



# The Courier

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

April  
2013

Our Vision: This is the place.....where you will experience Christ.

**All Women of the Church** are

cordially invited to attend the Presbyterian Women's Gathering on Wednesday, April 17th at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. JC Penney will be putting on a fashion show All women of CLPC are members of the Women's Group and encouraged to join us. Luncheon will be served. There is no charge or membership dues.



**NEW MEMBERS OF CLPC**

Paula Sklodowski  
2424 Ephraim Ave.  
Ft. Myers, FL 33907  
239-275-5754  
paula208@embarqmail.com



Larry & DeAnna Steward  
1825 Powell Dr.  
N. Ft. Myers, FL 33917  
330-775-2254  
steward.31@osu.edu (Larry)  
dsteward31@yahoo.com (DeAnna)

Patricia Clark  
11341 Bougainvillea Lane  
Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33931  
239-454-7928  
patclarkfmb@comcast.net

Mary Githieya  
4386 Boom Court  
Apt. 4-F  
Ft. Myers, FL 33919  
949-573-0467

Steven Bishop  
6640 Plantation Pines Blvd.  
Ft. Myers, FL 33966  
239-560-2573  
kaytymatt@aol.com

**Angels**



**MAY 12, 2013  
Mother's Day**

The Angel's Rock will be presenting their

musical to the congregation and would very much like to invite you to come and listen to their message in Song!

They will sing at both the 9:00 am and the 11:00 am Worship Services and the Title of their musical is:

**COUCH POTATO**

(I wonder what that is all about?)



*Dinner and a Show*

**Dinner Theater of Three One Act Plays**

The CLPC Drama Troupe thanks all who attended this year's Dinner Theater and also thanks those who put in the extra hours of rehearsal and preparing the dinner. Our profits go to purchase items for the Kitchen and the remainder makes its way into the church operating budget.

As this article is going to press before we actually have the Dinner Theater, an up dated report will appear in the May Courier.

Thank you Harold Carrier for the great meal and dessert and to the kitchen crew and servers; also to the following actors: Cindy Basler, Sarah Otenti, Tim Baldwin, Marietta Meacham, Jerry Fisher, Kenzie Kiss, Pam Simones, and Carson Brown.

# The Courier

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

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## Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Clinton C. Cottrell  
[clint@clpc.us](mailto:clint@clpc.us)

## Pastor

The Rev. Miguel Estrada  
[Miguel@clpc.us](mailto:Miguel@clpc.us)

## Pastor of Visitation Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Harold Simones

## Director of Worship & Music

Rachel Carrier  
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## Interim Praise Team Leader

Travis Larson  
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## Christian Education Director

Ginny Canning  
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## Office Manager

Karen May  
[karen@clpc.us](mailto:karen@clpc.us)

## Nursery Attendant

Stacia Kiss

## Sexton

Charles Barnhill

## Staff Musician

Douglas Parker

## Clerk of Session

Bobbi Bancroft

## Presbyterian Women Moderator

Pat France

## Moderator of Deacons

Betty Ann Kelly

## Church Office Hours

**Monday-Friday 9:00-3:00P.M.**

**Editor's Note:** Some articles may be edited for space. Some are left intact by request of their authors.

## SCRIP CARDS



Make a contribution to the Church by shopping with gift cards for everyday purchases like food, clothing and entertainment. Each scrip gift card you buy earns a rebate for the Church. A secured "Order Box" is located in the Narthex (on South wall next to sound room) and also in the Church office for placing orders. Orders will be picked up @ 11:00 AM the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month and available for delivery the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. A check payable to CLPC for the total must accompany the order. Order Forms are located in Slot# 16 in the Narthex and in the "Scrip Order Boxes". You can also place an order online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com).

## CE NEWS: Some CE dates for you to keep in mind:

Sat., March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00am	On site
Weekend. 4/12-14	All Church Retreat	8:00pm	Cedarkirk
June 3-7	Vacation Bible School	6:00pm	On Site

### Remember:

Confirmation Class (Sun. 10:10 am)  
Church School (Wed. 5:15...includes Angels Rock & dinner)  
Youth Group (Wed. 5:30...includes dinner)

We will be starting a LBBS (Lunch Bag Bible Study and maybe a LBGT (Lunch Bag Game Time) after Easter.

