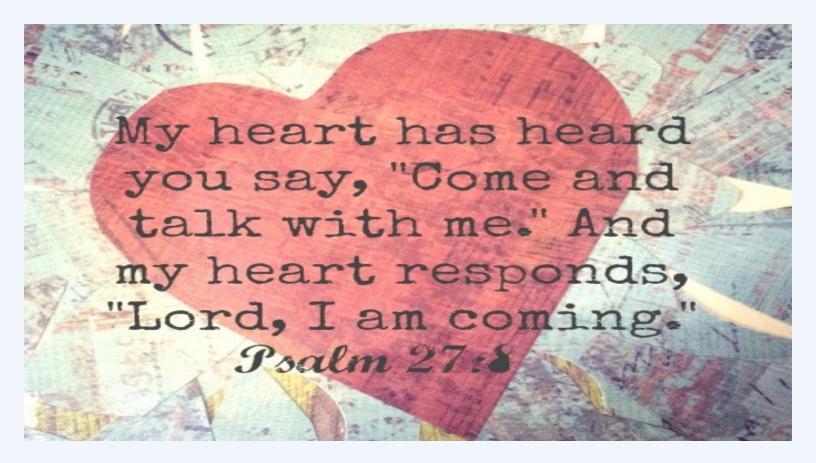


lutzcommunitychurch.org



Our desires impact our lives. Our strongest desires shape our lives. There are compulsive desires that have a way of taking us over until, even against our better judgment, we start organizing our lives around them. Virtually any aspect of our life can become compulsive: eating, drinking, health, exercise, work, physical appearance, sports, sex. None of these is bad in itself, but each one has the potential for excess. Such excess can take us away from God.

The Christian faith teaches a great truth about desiring: God desires us to desire him. This truth has been described in many ways throughout the Christian tradition. In Scripture: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your mind, and all your soul, and all your strength." St. Augustine: "You have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless 'till they rest in you." The Westminster Confession: "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." And, the truth has been described in this way: there is a "God-shaped void" that God has created in us, in order to draw us to himself, a void that only he can fill.

The desire for a heart-to-heart talk with God spoken of in Psalm 27:8 (quoted above) has been the great passion of God's people throughout the ages. They tell us to remember that God is not distant, requiring of us a long and difficult journey to find him, but rather that God is, as Augustine said "Closer and more intimate to us than we are to ourselves." We are sought by God long before we seek him, and when we begin to find God we realize that God has already found us.

To even consider the possibility of a heart-to-heart talk with God is to acknowledge the reality of grace. While grace takes many forms, it is always given by God as a means of drawing us to himself. Whether we are drawn to him through family or friends, a life event or what has been described as "the providence of the right book at the right time," the desire for God is itself a gift given to us in love. Ours is not a God who would coerce us into desiring him, but one who is humble enough to repeatedly invite, appeal, and even plead with us.

I hope you will take the time this fall to respond to our Lord's invitation to "Come and talk with me."

Blessings,

Pastor Jody



Meet Eden, our new office administrator! Eden is a life-long Land O' Lakes native who has recently graduated with her Associates of Arts from Pasco Hernando State College and will pursue a BS degree in Business Administration. She is so excited to help build the Kingdom and share her unique skills with the Lutz Community Church family! In her free time, Eden is a singer/songwriter who has dedicated her talent to inspiring the youth of Pasco County through the Great American Teach-In platform. She regularly performs her original music at the Straz Center and the Seminole Hard Rock in Tampa as a "Live & Local" performer. She has been blessed with the opportunity to tour and perform in Manila, Philippines as well. She has two EPs available of iTunes, Google Play, Amazon, Spotify, and Apple Music. When she is not performing her music, Eden is represented by Level Talent Group and Benz Models and Talent for her modeling and acting aspirations. Having been raised in loving and faith-driven family, she looks forward to joining Lutz Community Church!

#### Club is back!

We cannot WAIT to see all of you!



