

The CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN  
**COURIER** DECEMBER/JANUARY  
 ISSUE



**Saturday, December 24th**  
**Christmas Eve**

*Come and listen to the sounds of Christmas.*

**Family Celebration**

*Praise Service 6:00 p.m.*

**Traditional Celebration**

*Traditional Candlelight 9:00 p.m.*

**Sunday, Christmas Day**

*A Service of Scriptures and Carols  
 8:00 a.m.—One Combined Service*

**Sunday, January 1st**

*One Combined Service at 10:00 a.m.*

**Jarred Jackson and Jessica Osegueda** would like to invite you to their wedding ceremony on January 7, 2017 at 4pm, at Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church. There will be a private reception that will follow for close friends and family only! On Sunday, January 15 will be a cookie and punch reception following the service to celebrate their marriage with the church family.



**NEW MEMBER CLASS**



The next New Member Orientation and Luncheon will be December 4, 2016 in the Fellowship Hall. The class will start after the 11 a.m. celebration of worship. Call the church office at 481-3233 to sign up or email the church at mail@clpc.us.



**Did someone say  
 Tiger Butter?**

Yes! Our Youth Group will be selling Tiger Butter again as a fundraiser during the month of December. These delicious candies mixed with white chocolate, milk chocolate and peanut butter, make for a perfect dessert and gift. If you would like to pre-order, please call or e-mail Jessica at 239-481-3233 or [Jessica@clcp.us](mailto:Jessica@clcp.us).

½ lbs. = \$7 and 1 lbs. = \$13 - You pay when you pick it up. Pick up dates are Sunday, December 4th, 11th and 18th, after each service. Samples will be available at the Thanksgiving Dinner.



**Stuffed Animals for  
 Christmas!**

**Gloria Choir** is once again sponsoring the collection of any **new** stuffed animals that can be given to the Golisano Children's

Hospital of Southwest Florida.

The collection will begin on the day of our Hanging of the Greens, November 20, 2016 and may be placed under the Christmas Tree in the Narthex of the Church.

The collection will end on December 25<sup>th</sup>. You may also bring the stuffed animals into the Church office during the week.

Let's help the children who are in the hospital during this Christmas season and bring the love of Jesus Christ into their young lives.



## The Courier

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church  
8260 Cypress Lake Drive  
Fort Myers, Florida 33919  
Phone: (239) 481-3233  
Fax: (239) 481-5198  
E-mail: [mail@clpc.us](mailto:mail@clpc.us)  
Web site: [www.clpc.us](http://www.clpc.us)

### 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)

### Director of Worship & Music

Rachel Carrier  
[rachel@clpc.us](mailto:rachel@clpc.us)

### Assist. Dir. of Worship & Music

Amy Maneval  
[amy@clpc.us](mailto:amy@clpc.us)

### Director of Disciplemaking

Jessica Osegueda  
[jessica@clpc.us](mailto:jessica@clpc.us)

### Office Manager

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

### Sexton

Charles Barnhill

### Clerk of Session

Gordon Coffman

### Presbyterian Women Moderator

Sandy Wharton

### Moderator of the Deacons

Pam Smith

### 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.

## PROJECT LINUS BLANKETS



Come one and come all to the Project Linus "Make A Difference Day" on Saturday, January 28, 2017 in Fellowship Hall from 9 A.M. to Noon. There you will see all the blankets our volunteers make to help a child in crises. Light refreshments will be served.

We will have a few of the agencies we work with in Lee County come and explain how these blankets help a child in crises. If you can knit, crochet, sew or even edge a fleece blanket, we can use your talent to make a blanket for a sick child. We can teach you how to make the Project Linus blankets.

Matilda Wilson 239-489-3582  
Lee County Coordinator

## Trip to Busch Gardens



The Youth Group will be going on their annual trip to Busch Gardens on Monday, January 16. Any Middle/High school student who is interesting in going must

contact Ms. Jessica at 239-481-3233 or [Jessica@clpc.us](mailto:Jessica@clpc.us). If you would like to sponsor a child to go on this trip, please contact Jessica at the church office.



