



# The Courier

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

Cypress Lake  
Presbyterian Church

February  
2013

## CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN ATTIC TREASURE SALE



Start to clean out your closets and the garage for articles that we can sell. The trailer is here at the back of the property, and will be open each Saturday during January and February from 9 a.m. to noon and Sundays 8 a.m. to noon. We will collect household items, electrical appliances, toys (with all parts), baby items, clothing, furniture, jewelry, sporting goods, books, linens, baskets, dishes, and tools. All must be in working order and clean. For large items, call Sandy Thornburg at 466-9574 to arrange pickup.

**THE SALE WILL TAKE PLACE ON  
SATURDAY, MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup> FROM  
7 A.M. TO 1 P.M.**

For those of you who haven't heard the good news yet, Kayley Bishop and Matt Hill (friend of Kayley), both solid Christian young people, have agreed to help with the youth group. That gives us Mickey Mears, Travis, Kayley, and Matt on a regular basis and Linda and Tim Baldwin, occasionally, running the youth group. A very good crew!

## Christian Education Current Events

Pastor Clint is teaching two classes (Sunday at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.). These are going very well with about 20 in each class. They both meet in the classrooms in Fellowship Hall.

The children's class is being taught by Sarah Otenti and Amy Cottrell. They are using the curriculum from the Presbyterian Church (designed for "Sunday School"). The class numbers about 12 students every week.

The Confirmation Class has started (Sunday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>). As of this writing we are hoping for 6-7 students from the 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade. The class is being taught by Miss Ginny on Sunday mornings at 10:10 in the library in CE 2. It will run through May 5<sup>th</sup> with public reception at the 9:00 a.m. service on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.



## Dinner Theater Saturday, March 23 6:00 p.m.

Chef Harold will be preparing another **WONDERFUL MEAL**

The Presentation will be by the **CLPC DRAMA TROUPE.**

One Night Only, Fellowship Hall.  
Tickets on Sale on February 24<sup>th</sup> with the proceeds going to purchase items for the Fellowship Hall and the remainder going to the Church Operating Budget.  
See Rachel Carrier if you have questions or to purchase tickets.

## CONCERT: Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM



### Who?

Praise Team, Gloria Choir, Angels' Rock and other musical guest artists

### Sponsor

Concert is sponsored by the Worship Team and the Music Department

### Why?

Love offering will be taken to be placed in a designated fund for the purpose of fixing/replacing equipment.

# The Courier

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church  
8260 Cypress Lake Drive  
Fort Myers, Florida 33919  
Phone: (239) 481-3233  
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Web site: www.clpc.us

## Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Clinton C. Cottrell  
clint@clpc.us

## Pastor of Visitation Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Harold Simones

## Director of Worship & Music

Rachel Carrier  
rachel@clpc.us

## Interim Praise Team Leader

Travis Larson  
travis@clpc.us

## Christian Education Director

Ginny Canning  
ginny@clpc.us

## Office Manager

Karen May  
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.



# Presbyterian Women

## February 2013

2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Peace River Presbyterian Women Annual Gathering Host: CLPC, Fort Myers, FL
4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am 1:00 pm	Project Linus Blanket Work Day Executive Board Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am 12:30 pm	Martha Circle Esther Circle ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	Eve Circle
20 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Presbyterian Women Gathering ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> ) 11:15 am Program-Fashion Show 12:00 pm Luncheon-Hosted by Esther Circle
24 <sup>th</sup>		Gifts of Women Sunday 8 a.m., 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Services to be Led by Women of the Congregation
25-1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am-??	Attic Treasure Sale Set-up
3/2	7:00-1:00 pm	Attic Treasure Sale



## Chancel Guild

### *February 2013 Schedule*

1st	Irene Thiessen Betty Schaarschuch
8th	Irene Thiessen Pam Smith
15th	Jackie Oestriech Dorothy Troy
22nd	Doris Houston Rebecca Potts

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



Irene Thiessen, Chancel

The next New Member Orientation and Luncheon will be March 3, 2013. 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.



