

Church Chatter

August 2012

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful and let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." (*Hebrews 10:23-24*)

VIEWS AND REVIEWS

GIFTS, TALENTS AND PRAYER

On Sunday morning when I walk into the sanctuary at about 6:30, I begin praying for the church. Naturally, I pray for everything that will take place during the day, in worship, classes and other activities. I pray and give thanks for those who will be involved in leadership, not just on Sunday morning but at other times as well. I pray for those who will soon walk through the doors that their hearts will be truly open, that the needs they bring will be ones we can best meet and that they will experience something of the presence of God.

I move from pew to pew, praying over each of them. Though they are empty at the time, I pray for the people who will sit in them. I pray that God will bring people of different races, from various places around the world. I pray for those who are young and old, single and married, for families with children and those that are childless. I pray for those who are struggling financially and for those who are affluent, for those who are ill and those who are healthy. I pray that God will bring the diversity we find in the world into our congregation.

But I also pray that God will send gifted people, people with abilities that serve divine ends. Without gifted people the church can't serve the God-given purpose for which it exists. "The gifts God gave were ... to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-13). Some gifts are obvious and public. Others are less conspicuous but no less important. And everyone is gifted in some way.

When I pray, I name specific gifts and talents. I pray that God send to Royal Palm Christian Church people with the gift of hospitality, the gift of encouragement, the gift of evangelism, the gift of extraordinary compassion for the least advantaged. I pray that God will send people who can teach and who have a

passion to learn. I pray that God send people gifted with generosity and I pray that God send people with musical abilities that can help lift the hearts of others as they worship.

Please pray with me and as you pray, place the gifts God has given you in the hands of God to be used so that the church will always be "building itself up in love" (Ephesians 4:16).

Grace and Peace,
Craig

PRESCHOOL NEWS

FROM MS. SUZANNE

Our fun and exciting summer camp is quickly coming to an end. The excitement for a new school year is building and we are enthusiastically planning creative activities and learning experiences for all of our little students.

There are still some openings for the new school year. Please stop by for a tour and registration packet so your child can enjoy our warm and loving preschool and child care center.

We are very grateful to our exceptional group of young volunteers this summer. They are alumni of Royal Palm Christian Preschool. Each day they share their talents and gifts with our staff and students. We have known some since they were little, little, ☺ and now they are heading to middle school, high school and college. Thank you...Giselle Alvarez, Lydia Argumedo, Chase Caldaro, Hannah Canterbury, Samantha Curtis, Ashley Emanuel, Shelbye Fink, Emily Hitchcock, Logan Maloney and Alexandra Torres. Enjoy your journey this new school year, and we hope to see you all next summer.

PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

- 8/1 Ms. Rita, Dramatic Storyteller
- 8/3 Last Day of Summer Camp
- 8/15 Preschool Staff Meeting, 6:00 pm
- 8/16-17 Staff Planning Days
- 8/17 VPK Orientation, 10:00 - 11:00 am
- 8/20 VPK Classes Begin
Preschool Orientation, 10:00 - 11:00 am
- 8/21 Preschool Classes Begin
- 9/3 All Closed - Labor Day

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1st John Linn
- 2nd Bethany Buzzell
- 5th Joanna Chung
- 10th Jordan Ehlebracht
- 13th Tara Herman
- 16th Ibi Charles
- 17th Michael Balducci
- 26th Katja Suelzner
- 27th Crystal Astorga
Rick Ehlebracht
- 29th Allie Balducci
- 31st Dennis LeFever

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 1st Kevin & Karyn O'Shea

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



Christian Men's Fellowship

invites **YOU** to join us for
an evening of food and fun.

\$5.00 (Adult)
\$3.00 (Child)
Includes:
spaghetti, salad,
bread and beverage



Spaghetti Dinner

Where?
Royal Palm Christian Church

When?
Saturday, August 11th
5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

50/50 Raffle
(tickets = \$5.00 each)

"SALT AND LIGHT"

Part two of the film "A Force More Powerful," will be shown August 26th beginning at 5:30 p.m. It reviews the impact of nonviolent resistance in various circumstances. A light meal will be served along with a discussion. Come watch, discuss, grow and share in the food and fellowship!!

