



The Messenger

Cypress Lake
Presbyterian Church

Our Vision: We strive to live Jesus' charge to love one another and lead others to a growing relationship with God.

April
2022



Maundy Thursday - April 14th

6:00 p.m. Meal & 7:00 p.m. Evening Service

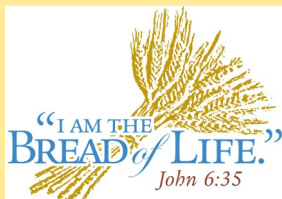
Good Friday - April 15th

Sanctuary Open for Prayer Noon until 3:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Evening Service

Easter Sunday - April 17th

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service-Outside by the Fellowship Hall
9:00 a.m. Praise Service
10:00 a.m. Spanish Service (Chapel)
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

Monday, April 18th - Office Closed



**Communion
Sunday, April 3rd
Service at 10 a.m. ONLY**

JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SPRING FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 9 | 9 AM-12 PM | 8260 Cypress Lake Drive

EASTER EGG HUNT (10 AM) ● DIY PHOTO BOOTH
YARD GAMES ● DONUT HOLES, FRUIT, AND DRINKS
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PREVIEW ● INDOOR CRAFTS
LOTS OF CANDY ● AND SO MUCH MORE!

This free event is open to our community. There will be something for everyone in your family. Remember to bring your best egg-hunting basket! We hope you'll join us!

Questions? Contact carson@clpc.us





Do you remember the children's song, "Here is the church! Here is the steeple! Open the doors and here's all the people."? How many of us were doing the hand motions as we were saying the words? I know I did, and I remember learning that as a child in VBS. Yet, are the words true or is there more to church than just the people? Let me ask the question differently. "What is church". Today, I want to focus on three central biblical themes of church: covenant, universal, and our mission. Claiming these three themes are important as we live into God's mission for us.

The first item is we are a **covenant** community. In other words, God initiates this covenant with us. Beginning with Adam and Eve, we read in the entire sweep of scripture, and we come to understand that God loves us with steadfast faithfulness and God calls us into community. This is how God works. God works in and through community. Embedded in Godself is the Trinity. Three persons but one God. The only way this relationship works is in community. And so, God works with us, too. In Jeremiah 31, we read of how our God promises to write a new and better covenant on the hearts of God's people. We believe that this promise is fulfilled in God sending his only Son Christ, Jesus the Christ.

We specifically see this call to community connected the Lord's Table, where we eat and commune with one another and with God. In the breaking of the one bread and sharing from the one cup, we discover that Church isn't just "a good thing to do." Our call as a covenant community is to experience God's love, to remember we are God's chosen children, and to remember to treat others as God's children too around the Lord's Table.

We also are a **universal** church. Universal is interesting; what does it mean? For those of us in the traditional service, the word "catholic" is used to mean universal. For universal relates to two key concepts of our diversity and Kairos time. Galatians reminds us, "For there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Universal reminds us that the church is beyond race, creed, or gender. We are all one and invited to come as the song says, "Just as I am."

Universal also points us beyond the present (Chronos or temporal) into the realm of the eternal - Kairos. The covenant God's establishes in our Baptism binds us with "the Great Cloud of Witnesses." All past, present, and future believers (i.e., communion of saints) are our brothers and sisters. These "Great Cloud of Witnesses" are with us and part of our gathering in the name of Christ. All the saints of different nations relate to us in a special way by virtue of the covenant relationship we share. We may be divided by language, geography, and political leanings, yet we are essentially one in our faith in Christ which is both diverse and eternal.

Now, let's discuss the church's **mission**. Matthew ends his gospel with our challenge to, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20). Our mission is quite simply to make God's love known to the world by making disciples. The Great Commission was given to us to spread the good news that "the world may see (our) good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (5:16). The world is watching us – noticing our actions and listening to our words.

Those items – covenant, universal, and mission – come together to form our identity as a church. We are a people of a powerful covenant expressed in our Baptism. We are a diverse people who are joined around the Lord's Table with the Community of Saints. We are a church that offers the world our spotlight of faith with God's message of hope. See you in church.

Shalom,
Edward Bellis



SCRIP CARDS

Make a contribution to the Church by shopping with gift cards for everyday purchases like food, clothing and entertainment. Each scrip gift card you buy earns a rebate for the Church.

A secured "order box" is located in the Narthex and also in the church office for placing orders. A check payable to CLPC for the total must accompany the order. Order forms are located in Slot # 16 in the Narthex and at the "Scrip Order Boxes". You can also order online at

www.shopwithscrip.com

CLPC enrollment code:
FLEEA331146573.



Faithful Women

Ladies ... come join the Faithful Women's group for fun and fellowship on Wednesday's from 12:30-2:30. We meet in the library.

We dedicate one week a month for service to the church, one for service to our youth, one for learning new projects such as card making or visiting mission groups in the community our church has supported. We also dedicate one Wednesday a month for fellowship here or in the community.

Questions? Contact Kay Slusher



What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is a way our church provides care to hurting people in our congregation and community.

Stephen Ministers are congregation members who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care. Each Stephen Minister is matched with a hurting person --- men are paired with men, women with women --- and talks weekly with that person to listen, care, pray, and encourage.

Stephen Ministers care for those dealing with grief, divorce, job loss, hospitalization, financial struggles, loneliness, convalescence, terminal illness, and many other life difficulties. Many of us are dealing with several of these trials right now.

