

E-Blast News

Sep 20 to Sep 27 2020



News from Pastor Will.....

Dear Saints of FPC Arcadia,

As we move forward in this difficult time, too much seems changed. Old goals have been made meaningless - at least for a time. Outcome driven analysis is also warped out of usefulness. Events have impinged upon our lives.

But, we are not the first people to whom this has happened. We live on lands that hurricanes traverse. Our nation has been caught in wars and pandemics before. And, our faith has led us through before. In times like this we need to be very cautious about adopting goals and planned outcomes. But, we can hang on to our hope and we can give thanks for joy of deliverance we remember from the past. We can also hold onto the values that define us as a church - that is as one part of the body of Christ in the world. The values endure and they can help us determine where we are. They tell us where true north is, they orient us back to God and God's love in Jesus and God's presence as the Holy Spirit.

In these first sermons with you, I am looking to Scripture to articulate some of the values that, by the grace of God, may help us in the particular time.

On September 6th, I began with Jeremiah 29:10-14 and Matthew 26:26-30, focusing on the words "*the Lord says, 'I know the plans I have for you...'*" In those words I hear the assurance that the future belongs to God and we belong to God in that future.

On September 13th, I looked to Romans 14:1-12 and Matthew 18:21-35 to think about how God has freed us from the necessity of judging the innocence or guilt or faithfulness or love of other people. Judgment and vengeance belong to God alone. Our receipt of God's love is sheer grace, but it lays on obligation of grace upon us in how we treat others. We get to be a church where everyone is welcomed into the conditions of safety and no one is made into an 'other' and excluded.

The week, September 20th, I will look to Exodus 16:2-15 and Matthew 20:1-16. I am intrigued by the complaints of the Israelites in the desert against God and that God was generous with food despite their complaints. In the Gospel according to Matthew I am intrigued by the Parable of the Vineyard owner who sends workers into the vineyard at different times of the day but pays them the same. What value are we to get from these stories?

If we can be church faithful to the values we receive from Christ, we shall be who God calls us to be.

Yours in Christ's Service

Will

Attendance Last Sunday: 23

Offering Last Sunday: \$3,504.00

Year to date: \$ 136,354.76

Calendar Events: September, 2020

23rd 6:30pm Handbell practice

21st 5:30pm Session Meeting Pfrangle Hall

Church Mailing Address is:

First Presbyterian Church

20 N. Orange Ave.

Arcadia, FL 34266

SESSION

2020: Dave Bremer, Johnny Maassen, Mac Martin, Mary Ann Treadwell

2021: Beth Lyszak, Mitzie McGavic, Skip West

2022: Judy Kirkpatrick, Don Knoche, Jill Maassen, Bill Stander

ELDERS EMERITI

Margaret Way

David Holloman

Please call the office with updates for those on the prayer list.

Be sure to sign up for our Facebook page and **like** our page. Each day we post a scripture verse and we put up live services and events. We post pictures as well.

Also, visit our website www.firstpc.church we have information, pictures, services that you can listen to if you can't make it to church. If you have questions, or problems give me a call at the office. 863-494-4434.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WEBSITE

1. Type in www.firstpc.church
2. You will see the sermon on the main page now so just click on it.

Homebound Members

(Address provided so you may send a card)

Rita Banks: 5005 NW Royal Palm Drive Arcadia, FL 34266

Jerry Anderman: 1013 E. Gibson St. Arcadia, FL 34266

Norma Fisher: 1013 E. Gibson St. Arcadia, FL 34266

Robert Treadwell: 2052 NE Floridian Circle Arcadia, FL 34266

MISSION NEWS

BAGS and BOTTLES - please bring in your plastic shopping bags and empty prescription bottles for the Center for Needy. These can be placed in the Narthex.

Church Prayer List

FPC MEMBERS

Tom & Arlene Anderman, Rita Banks, Wayne and Marilyn Gallant.

FPC – FAMILY / FRIENDS

Alan Adams, Cheryl Baldwin, Quinton Campbell, Robert Campbell (MaryAnn Treadwells' grandson), Victoria Cross, Pam and Rick Dodd, Carrie Evans (Judie Neeleys' daughter), Roger Evans, Jane Hayward, Deborah Hughes (Wayne Naumbergs' daughter), Chester Johnson, Hanna Joy Lepianka (Rich & Jean Borsmanns' granddaughter), Keith Markey, Rusty & Robbie Mullins, Bobby O'Neal (Edith's friend), Holly Purvis, Ruth Ann Smith, Linda Summers, Laurie Sykora, Sherry Turner, Connie Underwood, and Landon Yoder.

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Curtis Clark, Julian Davis, Sean Davis, Curtis Johnson, Ryan Maassen, Brent Mayo, and Cole Overcash. If you have a military family member and would like to add them to our list, please call the church office at 494-4434



Notes from Genie:

Our special music this past Sunday Ellie played “Morning Has Broken” on her flute. It was beautiful. Ellie & Steve are so gracious with their talents. We wouldn’t be having “special music” if it were not for them. Of course we are so blessed to have Charles “Back at the organ” every Sunday!

This Sunday Gordon “Mac” Martin is going to play the guitar and sing “Letters to God”, his own composition. Hope you’ll be there to hear that and the excellent sermons Pastor Will is delivering every Sunday.

The handbell choir had our first rehearsal on Wednesday and will play very soon. Welcome to 2 new members Sue Maassen and Beth Liszak.

We are moving forward!

HANDBELL CHOIR

Had our first handbell rehearsal! It was great 2 new members Sue Maassen and Beth Litzak – they were both great!

We will be playing in October for a church service.

We're coming back!!

PRAYER

Let's all pray together "The Lord's Prayer" every day at 12 noon as one body in Christ in unison.

Call or email other friends in other churches.



September

- 4 Paulette Raschella
- 8 Mary Ann Treadwell
- 9 Muriel Hall
- Linda Hollingsworth

- 13 Maybelle Lebbert
Edith Wildt
- 21 Arlene Anderman
- 22 Meghan McGuigan
Michael McGuigan
- 22 Ken Pepper
- 26 Jerry Nathe
- 28 Richard Borsmann



- 6 John & Joann Burtscher