



The Courier

Cypress Lake
Presbyterian Church

Our Vision: To become known as the Church
where you experience Christ.

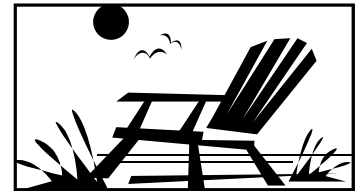
September
2015



The next New Member Orientation and Luncheon will be **September 20th**. The class will start after the 11:00 a.m. service. Call the church office at 481-3233 to sign up or email the church at mail@clpc.us.



**OFFICE CLOSED
SEPTEMBER 7th**



Youth Group

Youth Group (Middle & High School) will begin on Sunday, September 20th from 6pm – 7:30pm. A mandatory parent/guardian meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm. Parent/guardian and child **MUST** be present. The meeting will only last about 20 minutes. Please contact Jessica Osegueda with any questions (Jessica@clcp.us). Can't wait to see you all there!!



Men's Breakfast
Sunflower Cafe at 8:00 am



Tuesday, September 8th

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS COMING SOON!!

Wonderful Wednesdays will begin on Wednesday, September 9th from 6:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. after Angel's Rock. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall from 6:15 p.m. – 6:35 p.m. and then proceed into the classrooms from 6:40 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Dinner **WILL NOT** be served anymore. We will be providing the kids with some snacks and drinks. They may bring dinner with them if you wish to do so. Wonderful Wednesdays are for kids ages Preschool – 5th grade. It is set up like a Sunday school class. We are using *The Gospel Project* as this year's curriculum. They will learn different Bible stories in a classroom setting as well as have a game, drama, song, or craft accompaniment. Hope to see you all there. Please contact Jessica with any questions at 481-3233 or Jessica@clpc.us



DON'T FORGET...

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 24TH
3:00-6:00 P.M.

Then.....

KIRKIN' OF THE TARTANS



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25TH
10:00 A.M.

The Courier

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Presbyterian Women Moderator

Sandy Wharton

Moderators of the Deacons

Gloria Long - Co-Moderator
Millie Poland - Co-Moderator

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.

EVE CIRCLE

Eve Circle will meet Thursday, September 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.



Reminder to Martha & Esther circles:

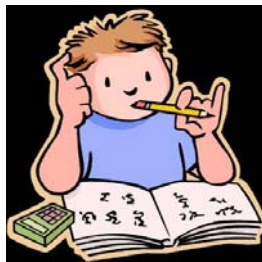
Due to Labor Day, we will meet at our regular times on the 3rd Tuesday of September, the 15th in Fellowship Hall. In October we'll return to the 2nd Tuesday. All CLPC women are welcome to attend.



Women's Group



New Horizons Super Kids Club



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Have you ever helped children do their homework and wished the teacher were there with you so you could ask questions? Super Kids club is designed to provide homework help to "at risk" kids in our area, but with the added bonus of having a certified Lee County School teacher present to clear up those questions and enable ANYONE to do the job without frustration. CLPC will be hosting the New Horizons Super Kids Club beginning this October, and we need your help. Just 1-2 hours a week can make a difference to a child who is not able to get the help at home.

With the food pantry, we are able to give a meal to those in need; but with the Super Kids Club, we can give hope to children and put them on a road to success. Won't you please help? You can go to the web site at www.newhorizonsofswfl.org and simply click on VOLUNTEERS to complete an application, or pick up an application in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please call Chris Giesecke at 239-850-4927.

THE CYPRESS LAKE PUPPETS FOR CHRIST

Come on and join our team!
Puppet rehearsals will begin on **Sunday, September 13th at Noon.** We will meet in room 4. Anyone in grade 3 and beyond is welcome. For more information, please contact Chris Giesecke (239-850-4927) or Larry Johnson (239-220-9889).





September always seems to be a month of transitions. The children and teens are back in school. Young adults are off to college, or finding “real” jobs in the workforce. The weather begins a slight change as we see a hint of the coming dry season (and up North they not only have Fall but get the first hint of Winter). And around the church, we are back to all of our worship celebrations, and the music ministry is off and running.

