

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 118:29



PCPC LIFE

PALMA CEIA Presbyterian Church

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

Spring 2017

HOLY WEEK PASSPORTS ARE BACK!

Q: What is a Holy Week Passport?

A: A guide for children to understand and be prepared to worship with their family Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Each service has its own page in the passport with scripture, age-appropriate definitions, and what to look for in the worship services. Kids are encouraged to bring their passport with them to worship throughout Holy Week and receive a “stamp” (sticker) in their passport for attending.

Q: Where does my child(ren) receive a Holy Week Passport?

A: Passports are available at the entry of each of our worship spaces near the Children’s Worship bulletins and in the church office.

Q: Are Holy Week services appropriate for my young children?

A: Yes, the stories of Holy Week are key stories of our faith and carry with them a great deal of mystery and power which connect with children. Especially elementary age children are ready to hear the stories and participate in worship around them.

Q: What can I expect from the worship services?

A: On Maundy Thursday the church hears the story of Jesus’ washing the disciples’ feet and the Last Supper. All of our services this day include these scripture readings and the Sacrament of Communion. The 6:30 p.m. service also includes music by the choir and the “stripping of the chancel.” The stripping of the chancel is a powerful moment where, in preparation for what is to come on Good Friday, all decorations are removed from the chancel and the lights are turned off. Good Friday services tell the story of the events that lead to Jesus’ death. It is a somber service and children are helped when we acknowledge the sadness of the day. Remember, and help your child remember, the day is Good Friday because even in the midst of the sadness we recognize that God is at work and the good news that comes Easter morning is that Jesus is risen!

Q: I want to bring my elementary age children to worship but don’t feel comfortable bringing my non-school aged children; is there a nursery?

A: Parents should know all children are welcome in all of our services. However we recognize that for a variety of reasons parents may prefer another option. In an effort to support families, the church nursery is available for birth-4 year olds during the 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday service and the 12:15 pm Good Friday service.

... from the Pastor’s Desk

WHAT’S GOING ON IN THE GREETING DURING WORSHIP?

(We are practicing being resurrected.)

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord Jesus and said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Re-ceive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” John 20: 19-21

When the resurrected Jesus greets the disciples, he greets them in a specific way. “Peace be with you,” he says to them. Not once, but twice in John’s gospel. And then he shows them the signs of the holes in his hands. This, as a sort of proof, that it is the resurrected Jesus they are encountering.

Why does Jesus greet them with peace? Perhaps because he knew that they were afraid. And perhaps because on this side of the good news of the resurrection, peace is a state in which all Christians should be residing. Because through the events of the resurrection we see that God indeed will triumph over every worry and over every problem.

“Peace be with you,” says the resurrected Jesus. Meaning, the peace of God be with you. Meaning all-of-the-things-that-the-peace-of-God-is be with you. Meaning the love of God is on you. The care of God be near you. The plan of God be before you. The joy of God pour in you. “Peace be with you,” says Jesus. “Shalom to you.” This is what the resurrected Jesus brings.

The Church never got over this greeting. Like a first kiss, the community of faith never forgot that this was the way that the resurrected Jesus first greeted the community of the disciples. In fact, they continued it. They adopted it as a greeting. This exchange of God’s peace began very quickly to be a regular part of the fellowship of those faithful to Christ, especially as they gathered for worship.

Continued on page 4

WORSHIP CALENDAR

April 2: 5th Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Traditional Worship (John DeBevoise preaching)
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship with communion at 11 (David Bonnema preaching)
4:30 - 6:00 pm - *Word, Ritual, & Symbol* for Parents/Guardians & Children: Preparing for Holy Week in the Fellowship Hall with Dinner at 5:30 pm.
6:00 pm - Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

Wednesday, April 5

12:00 pm - Midweek Lenten service in the Chapel with communion
30-minute service of scripture reading, prayer, and quiet reflection

Holy Week

Sunday, April 9 (Palm Sunday) - Sunday, April 16 (Easter)

The chapel will be open for prayer 8am - 9pm every day during Holy Week.

