

# Church



# Chatter

May 2015

## Royal Palm Christian Church

9600 Royal Palm Blvd., Coral Springs, FL 33065

Church: 954.753.2383 Preschool: 954-753-2445

RoyalPalmChristianChurch.org

### YOU HAVE OUR APPRECIATION

To everyone who works with the children and youth of Royal Palm Christian Church and Preschool, thank you for tending the seeds of Jesus' love in them.



### SPECIAL THANKS TO

#### MR. MIKE

While you are retiring from teaching, we are NOT saying goodbye. We ARE celebrating your God-given gifts which you have lovingly shared in Christian Education—here and elsewhere—for thirty-five years. During those years, through many events, you have taught children of all ages about the life and love of Jesus Christ, and how to follow him.

Thank you for sharing your love of Christ with us. Thank you for leading us all in so much Vacation Bible School fun for so many years. We look forward to serving with you in new and exciting ways!

### BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

In April, our Moderator, Bill Vasquez, received the an award from the City of Coral Springs for "Enhancing the Lives of Coral Springs Residents". The Commission wrote: "William is a tireless advocate for veterans and senior residents." "He created the Coral Springs Veterans Coalition, a support group that addresses needs of veterans, most of whom are seniors. His time and efforts have made a real difference in the lives of those he touches." Congratulations!



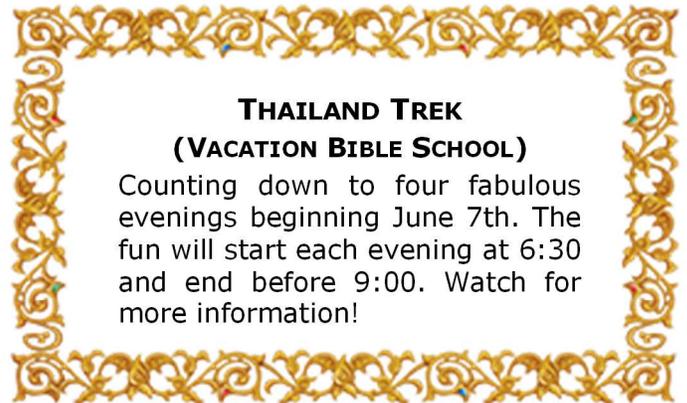
### IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY...

#### SENIOR RECOGNITION & YOUTH SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 31st, we will celebrate our graduating seniors. If you are a graduating senior, please make sure we have you on the list. Graduating from High School? We'd like a picture too!

Seniors, we are so proud of you, and we wish you nothing but the best! Get out there and be the awesome young people we know you are, and remember you always have a loving home here at RPCC.

We are also excited to announce that our amazing D-Unit youth will share a meaningful worship experience with us that day.



#### THAILAND TREK

##### (VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL)

Counting down to four fabulous evenings beginning June 7th. The fun will start each evening at 6:30 and end before 9:00. Watch for more information!



**"... love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and [love] your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27**

#### **PICKING AND CHOOSING FROM THE BIBLE**

Perhaps you've had a religious discussion or two with some of your friends. And perhaps at some point during that discussion one of them said to you, "You can't just pick and choose from the Bible. You have to take all, not just the parts of it that you like." Have you ever heard that said?

That claim on the surface sounds like it makes sense. In fact it doesn't. I don't mean we should lightly embrace or reject scriptures based on nothing more than our personal preferences. However, there is no one who doesn't "pick and choose" from the Bible, and that most certainly includes the person who insists that we embrace all the Bible equally, without discrimination.

Such people inevitably sideline certain scriptures, whether it be "If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away" (Matthew 5:30) or "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives... but invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind" (Luke 14:12-13) or "Greet one another with a holy kiss" (Romans 16:16). They don't really take it all literally and put it in practice.

We should not be arbitrary in our approach to the Bible. But the fact is not all scripture is equally valuable and relevant to our lives. Those who claim otherwise aren't being honest with themselves. Our goal should not be to avoid "picking and choosing" from the Bible. Our goal should be to "pick and choose" wisely the way Jesus did.

Jesus himself didn't hesitate to "pick and choose" from the Bible. The first sermon Jesus gave as recorded in the Gospel of Luke chapter 4 is one he presented to the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth. Our Lord read from Isaiah chapter 61: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And Jesus stopped mid verse and did not read the words, "and the day of vengeance of our God" (vs.2).

The "vengeance" spoken of in the Isaiah passage was vengeance against Gentiles, in contrast to the blessings that Isaiah spoke out for the Israelites. But Jesus excluded that portion of the scripture as he read it. What he did instead was to begin speaking of the various ways God had blessed Gentiles, even at times when God was not

blessing people of Israel. Jesus offered a more inclusive view of God's love. Outraged, those who heard him tried to throw him off a cliff. They didn't like the way Jesus was "picking and choosing" from the scriptures because it didn't support their hatred of others.

Many of those who accuse others of "picking and choosing" from the Bible actually choose not to take much of the Sermon on the Mount very seriously. For instance, they would rather choose a few select passages in the Old Testament to justify war than to listen to Jesus about loving your enemies and doing good to those who abuse you (Luke 6:27-36). In fact much in the Sermon on the Mount demonstrates how Jesus would "pick and choose" from the Bible.