## Ladies Christmas Tea Saturday, December 3rd - 10:30am

Please join us for a special Christmas Tea in the Fellowship Hall featuring a variety of tea sandwiches, yummy desserts and of course tea!



Our speaker will be Peggy Lince of the Lee County Sheriff's Dept. Her program is "Personal Safety for Women".

Make sure to sign up in the Narthex. A love offering will be collected for the luncheon.



In the aftermath of the election this past month there has been quite a kerfuffle in the news media. Some sources were in total disbelief, others were practically gloating. Within the country, division has widened even more between two seemingly opposite sides. Within political parties themselves schisms have erupted. Even when I posted a rather well balanced response on Facebook (truly taking NO side, save for the unity of our country), I received some scathing comments, some that were almost of a revolutionary bent.

In the midst of that I received an email from Tim Merrill, the executive editor of *Homiletics* (a magazine for pastors that looks at the lectionary readings for each week). His comments were very powerful and deserved to be shared:

The recent national election produced a result that everyone agrees was nothing short of an amazing political upset. Half the country is elated; the other half discouraged. I don't know if your congregation is generally pleased with the outcome, mortified by the result or ambivalent about the whole thing.

This doesn't matter.

What matters is that we're citizens of another country, with a different agenda and different mission. We are ambassadors for a Regent, and this transcends whatever is happening politically in the United States of America. Our duty now is the same as it has been during the Obama Administration; it is the vision articulated by the prophet Micah: To do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

In that sense, this election changes nothing.

Finally -- however we voted -- we must remember and put into practice our theology which transcends human and artificial labels. "As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; [there is no longer Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative] for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:27-28)

With the apostle Paul, I likewise beg "you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:1-3).

Timothy makes a very valid point, we are first and foremost Christians. That is what should define who and what we are. I have had the same discussion with others about actions taken by our Presbyterian denomination, our schools, the courts and even by our homeowner's association. We need to speak up as Christians but even more than that, we need to LIVE the LOVE of Jesus Christ.

This Advent, Christmas and New Years, may all of our lives reflect the love and teachings of the baby born in a manger on Christmas day. And even more than that, as the song says, "Let there be peace on earth...and let it begin with me."

Have a most blessed Advent, Christmas and New Years!

*Pastor Clint*

## Flower Guild

The CLPC Congregation bestow our thanks and gratitude for the humble service of flower preparation and deliveries every week (year round). Our Florists are: Judy Schulte, Jean Dodd, Sally Fontaine, and Terry Miller. Flower delivery to shut-ins/hospitalized are taken by the Deacons.

Thank you again for sharing your God given gifts. If you are interested in joining our Flower Guild, please contact the office at 481-3233 or Rachel@clpc.us



## Thinking about Holiday shopping online??

Go to this website: [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)  
Things purchased through this website, benefits New Horizons. You must access it through a laptop/computer. Thank you in advance. Happy Holidays!



**Super Kids Club will be closed during the Holiday break; Monday, December 19-Thursday, January 5.** They will start back on Monday, January 9th. We want to say a BIG THANK YOU to our volunteers! SKC could not happen without you. We hope you enjoy your Holiday Season. Please be sure to take a card from our Donation Christmas tree in the Narthex to give a child from SKC a present this Christmas. God Bless you!





# Presbyterian Women

**PW Ladies Christmas Tea** . . . Saturday, December 3, 2016 – 10:30 a.m. – FH. Please join us for a special Christmas Tea – sign up in the Narthex by November 27<sup>th</sup>. A love offering will be collected for the luncheon. Program – “Personal Safety for Women” by Peggy Lince – Lee County Sheriff’s Dept.