For many, many years I sang in the choir (long pre-dating being a pastor). I always looked forward to summer as I got an extra night of the week to spend with my family, and I got to sit with my wife every week in worship. Come Fall, it was always a little difficult to get back into the routine of choir practice every week. Oh, I looked forward to being with friends from church as well as to learning new songs, but there was always that first week or two where it just required a little extra effort. I am reminded of the commercial for an arthritis medication (drawing on Newton’s first law) that talks about how a body at rest tends to stay at rest while a body in motion remains in motion. It takes effort, LABOR to get into motion; but once started, is much easier to sustain, even enjoy! The reality is, most days of “labor” are actually quite enjoyable!

The first Monday of this month we celebrate Labor Day. While it is celebrated most by labor unions, it is a holiday that is intended to celebrate all of the people in our country who work...labor. While it is a thoroughly secular holiday, there is no question that labor has its roots in the Bible. In the opening chapters of Genesis we learn that Adam and Eve actually had a job, to tend the garden of Eden. Oddly enough, this garden was seen as paradise! Yes, their very work, labor, in the garden of Eden was paradise!

People were meant to be productive, no matter what their age may be. Whenever I see people who truly hate work, I am reminded of folks who have an illness or have lost their jobs...they would give almost anything to go back to work! I cannot count the number of times that I have sat in the home of an aged Christian and heard them lament that there is nothing that they can do, they LONG for some kind of meaningful work, even if it is as simple as running the sweeper or mowing the lawn.

Recently a scholar by the name of Amy Hanson wrote a book on baby boomers and retirement. In *Baby Boomers and Beyond* she talks about how the

boomers are the wealthiest generation to have ever lived and that they are now entering retirement en masse. She notes how when folks first retire they really enjoy doing “nothing” for about 6 months. Perhaps they golf or fish or ride an RV around the country, they just enjoy life. But after about 6 months, they begin to get bored. Most will find a small part time job, some will volunteer at a church, food pantry or hospital. Still others may go on mission trips, building houses, schools or churches in third world countries. But at the end of the day, they find a need to work, to have meaningful labor.

As you celebrate Labor Day, enjoy the much needed rest from work. But at the same time, celebrate the joy of labor. Just as Adam and Eve found labor to be a part of paradise, may all of us find our labors to be meaningful and part of the paradise of SW Florida.

Blessings,

Pastor Clint

Kid's Talk To God In Prayer

1. Dear God, please put another holiday between Christmas and Easter. There is nothing good in there now. Amanda
2. Dear God, Thank you for the baby brother but what I asked for was a puppy. I never asked for anything before. You can look it up. Joyce
3. Dear Mr. God, I wish you would not make it so easy for people to come apart. I had to have 3 stitches and a shot. Janet

Coffee Hour resumes the month of October, 2015. Coffee and treats will be placed on a movable cart and brought over to the Sanctuary Narthex.



Coffee Hour responsibilities:

Oct. 2015	Esther Circle
Nov. 2015	Martha Circle
Dec. 2015	Men’s Prayer Group
Jan. 2016	Presbyterian Women
Feb. 2016	Disciplemaking Ministry Team
Mar. 2016	Church and Community Ministry Team
Apr. 2016	Eve Circle
May 2016	Gloria Choir

Music Ministry Kickoff

Start up dates for the Music Department Fall Schedule 2015



Gloria Choir, ages High School and up. Meets on Wed. evenings beginning **Aug. 26 7:00-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal Room, CE1 Bldg.**

Bell Choir (Voices in Bronze) all ages, some piano background helps, but is not necessary



Meets on Tuesday evenings beginning **September 1, 6:00-7:00pm in the Sanctuary.**

Angels Rock!



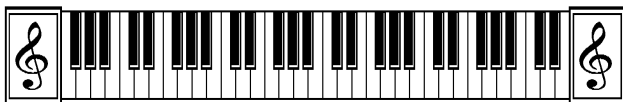
Ages 5 through the 5th grade, meets on Wednesday evening, right before Wonderful Wednesdays. Rehearsals begin September 9th in the Choir rehearsal Room, 5/6, in CE1 Building. We learn new songs, practice Christmas Musical, and learn how to play the Chimes!

