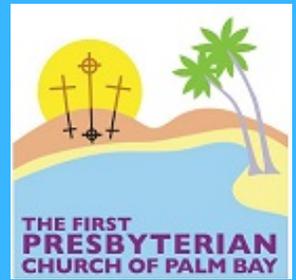


THE CHIMES / MESSENGER



FEBRUARY 1, 2021



*For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.*

John 3:16

A Note from the Pastor

The annual congregation and corporation meeting is an important moment each year. We are able to reflect on the previous year and chart a course together for where we believe the Lord is leading us. Some of the work is very practical - looking at finances, voting on Nominating Committee members, etc. Some of the work is inspirational - re-confirming our faith that God is, even now, working through us as part of a plan he has for each of us and the communities that we live.

If you were not able to be present at the annual congregational meeting, consider participating in a Zoom meeting where the information can be shared with you - Pastor Debra will set it all up, you just need to click a link and be able to hear directly what the church was up to in 2020 and where we are focusing in 2021.

You can reach Pastor Debra via email at debra@palmbaypres.org or by phone at (321) 507-0257 to set up a meeting.



Work is underway to celebrate the 40th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of Palm Bay. Save the date for Sunday, February 28th and be prepared to sign up - we will be having 2 time slots for a special anniversary recognition service (to allow for more participants while still being safe), with a fellowship meal taking place outside in-between so that everyone can see each other and spend time together. Please keep your eye out for signups - they are coming!



There will also be a blood drive at the church on the 28th, so if you are eligible and able to donate, keep an eye out for more information on how to sign up!

WORSHIP SERVICE INFORMATION

On Sundays we are holding a single service that begins at **10 am with 45 people in the sanctuary.**

Please continue to call the church office to reserve a seat - they will be limited as noted!

Congregants are asked to please **wear masks** when singing, and whenever not able to maintain social distance.

For those who wish to continue worshipping with us online, services will be live streamed on Facebook and a copy will be placed on YouTube.

Prayer Requests

- Judy Rutter asks for prayers for her family for the death of her great-grandson. His parents, Joe and Christina, as well as his grandfather, Scott (Judy's son) and Judy are all grieving his loss.
- Continued prayers for: Frank (Karola Deluca's brother, heart attack), Cubby (Robin Watson's son, nerve damage), Scotty (Terry Twardzik's son-in-law, cancer), Bill (Wilma Heriot's nephew, TB), Pam (Barbara Horn's sister, cancer), Vanessa (Robin Watson's friend, cancer), Rosa Doig's niece (COVID), Richard and Frieda (friends of the Burdens, Alzheimer's), Diane and John (friends of Fredricka Hopkins, cancer), Bernard (Etiennes' brother, depression), Fran Phillips (back), Robin Watson (move, decisions), Steven Musgrave (work).
- Nancy Hudack is recovering well but waiting for appointments for crowns and knee surgery.
- Judy Irvine asks for prayer for her friend Scott, who has lung cancer and tumors in his brain, as well as an infection in his foot that is making him unable to walk.
- MaryLynn Yust asks for prayers for her friend, Kathryn, who is struggling with confusion issues.
- Jack Dayton asks for prayers for his Aunt Millie, who is in Hospice care.
- Cheryl Evans asks for prayers for her mother, for recovery from COVID and plans for her living arrangements.
- Celia Keen had shoulder surgery to repair a tear last week and is doing well.
- Mike Doran is still recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.
- Judy Irvine's Daughter-in-Law, Joy, was recently hospitalized with COVID and pneumonia but is now home. Please pray for her recovery.
- A friend of several members of the church, Bobbie W, needs prayers for recovery from a broken arm and shoulder. She is currently in rehab in the area.
- A friend of the Musgraves, Janette, had a heart attack last week and is in need of prayers for recovery and testing.

