

SEPTEMBER 2018

ISSUE 15-4

The Diligent

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ARP LAKE WALES, FL

“...a Christ-centered fellowship of believers devoted to glorifying God through true worship, personal evangelism, discipleship, and servanthood.”

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Leadership

SERMON SERIES - MATTHEW 10 LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST FALL 2018

From Pastor Chad

In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus told His disciples to go and make more disciples from people of all nations. As a key part of their disciple-making they were to be teaching these new disciples to observe all that he had commanded them. This is fitting because Jesus is the great prophet of whom Moses spoke - the one to whom the people of God must listen (Deuteronomy 18:15). The Gospel According to Matthew is fittingly heavy on the teachings of Jesus. It includes five great discourses from Christ's teaching ministry - the Sermon on the Mount (5-7), the Charge to His Apostles (10), the Parables of the Kingdom (13), Relationships in the New Community (18), and the Judgment of Israel and the Nations (23-25).

In the fall of 2017 we looked at Christ's Sermon on the Mount. This fall we will move forward to the second of Christ's five discourses in Matthew to look at Jesus' charge to His twelve apostles. Jesus gave them this charge prior to sending them out on a missionary journey to proclaim the good news of the kingdom come to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. His charge included practical advice but also preparatory warnings that the message of the Gospel would not be embraced by all who heard it, nor would they, as His disciples and the evangelists of this



good news, be universally accepted by all. That being said, He called them to trust in Him and the Word He sent them to preach, having no fear before those to whom they spoke the good news of the kingdom.

There is much we can learn from Christ's teaching of the twelve apostles, which we can apply to our own evangelistic and discipleship efforts, both as individuals and as a congregation. As we consider this portion of God's word in the weeks ahead, may He grow in us a fervency in prayer for the lost, a willingness to go where He sends, a desire to sacrificially support those whom He sends, and a boldness in testifying before our friends and neighbors about the ongoing nearness of the kingdom in the person of Jesus Christ the Son of God. ■

Laborers into His Harvest

September 9	Matthew 9:35-38 Jesus: The Lord of the Harvest
September 16	Matthew 10:1-15 Lessons from the Early Harvest
September 23	Matthew 10:16-25 Hard Realities of Life in Christ
September 30	Matthew 10:26-33 Acknowledged by Christ before the Father
October 7	Matthew 10:34-39 Losing and Finding Life for Christ
October 14	Matthew 10:40-42 The Laborer's Reward

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

August 2018 Session Highlights

The elders of First Presbyterian Church meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday. The following are some highlights from the July 24 meeting.

- The Session and Diaconate have both been reading and discussing the book, *The Hole in Our Holiness*, by Kevin DeYoung, at their monthly meetings in 2018. This month we read and discussed Chapter 7, “Who We Are” In this chapter, DeYoung discusses the doctrine of union with Christ and its crucial connection to our ongoing sanctification. We pursue holiness because it is WHO WE ARE... IN CHRIST. We were “born again” that way - that is, born again in Christ for righteousness. Particular attention was given to Romans 6:1-11.
- Stewardship and Finance reported that as of the end of July tithes and offerings toward the church’s general budget are at 57.66% of the annual budget. This is ahead of the average of 50.73% (2013-2017) our church has historically received by the end of July. Praise was given to God in prayer for His financial blessing.
- The Session approved a list of potential candidates for the offices of deacon and elder. These candidates, if willing and able, will participate in an officer training program as a prerequisite for potential nomination to serve the Church as an officer.
- The chairmen of the committees of the Session gave reports of the work and ministry they are overseeing (see the ministry sections of the Diligent for more on these ministries). Prayer was offered after each report, asking for the Lord’s guidance and blessing.
- A season of prayer was had for various needs within our congregation, community, and world.

