



PCPC LIFE

PALMA CEIA Presbyterian Church

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

September 2008

Kirking of the Tartans

Sunday, September 28th

PCPC prepares once again to celebrate the “Kirking of the Tartans”. It is a favorite service for many of our members and is held jointly with the St. Andrews Society of Tampa Bay.

“Kirking of the Tartans” means “Churching of the Tartans,” which makes most sense if we understand it as a celebration and thanksgiving for our heritage of faith and blessing of “clans,” or families, of the church.

The services will include a bagpiper at the 8:30 a.m. (Traditional) and the full St. Andrews Society Pipe and Drum Band at the 11:00 a.m., as well as a procession of the tartans.



PASTORAL MESSAGE

Do You Know Who You Are?

In September in the Traditional services we will be gathering in worship around the lectionary texts from Exodus for that month. These readings will be shared on Sunday mornings by millions of Christians around the world. They include four famous bible stories about Moses: When the people had to flee, when Moses parted the sea, when everyone was grumbling, when Moses needed a miracle (Exodus 12: 1-15, 14: 19-31, 16: 2-15, 17: 1-17). I love the unity of reading together the same Bible story that Christians around the world are reading together, on the same Sunday. We still have a lot to learn from Moses.

Continued on pg 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

This Month @ PCPC

- 9/1 Labor Day**
Office closed
- 9/6 Rock the Universe** (*Youth event*)
- 9/7 Back to Sunday School**
New year for Sunday School begins today!
Worship (*times stated below*)
- 9/8 Presbyterian Women**
Bible Moderators meet @ 8:45 a.m.
Board Meeting @ 10:15 a.m.
- 9/10 Wednesday Night Dinner begins**
5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Middle School Youth Group begins
6:30 p.m. in the gym
Joyful Noise Choir and Jr. Choir begins
5:15-6:00 p.m. (details on page 8)
- 9/14 High School Youth Group begins**
6:00-7:30 p.m. in the youth room
Worship (*times stated below*)
- 9/15 Presbyterian Women Covered Dish**
10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- 9/17 Wednesday Night Dinner**
- 9/21 Worship** (*times stated below*)
- 9/24 Wednesday Night Dinner**
- 9/28 Kirking of the Tartans** (*details on pg. 1*)
Confirmation Class begins
4:30-6:00 p.m.

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

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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@palmacea.org, call (813) 253-2202 or place it in Katie White's box (located in the church office).

Continued from pg.1

In a profound sense century after century these stories have been one of the ways in which The Holy Spirit teaches us who we are. "Who are we?" God's people ask, and Exodus answers: "Here is a story from the past that helps you to understand who you are. Here is a story about your relationship with God." The stories have endured over the centuries because God's Spirit keeps teaching them to people and because the community keeps affirming "These scriptures help to teach us who we are."

As a pastor I'm struck by how throughout our life journeys, especially our faith journeys, we Christians keep seeking to understand who God is calling us to be, what is our purpose, how is God calling us to live? I'm looking forward to returning to the wisdom of these old, old teaching stories to hear the truth once again, the truth about who we are, and whose we are.

If you find yourself sometimes trying to figure out who you are, here's some coaching: Try listening. Listen to the narrative of the Holy scriptures they speak the truth once again. This summer I sat with some of the folks who have been reading the Bible in 90 days. We were over two thirds of the way through the Bible. And she remarked "You know, there's something going on here. As I read and hear these scriptures, during the week, certain stories and verses keep coming back to me, they start speaking to my life during the week." Exactly. When we read and hear the old, old story, in our lives the Holy Spirit makes it God's new, new song. And it's singing to us the truth of who God is calling us and shaping us to be.

I hope you hear the Bible singing to you in September. A good place to start listening is in worship.

