could send one on to New York City and so to the rest of the continent. It is then a "bedroom community" for the city and so also displays, just at the edge of downtown, a misshapen portion of girder as a memorial. There is a hole in the girder and through it a blue light shines continually. The portion of girder comes from the World Trade Center and is a reminder that this little community saw a heavy toll from 9-11. The light shines as a reminder that there is a light, even in the darkness.

I learned and saw these aspects of the village because I walked past them almost every morning for three weeks. I walked early in the day before things were really moving. But my reason for being in Madison was so I could attend "intensives" at Drew University, focused on a doctoral program in 21st century church leadership. For 3 weeks, 8 hours a day I was in class and, then, outside of class I was in the library or in my room reading or writing, preparing for the next day's discussion or my own presentation in class. It was intense. Breaks for conversation or going to grab something to eat were wonderful. But really the whole time was exhilarating. I gathered with students from every walk of life, aspect of ministry and from all over – Canada, South Korea, Africa [Malawi and Liberia were represented], New York City and even Madison, NJ. They come from very different ministry settings. Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Independent, Roman Catholic, Air Force and Navy chaplaincy, pastors, associates, lay leaders and priests were all involved. With that many people you can imagine there were also crises that developed back in their larger "home" situations. These were both personal and professional. I was on the phone a few times with people from our church and with family members. But we had one man whose mother

died, a woman whose partner had a heart attack and a pastor whose church went into such crisis that he needed to leave the program to go home.

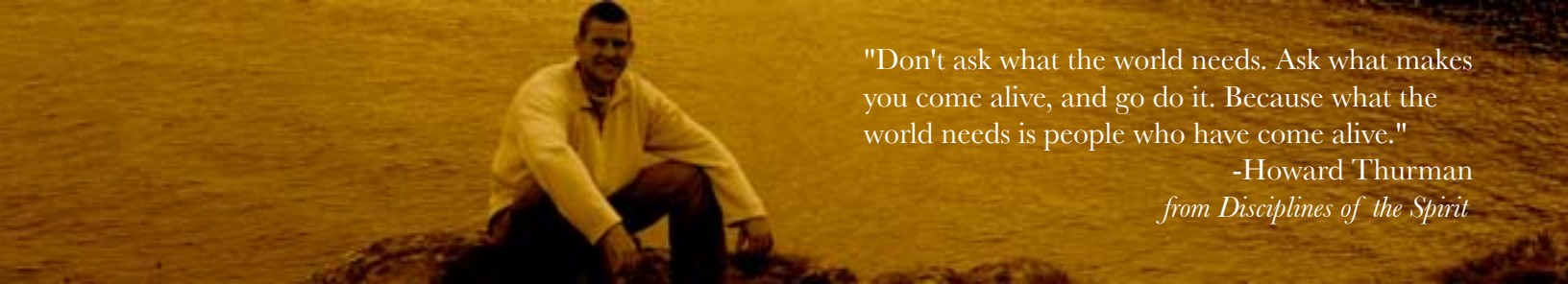
The study focused on Methods and Practices in leading church, in utilizing the benefits of the digital age in which we live and in the ancient Celtic church [as a comparison study with our own time and church culture]. It is both my hope and expectation that you should see something of the fruit of this endeavor as I continue this work..



For the last three weeks it has been my privilege to serve the larger church as Co-Director for Montreat Youth Conferences. I return to Tampa pleasantly exhausted from the intensity of the work (which was 24/7) and with a renewed appreciation for the work of the larger church

and its ministry with young people (it's contagious when surrounded by inspiring leadership, courageous adults who dedicate their time to be with youth, and the youth themselves who are passionate in their desire to put their faith in action to better the world in which we live).

This service has been a blessing in my life and I am extremely grateful to Montreat for the invitation to serve and to PCPC for allowing me to take the time that was needed to help facilitate two weeks of conferences for 2,700 people and for blessing me with your prayers. If you'd like to learn more about Montreat's ministry with youth and young adults check out www.mymontreat.org. By clicking on the Weeks 3 and 4 blog link you can access pictures from the conference (including some pictures of PCPC's youth in the talent show!).



"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

-Howard Thurman
from Disciplines of the Spirit

GOD HAS CALLED HIS PEOPLE TO BE A LIGHT

by Katie White, Tyler Wellman's Youth Leader at PCPC in 2002

I recently had one of those amazing moments when you realize God is giving you a nudge, a reminder that He is always at work in our lives. A few weeks ago, I ran into an old friend of mine who attended a mission trip with me as a freshman in high school. Being a past youth leader, I often wonder if these grown kids actually remember who I am, especially someone like Tyler Wellman, who attended one mission trip with me before I moved to Fort Myers. I always felt it was unfortunate that we never had the opportunity to cultivate our friendship. However, 7 years later, standing with this young man, I realized that was not my purpose with him, I was simply a vessel for God's work. What I found when reconnecting with Tyler, was this amazing, faithful servant of the Lord. And so his story begins...

Tyler Wellman is a young man who has a desire to share his love for the Lord. He is a Jesuit Volunteer in Chuuk, Micronesia, from August 2009 to June 2011. In general, being an international Jesuit Volunteer means committing two years to service and upholding the core values of the Jesuit Volunteers Corps (JVC), namely social justice, community, simple living, and a witnessing Christian faith and spirituality.

More specifically Tyler will be living in community with four other JVs. He will be serving as a teacher at Saramen Chuuk Academy, a Catholic high school in Chuuk. He will likely be teaching underclassmen religion and English literature. He will also be leading extracurricular activities at the high school and in the community.

It was exciting for me to sit down and talk with Tyler about his anticipations, his fears, his hopes and dreams. I am so thrilled to be part of a community at PCPC that makes a promise at every child's baptism to help guide them into a relationship with Jesus Christ. Tyler is a per-

fect example of this promise. My hope is to share Tyler's story as it progresses over the next 2 years through the newsletter. My prayer for him is that we, as a community in Christ, lift him up. If you are interested in reaching out to Tyler, please contact him by e-mail at:

tyWellman@gmail.com

Tyler will be accessing e-mail through an Internet Cafe' once every 2 weeks.

Keep up with Tyler's adventures by following his website at <http://sites.google.com/site/tywellmanjvc/Home>.

“We are brought together by our belief that this world needs redeeming, it needs Justice, it needs Love, it needs Life, it needs Truth, it needs the Gospel, it needs Jesus. We are brought together by Who we worship, a God we proclaim to be the Creator of all things visible and invisible, a God who is Love. Our world is full of oppression, poverty, hunger, abuse, loneliness, hatred, and deception. But God has called His people to be a light, an instrument of His redeeming love.”

~ by **Tyler Wellman**, an excerpt from Catholicism/Protestantism: A Reflection



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