



The Courier

May
2017

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

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



VBS 2017 is Coming!

June 5th - June 9th
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

VBS is almost here!

Children, Potty Trained through
5th Grade, are welcome!

Five Evenings of **FREE** fun!

GAMES – PUPPET SHOWS - SINGING
DANCING - BIBLE LESSONS
CRAFTS - DINNER

Register now for VBS by visiting this website:
vbspro.events/p/cypresslake

Please contact Jessica if you would like to be a Crew Leader or
Crew Leader Assistant, or if you have any question:
Jessica@clpc.us or 239-481-3233

Blood Drive

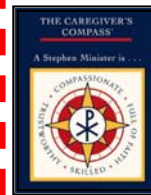
The next Blood Drive is
Sunday, May 21st
8:45-11:45 pm.



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

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is alive and well at CLPC.



We are looking to recruit
Stephen Ministers. Keep your
eyes and ears open for the start
of a new class this coming fall.
Also, be alert for anyone you
think may need help with a
problem or someone who just
wants to talk. Thanks.

The Annual Congregational
Meeting will be held on
Sunday, June 18
immediately following the
10:00 a.m. service.

Congregational
Meeting



*There will be one Combined
Worship Service, May 28th,
Memorial Day weekend at
10:00 a.m.*



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



**THE CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED ON
MEMORIAL DAY
MONDAY, MAY 29TH**



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:

Daytime Women's Bible Study – "Really Bad Girls of the Bible"
Tuesday, May 9th – 10:00 a.m. – FH – Year in Review

Evening Women's Bible Study – "Really Bad Girls of the Bible"
Tuesday, May 9th – 7:00 p.m. – FH – Year in Review

Daytime Women's Bible Study – "Who is Jesus?"
Thursday, May 11th – 10:00 a.m. – Library – Lesson 9

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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.

New Horizons-Super Kids Club

It is hard to believe another year has come and gone. Judy, Amy, and Jessica would like to extend our many thanks to all of our volunteers who made this school year possible! Thank you for donating your time and talent to help children succeed not only academically, but also in life!



God Bless you all, and we hope you enjoy your summer.



The Clothes Closet donations are continuing during the summer.

The recent donations of 250 "Undies" and other clothing and grooming items was so appreciated. Each month between 180 and 250 neighbors are helped; receiving 2000+articles of free clothing in addition to shoes, purses and accessories. The big needs at this time are men's black slacks and jeans as well as Jr. clothing, sizes 12-18. Other items are always welcome.

Many neighbors from organizations such as Salus Care, half-way houses, title one schools, food pantries and recovery houses receive vouchers for free clothing. Clothing our neighbors contributes to their self-esteem, may help them get a job or just keep warm. Clothes Closet demonstrates the love of Christ and the caring of His people. Thank you for giving to this mission.

Please remember to save those empty plastic pill bottles and place them in the basket in the Narthex.

FLOWER GUILD

- May 7th Sally Fontaine
- May 14th Terry Miller (Mothers Day)
- May 21st Youth Sunday
- May 28th Worship Ministry Team (Memorial Day)





The Times They Are a Changin'

Many years ago Bob Dylan sang that song as he rightly noted that things change, it is a part of the normal ebb and flow of life.

While most of us resist change, it is inevitable and we need to either embrace it or be left in the wake of its passing. Yes, some things NEVER change such as the love of God through Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Word of God we find in the Bible, the rising and setting of the sun, and more. But change is inevitable in the human condition, just look at the Bible from Genesis to Revelation or read any history book!

Once a month like many of you, Amy and I sit down and we go over our budget for the month. We have a good guess on what is coming in, a good guess as to what is going out, we try to plan for the "emergencies" of life (who knows when a water pump will go on a car) and work very hard to keep it balanced. In the midst of that we find that there are things that we NEED to buy, things that we WANT to buy and some that are truly just NICE to have. We also find that what we NEEDED years ago have been replaced by other NEEDS (we no longer NEED infant formula and baby bottles!!!). In any given month we are never able to fund everything; that is just a part of life! Of course, some months and years are better than others, but it is always a balancing act. And sometimes we find ourselves going "OUCH!" when we are unable to do or buy something we really liked or wanted but again, "To everything there is a season." It is just a matter of life! And at the end of the day, our budget MUST balance!

When I was in management with the federal government, we did the exact same thing, but on a yearly basis. I would plan and budget for our needs, wants and "nice to have" items. Some years went very well, others were quite austere. And at the end of the day, by federal law, my budget HAD to balance and it always did. But like at home, there were times when we had to fund one project more than another for the good of the larger organization. Yet, someone was always unhappy because their project area didn't get everything that they wanted.

In August I will have been honored to have served you for 12 years. Over that time period I have seen us struggle year after year in keeping our budget healthy. Only once do I remember borrowing from a bank (when like everyone else, we were in crisis...and we QUICKLY paid that back) but nearly every year we have borrowed from designated funds, repaying them either with a large donor coming in to help or appealing to the congregation. But at the end of the day, it is an unhealthy model that cannot be sustained! It is like borrowing from your children's college fund to pay for your electric bill or a night out at dinner, not knowing when or where you will pay it back! So, we need to get to a model where we PLAN for the shortfalls that naturally occur while also being prudent with the funds that we have! And at the end of the day, we must be good stewards!!!

