



# Church Banner

On Thursday, September 10th, Aaron Strippel, with the help of Tim Knapp, Chair of the Communications Committee, hung a new banner on the front wall of the church. The banner asks passersby to join us in worship and church school as well as announcing the church's phone number and website address. The 12 foot by 4 foot banner, which is lit nightly, is a visible invitation to everyone who sees it. ❖



## TnT - Young Professional Group

*by Rev. Aaron Janklow*

**TnT, standing for Twenties 'n Thirties**, is a brand new group which seeks to build community and relationships among young professionals in and around Delray Beach, while studying, exploring, and growing in faith. I am very excited about this group and also very optimistic about what it may mean for both our church and our community.

Each week, this group looks at different elements of the Christian faith, drawing most heavily from Scripture, but also from traditional and contemporary theologians, authors, and pastors, as well as from our own understandings and experiences. This format not only allows new participants to join us at any time, but also to become a part of an on-going conversation. No matter where you are in your walk of faith, we invite young professionals in their twenties and thirties to join us.

We meet the first and third Wednesday of every month at the church in the Christian Learning Center, and have frequent social gatherings in and around Delray Beach. If you have any questions, or to be placed on our email list, contact me at aaronjanklow@covad.net. ❖

## Teacher Training

*by Rev. Aaron Janklow*

On Saturday, August 29th, teachers for children and youth, as well as those interested in volunteering with our educational programs, met in Fellowship Hall in preparation for the upcoming school year. During this time, we reviewed teaching techniques, learning styles, and the curriculum that will be used each week. Thank you to all those who volunteer their time to work with our children and youth! This church offers numerous educational opportunities for people of all ages, and this would not be possible without these volunteers. If you are interested in participating, contact Denise Gomez (276-6338, ext. 17) or by email at denisegomez@covad.net, or me at 276-6338, ext. 13 or by email at aaronjanklow@covad.net. ❖

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# Reflections...

Theodore A. Bush, Ph.D., Senior Pastor

## "Next to Nothing or Something Meaningful?"

When I was in college, I parked cars at a corner lot in downtown Chicago (Wells and Van Buren to be exact). I worked evenings at the old main Post Office downtown and weekends in the parking lot.

I discovered that you can learn a lot about people by parking their cars. I saw young and old alike get into accidents at the corner stoplight. After awhile, I started to rate which cars were built to survive being hit hard in the rear bumper and which ones didn't fare so well.

One day, while parking a nice lady's new car, I panicked when I thought that I broke her steering wheel. It took me awhile to realize that it was a collapsible wheel that some cars had just started to utilize. Was I relieved!

More than anything else in the car parking business, one quickly discovers what people are really like by what they tip you. Some would give you next to nothing. Others would give you a generous tip.

Ever since I entered the ministry some 40 years ago, I have noticed how many people seem to carry over these same patterns of giving when it comes to Christ's Church. Some people give very generously. Many give somewhat nominally. Still others give next to nothing or nothing at all! I have come to view the giving of many people as "tipping" God.

Such "tipping" has nothing whatsoever to do with a person's economic status. What usually generates each person's giving to the Church is how seriously they view their responsibility as disciples of



Christ and as members of Christ's earthly Body. Perhaps even more importantly, what also motivates people to give to God is a grateful heart. How grateful are you?

Over time, I have come to both appreciate and be humbled by the depth of personal commitment of so many people who financially support Christ's Church. I also have been saddened by the limited giving habits of others who could do so much better than they are doing now and know it. For whatever reason or reasons, they just won't give what they are capable of giving.

Quite frankly, this congregation could reach and even exceed its pledge goal if all of us just took our giving more seriously. In my opinion, what needs to happen is for people who have the financial means to be motivated to support Christ's Church first, even putting it ahead of other worthwhile causes.

I share this only with those who can do much better than they are doing now and know it. My comments are not intended for those who only have the poor widow's mite to give. As Jesus describes it, the poor widow's mite is viewed by God as a true gift of gratitude from the woman's heart. It is something to be imitated by all Christians.

Soon, the stewardship season will be upon us. When it comes, many people will give generously because they view themselves as being blessed. Others will give reluctantly, if for no other reason than to get this annoying seasonal process out of the way. Still others will run for cover trying to escape and avoid any personal responsibility.

