



PCPC LIFE

PALMA CEIA Presbyterian Church

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

December 2008

The True Gift of Christmas

“Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” Luke 2: 10-12



Advent and Christmas contain the possibility for being one of the most meaningful and beautiful experiences of the Christian year, and indeed the Christian life. As liturgical seasons they can serve to guide the Christian into spiritual practices and observances that nurture our faith and bless our relationships. As seasons they can provide happy opportunities for us to serve in the example of Jesus, and to be witnesses to the joy of the gospel. They contain the potential every year to be a means of blessing the Christian home, and a catalyst for experiencing the tenderness of family love.

Modern Christians, especially Christians in the Western world, must also in these seasons avoid the powerful temptations that ironically would turn this season into a month of particular spiritual peril. Like Ulysses' sirens these temptations in this season will seek to lure us into practices or mindsets that often result in an emotional, spiritual, and physical crash. It may help to recognize the temptations to call them

by their names: materialism, avarice, perfectionism, idolatry, insecurity, and fear.

Like shepherds walking a good path along a dark hill we can be helped in our journey by remembering the angels' song. A simple correcting scripture can help us avoid the seasonal temptations. I want you to try reciting the song three times a day this Advent and Christmas, even in this simple form:

“Do not be afraid. There is good news. God has given us Christ. Look for what God has already given you.”

If you are especially tempted you may need to recite it more often. This chant, this reminder, this prayer may help you (and those you love) receive the true gift of Christmas that God has already delivered!

MERRY CHRISTMAS,

Pastor John

John T. DeBevoise

INSIDE DECEMBER

- 11/30 First Sunday in Advent**
Communion served at worship services
- 12/1 Followers of the Way, 12:00 p.m.**
PW Circle Meetings
- 12/2 PW Circle Meetings**
- 12/3 Advent Worship Service, 12:00 p.m. (chapel)**
Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
Joyful Noise Choir & Jr. Choir, 5:15-6:00 p.m.
Middle School Youth Group, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Handbell Choir, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
David Matthews Christmas Concert, 6:15 p.m.
Chancel Choir, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- 12/6 Women's Christmas Coffee, 10:00-12:00 p.m.**
The home of Frankie Harrell, 1040 Frankland Road
Youth Group Sleepover with the Nativity Animals, 8:00 p.m. until morning
-
- 12/7 Second Sunday in Advent**
Stone Soup, 4:30 p.m. (gym)
Dinner, 6:00 p.m. (fellowship hall)
Living Nativity, 7:00 p.m. (front lawn)
High School YG, 6:00 (dinner), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Vespers "Remembrance" Service, following the Living Nativity
Preschool Families Sleepover with the Nativity Animals, 8:00 p.m. until morning
- 12/8 Christmas Preschool Family Chapel, 9:00 a.m.**
Followers of the Way, 12:00 p.m.
- 12/10 Advent Worship Service, 12:00 p.m. (chapel)**
Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
Jolly Trolly & Christmas Sing-A-Long
Joyful Noise Choir & Jr. Choir, 5:15-6:00 p.m.
Middle School YG, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Handbell Choir, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- 12/13 Older Adult (Young at Heart)**
Christmas Luncheon, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
PW room and movie room
Handel's Messiah, 5:00 p.m. (sanctuary)
- 12/14 Third Sunday in Advent**
Hospitality Brunch, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Handel's Messiah, 5:00 p.m. (sanctuary)
HS Youth Christmas Party, 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Vespers Service, 7:00 p.m.
Reception hosted by Tapestry, following Vespers
- 12/15 Followers of the Way, 12:00 p.m.**
PW Bible Moderators, 8:45 a.m.
PW Board Meeting, 10:15 a.m.
- 12/17 Advent Worship Service, 12:00 p.m. (chapel)**
Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
Staff Christmas Follies
Joyful Noise Choir & Jr. Choir, 4:45-6:00 p.m.
Junior Choir Christmas Party, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Middle School YG, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Handbell Choir, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
-
- 12/21 Fourth Sunday in Advent, Joy Offering**
Sausage Sunday, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
David Matthews Christmas Concert, 6:00 p.m.
Longest Night Vespers Service, 7:00 p.m.
- 12/22 Followers of the Way, 12:00 p.m.**
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Services**
Advent Worship Service, 12:00 p.m. (chapel)
Children's Service, 5:00 p.m.
Connection Family Service, 7:00 p.m.
Traditional Candlelight Service, 8:00 p.m.
Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet
Connection Candlelight Service, 9:00 p.m.
Pre-Service Music, 10:30 p.m.
Traditional Candlelight Service, 11:00 p.m.
** Traditional Services are held in the sanctuary*
** Connection Services are held in the gym*
-
- 12/25 Merry Christmas, church office closed**
-
- 12/28 Sunday Worship, The Christmastide**
- 12/29 Followers of the Way, 12:00 p.m.**
- 12/31 New Year's Eve Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.**
- 1/1 Happy New Year, church office closed**

