



JUNE/JULY 2023

ISSUE 23-6/7

# 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.”

## AT A GLANCE

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# Leadership

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO GLORIFY GOD?

From Pastor Mackay

In his magisterial commentary on the Westminster Shorter Catechism, the great 17th century English pastor Thomas Watson begins his reflections by answering this crucial question. Many of us can say the answer to Westminster question #1 by memory, “Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.” But, what does “glorify God” mean? Watson gives four ways.

**1. Appreciation.** Psalm 97:9. To treat a precious piece of art as we should, we must understand its value. How many tourists have milled through the British Museum or the Louvre, casting their eyes over some of the most remarkable creations of human history, but have known no appreciation due to their lack of knowledge? Watson writes, “We glorify God, when we are God-admirers...” We must regularly consider who God is, growing in understanding and appreciation of his attributes. So, let us think of God often, and do so by the Bible-infused guidance of the Holy Spirit. Let us not think careless thoughts of him, but “search for diamonds in this rock only.”

**2. Adoration.** Psalm 29:2. Our appreciation of God leads us to formal worship of God. The one we appreciate calls us to bring ourselves before him in prayer and praise. God’s Word tells us that the saints in glory bring God constant worship in Heaven, and we are able to join in with them when we gather together. Also, “... this divine worship God is very jealous of; it is the apple of his eye...”. God has given us the “how,” of worshipping him, which we must earnestly follow. Worship is not something we create, but we respond to God’s call according to his guidance. Let us worship him truly!

**3. Affection.** Deut 6:5. If

we could summarize God’s command to his people of all ages, it is that we are to love Him! This is not the selfish love of appreciating only what God can do for us (“This is rather to love God’s blessings than to love God.”), but loving Him. “This love is exuberant, not a few drops, but a stream.” One of the chief ways God disciplines us, as we have seen recently in the Gospel of John, is to help turn our attention not to the benefits of knowing Jesus, but to Jesus himself. Do we love him above all else? Do we want nothing more than to see him face to face? Let us live in such a way that is open to God’s grace of growing our love for him.

**4. Subjection.** “This is when we dedicate ourselves to God, and stand ready dressed for his service.” Good soldiers take their marching orders from above, but they also cultivate a heart that is eager to follow where their superior leads. So the Christian brings “presents of golden obedience” to God, and therefore glorifies Him. Often we are discouraged by the seeming power of sin in our lives, but let us remember that our Heavenly Father is pleased with those whom he loves when we obey him. Even our halting, unsure, imperfect acts of faith ascend to him as a pleasing aroma through Jesus. So, let us hear our orders and move forth in faith and in confidence.

Watson’s words help us to understand that which we so often say: “Glorify God.” This summer, consider you and your family’s habits. Do you think of God with appreciation? Are you regular in adoring him in corporate worship? Do you know a growing love for Him (yes, at times confused and strained, but nevertheless growing)? Are you looking to him for your “marching orders” each day? What a God who gives us such help and such abundant grace that we might do what we were created to do: glorify Him.