- Raye Niemeyer is now home after a brief stay in the hospital related to her blood pressure and medication changes.
- Bob Ritter was able to meet with a pain management doctor - please pray that the new medications and plans prove effective.
- Please pray for Kay, Ronnie Dayton's stepmother, who fell and broke her ribs.
- Wilma Heriot asks for prayer for painful diverticulitis and a hiatal hernia.
- Fredricka Hopkins was hospitalized this week with blood pressure issues.
- Whitey and Marion Jones have needed to move in with family for additional help, and were exposed to COVID-19. Please pray for their well-being and health.

Word from the Herd

Send in your updates to be included in this section of the newsletter by contacting the office or Pastor Debra!

- Come visit our puzzle and movie exchange, now located in the quiet room of the sanctuary!
- There are a few people who would appreciate cards from church friends: Marion and Whitey Jones, Lewie and AnnaBelle Schaaf, Marilyn McEachron, Kathleen Kemp, and Ken and Phyllis Knapp.
- AnnaBelle Schaaf is walking some more with a walker and grateful for more mobility.
- Marilyn McEachron is now off Hospice care. She has improved to where she was at before having appendicitis and is up and about in her apartment with the caregiver present.



*Need Prayer?
Let us Know!*

We would love you pray for you, your family, and loved ones! Please call the office at (321) 725-8484 or email us at office@palmbaypres.org to let us know!



Resources for You

We are providing several resources for you at this time.

- **Facebook:** "Ask a Pastor" videos come out occasionally, and we are always looking for new questions! We are also live-streaming Sunday worship services.
- **Youtube:** Our "Ask the Pastor" and a copy of our Sunday services are loaded onto Youtube in case you missed them on Facebook.
- **Dial My Calls:** This phone service provides voicemails to let everyone know what is going on or any need to know updates.
- Tablets are available for members who do not have computer access to watch our videos! Call to request one

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

Check out a Tablet!

The church has 3 tablets that are available to be checked out in order to watch videos of worship and other events without needing a computer. Call today to ask for one!



Bible Study Announcement



A Bible Study meets each Wednesday in the Library of the CE office, led by Pastor Debra. Bring a lunch along with your thoughts and questions to share with those who gather!

Help Wanted: We are Hiring a Sexton!



We are hiring for a Sexton! If you are interested in the position, or know someone who would be, please visit the church office during regular office hours (Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:30) to fill out an application!



Do You Like The Format? Let us Know!

As we transition back to once-a-month newsletters, we are considering keeping this new format for The Chimes instead of the older format from before. Email us at office@palmbaypres.org or give us a call in the office at (321) 725-8484 and let us know what you think!

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

JOHN 13:34-35

What is Per Capita?



Per Capita literally means “for each head,” and it’s essentially a “per-person” fee paid to the denomination to keep the

denomination running. Presbyterians have used per capita—an annual per member apportionment assessed by the General Assembly, and by many synods and presbyteries, to enable Presbyterians mutually and equitably to share the ecclesiastical and administrative costs of sustaining our witness to Christ—as a sign of the covenant that binds us together.

General Assembly per capita is the primary source of funding for the Office of the General Assembly and makes possible numerous services on which Presbyterians depend, including the biennial meeting of the General Assembly.

The per capita rate for 2021 will be **\$19.25 per active member**, with \$8.98 going to GA, \$1.50 to Synod, and \$8.77 to Presbytery. Envelopes for your contributions will be provided and can be put in the collection plate at service or dropped off at the church office. We thank you in advance for your contribution!

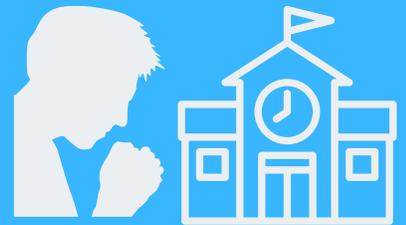
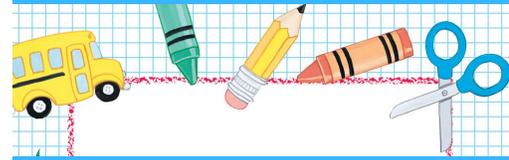
2021 Flower Chart available Dates



There are quite a few dates still open for the 2021 flower chart. The dates are:

- March 14th
- March 21st
- May 16th
- May 30th

More dates are also available through the year. If you are interested in signing up for a date, please give us a call in the office at (321) 725-8484. The cost per arrangement is \$20.