**Presbyterian Women’s Lasagna Dinner** . . . Friday, January 27, 2017  
Come join us and bring your friends for the best lasagna in town! Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 10. Tickets will be on sale Sundays (beginning Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>) following each church service.

**PW Gathering** . . . Saturday, February 11, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. – FH  
This is our annual fashion show by Anthony’s.

**Presbyterian Women’s Attic Treasure Sale** . . . Saturday, February 25, 2017. The trailer will be available the first week of January.

## Women’s Bible Study . . .

Daytime Women’s Bible Study – “**Really Bad Girls of the Bible**”

Tuesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – FH – Lesson 4

Tuesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – FH – Lesson 5

Evening Women’s Bible Study – “**Really Bad Girls of the Bible**”

Tuesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – FH – Lesson 4

Tuesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – FH – Lesson 5

Daytime Women’s Bible Study – “**Who is Jesus?**”

Thursday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – Library – Lesson 4

Thursday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. – Library – Lesson 5

WE ARE GOING TO  
NEW ORLEANS!  
ARE YOU  
COMING?



We leave on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 A.M. on Delta. Upon arrival we get picked up for lunch, then 5 nights at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter. We will visit the city, have a cruise with paddle boat, and hear some jazz. Dinner each night in a different restaurant in the Vieux Carre. Price is \$1700.00 per person and includes all but 4 lunches that are on your own.

We must have a deposit of \$100.00 per person so we can confirm the air flight by Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Make your check out to Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church and mark it TOUR N.O. \$1000.00 per person by January 15<sup>th</sup> and the rest by March 10<sup>th</sup>. This tour is limited to 20 people. Call Jim Wilson 489-3582.

## CALUSA MUSICALE



Calusa Musicale will present their Christmas Program on **Monday, December 12th**, here at Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church. The Social hour begins at **10:00 AM** followed by the program at **10:30 AM**. Free and open to the public.

## Chancel Guild

### *December 2016*

### *January 2017*

**1st** Judy Schulte  
Dorothy Troy

**5th** Judy Schulte  
Dorothy Troy

**8th** Judy Schulte  
Dorothy Troy

**12th** Judy Schulte  
Dorothy Troy

**15th** Sue Chanofsky  
Martin Chanofsky

**19th** Sue Chanofsky  
Martin Chanofsky

**22nd** Sue Chanofsky  
Martin Chanofsky

**26th** Sue Chanofsky  
Martin Chanofsky

**29th** Sue Chanofsky  
Martin Chanofsky



### Thank you CLPC family and friends

Thank you to each person who helped miracles happen again this year with your prayers, your monetary support, and your lovingly packed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The Bible assures us that "the prayer of the righteous person has great power and wonderful results" (James 5:16, NLT). If one fervent prayer is so powerful, imagine what millions can do. Please pray for each child who will receive a shoe box and ask God to touch that child's heart. That's where the real power of

Operation Christmas Child lies—in God's answer to those millions of heartfelt prayers. This past year, Samaritan's Purse collected more than 8 million gift-filled shoe boxes that were distributed in over 130 countries around the world. That means millions of children have experienced the truth of the Gospel, which they will share with their families and friends. To God be the glory!!!

### FLOWER GUILD DECEMBER 2016



December 4th	Sally Fontaine
December 11th	Terry Miller
December 18th	Worship Committee
December 24th	Worship Committee

### JANUARY 2017

January 1st	Judy Schulte
January 8th	Sally Fontaine
January 15th	Terry Miller
January 22nd	Judy Schulte
January 29th	Sally Fontaine

### NEWS FROM YOUR ACTIVITY GROUP



2016-17 social events: on December 9 we have tickets for the Broadway Palms Dinner Theater for the play "White Christmas". The bus will leave the church at 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 and the show at 7:30. The cost is \$58.00 which includes the play, dinner, tax and tip. Tickets will go on sale soon.

We are also planning an Everblades Hockey Game in early February and an evening boat trip on the Caloosahatchee River.



