



# The Courier

May  
2014

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

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



**VBS 2014 is Coming!**  
**June 2nd-June 6th**  
**5:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

Children ages 3-5th Grade are welcome to attend. Older children can be Crew Leaders. Each day children will have a new Bible Buddy, will sing, learn Bible stories, have crafts and LOTS of games!

Register at [www.clpc.us](http://www.clpc.us)



We will need lots of volunteers to help in all areas. Please contact Ginny Canning at 239-481-3233x22 if you can help! Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex or the Church Office.

### NOTICE

Roof repairs and installation of the new shingles will take place from April 22nd - May 21st on our Worship Center and CE1&2. Exercise caution when near these buildings during this period.

**THE SUPPORT & PROPERTY TEAM**



**Congregational Meeting**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 8th immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service.

### NEW WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES COMING IN JUNE!



Beginning Sunday, June 1st through August 31st, we will have two services. The 8:00 a.m.

Prayer Service will continue, and there will be a 10:00 a.m. Combined Service. Coffee Hour will end on May 1, 2014.

Thanks to all who helped support the Youth Car Wash on Sunday, April 6th. With your help, we raised \$725! Thank you; thank you!



# The Courier

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church  
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## Pastor

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

## Pastor

The Rev. Miguel Estrada  
Miguel@clpc.us

## Director of Worship & Music

Rachel Carrier  
rachel@clpc.us

## Assist. Dir. of Worship & Music

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## Christian Education Director

Ginny Canning  
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## Office Manager

Karen May  
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## Sexton

Charles Barnhill

## Clerk of Session

Bobbi Bancroft-Clerk Pro Tem

## Presbyterian Women Moderator

Pat France

## Moderator of the Deacons

Eleanor Bartoe

## 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.

## Men's Breakfast Fellowship Hall Tuesday, May 13th 7:00am



There are many openings for pulpit and lectern flowers for Sunday Worship. Please help to fill this need so we may continue to have a supply of flowers for our members and friends who are shut-ins, or in hospitals, retirement homes, and rehabilitation centers. Thank you for your support. Flowers are still \$25.00 Worship Ministry Team

## Chancel Guild

### May 2014 Schedule

- 2nd** Irene Thiessen  
Gale Wray
- 9th** Jackie Oestriech  
Dorothy Troy
- 16th** Doris Houston  
Rebecca Potts
- 23rd** Sue Chanofsky  
Betty Schaarschuch
- 30th** Irene Thiessen  
Gale Wray

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

**Irene Thiessen,  
Chancel Guild Dir.**

## Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive will be  
**Sunday, May 18th**  
8:15-12:45 pm.

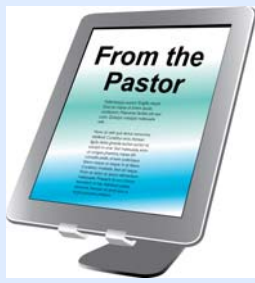
Please call Tim Baldwin for an appointment at 937-369-6069.  
Give the gift of Life!!



## Presbyterian Women

### May 2014

- |      |           |                                      |
|------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 5th  | 9:30P.M.  | Project Linus Blanket (CE1-Rms. 2&3) |
|      | 1:00P.M.  | Executive Board Meeting (Library)    |
| 8th  | 7:00 P.M. | Eve Circle (OS)                      |
| 13th | 9:30A.M.  | Martha Circle (Fellowship Hall)      |
|      | 12:30P.M. | Esther Circle (Fellowship Hall)      |



For a number of years, I have struggled with a piece of scripture that just was difficult to accept. In Matthew 25 Jesus tells the parable of three men who are given talents: one is given five talents, one is given two and another is given only one. At the end of the story, the one with the five talents and the one with the two have done well and are rewarded. But, the one with only one talent has not done anything with the talent and subsequently is punished. Jesus concludes the story by saying, “For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.” (NIV)

This is a troubling piece on several levels. First of all, it implies that everyone is NOT equal in God’s eyes and that some people are given more gifts than others. Secondly, the third individual wasn’t BAD (he didn’t gamble the money or spend it on something temporal), he just didn’t take any risk. And for this, he was punished. Lastly, the passage ALMOST seems to imply that the rich will get richer and the poor will get poorer. This just doesn’t add up with the other teachings of Christ.

But enter Diogenes Allen. Despite that classically sounding name, Allen is a very down to earth pastor-professor who has a way of making sense out of the most difficult of situations, which in his book *Temptation*, does just that with this passage.

First of all, a “talent” was a form of currency 2,000 years ago; and it is most notable that the English word that we have today, meaning an ability or innate gift, is based on a form of currency. So reading this passage, it is VERY easy to see talents as either money OR an inborn gift or ability.

