

NOVEMBER 2019

ISSUE 19-11

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

BRINGING JUSTICE TO THE FATHERLESS

From Pastor Chad

November is National Adoption Awareness Month in the United States. It is a time of building awareness for the needs of the many orphans, as well as the children in foster care, in our nation. Adoption agencies and advocates, both Christian and secular, benefit from various activities and promotions during this month as people are made aware of the plight of the fatherless. The following article highlights some of the ways we as Christians, and a congregation, can minister to the fatherless of our community and world.

The psalmist speaks of the LORD as "Father to the fatherless" (Psalm 68:5). Moses writes that God "executes justice for the fatherless" (Deuteronomy 10:18). Drawing on the imagery of sonship versus slavery, Paul writes, "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'" The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him," (Romans 8:14-17).

Seeing that God has displayed His love for us in sending His Son Jesus Christ in flesh to die for sinners so that we might be called "sons of God" (1 John 3:1), it should come as no surprise that one of the things which the LORD is continually calling His people to do is to "bring justice to the fatherless" (Isaiah 1:17). When James wrote about "religion that is pure and undefiled before God" he included "visit[ing] orphans... in their affliction" (James 1:27) among the evidence for such distinction. The Father to the fatherless wants us, His children, to join with Christ in this cause for justice.

Adoption is one way in which God calls His people to bring justice to the fatherless. Laney and I have walked this path, as have many others in our congregation and community. Perhaps you are open to adopting a child. If so, please reach out to me or another adoptive family in our congregation. There are some great

resources to which you can be directed to help you make that decision. One excellent resource is the Dunlap Orphanage Board, a ministry of the ARP Church that provides financial assistance to partner orphanages, as well as to adopting families.

While adoption is one way to care for the fatherless, not everyone is called to adopt a child. So, how can those who do not adopt still minister to the fatherless? Let me point out a few other ways in which we can care for the fatherless and vulnerable children of our community and world. First, we can minister to the fatherless. A sizable group of volunteers from our church share the Gospel with a large group of students at Polk Avenue Elementary School every Monday afternoon at Faith Finders Club. We know that some, though certainly not all, of the students to whom they minister are fatherless in some way. Their fathers may have died, be incarcerated, or may not be regularly present in their lives by choice. Whatever the reason, the regular absence of their fathers makes such children very vulnerable. The research shows the difficulties (educational, social, and emotional) that fatherless children in our society face are sobering. By participating in Faith Finders Club, our brothers and sisters in Christ are proclaiming the Good News of the Father's love through His Son Jesus to these children. Perhaps you would like to join them in this important ministry. If so, reach out to Kelly Harrington, who coordinates Faith Finders Club. (See the article "Like Sunday School on Monday" in this issue of *The Diligent*.) In addition to Faith Finders Club, there are opportunities at Polk Avenue Elementary to mentor students during school hours. If you are interested in knowing more about mentoring opportunities, please contact the school directly.

Also, here in our community, Lake Wales Care Center seeks to meet the needs of the poor, the widows, and the fatherless. Among those in need in our area, there are more than a few who are fatherless. Many of you participate with them through your gifts of time, talents, and treasures. The coming holiday season is a great time to visit them in their need by providing holiday assistance or contributing to the Care Center's ministries in other ways. Your donations to and time volunteering with Care Center help bring these children justice.

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In addition to these means of ministering to vulnerable children, there are still many other ways that we can care for the fatherless. Those of you who are schoolteachers have a constant opportunity to minister to hurting children from broken homes. It is often difficult and relationally messy to do so, but the Lord has put you in these students' lives for a season to teach, encourage, value, and hold them accountable.

Some of you may be good candidates for fostering children, others might look into Guardian ad Litem volunteer work, and many of you may sponsor a child through a ministry such as Compassion International. Perhaps you have a neighbor who is a single parent and you are able to help by babysitting from time to time, doing some yard work, or providing a meal. These are just a few examples of ways in which we can minister faithfully to the fatherless children of our community and world. Most importantly, all of us can pray for the needs of the fatherless, asking the Lord to watch over and provide for them. I hope that you might be encouraged to continue in this good work or join in with others if you are not currently serving in some way.