worship *today*

<u>Christmas</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Monthly Calendar</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Worship</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Preschool</u>	<u>4</u>
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<u>Youth/ Congregational Care/ The Life of the Church</u>	<u>6-7</u>
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<u>Discipleship</u>	<u>10-11</u>
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PCPC Statement of Faith

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

Published monthly by The Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
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.

December 7

Second Sunday in Advent

Traditional Services: Nicole Partin

Connection Services: Geoff Kohler

Vespers: Service of Remembrance

December 14

Third Sunday in Advent

Traditional Services: John DeBevoise

Connection Services: Geoff Kohler

Vespers: Reception hosted by Tapestry following service

December 21

Fourth Sunday in Advent, *Joy Offering*

Traditional Services: John DeBevoise

Connection Services: Geoff Kohler

Vespers: David Matthews Concert

Longest Night, service for the homeless

December 24

Christmas Eve Services, *see calendar for times*

Traditional Services: John DeBevoise

Connection Services: Geoff Kohler

December 28

Christmastide Service

Traditional Services: John DeBevoise

Connection Services: Geoff Kohler

Vespers

December 31

New Years Eve Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

In Wait, Advent Worship Service

December 3 - December 24

As a part of your spiritual preparation for the joy of Christmas, add a time of music, prayer, reflection, and Communion to your week by joining us each Wednesday of Advent from 12:00-12:30 p.m. for worship.

Traditional Worship

Sundays, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., sanctuary

The Connection, Contemporary Worship

Sundays, 8:30 and 9:45 a.m., gym

Vespers Service

Sundays, 6:00 p.m., chapel

PAY IT FORWARD

By Lisa and Steve Becker

As a parent, the best part of the pre-school years is the innocence and purity of our children. We have been so blessed to have our daughter Anna embraced by the children, staff, and community which is her pre-school.

This past summer Anna had some medical complications and we found ourselves with a barely three year old daughter in a temporary cast. Explaining the looks and attention coming from others was not easy. We noticed that Anna quickly grew self-conscious about the attention she gained from having something different about her. Having the cast altered her boisterous spirit which in turn weighed upon our spirits.

The acceptance and compassion shown by everyone at Palma Ceia's pre-school was illustrated when Anna's very close friend Ava came over to play the day after she received her cast. While Ava's initial looks at Anna were unsure, they were looks of concern and not of judgment. We quickly explained to Ava that Anna had a boo-boo and it was being covered by something special. Even better, the thing that covered Anna's boo-boo was the perfect place to put stickers and to draw on with markers.

Needless to say, once the stickers and markers began to decorate our daughters cast she became very proud of her new addition. Her friend Ava asked us if she could have a cast too so she could wear something to hold her stickers and draw on as well! We quickly found some construction paper and tape, and soon Ava had a matching cast. The image of the two girls with casts on, giggling as they decorated each others casts with markers and stickers will not soon be forgotten in our house.

We treasure the acceptance and open hearts of our pre-schoolers. The communal bonds being built in this church are indescribable and invaluable. We thank Nancy, Doreen, and all the teachers and staff who are involved in the creation of such a special program. This pre-school brought people into our lives to help turn a potentially traumatic event into a positive and treasured memory.