Join us for any or all of these activities that provide Christian education, fellowship, and fun.

**Men's Breakfast**  
Fellowship Hall  
Tuesday, April 9th 7:00am



### Speaker:

**Andrew Seymour**  
President of Miracle Baseball

**A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."**

Pennies from the Heart project will be going on in the month of April. This is a collection the Presbyterian Women of our church are involved in. Proceeds from this year's Pennies from the Heart will go toward funding of a Ronald McDonald Family Room to be housed in the Golisano Children's Hospital of S.W. Florida. Watch for more information in the coming weeks. Last year RMHC raised over \$127,000 for this project. If you have any questions, please call Pat France at 239-561-3085.





### ***Don't Wish Your Life Away!!!***

As a child that was a line that my mother so often used with me. I would look forward to summer, look forward to going into the next grade, to driving, to going off to college to getting a job, more and more. Mom would pull me aside and scold me, "Clinton, don't wish your life away, enjoy right now, it is a real gift!" This past week made me wonder about her wisdom.

As we approached Easter, I watched families with beautiful little children, running from school to piano practice to ball practice to children and youth activities, and much, much more. Their children are so very special but life is just so rushed. At the same time, I watched as the children can't wait for "what's next" and their parents are the same!

I talked to some of our youth that are off at college. Guess what I heard? I am having a good time right now, but "I just can't wait to get out of here and get a job." I asked, "But isn't college fun?" "Well, yeah, it's all right, but it is just getting me ready for what is to come."

I watched as expecting parents can't WAIT to give birth while young parents can't wait for "the kids to get out of diapers" or to go off to school or for those teens to just "grow up before I go insane."

I watch as people in my age bracket begin look forward to the retirement years, when they will not be "tied down to a schedule and can go enjoy life."

As pastor, I have even seen folks who have completed their lives actually look forward to heading to heaven. For us, it seems so sad, but for them, they often actually look forward to it.

In all of this I have recently grown deeply melancholy over the state of our society. In the interest of being so excited of what is next, we miss what is right in front of us, an incredible gift from God...the present, and perhaps the greatest "present" (gift) of all!

Childhood is often rushed these days...perhaps, just perhaps, we as parents and grandparents need to simply allow our children to be children, and enjoy them. Perhaps, just perhaps, teens need to make the best of every minute (yes, that even includes school!!!). Perhaps our college aged young adults need to just enjoy the JOY of learning. Perhaps we as expecting parents or parents of young children need simply to enjoy them.

Perhaps, just perhaps, those that are growing older need to value the experiences and health we have, while we have them. For those of us that are retired, perhaps, just perhaps, we need to enjoy this time right now. And even those that are nearing the end of life, perhaps, just perhaps, they need to enjoy the gift of life right now and the opportunity they have of leaving a powerful and lasting memory for those that will follow.

In Matthew 6:34 Jesus tells his disciples and those on the mount overlooking the beautiful sea of Galilee, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." In essence, enjoy this very day, make the best of it!

Friends, wherever you are in your walk of life, may you enjoy this very day. Sure, prepare and look forward to the future, but enjoy this very day and remember, "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us be glad and rejoice in it." Psalm 118:24

*Pastor Clint*



### ***Blood Drive***

The next Blood Drive will be Sunday, April 14th from 8:15-1 pm.

Please call Tim Baldwin at 415-2827 for an appointment. Give the gift of Life!!

### ***Angel's Rock News!***

The Angels will sing again on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00am and 11:00am Worship Services. They are also learning how to ring our new Chimes .