Please continue to pray for our schools throughout the rest of the 2020-2021 school year, that the year ends smoothly and without and huge outbreaks of COVID-19.



Where Can I Get the COVID-19 Vaccine?



The Florida Department of Health in Brevard County (DOH-Brevard) will offer free, appointment-only COVID-19 vaccinations of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine starting **Monday, January 4, 2021**. Vaccines will be administered at a drive-thru distribution site located at **2555 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL 32940**.

Vaccine appointments may be reserved by:

- Calling **(321) 454-7141**
- Online via the Eventbrite platform at the following link: <https://brevardcovidvaccine.eventbrite.com>.

Appointments are currently only available to: Individuals 65 years and older and healthcare workers who provide direct patient care and are not associated with a hospital system.

Please be patient when calling to reserve an appointment as call volumes are high. Appointments may only be made via phone and cannot be made in person.



Hosting Update

Our next Family Promise host weeks will be February 28th to March 7th and May 2nd to 9th. In-house hosting is still suspended, so these weeks will still be providing or delivering hot meals for dinners to families at a local hotel. The church is also providing groceries to the families for breakfast and lunch.

Family Promise will be holding their annual Emerald City 5K fundraiser Friday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m. It will be at the Church of Viera at 9005 N Wickham Rd, Viera, FL 32940. The theme is "There's No Place Like Home" and participants are invited to dress in Wizard of Oz costumes as they run, jog, walk or hang out.

GOD OF LOVE

God of love, whose truth and grace
Reach unbounded as the skies,
Hear thy creature's feeble praise,
Let my ev'ning sacrifice
Mount as incense to thy throne,
ON the merits of thy Son.

Over me thy providence has led
Through another busy day:
Over me thy wings were spread,
Chasing sin and death away:
Thou hast been my faithful shield,
Thou my footsteps hast upheld.

Tho' the sable veil of night
Hides the cheering face of heav'n,
Let me triumph in the sight
Of my guilt in thee forgiv'n.
In my heart the witness feel,
See the great invisible.

I will lay me down to sleep,
Sweetly take my rest in thee,
Ev'ry moment brought a step
Nearer to eternity:
I shall soon from earth ascend,
Quickly reach my journey's end.

All my sins imputed were
To my dear, incarnate God;
Bury'd in his grave they are,
Drown'd in his atoning blood:
Me thou wilt not now condemn,
Righteous and complete in him.

In the Saviour's right I claim
All the blessings he hath bought;
For my soul the dying Lamb
Hath a full redemption wrought;
Heaven through his desert is mine;
Christ's I am, and Christ is mine!

Augustine Montague Toplady

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 02/04 Emmy Wohlenberg
- 02/08 Stephen Dixon
- 02/09 Earl Hill
- 02/10 Kaylee Clark
- 02/10 Phyllis Stone
- 02/13 Duane Chin-Quee
- 02/14 Ronnie Dayton
- 02/15 Judy Irvine
- 02/18 Fedmin Davis
- 02/22 Carmen Wallace
- 02/24 Rosa Doig
- 02/24 Cali Karnetsky
- 02/26 Susan Allison
- 02/26 Mark Cather
- 02/26 Fran Phillips
- 03/04 James Corton**
- 03/07 Bill Phillips**
- 03/10 Brian Young**
- 03/11 Vicki Cather**
- 03/12 Sheri Phillips**
- 03/12 Ernie Wohlenberg**

Anniversaries

- 02/06 Grady & Cheryl Evans
- 03/06 Mike & Susan Allison



So now faith, hope, and love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13



Lenten Study Info

This year we will have a Lenten Study series, but not our traditional meal-and-study format. There overall topic will be a study of "Seeking to be Faithful Together: Guidelines for Presbyterians in Times of Disagreement" as well as other resources from the Peacemaking Program of PCUSA's mission arm.