“Keep the faith
& keep smiling.”

~Chuck

FROM THE PASTOR EMERITUS' DECK

By Rev. Charles L. Greenwood

I flew back to Marsh Harbour last week because of the death of one of my Bahamian friends, Leonard Thompson. He was 91 years old, author of two books, ex-prisoner of war in Nazi Germany after he was shot down over Hamburg, pioneer in Bahamian aviation, an all-around Bahamian National Treasure. He attended Kirk of the Pines when I was preaching there last winter, and I would call on him once or twice a week. We swapped aviation tales and sea-stories, and even played gin rummy the last two times I was there. We became close friends and while I will miss him, I know he lived a long and full life and died peacefully.

While there I preached at Kirk of the Pines and was able to check on how they were doing. While they still have no regular pastor, a Methodist lay preacher from Hope Town named Vernon Malone has been helping them out. He's a descendant of the earliest Loyalist settlers who came in the 18th Century. He runs one of the few grocery stores in Hopetown and helps out at the beautiful Methodist church there that overlooks the Atlantic Ocean. Folklore has it that in the days of "wrecking" --i.e., salvaging ships that ran aground on the miles of reefs off shore -- the pulpit was placed so that the preacher could see the reefs through a large glass window, and if he saw a ship go aground he ended the service and tried to be one of the first "wreckers" on the scene.

The Kirk of the Pines building project is going well (with the help of you gracious PCPC folk). I saw the plans and they look good and should be approved shortly by the city. Work should begin before the end of the year. While they don't have enough money for completion, they have enough to start construction and are trusting God to provide the rest. My thanks to all of you who have been a continuing part of this project. Keep the faith and keep smiling. ~ Chuck

PRE-SCHOOL

lend **A** helping hand

FAITH CAFÉ

As the weather becomes colder for an extended period of time, our Faith Café guests are requesting cold weather clothing (jackets, flannel and long sleeve casual shirts, jeans, athletic white socks, tennis shoes, etc.). Blankets and sleeping bags are in high demand, as well. As you travel for the holidays, our guests can always use toiletries. For your convenience, there is a donation bin outside the fellowship hall. If you want to volunteer please contact Corrine Gaertner at gaertner@tampabay.rr.com.

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Trees will be in the narthex and the gym on Sundays, Nov. 30 - Dec. 14. Each tree has ornaments for you to select that represent the organization you wish to help. Pick up one of the packets underneath the trees, which gives pertinent information for the agency you choose. Please contact Susan Taulbee at 839-0988.

METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

Thanksgiving & Christmas Boxes of Hope

24,000 families need your help this holiday season. Each year our community responds to the needs of poor and homeless families with gifts of food, turkey, toys and time. If you would like to volunteer, please go to www.metro-min.org, to sign up for a volunteer shift. You can also fill the boxes located in the narthex, gym & fellowship hall with food for the families at Metropolitan Ministries.

JOY OFFERING

PCPC will collect the Christmas Joy Offering on Sunday, December 21. One of four special offerings collected each year, the Joy Offering proceeds benefit ethnic Presbyterian schools and support retired Presbyterian missionaries and church workers. This year, Session has designated that 80% of the Joy Offering will go towards assisting the school at Beth-El Farmworker's Ministry in paying off their mortgage.

Christmas in Africa

As the holiday season approaches we give thanks to God for many blessings. Below is a list of items needed in the village of Papoli, Uganda, to help people gain greater self-sufficiency. "Christmas in Africa" is a program designed to help you honor loved ones by providing gifts in their name for the needy in Africa. Each giver will be given an attractive announcement card to share with the honoree.

