



Palma Ceia Messenger

August 2021

Back to School at PCPC

Back to School Breakfast

Sunday, August 15th in the Fellowship Hall at 10-12pm

All are welcome! Please sign up on www.palmacea.org so we have enough space & food!

We invite anyone of any age to join us for breakfast for the purpose of fellowship as we enter back into the school year.

The meal will include an assortment of breakfast sandwiches, berry yogurt, and classic pastries all made by La Segunda Bakery. Plus coffee and lattes made by our own Brew Crew!

Thank you to our Children & Family Ministries for planning and hosting this fellowship opportunity!

Back to School Blessing

Sunday, August 15th

In all morning services August 15th, the pastors will be blessing teachers & students who are heading back to school, and blessing the backpacks that were collected during July. Children are invited to bring their backpacks or lunch bags to worship this day for a blessing!



Back to School Prayer

O Great Teacher; we lift up to you this month those who prepare to enter the tasks of teaching and learning. Give teachers energy, wisdom, patience, and passion to follow their calling. Work through them to shape the minds and hearts of your people to follow your paths and understand something of our purposes. Help them to be Good Shepherds of your flock. Give students the means to discern Your call in their minds and hearts. Grant them inquiring minds and energy and humility to learn. Help them to hold an awareness of the gift and power of education so they might be good stewards of the opportunity before them. Look with Your mercy on those with special needs and challenges and send help to them through your Spirit. Give teachers and students alike courage, and keep them safe from any danger in their schools. Help parents to discern where support for students and teachers is helpful and possible. Enable us together to learn to love You with all our hearts, minds and souls.

We pray in the name of the one the Disciples called "Teacher," Jesus Christ.

Amen

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE
AUG. 15 - OCT. 3

New or Gently Used items for 3-12 year olds:

Sweaters	Hats
Sweatshirts (no hoods)	Gloves
Jackets/Coats	Belts
Long Pants	Socks
School uniform pants/shorts	

Drop off in Church Office

2021 Winter Clothing Drive: August 15 - October 3
We are collecting winter clothes for students at Just Elementary School.

- Walmart restricted Gift Cards are welcome as school uniforms are sold at Walmart. You can purchase "Alcohol/Tobacco/Firearms/Lottery Prohibited Gift Cards" online or in store.
- School uniform clothing should be pants or shorts- black or khaki, polo shirts - winter green, navy, black, or gold

Donations made by check are accepted. Make check payable to Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, with "Just Elementary" in the memo.

Drop-off bins will be in the Church Office starting August 15th.

Flower Dedications

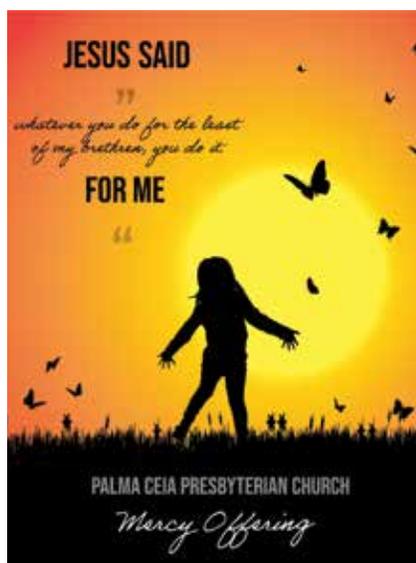
Flowers can be placed in the Sanctuary, Narthex or Chapel and dedicated as a memorial or to celebrate a special occasion like a birth, baptism, marriage renewal or anniversary. Contact Cathy Chambers, cg3000@verizon.net or call 813-494-5550 to discuss a date.

Starting in September, dedications are \$80 for two arrangements or \$60 for a single. You can request specific types of flowers or colors for the arrangements and the request will be honored within the budget limits.

Steeple News / Upcoming Events

Mercy Offering

Dear PCPC Congregation,
THANK YOU for your very generous donations to PCPC's Mercy Offering! Because of your support, PCPC is able to help our local and global ministry partners and individuals address the needs of those experiencing negative impacts during this unique season of need. We are excited to share that PCPC received approximately \$45,000 to fill these needs from the Mercy Offering collections.



Some of the organizations benefiting from your kindness are Timothy Initiative, Kindness Matters, Village Partners International, Foundation for International Missions, Created, Tampa Urban Young Life, End 68 Hours, Beth-El Farm Ministries, Women Restored by God, Health Access Connect, Judeo Christian Clinic, First Step, the refugees organization supported by PCPC, and individuals in need of immediate assistance.

