



## Dialogue with Danny: Play Your String

Do you want contentment but find it elusive? Do you feel like you are at your last string and just holding onto it with desperation? Don't be discouraged. In our covetous culture, genuine contentment is rare. But while you may not have everything you want, nothing can lift your spirit and give you joy like knowing you have everything you need to be happy. Philippians 4:11 says, "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. To learn lasting, biblical contentment that applies "in whatever situation," you need to do three things.

1. Seek contentment as a lifestyle. Choose it. Acknowledge that you would not be happier if you had more. In truth, you'd likely be more miserable. God's Word contains clear warnings for us: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:25). "But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction" (1 Timothy 6:9). More does not equal happier!

2. Cultivate the capacity to say, "I have enough." Let those words ring through your home. Push yourself back from the table early and say, "I've had enough." When you handle money—a surprise bonus from work, an inheritance from your great-aunt, even just an extra bill in your pocket. Resist the cravings for more. Follow the words "I have enough" with the prayer: "Lord, how can I use this for You?"

"I have enough" runs counter to our culture, but there is victory in this idea. So even if you don't fully believe it yet, decide to trust God's provision and say, "I have enough." The trust of contentment is like the trust we exercise at conversion: I don't know if this will change my life, but my own thing is not working. Lord, if you're real, come into my life and forgive my sins. That's a salvation breakthrough. Have a sanctification breakthrough, and say by faith, "God, I have enough." Let those words ring from our churches and our homes and our cars and our trips to the mall.

3. Don't set your heart on the things you have now or back then. Psalm 62:10 advises us, "If riches increase, set not your heart on them." Here's the challenge: choose a lifestyle; don't let your income dictate your lifestyle. Identify a comfortable level of living that meets your needs, and do not compromise that with increased spending when more income arrives.

### Inside this issue:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| March Birthdays    | 3 |
| Presidential Note  | 3 |
| Community Missions | 3 |
| Fellowship         | 4 |
| Spring Craft Show  | 4 |
| World Missions     | 4 |
| Easter Offering    | 4 |

## Dialogue with Danny *continued*

If you don't choose a lifestyle, this culture will choose one for you; and by default, it will be the lifestyle of living beyond your means. Be counter-cultural! Be radical! Choose a lifestyle that's biblically based; eternally focused; others-oriented. Let enough be enough. Learn from the examples of those around you (both the contented and the covetous). You will save yourself a world of hurt and know the joy of a truly contented attitude.

Niccolo Paganini, a colorful and gifted violinist of the nineteenth century, was standing before a packed house, playing through a difficult piece of music. A full orchestra surrounded him with full support. Suddenly, one string on his violin snapped and hung limply down from his instrument.

Beads of perspiration popped out of his forehead. He frowned but continued to play, improvising beautifully. To the conductor's surprise, a second string broke, and shortly after, a third. Now there were three limp strings dangling from Paganini's violin as the master performer completed the difficult composition on the remaining one string. The audience jumped to its feet and in good Italian fashion filled the hall with shouts of "Bravo! Bravo!"

As the applause died down, the violinist asked the people to sit back down. Even though they knew there was no way they could expect an encore, they quietly sank back to their seats. He held the violin up high for everyone to see. He nodded at the conductor to begin the encore and then turned back to the crowd. With a twinkle in his eye, he smiled and shouted, "Paganini and one string!"

After that he placed the single-string Stradivarius beneath his chin and played the final piece on one string as the audience shook their heads in silent amazement.

Our lives may very well be filled with troubles, worries, and disappointments. Frankly, we spend too much time concentrating and fretting over the strings that snap, dangle and pop and the things that can't be changed!

Are you still agonizing over your snapped strings in life? Is the one string that you are left with being played out of tune? If so, may I encourage you to look not back, press on, and start playing the single string again. Let it yield a sweet, winsome melody that the world needs so desperately. You can if you will.

**God Bless from Pastor Danny**

**I** have baptized you  
with **WATER;**

but he  
will baptize you  
with the

**HOLY  
SPIRIT.**

Mark 1:8



## Ladies Lunch Bunch

You're invited to lunch Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 pm at Johnny's Italian Restaurant, 2907 S. R. 590 (Coachman Rd.) Clearwater. All women of the church are welcome. Please sign up at the table in the Gathering Place. Contact hostess Sharon.