Lastly, I also want to remind you of the even greater issue of the spiritually Father-less in our community and world. Many do not call God their Father because they have yet to receive the Spirit of adoption as sons and daughters; they have yet to become fellow heirs with Christ. You and I have received this gift of grace, and we can visit the spiritually Father-less in their sinful affliction by sharing with them the Good News of Jesus so that they too can know God as Father by the love of Christ. Let us all join together in this all-important work. ■

October 2019 Session Highlights

The elders of First Presbyterian Church meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The following notes are a few highlights from their meeting on October 22.

- Continuing with their study of *The Westminster Confession of Faith*, the Session considered the teaching from chapter 6, "Of the Fall of Man, Sin, and the Punishment of Sin." Please be encouraged to read the chapters of *The Westminster Confession of Faith* along with the Session.
- Stewardship and Finance reported that as of the end of September, tithes and offerings toward the church's general budget are at 60% of the annual budget. This is behind the average of 64.9% (2013-2017) our church has historically received by the end of September. Praise was given to God in prayer for His financial blessing and prayer was offered that the giving of our congregation would match our ministry needs.
- The Session approved the proposed 2020 budget as presented by the Stewardship and Finance Committee with previous approval from the Diaconate and will be distributed to the congregation by the end of October. Significant time was spent discussing ways to encourage cheerful giving toward the General Operating Fund in order to fully support the core ministries of the church; prayer was offered to this end, as well. Please see the article "Giving Priorities" in this issue of *The Diligent*. The same article will be included with the mailing of the proposed budget and members are encouraged to prayerfully consider these priorities.
- Dan and Danielle Miller were received as new members of the First Presbyterian Church. They will be presented before the congregation during worship in the near future.
- The Session prayed with and for Rev. Leon Brown, evangelist and mission developer in Los Angeles, CA.
- The Session received a report of the Florida Presbytery meeting held on Tuesday, October 22.
- The chairmen of the committees of the Session gave reports of the work and ministry they oversee; see the ministry sections of this issue of *The Diligent* for more on these ministries. Prayer was offered after each report, asking for the Lord's guidance and blessing for the ongoing work of the church ministries.
- A season of prayer was had for various needs within our congregation, community, and world.