## GO and make disciples of all peoples...

That is some of the final words of Jesus at the end of the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus gave us a specific commandment and in this world, that is often a real challenge as many folks just don't see a need to be a disciple of Jesus! Yet, we have our "marching orders" as Christians.

Over the last year or two, I had pondered deeply how we could work on meeting that challenge. Oh, we have had some successes with 4 adult baptisms this past year and with a church that has seen a slight increase in membership, all while our denomination continues to shrink. But something else loomed on the horizon. Then it hit...there is a WHOLE population that we are not reaching!

Pastor Miguel and I then began to talk. How could we reach the Spanish speaking population around us? CAN we reach them? A little research revealed that we have over 8,000 people within 3 miles of CLPC that are of Hispanic or Latino heritage. Of those, over 7,000 speak Spanish in their home. Yet, there are NO mainline churches in that 3 miles that have a Spanish speaking celebration of worship. So clearly, there is an opportunity to "GO!" and make disciples.

Yet, there ARE hurdles. I speak virtually NO Spanish (working on that, but sure can't preach in Spanish!!!). But Pastor Miguel does! Two years ago we did not have the space. Now we do, with the expanded fellowship hall. Two years ago we were struggling to just pay the light bill. Now our budget is much improved. ONE year ago there was NO money available from the General Assembly to help us start. Now we have received an initial grant of \$7,500 with a total possible amount of \$50,000 (we CAN do this without the grant, but the money sure helps!!!). In short, it looks like God is opening a door for us to fulfill the Great Commission, right here in Fort Myers.

Will there be challenges? Absolutely! Many of the Spanish speaking folks are of Roman Catholic heritage and may be resistant to a Presbyterian form of worship. Many of those in the Latino and Hispanic community work on weekends. And even within the Spanish speaking community there are huge differences in ethnicity between those of Mexican, Guatemalan, Puerto Rican and Cuban descent. There ARE challenges.

There are also wonderful possibilities! Imagine if we had a full chapel every Sunday with people worshipping Jesus... and joining us in a combined worship once a month! Imagine if we expanded our Vacation Bible School with a Spanish speaking component! Imagine the potential growth for a new Sunday School and mid-week ministry! Imagine if we actually COULD make disciples of people right next to the church or down the street! But what we know for certain is this, if we do not try, we will never succeed! So we are about to give it a try!!!

As of right now, we are hoping to have a "soft start" on February 1 as we begin to build up to a full Spanish speaking service. But there are some things we all need to do, right now:

Pray! Pray that we are doing the Lord's work and that we may succeed in reaching our neighbors with the love of Christ!

Welcome those that come to visit, especially those who may speak a language different than ours. Interestingly enough, a smile is translatable into every language, as is a genuine loving, Christian spirit. Be sure to welcome those that come our way.

Invite those that you may know or meet that are of a Spanish speaking background. Remember, there are NO mainline churches reaching out to these folks so do not take it for granted that they are attending church anywhere, as they probably aren't!

Did we mention pray! Particularly for Pastor Miguel as he works to share the gospel here and in Immokalee.

No one knows where God is going to lead this ministry but one thing we do know, we will enjoy the journey!

