

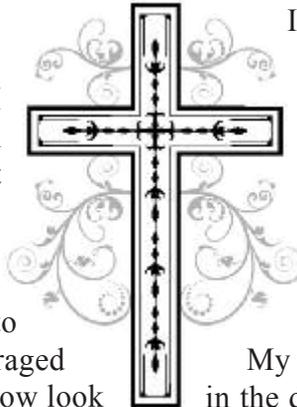


## Kellen Smith's Ordination Service

*by Kellen Smith*

It is with great joy and anticipation that I invite you to my ordination service on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church has been my faith home for as long as I can remember. It was during a worship service at the church when I first sensed a call from God to ministry. I have felt truly loved and encouraged over the years as I explored my call and I now look forward to celebrating the culmination of this journey with you.

In May, I graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. In particular,



I want to thank you for your prayerful and financial support while I have been in seminary the last three years. Seminary was an enriching time of formation and I am now ready to serve Christ in a new context and role.

I am humbled to have accepted a call as Associate Pastor for Youth, Their Families, and College Ministries at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania.

My wife, Sarah, and I feel that the Spirit has led in the discovery and discernment of this wonderful opportunity. It will be exciting to begin working towards what God has in store for my ministry with that congregation.

With love and gratitude, Kellen. ❖

## Ready for an Adventure of a Lifetime



*by Jen Buce*

Are you ready to soak up some fun? Vacation Bible School is June 6th through June 10th, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Children ages 3 through incoming 5th graders are encouraged to participate.

This year's theme is **Pandamania**. We will be learning how God created us, how He listens to us, how He watches over us, how

much He loves us and all the great gifts He gives us. It is going to be a bamboo blast! Kids will discover that God is wild about them; a fact that will change them forever! Pandamania is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch and even taste! Bible oriented crafts, team building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the activities that help faith flow into real life. Be sure to send your children in play clothes and closed toe shoes since they may get a little messy. We will help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—

something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

Registration forms are available in the church office. The cost for the week is a suggested donation of \$30. For more information, please call Paula Hare at 276-6338, ext. 23 or email her at paulahare@covad.net. I can't wait to take a walk on the wild side with you! ❖

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# A New Adult Small Group

by Rev. Aaron Janklow

As part of our ongoing effort to offer more learning and fellowship opportunities here at First Presbyterian Church, we had a brainstorming and planning meeting this past month for the formation of a new adult small group. This idea was born out of a desire to see more opportunities similar to TnT, our Twenties and Thirties group, but for all ages. We are thankful for those who participated in this initial meeting and have expressed interest, and we want the entire congregation to know that you are invited to be a part of this group. The specifics of the group are still being worked out, and will largely be determined by the group, but opportunities for prayer, study, and fellowship will all be included. This will happen through meetings not just here at the church, but through social opportunities as well. While open to all adults, it is also a priority for this group to be a possibility for those who work during the day. Therefore the group will be meeting on a weeknight that they determine best (with the possible exception of some social activities that can happen anytime). If you are interested in this group please contact me at aaron-janklow@covad.net or at 276-6338 ext. 13. ❖

## Mission Outreach Update

by Jeanne Heavilin

Co-Chair, Mission Outreach Committee

Once again thank you for your generous support, this time for the One Great Hour of Sharing, supporting the many ministries of this church.

We are still working with some of the families you assisted, and continue to assist, through our Christmas Eve Offering. You have provided Takelia with treatment for her gum disease and new teeth, a computer for Johnny as he starts a new business, a used car for Lakeshia so she can secure a second job, a mobile home for the Guevara-Cervantes family and rental assistance for the Josephs, coping with cancer surgery for Roselaine a few weeks ago. You have also provided food, furniture and household goods for these and other families who are doing all that they can to get back on their feet again.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

*And if you would like to assist the Mission Outreach Committee assist the community and coordinate mission projects, please join us. For more information, contact Jeanne Heavilin, Co-Chair at 901-8714 or jheavilin@bellsouth.net. ❖*

### Celebration of Eternal Life...

**Our Deepest Sympathy** as a congregation is extended to the families of the following members upon the death of their loved ones:

- Margaret Comstock – November 28, 2010
- Earl Teske – April 20, 2011
- Jeanne Papp – May 17, 2011

## Church Staff

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.  
*Associate Director of Music*

Jen Buce  
*Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Nancy Fine  
*Office Manager*

Christine Davis      Paula Hare  
*Accountant*                      *Secretary*

Aaron Strippel      Rita Avery  
*Head Custodian*                      *Custodian*

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## The Spire

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Tim Knapp

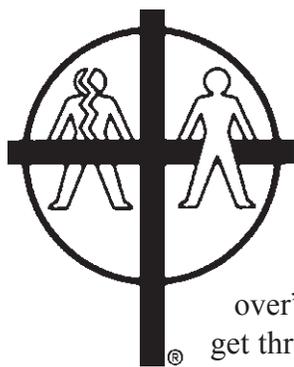
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Barbara Vanderkay

SPECIAL THANKS:  
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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.**

# Stephen Ministers



by David Fellows

How long does it take to “get over” a loss and what can we do to get through the grieving process?