PRAYER FOCUSES

SEPTEMBER 2

MOPS

SEPTEMBER 9

First Responders
Emergency Services

SEPTEMBER 16

FPC lay leaders and volunteers

SEPTEMBER 23

FPC Children and Youth

SEPTEMBER 30

Andrew Brunson/Persecuted

CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Chad Reynolds

Vice Moderator: Rev. Mackay Smith

Clerk of Session: David Nelson

Chairman of Deacons: Jake Cockrell

Deacon Secretary: David Kennedy Nelson

Chm. of the Congregation: Scott Blackburn

Treasurer: Michelle Hurst (2018-2019)

Asst. Treasurer: Daniel Hunt (2018-2019)

ELDERS

2018

Josh Behr
Jack Brandies
Jim Weaver
Gill Wingate

2019

Andy Hunt
Daniel Hunt
David Nelson
Jimmy Seay

2020

John Dubois
Stewart Hurst
Ed Lamb
Fox Rawlings

2021

Mike Berkau
Paul Benner

DEACONS

2018

Laura Hunt
Robert Meeker
Scott Smith
JB Wynn

2019

Jake Cockrell
Troy Hershberger
Kevin Kohl
Michael Matteson
Wendy Moore

2020

David Bass
Lynne Hulen
Rob McCollum
David Kennedy Nelson

Discipleship

OUTREACH: A HEART FOR THE REJECTED

From Pastor Mackay

This is the third month of exploring our four objectives for Adult Small Groups: Teaching, Fellowship, Outreach, and Service.

Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, “I will; be clean.” - Mark 1:41

Her name was Charlan. She was probably in her early sixties, though her contorted face made it difficult to tell. She was confined to a wheelchair, and could not speak beyond an occasional groan. She constantly toyed with a string of sparkly plastic beads. Due to her shriveled hands, dropping the beads was inevitable. However, if anyone reached down to pick them up, they were quickly corrected, as she was prone to shrieks of protest.

I expected the high school students I had brought to the group home to be unsure. They were, to some extent; eyes widened, quickly glancing at me as if to ask, “What do I *do*?” Yet, incredibly, to my great joy, many of our students approached her and spoke gently to her, treating her with compassion and kindness.

What does it mean to “reach out” to others? Jesus gives us many examples throughout his earthly ministry. There are the seemingly “tamer” examples: his public teaching is a form of reaching out. His private conversations with his disciples also reaches out to them, often in the midst of their misunderstanding and ignorance. Yet one of Mark’s earliest examples of Jesus’ ministry of outreach, and a quite literal “reaching out” at that, is not tame at all, but exemplifies a core element to incorporate into our ministry.

Jesus’ touch in Mark 1:41 is placed upon a leper. If a profoundly disabled adult gives us pause, we may still, like my students, sense the call for compassion in that moment. However, a leper represented a legal, religious, and medical threat to Jesus and his disciples. Every bit of

societal wisdom would have said, “Stay away!” Nevertheless, Jesus was compassionate. He had pity on the diseased body before him, and made contact.

Jesus is a powerful example for us. Our time is properly stewarded in the care of those closest to us: spouse, children, parents, etc. Yet, are we, like Jesus, ever in positions to interact with those for whom society has no time or respect? In many circles, helping the poor is somewhat en vogue. We can thank God for that to an extent. Yet, what happens when those poor are not convenient to us? What if they aren’t material poor, yet have committed a vile sin? What if outreach requires continual, methodical pursuit instead of a one-and-done mission task? We must ask if we are willing to wade into the muck. Jesus’ touch was profound and personal. This was not ministry from afar, but up close.

Jesus is an example to us in another vital way. Many outside of the faith and the church can be exemplary when it comes to relieving physical pain and material destitution. Yet, Jesus shows something that sets Christian outreach totally apart. Jesus’ end goal was not a touch but a testimony to his divine power. When he healed the leper, he was blessing him with a body made whole, but he was blessing him even more with the revelation that he (Jesus) was the one in whom that leper could place his trust for this life and all of eternity!

...continues on page 5

SMALL GROUPS

Please pray for our newest Small Group meeting Sunday Nights at the Mackay and Rachel Smith home.

If you aren’t plugged into a Small Group, talk to Pastor Mackay.



THE LAMPLIGHTERS



THE BREAKFAST CLUB



IN DEPTH



THE SALT SHAKERS



ONE MORE MILE



THE UPPER ROOM



GRACE ROOTS

Continued from page 4...

