



AUGUST 2023

ISSUE 23-8

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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Milestone Celebrations

Leadership

A RESOURCEFUL REFRESHER ON FAMILY WORSHIP

From Pastor Mackay

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. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
-Deuteronomy 6:4-9

As we settle back into our rhythms of the academic year, has your family considered its rhythm of family worship? The world around us is yearning for something secure. We must tell one another again and again of the solid foundation we have in Jesus Christ. Whether your house abounds with little ones, or you meet the Lord as an individual, here are a few reminders of resources that can help you as you seek the Lord at home.

Long Story Short and Old Story New: 10 Minute Devotionals to Draw Your Family Closer to God by Marty Machowski

Want a one-stop, sustainable, long-lasting family worship plan? This is it! Each volume (one moves through the Old Testament, the other the New) contains week after week of short, engaging lessons. Filled with illustrations and object lessons, they are detailed enough to simply read aloud, but open enough to include your own applications and ideas. (Personal note: With three young ones, the Smith family is loving this book right now!)

The Songs of Jesus: A Year of Daily Devotionals in the Psalms by Tim Keller

This devotional book moves through the entire Psalter over 365 days. Each day includes a Psalm reading, a short reflection, and a prayer.

The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name by Sally Lloyd-Jones

There are so many children's storybook Bibles out there, but many offer simply a quaintly illustrated collection of disjointed Bible stories. This can fail to engage the major themes of the Bible: creation, fall, and redemption in Jesus. Lloyd-Jones offers all of the above. Great illustrations surround understandable paraphrases of the Bible narrative. This is written for children, but adults will also love the experience of seeing the "big picture" of the Bible.

The Biggest Story by Kevin DeYoung

This is an even shorter summary of the Bible narrative, laser-focussed on the central storyline for God's redemption in Jesus. DeYoung has a gift of taking sin seriously (something that children's books often omit), but doing so with grace and hope. This book will keep your family's eyes on Jesus! It can easily be read in a single sitting, or divided into its component chapters.

The Trinity Hymnal Great Commission Publications

How many commercial jingles do you remember from your early days? Music aids memorization in remarkable ways. So, replace the tune about a neighborly insurance company with a song proclaiming God's mercy in Jesus, and you get a lifetime aid of remembering Bible truths. You should have a hymnal in your house! The one we use is *The Trinity Hymnal*, published by Crown and Covenant.

What Jesus Did: 31 Devotions About the Life of Jesus By Sinclair Ferguson

This daily devotional book can be read aloud with the family or used by an older elementary/teen for personal quiet time. Each day features a scripture reading and pastoral application from Dr. Ferguson.

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I'd love to talk with you about how the Smiths do family worship. We are far from perfect, and wiggly little ones always make things a challenge, but we pray God will bless our efforts, knowing from experience (and more importantly from God's Word!), that when a child is trained in the way he should go, he will not depart from it.

In Christ,
Mackay ■

PRAYER FOCUS

AUGUST 6 - Start of New School Year

AUGUST 13 - Adult Small Groups and Children's Sunday school

AUGUST 20- Evangelism

AUGUST 27 - Vince Treadway/Music Ministry

Discipleship

Wednesday
Night!
Supper and
programming
restarts on

September 6th!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

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

- The elders met in session on July 25 at the home of Jimmy and Julie Seay. Joining them were elders who are not currently serving on Session.
- A time of prayer was offered to God for many of our congregation.
- The session held a "draft" by which Shepherd Teams selected all member families of our congregation. The Shepherd Teams will contact each family at least quarterly by phone.

Pray for Myers McKinney

Our approved candidate for Associate Minister, Myers McKinney, will go before Florida Presbytery on August 15th. Lord willing, he will begin service with us on August 16th. Pray for Myers as he makes the transition and begins his ministry among us.



Music Ministry

MUSIC START UPS!

From Vince Treadway

Beginning Wednesday September 6

We are pleased to offer a full range of musical ministry opportunities for all! See the list below and consider how you can participate.