PRAYER FOCUS

NOV. 3 - All Saints Remembrance

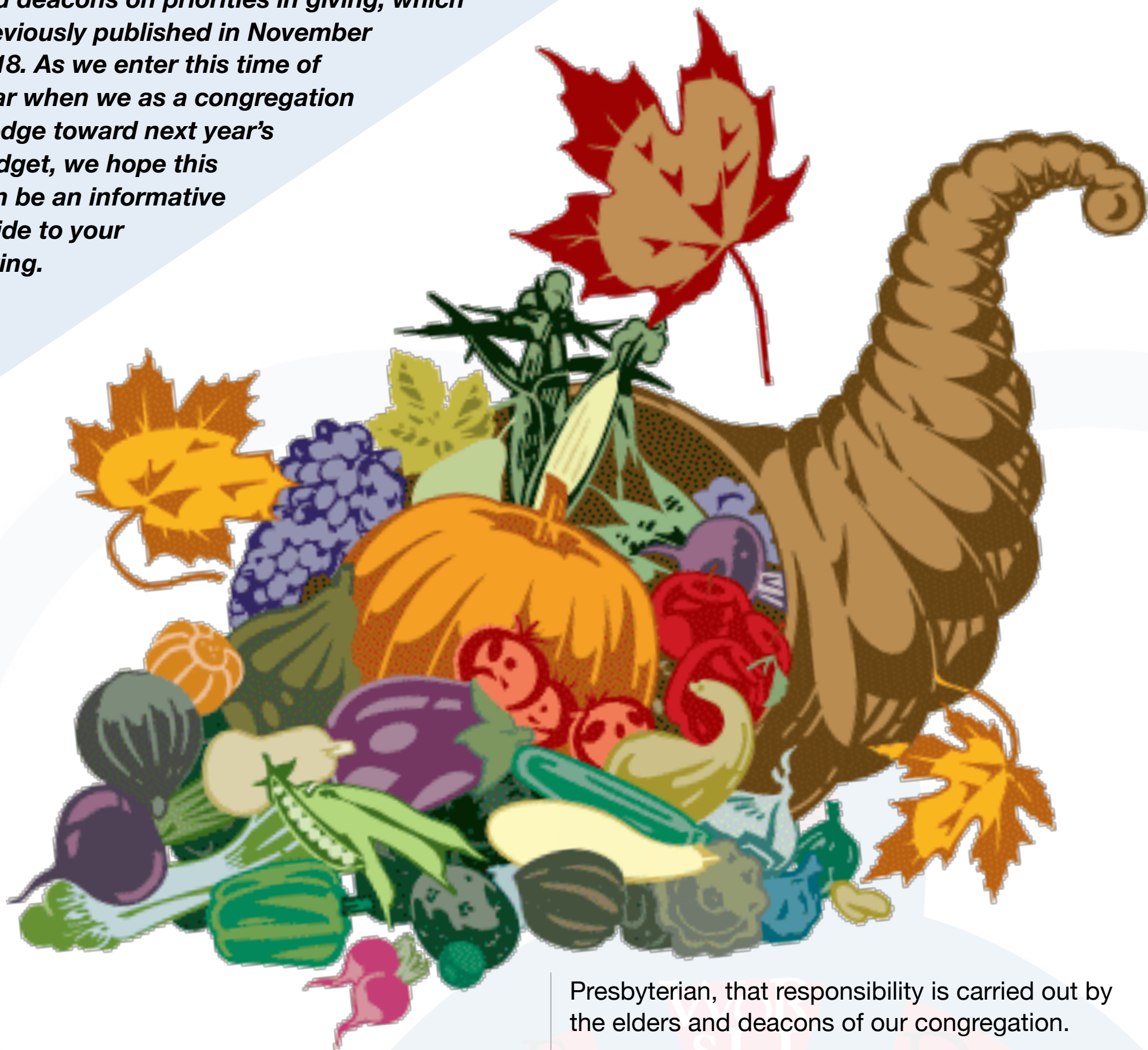
NOV. 10 - Veteran's Day

NOV. 17 - Thanksgiving

NOV. 24 - Elders & Deacons

PRIORITIES IN GIVING

The following article is a statement from our elders and deacons on priorities in giving, which previously published in November 2018. As we enter this time of year when we as a congregation pledge toward next year's budget, we hope this can be an informative guide to your giving.



In His Word, the Bible, the Lord God teaches us that our chief end is to glorify and enjoy Him. All that we have - our time, our talents, our treasures, our life itself - is from Him. We are to be stewards of all He has entrusted to us, loving Him with our whole being and loving our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:34-40). The act of giving our tithes and offerings to Christ's Church, specifically to a local congregation, is one key aspect of this stewardship to which we are called. In giving to the church financially (as well as providing our time and talents), we worship God by acknowledging He has called us to give a portion of all that we have received from Him.

The holy use of these tithes and offerings for His glory and the good of others is a solemn responsibility of the leaders whom God has called to serve in the church. Here at First

Presbyterian, that responsibility is carried out by the elders and deacons of our congregation.

The leaders of First Presbyterian have prayerfully considered the various ministries to which the Lord has particularly called us and how He has equipped us to pursue those ministries in Christ. To that end, we seek to meet the financial needs of those ministries with the following prioritization of giving:

1. Tithing to the General Operating Fund

We believe that the Biblical principle of tithe, or giving of ten percent, (Lev. 27:30, Micah 3:20) is a good starting point in planning financial gifts to the church. Scriptures speak of other offerings above and beyond this, but the tithe is the believer's first priority in giving. The elders and deacons annually develop a General Operating Budget (GOB) that is approved by the congregation. The GOB collectively reflects our

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commitment to them. These ministries include corporate worship as a body of believers, discipleship of one another at all ages, servanthood within the church and the community, and evangelism locally and to the ends of the Earth. The General Operating Fund supports the ministries reflected in the GOB by financially providing for ministry materials and resources, the operation and maintenance of our facilities and grounds, and the salaries and benefits of the staff who help carry them out. We believe it is most honoring to God to use these primary gifts, your tithe, and any undesignated or unrestricted funds, to support our General Operating Fund. Copies of the General Operating Budget are available to church members upon request.

2. Foreign Missions and Church Planting

Our General Operating Fund helps support various ministries of local outreach, church planting, and foreign missions. In addition to this, we also have a Missions Fund, which is our second highest priority in giving. This above-and-beyond-the-tithe fund helps support various works, both foreign missions and local (or stateside) church planting efforts.