IN GRATITUDE,\

Pastor John

John T. DeBevoise

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.

worship *today*

CREDO

A Worship Event

On Friday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m. the Connection Services are hosting a special worship event called "Credo" [Latin for "I believe"]. This will be a time to worship and celebrate the work of Jesus in our lives as we begin the school year and before we get into all the holiday programming. Our church, in our Connection services, has been studying various religions in the world as we finished the summer and into September. We have been considering the differences between Christianity and ancient and modern expressions of faiths lived out by our neighbors. One aspect of these studies has been the lifting up of the claims of Jesus, the person of Jesus and our faith in the teaching and work of Jesus. This event will be a celebration the One we follow.

At 6:00 p.m. there will be a number of "rooms" available by which to get prepared for worship. There will be a dinner room – so if you need to eat before you come in to worship you'll have that chance. There will also be a meditation room, a labyrinth room, a prayer room and other spaces set aside so that you can get quiet, focused and simply prepared. You can also just come at 7:00 p.m. The rooms are available as a help.

Worship will be in the Connection worship space on the second floor. This will be a more adult focused time than the worship concerts we've hosted in the past and so we are suggesting that you find your children a sitter. Childcare will be provided for our youngest kids. Older teenagers will certainly fit into the evening and are welcome.

Please put it on the calendar as a special event and look for more information as it becomes available.

WORSHIP

PRESCHOOL INCLUSION

By Doreen Altieri, Assistant Director

All early childhood programs have a similar purpose - providing experiences to enhance the development and well being of young children. Today, young children with and without disabilities are increasingly being served in the same programs. PCPPS has always been way ahead of the trend... 27 years ahead to be exact. Nancy Little and her staff opened the preschool doors for any child regardless of their disability and included them into the preschool with the underlying philosophy that all children belong together.

My family moved to Florida 22 years ago and being a special educator, I immediately began looking for a preschool for my son due to his speech delay. I was searching for a school filled with children with whom my son could interact and learn communicative skills, and which would provide opportunities to develop real friendships with typical peers.

Many of our life-long lessons about social relationships with others begin in the preschool classroom. There is an extensive body of research that indicates that participating in meaningful friendships is a critical part of both a typical child's development and also a child with disabilities. What better place for my sons to attend than this church preschool that opens its arms to all children?

I also wanted to develop relationships with families who have children with disabilities and make a contribution to them and their church community. I yearned to return to the classroom and in doing so, teach children about individual differences and about acceptance.

After touring the classrooms at Palma Ceia and speaking with Nancy, my son was enrolled and I was given the opportunity to teach. PCPPS not only welcomed my children, but also welcomed me. I feel very much a part of the life and development of the preschool and have supported inclusion of children of differing abilities since the day I walked through its doors.

As Jesus said: "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me." Palma Ceia welcomed my sons and continues to nurture and welcome many children of all abilities. Walk in any day we are in session and see inclusion at it's finest. Thank you Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church for supporting such a fine example of God's work in progress!



As Jesus said:
“Whoever
welcomes one
of these little
children in my
name welcomes
me.”

are you HURRICANE READY?

So far this hurricane season, we have had five named storms, two of which become hurricanes. The latest predictions are calling for 18 tropical storms, 10 to become hurricanes. Five of these may be "intense" Category 3 or above, with winds in excess of 111mph.

Hurricane season began June 1 and ends Nov. 30. Experts have said, "There is a high (about 95%) certainty that activity will be in the top one-third historically this year."

Do you know what zone you live in? A great website: http://www.tampagov.net/appl_my_tampa_address/map.asp? Type in your address and under "optional characteristics," go to "Evacuation Zone." If you don't have access to a computer, feel free to call the office and we will help you locate your zone.

Below are some questions you may want to ask yourself if the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations tells people who live in your zone to leave:

- Do you have a plan as to where you would go?
- Would you stay with a relative or friend?
- Does your family have an evacuation plan?
- Can you locate important papers in your house?
- Is your home prepared for hurricane season?
- Do you have a "Disaster Supply Kit" that would last 3-5 days?
- Have you prepared for your pets?

There is a website for pet friendly motels: <http://www.officialpethotels.com> <<http://www.officialpethotels.com/>> If you have health problems, you may be eligible for a medical emergency shelter. You must register with Red Cross (813) 251-0921 in advance to reserve a place.

