

The Pastor's Corner By: Pastor Ruffin Stepp

What about Pentecost? ***Acts 2:42***

Dear Church Family,
When God's Spirit moved at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit appeared as tongues of fire. That is truly astonishing. The Apostle Peter's sermon brought conviction and commitment to more than 3,000 people. But, might I be so bold as to suggest that these spiritual encounters don't include the most miraculous development of all?

The 3,000 people who experienced God and responded to the gospel did not return home. Instead, they encouraged their loved ones to come and be a part of God's great outpouring. The church began with pilgrims who stayed in Jerusalem. What could have possibly caused them to make such a dramatic life change?

I believe the answer is that we all do amazing things when we fall in love. The first converts fell in love with God and with each other. They found what they had been searching for all their lives. The new life of Jesus always demands a new lifestyle, and this new lifestyle centered a few areas of life the church lived into.

1. The Apostles' Teaching

This new reality brings about a hunger for God's Word. New disciples must be taught how to listen to, study and live out Scripture. When the new converts entered into the daily life of the Jerusalem church, they knew very little Scripture. Can you imagine how the hearts of those in the early church burned

within when they went to their regular teaching times and Peter began speaking?

Like the first converts at Pentecost, new Christians must be taught God's Word. And they must not only learn, but also apply and practically live out God's Word—tasting and seeing that the Lord is good, so that their faith will be strong and their lives will bear fruit.

The church began with devotion to God's Word.

2. Fellowship

The church was devoted to fellowship. Some 3,000



new brothers and sisters in Christ began to get to know one another. The church began with a group of people who truly enjoyed being together. They learned each other's cultures and asked each other, "Why do you do things that way?" They made time for relationships and prioritized their new life together.

What does this look like in the life of the church today? We must invite people into these life-giving relationships and welcome them..

The church began by living into meaningful and life-giving relationships.

3. Breaking of Bread

Luke shares that in the early church there was much joy in the sharing of meals.

There is another component, however, to Luke's description of life at the table. *With*

Continue on page 3

Music Notes

By: Juanita Meeks, Minister of Music

“You Asked For It!”, the title of our present sermon series, has certainly sparked a lot of critical thinking and soul-searching about our faith! Taking that idea and running with it musically, it seems only fair that you get an equal opportunity to help me choose some of our future music.

Here’s the process presently in place: Once the sermon title and scripture are chosen, the search begins for hymns, special music, anthems, offertories, praise choruses, and solos that will support that sermon. Working ahead as much as possible offers more opportunity for creativity! However, in my zeal to enhance these powerful sermons which not only enlighten us but challenge us to grow in our faith, there is an element that is sometimes overlooked - **YOUR FAVORITE SONGS!**

Recently in a children’s sermon, the question was asked, “What is your favorite song?” William Stepp related the title “God’s Not Dead”. So I went immediately to YouTube and listened to it, followed up with our church software and printed off a copy. The praise team will be working on that soon. Bruce Hoffmann stopped me yesterday and asked if I had heard the song “Press On” so back to YouTube I will go and see if that song is suitable as a congregational selection or if it should become a solo for the congregation to enjoy. Trying to keep up with the younger generation and the music they love and listen to is indeed a challenge. But so worth the investment of time and energy. Some of our very youngest are asking to sing with the praise team when they know the music. In fact, the past 3 Sundays the 11:00am service folks have seen our elementary kids leading the music with the adults!

However, some of you have favorites that you have sung in church for years and those have not been chosen lately as part of the 8:00 or 9:30 services.

Knowing what your favorites are would be extremely helpful when choosing future music. Not sure if you even notice but when I play offertory solos, that solo is often sparked by the comments Ruffin makes just before the offering plates are passed. Other times by the sermon from the previous service, but the goal is to play music that will lead your heart in worship as you give your gifts back to God. This would also be a great place for your favorite song!

Many of you have asked for the quartet to sing more often. Those guys love the Lord and love to sing but rehearsal time is difficult to come by with new grand fathers no longer in town on weekends and work schedules during the week. But we are trying to find dates to catch everyone here! So hang in there!