YES! Stephen Ministers Can Help! Call Ginny Canning for information, 239-247-1042



PW Spring Bazaar

Thank you to all who volunteered at the PW Spring Craft Bazaar and to all the vendors and people who attended. Another great event by the Presbyterian Women.

KNIT ONE, PRAY 2

Come one, come all on May 4th to join us for time of fellowship and knitting prayer shawls for the homebound and those with concerns. These bring a big hug with them plus being warm and cuddly.

We meet every Thursday from 12:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. in Room #2, that is in the building facing Cypress Lake Drive. If you can't knit or crochet, we will be very glad to teach you a new talent. Maybe you have another handy work you do and could come and teach us.

Call Matilda Wilson at 239-489-3582 for questions or just show up on Thursday, May 4th around 12:30 P.M. in Room #2



Food Pantry April "Specialty" Items

1 Pound Bags of Rice





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*Please see CLPC Calendar at clpc.us for more event details and other groups that meet here. (Not all Events are represented here)</p>					1 Office Closed	2
<p>3-Communion Sunday</p> <p>10 am Blended Service</p> <p>11 am Church Picnic (CLPC Parking Lot)</p>	<p>4 9am Project Linus</p> <p>6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>5 11am Mission Team Meeting</p> <p>5:30-7pm Bells</p> <p>7pm Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p>6 9am Partners in Prayer</p> <p>11:30am Ministerial Meeting (FH)</p> <p>12:30-3pm Faithful Women</p> <p>5:30pm Dinner (FH)</p> <p>6:30pm Book study</p> <p>7:15-8:30pm Choir</p> <p>7pm Scouts</p>	<p>7 10:30am Eddie's Book Study</p> <p>12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p> <p>6:30pm Stephen Ministry</p>	<p>8 Office Closed</p>	<p>9 9am -Noon Spring Fest at CLPC</p>
<p>10-Palm Sunday</p> <p>9 am Praise Service</p> <p>10 am Sunday School</p> <p>10 am Spanish Service</p> <p>11 am Traditional Service</p> <p>12:30pm Spanish Lunch</p>	<p>11 11:30am Book Club (The Invention of Wings)</p> <p>6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>12 2pm Support Meeting</p> <p>5:30-7pm Bells</p>	<p>13 9am Partners in Prayer</p> <p>12:30-3pm Faithful Women</p> <p>5:30pm Dinner (FH)</p> <p>6:30pm Book study</p> <p>7:15-8:30pm Choir</p>	<p>14-Maundy Thursday</p> <p>12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p> <p>6pm-Meal & 7pm Evening Worship Service (FH/Sanctuary)</p>	<p>15-Good Friday</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>6pm-Good Friday Evening Service (Sanctuary)</p>	16
<p>17-Easter Sunday</p> <p>6:30am Sunrise Service</p> <p>9 am Praise Service</p> <p>10 am Spanish Service</p> <p>11 am Traditional Service</p>	<p>18-Office Closed</p> <p>6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>19 5:30-7pm Bells</p> <p>7pm Session Meeting</p>	<p>20 9am Partners in Prayer</p> <p>12:30-3pm Faithful Women</p> <p>7:15-8:30pm Choir</p> <p>7pm Scouts</p>	<p>21 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p>	<p>22 Office Closed</p>	23
<p>24 9 am Praise Service</p> <p>10 am Sunday School</p> <p>10 am Spanish Service</p> <p>11 am Traditional Service</p>	<p>25 6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>26 5:30-7pm Bells</p>	<p>27 9am Partners in Prayer</p> <p>12:30-3pm Faithful Women</p> <p>7:15-8:30pm Choir</p> <p>7pm Scouts</p>	<p>28 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p> <p>6pm-Theater and Theology-"GDog" (Chapel)</p>	<p>29 Office Closed</p>	30

CLPC STAFF

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church
8260 Cypress Lake Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919
Phone: (239) 481-3233
E-mail: office@clpc.us
Web site: www.clpc.us

Pastor

Rev. Eddie Bellis
eddie@clpc.us

Director of Traditional Worship

Rachel Carrier
rachel@clpc.us

Church Musician (pianist/organist)

Jonathan Gil
mlecarillon@aol.com

Director of Christian Education

Carson Brown
carson@clpc.us

CLPC Office Manager

Katie Gayle
office@clpc.us

Clerk of Session

Gordon Coffman

Presbyterian Women Moderator

Beth Watson

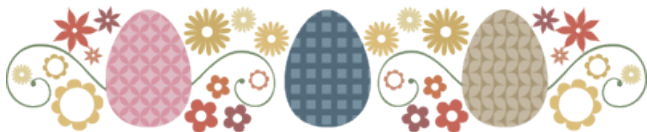
Moderator of the Deacons

Jim Sharpe/Betty Serra

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00P.M.

Editor's Note: Some articles may be edited for space.



8th - Abigail Hill

10th - Larry Johnson

10th - Marjorie Marlow

10th - Lynn Miller

10th - Keith Schneider

11th - Norma Borkowski

12th - Michelle Pepper

12th - Stevens Tovar

21st - Robert Stein

28th - DeAnna Steward

28th - Maria Menacho

28th - Roberta Radcliff

30th - Ruben Colon



10th - Hewitt McCloskey & Connie Hope

17th - Christopher & Melissa King

20th - Sam & Leslie McGargle

27th - Carol & Gar Sarosik

Our Mission: Led by the Holy Spirit, we joyfully reach out to the community and the world in faithful love and service as we mature in Discipleship and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.