Gift Items

Household Goods

Blankets	\$10
Mattress	\$20
Plates (1 dozen)	\$3
Mosquito Nets	\$10

Clothing

Gomasi (women's wrap cloth)	\$15
Children's Clothes (300 + pieces)	\$150

Farm Animals

Chicken	\$3
Goat	\$20
Cow	\$150

Forestation

Citrus & Avocado	\$5
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Garden Items

Peanut Seed (per pack)	\$5
Corn Seed (per pack)	\$5
Crop Spray (per pack)	\$5
Crop Spray Pump	\$70

Other

Generator	\$90
Widow's House	\$620
Furnishing for Home	\$150
Bicycles for teachers/ workers	\$100
Sewing Machine	\$150
School Books/ per child	\$10
Bibles	\$15

Donations can be given to PCPC with a notation for "Christmas in Africa." Designate the item you wish to give on your check. Please contact Bill Wallof (bill@palmaccia.org) or B.J. Johns (bj@palmaccia.org) with questions.

MISSION

“OH COME LET US ADORE HIM”

PARISH NURSE



Please welcome our Parish Nurses:
Martha Spicklemire and Gayle Hudson.

They spent five days at the Faith
Community Nurse Training Event at the
Franciscan Center in late October.

Please include them in your prayers as they
begin to minister to PCPC in this new way.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

The Christmas Holidays Can Be Painful

The joy of Christmas can turn into a time of
painful loneliness and emptiness for those who
have suffered a loss or who are going through a
difficult time. But help is available.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide
confidential, one-to-one, Christian care. They
will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for
you, and support you through the holidays and
as long as your need persists.

If you or someone you know is hurting, find
out more about Stephen Ministry by talk-
ing with Nicole Partin (253-6047 or nicole@
palmaccia.org).

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

the LIFE of the church

Baptisms

- 10/19/08 Brinley Peterson Van Aelst,
daughter of G.G. & Brian Van Aelst
- 10/26/08 Zelicia Miriam Delores Combs
- 10/26/08 Ethan Macon
- 11/02/08 Haley McKenna Sykes,
daughter of Nancy & Bryan Sykes
- 11/09/08 Nancy Alice Taylor

Births

- 10/29/08 Ava Rose Daniel,
daughter of Tessa & David Daniel
- 11/06/08 Madelyn Grace Satin,
daughter of Kristin & Jeff Satin

Weddings

- 10/17/08 Elizabeth Kathleen Wallace &
Brent Stephan Bassler
- 11/05/08 Renee A. Williams & Ronald L. Vaughn
- 11/08/08 Dixie Leigh Ann Spell &
Richard Anthony Daigler

New Members

- 10/12/08 Melissa & Charles (Trip) Bristow

Deaths

- 10/21/08 Shelly Leffers
- 11/01/08 Marcia Louise Woodworth Guy
- 11/12/08 Jane Shiveler
- 11/13/08 Carol R. Fyffe

Poinsettia Memorials

Order a poinsettia to help decorate the sanctuary for
the Christmas season. \$8.00/ per order. Contact
Diane King at 253-6047.

what's up?

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School students have been involved in the Sound Off for Poverty. For two weeks we campaigned for food for Metropolitan Ministries in exchange for performing a media fast. That's right, giving up one piece of media (cell phone, Internet, iPod, etc) for one whole week. Challenging, you bet. Worth it? Of course. One student confessed that it was easy to give up media for a week, mostly because she was grounded anyway. We learned how to tune out the noise in our lives and tune in the needs of the poor and oppressed in our world.

HIGH SCHOOL



High School students are spending December studying how to “worship fully, spend less, give more, and love all.” The Advent Conspiracy describes how the Christmas season is not about spending or consumerism, but about Jesus and his love for the world. Therefore, the high school youth group encourages you to buy one less present (how many

presents are obligations anyway?) and instead use your time to make God's love real to others through relational giving. Spend time with family, write a letter to a parent, and give time in your relationships priority this Christmas season.

SUMMER TRIPS 2009

High School

Montreat, North Carolina: July 12-18

Alaska Mission Trip: July 25-August 5 (applications are available and due by January 6).

Middle School

The Great Escape, Southwind Ocala: August 2-6
In-house mission info coming soon.

youth 2008

Middle School Youth Group

Wednesdays

Dinner at 5:30 p.m. & Youth Group at 6:00-7:30 p.m.

All are welcome!

High School Youth Group

Sundays at 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Bring a friend!