Your Session is required by the Book of Order to set an annual budget. With the exception of the pastor's terms of call, this is solely a Session matter and not subject to the congregation approving it (imagine an annual meeting where we debate over spending \$150 versus \$300 on a school curriculum??). In February or March of every year we conduct an annual stewardship campaign where we gather data to make a good estimate of income for the coming year. Some years our estimates are low, others they are high, that is why they are called an "estimate!" We also estimate our expenses for the coming year. We then have to build a budget based on that anticipated income.

This last year we did fairly well, especially when you consider that we also have a capital campaign running with our budget. That said, our pledged income this year was much less than the estimated income. Fortunately, we have been judicious in our spending and are under budget, BUT we have had to borrow some funds from our designated accounts to get through the short times (NOTE: we have NO debt to any outside organization and are paying no interest on any of these funds... and actually are earning interest). Added to that, while we had some VERY generous donors pledge for the coming year (**THANK YOU**) we lost a couple of very large donors due to death, moving away and normal attrition.

At the end of the day, your Session is finalizing a budget for 2017-18 that will make some needed cuts in some areas while also ensuring growth in others. The Session is committed to a small pay raise for the staff (1% COLA and 1% merit), but will be reducing some of the hours of staff to be consistent with the national guidelines that are used nationwide (both inside and outside of the Presbyterian denomination). On the other hand, the Session is continuing to fund areas that are essential for the ministry while even allowing a venue for growth.

The budget for the next year will do the following:

1. Be FULLY funded and will pay off what is "owed" to the designated funds and fund all expenses that are expected in the coming year.
2. The staff realignment will put us in compliance with the national guidelines and will posture the church for longer term health in terms of finances.
3. The budget will ensure that all of the current ministries are fully funded and will actually posture us for growth in the next year and beyond.
4. At the end of the day, this budget is much closer to being a "pay as you go" budget and, along with the Cornerstone Capital Campaign plan to have designated funds for our "low summer months", should alleviate a need to borrow from designated funds in the future (except the one created for that purpose).

The problem with ALL budgets is, someone will not like at least one part of the budget. But it is NO different than at home or work or any other non-profit. The mission is balanced by the funds to support it. And we all need to be good stewards with the funds that God has given to us, wherever we may work or serve.

The budget for the coming year IS quite healthy and is supportable for the long term. Session worked hard to come up with this budget and didn't just look at the income and expenses, but also looked at the mission of the church and where CLPC is headed for the future. Indeed, I think that they were driven (even unconsciously) by our vision statement, "This is the place... where you will experience Christ" and not just for the short term, but for the generations to follow.

Please take time to closely read the annual report which will be available at the end of May. But when looked at from the big picture for years to come, it is our hope that you will see that we are also living into our mission statement of "Living God's Presence Through Love and Service."

Blessings,

Pastor Clint

Anniversary Celebrations

5 th	Pete & Judy Thomas
6 th	Lowell & Pat Hoffman
9 th	George & Beverly Westacott
16 th	Harold & Kay Slusher
17 th	Bob & Judy Hoschner
	Paul & Rose Mungoli
21 st	William & Mary Conner
23 rd	Rich & Sherri Badalaty
30 th	Robert & Mae Osborne



Birthday Wishes

1 st	Steve Norris
2 nd	Janet Serpe
	Alex Kiss
3 rd	Carol Sarosik
	Carolyn Brose
4 th	Caulette Logelin
7 th	Jeannette Scullion
	Brian Granstra
8 th	Philip Serpe
	Amy Maneval
9 th	Monica Tovar
10 th	Jeanne Gaub
	Ken Kendall
11 th	Hawley Botchford
	Mark Gisse
12 th	Judy Norris
13 th	Leidys Martin
14 th	Harold Slusher
16 th	Harold Hayward
	James Brady
17 th	Don Brose
	Dave Moore
18 th	Steve Brown
	Hagard Bradley
19 th	Bari O'Neill
	Marcia Bruns
20 th	Gavin Dougherty
28 th	Kurt Daume
	Nan Read

Knit One, Pray Too

Calling All Ladies:



Please join us on Thursday afternoons beginning June 1, from 1pm-3pm in Rooms 2&3. We are an informal group of women that love to knit, crochet, do needlepoint & cross-stitch or want to learn. Bring your projects or start one of our many patterns. We will be knitting prayer shawls, afghans, lap robes, making christmons, etc. for our CLPC members and also for the missions that we support here in Lee Co. See Pam Smith, Pennie Everhart or Mary Gisse for details.

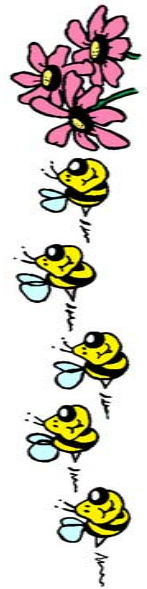
Chancel Guild

May 2017 Schedule

1 st	Judy Schulte Dorothy Troy
8 th	Judy Schulte Dorothy Troy
15 th	Sharon & Richard Werner
22 nd	Sue & Marty Chanofsky
29 th	Sue & Marty Chanofsky

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

Sue Chanofsky
Chancel Guild Dir.



Sermons Available Online and for Homebound

The Ministry Team and Deacons have been working together with Brian Granstra to make Pastor Clint's sermons available to homebound members. The new sound system has been updated to record sermons, place them on utube and download to Kindle Fires. Those who have difficulty with or no internet, will be given a Kindle Fire with several sermons uploaded to view at home. These will be reloaded at intervals. Thanks to those who worked on this new ministry!

ATTENTION: You can watch past sermons on UTUBE (Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church) or on the church website; clpc.us (go to Worship and Music and view many past sermons and special music performances.