Next, as much as it hurts us to say this in our 21<sup>st</sup> century, democratic society (where “anyone can become President”), some people ARE better gifted than others. We see it with IQ’s...some people are just more intelligent than others (and all of the education in the world can’t completely close that gap). Some are born into wealthier or poorer families. Some are born with better genes, while the reverse is true (I inherited a bad gene for cholesterol...all of the exercise, red wine/grape juice, niacin and diet in the world can’t reverse that gene, mitigate perhaps, but not reverse it). Some people have “perfect pitch” while still others cannot “keep a tune in a bucket.” Fact is, some people ARE more heavily gifted than others.

So the question is not about the quantity or quality of the gifts, but what we do with the ones God has given us. In the case of the folks with the five and the two talents, they used them to do good work and were rewarded. But the one with only one talent, the one who in theory would have had to work the hardest to succeed, did the very least he had to and in return, lost what little he had! It is NOT about the gifts or talents that we have, but about how we use them!

But there is another equally hidden gem in here. How many people who are blessed with gifts and talents begin to think their talents are about something that THEY did. Oh sure, all of us must hone our skills and abilities; but as Diogenes Allen points out, someone who is born with sight in a kingdom of blind people is bound to be king. The fact is, God has given us whatever talents, gifts or abilities that we have. Any of us could have been born without those talents or into a family that did not cherish or value the gifts from God.

So where does that leave us? Within CLPC each and every one of us has been blessed with gifts, abilities and talents to serve the Lord. It is easy to say, “I am too busy” or “I am too old” or “I am too young.” We can all make excuses. The man with the one talent made lots of excuses, and in return lost what little he had. On the other hand, I have watched people do remarkable things, using their talents regardless of their age or limitations. I have seen folks in their 90’s washing dishes in the kitchen (and we even have one “young 90 year old” heading to Greece and Turkey this year). I have seen teens with musical or acting talent come forth to perform when adults 20 years their senior have refused to step forward. I have seen people volunteer their time to feed the hungry, visit the sick, go to prison, and so very much more.

My dear friends, it is NOT about the gifts that God has given us, be it much or be it little. It is about how we use them. At CLPC, may we pull together to use our talents in new and exciting ways to do remarkable things for the kingdom. Fact is, we have all of the resources we need; they just simply reside in all of us waiting for us to make it happen!

Blessings,

*Pastor Clint*



## Anniversary Celebrations

- 2<sup>nd</sup> David & Petra DeBolt
- 6<sup>th</sup> Lowell & Pat Hoffman
- 9<sup>th</sup> George & Beverly Westacott
- 16<sup>th</sup> Harold & Kay Slusher
- 17<sup>th</sup> Bob & Judy Hoschner  
Paul & Rose Munglioli
- 21<sup>st</sup> William & Mary Conner
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Rich & Sherri Badalaty
- 30<sup>th</sup> Robert & Mae Osborne

### STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry has been reactivated at CLPC with 7 new Stephen Ministers being Commissioned on February 2, 2014 following a three month training program. These individuals were trained to provide distinctively Christian Caregiving to assist people experiencing life's burdens and need a one-to-one caring relationship.

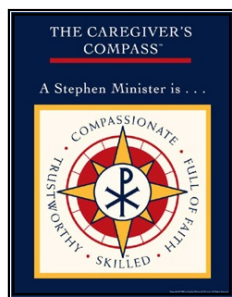
Stephen Ministers are not counselors. They are trained Christian Caregivers. Their role is to listen and care; not counsel or advise. Please do not call them counselors.

Stephen Ministry is a supervised ministry. Stephen Ministers engage in twice-monthly supervision to ensure that they are providing the best quality Christian care.

Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. What a caregiver receiver tells a Stephen Minister remains confidential. Even in supervision, the names of care receivers and details are never discussed.

Stephen Ministers do not make cold calls. They are assigned only to people who agree to receive the care of a Stephen Minister.

Please contact Pastor Clint if you know of anyone who may need a Stephen Minister.



## Birthday Wishes

- 1<sup>st</sup> Flora Jones  
Steve Norris
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Janet Serpe  
Alex Kiss
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Carol Sarosik  
Larry Scott  
Carolyn Brose
- 4<sup>th</sup> Caulette Logelin
- 7<sup>th</sup> Jeannette Scullion  
Brian Granstra
- 8<sup>th</sup> Philip Serpe  
Amy Barra
- 9<sup>th</sup> Luke Radcliffe
- 10<sup>th</sup> Jeanne Gaub  
Ken Kendall
- 11<sup>th</sup> Hawley Botchford  
Mark Gisse
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dottie Reed  
Judy Norris  
Ann Elizabeth Radcliffe
- 14<sup>th</sup> Harold Slusher  
James Wray
- 15<sup>th</sup> Al Gavenda
- 16<sup>th</sup> Harold Hayward
- 17<sup>th</sup> Dave Moore  
Don Brose
- 18<sup>th</sup> Steve Brown  
Daniela Valmer  
Hagard Bradley
- 19<sup>th</sup> Marcia Bruns  
Bari O'Neill
- 20<sup>th</sup> Gavin Dougherty
- 21<sup>st</sup> Jackie Oestriech
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Tom Huntington
- 24<sup>th</sup> Devin Masek
- 28<sup>th</sup> Nan Read  
Kurt Daume