Musical Beginnings

Ages 0-3

Rachel Smith—teacher

Wednesdays 4:00-4:45; room 296

Covenant Kids

Ages 4-6

Vince Treadway—teacher

Wednesdays 4:00-4:45; handbell room

King's Singers

Ages 7-14

Vince Treadway—teacher

Wednesdays 5:00-6:00; choir room

Handbell Choir

Middle School, High School and Adults

Vince Treadway—teacher

handbell room Mondays 2:00-3:00

Large Vocal Ensemble

Middle School, High School and Adults

Vince Treadway—teacher;

choir room; Wednesdays 7:30-8:45

Middle School and High School Vocal Ensemble

Vince Treadway—teacher;

choir room; 2nd Sundays; 12:00-12:30 p.m.

Solos, Trios, Quartets, Instrumentals

Contact Vince Treadway to participate in any of these ensembles at vince@fpclw.org



Family Ministry

STUDENT MINISTRY UPDATE

From Walker Kirkpatrick

Hi all!

This summer has been a blast so far! I have been super encouraged, supported, and cared for by so many of y'all. There have been quite a few events since the last update, and quite a few more are in the works. In June, as you may know, FPCLW sent my brand-new bride and myself up to Bonclarken with 5 middle schoolers and the Hulens. It was a load of fun and a great start to both married life and this summer's ministry. Upon my arrival back in Lake Wales the youth began gathering for Youth Group meetings every other week, and having a few other events.

We are currently wrapping up our study of Philippians in Youth Group and planning out what ministry during the school year will look like. This summer the Youth had a Lake Day, a Movie Night, a Game Night, and we look ahead to a Pool Party, as well as a back to school event called Milk and Cookies! Be on the look out for more communication about events to come in the Bulletin and in the next copy of The Diligent.

Thank you all & God Bless!

Walker ■



SAVE THE DATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

- JULY 29** POOL PARTY
- AUG 11** MILK AND COOKIES
- AUG 13** YOUTH GROUP
- SEPT 10** DODGEBALL AND DEVOTIONS WITH ERSKINE COLLEGE





Children's Ministry

Sunday School Summer Break!

Children's and Youth Sunday School continues on hiatus through August.

Want to help? Contact Ed Lamb, chair of the Children's Council.

Our nursery remains open weekly.

MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS

Church Family

BIRTHDAYS

August 2, Dottie Bailey
August 2, Tom Freeland
August 3, Steve Sorensen
August 7, Shelly DiNunzio
August 7, Michael Kahler
August 7, Marie Steensma
August 8, Keith Steverso
August 10, Kathryn Bielawa
August 10, Amy Crews
August 10, Tom Kohl
August 13, Margo McCollum
August 12, Rory Brewer
August 12, Susie Bell
August 14, MJ O'Reilly
August 15, Ellis Hunt, Jr.
August 16, Lisa Portwood
August 17, Kathy Gibson
August 18, John Baust
August 22, Dan Miller
August 23, Shay Hixenbaugh
August 24, Nancy Ayers
August 24, Bob Hulen
August 27, Dave Falk
August 28, Alli Violette
August 29, Virginia Okie
August 29, Ryan Paros
August 29, Hayes Seay
August 30, Dick Miller
August 30, Cindy Nelson
August 31, Larry Oliszewski

ANNIVERSARIES

Faith & Vince Treadway, August 2
Dawn & Rob McCollum, August 8
Ashley & Jake Cockrell, August 9
Lori & Chuck Loveless, August 18
Ruth & Milo Miller, August 18
Ellen & Ronald Horn, August 19
Kay & Jim Weaver, August 20
Janice & Jack Brandies, August 22
Irene & Harry Nelson, August 23
Diana & Charles Schmidt, August 25
Julie & Jimmy Seay, August 27
Susan & James Ebel, August 29
Patty & David Falk, August 29



Back To School



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