FLORIDA REGIONAL MINISTER AT RPCC

The Rev. Dr. Juan Rodríguez, the Disciples of Christ Regional Minister of Florida, will be our guest at both services on Sunday, September 23rd. He has been in this position for less than a year, and he is looking forward to getting to know us and the other congregations in Florida.

Rev. Rodríguez is a graduate of Bethany College (B.A.), and McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL (M.Div, D.Min). Most recently, he was the organizing pastor of Iglesia del Pueblo-Hope Center in Hammond, Ind. He served as the First Vice Moderator of the General Assembly during the 2009-2011 biennium.

Born in Puerto Rico, Rev. Rodríguez was raised in New York City, where his childhood church home was Primera Iglesia Discípulos de Cristo en Brooklyn. Both his grandfather and his father were lay Disciple preachers in Puerto Rico and New York.

Please make a special effort to attend worship and extend a welcome to Dr. Rodríguez. A meal will be served immediately following the 10:45 pm service.



Table Talk

Do you ever feel that there isn't enough time to catch up with all the people you would like to see on Sunday morning? The Elders are sponsoring a monthly interactive time, called Table Talk, when we can get together over a simple meal and share our thoughts and ideas with one another. The next meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 22nd. Find out what is happening at RPCC and get to know each other better.

ARE YOU AN RPCC FACEBOOK FRIEND?

If you are on Facebook, have you "friended" or "liked" Royal Palm Christian Church, yet? An easy way to keep up with what is happening is to get Facebook posts from the church. In our hectic world, helpful reminders can keep you on top of things. If you don't want to miss anything, add Royal Palm Christian Church to your list of Facebook contacts.



Saturday
October 13th
11:00 am
to
3:00 pm
Tradewinds North
Appaloosa Shelter

MEMORY GARDEN



Have you seen the Memory Garden bulletin board? Have you thought about what to put on the brick you are going to purchase? There are informational fliers available on the table outside the church office. To order bricks go to: <https://www.bricksrus.com/order/royalpalmcc/index.php> Order Forms are also available in the Narthex.



HELP NEEDED

It is such a blessing that we can meet together after church and share some delicious snacks and drinks. We are in need of some people to help with this ministry. Typically an individual, family, or group signs up to provide snacks, set up and clean up for a particular Sunday. If you are not in a position to provide the food, volunteering to help with set up and clean up would be very helpful. Ingrid has a sign up sheet and can be reached at [954-344-4562](tel:954-344-4562). Thanks.



**Saturday,
November 3rd
4 pm ~ 8 pm
- No Entry Fee -
Live Music, Raffles
Bounce House
Silent Auction
Food & Fun**

**50/50 Raffle
(\$10.00 per 50/50 raffle ticket)
[You need not be present to win
Prize must be claimed by 12/31/2012]**

BOLD JUSTICE

Broward Organized Leaders Doing Justice is a group of 20 congregations working to create a more just Broward Co. It is holding a **Rethinking Justice Workshop** to help congregations understand the scriptural basis for justice ministry. It takes place at 7 pm on Wed. August 15th in the Sanctuary of Second Presbyterian Church, 1400 N. Federal Hwy, Ft. Lauderdale. If you have any questions, contact Andy Lee or Daisy Heartberg at (954) 463-2322 or email to:

boldjustice1@gmail.com

For more information on BOLD Justice go to:

www.boldjustice.org



Food Donations

GATEWAY ITEMS NEEDED

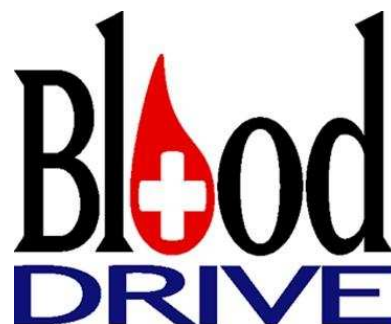
Thank you to all who continue to support the food pantry through prayers and donations of items. We have a core list of items that we try to provide our clients every week. Many of these items, such as toilet paper, are not available with food stamps. Below is the list of items that I shop for each week. Donations of these items help our budgeted money to go further. Our list includes: toilet paper, bath soap, feminine pads, oatmeal (we usually divide the boxes), eggs, potatoes, bananas, apples or oranges, and carrots. We also use sandwich, quart, and gallon size plastic bags each week to package up bread and other donated items. Any of these items that you can donate would be greatly appreciated. They can be placed in the wagon outside the office. Thanks

TAX BENEFIT

Did you know that, if you itemize deductions, you can get a tax benefit from giving to church? In 2012 the standard deduction is \$5,800 for singles and \$11,600 for married couples. If your deductions, including charitable contributions, exceed these amounts, you can get a tax benefit for your generosity. The church will provide a year-end summary of what you have given that identifies you as the donor. Cash offerings would not be proof to the IRS, but putting cash in the donation envelope with your name on it will count toward your summary. If you give noncash donations of more than \$250 the church will give you a receipt. For noncash donations of \$500-\$5,000 you must file a form 8283 (Noncash charitable contributions) with your 1040 form.

Also, if you give a gift for the Fall Fiesta silent auction, the church will give you a receipt and you place the value on the gift. Although your time is not deductible, your mileage to get to Royal Palm is, currently at \$.14 a mile. So if you drive 10 miles to church each week to work at Gateway you can deduct \$145.60 at the end of the year!

David Bramley, on behalf of the Finance Committee



**Sunday
August 19
9 am
to
1 pm**

August 2012

August 2012							September 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			August 1	August 1		
			7:00pm D-Unit Youth Meeting (S)	Genesis Camp (Conference Center)		
				6:30pm Gateway Food Pantry (FH)		
5						
8:30am Worship (S) 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (S) 12:15pm Christian Ed Meeting (Rm. #7)	6:30pm AI Anon Beginner's Meeting (FH) 7:30pm AI Anon (FH)	9:30am Morning Bible Study (CR) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00pm Inbo Action (AA) Group (FH)	7:00pm Elders' Meeting (CR) 7:00pm D-Unit Youth Meeting (S)	6:30pm Gateway Food Pantry (FH)		5:30pm CMFs Spaghetti Dinner (FH)
12						
8:30am Worship (S) 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (S) 12:30pm Board Meeting (S)	6:30pm AI Anon Beginner's Meeting (FH) 7:00pm Christian Women's Fellowship (N) 7:30pm AI Anon (FH)	9:30am Morning Bible Study (CR) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00pm Inbo Action (AA) Group (FH)	6:00pm Preschool Staff Meeting (FH) 7:00pm D-Unit Youth Meeting (S)	6:30pm Gateway Food Pantry (FH)	10:00am VPK Orientation	2:00pm Private Reception (FH)
19						
8:30am Worship (S) 9:00am Community Blood Drive 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (S)	10:00am Orientation for 2's & 6:30pm AI Anon Beginner's Meeting (FH) 7:30pm AI Anon (FH)	First Day for 2's & 3's 9:30am Morning Bible Study (CR) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00pm Inbo Action (AA) Group (FH)	6:30pm Table Talk (CR) 7:00pm D-Unit Youth Meeting (S)	6:30pm Gateway Food Pantry (FH)	CFE Jigsaw (Conference Center)	
26						
CFE Jigsaw (Conference Center) 8:30am Worship (S) 9:40am Sunday School 10:45am Worship (S) 12:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (CR) 5:30pm Salt and Light - Movie Night (S)	6:30pm AI Anon Beginner's Meeting (FH) 7:00pm Christian Men's Fellowship (Narthex) 7:30pm AI Anon (FH)	9:30am Morning Bible Study (CR) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00pm Inbo Action (AA) Group (FH)	7:00pm D-Unit Youth Meeting (S)	6:30pm Gateway Food Pantry (FH)		