Sunday, April 9: Palm Sunday

Services remembering Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the Passion of Christ that followed.
8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Traditional Worship: Palm Sunday and Passion readings from Scripture
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship: Palm Sunday Focus. Communion will be served at 11am.
4:00 pm - Concert in Sanctuary: Mozart's Requiem, presented by the Tampa Oratorio Singers and members of PCPC Chancel Choir, directed by Nancy Callahan
6:00 pm - Palm Sunday Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

Wednesday, April 12: Holy Wednesday

12:00 pm - Midweek Lenten service in the Chapel
30-minute service of scripture reading, prayer, and quiet reflection.
NO Wednesday Night Dinner Tonight (*Dinner Thursday this week instead*)

Thursday, April 13: Maundy Thursday

Communion services remembering Christ's gift of the Lord's Supper.
8:00 am - Maundy Thursday worship service in the Chapel
12:15 pm - Maundy Thursday worship service in the Chapel
5:30 pm - *Maundy Thursday Fellowship Meal in the Fellowship Hall*
6:30 pm - Maundy Thursday worship service in the Sanctuary (Nursery care available for children up to 4 years old)
7:30 pm - Maundy Thursday worship service in the Chapel

Friday, April 14: Good Friday

Solemn services focusing on Christ's obedience, even through crucifixion.
8:00 am - Good Friday worship service in the Chapel
12:15 pm - Good Friday service in the Sanctuary (Nursery care available for children up to 4 years old)
6:30 pm - Good Friday service in the Sanctuary
7:30 pm - Good Friday worship service in the Chapel

Sunday, April 16: Easter Sunday

The celebration of Christ's resurrection. All worship services will lift up the festive celebration of Christ's resurrection with music, liturgy, and proclamation
6:15 am - Sunrise Service at Bayshore Presbyterian Church
8:30 & 11:00 am - Festive Easter Worship in Sanctuary
9:00 & 11:00 am - Easter Contemporary Worship Service with communion at 11
6:00 pm - Easter Vespers Service in the Chapel, with final readings in the courtyard with steeple bells and lemonade

Sunday, April 23: Communion Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Worship (Nicole Abdnour preaching)
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship (David Bonnema preaching)
6:00 pm - Emmaus Walk Vespers Service - Service of scripture, prayer, and communion in the chapel. The Vespers Service this evening will include the completion of the Easter Octave with a 'Road to Emmaus' walk around the church.

Sunday, April 30: Youth Sunday

Worship at 9:00 and 11:00 today is led by the youth of PCPC under the leadership of Rev. David Bonnema and Kenny Hubbell.
8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Worship (Traditional). Youth will have a role helping to lead the 11:00 service.
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Worship at The Connection today is led by the PCPC Youth Group.
6:00 pm - Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

Sunday, May 7

8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Worship (John DeBevoise preaching)
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship with communion at 11 (David Bonnema preaching)
6:00 pm - Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

Sunday, May 14: Mother's Day

8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Worship (John DeBevoise preaching)
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship with communion at 11 (David Bonnema preaching)
6:00 pm - Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

Sunday, May 21

8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Worship (Nicole Abdnour preaching)
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship with communion at 11 (David Bonnema preaching)
6:00 pm - Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

Sunday, May 28: Ascension Sunday/Memorial Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 am - Sanctuary Worship (John DeBevoise preaching)
9:00 & 11:00 am - Contemporary Connection Worship with communion at 11 (David Bonnema preaching)
6:00 pm - Vespers Service - Service of quiet Scripture reading, prayer, and contemplation in the Chapel. The Sacrament of Communion will be served.

COVENANT CIRCLE OPEN LUNCHEON

MAY 5 AT 12:30PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

As we approach Mother's Day and Easter, we are reminded of traditions that have become an important part of families' celebrations of these events. These traditions can take many different forms, including special meals, events, visits to local attractions or restaurants that hold special importance, and the family stories that seem to be told at every family gathering. These traditions become ingrained in the fabric of family history and continue even when family members are unable to make it back to town or after family members have passed away.

The church also has traditions, and people have created their own traditions. On any Sunday, we routinely witness three generations of family sitting together. Small children are nurtured in their faith by engaging in the same activities that their parents participated in their youth. Over time, special services, events, or programs have grown to hold special meaning to church members.

Some people have taken steps to ensure the continuation of those special memories by joining the Covenant Circle. The Covenant Circle consists of people who have included Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church in their estate planning. To join, people merely need to need to inform the church that they have included Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church in their estate planning. No gift is too large or too small and no questions will be asked about the remembrance. Such remembrances have taken various forms, including naming the church in their will or as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or Individual Retirement Account.

