

Church Chatter

June 2014

"Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.
Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16: 13-14

ON BEING HAPPY

I think it is safe to say that everyone wants to be happy. I don't know anyone who would prefer to emotionally muddle through life, much less be miserable. But what is happiness? It is certainly not a state of being giddy with gladness. Neither is it a matter of being satisfied with our life, coming to terms with our situation no matter how constrained and unfruitful it might be. While happiness may be defined in different ways, a reasonable definition includes a sense of fulfillment and a positive emotional outlook.

Jesus said he came so that people could have life more abundant (John 10:10). He didn't mean that he came so people could have quantitatively more life but so people can have qualitatively better life. I think this has something to do with happiness. Jesus wants us to experience fulfillment and to rest secure in the hands of God, and the end result is joy, a positive emotional outlook.

The Declaration of Independence speaks of a "right to pursue happiness." But we have no right to happiness itself. The world doesn't owe us happiness. Nor should we try to get happiness by any possible means, especially if our efforts leave other people more miserable. And despite what many people say, it is not true that, "All that matters is that you are happy." Still, happiness matters.

I recently read a little book entitled *Happiness: a Very Short Introduction*. The author, philosopher Daniel Haybron offers a number of helpful insights and reminds us of some truths that should be evident. He notes that there is no real happiness without a sense of meaning. "Any life dedicated to worthwhile ends is meaningful." Commitment to things that matter – not only for ourselves but for others, too – is a major part of a good life. We are enriched as we do things that enrich the lives of others.

Being a spectator of a movie or a play or a sports event can be enjoyable. But being a spectator isn't what makes life meaningful.

Engagement is required for a sense of fulfillment that leads to happiness. Living a life of integrity and service is essential for a good life, a life we can be "justifiably satisfied with." Such a life doesn't require wealth or the sort of desirable possessions that lead to social validation. In fact a number of studies have found that beyond a fairly modest level, more money doesn't generally increase happiness, though it might make life easier in some ways and more complicated in others.

Among the things that do foster happiness are active connections with people and things that matter, a sense of security, an ability to relax, and the recognition that you have reason to be satisfied with your life. A happy life isn't usually one without troubles, challenges and setbacks. It is not one filled with positive emotions at every point. But a happy life is one that is possible and one we are more likely to find as we follow Jesus in the ways of service and love.

Grace and Peace,
Craig



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The countdown is ON! Our annual Vacation Bible School is **June 8th – 12th, 2014**. Come and participate in one of our biggest events of the year! (and don't be shy...invite friends and family) EVERYONE is welcome to come join in on the fun! (seriously – children and adults – there's a place for you!)

**PRESCHOOL NEWS
FROM MS. MARGIE**

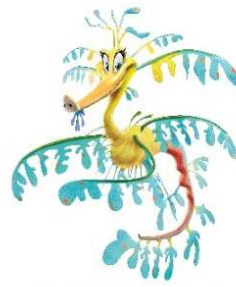
Our Science Fair was a huge success. The theme this year was *Save the Earth*. There were many lessons for children and visitors about taking good care of our world. A big thanks to all family members who came to enjoy the fair with the children.

We all enjoyed Teacher Appreciation week! Thank you for making us feel so special. Through all of your kindness and generosity we felt much loved.

We have had a wonderful school year with your children and are left with so many great memories! This year we graduate 55 students. Off to Elementary school they go. We will miss each one, but we know that they are ready for the journey. Thank you for sharing them with us and please bring them back to visit often.



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



We will not be meeting in June; however, you can still come to church that night (and every night during that week) and experience our wonderful VBS. We're sure there will be many opportunities to volunteer and / or participate in the fun.

We are still planning on visiting a few nursing homes in August and September. In July we will be collecting any shawls and lap rugs/blankets that are being crafted, so there is still time to let those needles fly! Please feel free to take creative liberty and use whatever colors, combinations, and patterns appeal to you. Thanks for helping!



"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." *Psalms 51:10*

JUNE PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

- 6/3 VPK Graduation, 7:00 pm
Ms. Cathy & Ms. Cindy's Class
- 6/4 VPK Graduation, 7:00 pm
Ms. Donna & Ms. Stacey's Class
- 6/5 Last Day for Preschool Students
Sing-A-Long 10:00 am
- 6/6 Planning Day – Preschool Closed
Full-Time Care Open
- 6/16 Summer Session Begins
Welcome New Students

**SAY NO
to
FOMO**

Do You Have FOMO?

FOMO, or the **Fear Of Missing Out**, is the common and understandable concern that you may miss out on something awesome. Especially at RPCC, where we have a constant stream of news, important updates, reminders, and amazing events!

So take care of your FOMO and don't miss out! Follow us on Facebook and make sure you visit our website so you're always up-to-date!