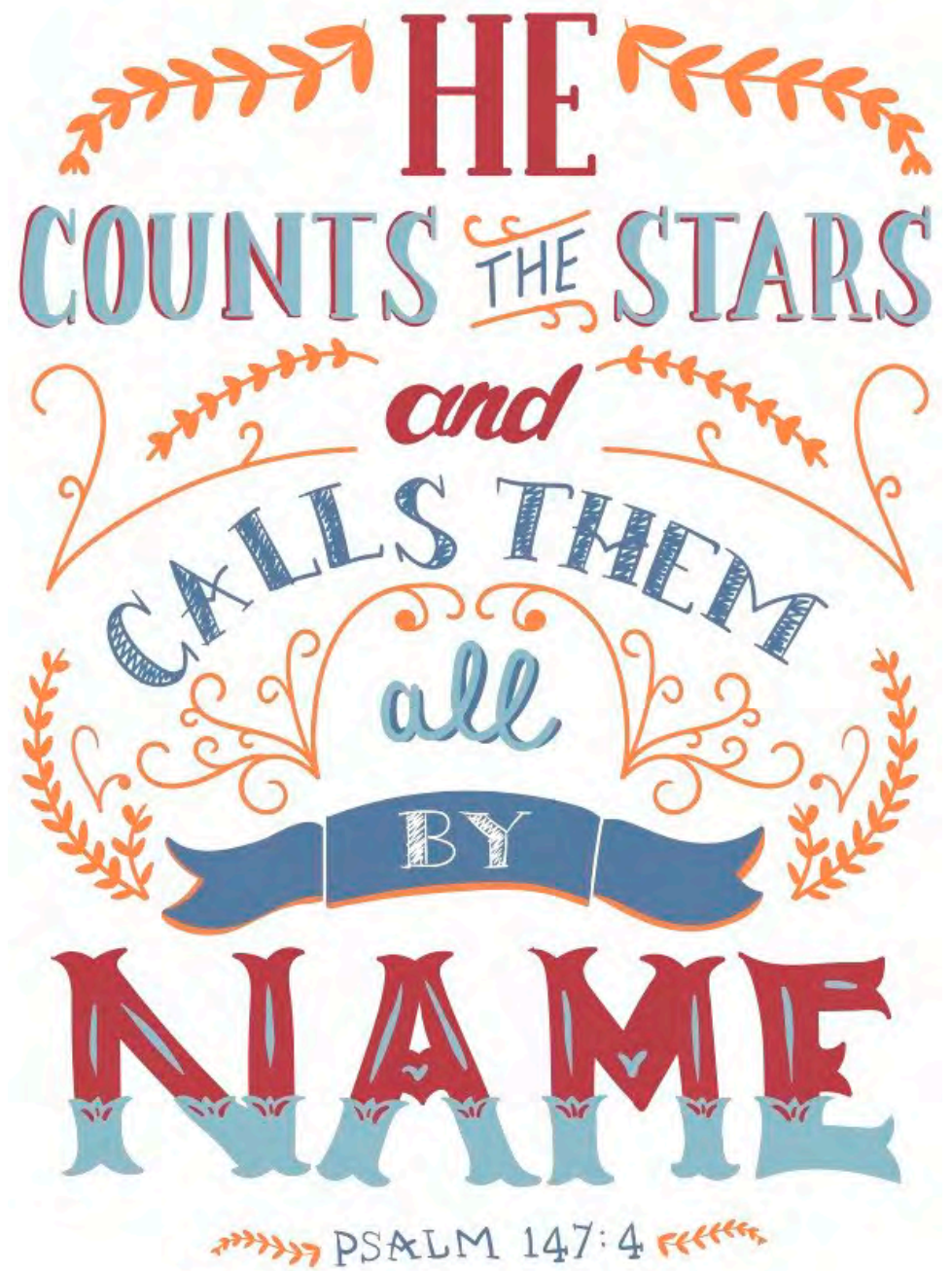
Walking with you,  
Mackay ■



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The elders of First Presbyterian Church meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday (usually). The following are highlights from the meeting in May 23.

- The session continues pursuing its goal of beginning an intentional shepherding ministry in fall of 2023 through shepherding groups. Shepherd teams of two elders will be approved at the June session meeting, and congregational families will be “drafted” by the elders in July.
- A time of prayer was offered to God for many of our congregation.
- The Associate Minister Search Committee brought a unanimous recommendation of Mr. Myers McKinney for the position of Associate Minister for Family Discipleship. The Personnel Committee submitted a draft compensation package which reflects the budget approved by the congregation in December 2022. The Session unanimously approved Mr. McKinney to be forwarded to the congregation, and a congregational meeting was called for July 9.
- Elder chairmen reported on the work of their various committees.
- Stewardship and Finance reported that a review of the budget lines and escrow accounts are underway.
- Summer Pulpit supply was approved:
  - June 11 - Rev. Mark Markham (Rev. Smith vacation)
  - June 18 - Rev. Drew Severance (Rev. Smith vacation)
  - July 9 - Mr. Myers McKinney (Associate Minister Candidate Sermon)
  - July 16 - Mr. Chris Tibbetts (Rev. Smith study leave)
  - July 30 - Rev. Rob Quam (Rev. Smith vacation)
- Rev. Smith reported on the April meeting of Florida Presbytery. The “10 for 10” capital campaign for church planting has launched, and the session will be considering how to engage the congregation with this information.