The gifts can be made in a variety of manners. Some gifts name the church and the funds are put into an account. Interest from that account is given annually to the church. Others have chosen to endow special programs, such as organ maintenance, subsidies for youth trips, support of the preschool, provide scholarships for youth mission trips, provide support for foreign missionaries, and scholarships for Cedarkirk. The Covenant Circle allows you to continue to provide for the church after you have passed to continue traditions that are important and invest a Godly inheritance in others and the continuation of Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church.

There will be a luncheon on May 5 at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for lunch if you would have an interest in learning more about the Covenant Circle. We will also have information available about estate planning. *If you are now or have an interest in becoming a member of the Covenant Circle, please join us.*

RACE RELATIONS IN AMERICA - A MONTHLY BOOK DISCUSSION

APRIL 20TH, 7:00 - 9:00 PM IN COVENANT HALL 309

The discussion book for April 20th is *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James H. Cone. In addition to discussion of the books, the group engages in conversations about race in America, the current social climate, and the role of the church amid all of it.

UPDATE FROM PRESCHOOL

The 2016-2017 school year has flown by. The learning that has occurred through the children's natural exploration is a joy to witness. One of the interests that some of our students expressed was an interest in learning about the way things grow. That



interest led to an extended project that allowed the children to plant a garden, explore the church grounds and photograph what they saw, observe earthworms, and read about God's good creation. The children also learned about some of the paintings that

French impressionist Claude Monet completed in his garden. Looking retrospectively at the year, it is a privilege to see what a positive impression has been made on each of the students - from their learning gains to their relationships with each other. Our incredible teachers have worked hard to make sure that each child knows that they are respected, safe, and loved, which ultimately created a learning environment where our students thrived. Thanks be to God for another wonderful year at Palma Ceia Presbyterian Preschool and thanks be to God for our supportive congregation, who makes it possible for our school to carry out its mission.

Music Notes....

MOZART'S REQUIEM AT PCPC

Sun., April 9 4pm

Tickets available in the church office for PCPC members

The Tampa Oratorio Singers (TOS) will perform Mozart's "Requiem" with full orchestra on Sunday, April 9, 2017 at PCPC.

Mozart's "Requiem" was written just a few weeks before the composer's death in 1791 and was completed by his composition student, Franz Süssmayr. Audiences will recognize the fiery "Dies Irae" and the mournful "Lachrymosa" from the movie Amadeus. While scholars wrestle with the authorship of the piece, audiences regularly choose Mozart's one of the most popular pieces of classical choral music.

Music Director Nancy Callahan will conduct the performance. Tickets are available in the church office for free for PCPC members. Otherwise, tickets are \$20 general admission; \$10 senior citizens, available at the door, or in advance on the Tampa Oratorio Singers website.

Choir Notes:

Wed., April 12th (Holy Wednesday) - No choir rehearsal for children or adults

Thurs., April 13th (Maundy Thursday) - Choir sings for 6:30 worship service (meet at 6:05), followed by rehearsal for Easter Sunday

Wed., April 19: No chancel choir rehearsal

Sun., April 23: No chancel choir

Connected now with the memory and the story of the greeting of the resurrected Jesus, this greeting became not only “Peace be with you,” but now “The Peace of Christ be with you.” By incorporating this Christian greeting as a ritual, as part of the worship of the earliest church and forward, the disciples were witnessing to the resurrection of Jesus. The greeting was an external witness of their faith that Jesus was resurrected, a reenacting of the way in which the Resurrected Christ greeted them.

In this church, on most Sundays, we continue this practice with our greeting after the confession. Repeating in the greeting the phrase “The Peace of Christ be with you,” is a way of remembering the gift of peace which Christ promised us through the Holy Spirit.

Across the centuries this greeting has become a reminder to the community that as Christians, we are called to the ministry of hospitality. This is a part of our Old Testament heritage as well as our New Testament faith. In Romans, Chapter 12, it reads, “Contribute to the needs of the saints. Extend hospitality to strangers.” And then in Hebrews, Chapter 13, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that, some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

Across the centuries, this greeting has become more. It has served as a sign amongst the community of faith that, in Christ, God reconciles us. It has served as a sign of our mutual recognition, which all too often may be a work in progress. In that sense the greeting is also then a sign of hope; hope for the promised reconciliation of the world.