PCPC's Hurricane Committee will have brochures and a medical sheet available in the office all of September. This will be for your own records only.

Alpha House Faith Partners

PCPC has started new local mission outreach with the Alpha House of Tampa Bay. If you are interested in volunteering once a month for painting, repairs and cooking classes, please go to our web site www.palmace-iapres.org.

Mission Strategy

In evaluating the history of the Witness and Service Committee, it appears that the most successful mission projects this church has undertaken have resulted from God putting people and organizations in our paths. Rather than sending out calls for grant proposals or having a formal selection process, the committee needs to prayerfully consider the people and organizations God sends to us.

God has spoken to us through committee members with a strong passion, congregation members sharing a ministry with which they are currently involved, an e-mail from someone in a developing country, or a church staff member introducing the committee to a local start-up ministry. On August 16th our Witness & Service Committee gathered to discuss the future design of our mission strategy so that we could best understand it, present it to the church at large and institute it as we move forward into the future. On October 19th, the W&S committee will bring to the church a statement of this strategy so that our whole community can work with a clearer understanding of how mission is viewed and how we are planning for the future.

It is the desire of the committee to bring forward, as God leads, opportunities for every member of the church to be involved in mission work that grips their hearts and challenges them to rely on God's grace to accomplish. We hope that there is something for everyone.

MISSION

“LET YOUR GENTLENESS BE EVIDENT TO ALL. THE LORD IS NEAR.” - PHILIPPIANS 4:5

the LIFE of the church

Weddings

- 07/19/08 Katie Elizabeth Copeland & Adam Justin Parham
08/02/08 Melinda Jeannine Robbins & Jason Zachary Lenz
08/09/08 Michelle Ashley Fletcher & Cody Ellis Rickett

Baptisms

- 08/10/08 Marley Culbreath Abrunzo, daughter of Meredith & Christopher Abrunzo
08/10/08 Ian William Givens, son of Ashli & Chris Givens

New Members

- 07/27/08 Courtney & Brian Heinz
07/27/08 Jimmy Snodgrass
07/27/08 Lorrie J. Smith
07/27/08 Christine Toft-Pedersen

Death

- 08/09/08 Florence Heald

FINANCE REPORT

Church Financial Statement through June 2008
Annual Budget: \$1,864,000

	June	Year-to-Date
Pledge Offering/ Income	\$87,410	\$719,403
Other Gifts/ Interest Income	\$0	\$4,785
Total	\$184,203	\$724,188

High School Mission

A group of High School folks went to Montana on a mission trip, where they served on a local Indian Reservation the first part of the trip, then backpacked on the second. Here are some shots from their spiritual journey.

Sharing Summer Trips

Sunday, September 21st

In the Connection Services there will be a focus on the summer trips and experiences. Lots of pictures will be available. There were many young people involved, so the students themselves won't be sharing all their stories in the services, but will be available to talk with personally.



faith



youth 2008

Congratulations Sarah and David!

David Bonnema and his new bride, Sarah, arrive on Thursday August 14th. They will be living in the manse, north of the church parking lot. We welcome Sarah as part of our community. Along with David, she is a graduate of Whitworth College in Washington. She is going to graduate school at USF and will be working in the area.

Rock the Universe

September 6th

Youth Group Begins

Middle School

September 10th

Every Wednesday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

High School

September 14th

Every Sunday from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation

Sunday, September 28th from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Confirmation is for all incoming freshman students, but open to all students in 9-12 grade.

Changes this year include the class time expanding to an hour and a half because there will be NO homework. All work will be done on Sundays. The first semester is September 28- November 16. The second semester is February 8 - March 29. Students will have simple projects to complete privately over the break from November 16th until the end of January. To register, please contact Sara Winston at 253-6047.



walk with Jesus

compassion



YOUTH

MUSIC NOTES



Children's Music Ministry

Joyful Noise Choir

Rehearsals: September 10th @ 5:15-6:00
Location: Westminster, rm. 210
Ages: Pre-K 4, Kindergarten & 1st grade
Directors: Sarah Stichter & Catherine Pereira

Party: Wednesday, September 3rd, 5:00-6:00
Kate Jackson Park (play and pizza)

Junior Choir

Rehearsals: September 10th @ 5:15-6:00
Location: Chancel Choir Room, Covenant Hall
Ages: 2nd grade - 5th grade (w/ 6th grade helpers)
Directors: Nancy Callahan & Ashley Greenfield

Pool Party: Wednesday, September 10th, 5:00-6:00
Nancy Callahan's house, 2707 West Morrison Ave.