NEW REHEARSAL TIME: 5:45-6:15pm

Time has been adjusted so that the working parents have time for the children to arrive on time for this practice. We do need 30 minutes to accomplish our music and get this group singing more often in the church services. The Wonderful Wednesday program will take place immediately following this rehearsal.

Drama Troupe

We will be starting this group doing the main characters in the Christmas Musical on Monday, **September 21 at 4:00pm.** Meet in the Choir rehearsal room, 5/6, CE1 Building.



Worship & Rejoice Hymnals

Thank you to all of those who purchased one of the new red hymnals titled;

Worship & Rejoice



We are in the process of placing the dedication markers into these new hymnals.

Unfortunately, we were not able to complete this by using our computers but had to resort to the "old fashioned way" of typing in the information. The church greatly appreciates having these hymns so that we can sing the familiar songs of the church and also learn some of the newer hymns. The hymnal keys make it easier to sing the songs, and the type of the song and lyrics are larger to read. May we all anticipate raising our voices in song to our Lord and Praise

His name every time we sing!

Rachel Carrier
Director of Worship and Music



Presbyterian Women

September 2015

8th	1:00 p.m.	PW Coordinating Team (Chapel)
10th	7:00 p.m.	Eve Circle (Chapel)
15th	9:30 a.m.	Martha Circle (Fellowship Hall)
	12:30 p.m.	Esther Circle (Fellowship Hall)
20th		Bakeless Bake Sale Letter Dist.
21st	9:30 A.M.	Linus Blanket Project (CE1-Rms.2&3)
30th	10:30 A.M	PW Gathering (Esther) (Thank Offering) (FH)

Operation Christmas Child

CLPC will be sponsoring Operation Christmas Child again this year. We will be collecting shoe box gifts to be sent to millions of children all over the world who would have no Christmas otherwise. It's easy, start by picking up a pamphlet in the Narthex or just:

- Find an empty shoe box (standard size, please) or a small plastic container. You can wrap the box (lid separately), but wrapping is not required.
- Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.
- Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child--toys, school supplies, hygiene items. (No glass, liquids or war related items.)
- In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)
- Please donate \$7 or more for each shoe box you prepare to help cover shipping and other project costs.
- Place a rubber band around each shoe box and lid and drop off at the Church the week of November 15-22.



We challenge you to get your neighborhood, your friends, and your families involved in this project. We're starting on this project early to collect a record number this year. Last year CLPC collected over 540 boxes. Watch for more details to come. Join us in making a difference in a child's life.

CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM

So much in common, so far apart.

Did that title get your attention? Would you be interested in learning more or even just discussing the subject? You will have the chance!

That is the title of the Adult Bible Study for the Fall here at CLPC. Christianity and Islam are the world's two largest and most evangelistic religions...we are more and more aware of one another. However, Christians and Muslims have historically been uninformed about one another, and our understanding has often been biased by popular mythology and media headlines.



The two religions share many common beliefs and practices, but the combination of cultural differences and the hostilities of governments have often fostered hatred instead of tolerance.

Join us on Sundays or Wednesdays and learn about our commonalities and differences. The classes will be led by Ginny Canning, Steve Norris, and The Rev. Brenda Harcourt.

Class schedule: Sundays @ 8:45-9:20 am; and 10:10-10:45 am
Weds. @ 10:00-11:00 am; and 5:45-6:30 pm

CLASSES BEGIN ON SUNDAY, 9/13 and WEDNESDAY, 9/16



Birthdays

- 9-01 *Tyler Hill, Jr.*
Lowell Hoffman
- 9-02 *Marietta Meacham*
- 9-03 *Hunter McAloose*
- 9-05 *Melissa Wisniewski*
- 9-07 *Jay Guy*
Cindy Basler
- 9-08 *Yvette Taubel*
- 9-10 *Leslie McGargle*
Judy Thomas
- 9-11 *Eleanor Bartoe*
Donna Phelps
- 9-12 *John Farman*
Steven Bishop
- 9-16 *Juan Albarran*
Diego Albarran
- 9-18 *Mary Ann Guy*
- 9-19 *James Wilson*
- 9-24 *Judy Schulte*
- 9-25 *Martha Bough*
Sandy Karr
- 9-26 *Otto Muller-Girard*
- 9-28 *Nancy Wheeler*
Harold Carrier
James Boles
- 9-29 *Jaime Hill*

