



“Go Deep With God” Vacation Bible School

by Jen Buce

Children’s Ministry Coordinator

The week of June 11th through June 15th, 2012 from 9 a.m. until noon, we are bringing an underwater adventure to your children at our VBS, Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep with God! Your children will become divers-in-training at Operation Overboard as we plunge into God’s Word and discover stories of faith.

After a high energy opening at Ocho’s Cove, divers make their way to the Underwater Passage. On day one, our divers will learn to Depend on God; on day two, they learn to

Dare to Care; on day three, our divers Claim Jesus. Divers on day four Choose to Follow and on the last day they learn How to Change the World! The children will expand on what they discover as they participate in a variety of activities along the way. Each day they will visit Aquatic Arts, sing music at the Coral Reef, play games at the High Tide Hang Out and enjoy tasty snacks at the Divers’ Diner.

Are you ready to take the plunge? The cost for the week is a suggested donation of \$30. For more information, please contact Paula Hare at 276-6338, ext. 23 or by email paulahare@covad.net. I can’t wait to take a swim and Go Deep with God and you! ❖

Holy Week Worship Opportunities

**Palm Sunday Worship Services
in the Sanctuary
Sunday, April 1st – 9 & 11 a.m.**

**Holy Week Music and
Meditation
in the Sanctuary
Monday, April 2nd through
Friday, April 6th
Noon until 1 p.m.**

**Maundy Thursday Worship
Service
in the Sanctuary
Service of Communion and
Tenebrae
Thursday, April 5th
7:30 p.m.**

**Easter Sunday Worship Services
in the Sanctuary
Sunday, April 8th – 9 & 11 a.m.**

Youth Sunday



by Rev. Aaron Janklow
Associate Pastor

Many thanks to all of the youth who participated in Youth Sunday! It was a wonderful morning of worship, as the youth pointed us towards God with their messages, drama, dance, music, and the honest and sincere ways they used their talents to give glory to God. It was a meaningful service as we experienced the love of God at work in our church and youth group. ❖

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Mack's Message

by Rev. Dr. Mack Sigmon
Interim Pastor

Easter Joy

As we approach the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, I would like to take a moment to make the distinction between Easter “joy” and Easter “happiness.” In our culture, sometimes the word “happiness” is confused with the word “joy.” If we think about the celebration of Easter from a “holiday” point of view, there are many ways that we seek to make our celebration a happy event. Children will color eggs and receive Easter baskets. We will see images of the Easter bunny, (and share some chocolate ones) while many families and adults will travel to their favorite vacation spot for the Easter holiday (since we live in a wonderful vacation spot, we may have to come up with an alternative destination.) While Easter is, thankfully, not as secularized as Christmas, our culture will still seek to drain every bit of “happiness” that it can from the celebration.

But if we, as believers in Jesus Christ, carefully read and open our hearts to the Easter story, we will discover that Easter is about joy, and joy requires a different journey, a journey quite different from the one to happiness. On that Sunday morning following the crucifixion of Christ, the mood among the apostles and the disciples was anything but happy.

Can you imagine the emotional state of the women as they journeyed to the tomb to anoint Jesus’ body, as required by the Jewish tradition? When they arrived at the tomb, now open, and heard from the angel the good news of Christ’s resurrection, the gospel of Matthew states that they left the tomb quickly filled with “fear and joy.” Isn’t that an interesting combination of emotions? Would we ever join the emotion of fear with emotion of happiness? They are polar opposites. So how can joy and fear be experienced by the same heart? Christ had told His followers that He would return to them from the tomb. I’m sure the women did not allow themselves to even grasp that hope until they ran from the gravesite. Joy and hope are inextricably linked. The fear mentioned in the story was from experiencing something that no human had ever experienced – not the resurrection, but what the resurrection affirmed – that Jesus Christ was truly the promised Messiah.

Until that Sunday, most of Christ’s followers probably experienced hopelessness and despair. No one had ever returned from death, and though Jesus had made this promise, it was one beyond human comprehension. But from the astonishing news from the angel to the women to the other disciples, hope grew in the hearts of those who believed in Jesus, and from that hope grew a deep and profound joy.

From that morning on, the apostles and the disciples would face many unhappy days. Christ’s followers would be persecuted by their culture, isolated by their families, and rejected by many who were insulted or infuriated by their story and their faith. Even among themselves the followers of Christ would experience

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Church Staff

Mack Sigmon, D.Min.
Interim Pastor

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Pastor Emeritus

Aaron Janklow, M.Div.
Associate Pastor

Jo Garnett, M.C.E.
Associate for Senior Ministries

Donald J. Cannarozzi, M.M., J.D.
Organist / Director of Music

James K. Poch, S.M.M.
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If you or a family member are hospitalized, please notify the church office. Even if you give the name of the church upon admission, the hospital will NOT notify us.

Winter Mission Trip to Immokalee



by Rev. Aaron Janklow

Associate Pastor

From February 17th through February 20th, seven youths and three advisors traveled across Alligator Alley to Immokalee, Florida where we worked with I Hope, an organization established by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance after Hurricane Wilma. In Immokalee, we installed peel-and-stick flooring in a trailer, helped with a local children's church program, constructed kitchen cabinets, and moved materials from one of I Hope's storage trailers to their newly established central location. Thanks to Jen Buce and Emily Schreck for joining us as advisors. As we always do, our group worked hard and we all had a great time. I look forward to going back! ❖

"Deacons' Corner"

by Siena Del Mastro

Change is something that we are all accustomed to. Change is something that happens on a weekly or sometimes on a daily basis. However, when it comes to the introduction of new people and new systems, we aren't as willing to become a part of this thing called "change."