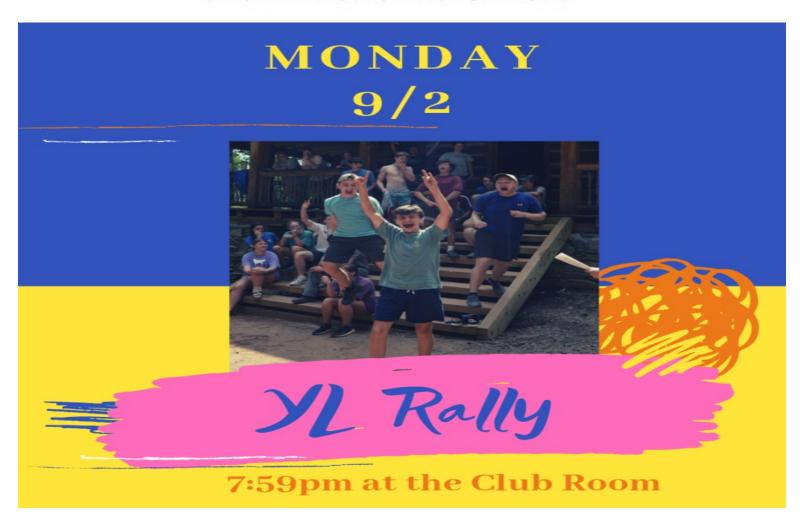
#### Young Life Club Kickoff

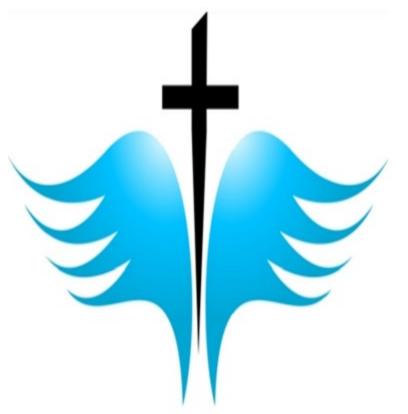
Monday, September 9th @ 7:59pm

### WyldLife Club Kickoff

Friday, September 13th @ 7pm

(drop off 6:30pm, pick-up by 8:30pm)





## Our local homeless need **YOU!**

Do you want to join a Faith in Action Street Ministry team? Do you know someone who does?

Week One team

desperately needs more
helping hands!!

### Faith in Action

Contact a Weekly team leader to join their week's team:

Week One – first week of the month

Shirley and Marc Knapp 813-713-2395

marc.j.knapp@gmail.com shirleywknapp@gmail.com

Week Two – second week of the month Sherry & Jim Hays 813-909-7314

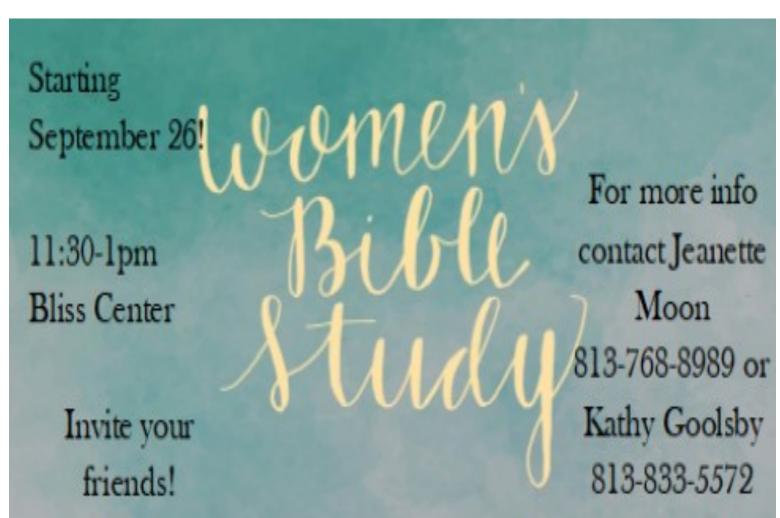
shays@gte.net

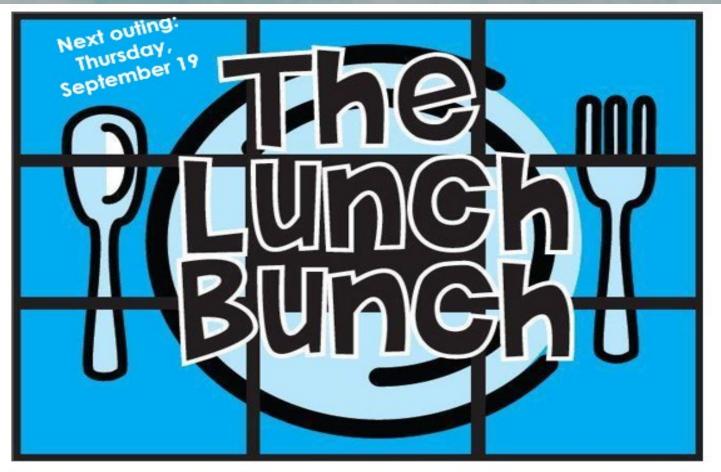
Linda Shanks 813-394-1363

Ilwshanks@gmail.com

Week Three – third week of the month Jeanette Moon 813-765-8989 jeanette.61@hotmail.com

Weeks Four & Five - Fourth & Fifth Week of the month Alayne & Chuck Berkins 813-240-0239 or 813-220-9609 arberkins@gmail.com or ccberkins@gmail.com







#### Who says you can't do exercise?

Come join a group of members and non-members for free, keep fit, enhance balance, strengthen core and all around good vibes!

We meet twice a week- Mondays and Thursdays at 3pm for 1 hour of fun and exercise. I know when I leave there, no matter

what kind of day I was having, I'll be laughing and feeling good. Honest. Come try us out and borrow our equipment. For those with limitations, we've been adding a bit of chair exercises too. As with all physical endeavors, check with your doctor! I can give you a brochure.

Check our Facebook: Lutz Exercise Angels and please LIKE US!

Let Kathy, in first service, or Teri (or Sue-who's pics you see above) in second service know if you are interested in joining our Exercise Angel crew. Or drop me an email.

EA Cheerleader, Teri-949-5713 Teri@Lutzcc.org

PS We also sponsor Teddy Bears for those in the hospital-stay tuned for our next drive/<u>dedication</u>, last Sunday in October (28th). Keep an eye out for brand new (tags attached) soft Teddy's less than 15" that do not have holiday trimmings.

## TEDDY BEAR DRIVE

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

### OCTOBER 28

WE WILL BE COLLECTING NEW
TEDDY BEARS TO DELIVER TO
OUR LUTZ CC FAMILY THAT ARE
IN THE HOSPITAL/HOSPICE!
YOU CAN DROP OFF BEARS
ANYTIME TO THE CHURCH
OFFICE BEFORE OCTOBER 28!
NO HOLIDAY BEARS, PLEASE.





We will continue the EVERY FRIDAY WORK DAYS 8 AM - 10 AM. We will also have two or more GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION/REJUVENATION DAYS. Look for the announcements of exact Saturdays in the LCC weekly e-mail and announcements at Sunday Services, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Peace,

Ardell O'Neal



# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### 8

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Lisa Pennington 9/1

Joe Whitacre 9/1

Sue Whitmore 9/7

Nancy Ferguson 9/8

Margie Boger 9/9

Kathy Schwanebeck 9/11

Adam Balic 9/12

Gayle Gordon 9/13

Ron Bauer 9/15

Joe Jacobovitz 9/18

Jane Miller 9/21

Sarah Randles 9/21

Jeff Geurink 9/22

Tony Waters 9/22

Jack McCarthy 9/23

Emma Bauer 9/24

Kayla Stanley 9/26

Clayton Hanson 9/27

Jillian Adams 9/29

Renee White 9/29

Mike Zern 9/29

Kevin & Jillian Adams 9/2



Check out what's going on around the church with our live time calendar!

http://lutzcommunitychurch.org/calendar