## Church Staff

Theodore A. Bush, Ph.D.  
*Senior Pastor*

Aaron Janklow, M.Div.  
*Associate Pastor*

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

Linda Harper, M.Div.  
*Parish Associate*

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

James K. Poch, S.M.M.  
*Associate Director of Music*

Denise Gomez  
*Volunteer/Staff Coordinator for Children*

Nancy Fine  
*Office Manager*

Christine Davis  
*Accountant*

Paula Hare  
*Secretary*

Aaron Strippel  
*Head Custodian*

Rita Avery  
*Custodian*

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## The Spire

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*Printers Choice*

Among which group will God find us this year? Think about how you will answer this question when the opportunity is offered you to support the work of our congregation. While you are at it, you also might ask yourself whether or not you are giving next to nothing or something meaningful to God and to Christ's Church? ♦

# New Orleans Revisited

*by Jeanne Heavilin, Chair, Mission Outreach Committee*

**New Orleans is not okay!** This is the message we heard repeatedly during our recent mission trip back to New Orleans. The French Quarter and downtown business district look pretty much the same as they always did, but the rest of the city does not.

Bob and Shirley Kay along with Jeanne Heavilin joined five others from the Presbytery of Tropical Florida for a week of rebuilding there; four years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast. The three of us had been there in 2006 when two crews from this congregation volunteered to help demuck and demolish.

Progress has been made: most of the debris has been removed, many homes have been restored or rebuilt, the worst sections of the Lower Ninth Ward have been razed and new, "green" houses are being built. But there is still much work to be done and many, many homes yet to be rebuilt. Estimates are that it will take another three to six years, conservatively, to finish rebuilding.

We worked on a home in the Lower Ninth Ward, owned by Mark and Kim Ward. They just settled with their insurance company in March of this year! Many others are still negotiating or fighting their insurance companies so they can start the rebuilding process. The Wards are natives – New Orleans is their home. They had relocated to Fort Worth, Texas until their insurance was settled and they could return to New Orleans. With the assistance from Project Homecoming, a local agency providing financial assistance to homeowners, they are finally able to rebuild.



*Shirley Kay, Homeowner Kim Ward and Jeanne Heavilin with a cross that their crew made for the Wards.*

Their home had been demucked by the time we arrived. We spent five days in hot, hot weather (think Florida in August with no trade-winds!) putting up concrete siding. Kim and Mark and their daughter, Chris, were so appreciative, they hosted and prepared dinner for us at Olive Tree, the permanent volunteer village operated by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance which was our home for the week. They talked about what used to be and what they can now look forward to with volunteer help. Kim said that she thought they had lost everything until she realized that with Jesus in her life and her family, she has all she really needs. That is faith!

We attended an ecumenical church service for volunteers one evening. The following poem was read as part of the service and we want to share it with you. Written by a Katrina survivor on the Gulf Coast to extend her gratitude to the thousands of recovery responders and volunteers making recovery possible, she speaks for thousands:



*Bob Kay checks the last area which needed siding installed.*

## THEY CAME

With warm hearts, they came.  
With open arms, they came.  
With helpful hands, they came.  
With tools and toys, they came.  
With bottled water, they came.  
With loads of food, they came.  
With free medicine, they came.  
They left their homes, their jobs and their families.  
They saved our lives and they healed our wounds.  
They fed our hungry and they brought our clothes.  
They cleared our land and they opened our roads.  
They carried our burdens and they gave us strength.  
They held our hands and they felt our pain.  
They dried all our tears.  
They showed compassion.  
They calmed our fears.  
They raised our spirits.  
They rebuilt our homes.  
They rebuilt our schools.  
They taught our children.  
They showed their faith.  
They planted our gardens.  
They raised our businesses.  
They restored our lives.  
They renewed our souls.  
They touched our hearts.  
They are called our heroes.  
They are our volunteers.  
They became our friends.  
No one asked them, but still they came,  
They gave us courage to start life again. ❖

# Church Improvement

by Barbara Vanderkay

Summer is officially over and now the Holly House workshops are going full speed on the homestretch with the goal of the Holly Days Bazaar looming ever closer. **Friday, November 13th** and **Saturday, November 14th**, ushered in by the church members' preview on Thursday, November 12th, leave very few work weeks for the Holly House crafters. All women of the church and their friends are welcome on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. to help us wind up the preparation for our biggest undertaking of the year.