At this point in my life I continue to ask folks to share in the Christian greeting when I lead worship for several reasons:

- This is a world desperately in need of external signs of reconciliation. In Christ, in this greeting, we act out a sort of prayer.
- There is not love of God without love of neighbor. Sabbath worship is about being a part of the Christian community.
- The greeting in the Peace of Christ helps us to witness to our desired unity, our unity as brothers and sisters in Christ, even when the world may give very little evidence of it. We are practicing being resurrected.

In her book *Practicing Our Faith*, Dorothy Bass tells the story of a woman who comes to the pastor after church one Sunday to tell him how much this greeting has become to her. “I know there are some people who find it an interruption,” she said, “but I live alone, and I have yet to make many friends here. This is the only place all week where anyone speaks to me in the name of Jesus Christ. It is the only place where anyone touches me. It is the only moment all week where I am a part of a community that claims to care. Please, never change it.”

There are people amongst us like that. “Bear one another’s burdens.” “Be ye kind and tender-hearted to one another.” “Peace be with you.” (Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:32, John 20:19).

The greeting in the name of Jesus Christ is a time in worship when we remind ourselves that we serve a resurrected Lord who did not abandon his friends, even after he had been horribly hurt. Jesus stood amongst his disciples when they were afraid, when they were in danger, seeking to give them courage, good news, and hope. Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”



Pastor John

EASTER PRAYER

Lord God of life, on this morning of mornings, we come in awe before you. Everything we assumed was true has been shattered by the women finding the empty tomb – the dead are not really gone only to remain dead – Forgiveness really does prove to be more powerful than vengeance. You came back from the grave to forgive the very disciples who had forsaken you. The empty tomb really is the truth about “death” having lost its power over us.

You have kept your promise not to abandon us even when death would seem to have the last word. You have taken what men intended for harm and used it for the salvation of humankind. You have transformed a cross of shame into the throne of glory.

We praise you, for you sent Jesus Christ into this world that we might know the truth about this life and the life that is to come. Teach us anew that we find hope not in an “idea” about the resurrection but rather in the One who is resurrection and life. Help us to see that resurrection is always recognized in relationship with the One you brought back from the grave.

As the Emmaus disciples recognized you in the breaking of bread at table...

As the truth broke through Mary’s tears when you called her name...

As it became clear to those men on the beach for whom you had prepared breakfast...

So too draw us into a relationship with the risen Lord this Easter that we might taste of the resurrection and experience something of the vitality of eternal life. We thank you that resurrection is an ongoing reality and not an event confined only to one past Easter morn. We see resurrection power not only in an empty tomb but in the many small acts of kindness you bring about in our hearts. Your glory is seen not only in a stone rolled away but in the new life given to a hungry child because someone bothered to care. Resurrection power surrounds us daily.

We pray for those who cannot see the resurrected Lord in their day today, for those who have no hope beyond what they are able to accumulate. Heal any blindness that comes from not seeing you like those you encountered that first Easter morn. Restore our capacity for wonder, and surprise us by resurrection joy.

For you are a God of Resurrection Power, molding us into an resurrected people. We pray in the name of the one who made Easter possible, Jesus Christ our risen Lord who taught us to pray.....

By PCPC member William Wallof in his book “Prayers of The People.”

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

The Stewardship Committee is working to bring a new understanding of Stewardship to Palma Ceia Presbyterian. Stewardship is no longer a six-week period in the fall, but a year-round program created to focus the hearts and minds of the congregation on Biblical stewardship. Biblical stewardship is where the concept of faith, work and economics intersect. All that we have is given to us by God, so what we choose to return to God through service, prayer or money should be given out of thanks for all that we have been given, especially the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.

It is our hope as a committee that you will adopt this concept and seek out ways in the coming year that you can serve in some way. PCPC has many opportunities to serve God inside the church and in the greater community. If you are looking for a way to serve, please contact Becky Charles at rlbc56@gmail.com and she will be happy to put you in touch with the proper individual. We would also welcome anyone who would like to be part of the Stewardship team.

The final report on the Fall Stewardship campaign is in, and enough pledges were made by the congregation for a budget to be created by the Finance Committee that is equal to the budget for 2016. Thanks to all of you who made a pledge to the church or contributed to make this possible. We are a congregation with so much to be thankful for, and our gifts of time, talent, prayer, and yes, money, should reflect our gratitude. Please take some time and reflect on 2 Corinthians 9:11-12 as you consider how you can be a good steward of all you have been given in the coming year.

Our pastors and committees have exciting ideas to grow the programs and expand the mission of PCPC. In order for these plans to come to fruition, the budget will have to be increased for 2018. With your help and God's, we know this is possible.