3. Deacons' Benevolence

Much of the mercy ministry we provide as a church to those in need in the Lake Wales community is in conjunction with the Lake Wales Care Center. Financial support for the Care Center is included in other areas of our budget. The Deacons' Benevolence Fund is the chief means by which we provide financial mercy ministry to the members of our congregation. Priority for assistance is given to those who are most vulnerable (widow/widowers and those who are ill). Funds are dispersed to individuals and families as needed either as a benevolence (helping to pay expenses directly) or as an interest-free loan. The Deacons' Benevolence Fund is our third highest priority.

4. Special Giving

When appropriate, the elders may approve one-time opportunities or seasons of giving to support ministries such as capital campaigns, short-term mission trips, mercy ministries, and special denominational needs. This particular type of giving is our fourth highest priority.

5. FPC Trust

The FPC Trust Fund is a collection of invested gifts for the purpose of providing strategic, supplemental sources of revenue to help support the future needs of the First Presbyterian Church and its ministries. Revenue from these funds supports foreign missions work, Erskine College and Theological Seminary, Bonclarken Conference Center, college and seminary scholarships, as well as other ministries of our church and denomination. Contributing to the FPC Trust Fund is our fifth highest priority of giving. Many of the funds in this collection are the result of intentionally planned-giving by deceased members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. If you have questions about planned-giving, please reach out to our Director of Administration or the ARP Foundation (<http://thearpfoundation.org/>).

Questions or Assistance

Members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church are always invited to ask questions about our budget, the prioritization of giving outlined above, or any other matters regarding giving, including financial instruments or real property. You may reach out personally or have your representative speak with our Director of Administration if you need specific guidance in conveying special gifts. Giving information is handled in confidence. ■

2020 CHURCH BUDGET PLEDGES

Please be in prayerful consideration of your commitment to the 2020 proposed church budget. If you have not received a summary of the budget and pledge information by mail or you would like to see a copy of the full proposed budget, please contact the church office. Congregational pledges will be collected during the final hymn of worship on November 17 and 24. The Annual Congregational Meeting to approve the budget will be held on December 15.

Discipleship

A LOVING FATHER

From Pastor Mackay

"I have loved you with an everlasting love..."
-Jeremiah 31:3

There is little more impactful to our daily thought lives than the way that we actively perceive God. When you think of God, how do you view him?

It's a vital question. For example, if we view God as angry and thirsty for punishment, we will live each day either desperately trying to stay on his good side or (more likely) trying to avoid him altogether. Consider also how our perception of God impacts how we treat others. If we serve a deity eager for vengeance, won't we also be eager for vengeance upon others? We will have no patience, no love for sinners, and lack the grace to forgive the slightest offense. Furthermore, we could chalk this all up to "godliness," for this is how we mistakenly view our God!

All this argues for how much we need God's Word to shape our view of him, and God's Word reminds us over and over that for the Christian, we must look to God as our loving Father. He is our God who knows us, who cares for us, and whose eternal love for His people led Him to solve the problem of our sin by the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Consider these words from 17th century English theologian and pastor John Owen.

Do not see the Father as one who is angry, but as one who is most kind and gentle. Let us see the Father as one

who from eternity has always had kind thoughts towards us. Is it a complete misunderstanding of the Father that makes us want to run away and hide from him. The Psalmist said, "They that know you will put their trust in you." How sad that we cannot stay long with God in spiritual meditations! The Father loses the company of his people because they are so ignorant of his love to them. His saints keep thinking only of his terrible majesty, severity and greatness, and so their hearts are not drawn to him in love. We must learn to think of his everlasting gentleness and

*compassion. We must remember his kind thoughts towards us which have been from eternity. Let us remember how eager and willing he is to accept us. If we did this, then we would not be able to bear one hour's absence from him. Instead, we find it difficult to spend even one hour with him. **Let then this be the first thought that we have of the Father, that he is full of eternal love to us.** Let our hearts and thoughts be filled with his love to us, even though many discouragements may lie in our way.¹*