## PRAYER FOCUS

**JUNE 4** - Elders ARP General Synod  
and World Focus  
**JUNE 11** - Quest Conference  
**JUNE 18** - Father's Day  
**JUNE 25** - Florida Presbytery Church Planting

**JULY 2** - Independence Day/USA  
**JULY 9** - Lake Wales Care Center/Work Camp  
**JULY 16** - Church Administrative Staff: Maria,  
Sue, Karen, Cisco  
**JULY 23** - Fine Arts Camp  
**JULY 30** - Elders/Deacons/Church

# Discipleship

## MEET MYERS MCKINNEY

*On an unanimous recommendation of the Session, Mr. Myers McKinney comes before you as our candidate for Associate Minister for Family Discipleship. A letter explaining the process and Myers' call information was emailed to you on May 30. Hard copies of this information are available from the church office. Please read more about Myers here! Pray that God would continue to guide us*  
- Mackay

Myers McKinney grew up in Spartanburg, SC and has deep family connections in Polk County, FL, specifically in Lakeland.

After graduating from High School in 2019, he attended Wake Forest University where he earned a History Major and two minors in Music and Religion in 2019. While at Wake Forest, Myers also represented the Demon Deacons as a member of the Varsity Cross Country & Track and Field team. During his undergraduate education, Myers became involved with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) and with Salem Presbyterian Church (PCA) and other student ministries in which he grew in his interest of theology, the Bible, and Gospel ministry. It was in this context of stewardship and ministry that the Lord called Myers to pursue further theological education so that he would be well equipped to proclaim Christ and His Gospel



from all of Scripture and to be a blessing for God's people through pastoral ministry.

Myers received this education from Westminster Theological Seminary, graduating with his MDiv in May 2023. Myers is now eager and excited to glorify the Lord and to love First Presbyterian Church and Lake Wales with the love of Christ. ■

## ROCK ON WEDNESDAYS

On hiatus for the summer.  
We'll see you in the Fall!

Summer is a great time to get active in a small group.  
Speak with Pastor Mackay to get connected.

# Music Ministry

## FINE ARTS CAMP 2023!

### From Vince Treadway

Our Fine Arts Camp will be held July 24-28, 8:20 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. for students 7-14. The FAC will include Bible, Singing, Drama, Art, Dance and Handbells. The cost is \$10.00 per student with a \$20.00 cap for families. Students can register on our website at [www.fpclw.org](http://www.fpclw.org) and click on the "Fine Arts Camp" tab. All students

are welcome. Volunteers are needed to help with the FAC, and if you are available and interested in helping for an hour, a day, or the entire week, please let Vince Treadway know at [vince@fpclw.org](mailto:vince@fpclw.org). The enrollment is limited to 50 students, so get your registration in early so you don't miss out on the fun! This year our theme is based on Philippians 4:8, "Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent and worthy of praise, think on these things." ■

# FINE ARTS CAMP

Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent and worth of praise, think on these things.

Philippians 4:8

JULY 24-28 8:20AM TO 11:50AM  
AGES 7-14 COST \$10 PER STUDENT  
\$20 CAP FOR FAMILIES

Bible ~ Singing ~ Drama ~ Art ~ Dance ~ Handbells

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Register at [www.fpclw.org](http://www.fpclw.org)

# Family Ministry

## WORDS FROM WALKER

### From Walker Kirkpatrick

It has been an amazing start to my time here in Lake Wales! I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know so many of you, and I look forward to getting to know so many more of you in the coming months. Even though May was a blast, there is much to look forward to in June!

First off, as many of y'all know I will be getting married in a matter of days! If I haven't already, I would love to introduce you all to Tori (my soon

to be better half). Soon after our wedding, we will be leading a group of youth from both FPCLW and Frostproof at Quest. Upon returning from this, I will begin having many other youth events scattered through the summer. Please feel free to contact me, I would especially like to hear from you if you have any youth in the church, area, or in your families. I would like to get to know them all! Lastly, if you have any facilities (firepit, lake access, pool, a large field/yard, etc.) that you would be willing to let the youth use for different events please let me know.

Thanks and God Bless!■

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL Cardboard Regatta Pictures



# Children's Ministry

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

## End of Year Celebration

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH**

**11:00AM**

- ✓ Fun and games
- ✓ Lunch and refreshments
- ✓ Awards and recognition
- ✓ Fellowship together!

**LOCATION: GYM AND GAME ROOM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

All teachers, volunteers, and parents of the children's and youth ministries welcome!

**PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 19  
TO KATIE AT 863-528-3475**

## Sunday School Summer Break!

Children and Youth Sunday School will be on hiatus in July and August. This break will give our teachers and helpers a needed rest, and get us ready for Fall 2023.

Parents with children are sincerely invited to The Hub in the fellowship hall each week during the Sunday school hiatus for breakfast, fellowship, and a sermon discussion.