You can find our Facebook here:

www.facebook.com/RoyalPalmChristianChurch

You can find our website here:

www.royalpalmcchristianchurch.org

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Lynn Kroop
- 2nd Amanda Sikora
- 5th Sharon Singh
- 16th Kacie Cahill
- 18th Cheryl Zahn
- 19th Ken Herman
Rosanne Muriello
Loni Skipper
- 21st Jamie Chung
- 26th Monét McFarlane



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 9th Scott & Patti Johnson
- 22th Richard & June Derby

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





Love. Grow. Serve.

RPCC NEEDS YOU!

Like anything else in life, sometimes RPCC needs a little extra TLC... Our Property Chair, Larry DeWarf, has been trying to address the various small projects that need to get done. But we need your help! More specifically, we need a little of your time and some elbow grease. If anyone is interested in stepping up to assist Larry on a project or two, it would be greatly appreciated! Please call or email the Church Office for more info.



BLESSINGS

God is always at work, and blessings come in all shapes and sizes! The Hope Totes were certainly a blessing in a variety of ways. We were blessed when we recognized we could help someone we don't know in a very simple way. The person receiving the Hope Tote was blessed with items to help them, and the Broward Outreach Center blessed everyone by being the connection. They sent the following note:

"Thank you very much for being part of our loving and caring family of donors. I would like to thank you for your generous donation of 250 mission hope bags towards our program. Your contribution is really helping us to not only achieve our quality goals but also playing its part to stabilize our homeless residents and work our way to transform them into productive and responsible citizens of society... Nina Corbe"

We would love to include some of your blessings in an upcoming Chatter. Please email your blessing to the church office at royalpalmchristianchurch@gmail.com



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

"REMEMBER THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS, FOR HE HIMSELF SAID, 'IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.'" - ACTS 20:35B

Each week RPCC hosts a food pantry for those in need in our community. We try to ensure we are able to provide certain necessities to the people who come every week. Many of these items, such as toilet paper, are not able to be acquired with food stamps. Donations of these items are always very helpful and enable us to better aid our clients.

Our list includes: toilet paper, feminine pads, peanut butter, tuna, oatmeal, eggs, potatoes, bananas, apples, oranges, and carrots.

Because we value our pantry volunteer's time as well as your donations, we ask that when you donate you please be mindful of expiration dates and shelf life. Would you eat expired food?

We thank you for all your continuing support for the pantry! Your ministry helps make a difference in our community.



Our sister, Janice Tilghman, has been a blessing to us for many years. Recently she moved to Tennessee to be with family. She will be sorely missed. She sent the following message: "To my RPC Family, I will miss you all very much. Keep me in your prayers. Love you all, Janice."

Janice's new address is: 3669 Andrew Jackson Way, Hemitage, TN 37076.



The Preschool Teachers were most appreciative of the show of appreciation given to them during the first week of May. Some thoughts offered were: "Thank you for your love and support over the years"; "Thank you for the special mass and the wonderful gifts! I am truly blessed to have such a beautiful 'family'"; "Thank you for the wonderful gifts and the yummy lunch! I'm truly blessed to be part of a loving family"; and "Last week was so wonderful...filled with lots of surprises. Thank you!"



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Graduating Senior 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship @ S 12:30pm - Board Meeting	8:30pm - Al Anon 7pm - Elders' Meeting @ CR 7:30pm - Al Anon @ FH	8:30am - Morning Bible 7pm - Into Action (AA) 7pm - Preschool 7:45pm - Choir Rehearsal @	7pm - D-Unit Youth 7pm - Kids Praise @ Rm. #7 7pm - Preschool	8:30pm - Gateway Food 7pm - Preschool Staff Party		10am - VBS Training & Sat
Pentecost 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship @ S 5:30pm - VBS Dinner @ FH 8:30pm - World Animals	5:30pm - VBS Dinner @ FH 6:30pm - Al Anon 6:30pm - World Animals 7:30pm - Al Anon @ FH	8:30am - Morning Bible 5:30pm - VBS Dinner @ FH 6:30pm - World Animals 7pm - Into Action (AA)	5:30pm - VBS Dinner @ FH 6:30pm - World Animals	5:30pm - VBS Dinner 8:30pm - Gateway Food 6:30pm - World Animals		8am - ABC Learning
CVF Conference @ Conference Center Equusitan Camp 1 @ Conference Center 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship @ S	6:30pm - Al Anon 7:30pm - Al Anon @ FH	9:30am - Morning Bible 7pm - Choir Rehearsal @ S 7pm - Into Action (AA)	7pm - D-Unit Youth	6:30pm - Gateway Food		
8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship @ S 12:30pm - Finance Team	6:30pm - Al Anon 7:30pm - Al Anon @ FH	9:30am - Morning Bible 7pm - Choir Rehearsal @ S 7pm - Into Action (AA)	7pm - D-Unit Youth	6:30pm - Gateway Food		
Canoes Camp @ Conference Center 8:30am - Worship @ S 9:40am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship @ S	6:30pm - Al Anon 7pm - Christian Men's 7:30pm - Al Anon @ FH					