Is this the God that you serve, Christian? Do you view each and every moment of your day as a gift from the hand of a loving Father? Even the discouragements, the difficulties, and the annoyances... they are there (at least in part) that you might be weaned from your love of self and know more the infinite vastness of God's love for you. Pray that part of your discipleship as a Christian will be remembering the vast love of God each day. ■

¹ John Owen, *Communion with God*

DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND

DISCOVERING THE EXODUS

With Dr. J. Nicholas Reid

February 7-9, 2020

Associate Professor of Old Testament and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando



As we anticipate returning to Exodus in weekly Sunday worship after the new year, save the date for a fascinating dive deeper into God's Word. On Friday night and Saturday morning, Dr. J. Nicholas Reid will deliver three lectures exploring the Exodus from archaeological, historical, and Biblical perspectives. A \$15 donation per adult is suggested for the weekend seminar, which includes dinner on Friday evening. Watch for more information about reservations coming soon. donation of \$15 per adult.



BOOK NOOK

Don't forget that our Book Nook (Church Parlor) includes monthly issues of Ligonier Ministries *TableTalk* magazine. Prime your Thanksgiving this month with excellent articles on the theme, "Gratefulness."

EKKLESIA



Our Fellowship Trivia Night was once again a great success! Congratulations to Team #7, "The Sabbath" (get it?) for their win! Also, congrats to our second place winners, "Team Won!" and our four-way tie for third place: "Friends," "Lake Wales Sixers," "Team 4" and "Whiz Kids."

There will be no Ekklesia on November 27th

Music Ministry

“WATTS” IT ALL ABOUT?

From Vince Treadway

One of the most important hymn writers in the 17th century was Isaac Watts (1674-1748).

Watts was the son of an elder in the Independent (Congregational) Church in Southampton, England. He was precociously literate, well-educated, and became a minister in London. He has been called “the liberator of hymnody in English” by some because he wrote so many hymns (over 700!) and used free verse rather than exclusive psalmody. At the age of 16, Watts complained to his father that the hymnody of the church was “dull and profitless,” and his father replied, “Then write something better!” His hymns are found primarily in four sources: *Horae Lyricae* (1705), a collection of

hymns and poetry in other forms; *Hymns and Moral Songs* (1707); *Divine and Moral Songs* (1715), a small collection of songs for children; and *The Psalms of David Imitated in the Language of the New Testament* (1719).

In the preface of the 1720 edition of hymns by Isaac Watts, we find this rather humorous introduction:

While we sing the praises of our God in His church, we are employed in that part of worship which of all others is nearest akin to heaven; and it is a pity that this, of all others, should be performed the worst upon earth . . .to see the dull indifference, the negligent and the thoughtless air, that sits upon the faces of a whole assembly, while the Psalm is still on their lips, might tempt even a charitable observer to

suspect the fervency of inward religion: and it is much to be feared, that the minds of most of the worshippers are absent or unconcerned.

While we chuckle at such a speech, I have to say that it is sometimes characteristic of church congregational song even today. What a challenge for us to then sing with enthusiasm and spirit as we glorify our Lord! The *Trinity Hymnal* has 36 hymns by Isaac Watts, and among my favorites are: *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*; *Join All the Glorious Names*; *This Is the Day the Lord Has Made*; *Jesus Shall Reign*; and *Am I a Soldier of the Cross*. I would encourage you to investigate all the hymns in our hymnal by Isaac Watts. His use of modern language in hymn writing opened many doors for future hymn writers and brought the world a wealth of great hymns for use in the church. You can also find samples of his hymns on the internet at hymnary.org and several other web sites. ■



High School & Middle School

THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS AND SERVICE

From Shane Miller

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” -Philippians 2:5-11

In today's culture, there seems to be little opportunity for us to be 'other-focused'. For instance, Instagram is not only an outlet for us to be constantly thinking about promoting our own image, it can also be a channel for us to feel the weight of how we're not measuring up compared to everyone else. Constant deadlines remind us of the great things we could achieve but also of everyday ways in which we continue to fail. Living life between the rock of pride and the hard place of self-pity is not only unfulfilling, but also incredibly difficult. No wonder Jesus beckons us to repentance in ways such as this: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

The good news of the gospel is that when sinners who have made life all about themselves come to Jesus, they receive grace. Part of living in that grace is receiving the freedom to live for others. Transformed, Holy Spirit filled sinners gain the power to walk in Jesus' footsteps, humbling themselves and serving others just like Jesus did. As we as a Church seek to disciple our young people, we have the privilege and responsibility of showing them that this example of Jesus (as opposed to the lies of our culture) is what the good life looks like.