Don't forget to bring in your unwanted costume jewelry SOON, so it can be priced and ready to sell at that very popular table. Many of these articles can be appropriate small Christmas remembrances.

As you probably recall, a large number of both women and men are always needed the week of the bazaar to tote and carry, set up tables and arrange displays beforehand. Salespeople also are in demand for the sale days. Please plan ahead to join in the final effort. Sign-up sheets will be available in the coming weeks. Last but not least, please remember our food table and contribute home-baked goods or preserves if you can do so.

Although there is a lot of work, we look forward with pleasure to helping with the bazaar. Many hands do make light work! ❖



## Deacons' Corner

by Kim Winker

**Blessing of the Pets  
Deacons' Scholarship Fundraiser  
October 25th**



*"All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures."*

*St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Animals*

Get ready to commemorate our furry, feathered and finned friends. The Board of Deacons is planning an unusual benefit for its scholarship fund that will be fun for the whole family, including our four-

legged family members.

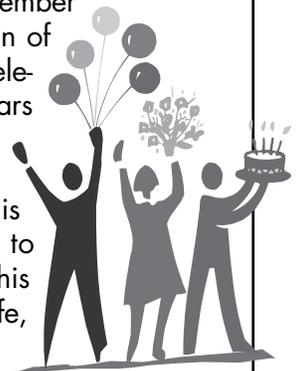
Join us Sunday, October 25th at 4 p.m. in the Courtyard for a Blessing of the Pets worship service to raise money for the Deacons' Scholarship Fund. Bring your pets for this special service and blessings led by Rev. Janklow. All pets must be on a leash or in a carrier, container or cage. If your pet has other plans and cannot make it, bring a photo of him or her. Children's stuffed animals are also welcome!

Blessing of the Pets is a worship service conducted by many churches each October in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. A \$10 donation for each pet is suggested. Please contact Deacon Alexandra Harris at 276-1998 to see how you can volunteer for this event. See you there! ❖

## "Twenty-five Years!"

### The Theodore Bush 25th Anniversary Committee

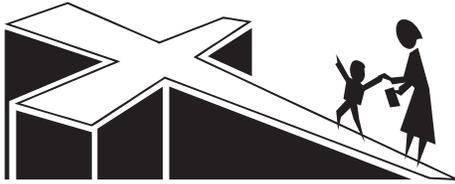
On Sunday, November 8th, First Presbyterian of Delray Beach will celebrate twenty-five years under the pastorate of Dr. Theodore Bush. An event is being planned to honor Dr. Bush and his amazing family; wife, Mary, daughters Beth and Jenny and, their beloved son, Teddy. The gathering is planned for Fellowship Hall following the 11 a.m. worship service. This milestone event will also be recognized at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services on the same date. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this celebration. ❖



# 15th Anniversary C.R.O.S. WALK

*(Christians Reaching Out to Society)*

*by Becky Knapp*



Please join 300+ walkers on Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach for a 3.1 mile/5K intra-coastal walk. This is great for families and fellowship. Wagons and strollers are welcome. Walk, run, or jog in the main event on Sunday, October 11th at 3 p.m. (transportation can be available) or walk on your own if you cannot make the October 11th date. (Beach & Mall walking count!)

This is the sole C.R.O.S. fundraising drive to feed hungry people in Delray Beach through The Caring Kitchen and the Community Food Pantry. Each walker is asked to raise \$80 in pledges, which will provide 60 meals at the Caring Kitchen or 682 sandwiches for the After School Snack Program. It also will provide food for one person for 62 days from the Community Food Pantry. In commemoration of the C.R.O.S. WALK 15th anniversary, organizers suggest a donation or pledge to a walker in the amount of \$15, although all

donations are appreciated. Corporate sponsorships offered at levels ranging from \$250-\$2500, please contact Becky



Knapp to obtain a sponsorship form: Deadline is Sept 25th. Sponsors are announced and recognized on a banner at the Walk, and listed in C.R.O.S.' newsletter, mailed to over 6,300 homes and businesses.