The Witness & Service committee is grateful for your continued efforts to help us live out our commitment to be a Matthew 25 church. Because of your gifts, children will be fed, families restored, medical care will be given, those most vulnerable in our community helped, those in need of support will receive a helping hand, and God's love will be shared.

Faith Café: A Feeding Ministry for the Poor in Tampa

PCPC has committed to staff the entire Faith Café on the 2nd Sunday of the month from 4:15 to 7:00 p.m. Volunteers are also needed when there is a 5th Friday in the month, from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. To sign up to volunteer, contact Stann Givens at stann@tampafamilylaw.com.

We guarantee that you will get more out of this service opportunity than you put in! Thank you for your time.

Drive to Collect Used or New Computers Continues

THE NEED IS GREAT, AND WE ARE STILL AT IT!
Just bring your used computer to Susan in the Church office. Please remove personal data and passwords beforehand. If you need help, please contact John Wells (jdwells01@gmail.com).

Thanks for your generosity!

Finance Office Update

As most of you know, Leslie Darr resigned from PCPC in June and we wish her the best in her next endeavors. We are excited to announce that our new bookkeeper, Angelita Montes, started on July 26th. Angelita (Angie) and her husband recently moved to Tampa from Kentucky. She is happy to be closer to family and to help PCPC serve out its mission. Angie is quickly getting up to speed on our financial processes and is excited to get to know all of our congregation members and visitors. Please say hello next time you are in the church office or send her an email to welcome her to PCPC. She can be reached at finance@palmaceia.org

To Our Faithful Pledgers!

From the Finance Office...

Before we approach the pledge season for 2022, a tip to those of you who have set up recurring online payments for your 2021 pledge. Please make sure your current set-up frequency is not "ongoing" but has an end date or total amount or total number of payments. There will be a new box appearing on the online giving form to set-up your 2022 payments, but your gifts to the 2021 General Fund will not stop if they are "ongoing." You can see your set-up and make any changes by clicking the link in your emailed receipt.

Women's Sunday Evening Bible Study

August Meeting Dates: Aug. 8 and 22. Fall Dates are TBD!

The Sunday Women's Bible Study will meet at 7pm on Zoom Aug. 8th and Aug. 22nd. Fall Dates are TBD, but the group typically meets every other Sunday for fellowship, prayer, and conversation. Women of all ages are invited to join together in discussing the lectionary readings for the day. If you'd like to be placed on the study email list contact Pastor Nicole nicole@palmaceia.org.

Faith and Fiction

If you love to read and discuss books, consider joining the PCPC Faith and Fiction book group. The group reads a wide range of fiction and (occasionally) non-fiction books, looking for evidence of faith in the lives of the characters. The group meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. Starting Aug. 17th, we will introduce an in-person hybrid meeting option. The in-person meeting will be in the PW Room, and a Zoom option will run simultaneously.

For the Zoom link or with any questions, email Charlene Tobie: ctobie@tampabay.rr.com

August 17, 2021 *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn
September 21, 2021 *Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd
October 19, 2021 *The Splendid and the Vile* by Erik Larson
November 16, 2021 *The Secret River* by Kate Grenville
December 21, 2021 *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

-James 1:17

Children and Families 2021 Overview

Calendar is subject to change, and events will be added! Email Allison@palmaceia.org to make sure you're on the Children & Families email list!

Every Sunday:

-Nursery is open during morning service for babies and children 3 & Under
-PRAYground time is offered at the 8:30, 9, and 11 services. The PRAYground is a child-friendly worship area in the sanctuary and the gym available to children following the Children's Message. If your child would like to participate in the PRAYground, we invite you to sit near that area so that you may partner with us to guide them as needed.

Wed., August 11:

6pm: "Move Up" event for rising 6th graders & parents on Zoom with Allison Kelly & Kenny Hubbell. What can we expect as we Move Up into the Youth Ministries program??

Sun., August 15:

8:30, 9, & 11: Back to School Blessing. Bring your backpacks to church for a blessing!

10-11am: Back to School Breakfast in Fellowship Hall for all ages

Wed., Aug 18: Choir rehearsals begin, repeating weekly*

5-5:45pm Joyful Noise Choir (ages 4-6)

5-5:45pm Junior Choir (grades 2-5)

*Children's choir rehearsals do NOT meet 11/24, 12/22, or 12/29

Sun., Aug. 22: Godly Play returns, repeating weekly

This is an opportunity for children 3K-1st grade to go to the Godly Play Room following the Children's Sermon to engage with the day's lesson in an age-appropriate way with trained Children & Families Ministry staff and teachers.