The news of Osama bin Laden’s death has once again focused our attention on the events of September 11, 2001. Frequently, the media will ask the families that lost someone on that day, ten years ago, how it feels now that bin Laden is dead and if this has helped them to achieve closure. The responses are not surprising. Christopher Santora was a 23 year old firefighter when the tower collapsed on him. His mother, Maureen, told the reporter, “There will be a hole in my heart until the day I die.” Charles Wolf, who lost his wife Katherine in the World Trade Center, responded, “The idea of closure is something that really, really ... it doesn’t exist, to tell you the truth.”

Mr. Wolf’s words ring true. While the intense pain of the loss may have passed, the reality of the loss is still there. The wound may have healed, but the painful, irritating scar will always be there as a permanent reminder. To expect the effects of the loss to totally go away is an unrealistic, unhealthy expectation for both the griever and for the person wishing to support them. We never totally “get over it.” All we can truly hope for is to get through it.

So how can we do that? For the griever, the most important thing is to not isolate yourself, but to reach out to others who can be positive supports; you talk

and they listen. Check with your doctor to make sure that the stress of the loss has not affected you physically. Be kind to yourself. Volunteer your time to help others who are dealing with their own personal crises to shift your focus off yourself. The French have a saying: “To suffer passes; to have suffered never passes.” So seeking out others, or finding a support group for those with similar losses can be especially helpful.

How can we best support others? First, what not to do. Most importantly, avoid platitudes. Proverbs 25:20 advises us not to “sing songs to a heavy heart.” We can’t kiss it and make it better the way our mothers used to do. Don’t give advice, try to minimize their pain, give them a grieving “timetable,” or speculate about what God’s intent was. If you can’t handle their pain, be humble enough to admit that to them and let them know that you will pray for them and support them from afar.

So what can we do? In Where is God When It Hurts, Philip Yancey observes, “The first step in helping a suffering person (or in accepting our own pain) is to acknowledge that pain is valid, and worthy of a sympathetic response.” Next, be present! Paul said in Romans 12:15, “Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep.” The single most important thing we can do is to share another’s grief by being a compassionate listener. By validating their feelings, and being an attentive listener while they talk, we are opening the door for God to lead them through the grieving process. This is one of the things that Stephen Ministers are trained to do. ❖

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## Women’s Monday Book Group

by Linda Prior

The Women’s Monday Book Group has taken a break for the summer and will resume in November. They meet the first Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Christian Learning Center from November through April.

Everyone is invited to join the discussion and are encouraged to note the dates and titles of next season’s selections. For more information, contact Linda Prior at 330-0245. ❖



**November 7, 2011**

Cutting for Stone

by Abraham Verghese

**December 5, 2011**

Half the Sky by Nicholas D. Kristof

**January 2, 2012**

The Orchid Thief by Susan Orlean

**February 6, 2012**

The Pickup by Nadine Gordimer

**March 5, 2012**

The Postmistress by Sarah Blake

**April 2, 2012**

Wench by Dolen Perkins-Valdez

# “Deacons’ Corner”

## How Well Do We Know Our Deacons?

by Siena Del Mastro

This year, new Deacons were introduced to the big family of Deacons. Aside from the occasional “hello” or call from your designated Deacon, perhaps you don’t really know that much about them.

Okay, so it’s quiz time. How well do we know our Deacons? There are four new Deacons who will be introduced here. However, as time progresses, there will be other new Deacons introduced in future articles. I asked them a few things about themselves such as: What do you want to accomplish as a Deacon? What is your main goal for being a Deacon?

The four Deacons are Lynda Avampato, Anne Gaudree, Olivia Gaudree, and Joanne Greedan. Let’s

start off with Lynda.

In her time as a Deacon, Lynda wishes to join the flower committee and to deliver the flowers to nursing homes. She wants to spread the word of Jesus and to be a witness or to show what Christianity is all about. Lynda works full time and she attends an online college, studying to become an expert in Criminal Law and counsel to youth. She also has a medical degree.

Anne Gaudree is next. Anne is on board with her daughter, Olivia, and she said that the best bit is that they get to work together. She wants to meet more people in the congregation and hopes to be helpful to those in her flock. Anne wants to spread the word of Christ. I asked her a random question as well. What’s the weirdest food you’ve ever eaten? Her response was cow udder and chicken feet.

Next is Olivia Gaudree. The weirdest food she has ever tried is

goat. As a Deacon, she wishes to get closer to the church and community and to become closer to God. She would like to join the greeting card committee. Olivia is also one of the youngest people ever to serve as a Deacon.