## Hospitality Team

**This is a chance for you to meet and greet the people of the church!** We are developing a team of folks who can help in the kitchen with fellowship dinners, vacation bible school, events such as the Valentine Dinner Dance or Coffee Hour. For any of these activities there are needs you can fill. You will not be expected to be at every event, but we will call you to see if you are available. If you would be willing to help set-up, prepare food with Chef Harold, serve the meals, or clean-up afterward... **WE NEED YOU!**

Please call (239-850-4927) or email ( [crallybernardes@comcast.net](mailto:crallybernardes@comcast.net) ) Chris Giesecke to get your name added to the list. We always have a good time and look forward to sharing it with you!



The Deacons of CLPC are responsible for providing receptions after funerals or memorial services in Fellowship Hall when requested by the family. We will supply food and beverages, set up, serve and clean up. Donations for such services are requested, with the money being used to help defray costs.

The Deacons also are happy to provide food/meals to our church family and friends when needed during illness and recovery. Please request any of these services by calling the church office, and they will contact us.

Amy Cottrell



## Thank You!

Thank you all for the wonderful prayer warriors that have been praying for both of us!

We were as surprised as you were when Rachel had to be admitted to the HealthPark hospital for 6 days for a lymph node that burst, followed by 2 strains of Staph infection. Harold was also having heart tests and a 48 hour heart monitor testing done at the same time. One never knows what is in front of us. We do know that prayer works, and God does heal. He holds each of us in His hand and is always there when we need Him. We also should be receptive to God during those times when we are healthy and realize that He is here every single day for all of us! May God continue to bless us all.

*Harold and Rachel Carrier*

## **Grin and bear it**

A preacher decided to skip worship services one Sunday and head to the hills to do some bear hunting instead. As the man rounded a corner, he collided with a huge bear and tumbled down the mountain, losing his rifle and breaking both legs in the process. The bear charged toward him, but the preacher couldn't move.

"Oh, Lord," he prayed, "I'm so sorry for skipping church today. Please forgive me and grant me just one wish: Please turn that bear into a Christian!"

Instantly, the bear screeched to a halt, fell to its knees, clasped its front paws together and began praying aloud at the preacher's feet.

"Dear Lord," the bear said, "bless this food I am about to receive. Amen."



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## Angels Rock! News

**Our time together is growing shorter,  
but what we have to do is still  
most important!**



Our Wednesday practices will be as follows: All of April, and May 7, and May 14<sup>th</sup>. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, our final practice time together for this church year, we will be celebrating our time with Marlee Wilson who will be moving to the Tampa area right after school is finished. Please try to have your Angel here for those two important practices!

Angel's Rock will be singing a new song for Mother's Day on Sunday, May 11. Both Ms. Pam and I thank all of the children and the parents for your support, love, and travel time given to this musical ministry. We will look forward to a wonderful summer of rest and continue in the Fall with our new program.

Rachel

## Voices in Bronze

What a great year of ringing! We were fortunate to be able to purchase several pieces of new bell anthems and, with a lot of intense effort on all of our ringers, rang some incredibly difficult pieces. You have grown together as a wonderful Team of Christian bell Ringers, and we all look forward to a marvelous new Church year of ringing in the Fall! Remember all: we are still receiving monetary gifts to purchase music for both the Gloria Choir and for the Voices in Bronze (Bells ringers). Let us know if you are interested in helping out with an Anthem purchase!



Rachel

## Gloria Choir News

Gloria Choir will sing on May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have a quartet from the Gloria Choir, and on May 25<sup>th</sup>, special music. All ages, 100 to high school age, are welcome to join this choir. Just contact Rachel Carrier through the church office at 239-481-3233 ext. 24 for more information. During the choir year, the rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings in the Choir rehearsal room, located in CE1, room 5/6. We usually begin at 7:00pm following the bible study and are finished by 8:15pm. Sunday morning, we gather once again in the Rehearsal Room in CE1, room 5/6 at 10:30 am to go over the morning hymns and to sing the Sunday Anthem. The choir stays up in the choir loft on the first Sunday of each Month for communion. The other Sundays, we sing the Anthem, and then we are dismissed to join our church family as we continue to worship together for the remainder of the Worship Service.