Sun., Sept. 12 Justice Seekers begins 4-5:15pm*

*Meets weekly except Halloween, and 11/14/21 is last Justice Seekers of 2021. Resumes 1/9/22.

Sat., Nov 6th at 6pm: Movie Night

Nov. 19-20: Cedarkirk Retreat Weekend

Smell those hot cinnamon rolls and chocolate chip cookies? Unplug from all devices and get away to a place set apart. Cedarkirk is actively making preparations to eat, sleep, and experience God's beauty outside safely. We hope you will consider joining us. It is open to anyone of all ages. River-walking, team building, zip-lining, line-dancing, and campfire s'mores-ing.

Music and Movement

Wednesdays 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm in Westminster 207

Start Date is TBD, but will follow the Wednesday Night Dinner Schedule when that is released.

Email Allison@palmaceia.org to make sure you are on the Children & Families Email List!

M&M is a class offered for children infants through 3 years old.

This time together includes songs, rhythmic rhymes, movement, and instrument play. A parent or carer must be present. Activities are informal, non-performance-oriented experiences — appropriate for children and easy for parents and caregivers — regardless of their own musical ability. Melanie Baez from Allisonsongs and volunteers will be leading this class. Contact Allison Kelly Allison@palmaceia.org if you would like to lead one Wednesday.

Upcoming Adult Faith Formation Classes

The Book of Hebrews

Sundays, August 15th through October 17th, at 10am on Zoom with possible in-person hybrid option beginning in September

Marsha Rydberg will lead a 12-week class focusing on the unique New Testament *Book of Hebrews*. Hebrews reviews the Old Testament sacrificial and worship system, especially in the early Israelite Tabernacle, and harmonizes that system with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus to reveal and explain that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's work among God's people. Come join us and read through the entire *Book of Hebrews*! Email will@palmaceia.org to get on the email list.

Race & Faith Movie Group: Criminal Justice

Thursdays this fall, Sept. 16th, Oct. 14th, & Nov. 18th 7:00 to 8:30pm on Zoom

Back by popular demand! Join us as we explore the history and legacy of race relations in America as they relate to criminal justice through

film. This will be a chance to hear from voices and experiences different from our own, reflect on our own roles, and consider a faithful response. Films and class dates are listed below. Each film should be watched before the discussion—they won't be shown during the meeting. Most are available through Amazon Prime, YouTube, or Netflix, and some are available through the library. To get on the email list, please email marybethhunt59@gmail.com.

September 16, 2021

13th, led by Fay Rouseff-Baker.

October 14, 2021

Just Mercy: A Story of Criminal Justice and Redemption, led by Kem Toole.

November 18, 2021

Broken on All Sides: Race, Mass Incarceration and New Visions for Criminal Justice in the US, led by Mary Beth Hunt.



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New Service Times, & Connection Moves Back to the Gym!

Effective August 1, 2021, we are back to our pre-pandemic worship schedule:

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary:

8:30am and 11am

Connection Worship in the Gym: 9am

Following the CDC recommendations, we are currently recommending the wearing of masks for all those over the age of two while attending worship.

The PCPC nursery is open on Sunday mornings to babies and children 3 and under. Questions about the nursery should be directed to Allison Kelly: Allison@palmaceia.org.

The 9am and 11am services will be live streamed. You can watch on www.palmaceia.org/videos or on our YouTube channel.

We continue to offer our Vespers Service at 6pm every Sunday in the Sanctuary.

CHOIRS at PCPC

The Chancel Choir has enjoyed a summer break, and will begin singing regularly for Traditional worship Sunday, August 15.

There is a **Chancel Choir Party Friday, August 13th**, 6:30-9:30pm, at the home of Nancy Callahan — 2707 West Morrison Avenue. All interested in being a part of PCPC's Adult choir, please join us! Please, bring a favorite dish and your favorite drink.

Children's Choirs, Adult Handbell Choir and Chancel Choir rehearsals begin **Wednesday, August 18th**.
Wed., Aug 18: Choir rehearsals begin for all ages, repeating weekly*

5-5:45pm: Joyful Noise Choir (ages 4-6)

5-5:45pm: Junior Choir (grades 2-5)

6-6:55pm: Handbell Choir (adults)

7-8:30pm: Chancel Choir Rehearsal (adults)

*Children's choir rehearsals do NOT meet 11/24, 12/22, or 12/29