Youth Sunday School

Sundays at 9:45 on the 2nd floor in the Eastminster building.

Mark your calendars!

There is NO youth group on the following days:

Sunday, December 21

Wednesday, December 24

Sunday, December 28

Wednesday, December 31

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Information about the youth

Contact David Bonnema at 253-6047 or youth@palmaceia.org.

THE YOUTH



WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS COFFEE



Saturday, December 6
10:00 a.m.- noon
1040 Frankland Road
(the home of Frankie Harrell)

The Presbyterian Women invite you to a Christmas Coffee in honor of our new members. This is a special time to begin the Christmas season. All women of the church are invited.

A shuttle service will begin at 9:45 a.m. from the church parking lot.

If you have questions, please contact Tiffany Gould (tiffanycgould@yahoo.com).



NURTURE your FAITH

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Circle #1

Berdina Morgan
918 S. Golf View
12/1 @ 10:15 a.m.
Chair: Barbara Meng & Barbara Hopkins

Circle #2

Cynthia Mischler
3502 W. San Louis
12/1 @ 10:15 a.m.
Chair: Eleanor Rayburn & Cynthia Mischler

Circle #3

Ann McLauchlin
1502 Sheridan Forest Dr.
12/8 @ 10:15 a.m.
Chair: Ruth Anne Ferrell & Mary Catherine Gould

Circle #4

Mary Lou Bondi
PCPC: Room C311
12/1 @ 10:30 a.m.
Chair: Mary Lou Bondi & Bettie Nelson

Circle #5

Susan Barksdale
2604 N. Dundee
12/2 @ 7:30 p.m.
Chair: Jo Goldsmith & Cretora Biggerstaff

Circle #6

Sherry Leffers
3609 S. Beach Drive
12/8 @ 11:00 a.m.
Chair: Sara Winston

Circle #7

Michelle Hill
PCPC: PW Room
12/1 @ 10:15 a.m.
Chair: Michelle Hill

Circle #8

K.K. Cooper
840 S. Delaware Avenue
12/2 @ 6:30 (dinner) 7:00 (lesson)
Chair: Pat Spears

For more information about the Presbyterian Women contact Becky Charles at 251-2541.

FELLOWSHIP

With One Another

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

PCPC Young At Hearts Christmas Luncheon

All senior adults, please join us for a potluck PCPC Luncheon (dessert provided) on Dec. 13 at 12:00-3:00 p.m. to celebrate the Christmas season. After lunch, we will watch "It Is a Wonderful Life" in the movie room with popcorn and hot tea. RSVP by calling the receptionist at 253-6047.

TAPESTRY

Tapestry to Host Vespers Reception

Following the regular Vespers Service on Sunday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. the women of Tapestry will host a reception open to all. Women of the church are encouraged to take time during the busy season to prepare themselves spiritually for the celebration of the Christ child.

MUSIC MINISTRY

David Matthews in Concert

Wednesday, December 3 at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary following Wednesday Night Dinner.

Carols with the Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet

The Tampa Oratorio Singers perform with The Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet on Sunday, December 7 at 5:00 in the Fletcher Lounge in Plant Hall at the University of Tampa.

A \$15.00 donation is accepted.

Handel's Messiah at PCPC

The Tampa Oratorio Singers and PCPC's Chancel Choir present Handel's Messiah on Saturday, December 13 at 5:00 and Sunday December 14 at 5:00 in the sanctuary of Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church. *A free-will offering will be received.*

David Matthews Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
Enjoy Christmas music as David plays the sanctuary instruments.

Housing Needs

We are in need of housing 55 members of the Westminster College Choir the evening of Tuesday, January 13. The students can be met after the concert in the breezeway. They will need breakfast and a ride back to the church the following morning. People willing to house students should contact Diane King (813) 253-6047.

Wednesday Dinner

Whenever we gather around tables to share meals with one another it can be a sacred experience as our bodies and souls are fed and nourished.

