



February Edition 2025

Even if you are like my mother, who could not tell you the difference between an extra point and field goal and her primary reason to watch the Super Bowl is to see the Clydesdales (Budweiser Commercial), she even knows this might be a historic night. The Chiefs are one “W” away from being the first team in NFL history to have a Super Bowl three-peat. In my opinion, the even more inspiring story is that despite the odds, the multiple injuries, the Chiefs have been clutch as the pressure mounts with each tick of the clock. In fact, they have won a NFL-record of 17 straight one-possession games dating to their 20-14 loss to the Raiders in 2023. Many of those games went down to one completion, one tackle, one kick, one block, etc. Kansas City’s star quarterback Patrick Mahomes put it best a few weeks ago when he said: “We somehow manage to put ourselves in a position to win at the end.” I agree, we need to be in position to win.

A new life began for Zacchaeus after his encounter with Jesus. Despite being too short and unable to see over the crowds, he was not going to allow his limitations prevent him from a chance of a lifetime. Zacchaeus did not seem overly concerned appearing foolish climbing a sycamore tree nor did he know the upcoming transformation that was about to happen in his life. However, first and foremost Zacchaeus put himself in a position to be seen, to be called, to be changed, and to be a blessing.

Fort Myers Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is positioning itself to be a shining light in the world! In fact, let me share three upcoming ways we have the opportunity to position ourselves to make a difference for Christ.

- First, generous giving and making a commitment by turning in a pledge card allows the church to operate at max capacity as we are a place to “connect to Christ and to one another.” This allows the leadership to best plan a budget that supports both previous as well as provide new, vibrant ministries to take place throughout the year. Generous giving allows the church to continue being a place to gather for worship, outreach, and fellowship. Also, generous giving allows us to be good, faithful stewards of the beautiful campus.



- Secondly, inviting friends, neighbors, (even Scouts) to worship and other activities enables the church to grow! Whether it’s a new believer to Christ or believer finding a home away from home, let us not forget the power of a simple invitation. According to the gospel, especially Jesus’ great commission, disciples make disciples. Next Sunday, February 9, will be our first Scout Sunday! Lions, tigers, and bears (oh my!) from Pack 217 will be joining us for worship. Not only will a few scouts wear their class A uniforms to serve as greeters, but also they will recite the Scout Oath and Law. The Scout Law is a set of principles that scouts

strive to live by each day that consists of the following: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrift, brave, clean, and reverent.

- Thirdly, outreach and serving will always be central in our flourishing church! This year we are bringing back the meaningful “Christmas Jar” ministry. On Sunday, February 23, Judy Hesse will share more about this ministry. The following week, on Sunday, March 2, you can stay after worship to watch the movie *Christmas Jars* and take home an already decorated Christmas jar. Throughout the year you put money in the jar, and during Christmas you anonymously give this to someone of your choice.

Truly we are the body of Christ. Let’s continue to put ourselves in position to shine throughout 2025 and beyond by being Christ’s hands and feet in the world! Let’s commit and give, invite, and always serve our neighbors! Or, as the Scout Oath begins “...I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country...” -Pastor Zach



Last Month's Prayer Request

(The weekly "FMCC Cross Connection" email contains the ongoing prayer list)

Anne Chisholm, back at Gulf Coast hospital with heart complications, Church Family

Joanne Griffin, recently moved to Kansas as well as fell and broke femur, Church Family

Harris Family, in the death of Kathy's mother, Bev, Church Family

Don and Family, mother-in-law has bladder cancer, Church Family

Kaiden, Shirley Runyon (grandson)

***update April and Chris Turton**, in the death of Chris' mother, Gaye Turton, Former Church Members

Bruce Morrison, praise for a successful A-fib procedure last week, Church Family

Benjamin Teruni, Asya (father)

Annalise, 8 year-old girl with serious illness, Linda (son's neighbor's daughter)

Carol Vickers, back and hip pain, Church Family

Bev Corum, rehab after fall, Kathy Harris (mother)

Patty, recent fall and ongoing ill health with dementia, Joyce (friend)

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

(Name Missing? Email the office.)

Linda Schneider	4 th
Bob Herbst	5 th
Bill & Linda Garlow	11 th
Rev. John Vickers	12 th
John Davidson	18 th
Judy Hesse	25 th
Lynne Morgan	27 th
Diane Bodanske	28 th



Welcome our newest member Jill Theos to Fort Myers Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



Special thank you to both Bob and Bruce who have been working diligently on property upkeep both inside and outside of the facility. Most recently we have had trees trimmed, garbage disposal replaced, and water heater installed. Also, FMCC is thankful to have a good neighbor in Miguel, as his company took down three dead palm trees free of charge.

Outreach Corner

Welcome Cub Scout Pack 217 for joining us on Scout Sunday Feb. 9th. Thanks to the people who helped in decorating the Christmas Jars in advance of giving them out. We did this a couple of years ago and have decided to bring back this vital ministry. We hope you stay after for lunch and join us for the movie "Christmas Jars." I am working on a few projects for this upcoming year. Stay tune for more information.

Blessings to all.
Linda lee (outreach chair)