*Thank you to the Deacons for providing meals for Lois & I following my knee surgery.*



*I was unable to get groceries and cook, so we greatly appreciate your help during this time.*

*Don Siemon*

# April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>8 am Prayer Service 8:30-11 am Coffee Hour 9 am Praise 9:15 am Kids Worship 10:10 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Puppet Rehearsal 11 am Traditional 11 am Iglesia Presbiteriana</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 9:30 am Project Linus</p> <p>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6 pm Voices in Bronze 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 7 pm Ministry Teams</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9 am PIP 2-4 pm Blue Dirt Band 5:15 pm Angels Rock 5:30 pm Youth Group 6 pm Kids Dinner 6:30 pm Gloria Choir 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>3-6 pm Organist Practice <b>Office Closed Today</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>8:30-3:30 pm Outside Group 1-4 pm Organist Practice</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>9 am Calusa Muscalle 12 pm Staff Mtg. 1 pm PW Board Mtg.</p> <p>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Martha Circle 12:30 pm Esther Circle 6 pm Voices in Bronze 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 7 pm Condo Assn Mtg.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>9 am PIP 5:15 pm Angels Rock 5:30 pm Youth Group 6 pm Kids Dinner 6:30 pm Gloria Choir 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team 7 pm Eve Circle</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>7 am Real Estate Bkfst. 3-6 pm Organist Practice</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>8:30-3:30 Decorative Artists 1-4 pm Organist Practice</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>BLOOD DRIVE</b> <b>8:15-1:00 P.M.</b> 8 am Prayer Service 8:30-11 am Coffee Hour 9 am Praise 9:15 am Kids Worship 10:10 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Puppet Rehearsal 11 am Traditional 11 am Iglesia Presbiteriana</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>12 pm Staff Mtg.</p> <p><b>Courier Deadline</b> Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>6 pm Voices in Bronze 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 7 pm Cypress Lake Homeowners Mtg.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9 am PIP 10:30 am PW Gathering 11:30 am Bible Study 2-4 pm Blue Dirt Band 5:15 pm Angels Rock 5:30 pm Youth Group 6 pm Kids Dinner 6:30 pm Gloria Choir 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>3-6 pm Organist Practice</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>1-4 pm Organist Practice</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>8 am Prayer Service 8:30-11 am Coffee Hour 9 am Praise 9:15 am Kids Worship 10:10 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Puppet Rehearsal 11 am Traditional 11 am Iglesia Presbiteriana</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>12 pm Staff Mtg.</p> <p>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>6 pm Voices in Bronze 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9 am PIP 11:30 am Bible Study 5:15 pm Angels Rock 5:30 pm Youth Group 6 pm Kids Dinner 6:30 pm Gloria Choir 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>7 am Real Estate Bkfst. 3-6 pm Organist Practice</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>1-4 pm Organist Practice</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>8 am Prayer Service 8:30-11 am Coffee Hour 9 am Praise 9:15 am Kids Worship 10:10 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Puppet Rehearsal 11 am Traditional 11 am Iglesia Presbiteriana</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>12 pm Staff Mtg.</p> <p>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>6 pm Voices in Bronze 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 7 pm Food Pantry Mtg. 7 pm Session Mtg.</p>					

**CEDARKIRK RETREAT APRIL 12TH-APRIL 14TH**

## Anniversary Celebrations

2nd Otto & Sheila Muller-Girard  
12th Nate & Anne Burley  
19th Rod & Sue Herrick  
20th Sam & Leslie McGargle  
27th Carol & Gar Sarosik

## Birthday Wishes

1st Clint Cottrell  
Peyton Hayman  
3rd James Oestriech  
6th Brendan McQuilkin  
8th Abigail Hill  
10th Larry Johnson  
12th Don Little  
12th Michele Pepper  
14th Rob Coe  
Virginia Burford  
16th Nola LaRose  
18th Douglas J. Wilson  
Ken Burbach  
19th Elizabeth Peters  
Ryan Mills  
20th Darby DeBolt  
Robert Shrader  
21st Sheila Muller-Girard  
22nd Paulette Stadelmann  
23rd Skip Bergmann  
Mae Osborne  
26th Dee Cords  
28th DeAnna Steward  
30th Penny Roberts  
Lisa Kendall

## Gin and other spiritual matters...

Quite often while I'm reading I run across passages that "smack me right 'upside' the head". I found two such passages in my Daily Guidepost devotional book. They happened to be Mon., March 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>... coincidence??? Nah! A "God" thing??? Yeah!