All this leads to the following: If you have that favorite song and want to make it known to me, I will have a musical mug sitting on the electronic keyboard with pen and paper for you to jot down your requests between services. It would be helpful to know which service you attend so your request could be part of that service. And in case more information is needed, your phone number would be helpful also.

The mini form will look something like this:

Favorite Song Title: _____
Artist: (if contemporary) _____
Service Attended: _____
Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

So remember, “***YOU ASKED FOR IT!***”

Juanita

glad and generous hearts, they ate The Meal together. They shared the Lord's Table meal living in the great reality that Christ could return at any moment.

God meets us every time we approach the table and allows us to be broken as He feeds us the bread. He allows us to be weak as we drink His wine. And He gives us hope that we will see our friends again who used to sit in those chairs. That was and is His promise. One day, on that amazing day, He will make all things new.

The church began by living into sharing The Table together.

Being the Church

The church began when 3,000 people walked away from the world and what they knew to be true into a wondrous new reality. Then Christ's church grew from a handful of converts to 3,000+ people when they turned from the world and became the church in Christ. Moving out of the world is never enough. We must live into that which gives life.

May you be blessed as we live into Christ's life-giving reality together!

In Christ – *Pastor Ruffin Stepp*

Come connect with other women... During our three day Women's Retreat June 5-7th (check out the information table for more info) we will be taking a closer look at the lives of 6 women from the old and new testaments. ***Following the Women's Retreat*** we invite all women, whether you were able to attend the retreat or not, to join us as we continue this study of the ***Women of the Bible***, with a women's small group that will meet for an additional 6 weeks. Our first gathering will be at Melanie Stepp's house on Friday June 26th 6-8pm. Call to RSVP: Melanie 561-601-7425. Bring a beverage or an appetizer.



Fellowship Table: Keeping it simple with Cookies! In May and June we will be serving only cookies on the fellowship table. So, we will be stocking up on all kinds of cookies, please consider donating. Keep an eye out for BOGO...buy one and donate a package of cookies.

We will still be serving beverages (coffee, water and lemonade) as usually and still the same great time of fellowship with new and old friends!



May Birthday Blessings

Patricia Stormer	5/2
Thomas Thompson	5/2
Kathy Townsend	5/2
Jean Ellison	5/4
Vinnie Quattrachi	5/4
Francine Squire	5/4
Guy Vautin	5/4
Jean Ellison	5/4
John Hall	5/6
Andrew Worby	5/7
Nancy Yarnall	5/7
Heather Crawford	5/8
Glinston Williams	5/9
Deanna West	5/12
S'Nia Tribble	5/13
Jessica Carrano	5/15
Amanda Dalton	5/15
Brooke Long	5/16
Paul Adams	5/17
Landon Giles	5/17
Janet Jones	5/17
Kelvin Khemkaran	5/20
Nicole Wolf	5/21
Andrew Roberts	5/24
Jeremy Cash	5/26
Deborah Rathbun	5/26
David Stermen	5/26
Bill Jones	5/28
Emma Pagan	5/29
Michael Giles	5/30
Rowan Dalton	5/31

Sunday, May 24th is Pentecost. Don't forget to wear **RED**.

June Birthday Blessings

Gary Truman	6/1
June Donovan	6/2
Lisa Long	6/2
Larry Hood	6/3
Deb Hall	6/6
Cameron Morrison	6/6
Marilyn Young	6/8
Sandy Abbuehl	6/11
Bill Butler	6/12
Patrick Eiseman	6/13
James Stormer	6/13
Louise Lenck	6/15
Jeanette Douglas	6/16
Marie Thomas	6/16
Tone Young	6/16
Amy Willie	6/21
Sharon Patelsky	6/23
Shylah Andrews	6/23
Ken Engel	6/24
Morgan Van Opstall	6/24
Amelia McNish	6/25
Andre Squire	6/25
Richie Stormer	6/25

Men's Bible Study, Prayer
and Breakfast.