Adult Music Ministries

Handbell Choir

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00
Location: Covenant Hall, room 313
Director: Bonnie Givens
813-253-3133 or bgivens@tampabay.rr.com

Chancel Choir

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30
Location: Chancel Choir Room, Covenant Hall
Director: Nancy Callahan
813-253-6047 or Callahan@palmaccia.org

Please pray for members and friends of our Chancel choir as they prepare for a trip to Scotland & England to sing and celebrate from October 7-16.

NURTURE your FAITH



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Covered Dish General Meeting

September 15th at 10:15 a.m.
Sponsored by Circle #5 in the Fellowship Hall
Kick off a new year with the Presbyterian Women. The new lesson for 2008-2009 study will be introduced.

Bible Moderators

September 8th at 8:45 a.m.
PW Room, C-309

Board Meeting

September 8th at 10:15 a.m.
PW Room, C-309

2008-2009 Circle Chairs

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

Circle meetings will resume in October

The Presbyterian Women's 2008-2009 Board

President - Becky Charles
President-Elect - Cheryl Fraser
Treasurer - Joann Dawkins
Program - Nancy Nelson
Recording Secretary - Nancy Lorenzen
Corresponding Secretary - Anne Loomis, Diane Dees
Historian - Penny Dewell, Sally Glisson

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



By Kathy Gibson

Mountain air, tree breezes, rushing water, warm stone buildings, white swans swimming, rocking chairs, porch voices - all blur into the sensory experience of Montreat. After only a few visits, I remember Montreat not so much as a place, but as an experience that I recall through my senses - a few of those snippets I will share here.

Serving Communion by Intinction with Nicole

There is something about the combination of close and meaningful eye contact, the speaking and hearing of intimate words, "...the body of Christ broken for you, Mary..," and the breaking of bread, that quietly yet powerfully links us together. Through administering intinction, I feel the vulnerability of the moment and sometimes that moment - which can be with someone I know well or someone I've never met - can be overpowering. This is often how I experience God - in fleeting, indelible, palpable slices. This intersection of spirit and body for me leaves no doubt about God's fully authentic presence and reinforces the intended connection we share with one another.

Walking with an old Friend

Marcia Mount Shoop - who served as an Associate Pastor briefly @ PCPC a few years ago when her husband was coaching for the Bucs - and I walked up the hill to her family friend's house. Marcia gave a wonderful sermon that ended in the washing and blessing of hands - a personal, intimate experience like intinction above. When we got to the door of her friend's home, I was invited to stay for dinner. What a warm feeling to be welcomed and included around the table. You never know where walks with friends will lead...

My hope is that the Montreat experience can become part of your series of indelible moments. Come to your senses and join us in 2009!

Wednesday Dinner

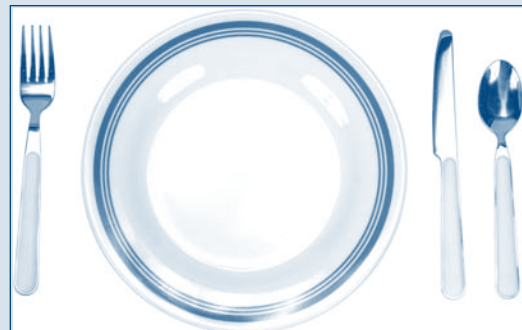
Join your PCPC friends and family for a new season of Wednesday dinners, prepared by Coretha Johnson and served by our beloved Presbyterian Women.

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.