There has been conversation and sermons on engaging in peaceful and purposeful ways with others who do not hold the same ideas and ideals.

This study is designed to be a "next step" in that process, with study of scripture verses that talk about conflict and disagreement, values we as Christians should ascribe to when engaging in such moments, and honest discussion about our faults, frustrations, hopes, and attempts to engage in disagreements with others in a way that represents Christ to others.

There will be videos posted each week with reflections on that week's topic, and a noon and 6 p.m. study group that will hopefully allow participants to practice and learn together how to 'disagree without becoming disagreeable'.

To ask questions about the study or to sign up for the noon or 6 p.m. group, please contact Pastor Debra at 321-507-0257, or email at debra@palmbaypres.org.



The work of support and restoration of Puerto Rico is not finished. Communities are still working on rebuilding homes affected by the 2017 hurricanes that struck the island.

Earthquakes still shake the ground throughout the island, with over 3,500 quakes of varying intensity occurring in the last 12 months. Brevard and Indian River Presbyterians are committed to being a part of this recovery, pandemic or not. We still hope to plan a mission trip to Puerto Rico when it is possible to do so, and we are moving forward with our annual conference. We have taken into consideration the realities of what we are able to do and have devised ways to bring Puerto Rican voices to our congregations.

There will be videos and printed resources shared with all the congregations of BIRP to be used in lieu of having mission personnel and visitors itinerate through our congregations.

The video of interviews with Puerto Rican leaders will be shared in church on February 7th and on our Social Media feeds. We will also share special recipe cards of traditional Puerto Rican foods in order to enjoy and celebrate their culture. BIRP is also planning a fellowship event in the

summer with a goal of raising funds for the offering and sustaining our interest in knowing and helping one another in the next year.

We will also be taking up our annual BIRP offering to continue to support the work being done by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance on the island on February 7th. Last year, BIRP was able to send \$11,000 in offering donations. PDA's long-term commitment to Puerto Rico has led to more than \$2.48 million in grants and more than 3,000 volunteers since 2017, helping communities through hurricane recovery, earthquake relief, food supplies and compassionate care.

Though COVID led to cancellations of trips in 2020, PDA joyously anticipates the resumption of work in 2021, because their work to bring restoration and hope to the lives of our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico continues, as constant as God's love for his people.

BREVARD AND INDIAN RIVER PRESBYTERIANS MISSION CONFERENCE

February 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 12 AL-ANON	2 Groundhog Day 10 DAILY BREAD 11:30 CHOIR 6 CUB SCOUTS 7 BOY SCOUTS 7 NA	3 12 BIBLE STUDY 7 BAND	4 6:15 NA	5 5 LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY	6
7 10 WORSHIP COMMUNION BIRP Special Offering		8 12 AL-ANON	9 11:30 CHOIR 6 CUB SCOUTS 7 BOY SCOUTS 7 NA	10 12 BIBLE STUDY 7 BAND	11 6 ADMIN 6:15 NA	12 5 LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY	13
14 Valentines Day		15 Presidents Day	16 11:30 CHOIR 6 CUB SCOUTS 7 BOY SCOUTS 7 SESSION 7 NA	17 12 LENTEN STUDY 7 BAND Beginning of Lent	18 6:15 NA	19 5 LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY	20
21 10 WORSHIP		22 12 AL-ANON 7	23 11:30 CHOIR 6 CUB SCOUTS 7 BOY SCOUTS 7 NA	24 12 LENTEN STUDY 7 BAND	25	26 5 LIFELINE BIBLE STUDY	27
28 10 WORSHIP 40th Anniversary 5C PER MEAL OB Blood Drive						<p style="margin: 0;">Lifeline Academy School Hours: M-W Kids:7:45– Am– 2:00 Pm (Staff Until 4:00 Pm) Thurs Kids 7:45 Am– 1:00 Pm (Staff Until 4:00 Pm) Friday Kids: 9:00 Am0 2:00 Pm</p>	