The first started off with a couple having had a "dark and futile" day. They play a game as they are getting ready for bed. He says, "Okay, name seven good things about this day for which you can thank God." She replies, "Are you serious? There's not a single redeeming quality to this day." After a gentle reminder from her husband, she proceeds to name seventeen things: nice breakfast, no bills in the mail, a daughter called, etc. He then contributes twenty-five things and soon they are laughing. All were small things, but had contributed to a much brighter outlook on the day.

The second reading was about a man who had gone to work "feeling, well, just not right". In conversation with a co-worker he replied, "Blah" when asked if he was OK. He couldn't name a single symptom and her response was, "Then you're the only one who hasn't noticed what a grump you've been the last two days." "Well, doctor," he said ---grumpily, and what horrible disease might be causing this grumpiness?" "*Hurry sickness!*" she replied. You get it every time you try to do too much and think it's still not enough. When's the last time you simply spent a half hour with God?" He remembered how he got a flu shot every year, took vitamins every day, and tried to eat right and exercise daily. All these were to no avail unless he added in his daily prescription for "*Hurry sickness.*"

How often have I groused and complained about a day when maybe one or two things have not gone the way I wanted, or have just been grumpy because I've let space come between me and my God?? My friends and co-workers notice and very often gently remind me what is important. That's when I have to slow down, sit back, and play the "Name Seven" game and/or take my daily dose of "God Time"! How about you?

## Weekly schedule of chores for a good Christian

### Monday Wash Day

Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

### Tuesday Ironing Day

Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

### Wednesday Mending Day

O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

### Thursday Cleaning Day

Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

### Friday Shopping Day

O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

### Saturday Cooking Day

Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

### Sunday The Lord's Day

O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

## Need a Chuckle??



A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem .. A small child replied, 'They couldn't get a baby-sitter.'

~~~~~

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'Honor thy father and thy mother,' she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?' Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

~~~~~

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, 'Johnny, what is the matter?' Little Johnny responded, 'I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife.'

**A Shortened Version of 23rd Psalm**

In his beautiful book, "I Shall Not Want," Robert Ketchum tells of a Sunday School teacher who asked her group of children if anyone could quote the entire 23rd Psalm. A golden-haired, four-and-a-half-year-old girl was among those who raised their hands. A bit skeptical, the teacher asked if she could really quote the entire Psalm. The little girl came to the front of the room, faced the class, made a perky little bow, and said, "The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want."

She bowed again and went and sat down.

**WALK THRU THE BIBLE** Want to learn the Old Testament in a new way? Want to learn it in a humorous way? Want to learn it without just sitting, reading, and listening? This way of learning allows you to put the puzzle pieces of the Old Testament together chronologically. It's coming to a Wednesday brown bag lunch near you -- here at the church starting Wednesday April 17 for four –six weeks from 11:30-1:00.



Our very own Rev. Helen Heffington is leading it. She is a new instructor with Walk Thru the Bible and needs our help to finish her certification. . . . you know, like "practice teaching". This study is so good it helped Pastor Helen in seminary. She promises you'll have a lot of fun. Join us on April 17 at 11:30. For more information, call Pastor Helen at 671-4766 or Ginny at the church.

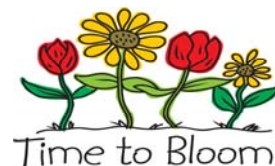
**HELP!!**

**Ushers Needed**



The snowbirds are beginning to fly north and full time residents are traveling. We are in need of ushers/greeters.

If you would like to usher at our 9 a.m. service or 11 a.m. please contact the church office at 481-3233.



**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

**COFFEE HOUR**



Join us!

Coffee hour is held in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday from 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Stop over and join the fellowship!

**CEDARKIRK NEWS:**

Don't forget about our **ALL-CHURCH RETREAT** April 12-14. I know this is a very busy weekend, but if you are NOT involved in the Cancer Walk, please consider joining us at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center. You might want to go on-line if you haven't been there before.



**ALSO REMEMBER: \$\$\$\$\$ Should NOT be a deterrent from going!** Whatever amount you can afford is fine, the rest will be covered. The prices include 2 comfortable nights, 5 scrumptious meals, a roaring campfire, wet or dry canoeing, joyous swimming (weather permitting), awesome beauty, inward and outward peace, time alone, time together, jigsaw puzzles, and table games.