One awesome means of discipleship to this end is ThanksLiving Camp. During the three (and a half) days of Care Center work camp, students not only receive discipleship but participate in giving discipleship as well. This camp is designed to give our students a new outlook on the world and the people in it by allowing them to see these things through the lens of the gospel of grace, the lens of self-giving and service.

To the students who are coming to Work Camp, I am excited to serve with you this year. I am already praying that Christ draws us closer to Himself during this time. If you've never gone to ThanksLiving Camp though, I encourage you to come out. And if you have any questions, please let me know. My number is 863-604-5204. ■

Camp Dates: November 24th - 26th

Sunday, Nov. 24: Meet at Lake Aurora @ 5:30 pm (dinner provided)

Tuesday, Nov. 26: Pick up @ 8 pm after Thanksgiving Unity Service

Special Note: Families are also encouraged to attend the Community Thanksgiving Unity Service on Tuesday, November 26th at 7:00 pm location to be determined.

Participants: Middle School & High School (6th grade through 12th grade)

Registration: Please complete and turn in the registration form.

Early Bird Price \$100 campers / \$50 leaders (Now until Nov. 8th)

Regular Price: \$120 campers / \$70 leaders (After November 8th)

Price includes all meals, lodging, camp t-shirt, and work materials

Projects: We will focus mainly on relational activities such as:

- † Delivering Thanksgiving Baskets
- † Delivering Meals on Wheels
- † Visit/Crafts at Local Nursing Homes
- † Back Yard Bible Clubs
- † Random Acts of Kindness
- † Team Building Activities

Lodging: Campers and Leaders will stay overnight in cabins at Lake Aurora Christian Camp

Don't miss the **\$20 discount** by registering before **November 8th!**

Children's Ministry

FAITH FINDERS CLUB REPORT: LIKE SUNDAY SCHOOL ON MONDAY

From Kelly Harrington

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” -Colossians 4:2

On Monday, October 21, our First Presbyterian Church team of 13 Faith Finders Club (FFC) volunteers landed on the campus of Polk Avenue Elementary school to share the love of Jesus Christ with 70 students for our first afterschool Bible club meeting this school year. I was nervous; this was my first club meeting. What this team had on me that afternoon was experience. In this group of faithful volunteers, only three of us were new to FFC and this awesome crew was ready to begin again with the kids! They were not nervous; they were excited.

“Devote yourselves to prayer...”
(in constant dialogue with God throughout)
Just before the school bell rang to release the kids to us, we had just enough time to quickly set our things in place and say a prayer together. (Many prayers for many weeks have been said for this moment.) The bell rang and they came! It seemed like hundreds of kids were streaming into the auditorium, wide-eyed and smiling. It turned out to be just 60 and many of them knew just what to do; many of them were experienced, too. I have to admit, the deluge of chaos that I expected to come down the two aisles of the auditorium toward me just didn't happen. The quick rush of red t-shirts (school uniform color) coming into the room parted at the different grade level stations to greet their leaders and lay their bookbags down. There were several hugs and high-fives as kids found familiar FFC volunteers from previous years. Was this a reunion? Yes, a reunion of kids who have participated in FFC who have shown up once more to continue their ministry to the Polk Avenue students.

“...being watchful...”
(keep praying, watch what God is doing)
The rest of the club ran right along schedule starting with small group talk time, focus verse memorization, and prayer time. The whole group

game was a swirl of dust and fun outside with 60 kids playing Tails Tag all at once! Back inside the auditorium, Shane Miller

led the kids in a favorite FFC song from last year, his self-composed You Can't Take It Back. This was personally my favorite moment when the students knowingly and enthusiastically sang the song with Shane, like he had just played their favorite song on the radio. Again, we chanted our focus verse from Colossians 4:2 and Carole Miller led a whole-group prayer. Teresa Behr taught a short lesson to introduce our club theme of prayer to the students. Many of them squirmed and wiggled in their seats like they had ants in their pants while they listened to her for about 5 minutes, then all of the sudden, it was over. I closed our club meeting with one more prayer, and then our leaders helped corral the kids outside to their waiting parents.