## Music Notes

Do you love to sing? Have you ever thought about joining us in the choir loft? Now's your chance! April 5<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to join us at choir practice 6:45-8:00 as we look over new anthems for April and May. Perhaps you'd like to be a part of our summer music!  
Kendall Kline

## Men's Fellowship Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast was well attended and we all had a great time. We have planned another breakfast on Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at Eve's Restaurant. Keep this time on your calendar and plan on joining us.  
Jerry Walters

## Community Missions

Our Easter food drive was a big success. We collected 100 bags of groceries and \$452 in cash. Many thanks again to all who have supported our drives and are making this a very giving year. Coming May 6<sup>th</sup> is our annual Mother's Toiletry drive for the women in the Haven, a safe house for those affected by domestic violence.  
Bonnie Spears

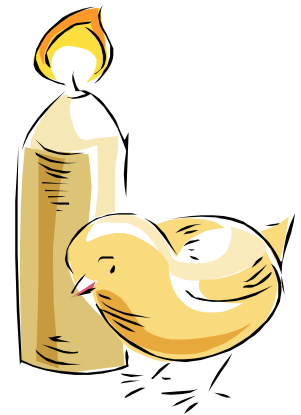
## From Our President

Church Council meets on the third Tuesday of even numbered months at 7:00 pm. Special meetings can be called, but this is rare. Our next meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup>. All members are welcomed to attend. The meeting typically lasts between an hour and an hour and a half. Come and learn details of the many ways our church is serving our God through our work in the community and the world. Next month I will report on some of the highlights of the April meeting.  
Joe Spencer

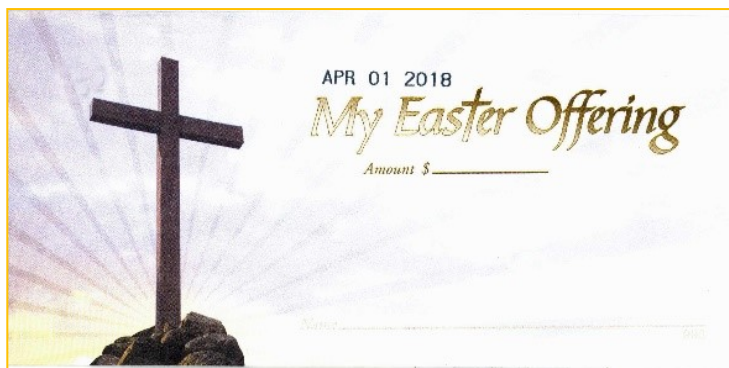
## Orchestra Concert

The Suncoast Symphony Orchestra Presents:  
"Hollywood Blockbusters"  
Friday, April 13, 2018 at 7:30 PM  
North Bay Community Church  
Free admission, Donations welcome  
[www.suncoastsymphony.org](http://www.suncoastsymphony.org)

Program:  
Curtain Up  
Jurassic Park  
Lord of the Rings  
Tara: A Short Symphonic Poem  
Overture to West Side Story  
Intermission  
Theme from Rocky: "Gonna Fly Now"  
Pirates of the Caribbean  
Duke Ellington  
Star Wars: Epic Part I I



## Easter Special Offering



The Easter Sunday special giving envelope: is to be used for our missionaries: Kevin and Beth Lynne of Mission Aviation Fellowship, Dr. Tonya Hawthorne of New Frontiers Health Force, and Rev. Emmanuel Guidi of Togo, West Africa.

## New Frontiers Health Force and Dr. Tonya

A big thank you to all who contributed to the baby clothing for the children in Kenya at Dr. Tonya's school and clinic. Over 500 items were collected and will soon be on their way to provide comfort for these special children. Thanks to Laura and Matt Wisniewski for gathering the items and preparing them for delivery to Kenya. Once again the NBCC members have contributed in a special way to this wonderful mission. Following are the numbers for the items donated for this mission.

Ken Webster

Onesies: 190

Pairs of socks: 293

Blankets: 21

Caps: 16

Pants: 3

Bib: 1

## Fellowship

From the Fellowship Committee... Our next event will be the indoor / outdoor picnic May 19th at 10:00 a.m. Please make sure to sign up for this event, we have some great new games and know that everyone will have a good time be and be able to find something of interest for them to do. Don't forget about the Suncoast Symphony concert on April 13th at 7:30 p.m.

Hope to see you there.

Sande Spencer

## Spring Craft Show

Spring Craft Show in Edgar Hall on Sat., April 7th from 9:00 - 3:00. This is a fundraiser for cancer that Hearts of Hope is sponsoring. We have several of our own church members participating as vendors. Please stop in to say hello and check out our wonderful vendors.

There will also be a Bake Sale that Tammy Bernstein is doing. If you'd like to bake something, that would be wonderful. Just bring it with you, priced and wrapped. Again thanks for your continuing support for this worthwhile cause.

Barbara Walters

North Bay Community Church  
3170 McMullen Booth Rd.  
Clearwater FL33761  
Phone: (727) 796-0071

E-mail: [nbcc@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:nbcc@tampabay.rr.com)  
Website: [northbaycommunitychurch.org](http://northbaycommunitychurch.org)

*The Church with a Vision.....  
Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*



**Pastoral Staff**

Danny McDonald-Senior Pastor

**Music Staff**

Kendall Kline-Director

Desiree Little-Organist

Cathy Good-Pianist

**Administrative Staff**

Desiree Little-Office Administrator

**Church Facilities Staff**

Barry Austin-Church Facilities

Superintendent

**Preschool Staff**

Nycol Nixon-Director



**Spring Craft  
Show  
Hearts of  
Hope  
April 7, 9-3**

**Suncoast Symphony Orchestra  
"Hollywood Blockbusters"  
April 13, 7:30 pm**