Blessings,

*Pastor Clint*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Celebration Times</b> 8:00 am Prayer Celebration 8:30-11 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Praise Celebration 9:15 am Kids Worship 10:00 am Bible Study 10:10 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Puppet Practice 11:00 am Traditional Celebration	4 9:30 am Project Linus 12 pm Staff Mtg. 1 pm PW Board Mtg. <b>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</b>	5 6 pm Voices in Bronze 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 6 pm Personnel Mtg. 7 pm Ministry Teams Mtg.	6 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 6:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	7 1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	1 3-6 pm Organist Practice 6 pm Literacy Council	2 Peace River Presbyterian Women Gathering 9 am- 2 pm
3 <b>Blood Drive</b> 8:15 am - 1:00 pm <b>Youth Car Wash</b> 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.	11 9 am Calusa Musicales 12 pm Staff Mtg. <b>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8pm</b>	12 7 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Martha Circle 12:30 pm Esther Circle 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 6 pm Voices in Bronze 7 pm Condo. Assoc. Mtg.	13 9 am PIP <b>Ash Wednesday Service</b> 7:00 p.m.	14 1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal 7 pm Eve Circle	15 3-6 pm Organist Practice 6 pm Literacy Council <b>Courier Deadline</b>	16 1-4 pm Organist Practice
17	18 12 pm Staff Mtg. <b>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</b>	19 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 6 pm Voices in Bronze 7 pm Session Meeting 7 pm Cypress Lk. Homeowners	20 9 am PIP 10:30 am PW Gathering 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 6:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	21 1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	22 7 am Real Est. Bkfst. 3-6 pm Organist Practice 6 pm Literacy Council	23 1-4 pm Organist Practice
24 <b>Gifts of Women Sunday</b> 3 Cents a Meal Sunday	25 12 pm Staff Mtg. <b>Food Pantry 11-1 &amp; 6-8 pm</b>	26 6 pm Small Grp. Bible Study 6 pm Voices in Bronze 7 pm Food Pantry Mtg.	27 9 am PIP 5:15 pm Angels Rock! 5:30 pm Youth Group 6 pm Kids Dinner 6:30 pm Gloria Choir 6:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scouts	28 1-4 pm Organist Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal		



## Birthday Celebrations

- 6<sup>th</sup> Michael Scullion  
Emily Logelin  
7<sup>th</sup> Diane Jordan  
9<sup>th</sup> Griffin Peters  
12<sup>th</sup> Betty Ann Kelly  
13<sup>th</sup> Judy Hoschner  
Kevin McFadden  
16<sup>th</sup> Ken Sneed  
Cody Waldrop  
18<sup>th</sup> Rod Herrick  
Jay Giesecke  
19<sup>th</sup> Harry J. Warren  
William Conner  
20<sup>th</sup> Muriel Meszaros  
21<sup>st</sup> Harold Riser  
Nate Burley  
22<sup>nd</sup> Daisy Graf  
Ronnie Wisniewski, Jr.  
23<sup>rd</sup> Ethan Peters  
25<sup>th</sup> Zachary Wilson  
27<sup>th</sup> Juanda Galberach  
Hewitt McCloskey, Jr.  
28<sup>th</sup> Katherine Burley



## Anniversary Celebrations

- 16<sup>th</sup> James & Gale Wray  
19<sup>th</sup> James & Jackie Oestriech  
Dwayne & Marcia Bruns  
22<sup>nd</sup> Marvin & Lynne Birdt

## Gin and other spiritual matters...

The lights, glitter, joy, music and marvelous stories of the Christmas season are over! What now? Where do we get that "special feeling" to keep going and spread "Christmas cheer" and "Peace on Earth" for the rest of the year? Why can't we hold on to that "spirit" all year long. Probably because we forget the "Christmas Story" and all it brings.

This year Easter is March 31<sup>st</sup>...early. That means that Lent begins on Wed., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Not much time between the "happiness" of Christmas and the "seriousness" of Lent. Sure Lent is the time we should spend getting ready for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. But does that mean we can't retain that "special feeling"? We forget that as Christians/Presbyterians/the "frozen chosen" we should be **celebrating** Lent, not making it something sobering and depressing. We should be "doing things", not giving up things.

Maybe we could reread the stories we read at Christmas; such as, Luke 2, Matthew 2, "The Littlest Angel", "Why the Chimes Rang", "The Gift of the Magi" and others we know. Maybe we could put up lights...not necessarily Christmas ones (how about just extra lights). Maybe we could cook special meals more often and invite friends and family to "celebrate ordinary days" with us. Maybe we could buy a gift for someone who needs something...or a gift for someone we know or don't know "just because". Why don't we "Pay It Forward" with a few "Random Acts of Kindness"? And maybe, just maybe, we can continue "spreading Christmas cheer" and "Peace on Earth" throughout the year. Think about it...