If you have any questions please call Ken Burbach at 267-7856.



### Christmas Program scheduled for Sunday, December 11, 2016

Message presented for the Praise Service at 9:30 am and again for the 11:00am Traditional Worship.

Angel's Rock! will bring you a Christmas Message titled:

### COOKIN'UP CHRISTMAS Where Love is The Main Ingredient!!!

The Kids have collected favorite recipes from their church members and are cookin' up some treats to share with the community. As they collect the recipes, cook together, wrap gifts, and work together as a team, they learn about the real "recipe" of Christmas---God's love! There will be visits from Miss Paula Queen and Rachael Day along with Emerald Lasagna and Bobby Grey and with a few surprise guests. There will be treats for the audience, aka, church members and friends! Mark your calendars now for this most important date and of course, the two times that you can make this an awesome day!

We want to share the love of God through His Son, Jesus Christ!!!

Charles Wesley's best-known song is probably "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". It has been altered slightly by editors, but most of it remains just as Wesley intended when he wrote it over 250 years ago. The song begins with a triumphant proclamation of Jesus' birth, describing the fact that He is both God and man and then praises Him for the salvation He was born to provide.



The First Verse reads, in part,

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."**

Talking about peace on earth is popular at Christmas time, and appropriately so, for Jesus did come to bring peace. Primarily, however, He came to bring us peace with God, which is what Wesley meant when he wrote: "God and sinners reconciled." We have all sinned against God; we have broken His commandments and thus made ourselves His enemies. When people become enemies, they cannot go back to being friends until their differences are set aside. Sometimes reconciliation involves the payment of reparations, and which is essentially what Jesus did when He died on the cross. He paid the price necessary to reconcile us to God. The price was really ours to pay, not God's, but Jesus was able to pay it because, though He was God, He became also a man, being born as a baby on that first Christmas day.

Charles Wesley described Jesus' birth in the second verse of this song: He wrote,

**Christ by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgins womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.**

Though He was the everlasting Lord, the second person of the Trinity (which is described in the song as "the Godhead"), fully means equal in nature with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, Jesus became the "offspring of the Virgin's womb." He was "veiled in flesh," the "incarnate Deity." He was God, having become also a man. The name Emmanuel means: God with us", which is what Wesley was referring to when he wrote that Jesus was "pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel." He became a man, but in the process did not lose His deity. He was "God with us." The idea that Jesus would lay aside His divine privileges for any reason is nothing short of incredible, but He did so in order to provide us with Salvation. May this Christmas be nothing short of "Glory to the Newborn King."



### **Gift Cards make great Christmas Gifts!**

Sending gift cards to family and friends up North? Don't know what to buy for that special someone? - Support CLPC at no additional cost to you by placing your "scrip" order by noon on **Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>**. The gift cards will be available **Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup>** in time to mail or deliver before Christmas. A secured "order box" is located in the Narthex and also in the church office for placing orders. A check payable to CLPC for the total must accompany the order. Order forms are located in Slot # 16 in the Narthex and at the "Scrip Order Boxes". You can order online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). The CLPC enrollment code: FLEEA331146573. How does buying Scrip benefit the Church?

The Church buys the certificates at a discount and then sells the certificates at face value. The difference in the discounted price and face value is revenue to the Church. Remember Scrip is "substitute money". You can help raise money for the Church operations by using your existing household shopping budget. You simply buy the certificates from the Church and use the certificates instead of cash at the retailer. There is no additional cost to you and your Church benefits every time you shop.



### **Save The Date for the Presbyterian Women's Lasagna Dinner!**

**Friday, January 27th, 2017**

Dine In - 6:00 pm -7:00 pm

Take Out - 5:30-6:00 pm

Come join us and bring your friends for the best lasagna in town!

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 10. Tickets will be on sale Sundays, beginning January 1st.