Though Jesus says, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them" (Matthew 5:17), his way of fulfilling them most certainly changed them. Repeatedly, Jesus quoted from the teaching of the Old Testament, sat it aside and then said, "But I say to you..." (Matthew 5:27-28; 31-32; 33-34; 38-39; 43-44). He engaged in authoritative "picking and choosing" of scripture.

Jesus expresses and embodies the fully revelation of God. In light of him we evaluate and apply scripture. We must not allow the insistence that we not "pick and choose" scripture to block our view of Jesus. Jesus needs to be the lens through which we view and value the Bible. If we do that we will find that grace, peace and love are at the forefront of the gospel of Jesus.

Grace and Peace,  
Craig

**Jesus said, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world You will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." John 16:33**



**Wednesday Evenings**

**7:00 pm**

**HOMELESS OUTREACH  
IN FT. LAUDERDALE**

If you're interested in helping with this "once a month ministry", on the first Sunday of each month, contact Josh @ jloomis@nova.edu.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

Our 3 year olds were very excited as they prepared for their Science Fair on Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. At the same time our twos were busy practicing their songs for their annual Spring Sing on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. For both events our families were invited to come and enjoy their children and all of their school friends.

Preschool Staff Appreciation Sunday will be on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The teachers and staff will be honored at the 10:45 church service, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome, and we hope to see you and your children there. All preschool children attending will be singing during the service, and we are excited to welcome preschool parents Anita and Willie Brown as guest singers.

We still have spaces for Fall preschool and Summer camp, but classes are filling up. Be sure to reserve a spot now for your child by turning in your application to the preschool office.

Have you "liked" us on our new Facebook page? We are looking forward to sharing all about our favorite activities with parents in our community who need to know our hidden secret...Royal Palm Christian Church Preschool is the best preschool in town!

## PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

5/1	Spring Sing, 9:30am
5/3	Teacher Appreciation Sunday, 10:45am
5/4 – 5/8	Teacher Appreciation Week
5/5 & 6	Preschool Sharing with Pastor Craig
5/19 & 20	Preschool Sharing with Pastor Craig
5/20	Ms. Rita – Dramatic Storyteller
5/21	VPK Pirate Adventure
5/25	Memorial Day – All Closed
5/27	3 Day VPK Class, Last Day of Preschool
6/2	VPK Graduation, 7:00pm Ms. Cathy & Ms. Cindy's Class
6/3	VPK Graduation, 7:00pm Ms. Donna & Ms. Stacey's Class
6/4	Last Day for Preschool Students Sing-A-Long, 10:00am
6/5	Planning Day – Preschool Closed Full-Time Care Open
6/15	Summer Camp Begins

**CELEBRATE PENTECOST**  
**(the gift of the Holy Spirit)**  
**with us on**  
**Sunday, May 24th**

## On Saturday, May 30th, DISCIPLES MEN [A/K/A CMF]

are going fishing. If you are interested in going on this excursion, talk to Scott or Craig.



## MOVING...

Robert Metz has been busy with many transitions in his life. We praise God that he has found a new job. Unfortunately that means he's moving to the Gainesville area. He'll send his address when he is settled. In the meantime, email works.

Robert, our love, prayers and support go with you.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Amanda Forest
4 <sup>th</sup>	Billie Abell Faith Herman
7 <sup>th</sup>	Brittney Herman Carolyn Johnson
11 <sup>th</sup>	June Derby
14 <sup>th</sup>	Nicholas Angle Dawn Boentgen
15 <sup>th</sup>	Catherine Kroop Michael Zahn
17 <sup>th</sup>	Romeo Espiritu
20 <sup>th</sup>	Jamie Zorabedian
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Justin Wolff
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Rinn Guadalupe Sharon Matiska Ken Wiedman
25 <sup>th</sup>	Wade Matiska
30 <sup>th</sup>	Kat Grace
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mattie Brown

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

27<sup>th</sup> David & Jennifer Bramley

[We apologize if your name is not on the list. Please call the office to update your information!]

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Teacher Appreciation</b> 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship @ S 4pm - Feeding	6:30pm - AI Anon 7pm - Elders' Meeting 7:30pm - AI Anon @ FH	9:30am - Bible Study @ 9:30am - Preschool 7pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - Into Action (AA)	9:30am - Preschool 7pm - D-Unit Youth 7pm - Kidz Prayz	6:30pm - Food Pantry		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship @ S	6:30pm - AI Anon 7pm - Disciples Women 7:30pm - AI Anon @ FH	9:30am - Bible Study @ 7pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - Into Action (AA)	7pm - D-Unit Youth 7pm - Kidz Prayz	6:30pm - Food Pantry		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship @ S 12:30pm - Board 2pm - Piano Recital @ S 5pm - Piano Recital @ S	6:30pm - AI Anon 7pm - Disciples Men 7:30pm - AI Anon @ FH	9:30am - Bible Study @ 9:30am - Preschool 7pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - Into Action (AA)	9:30am - Preschool 7pm - D-Unit Youth 7pm - Kidz Prayz	6:30pm - Food Pantry		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<b>Pentecost</b> 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship @ S 12:15pm - Christian Ed 12:30pm - Finance	6:30pm - AI Anon 7:30pm - AI Anon @ FH	9:30am - Bible Study @ 7pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - Into Action (AA)	7pm - D-Unit Youth 7pm - Kidz Prayz	6:30pm - Food Pantry		<b>Disciples Men Fishing</b>
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Graduating Senior</b> <b>Youth Sunday</b> 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship @ S						