Thank you all, both seasonal and year round members. This was an outstanding year for musical ministry, and it took all of us together to sing our praises to our God!

Rachel

## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible; Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the verse.

Little Bobby was excited about the task. But, he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first verse.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the whole congregation, Bobby was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly,

"The Lord is my shepherd and that's all I need."

**Eve Circle** meeting will be  
Thursday, May 8th  
at the home of  
Barbara Stewart  
5876 Wild Olive Terrace  
Phone: 481-0863





**We are looking for people who love the Lord and want to bring His love to others** in a unique and inspiring way, through puppetry. VBS is coming soon, and we always perform for the children. We also prepare skits and songs for use in our worship service. Our hope is to get out into the community more by performing inspiring and enjoyable shows for those in retirement or assisted living facilities.

We need people to make signs, create costumes and backdrops, script writers, and, of course, to be the puppeteers. Just let Larry Johnson or Chris Giesecke know you are interested. Or stop by the puppet room on Sunday at 10:10 and get an idea of what we have going on. Won't you please prayerfully consider joining us?



Women's Group

Martha Circle will meet on May 13th at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Lee Conrad and Ginny Canning will co-host. Please read chapter 9 in "An Abiding Hope".

### FLOWER GUILD



May 4th Terry Miller  
 May 11th Judy Schulte  
 (Mothers Day)  
 May 18th Jean Dodd  
 May 25th Sally Fontaine

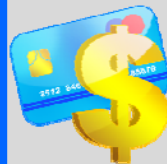
### ACOLYTE SCHEDULE MAY 2014

#### ACOLYTES



MAY 4TH	GLORIA CHOIR
MAY 11TH	MARLEE WILSON ZACH WILSON
MAY 18TH	GLORIA CHOIR
MAY 26TH	TBA

### 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).

### "Home" at last

*It has been a long road with many, many side tracks; but with the help of many friends I have made it. The cards, prayers, phone calls, flowers, goodies, moral support and many visits made it all possible and for all of those things I am eternally thankful.*



Nan Read



## *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

William R. Featherston

The Spiritual depth of *My Jesus, I Love Thee*, is made all the more remarkable by the knowledge that it was written by a teenager! William Ralph Featherston of Montreal, Canada is thought to have written these lines of heartfelt gratitude to Christ at the time of his conversion experience when only 16 years old. It is believed he sent a copy of his poem to his aunt in Los Angeles, and somehow, the text appeared anonymously in print in an English Hymnal, *The London Book*, in 1864.

Several years later, a well-known American Baptist Pastor, Dr. A. J. Gordon, discovered the anonymous hymn in the English hymnbook and decided to compose a better melody for it. With its new tune the hymn since has been included in nearly every evangelical hymnal and has been sung frequently by believers everywhere during moments of rededication to God. How marvelous are the workings of God in bringing together expressions such as these, providing a hymn that has been used in a remarkable way for more than a century, to direct Christians to a deeper relationship with their Lord. May these words cause each of us now to renew our devotion to God so that this love for Christ may be reflected in all of the activities of this day.

*My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine-For thee all the follies of sin I resign,  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou, If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.*

*I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;  
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

NOTES from RACHEL



### **A Musical Note From Cindy Basler**

As many of you may know, my husband (Jeff) and I joined CLPC in 2008. Since then, both Jeff and I have been members of the Gloria Choir, and I also have been a member of Voices in Bronze (handbell choir.) In September of 2013, I was asked to serve as your Guest Organist, and I would like to take this opportunity to share some of my thoughts about that experience before Jeff and I return to our home in Illinois where we are looking forward to enjoying the summer and early fall months with our children and grand children.



First, I want you to know how very honored I feel to have been able to assume this new role in the very exciting and growing music ministry at CLPC. I was an organ major in college and for 30 years (until 2004,) I served as the Director of Music and Organist at our Presbyterian church in Oregon, IL. Though I play periodically in Illinois, prior to serving at CLPC, it had been a number of years since I had played the organ on a regular and consistent basis. Having been blessed each week with the opportunity to share the musical gifts that God has given to me with such a spirit-filled and Christ-centered congregation, has been extremely meaningful to me. Each Sunday I have strived to introduce the congregation to a variety of new and exciting organ music, including different styles of music, music written by a cross section of composers, and music that highlights the variety of beautiful tones/sounds that the church's organ is capable of creating.

As I prepare to return to Illinois until next season, I want to thank you so much for your many compliments and kind words. It is my sincere hope and prayer that the music that I have shared with you has been enjoyable while also bringing you closer to a personal relationship with the living Christ.

God Bless,

Cindy Basler