**Our nursery will remain open weekly.**

# Church Family

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

I believe that when God wants to send a blessing, a grace, he most often sends an angel to deliver the grace. Each of you is one of His angels. Robert and I have encountered many angels during these last difficult years. Some of you we have known for years and some we have not known at all. I thank you for your prayers as Robert journeyed through the Alzheimer's Disease. His earthly journey came to a close Christmas Eve and he made his journey into the arms of God.

I thank God for all of you.

*Gail Childs*

## MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

June 4, Angie Crews  
June 5, Scott Crews  
June 6, Karen Montgomery  
June 7, David McKeeman  
June 7, Judson Seay  
June 7, Judy Seymour  
June 9, Susannah Rawlings  
June 10, Kim Duncan  
June 12, John Matteson  
June 13, Charlee DuBois  
June 13, Emil Jahna  
June 14, Cindy Henry  
June 14, Ellis Hunt Sr.  
June 16, Sandra Bryan  
June 16, Pearl Oliszewski  
June 17, John Dubois  
June 17, Tony Woods  
June 18, Roberta Cain  
June 19, Adam Steverson  
June 20, Dee Brookes  
June 20, Cindy Caldwell  
June 20, Mia McCollum  
June 21, Loretta Borglund  
June 21, Emma Pike  
June 27, Fran Hanrahan  
June 27, Anita Maxwell  
June 28, Daniel Hunt  
June 30, Rhett Nelson  
June 30, Chelsea Smith

July 1, Keaton Kohl  
July 1, Kevin Kohl  
July 2, Marguerite Bacon  
July 2, Pat Frankenburger  
July 5, Tami Estes  
July 5, Maggie Clare Hixenbaugh  
July 5, Victoria Stevenson  
July 6, Whitney Brewer  
July 6, Tom Galloway  
July 7, Chip Carter  
July 7, Caroline Swanson  
July 8, Bob Brookes  
July 8, Doug Pace  
July 10, Becky Jahna  
July 13, Bob Meeker  
July 17, Cash Cockrell  
July 17, Alison Freeland  
July 17, Faith Treadway  
July 17, Jackson Wunker  
July 20, Chuck Loveless  
July 21, Jack Brandies  
July 21, James Ebel  
July 23, Wanda Bryan  
July 24, Dick Bailey  
July 25, David K Nelson  
July 25, June Ullman  
July 26, Charlotte Nelson  
July 28, Ellen Horn  
July 28, David Nelson  
July 29, Carol Bourdette

July 29, Charlie Henry  
July 31, Dawn McCollum

### ANNIVERSARIES

Gail & Pat Frankenburger, June 2  
Patty & David McKeeman, June 4  
Tami & Gary Estes, June 6  
Roberta & Luke Cain, June 8  
Jill & Scott Smith, June 14  
Susan & Ed Lamar, June 19  
Jean & Tom Ingram, June 20  
Dee & Bob Brookes, June 26  
Debbie & Doug Pace, June 26

Maria & Jeff Herman, July 1  
Emma & Colby Pike, July 5  
Diana & Jim Smith, July 13  
Luciana & Tim Abele, July 22  
Julia & Michael Berkau, July 24  
Lynne & Bob Hulen, July 29  
Joyce & Carl McCollum, July 29





First Presbyterian Church of Lake Wales  
 16 N 3rd St, Lake Wales, FL 33853  
 Phone: 863.676.0711  
 fpclw.org

## CHURCH OFFICERS

### ELDERS

#### 2023

Scott Crews  
 Doug Pace  
 David Falk

#### 2025

Tony Woods  
 Jim Underwood

#### 2024

Daniel Hunt  
 David Nelson  
 Andy Hunt

#### 2026

Stewart Hurst  
 Ed Lamb  
 Jimmy Seay

### DEACONS

#### 2023

Susan Coyne  
 Bob Hulen  
 Michael Matteson  
 Karla Campbell

#### 2025

June Ullman  
 Cindy Turner

#### 2024

Leah Gibson  
 Dan Miller

**Moderator:** Rev. Mackay Smith  
**Clerk of Session:** David Nelson  
**Chairman of Deacons:** Karla Campbell  
**Deacon Secretary:** Lea Gibson  
**Chm. of the Congregation:** Jim Weaver  
**Treasurer:** Michelle Hurst  
**Asst. Treasurer:** Daniel Hunt