**Every Tuesday at 8:30 am
at Butterfields**

1145 Royal Palm Bch
Blvd, Royal Palm Beach,
FL 33411

**Just Show Up and
Bring your
Bible and
appetite!**

Please join us for an...
ICE CREAM

Social

**JULY 5TH
10:30AM -1:00PM**

.....
**BRING A
FRIEND!
ALL ARE
WELCOME!**



The First Impressions Team: met on Sunday, March 22, for the purpose of discussing our goals and renewing our schedule of Sunday rotation assignments for spring. The First Impressions team consists of our faithful servants who greet, usher, and direct folks in the parking lot. The GOAL of the First Impressions Team is to make a Great First Impression for all who visit Palms West Presbyterian Church. Greeters welcome our visitors, guests, and members with a warm hello, smile and welcome. Parking Lot Attendants are often the first friendly face visitors see as they arrive for service. Ushers welcome, hand out bulletins, and assist with the offering collection. After the meeting, a light lunch was served.



We want to offer a special Thank You to all the volunteers who assist in this ministry. You are SO important and we want to thank you for making our guests, visitors, and members feel welcomed and part of our Church Family. If you are interested in joining the First Impressions Team, please see Holly Casto or Deb Harris.

Info Updates! One thing for is certain, information changes. If your cell phone, email address, home address has changed please call the church office (561-795-6292) or email the office: pwpc_officemanager@yahoo.com

If you have not seen your name listed on the birthday list, please give us your month and day.

The PWPC Men will continue meeting the fourth Wednesday of May and June at 5:30 PM at Fellowship Hall. Call Bill Skinner at 561-433-1170 if you want to reserve.

All men are welcome.



The PWPC Women's Group will recess for the summer. Mark your calendars for September 7th at 10am, when we resume our monthly meetings.

Have a GREAT Summer!



VBS is going to **ROCK** at Palms West Presbyterian Church

Join us this summer for a VBS like no other!

It will be a week of totally **AWESOME** music, bible stories, crafts and lots of FUN! The Best Part...it is Free!

June 15th-19th (9am-12pm)

Ages: Entering Pre-K to 6th Grade (561) 795-6292

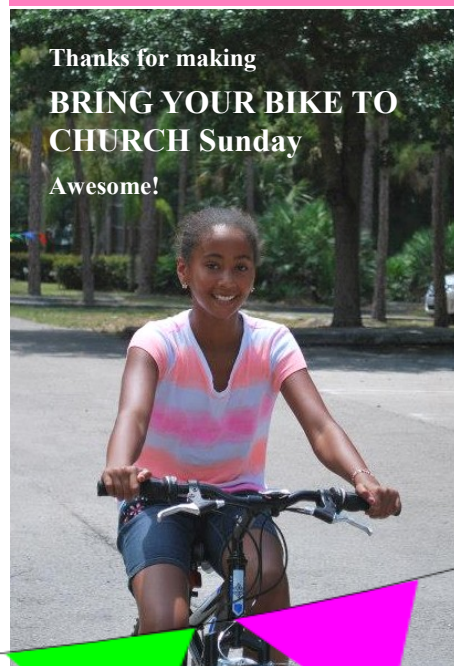
VOLUNTEERS: We still need a few more volunteers, if you are able to volunteer, please contact Melanie. Volunteers will meet on Sunday 5/31/15 at 10:30 am in the fellowship hall. We will also gather on Monday June 8th at 10am to begin prepping and setting up.

VBS Shopping List:

- ☐ Large paperclips
- ☐ Variety of Cookie Sprinkles & Decorations
- ☐ Vanilla Icing
- ☐ Poly-Fill/stuffing
- ☐ Goldfish Crackers
- ☐ Animal Crackers
- ☐ Applesauce
- ☐ Flat Ice Cream Cones
- ☐ Men's Neckties
- ☐ old Sunglasses
- ☐ Nail polish (old/new)
- ☐ old CD's
- ☐ old Vinyl records (any size)
- ☐ Water balloons
- ☐ Lots of pool noodles (12+)
- ☐ Plain kitchen sponges
- ☐ Wooden Toothpicks

Thanks for making
BRING YOUR BIKE TO CHURCH Sunday

Awesome!





Be sure to LIKE us on facebook:

www.facebook.com/PalmsWestPresbyterianChurch

There are lots of picture and video!

Share them with your friends and family!

Also, we have lots of info on our website:

www.pwpchurch.org