IN THE WORD



John 1:29-34

*Praise the Lord!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.
Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures for ever.
He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.
He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.
The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
They are established for ever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and awesome is his name.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures for ever.*

February 2

Read Psalm 111

This psalm begins with a command for all and self to praise, and a commitment by the author to give thanks with his "whole heart" in a public way. The reasons for this outpouring of praise and thanksgiving become clear - God has proven worthy of such an outpouring. It is hard for us as people to genuinely offer up our "whole heart" in praise to God. Perhaps we are protecting ourselves, or have experienced the hurt and disappointment of unanswered prayer. But when we let God in to every part of our heart and lives, we will see that he proves himself praiseworthy in response. Let him in and see.

February 4

Read Deuteronomy 13:1-5

There are a lot of people out there with ideas about how to live, what to value, and how to accomplish your goals. Some healthy skepticism is important to have in order to discern whether someone is worth listening to and putting your trust in. When you hear something that contradicts who you know God to be, or how he has commanded us to live, pause and start to ask more questions. God does not take away our free will when we choose to belong to him - we can still choose to walk away. God expects us to use our abilities of discernment to see where he is leading and follow only him.

February 6

Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul uses an example of food sacrificed to idols to teach a lesson to the church - we must be aware of your own weakness and temptations, but also considerate of others at the same time. We may find that we are not bothered or tempted by activities that could prove destructive to others. We must remember that we do not live for ourselves alone, but are called to consider whether our example may prove harmful to another and act in their interest as well as our preference.

February 3

Read 1 Corinthians 7:17-24

Paul gave advice to the Corinthians to not try to change the circumstances of their life. His advice was largely based on timing - if Jesus came back right away, efforts made towards changing their life would be a distraction. Yet there is another reason to re-consider changing everything about your life for the sake of new faith - while it is important to recognize and repudiate the sin we are in, we should also remember God called us where we were and saw value in us. We should not be so quick to leave behind something God may be able to use in us, even as we grow and change as part of our relationship with him.

February 5

Read 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

One of the earliest conundrums of the church was how to function when it seemed there were no more rules. The law, with all its regulations and instructions, was no longer binding on those who belonged to Christ, and some took this as license to do whatever they wanted. Paul taught the church that while all may be permitted, not all things are good for us. Without the law setting the boundaries of what was and was not allowed, we now must rely on God's word and the leading of the Holy Spirit to understand where the boundaries are and what it means to stay faithfully inside them.

February 7

Read Mark 1:21-28

In this early episode of Jesus' ministry, he heals a man with an unclean spirit. But before he does this, Jesus turns the crowd with the way he teaches scripture. They are amazed not just at his words, but with his authority. When Jesus approached scripture, he was able to explain both its meaning and the very heart and of God's words. No one had ever been able to offer this perspective before, and so it seemed like a "new" teaching, even though what Jesus did was to clear away the layers of interpretation to get to the original intent.

IN THE WORD

February 8

Read Acts 5:33-42

Peter and the Apostles are called before the council in Jerusalem in this story. One Pharisee, Gamaliel, offered up this insight: if what the apostles are doing is of God, no one will be able to stop them! Have you ever thought about why the church has persisted for over 2000 years, with both good and bad leaders, throughout drastic changes in society and across myriads of cultures? It is because God is at work in the church and it is his purposes being accomplished. Take strength from the certainty that God brings to fruition what he wants to have happen, and at the end of the day, no one will be able to stop him.

