



# 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 \$25. 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! ❖

## Summer Mission Trips



*by Rev. Aaron Janklow*

*Associate Pastor*

This summer, we have two exciting mission trips scheduled for the youth. They have had meaningful experiences on our past mission trips, and this summer we are excited to offer more wonderful opportunities for our high school and middle school youth to know the love of Christ as we serve others.

Our High School Mission Trip will be to Portland, Jamaica where we will be doing carpentry projects at a local church, painting the entry of a school, and possibly working on more projects for local homes. In addition to our work

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### One Worship Service at 10 a.m.

Starting **Sunday, May 1st**, we will begin holding only **one** worship service at **10 a.m.** Check the Sunday Bulletin for education class schedules. We will resume two services in November.

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projects, we will be interacting with their congregation and the youth in the area of Portland through worship services and planned activities with the youth. We have sixteen people participating, including me and two adult advisors.

I am also excited to announce our Middle School Mission Trip to Marathon, FL, July 5th through July 7th. We will be sleeping at the Kirk of the Keys, a PCUSA church. Service projects currently include working at a food pantry, assisting and visiting elderly members of their congregation, and planned worship and fellowship with the youth of Kirk of the Keys. More service opportunities are being explored. The cost of the trip is being determined and will be announced shortly, but we hope all current middle school youth will join us for this great trip.

To get the latest and most recent updates regarding any of our youth programs, please email Rev. Aaron Janklow at aaronjanklow@covad.net and asked to be added to our youth email list. As a member of this list you will receive weekly reminders and updates. ❖

*We need your support!*



**COLLECTIONS ARE BEHIND LAST YEAR!**

**Receipts through March**

	2011	2010	Shortfall
Pledges	\$153,000	\$186,000	\$33,000
Other	\$63,000	\$79,000	\$16,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$216,000</b>	<b>\$265,000</b>	<b>\$49,000</b>



## Offering Envelopes

We need to place our order for offering envelopes for 2012. Please inform Christine Davis (276-6338, ext. 16 or christinedavis@covad.net) by May 15<sup>th</sup> if you would like to receive offering envelopes for 2012.

## 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 <i>Accountant</i>	Paula Hare <i>Secretary</i>
Aaron Strippel <i>Head Custodian</i>	Rita Avery <i>Custodian</i>

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## The Spire

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SPECIAL THANKS:  
*Printers Choice*

**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*

It must simply be another God thing. I've been trying to get the inspiration to write an article on grief for this month's Spire and have been stuck in neutral due to my monthly case of writer's block.

Then I got the call. My good friend Ray died yesterday. I think I previously shared with you that he was the Best Man at my wedding and the very first person I called on after completing my Stephen Leader training. I don't think I've ever met such a kind and gentle person. Although he had been ill, it is still hard to believe he is gone. SAY IT ISN'T SO! Another grief experience begins as I enter into the first phase of grieving - - - Denial.

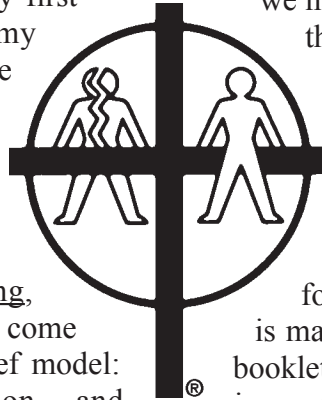
In her book, On Death and Dying, Elisabeth Kubler-Ross identifies what have come to be recognized as the five stages of grief model: Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, and Acceptance. Whether it is the death of a spouse, the death of a pet, the loss of a job, the loss of health, financial loss, the loss of old friends from moving away, or the loss of a minister and his family through retirement, all of these losses can cause us to experience various intensities of grief.