Last year our congregation had 30 walkers participate and raised \$3,927. Let's do it again this year and help make a difference. Stop by Fellowship Hall after the worship service on September 13th, 20th or 27th and sign up to walk or make your donation.

The C.R.O.S. Walk meeting location: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 211 Trinity Place, West Palm Beach. (Exit Okeechobee

East, to Chase, turn left, North; Park in the church parking lot or nearby). The walk begins at 3 p.m., rain or shine. If you need transportation, please contact Becky or Tim Knapp at (498-8995) or [bjknapp@bell-south.net](mailto:bjknapp@bell-south.net). ❖

## Green and Lean

*by Linda Prior*

7.55 % of our members and friends are receiving *The Spire* by email. Help us cut costs and save a tree. We can use our dollars more responsibly. To join the Green and Lean program and receive your copy electronically, send your e-mail address to the Nancy in the church office, [nancyfine@covad.net](mailto:nancyfine@covad.net).

By the way, the weekly church calendar, the youth group monthly calendar, the weekly bulletin and *The Spire*, both current and past issues, are on our website [www.firstdelray.com](http://www.firstdelray.com). Check out the site for information about our programs. ❖



**Church  
Improvement  
CHECK YOUR DATES:**

November 13th and 14th are the **Holly Days Bazaar** days this year. Workers are wanted Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please come, bringing your extra costume jewelry for the workers to check and price early for the bazaar. ❖

# Back to School Bash was a Success!

by Becky Knapp

In preparation of the Christian Education Event "Back to School Bash" held August 22nd, Becky and Miles Knapp, along with our own Aaron Strippel, tore into the overgrown landscape at 71 Bronson Avenue, aka The Gathering Place, to give it a new, upgraded look. After eight hot hours of pruning, sawing, digging, raking, dumping and then another nearly eight (even hotter) hours of moving dirt, laying groundcover cloth, installing 30 feet of retaining walls for six yards of river rock, more shoveling, spreading, leveling, and finally the added touches of new potted plants, a patio umbrella, chaise and chair cushions; our work improved the property and increased the usability of the outdoor space by extending the pool deck. Oh, you do know we have a pool there, right? The Gathering Place is the perfect location for church members of all ages to meet and enjoy Florida's sub-tropical climate, and now it is a truly beautiful space to meet, greet and to appreciate all of God's wonderful work.



Temperature-wise, late August may not be the ideal month for many, but the children swimming in the pool at the Gathering Place's Back to School Bash did not mind a bit! In addition, many non-swimmers of all ages attended the potluck and BBQ kicking off this year's Christian Education programs, the new school year, and further welcoming Rev. Aaron Janklow to our church family. Burgers, hot dogs and beverages were supplied, and the attendees brought a delicious assortment of appetizers, side dishes and desserts; enough to feed the crowd of 40+, and then some! On display were the Christian Education's Sunday Schedule for 2009-2010, the Youth Ministry Calendar and sign-up sheets for Youth Group dinner rotations. Although the skies threatened, the weather held off (and even cooled down a bit) making the afternoon a grand success. Our event benefited from being the trial run for the church's new pop-up tent, covering some 10 feet x 30 feet. It was erected to the south of the pool and patio, across the sidewalk and ran east-to-west along the southern end of the property, which more than doubled our space! We could have easily served another 20+. Thank you to all who attended, those who cooked, baked, helped set up, helped clean up, but most importantly: visited. It was a great day of fabulous fellowship! ❖

## Meet-the-Teachers Event

by Alice Barrett

Following the worship service on August 30th, parents, children and youth had the opportunity to meet and talk with their teachers in our Christian Education programs. It was good to see so many of you there. Also available at this event in Fellowship Hall were



Sunday morning schedules, curriculum overviews, sample lesson plans, registration forms, and goody bags for the kids.

On Sunday, September 13th, summer recess ended and teachers and students gathered again for a new year of learning and fun. Our teachers are happy to see everyone back! They also welcome any newcomers who wish to join in at any time during the year.

There are classes for all ages. After the Children's Time during the worship hour, *Bible Bunch* continues for preschool and Kindergarten children and Sunday School is held for Grades 1-5. After church, there are five classes, as follows: Preschool-Kindergarten, Grades 1-5, *The Reason* for grades 6 and up, *Friends and Fellowship* and *The Sunday Forum*.