Why? Why is it so hard to accept new people? Although there may not be anything that is necessarily wrong with the person, we are very slow to move out of our comfort zones to allow someone else to enter them. As humans, we are subject to daily routines and when they are

broken, we get a little freaked out. For example, when I drive to school in the morning there are two possible roads I could take; there is one that I prefer taking. However, when we go the other way I get a little antsy because I'm afraid that I'll be late. I'm not ready for that change and it has caught me by surprise.

Which road are you going to take? Are you willing to make that change or do you want to stay in the small confines of your comfort zone?

In the upcoming months, we as a church family need to ready ourselves for a vast amount of change. With a new pastor arriving and new leadership of the Deacons and Elders, we need to be open to seeing

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unhappiness, as we read in many of Paul's letters to the church.

But for 2000 years, Christians have had a source of joy that overwhelms the ordinary ups and downs of life. Our joy is our faith in the resurrection of Christ and

the promise that we will join Christ in the resurrected kingdom. When all else in this world fails, we can go to the Word of God and discover the joy that transcends this mortal life – a joy that makes this mortal life sweeter and more meaningful. If we celebrate Easter from

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

by Rev. Aaron Janklow

Associate Pastor

On Sunday, March 4th in Fellowship Hall, the youth hosted our Second Annual Spaghetti Dinner. We hope that everyone who attended enjoyed the great food, quality service by the youth, and the opportunity to share a good meal with others from our church and community. Perhaps you even made an entire night out of it by attending the piano concert in the Sanctuary immediately before the dinner. Thank you to everyone who helped and all of those who attended or made donations. Thanks to the youth and their families who prepared the food. Due to their contributions, all earnings will go to our Youth Mission Fund. ❖

things go different ways. If we are so narrow-minded as to not let change occur, then it will not be a happy place for anyone. However, if we all accept new leadership with open arms and hearts and look at things objectively, I'm pretty sure that we will continue to have a happy and healthy church. ❖

our faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, we will experience the deep and eternal joy from knowing that Christ is always with us and, when our purpose on earth is complete, we will be always with Christ. What deeper joy can there be, ever?

Have a joyful Easter! ❖

Presbyterian Women's Tea

On Friday, February 24th, the Presbyterian Women hosted a Tea at the St. Andrew's Club. Some seventy women enjoyed a traditional Tea Party with a wonderful program of music by violinist, Mei Mei Luo. ❖



Attention all Easter Egg Hunters



The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Palm Sunday, April 1st, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service. Bring your whole family to this fun-filled event. ❖

Remember the Church when Estate Planning

Our Endowment and Remembrance Funds are two excellent opportunities for your giving consideration, be it your will, stocks, or as a named beneficiary of an insurance policy. This financially wise method of stewardship helps ensure the long-term financial stability of the church and provides a planned means for the church to continue its role in the lives of our members and those to whom we reach out, in our community and beyond. For more information on long-term giving, call the church office (276-6338). ❖

Confirmation Sunday, April 22nd

by Rev. Aaron Janklow

Associate Pastor

Beginning in October and continuing throughout the year, the confirmation class has met in the Youth House almost every Sunday night, learning about the Christian faith and how to live as disciples. We have talked about revelation, the Bible, the Trinity, mission, worship, the PCUSA, First Presbyterian Church, and much more. To finish up the year, all the confirmation students have been asked to write one to two page faith statements. These faith statements are honest writings about their faith and how they understand God. Some questions that might be answered in their faith statement are:

*What do you believe about God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit?
How do you see God at work in your lives or in the world? How has faith helped you? How have you felt God and what can you do to strengthen your relationship with God? What are some of your favorite pieces of Scripture and why? What are some ways that you will live out your faith (worship, mission, spiritual practices, etc.)?*

Our confirmation students this year are Carley McNall, Bennett Morgan, and Bailey Warren. We have had great discussions about the Christian faith this past year, and I am looking forward to their continued involvement in the life of the church as they grow as Christian disciples. ❖

Holy Week Music and Meditation

Come to the Sanctuary for personal prayer and reflection from Monday, April 2nd through Friday, April 6th for Holy Week Music and Meditation from noon until 1 p.m. Our pastoral staff, Dr. Sigmon, Rev. Janklow or Rev. Garnett, will read Scripture from noon until 12:15 p.m. Our organists, Don Cannarozzi and Jim Poch, or guest organist, Alan Cook, will then play appropriate music from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. Take advantage of this opportunity to deepen your spiritual involvement during Holy Week in preparation for Easter. ❖

Maundy Thursday and Tenebrae Worship Service

The Maundy Thursday and Tenebrae Communion Service will be held on Thursday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Communion will be served.

The service of Tenebrae, meaning darkness or shadows, has been practiced by the Church since medieval times. Join us as we walk with Christ with music and Scripture through the seven events of Good Friday.

At each stage, a light will be extinguished until only the Christ candle remains. The Christ candle will be carried into the Sanctuary on Easter morning as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. ❖

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Sunday Morning Worship Services

9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Please join us on Sunday mornings as we worship the Living God together.

Church School

Adult Church School 10 a.m.

Education Hour Sunday School 10 a.m.

Worship Hour Sunday School 11 a.m.

Youth Fellowship 5 p.m.