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STEPHEN MINISTRY

The Stephen Ministry team at PCPC is available to help you with everyday issues; you don't need to have a big calamity to call on us. We have several levels of care, from a Stephen Minister here to listen and support you, to a Stephen Friend who is here just to come by and say hi. The Stephen Ministry team is here to help when a big transition happens but we are also here to help the days you just need someone to listen to you. We are a team of people that has a heart for the lonely, depressed, scared, overwhelmed, or those who need someone positive and caring in their life. If you are interested in something like this and think a Stephen Minister or Friend is something you want in your life, please contact Andrew Rametta at andrewr@palmaceaia.org for further questions or details.

We are also looking for more people to join our team! If you have a heart for people and want to help care for this congregation please let Andrew know in an email. We meet once a month to update and follow up on the care of the congregation members in need. We come together to lift up and pray for those we are aware of in the congregation that need special care.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING 2017

The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering (OGHS) is devoted to support the Honduras Mission Team (HMT) and Presbyterian Disaster Relief (PDR). One of four special offerings, OGHS has traditionally focused on sharing God's love with our neighbors. Traditionally, this comes in the form of disaster assistance, providing food to the hungry, and empowering the poor and oppressed.

HMT fits the bill well. The September 2-9, 2017 trip will have 20-25 members. Doctors will focus on providing important medical care to residents of small outlying villages as well as support the team at New Hope Clinic in San Francisco, Honduras, <http://www.ffim.org>. Dental services will provide great comfort to folks who don't ordinarily receive care. Your contributions assure Wellness Screenings, OBGYN screenings and Pap Smear readings as well as follow-up care if needed. Also, your donations will provide medical supplies, gloves and hospital gowns for the clinic, and reading glasses and health kits for villagers.

In addition, the community clinics are held in schools, so the team will provide recreation, teach dental hygiene, and will take pictures of every child in each school to take home with them. Last trip over 1,000 children received a framed picture that they decorated. This is often the only picture they have of themselves. Please support our boots on the ground in Honduras as we show our love for the world.

The other half of your donation will support PDA's vision to "bring hope out of chaos." Your Witness and Service Committee chose to support PDA for its recent mandate to aid refugees and displaced persons. We are called to love and serve strangers. *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."* 1 Peter 4:10. PDA is portal to a broad spectrum of services our hurting world needs. You can explore their work at <https://pda.pcusa.org/>.

OGHS launches April 2, 2017 and runs until Easter. Please consider a generous gift using the special offering envelopes. Thank you.

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REFUGEE MINISTRIES

The refugee population in Hillsborough County is one that is both in great need and underserved. We hope that through various volunteer opportunities we as a church community can serve those neighbors in need around us. These are refugees from various countries received by the Florida Department of Children and Families Refugee Services program, and supported by several Tampa Bay NGOs.

We have set up a Facebook page called "PCPC Refugee Donation Center" where you can make donations. Just post on the page what donations you have to make, and we can take it from there, making sure it will get to the various refugee non-profit & resettlement agencies we are working with. We also hope to do a drive in the near future at PCPC. If you're on Facebook, you'll have to request to join the "PCPC Refugee Donation Center" Facebook group— but we'll add you, promise!

If you are not on Facebook but would like to make donations (school supplies, household items, gift cards, etc.), or if you would like to volunteer, please email Will Wellman at will@palmaceaia.org to make donations.

adults & families

YOUNG AT HEART

Fun, Food, & Fellowship

Young at Heart is a shared monthly interdenominational luncheon, fellowship, and program for men and women over 55. It is sponsored by the Social Work Ministries Committee.

Please join us!

Apr 20 at Hyde Park United Methodist &

May 18 at Bayshore Baptist Church

All programs are 12:30 – 2:00 pm Cost: \$8.00

RSVP: Bruce Farnell at 813-253-6047 or receptionist@palmaceia.org

For more information, contact BJ Johns at bj@palmaceia.org.

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women's Circles continue to meet every month, and we have wonderful discussions revolving around "Who is Jesus?" as discovered through scripture. The discussions are enlightening and informative. We welcome all women, so find a circle and join in even if you have not been coming before!

Don't forget to put on your calendar the next General Meeting on May 15th at 10:15. Also, Moderators Meetings and Board Meetings are the 4th Monday of every month, and everyone is welcome. Plus, if you would be interested in serving on the PCPW board or a committee next year, please contact Sarah Stichter at Sstichter@verizon.net or 813-760-2324.