That is how our outreach must be unique. We do not come simply to relieve brokenness, but to point to the cross and the empty tomb where the very fountain of brokenness (our sin) has been defeated. We must show others the God of the Bible and the salvation found only in His Son!

This is where we return to the group home. Speaking to Charlan came naturally to compassionate high school students, but what we had to pray about, discuss, and rely on the Lord for the power to do, was to witness of the Gospel of Jesus to her. Our kindness may brighten her day, but if, by God's grace, she trusts in Jesus as her Savior, the day will come with her body will be fixed and the wheelchair will be left to rot! Our outreach must be so tuned.

Aren't Christians in a good position to do just that? For we were the ones in even a worse state than Charlan. We were not handicapped, but dead in our trespasses and sins. It is God's grace to us by which we wake each day with strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. We are sinners saved by grace, and God tasks us to point others to the wellspring of life.

Would you pray that our Small Groups would be characterized by both of these Christlike examples? First, that we would go to those who are truly the "least of these." But, even more crucially, that we would go with a message of healing that will last beyond this life, and for all eternity. ■

EKKLESIA

Ekklesia begins September 5th. Come be refreshed in the Word in the middle of the week.

SCHEDULE:

6:00 - Supper for All Ages
6:25 - Youth and Children Dismissed
6:30-7:30 - Children's Program
6:45 - Adult Singing and Corporate Prayer Time
6:55 - 7:25 - Adult Bible Lesson
7:30 - Chancel Choir

ADULT BIBLE STUDY TOPIC: The Bible from 30,000 Feet

As we read the Bible, it's easy to get lost; lost in the Levitical laws, lost in the genealogies, lost in the tribal censuses and kings of Israel. We are used to stories reading left to right, chapter by chapter. Yet, God has given us His Story in sixty-six unique books. This year, in 22 weeks, we will overview the entire Story. By looking down from high above, we will better appreciate the trees because we have seen the whole forest. The One Story will help us understand it's component parts. Join us!



FALL SPECIAL EVENTS:

The Discipleship Committee is planning several unique opportunities this fall.

Sept. 5 - Ekklesia Kickoff
The Entire Bible in One Night! Our children will join us as we overview the entire story of the Bible.

Oct. 24 - Fellowship Night: Trivia!
After supper, we'll mix up tables and enjoy an evening of fellowship through a Trivia competition.

Dec. 12 - Community Service Project
Stay tuned for more details!

Dec. 19 - (Tentative) Congregational Meeting and Supper

This fall, Ekklesia will *not* meet on: Nov 21; Dec. 26; Jan. 2

THE BOOK NOOK



The Tech-Wise Family: Everyday Steps for Putting Technology in Its Proper Place

By Andy Crouch

From the back cover...

Alongside the in-depth original research from Barna Group that shows how families are wrestling with technology's new realities, Andy Crouch takes parents beyond the typical questions of what, where, and when to show us that in a world full of devices, there's a way to choose a better life than we've imagined.

The Tech-Wise Family is available for a suggested donation of \$11.00.

The Book Nook is located in the Church Parlor, behind the Chapel. Check it out for excellent resources.

SAVE THE DATE



**Friday & Saturday
February 8-9**

**"What did you
Expect?"**

With Dr. Paul Tripp

Marriage Seminar
Livestream

Somehow, somehow, every marriage becomes a struggle. Everyone's marriage morphs into something they didn't intend it to be. At some point you need something sturdier than romance. You need something deeper than shared interests and mutual attraction. You need changed expectations, you need radical commitments, and, most importantly, you need grace.

CELEBRATE SERVANTHOOD

From Laura Hunt

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies – in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen

- 1 Peter 4:10

On every Sunday's church bulletin are the three intertwined circles that represent who we are as Christians and how we present ourselves to our church family, our community and to the world. The circles are Evangelism, Discipleship and Servanthood and where they intersect there is True Worship. Another way of explaining the circles might be to say, "Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World." (From the book, *Simple Church*)

I am so thankful to be a part of the church family at First Presbyterian Church of Lake Wales. It is a serving church in every sense of the word. It is part of our DNA. Everywhere I look I see folks engaged in serving their church family and community. Dig a little deeper and you hear the personal stories of love and sacrifice as folks serve the needs of fellow family members experiencing difficult circumstances.