Children (0-4 yrs.)	\$ 0.00	[Saenu, Steven, Cady, Hayden, etc.]
Youth (5-12 yrs.)	91.00	[Angels Rock age]
Others (13-Adult)	113.00	
Families (any #)	340.00	[any size, any number]

Now before you all panic, we are planning a "Camping Sunday" to help offset the cost. Everyone who desires to go **WILL GO** ...I'm a very firm believer in "God will provide". Remember, we have 65 spaces reserved, so there's no need to stay home to give someone else a space. Start saving, start planning, and we'll see you 4/12-4/14 @ Cedarkirk for a really great weekend!

**SUMMER CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES:**

There are many camping sessions for all ages this summer. If you haven't gone before and not gotten a brochure in the mail, I have several in my office and can get more if needed. Please look over the brochure, pick your camp, go on-line, pay your registration fee, and **LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU ARE GOING**, and if you need scholarship money. The money is available from both CLPC and Cedarkirk.



Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.  
( Matthew 6:34 \*NKJV )

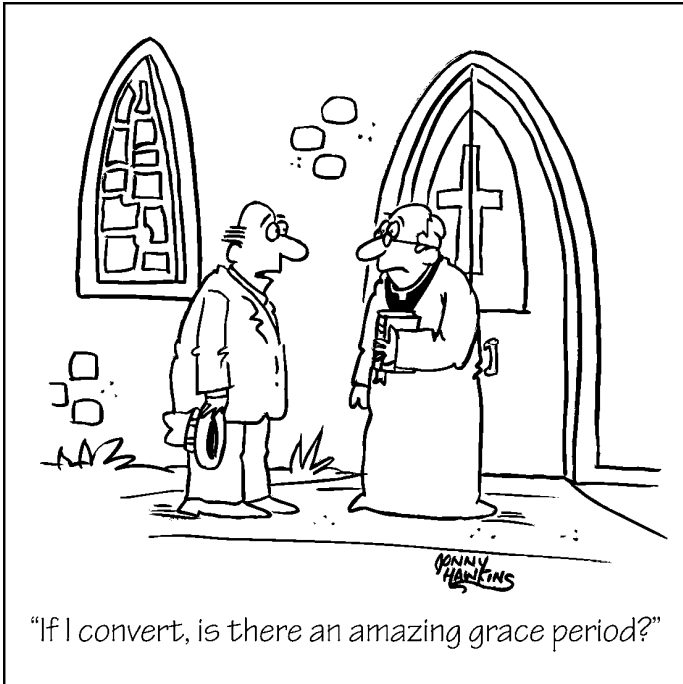
**"Why Worry About Tomorrow?"**

Why worry about tomorrow  
And the rising of the sun,  
Of anguish over past mistakes  
That cannot be undone?

Why waste life's precious moments  
On things that bruise the heart  
When today is ours to fashion  
Into a work of art?

Today comes but once, my friend,  
It never can return--  
So use it wisely while you can,  
There's a lesson you may learn.

Let history record the past  
And tomorrow come what may.  
Be content to do your best  
With what you have today!  
Poet: Clay Harrison



"If I convert, is there an amazing grace period?"




**Presbyterian Women**

**April 2013**

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	9:30 am	Project Linus Blanket Work Day (Fellowship Hall)
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	1:00 pm	Executive Board Meeting
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30 am 12:30 pm	Martha Circle Esther Circle (Fellowship Hall)
<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00 pm	Eve Circle
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 am 11:15 am 12:00 pm	PW Gathering Election of 2013-2014 Board Reading of 2013-2014 Budget Program-Fashion Show by JC Penney Luncheon-Hosted by PW Board

**Chancel Guild**

**April 2012 Schedule**

<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	Irene Thiessen Pam Smith
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	Jackie Oestriech Dorothy Troy
<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	Doris Houston Rebecca Potts
<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	Irene Thiessen Betty Schaarschuch

If you can't work your day, swap with someone or call me. Thanks for your continued help. Irene Thiessen

Irene Thiessen, Chancel Guild Dir.