Nurture, Connect, Serve!

Connie Detrick
2016-2017 PCPW President
813-871-6363

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HOSPITALITY SESSIONS FOR NEW MEMBERS

ONE SUNDAY A MONTH; 9:30-11AM

April 9 • May 7 • June 4

PCPC offers a monthly Hospitality Session for anyone who has an interest in learning more about Palma Ceia Presbyterian and its ministries. Some people who attend this new members class have a desire to become members of PCPC and decide to join at the end of the class. Others attend the class simply as part of their exploration toward learning more about the ministries that PCPC has to offer individuals and families. All are welcome on the above dates in the Bride's Room next to the chapel, and we look forward to seeing you!

FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING: SUNDAY AFTERNOON ADULT EDUCATION APRIL 23 AND APRIL 30

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Bible but not known where to start? Or what makes our community of faith distinctively Presbyterian? We invite you to come and be a part of PCPC's new core curriculum, Faith Seeking Understanding.

PCPC's "Faith Seeking the Understanding" provides the foundation for a broader and deeper engagement and participation in Christian learning and practice. All are welcome.

Introduction to Church History

Part I: April 23rd 4:00-6:00pm

Part II: April 30th 4:00-6:00pm

FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING FOR KIDS!

We have heard your requests! For the first time we will be offering a kids version of Faith Seeking Understanding during the same time as the adults. Children from the age of 3 years to 5th grade are welcome to stay in the game room where we will explore church history. We can't wait to see you on April 23rd and 30th from 4:00-6:00 pm. To RSVP, email Kelly at ce@palmaceia.org with the name and age of your child.

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FAITH AND FICTION

If you love to read and discuss books, consider joining the PCPC Faith and Fiction book group, which celebrated its Silver Anniversary recently! The group reads a wide range of fiction and (occasionally) nonfiction books, looking for evidence of faith in the lives of the characters. The group meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Presbyterian Women's Room.

Upcoming dates and books:

April 18th: *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman

May 16th: *The Tennis Partner* by Abe Verghese

June 20th: *Year of the Runaway* by Sun Jeev-Sahoca

July 18th: *The Man In The Tree* by Damon Knight

You can find the full list for 2017 here: <http://palmaceia.org/faith-and-fiction/>

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• Join us at the table for the fun, fellowship, and feast of
• Wednesday Night Dinners. The meal is served starting at
• 5:15. We will enjoy a variety of menus at Wednesday Night
• Dinners, except for April 12th. Dinner that week moves
• to Maundy Thursday, April 13. The last Wednesday Night
• Dinner of the season is May 17th.

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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Between Midnight And Dawn Continues thru April 9
Sunday Mornings, 10:05am in EM307 & 308**

A discussion of prayers, poetry and readings for Lent based on the book *Between Midnight and Dawn*, compiled by Sarah Arthur. Class is led by Will Wellman. Questions? Email Will at will@palmaceaia.org.

**Bible Study for Young Adults (20s-40s)
Sunday Mornings, 10:05am in EM304**

Young Adults are invited to gather during the Sunday School hour for fellowship and Bible study. The class allows for study without the need for advanced preparation. The facilitator will change each week, but you will always be guaranteed a warm welcome and engaging conversation around Scripture and life. Feel free to drop in as your schedule allows!

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Q: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE REASONS WE SHARE OUR GIFTS FORMING CHILDREN'S FAITH & KNOWLEDGE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS?

Some Possible Answers:

- God told you to do so
- You pledge to do so when a child is baptized
- You have experiences, abilities, and the personality that God wants use
- God has given experiences you need to share
- The class needs you
- When you teach, you grow more as a disciple
- You care for children and are concerned about their future
- You have a passion to teach
- You love digging into the Word of God and sharing it
- You enjoy being a shepherd
- Someone first taught you, and now you wish to pay that forward

Do any of these reasons ring true for you? If so, we would love to have you share your talents with our children, both as we finish this year and/or as we head into the next! Please email NancyC@palmaceaia.org for more information!

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YOUTH SUNDAY! APRIL 30!

All middle and high schoolers are invited to attend! Students will have an opportunity to contribute in both the contemporary and traditional services (9 and 11am). All students who'd like to attend should arrive in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 am on April 30 to pick up your Youth Sunday t-shirt. If you'd like a speaking part, please email David at bonnema@palmaceaia.org and plan to come to one of the planning sessions on April 19 (6 pm for middle school. 7:15 pm for high school).