Come join your friends and have a great time! ❖

## Celebrations 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:

Helen Royster - September 1, 2009  
Mary Alice Pugh - September 2, 2009  
Lee Stanley - September 9, 2009  
Polly Marquis - September 12, 2009 ❖

# A New Choir Season

## Begins October 1st

by Jim Poch, Associate Director of Music



**Kids' Choir** is for Pre-Kindergarten (four-year old) through third grade. We rehearse Thursdays from 4:30 to 5 p.m. to learn Sunday songs, major parts in the Christmas Pageant and a special Palm Sunday celebration. Please join us!

**Youth Singers** is for grades four and older. Throughout October, we will incorporate our singing into the Youth Fellowship meetings, which begin at 5 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. Don't miss this opportunity for fun, fellowship, food, AND music!

**Carillon Ringers** is for grades 4 through middle school. We rehearse Sunday afternoons from 4 to 4:30 p.m. Please call Jim Poch (276-6338, ext. 24) to pre-register. Rehearsals begin Sunday, November 1st (Note the change from the previous start date).

**Westminster Ringers** (for adults and high-school



youth) rehearses Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:20 p.m., starting October 29th.

The bell choir will ring in worship every 4-6 weeks through April. In order to use our full five-octave set of bells we need several additional ringers. Some of our "veterans" will gladly

mentor new members as they develop their skills. Please call Jim Poch (276-6338, ext. 24) to pre-register.

**Chancel Choir Rehearsals** (for adults) rehearses Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings. Speak with Don Cannarozzi about adding your voice to our choir.

If you have any questions about any of these musical opportunities, please contact Jim Poch at 276-6338, ext. 24. ❖

**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.**

## World Communion Invitation

**October 4th  
10 a.m.**

*From east and west, from north and south, people will come and take their places at the banquet in the Kingdom of God. Yes, and some who are now last will be first, and some who are first will be last." (Luke 13:29-30).*

We come to Christ's Table aware of our human frailty and our sin. Our world has been shattered by selfish prejudice and foolish pride. We also come knowing that God's healing love can restore wholeness and welcome us home.



At Christ's Table, we are made one with Christ and one with each other. We also are united with the Church in every time and place. The unity of the Lord's Table is a sign of the unity that God wills for all of creation. From Christ's Table, we can go out with joy as witnesses of God's love to work for the healing and the reconciliation of God's world.

Join Christians around the world at the great celebration. Take your place at the Lord's Table on Sunday, October 4th, 10 a.m. and know the feeling of what it is like to be one with Christians everywhere. ❖

*The Community Church by the Sea*

33 Gleason Street, Delray Beach, Florida 33483

## Sunday Morning Worship Service 10 a.m.

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

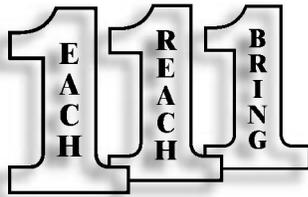
Adult Church School 11 a.m.

Children's Sunday School 10 a.m.

Children's Church School 11 a.m.

Middle School Youth Fellowship 5 p.m.

Senior High Youth Fellowship 6 p.m.



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).



## First Presbyterian Church Golf Tournament

*by Linda Prior*

Invite your friends and neighbors to participate in this fall's First Presbyterian Golf Tournament on Friday, October 23rd, at 2:30 p.m., at the Lakeview Golf Club on Dover Street. You can meet new partners or form your own team. Come early to enter a 50-50 putting contest for \$5. During registration, each player may purchase up to 3 mulligans at \$1 each. An Italian buffet supper will follow at 6 p.m. The cost for golf including gratuity is \$23. The cost for supper is \$10. Golf clubs may be rented for \$10. People who do not play golf are welcome to attend the buffet supper. Winners from the tournament will be recognized at the dinner. Reservations will be taken in the Courtyard following the worship services on October 11th and October 18th, or you may call Linda Prior at 330-0245. Reservations must be made by Monday, October 19th. ❖

## Do you have...

Sports equipment (balls, bats, Frisbees, etc.) lying around that you aren't using? If so, the youth of our church would love to have you donate them to use during their fellowship time. You may drop off your donations in the back of the Narthex on Sunday morning or bring them to the church office during the week. ❖