September Menu

- 9/10 Birthday Celebration**
Hamburgers, baked beans, chips, slaw, cake & ice cream.
- 9/17 Wednesday Dinner**
Lemon chicken, mixed vegetables, rice, & pie.
- 9/24 Back To School**
Pork chops, green bean casserole, carrots, & apple cake.

A salad bar & bread are served at every meal.



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 6-12: \$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. Feel free to join any of these classes.

Adult Sunday School

Kick off with Breakfast and Information

Begin a new year of growing in your walk with Jesus Christ by sampling the menu of options available for adults with a breakfast on September 7th between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m..

Kids bring your parents by for food and a presentation at 9:30 and 10:30 before you check out your own class.

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.

Thursdays

The Mustard Seeds, C311, 10:30 a.m.
A women's Bible study begins on September 4th. This year's study is on Virtue and the Fruits of the Spirit. If you are interested in participating, please contact Betty Jo Andrews at 254-4959.

Young At Heart

PCPC has been invited by Hyde Park United Methodist and Bayshore Baptist Church to join their "Young At Heart" monthly luncheons for anyone 65 and older. This is a great opportunity for couples and singles in our three churches to come together for fellowship! Each church is responsible for the luncheon every three months, beginning with Bayshore Baptist on September 18th @ 12:30 p.m. (lunch at New Beginnings Christian Church), Hyde Park United Methodist on October 14th and Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church hosting on November 20th. If you are interested in participating please contact B.J. Johns, bj@palmaccia.org, or 813-253-6047.

Sermons On-Line

Recordings of both the Traditional and Contemporary worship service are available on the church's website. The sermons can be found at www.palmacciapres.org/sermonarchive.

Pass the Word, Tampa Bay

Super Bowl XLIII takes place on February 1, 2009, in Tampa. Using that Super Bowl spark of excitement, we're going to light a fire of a different kind. On the morning of Saturday, January 31st, 195,000 Tampa families will wake up to find a copy of the New Testament in the packaging of their Tampa Tribune.

The plan relies on a financially efficient distribution system: newspaper circulation. Amazingly, the cost per delivered copy is only about \$2.25. Let's make their cups overflow! Pray that hearts would be changed all over Tampa when His Word touches down on doorsteps this winter!

To contribute, go to, www.ibs.org/cityreachers.com, then click Tampa Bay (by November 15, 2008). For more information, email PasstheWordTampaBay@gmail.com or Geoff Kohler at geoff@palmaccia.org.

What's Coming Up

Upward Basketball 2008

Upward Basketball has begun! Mark your calendars, the awards banquet is November 23rd.



3rd Grade Bible Workshop

September 28th & October 5th

11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. (lunch included)

All third graders and their parent(s) are invited to participate. Bible Presentation Sunday will be on October 12th during worship.

Godly Play for the Family

Wednesday, October 22 - How the Church Tells Time

Wednesday, December 17 - The Story of Advent

6:45 p.m, Godly Play, 1st floor of Covenant Hall.

For people/ families of all sizes.

Thank You Volunteers

The summer camps and activities at the church this summer were made possible by you and your dedication. Thank you and God bless you!

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

Photograph taken on the High School mission trip.

Children's Sunday School

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Parents, please bring your children to their classroom to meet their teaching team. Toddler 2 through Kindergarten are located on the 1st floor Eastminster and Covenant Hall. 1st through 5th Grades are on the 2nd floor of Westminster. Visitors are welcome!

Back to Sunday School September 7th

A whole new year of exciting curriculum begins on September 7th for ages Pre-K 2-5th grades! Come, meet your children's teachers, thank them for their volunteerism and be in prayer that God's word reaches the hearts of our church families!

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 through 1st grade are now eligible to attend Godly Play.



DISCIPLESHIP



What Difference Does it Make ?

An exploration into the difference between Christianity and the faiths of our neighbors

CONNECTION WORSHIP SERVICE

The series continues with...
“Oprahism” on September 7th &
“Judaism” on September 14th



SEPTEMBER 2008

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

3501 San Jose • Tampa, FL 33629
Phone: (813) 253-6047
Fax: (813) 254-5274
www.palmaceiapres.org

PALMA CEIA
Presbyterian Church



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