Service comes in many forms. As the scripture says we are each provided with strengths supplied by God. When it comes to our church family, our recent Discipleship Sunday was a perfect example. During worship I, along with many others, was moved by the gift of music, as displayed by a guest musician who glorified God with her musical talent as she played the cello. Who wasn't grateful for the bountiful tables full of breakfast foods to be enjoyed by all and provided by serving hands

and hearts as we gathered for the post-service celebration? Hearing reports on all who serve the children and youth of our church was inspiring. Our children are our future and it is encouraging to hear of all the ways our children of all ages are being guided to love and serve the Lord. Finally, the gift of humor via an in-house video was a sweet service as Small Groups were highlighted in a way that encouraged participation and service to one another.

Within our community we have much to celebrate in the way of Service. Lake Wales is a very special place to live and raise a family. Opportunities to model Servanthood abound. My attempt to name them will fall short but I think you will get the idea. We are blessed to

have schools that welcome service in a variety of ways from community members. Volunteering through the Arts Center, Little League, Bok Tower, the Chamber, Service Clubs, Civic Groups and Church Group touches lives, enriches our community and makes a difference. An agency unique to Lake Wales is Lake Wales Care Center. This organization, formed over 30 years ago "demonstrates Christ's love by building bridges between people in need and people with a desire to serve." Care Center is a place where Christians from churches throughout our community are welcome to work together to make a difference in the lives of others.

In the Bible, Martha has always been a sympathetic character for me. Martha loved Jesus, but she was a woman of responsibility, a doer who loved to show her love through regular acts of service for others. Her example encourages me, inspires me to keep serving, while reminding me that all God-honoring service must flow from a heart that is fully engaged with the Savior! So, if you identify with a doer's heart let me close with words from a chapter on Martha in the book Twelve Women of the Bible, "Our value and identity are not based on what we have done but on who we are in Jesus Christ." So, let our "service come from the heart, knowing that our value is not based on how we perform...our value is locked securely in the heart of the God who loves us and gave his life for us." Celebrate Christ-centered Servanthood! ■



LOCAL MISSIONS

THE FAITH FINDERS CLUB: COME JOIN US AT POLK AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

From Laney Reynolds

The Faith Finders Club is an exciting, fun-filled time of Gospel ministry that meets on Monday afternoons at Polk Avenue Elementary School from 2:30-4:00pm. During this time, we get to know the kids and share the good news of Jesus Christ through prayer, playing games, learning memory verses, and teaching Bible stories and lessons.

Last year we had the privilege to share God's word with about 40 kids each Monday. We even had some of the same children join us on Wednesday nights at Ekklesia. Several of the Faith Finders also attended Mega Sports Camp this past summer.

We are anticipating a start date for the 2018-19 Faith Finders Club sometime in October. We will let you know the specific day as soon as possible. Our returning team members are looking forward to another awesome year of sharing the Gospel with the students of Polk Avenue Elementary School! Sadly, not all of our wonderful helpers are able to be with us again this school year. It takes about 14 volunteers to make this club run smoothly so we need YOU to join our team!! Please prayerfully consider being a part of this amazing opportunity. Contact Laney Reynolds ([863-632-1866](tel:863-632-1866)) if you are interested or have any questions. ■



Music Ministry

YOUR ROLE IN WORSHIP MUSIC

From Vince Treadway

All who are children of God are called to sing praises to Him, and to “make music with the harp, lyre, and cymbals.” Perhaps your role in praising the Lord through music has been as a congregant; singing hymns, songs, and spiritual songs. As a congregant singer you join all of the people of God gathered for worship to raise your praises to God together—a most worthy activity. There are others who have musical gifts that they can share in a more specific way such as singing in a choral setting, playing instruments such as brass, stringed or percussion instruments, ringing handbells, singing solos, and more. Those musicians help lead all of God’s people in worship through music. What is YOUR role? If you have an interest in singing in a choir or small ensemble, playing an instrument, or ringing handbells no matter what your age is, we NEED you! There are musical opportunities for everyone to explore and enjoy, and in doing so you will find great fun and fellowship with other believers! In case you didn’t know exactly what the opportunities for musical involvement are here at FPC, I am listing them for you:



CHANCEL CHOIR

for High Schoolers and Adults; Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00
beginning Sept. 5

SMALL ENSEMBLE

auditioned vocal ensemble for Adults; rehearsals are scheduled seasonally

VOCAL SOLOS, DUETS, TRIOS, QUARTETS

unlimited opportunities for services and special events such as the Christmas Pageant

INSTRUMENTAL SOLOS AND ENSEMBLES

unlimited opportunities for playing for hymns, special music, and concerts.

CONTEMPORARY BAND MEMBERS

guitars, bass, drums, percussion, saxophone, flute, oboe, and more!

MUSICAL BEGINNINGS

for ages 0-3, Mondays from 4:00-4:45
beginning Sept. 10

COVENANT KIDS

for ages 4-6; Mondays from 4:00-4:45
beginning Sept. 10

THE KING’S SINGERS

for ages 7-14; Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00
beginning Sept. 5

HANDBELL CHOIR

for High Schoolers and Adults;
Mondays from 5:00-6:00
beginning Sept. 24

If you have an interest in exploring any of these musical opportunities, please contact me, Vince Treadway, at the church [\(863\)676-0711x109](tel:863676-0711x109); by email at vince@fpclw.org, or on my cell phone at [863-978-7071](tel:863-978-7071). I would love to talk to you about how you can be a part of the music ministries at FPC! You do not have to be a professional or specially trained musician to participate; there are opportunities for involvement on many levels, and with different rehearsal requirements. Please consider using your musical gifts to glorify God and join us! ■

FIRST PRES LAKE WALES YOUTH MINISTRY PODCAST

From Shane Miller

Have your parenting skills or decisions ever been unfairly judged by people who have never had kids before? This is an interesting occurrence, right? The young onlooker views a judicial verdict you just executed upon your child and they whisper, “I am never going to do that to my children.” From your seasoned point-of-view, though, the art of parenting is a lot more nuanced than they might think. This is because raising a child isn’t an exact science you can extract from a text book, nor is it something you can really learn from a Youtube video or T.V. show. Parenting, like an internship or on-the-job training, is something you gain experience in as you go. On top of all this, we understand that each individual child is completely different from the other, making the task that much more challenging.

I say this to make the point: no one knows our children more than we do. As a parent, you have the unique position of putting in more hours than anyone else in the world when it comes to thinking and caring for your kids. The Bible even affirms this point, recognizing the distinct position parents are in to minister to their own children: “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.” (Deut. 6:4-7) It’s no wonder, then, that

statistically speaking, parents are a huge factor in whether or not their children stick with their faith or continue to engage with a fellowship of believers after high school. Again, parents know their kids more than anyone and are thus more apt to effectively minister to them because of their position in their kids lives.

Unfortunately, it seems that, culturally speaking, many parents do not take advantage of this ministry opportunity. The book “Sticky Faith” addresses the statistics on this issue: “According to the Search Institute’s nationwide study of 11,000 teenagers from 561 congregations across 6 denominations, 12 percent of youth have regular dialogue with their mom on faith/life issues. In other words, one out of eight kids talks with Mom about faith. It’s far lower for dads. One out of twenty, or 5 percent, of kids have regular faith/life conversations with Dad.” (pg. 117)

If parents’ ministry to their kids is such an important factor for them in continuing with their faith and church, why is it that so few parents talk to their kids about their faith? There is probably a whole host of reasons. Perhaps one of them has to do with the fact that the task is seemingly daunting. What if our kids ask us something that we don’t know how to answer?

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Continued from page 11...

What if it is difficult for us to articulate our own faith experience? What if we feel that our Bible knowledge is not up to par? We can look at ourselves and think, “My children should not be coming to me for spiritual advice.”