Ginny Canning

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Join us!

### COFFEE HOUR

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!

### *Blood Drive*

The next Blood Drive will be Sunday, February 10th from 8:15-1:00 pm.

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



### CHILDREN IN CHURCH!

One Sunday in a Midwest City, a young child was "acting up" during the morning worship hour. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew but were losing the battle.

Finally, the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle on his way out.

Just before reaching the safety of the foyer, the little one called loudly to the congregation,

"Pray for me! Pray for me!"



## **CEDARKIRK NEWS:**

**SAVE THE DATE ! SAVE THE DATE !! SAVE THE DATE !!!**

CLPC **All-Church Retreat** will be held April 12-14. There will be room for about 65 people. We will have Pine Lodge for children, youth and families AND the Retreat House for adults who don't want to stay up late and want a little more privacy and quiet. Also, the Retreat House has no steps. We would really like to make this an "All-Church" retreat.

Singles, couples, families, older, younger...please consider joining us for a really great and restful weekend. We will start on Friday around 8 pm and end after lunch on Sunday (about 1:30 pm). That way everyone can be home at a decent hour to get to bed and be ready for work and school.

### **Men's Breakfast Fellowship Hall**

**Tuesday, February 12th 7:00am**



#### **Speaker:**

**The Rev. Dr. Ron Rand**

#### **Topic:**

**How to have a Good  
Family Fight**



### **DEACONS AT WORK.....**

Our Deacons at CLPC have many responsibilities. One of these is transportation. Now, that does not mean they will drive everyone to church each Sunday; however, they will arrange to drive anyone when they have a special need. If you need help getting to an appointment, to the doctor, or the grocery store, they will arrange for someone to get you where you need to go. So give us a call at 239-481-3233 with your request.

DEACONS AT WORK.

Betty Schaarschuch

## **CHICK-FLICK**



### **DINNER AND A MOVIE**

**"Chocolat"**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8  
6:00**

CLPC Fellowship Hall  
Join us for an evening of French food,  
Christian fellowship, chocolate and a  
good movie!

\$5.00 donation for dinner

RSVP-Amy Cottrell  
561-1654



### **YOUTH CAR WASH FEBRUARY 10TH**

**8:00 A.M.—12:30 P.M.**

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED**

**MONIES GO TO  
MISSION &  
YOUTH GROUP  
ACTIVITIES**



A little girl had been shopping with her Mom in Target. She must have been 6 years old; this beautiful red haired, freckle faced image of innocence. It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout. We all stood there under the awning and just inside the door of the Target.

We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day. I am always mesmerized by rainfall. I got lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

The little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in "Mom, let's run through the rain," she said. "What?" Mom asked.

"Let's run through the rain!" She repeated.

"No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit," Mom replied.

This young child waited about another minute and repeated: "Mom, let's run through the rain,"

"We'll get soaked if we do," Mom said.

"No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning," the young girl said as she tugged at her Mom's arm.

"This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?"

"Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, 'If God can get us through this, he can get us through anything!'"

Now the entire crowd stopped dead silent. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain. We all stood silently. No one came or left in the next few minutes. Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say. Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was a moment of affirmation in a young child's life. A time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into faith.

"Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If GOD let's us get wet, well maybe we just needed washing," Mom said.

Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars and yes, through the puddles. They held their shopping bags over their heads just in case. They got soaked. But they were followed by a few who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their cars.

And yes, I did. I ran. I got wet. I needed washing.

Circumstances or people can take away your material possessions, they can take away your money, and they can take away your health. But no one can ever take away your precious memories...So, don't forget to make time and take the opportunities to make memories everyday. For to; ***Everything There Is A Season And A Time To Every Purpose Under Heaven! ( Ecclesiastes 3:1 )***

Now they say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them. So, take the time to keep in touch with your friends, you never know when you'll need each other -- and don't ever forget "to run in the rain!" Amen.



Author --Bob Perks