How convenient it would be if we could chart our way through the grief journey knowing that we would travel through each stage in sequence and knowing ahead of time how much time we would spend in each one. But God's design dictates that we must each travel our own path. For some it is a straight line, for oth-

ers a meandering course with frequent twists and turns, but for many it is a frustrating process of two steps forward and one step back. We are told that the grief process generally takes between two and three years. But in actuality we never really finish the grief journey. The pain of the loss will reside in us forever as will the many joys and happy memories that made the loss so painful. Reaching the stage of Acceptance does not mean that everything is OK. Rather it means that we have integrated the loss into our life in a way that allows us to also remember, appreciate, and be grateful for the many blessings that preceded it.

One of the services Stephen Ministry provides is to support members of our church family who have lost a loved one. During the first year after the loss a series of four booklets titled *Journeying through Grief* is mailed out to them at different intervals. Each booklet is designed to help them understand the issues that confront them at that particular time in the first year of their grief journey. They are designed to help the grievers make sense out of how they are feeling and to understand what is "normal" in the grief process.

Stephen Minister Pat Phillips manages this special mail-out program and stays in touch with the booklet recipients throughout the year. Perhaps no other Stephen Ministry service provides as much positive feedback as this one. In future *Spire* articles we will take a closer look at the first year grieving process as it relates both to the grievers and to those who would like to support them. ❖



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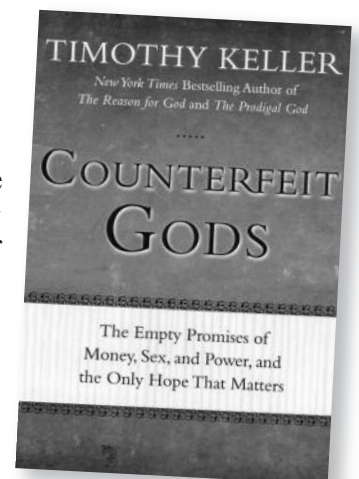
## TNT - Twenties and Thirties

*by Rev. Aaron Janklow*

*Associate Pastor*

TnT, our twenties and thirties group, continues to go strong and we will continue to meet the first and third Wednesdays throughout the summer. We are currently reading Counterfeit Gods by Timothy Keller. We are blessed with a great group of young professionals and always welcome new comers.

Last month we had a bowling and dinner night which was a lot of fun, and will be doing more fun, social gatherings in addition to our regular meetings. Anyone in their twenties and thirties is always welcome to join us! Contact Rev. Aaron Janklow, aaronjanklow@covad.net, to be added to our email list which sends out weekly reminders for all of our events. ❖





# Children's Corner

by Jen Buce

Children's Ministry  
Coordinator

## Mother's Day



On May 8<sup>th</sup> of this year, we will once again celebrate Mother's Day. One day out of the year set aside to honor all mothers for their unrecognized 24/7 service to their families. I could write a book on how special my mother is. As we get older, the more I believe we begin to understand and appreciate everything that they have done for us in our lives and will continue to do forever. Let's face it, kids are not always angels; I will be the first to admit it, but that never stopped my mother from unconditionally loving me and believing in me. My mother always wanted the best for my sister and me and she gave her all in doing so. She instilled the best morals and values in us and believed in a strong faith background; this came

from her mother as well. Now my sister has been blessed with two girls of her own and is able to instill the same morals and values that were taught to us. I am not a mother yet, but God has blessed me throughout my life with many children in it. I helped raised two boys until they left for college and am still part of their family. I'm very close to my nieces, I'm pseudo Aunt Jenny to many of my friend's children and I spend three hours every Sunday with your children. I thank God for those opportunities all of the time!

One of the Ten Commandments is to "Honor your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you." Children should always respect their mother and remember how much she cares and loves them! They are her number one concern; always. Mothers, I wish you a very Happy Mother's Day and hope that your children spoil you on this day. ❖

## "Deacons' Corner"

by Siena Del Mastro

Hi everyone. I'm Siena Del Mastro and I am one of the new Deacons here at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Florida. Not only am I a new Deacon, but I am one of the youngest Deacons ever in the history of the church. Olivia Gaudree is one of the youngest Deacons as well. As I am four months younger than Olivia, I am the youngest ever. I take this as a great honor, to take another leap of faith to help serve God, through the congregation.