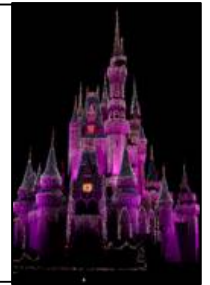
PANTRY NEWS:



The Senior Food Program at Harry Chapin filled up before our pantry could even be considered, so we are on hold and not participating in that program for now. We have decided to get rid of the grocery cart in the Narthex. We are planning on doing two church-wide food drives a year. We will do one in the Fall and one before Easter. You can still bring any items to the church office, and they will be taken to the pantry.

Additionally, on September 20 the Publix food drive will take place. Publix will run a special on several items that Harry Chapin is in need of. You can purchase these and/or other items and take them out to the parking lot where a food pantry vehicle will be waiting. **Our assigned Publix is at Summerlin and Cypress Lake Rds.** Our food pantry gets to keep all of the items we collect on that day. Please help support the South Fort Myers Food Pantry and Harry Chapin.

Our youth will be going to Disney's Night of Joy from Friday, September 11th-Sunday, September 13th. We will be enjoying Christian Concerts and fellowship with one another. Please pray for safe travels.



Anniversaries

- 9-02 *Hawley & Joyce Botchford*
Michael & Jeanette Scullion
- 9-10 *Gavin & Hannah Dougherty*
- 9-24 *Harold & Marilyn Gerhardt*
- 9-28 *Jim & Leah Barfoot*
- 9-29 *Jim & Dolores Warren*
- 9-29 *John & Myra Harris*
- 9-30 *Glenn & Suzanne Matsumoto*

Chancel Guild

September 2015 Schedule

- 4th Doris Houston
Becky Potts
- 11th Sue Chanofsky
Marty Chanofsky
- 18th Irene Thiessen
Gail Wray
- 25th Judy Schulte
Dorothy Troy

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

**Irene Thiessen,
Chancel Guild Dir.**



GIN... and other "spiritual" matters,

I had a young Chinese woman staying with me from July 24th-Aug. 8th. She was with a group of Chinese students who were here under the auspices of "Education First" (EF). She teaches English in an elite boarding school in Shanghai. She helped with translation and tutoring in the student's English classes, which they took every morning. In the afternoon, they enjoyed the sights and culture of our "paradise" (when it finally stopped raining).

Chen Lei (Grace) and I spent time together in the car going to and from her bus stop, at breakfast and dinner and all day on the weekend. She was like a sponge. She soaked up everything from our culture that she could...from lunch at Cheeburger, Cheeburger to the Shell Museum on Sanibel, from eating at the Alva Diner, to enjoying pizza and games with my friends and me.

The best part of the visit for me was our conversations. I learned much about China. We talked and laughed about misconceptions on both our parts. We talked seriously about our education systems...concluding that while there were differences...students/teenagers were the same worldwide. I learned that not all Chinese factories are "sweat shops" that employ under-age children. Chen Lei's husband is a Civil Servant. His job for the government is to inspect factories and businesses to make sure they are complying with government rules and regulations re-employment, salaries, health insurance, etc. Think OSHA, DEA, Dept. of Labor, FDA, etc. I'm sure there are some companies that "slip through the cracks"...but we should remember our "illegal alien" problem before we judge. I learned that the Chinese people have labeled the US as "the big brother of the world" and think that we want to take over all other countries. I told her I understood that misconception, and that our government sometimes felt that everyone in the world should be a democracy. I told her I was sure that not all Americans wanted to be "big brothers".

Chen Lei's opinion of the US was mainly of the people. She said everyone was so "kind". Chen Lei was very impressed with the friendliness and kindness of the people at CLPC. She was here for one week of "Combined Service" and one week of "3 Services", and found them very interesting. She especially liked the Praise Music, and even sang along.