November Menu

12/3 David Matthews Concert
Spaghetti & cake

12/10 Jolly Trolley & Sing-a-long
Meat loaf, scalloped potatoes,
broccoli & brownies

12/17 Staff Follies
Roast beef, mashed potatoes,
green beans & pecan pie

A salad bar & bread are served at every meal.

**No Wednesday Dinner on
12/24 & 12/31**

Details

Serving line begins at 5:30 p.m.

Cost of dinner per person: \$5.00
per child 0-2: free
per child 3-6: \$2.00
per child 7-12: \$3.00
per family: \$15.00
6 meal booklet: \$25.00

Reservations: (813) 253-6047



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
Spirituality Class: EM305
The Apostles Creed: C312

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 (November 5, 19)

Young Adult Women, discussing the book *What Eve Didn't Tell Us*. 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.

STEWARDSHIP

By Rev. John DeBevoise

Christmas activities are well under way at PCPC. I am especially looking forward to the Christmas Eve services. I am grateful to be a part of the rich tradition of these candlelight and communion services as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

I am also grateful for the faithful support this congregation has given PCPC over the past year. Because of your care and contributions we are completing a year full of mission on behalf of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your financial support.

Now we are completing the Stewardship Campaign for 2009. Because of your past support we have an 80-year history of ministry in the Palma Ceia community. I am hoping if you have not turned in a commitment card yet you will consider supporting Christ's church again in 2009. If you are able to do so and feel led by the Lord, would you send in a pledge card to the church officers? They are at work on the church budget for 2009, and receiving these cards helps them to know how to plan.

Thank you for your help, your prayerful support, and your encouragement. May the Spirit of Jesus Christ bless your Advent and Christmas observances. I hope to see you here at one of the Christmas services.

Financial Report

It has been a financially crazy year for many. Your church has felt this as well. We want to thank you for your gifts thus far and remind you to please have your 2008 gifts into the finance office by Wednesday, 12/31/08, for tax purposes. If you are giving stock, please initiate your stock transaction before 12/31/08 with your broker.

2008 Budget = \$1,864,000

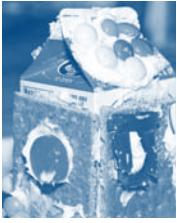
2009 Pledges to Date = \$818,000

Church Financial Statement through October 31, 2008

	Budget	Year-to-Date	% of Budget
Pledge/Offering Income	\$1,850,000	\$1,282,038	69
Total Income	\$1,864,000	\$1,292,994	69
Total Expense	\$1,864,000	\$1,466,175	79
NET INCOME		-\$173,181	

What's Coming Up

Stone Soup



Sunday, December 7 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Crafts in the gym for all ages. Dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall (before the Living Nativity) at 6:00 p.m.

Living Nativity



Sunday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. on the front lawn. Enjoy PCPC's live interpretation of the Living Nativity with animals, angels, shepherds and of course the holy family. All families are invited to be a part of the story by volunteering to be angels, shepherds and wise men.

Sausage Sunday

Sunday, December 21

9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Sausage and egg casserole, fruit, orange juice and coffee will be served in the Fellowship Hall. This event is our way of saying welcome to the Advent and Christmas season and to further Christian fellowship through tangible signs of warm hospitality like Christmas biscuits and sausage. Deuteronomy 12:20

Derek Maul

December 7 & 14 at 9:45 a.m., Eastminster 307

Derek Maul, a former teacher trained in psychology and education and author of *Get Real: A Spiritual Journey for Men* from Upper Room books, writes a regular column for the *Tampa Tribune*; he will speak on his latest book, *In My Heart I Carry a Star: Stories for Advent*. Copies of his Advent book are for sale in the church office.

For questions concerning any of these programs, please contact Linda Beckham at 253-6047 or linda@palmaceia.org

Children's Sunday School

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Parents, please bring your children to their classroom to meet their teaching team.

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.

* Children ages 3 through 1st grade are eligible to attend Godly Play.



IPPLESHIP
C
D



This Season

Say the Words.

Connection Worship Service

A Service of Advent Messages

November 30 - December 21, 2008

8:30 & 9:45 a.m., Sundays



PALMA CEIA
Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 2008

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.palmaceiapres.org

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