February 11

Read Mark 1:40-45

The healing of the leper in this story uses a fantastically icky and sticky Greek word - Jesus "splagknisomies" the leper, which is translated "moved with pity" or "has compassion". This word evoked imagery of the intestines (where Hebrew people thought emotions came from), so it could be said that Jesus, upon looking at the leper, feels his guts twist or clench and is prompted to action. Keep in mind that Jesus is not someone who is dispassionate or distant - they way he feels for us is visceral and passionate.

February 14

Read John 3:1-21

When Nicodemus comes to talk to Jesus, he does so in the night, hiding his activity. Jesus speaks about how his work is about to be lifted up for all to see, and how all that is true is done in the light. God's act of redemption in Jesus was a spectacle, visible by all, and done in order to offer redemption to all. Our experience of this act of love needs to be more than our precious, protected secret kept between our heart and God's. Our relationship with him should also be visible in the light of day and clearly seen so that all might know who and whose we are.

February 9

Read Matthew 12:9-14

Any time someone asks Jesus "is it lawful" we should pay attention, because Jesus is about to teach us what God wants us to know about the rules he gives us. The pharisees ask if it is right to heal or cure on the day God said we should rest. Jesus in his answer expands this to say "it is lawful to do good" on the Sabbath. It is important to follow the instructions God has given us, but if we do so only for the sake of saying we are following a rule, we are not actually giving God our worship. To constantly ask ourselves, "what is the good would God want to be done now" may lead us to act in ways that don't take the shape of standard answers.

February 12

Read Mark 2:1-12

The story of the paralytic who is healed has 2 excellent moments to consider. First is the dedication of the friends who carry the man and find a way to get him to Jesus when he cannot himself. The second is how Jesus asks which is easier - healing the man's body or forgiving his sins? Jesus proves capable of doing both, and it is in the visible ways he heals that we gain confidence on his power to effect the invisible redemption he effects in us. Take hope from the things (and people) you see and have faith!

February 15

Read Matthew 19:16-30

When the rich young man comes to Jesus to ask what he must do to inherit eternal life, he is trying to find a way to guarantee his place. He has kept all of the law, but only as a means to an end. This is why Jesus challenges him to let go of anything that he clings to that offers him security. Our relationship with God needs to be an act of faith - a leap into uncertainty, so we might fully understand that God responds to us in love. If we try to earn it, or create security for ourselves outside from God, we risk making our relationship with him transactional instead of appreciating it as a gift of grace.

February 10

Read Mark 1:29-39

This passage has several more stories of healing and activity in Jesus' early ministry. Over and over again we see this pattern in Jesus' travels: he taught, he healed, and he moved on. In his ministry, he cared for people's bodies and needs, he cared for their spirits and relationship with God, and he cared enough for all people that he did not limit his ministry to one place, but kept moving in order to bring the good news to others instead of insisting they come to him in one location. This sets us a good example for personal and corporate ministry - to care for people's bodies, spirits, and to constantly be looking for and reaching out to those who have not yet heard.

February 13

Read Mark 2:13-22

The pharisees often found (or looked for) reasons to discredit Jesus - justifications for why they wouldn't listen to him or follow his teachings. Rather than celebrate the repentance of a sinner they decry his presence at Jesus' table. They insinuate that the disciples' choice not to fast indicated a lack of faith and obedience to God's teachings. We all have the ability to justify our actions to ourselves - are there any times you talked yourself into our out of something you came to regret?

February 16

Read Matthew 18:21-35

The parable of the unforgiving servant is a warning and instruction for what it means when we pray "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Our willingness to extend grace to others is one of the biggest tests of our own understanding and appreciation for the grace we have received. If we are not willing to share it with others, we prove that we have not taken to heart the full meaning of grace in our own lives. To be undeserving and helpless only to receive freedom and a new start should be life-altering. Hardness of heart towards another should make us examine ourselves for fault.