YOUTH GROUP

SAVE THE DATES: Upcoming Special Events

- April 19th - Field Games Night
- May 10th - End of Year Party/Water Games Night

The goal of our Youth Program is to provide 6th through 12th grade students an opportunity to connect with God and to each other as they navigate their middle and high school years. We try to provide a sense of community alongside meaningful experiences. Students connect through worship, games, faith based messages and small group discussions.

Youth Group Wednesday Evenings

Middle School (6th-8th) youth group meets in the gym at 6:00-7:30 pm.

High School (9th-12th) youth group meets in the youth room at 7:15-8:30pm

Monday Night Bible Study

Both middle school and high school students are offered a Bible study from 7:15-8:15pm simultaneously but separately. Meet in the Youth Room.

SUMMER EXPERIENCE

Disciple Now – a week for middle school students to interact with the broader Tampa community through working at local mission sites. These sites typically include Meals on Wheels, Metropolitan Ministries, Feeding America, Beth-El , the Judeo Christian Clinic and more. Students meet at PCPC at 9:00 am each day and return at 4:00 pm. Students can receive 25 service hours for participating all week.

Registration forms are available at palmaceaia.org/youth. Print form and return to Kenny Hubbell at the church office with deposit. Spots are reserved in the order that they are received with the deposit. Wait list begins at 100 applicants.

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Leaders Needed: Disciple Now Mission Week June 5th-9th, 9am - 4pm

DISCIPLE NOW is our middle school mission week and it is usually our biggest trip of the summer (100 students on average). Will you consider dedicating a week of your summer to being a leader of this trip? Benefits:

- 1.It is only from 9 am to 4 pm everyday- you get to sleep in your own bed!
 - 2.You are paired with another leader and are assigned 10 students — good ratios!
 - 3.You get to positively impact the many great mission organizations in the Tampa Bay area. Contact David Bonnema to learn more at bonnema@palmaceaia.org.
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Calling All Youth! Want to help out this summer?

Great way to get service hours!

Calling all youth! We invite all youth (6th grade - high school seniors) who have a heart for mentoring to join us on April 23rd from 12:15 - 2:15 for training. Previously, this has been known as C.I.T. (Counselor In Training). Youth who want to volunteer this summer at VBS and/or Arts and Adventure Camp need to come for this training. Lunch will be provided and we will meet in the Youth Room to discuss and learn the importance of mentoring. To RSVP, email Kelly at ce@palmaceaia.org. This is a great way to get some service hours!



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Presbyterian Church

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Summer Activities

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Digging for Treasure: Parables Revealed

JUNE 5TH-9TH, 9AM-12:00PM

Children having completed PreK4-5th grades are invited to join us for a week of "digging for treasure" as we explore the Bible together in creative ways, building relationship with God and one another. The cost is \$50/child with a family max of \$125.

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

PCPC offers a skills-based volleyball program for girls in grades 3rd – 8th grade year round. We have clinics starting in April and running through the summer.

Invite a friend! Questions can be directed to John McClung, jmclung@tampabay.rr.com.

ARTS AND ADVENTURE CAMP

Branching Out

JULY 31ST - AUG. 4TH, 8:30AM-4:00PM

Last summer was so much fun, we are partnering again with Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center for this year's Arts and Adventure Camp at PCPC. Our theme this summer, Branching Out, has us exploring how being connected to God allows us to branch out be connected to one another in meaningful ways. **The camp will run at PCPC for students in grades K-5 completed.** Students have the option of registering for an all day Adventure camp or a morning Art camp followed by an afternoon of Adventure. Camp fee is \$120 and scholarships are available (please contact Pastor Nicole). Space is limited!

MUSICAMP!

Jonah and the Whale

JUNE 5TH - 9TH; 12:30PM - 3:45PM

MusiCamp is a one-week offering of music, drama, costumes, sets, creativity, and fun for children: rising 2nd graders – 6th graders (sorry, no exceptions). During this week the participants learn a musical based-Biblical story (music, script, recreation, crafts). The musical story this year will be based on the story of Jonah and The Whale.

Auditions for speaker and solo parts will be held on Wednesday May 17th at 5pm in the choir room. Contact Nancy Callahan at callahan@palmaceia.org for details!

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

-Matthew 21:9