It has been an exciting month for Olivia and me because it was our first month ushering. I find it so incredible that I got to meet people, just by opening a door for them. By the end of my Deacon career, I bet that I will know about everyone in this church. I love talking to our church family because everyone is always so friendly and encouraging of everything we do.

When I was first asked to be a Deacon, I was shocked. I was definitely not expecting a job like this. However, I found that God was calling me to do this job and that something good was going to come out of

this. He was right. I have had such a fun time ushering and have felt God's Presence every time I am walking down the aisle, carrying the offering.

Being a Deacon, you have to find the proper outfit; the white pants or skirt, the white shoes, the white shirt, the blue blazer. However, this is no easy task. For some reason, these clothing articles are not that common in regular stores like Ross or Macys. Throughout the adventure of trying to find the uniform, I got a lot of time to talk with my mom, since she was the one always driving me around. It was fun to go shopping with my mom and just talk to her.

Finally, we prevailed, and we found my uniform, not in Florida, but in California. I went on vacation to California on Spring Break and my mother, grandmother, and I decided to go shopping at Ross. Just as we were about to give up, I saw a blue blazer hanging on the rack about a foot in front of me. I think it is hilarious when you don't see something that is right in front of you.

Anyway, this article is coming to a close and I have had such a wonderful time ushering and being a Deacon. I can't wait to see what's in store for me in the coming months. ❖



# Meet Your Deacon Sunday Was A Success !

*by Richard Schaublin*

Meet Your Deacon Sunday was held on March 20th. Led by Committee Chairs, Judy Hodge, Miriam Kalett and Maryann Assad, the team of Deacons once again produced a food and fun-filled event. Following each worship service on March 20th, congregation members filed into Fellowship Hall to meet their Deacons and enjoy food that was prepared and provided by the Deacons. Many different things from pasta and sandwiches to dips and desserts were available with little left over at the end of the day. It is truly a fun sharing event each year that is part of our church calendar. As a Deacon, I am pleased to take part in these programs, see the smiling faces and witness the congregation come together. Mark your calendar for March 18, 2012 and join us for next year's Meet Your Deacon Sunday. These are the things that make our church a special place. See you next March! ❖



## Church Improvement

*by Barbara Vanderkay*

At long last it seems that the plans for the new Holly House have crystallized, and there will be a permanent home designed to our specifications to contain our various departments under one roof and on one floor, completely wheelchair and walker accessible. The shelves won't require tall ladders and there will be movable dividers to change the sizes of the various areas as required.

The building will have a steel frame and shell, covered by stucco, with a metal roof similar to others nearby, such as the new Seagate building across Gleason Street. The structure will be made at the Texas factory and shipped here with a crew to erect it. It will be an attractive addition to our church campus, taking the place of the old Bronson House, which will

be demolished very soon. The new Holly House will be sited partly on that location, but extending toward the south, as far as the gates.

The new building will contain over 3,000 square feet of custom-planned work spaces. Double doors will ensure accessibility for large items like display racks as well as for people in wheelchairs. Regie Moorcroft led many hours of discussion before this design was chosen. You will be kept up to date on this important project. It won't be long now!

In the meantime, lest the workers get too involved in other endeavors, there will be morning coffee klatches on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Participants are asked to bring samples of possible items to be made for the November Holly Days Bazaar. There may be some small things that can be worked on during these get-togethers. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Please join us. ❖

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

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This newsletter is available online at [www.firstdelray.com](http://www.firstdelray.com). If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of this newsletter, please email Nancy Fine at [nancyfine@covad.net](mailto:nancyfine@covad.net).

## Sunday Morning Worship Services

Sunday Morning Worship

**10 a.m.**

Friends and Fellowship

**9 a.m.**

Education Hour Sunday School

**9 a.m.**

Youth Fellowship

**5 p.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. ❖