“...and thankful.”
(prayers of thanksgiving for what God has done)
The first club meeting of the year was done. God pulled together all of the strands of preparation, both visible and invisible, into an 80-minute ministry of sharing Christ's love with 60 kids who got a little bit of Sunday school on a Monday at school. He showed me, once again, that He will supply all that is needed (beyond name tags, registration forms, and lesson plans) to plant eternal seeds for His kingdom through His church. He just needs us to be willing to show up and reach out to others in love. God has once again assembled an amazing ministry team to do just that on Mondays at Polk Avenue Elementary.

Faith Finders Club Ministry Team: Meredith Akouka (PAE Teacher), Aralyn Behr, Ethan Behr, Teresa Behr, Patty Falk, Maryann Gladkowski, Monty Harrington, Bob Meeker, Carole Miller, Shane Miller, Betsy Reed, Gail Tew, and Lori Woods.

Want to join our FFC Ministry Team? We would love to have you! Call Kelly at the church office or e-mail her at kelly@fpclw.org. ■

MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

November 1, Jennifer Fugate
November 2, Jake Cockrell
November 4, Deeley Hunt
November 6, Lawrence Maxwell
November 6, Susan Ebel
November 8, Dayle Dierks
November 8, Niven Owings
November 9, Pam Estes
November 9, Madison Campbell
November 12, Autumn Miller
November 12, Luciana Dantas Abele
November 13, Shelley Paros
November 14, Leah Gibson
November 16, Tabatha Smith
November 17, Jonah Hershberger
November 18, Susan Coyne
November 18, Jane Terry
November 19, Jim Weaver
November 21, Eva Michalkiewicz
November 22, Molly Ann Lewis
November 22, Loren Furland
November 22, Jake Friend
November 23, Shelley Underwood
November 23, Jo Garrett
November 28, Rose Belcher
November 29, Jim Underwood
November 29, Esther Lippert
November 30, Rebecca Youmans
November 30, John Grimes
November 30, Nancy Turnquist
November 30, Cortland Kohl

ANNIVERSARIES

November 17, Rick & Penny Wright
November 20, Rob & Janet Thullbery
November 23, Dick & Dottie Bailey

Church Family



Give thanks

TO THE LORD FOR, HE IS GOOD, HIS
STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES FOREVER
-PSALM 106:1



CHURCH SERVICE PROJECT:

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Beautiful decorations during Advent remind us that we are in a different season of the year, one in which our hearts are filled with gratitude to God for the most wonderful gift of His son, Jesus Christ. Perhaps one of your first gifts of the season might be the gift of your time to help us prepare the church for Christmas. If you are able, please join us on Saturday, November 30, 9:30 a.m. to help us decorate.

LAKE WALES CARE CENTER THANKSGIVING AND

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

The Lake Wales Care Center placed two barrels for food collection for their holiday food drive on our campus: one is in the narthex and one is in the Missions Lobby in the Family Life Center. Please deposit only non-perishable food items in these barrels. Items needed most are: canned ham/meats, canned fruit, flour/corn meal, sugar/sweetener, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, pasta, and instant potatoes. Food donations can be placed in the barrels from now until just before Christmas; LWCC will collect donations from us throughout the season.





First Presbyterian Church of Lake Wales
 16 N 3rd St, Lake Wales, FL 33853
 Phone: 863.676.0711
[www. fpclw.org](http://www.fpclw.org)

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

2019

Andy Hunt
 Daniel Hunt
 David Nelson
 Jimmy Seay

2020

John Dubois
 Stewart Hurst
 Ed Lamb
 Fox Rawlings

2021

Mike Berkau
 Paul Benner

2022

Frank Hunt III
 John Matteson
 Vince Treadway

DEACONS

2019

Jake Cockrell
 Troy Hershberger
 Kevin Kohl
 Michael Matteson
 Wendy Moore

2020

David Bass
 Lynne Hulen
 Rob McCollum
 David Kennedy Nelson

2021

David Caldwell
 Michael Kahler
 Carl McCollum
 Tony Thomas

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: Monty Harrington
Treasurer: Michelle Hurst (2018-2019)
Asst. Treasurer: Daniel Hunt (2018-2019)