## Life Line Screening's Mobile Health Testing Units Are Coming

**Where:** Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

**When:** Friday, February 3, 2017



Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on Friday, February 3, 2017. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).**

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



What a great community effort, as 27 neighbors and club members, plus 7 church folks gathered at the Baldwin house to assemble 850 tennis tubes with toiletries and toys in separate boys and girls packages. From 10-5 on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, people spent a collective 66 hours also stuffing 650 shoeboxes full of school supplies, a tennis ball, flip flops, stuffed animal, jump rope, marbles, crayons, beads, little toys, hard candy bags, etc.



Last year these gift boxes went to the Philippines and Gulf Harbour was responsible for 194 of the collective 1204 that our church donated.



Many thanks to all who also pack individual boxes that will be added to the 650 already prepared and loaded into the shipping cartons that you see in the picture ( each one contains 22 shoeboxes and weighs about 65 pounds ).

**SAVE THE DATE!!  
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S  
ATTIC TREASURE SALE**

**FEBRUARY 25TH, 2017**

The workers will be setting up for the Attic Treasure Sale in the Fellowship Hall February 21st-24th. The trailer will be available the first week of January, 2017.



### Church and Community Team

Mision Peniel is in need of diapers, size 5 & 6 for the older babies in Immokalee. They can be brought to the church on Sunday or left in the church office during the week.

It has also been noted that Pastor Miguel prepares the meals on Friday for about 600 people (remember he has a new baby at home). He would love to have help with that, or you could arrange with him to prepare the meal in Ft. Myers (maybe 60 meatloafs) to take out there on Friday morning. He would prepare the rest of the meal.

Thank you, Chris Giesecke

# Birthdays and Anniversaries



December

## December Birthdays

- 2nd Michael Hornung  
Rich Badalaty  
Matt Navidomskis
- 6th Jean Dodd  
Marvin Birdt  
Betty Serra
- 8th Dolores Warren
- 9th Kay Hill  
Stewart Botchford
- 10th Tommy Kendall  
Lily Kendall
- 11th Jean Shell
- 13th Lynne Birdt  
Charles Place
- 14th Caleb Kiss
- 16th Jim McFadden
- 17th Doris Sparrow  
Lee Conrad
- 21st Bob O'Neill
- 22nd Rachel Carrier  
Diana Santiago
- 23rd Krista McAloose  
Amanda Johnson
- 24th Mary Githieya  
Saenu Dougherty
- 26th Carol Walker
- 27th Emma Hayman
- 29th Sarah Kulis
- 31st Joanne Daume

## December Anniversaries

- 3rd Donald & Lois Siemon  
Charles & Kelly Hayman
- 7th James & Carol Boles
- 10th Lee & Sarah Kulis
- 16th Rich & Marietta Meacham
- 29th Richard & Elizabeth Colvin
- 30th Rick & Sharon Werner



JANUARY

## January Birthdays

- 4th Connie Hope
- 5th Jim Warren
- 6th Walter Goff  
Sandie Sneed
- 7th Richard Meacham  
Ann Sims
- 8th Sharon Werner
- 9th Sam McGargle
- 10th Darlene Harshbarger  
Janice Ulrich  
Pam Darst
- 11th Gene Witney
- 12th Samantha Santiago
- 13th Harold Gerhardt
- 14th Irene Thiessen  
Carol Howe
- 15th Mary Gisse  
Rick Gow  
John Harris
- 16th Mackenzie Kiss  
David Radcliff
- 17th Kay Slusher  
Pamela Simones
- 18th Carolyn Hornung  
Brett Pappalardo
- 20th Ana Agama
- 23rd Betty Schaarschuch
- 25th James Sharpe
- 31st Mildred Poland

## January Anniversaries

- 8th Robert & Eileen Coe  
Bob & Bari O'Neill
- 16th Bob & Fran Baughman
- 25th Ambrose & Carol Walker
- 27th Harold & Rachel Carrier