It was a very exciting, interesting, and educational two weeks. Chen Lei and I decided that if the "PEOPLE" of our two countries could sit down and talk, we would get along just fine. Isn't that true of most groups. So many misconceptions, so many times the communication falters or never gets started. Christ communicated very well...why can't we learn to do the same within our families, churches, communities, nation, and internationally??

Ginny Canning



FLOWER GUILD SEPTEMBER, 2015

September 6th	Sally Fontaine
September 13th	Judy Schulte
September 20th	Terry Miller
September 27th	Jean Dodd

Linus Project – What is it?

Linus is the name of the adorable young Peanuts comic character who toted a blanket around with him all the time. The creator, Charles Schultz, was a great supporter of our project and was delighted to have Linus inspire people to make blankets to comfort all children in need.

"The best kind of sleep under heaven is a blanket, handmade, with love."

Calling all ladies who enjoy doing hand work. We need your help making new, machine washable, dryable, child friendly colored blankets. They can be made by quilting, knitting, or crocheting. We have several sizes that are needed, 18" by 24" for the preemies, 36" by 36" for the infants, 36" by 45" for a small child, and the 40" by 60" for a teenager. Of course blankets of any size will be accepted because kids come in all different sizes. We meet on the first Monday of each month in Room 2 in the Sunday School Building from 9:30 A.M. to 11 A.M. Come and join us!

This is a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization with a primary mission to provide love, comfort, and a sense of security for those who are ill, traumatized, or in need of a gift they can hold and keep. This is a service of love and great reward knowing that a child has found comfort in such a small thing as a blanket.



This year, so far, we have made over 3000 blankets that will be given to children in need. But each day there are more children that are in a crisis, so we always can use more blankets. Call Matilda Wilson at 489-3582.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Samaritan's Purse is an organization which tends to the needs of others **around the world**. Operation Christmas Child is a program which delivers packages to children in need and shares the knowledge and love of Christ with them.



Our goal this year is **1,000 boxes**, and we will be having a packing party in September (TBA). Tim & Linda Baldwin have been collecting, planning, purchasing, and coordinating items needed to make this happen. There are several folks who have been working throughout this year to get key elements of the packages prepared; for example, Tim collects tennis balls and their containers to be used in the boxes. The containers are stuffed with toiletries, and the balls are washed and will bounce many hours in the Congo, or wherever they go. They have ordered other items in bulk.

Some have voiced concern that they enjoy going with family members and purchasing items for their box. This is of course a viable option for everyone who wishes to do so.

Thanks to all who have placed donations in the Narthex on Sunday and to all who have donated cash to the cause (as you may know there is \$7 required for shipping each box- that's \$7,000). A member of the congregation has promised "matching funds" for all monetary donations.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD- How can I help?

- Create mini notes to let the child receiving the box know that God loves them, and that you are praying for them.
- Come to any of the packing events- we packed 250 boxes before the Scavenger Hunt & dinner this summer in under a half hour.
- Donate items or \$
- Ask Tim or Linda Baldwin how you can help
- Create your own box.

CLPC sponsored Music Camp



CLPC sponsored a Music Camp here on our campus Aug. 3 through Aug. 6th. This was attended by 14 children ages 5 through grade 5, and the following disciplines were taught and/or demonstrated: Vocal techniques, Drama, Chimes, Cello, Piano, Drums Beginning Music Theory, and the proper use of Rhythm instruments. Half of those attending were from our church, and the other half were students returning from our summer VBS. Thank you to the adults who helped in teaching and feeding our young people: Amy Maneval, Gavin Dougherty, Ron Wisniewski, Pam Simones, Becky Harris, Harold Carrier, Ryan Wisniewski, and Rachel Carrier; Director of the music camp.



Deacons Committee Assignments 2015-2016

Bereavement/Food Requests	Judy Norris & Janice Ulrich
Flowers	Judy Norris
Food Pantry	Skip Webster
Hispanic Ministry	Ana Agama & Doris Sparrow
Homebound	Millie Poland & Gloria Long
Hospital/Rehab	Pam Smith & Judy Schulte
Hurricane Communications	Skip Webster
Transportation	Paul Harris & Janice Ulrich
Millie Poland & Gloria Long - Co-Moderators	