As a Youth Director, when I think of the incredible opportunity parents have to minister to their kids and what can seem like the overwhelming task of ministry in the home, I want to make it my aim to help with this process in any way possible. One particular “try” at this is the *First Pres Lake Wales Youth Ministry Podcast*. You can find it on iTunes, Stitcher, Tunein, Googleplay, and most anywhere where you can find a podcast. (The link to the podcast website is right here: bit.ly/fpclwmpodcast) The podcast is a recording of my teaching that the students are hearing on a Wednesday night.

Here are some advantages I see for parents when it comes to the recording of this podcast: 1.) I’ve done all of the legwork for you. I’ve studied the passage, I’ve read the commentaries, I’ve thought very hard about how to articulate the Bible passage to the youth at First Pres. To put it another way, I’ve done all of that work for you so you don’t have to. 2.) If your son or daughter attends Youth Group on Wednesday night, they have already heard the teaching. With these two factors, my vision is to basically set the ministry ball up for you to spike it out of oblivion. In other words, while we might not see spiritual conversations in the home as the easiest task, one of my goals is to make it easier. Listen to the podcast! Have a great conversation with your child about Jesus! Contrary to what you might think, it will go a very, very long way. ■




PRAY FOR US

- **Pray for the Wednesday night ministry that has recently started up again**
- **Pray for the House Groups that meet every first and third Sunday night**
- **Pray for our volunteers leaders, that God would give them the strength to convey the gospel of Jesus in their words and lives as they minister to our students**
- **Pray for the podcast to be a great encouragement for the families at First Pres.**

Children's Ministry

NEW NURSERY COORDINATOR

Our families have been greatly helped by the diligent service of Queenisha Payne in our Nursery. As her academic career continues, she has wisely re-assessed her numerous commitments and decided to finish her service to us. We are thankful for her! We are also thankful that the Lord has provided Sasha Friend, our Nursery Attendant, to immediately step up into the role of Nursery Coordinator. You've probably seen Sasha around. Here's a little more about her:

Hello! My name is Sasha Friend. Even at a young age I always said that when I grew up I wanted to be a mother. I spent many days babysitting and with a single mom that worked nights I practically raised my brother. In 2005 I met my husband in our home state of Oklahoma. We put our roots down in Florida in 2006 and have lived here ever since. By God's good grace I became a mother shortly after moving to the sunshine state and have been incredibly blessed to be fortunate enough to stay home with each of my 3 amazing children. They are my everything and I am honored God chose me to be their mother. I have always loved working with and looking after children and hope sometime in the not so distant future to go back to school and get my degree in early childhood education. A passion for teaching little ones has always been in my heart and I am delighted to have the privilege to share God's word with your precious children. 

Please welcome Sasha and pray that God would honor her desire to impart the Word of God to our children. Other than prayer, the best welcome would be your offer to keep our precious little ones on a Sunday morning or Wednesday night. **Also, with Sasha's move, we are in need of a Nursery Attendant; a part-time paid position. Please contact Pastor Mackay or the Church Office if you are interested. ■**



KIDZ EKKLESIA WEDNESDAY, 6:30- 7:30 PM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 12

On Wednesday nights, beginning September 12, from 6:30-7:30 pm, you will find about 30 children (4-12 years old), from First Pres and the Lake Wales community gathered together for Kidz Ekklesia. This Wednesday evening ministry is a time for our children to be disciplined by enjoying fellowship with one another in Christ, learning about Jesus from God's Word taught by faithful teachers, praying to the Lord, doing crafts to drive home the teaching, and playing games in the gym. Our Kidz Ekklesia program will be led this fall by Cindy Nelson, Max Linton, Amy Ballentine, and Laney Reynolds. We look forward to seeing all of our awesome children at Kidz Ekklesia. ■