And lastly, we have Joanne Greedan. She wants to get to know her flock better, most of whom live in Abbey Delray so she can easily visit them. As a Deacon, she wants to help with the traditional Christmas tree in the Narthex. She wants to get to know more people in the church. Joanne was actually a Deacon before (approximately six years ago). She has also been a Deacon in two or three other churches.

I hope you have all gained a little insight about some of our new Deacons. Tune in for the next article on our new Deacons. Spread the word of God this month! ❖



## Children's Corner

by Jen Buce  
Children's Ministry  
Coordinator

June is the month to celebrate Fathers! Sons and fathers love to pal around and see a sports game or fish, but there is nothing like the bond between a father and daughter. Girls look up to their fathers with adoring eyes while sons look at their fathers ready to take on the world. I’ll be the first to tell you I am a daddy’s little girl, even at my age. My father has always been surrounded by girls in his life; three daughters, a wife, and two granddaughters. The only male companions in his life are his son in law, and his best friend, Rocky, the family cat. As we grew



up, my father taught my sisters and me how to play all the sports he excelled in, and expected us to play just as well. He may never have had boys, but he had girls that knew how to throw a football and swing a bat. One of my favorite things to do with my Father is talk about sports.

Fathers think of their girls like delicate flowers and are especially protective of them. On the other hand, fathers and sons have more of a best friend relationship; someone to play ball, talk about girl prob-

lems with, and always to have on their side. Through the years, Fathers will give great advice even when we don’t want to hear it.

Fathers do know best! On June 19<sup>th</sup>, tell your father how much you love and appreciate him. I know I shall. ❖

## Prayers Wanted for this Summer's Youth Mission Trips

Please keep the youth and their advisors in your prayers as they embark on this summer's youth mission trips. The Senior High students and their advisors will be doing carpentry work at a local church, painting the local entry to a school and possibly working on more projects for local homes in Portland Jamaica from June 25<sup>th</sup> through July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Middle School students and their advisors will be working at a food pantry as well as assisting/visiting elderly members of the Kirk of the Keys Presbyterian Church in Marathon, Florida from July 5<sup>th</sup> through July 7<sup>th</sup>.

## News from the Senior Pastor Nominating Committee

*by Kathy Smith*

To assist the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), Session was advised by the Presbytery of Tropical Florida to conduct a Congregational Mission Study. 47% of the congregation filled out the Mission Study questionnaire and the results have been professionally analyzed by Simple Survey Solutions and extensively reviewed by the PNC. Thanks to everyone in our congregation who took the time to participate in this very important research into the life of our church. In the next *Spire*, there will be a report about the results.

The Senior Pastor Nominating Committee has used the Mission Study results to create the Church Information Form (CIF). This CIF document outlines specific details of the characteristics we seek in our next Senior Pastor.

The PNC presented the CIF to Session on May 17<sup>th</sup> for their approval and then to the Presbytery of Tropical Florida Committee on Ministry for acceptance and approval on June 2, 2011. The CIF will then be posted on the national Presbyterian website to notify characteristic-matched, qualified candidates of our open position.

Your PNC is following the specific process of calling a Senior Pastor required by the Presbytery of Tropical Florida. The process takes time to complete these important steps as required but we are on schedule. The PNC will be receiving and evaluating Pastor Information Forms (PIF) and resumes as they come in over the summer and will report to the congregation as progress evolves. We appreciate everyone's input and support in the important process of finding our next Senior Pastor. ❖

## Church Improvement

*by Barbara Vanderkay*

The Holly House ladies are still meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month as they wait for their new home to be ready. There are projects to be worked on and suggestions for new items are proposed and discussed as coffee, tea and snacks are enjoyed. Do join us if you can.

We are glad that the City of Delray Beach keeps close tabs on all construction projects and considers the enhancement of our city, but we are eager to get our new Holly House up and running. Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, brought us good luck as that was the day that the Bronson House was finally demolished, a vital link in the chain of construction events, on which

everything depends. We can expect more visible progress soon.

There is a planning committee led by Bob Teninga, comprised of Shirley Kay, Regie Moorcroft and Mary Jane Sickel. Bob has been most diligent in following the surprising number of details involved in this job. He is not letting any small thing fall through a crack. What the city wants, the city gets. Bob is right there expediting the process, making sure the various contractors have up-to-date information, for example. All this work is really appreciated.

We'll stay cool and calm and the new Holly House soon will be a reality. ❖



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## Sunday Morning Worship Service

**10 a.m.**



### *Our Sunday worship services are now streaming online!*

Watch when you are out-of-town, away at college or when you are not feeling well enough to attend.

Keep connected even when you can't be here. Simply request a "ticket ID" from Nancy Fine in the church office 276-6338, ext. 10 or [nancyfine@covad.net](mailto:nancyfine@covad.net) so you can log onto [www.SundayStreams.com](http://www.SundayStreams.com) to view our Sunday services. ❖