Church Family

MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

September 1, Elaine Rawlings
September 2, Susan Stiles
September 2, David Caldwell
September 3, Maggie Hunt
September 5, Patty McKeeman
September 7, Rachel Miller
September 8, Emma Harrington
September 8, Ger Lippert
September 8, Kay Klinefelter
September 9, Golda Carson
September 9, Kathleen Violette
September 10, Donald Krpata
September 10, Jaden Youmans
September 11, Babe Warren
September 11, Jan Lewis
September 13, Maija Baynes
September 14, Cecilia Smith
September 16, Laura Lynn Berkau
September 16, Dionne Kohl
September 18, Samuel Rode
September 18, Asher Michalkiewicz
September 18, Suzie Hershberger
September 20, Jill Smith
September 21, Kerry Klinefelter
September 24, Colton Bass
September 25, Alice Campbell
September 25, Hailey Hunt
September 25, Ron Campbell
September 25, Ella Harrington
September 27, Todd Sebring
September 27, Lorin Bice

ANNIVERSARIES

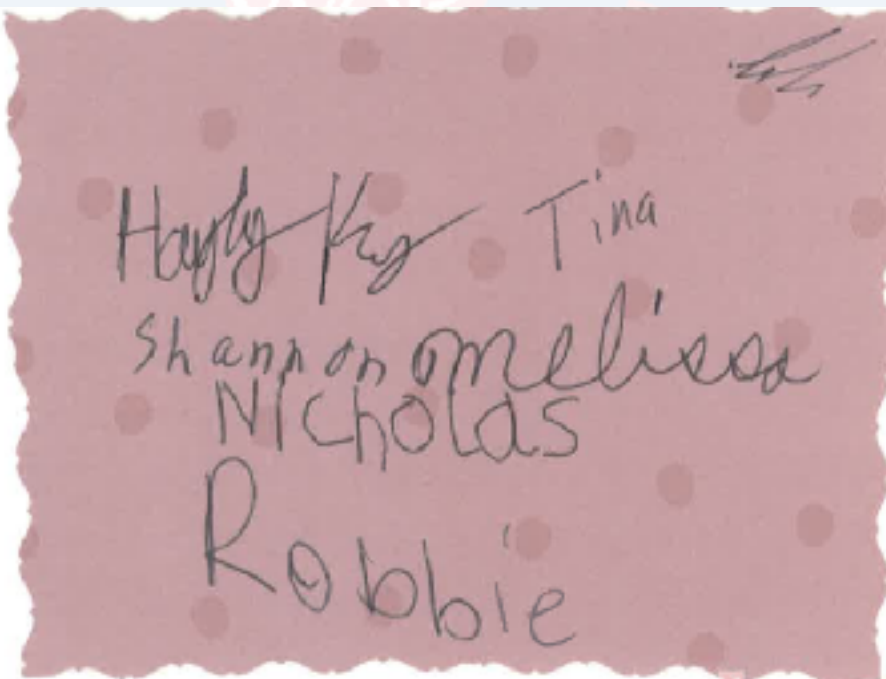
September 1, Dale & Carol Bourdette
September 6, Steve & Georgianna Sorensen
September 12, Edward & Kathy Enz
September 13, Roger & Alice Campbell
September 18, David & Cindy Caldwell
September 20, Loren & Nancy Furland
September 22, Jimmy & Jan Kahler
September 23, Charlie & Cindy Henry
September 23, Tom & Trish Kohl



I'm not sure who was so generous and thoughtful to pay \$1000 towards our housing, but we want to say a huge thank you!! We have been blessed with affordable housing in an area of Houston that is known for high costs. This generous gift for us will cover over a month and a half of rent. Amazingly, we have been told that others have also given gifts towards our needs and should cover our rent the entire time we are here. Thank you again for caring about us and praying for us. We feel so loved and encouraged by this act. We can not wait to be able to be apart of our church again.
Love & Hugs,
Scott & Jill

Dear Chad & Congregation,
Thank you for your continued support of Polk Avenue Elementary! Laura and Frank Hunt along with an amazing team served our staff a wonderful "Back to School Breakfast!" We also opened the school year meeting in the Family Life Center. These are blessings that we treasure. May God continue to bless you as you are such a blessing to others!
Sincerely,
Gail Quam
Principal

Thank you so much for your continued support of our ministry! We couldn't make it without caring people like you! May God bless you all!
-Circle of Friends Ministry Inc.





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fpclw.org

