



The Spire...

**Plantation Presbyterian Church
Plantation, FL September 2014**



PASTORS MESSAGE...

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned” (Romans 12:1-3, NRSV)

The passages include these important and challenging words from Romans 12. Paul was challenging the Romans to live lives that were transformed by the gracious, saving love of God – lives that were not molded by the whims and attitudes of the world around them but instead were molded by God in whose hands rests the salvation and direction of all creation. How easy it was for Romans to seek other gods who were far less demanding of their followers. How easy it was for them to adopt a culture that focused solely on people’s self-interests rather than to adopt a worldview that was always looking outward to the needs of others. How easy it was to adopt complacent lifestyles where each day was the same as the last rather than lifestyles that were constantly evolving, growing, as new challenges and people were experienced. Paul spoke to the Romans in typical fashion, mincing no words: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.”

One of the reasons Paul wrote to the Romans was because of pressure to conform to different cultural values. Jewish Christians encouraged Gentile Christians to conform to their cultural practices. Roman society, which was strictly formed with regard to segregation of slave and free, rich and poor, male and female, along with other categories, pressured Christians to separate along the same lines.

But Paul has been encouraging the believers in this most cosmopolitan of cities to create one body of Christ by combining their God-given individuality, not negating it. So in this passage he invites all of us to take a good look at ourselves. On the one hand he asks us all “not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned” (Rom 12:3).

There is a flat warning against giving into the flow. "Do not be conformed," he writes, "to this age." Although sometimes translated "world," the word refers to the mindset of the times. Instead, he tells us all to be transformed, changed, metamorphosed "by the renewing of your minds," so that we might discern God's perfect will (12:2).

We are not to think of ourselves, Paul writes, "more highly than you ought." And what better example do we have of this than Jesus himself? In another letter, written to the Philippians, Paul tells us that Jesus did not consider equality with God as something to be taken advantage of, but humbled himself obediently to the cross.

In plain clear language, it is the will of God that we search for the depth and fullness of our own identities and purposes. To honestly evaluate ourselves, and be humble. Appreciate other's gifts. Paul tells us, - Know that we are all different, and God has made us so. Prophecy, ministry, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, caring. All are necessary, and no one of us has all of those characteristics. But find and use your gifts, for God is asking you to be the church, Christ's body on earth. God is telling you, you are mine, be transformed to be like me, and in so doing, discover more fully who I know you to be, and what I want you to be about.

We are all needed in the body of Christ. We are all welcome. In contrast to a world that attempts to make us conform to impossible standards of self-worth, we are loved and welcomed as we are, because that is how God made us. We bring our weaknesses and strengths and, most of all, our gifts to the work of Jesus Christ. We are transformed, so that we no longer look at God and each other, as the world does.

A truth which is our challenge today is that his words are for us, too. We are all called to the same radical transformation to which he called the Romans. We are called to allow God's love

and saving power to purge us of all that keeps us from following his will. We are called to allow God to make new creations of us: creations whose lives are lived with the same grace, mercy, and compassion that God continues to give so richly and so freely to us. Paul's challenge to the Romans is also a challenge to each of us who live out our lives of faith through Plantation Presbyterian Church: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds."

In 1707, Isaac Watts wrote words on which I have meditated for many years. They are words of challenge and of possibility.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

It was God's love, "so amazing, so divine," that motivated Paul to write those challenging words. It is also God's love, "so amazing, so divine," that makes it possible for us to allow ourselves to be truly transformed, made new. Loving as we have been loved is certainly a powerful call, for it is a call that demands our souls, our lives, our all.

Shalom,

David





Jeff Durham provides music for a service.



RALLY DAY SUNDAY

We are using **Rally Day Sunday, September 14** as the day to consider your gifts and how you might use them in the ministry of Jesus Christ through the rest of 2014 and into the future.

On this day we look to commission our 2014-2015 Children's Sunday School Teachers; Iris Froehlich, Donna Westcott, Rosely Brosz and anyone who is willing to be a Substitute Teacher.

Rally Day is traditionally a special event, with worship time that happens at the start of a new year of teaching and learning in Sunday school. And this year we will again include a **POTLUCK LUNCHEON**, held after church, as part of the days' activities.

RALLY DAY provides an opportunity for us to roll out our Sunday School "red carpet" and welcome guests in a way that will also engage everyone in the congregation to a new year of study, fellowship, service, outreach and evangelism. In addition, we plan to highlight the other educational efforts of our congregation which include: Our **Adult Sunday School Class** that meets on Sunday at 9:30 am, the **Men's Prayer Breakfast**, that meets each Saturday at 8:30 am and The **Presbyterian Women's Bible Study** that meets on the Third Thursday of the month – September through May.

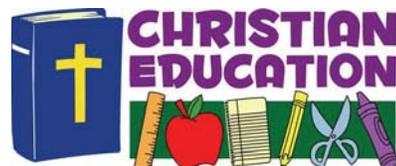
Be sure to attend so you and your children will not miss any of the fun at the PPC Rally Day!



It's Waiting for You

#IceBucketChallenge
#StrikeOutALS

Rev. Dr. David Massey has been challenged! After service on Sunday, September 7, he will complete the challenge. Come watch as he gets soaked for ALS. Anyone is welcome to join him for this very worthy cause.



PRESBYTERIAN
Mission Exchange

Online Giving Now Available

The finance committee has been working on the church website and you can expect to see a final version soon at www.plantationpresbyterianchurch.com. We also recently entered into an agreement to accept online donations via credit/debit cards and electronic funds transfers with the Presbyterian Mission Exchange, a part of the Presbyterian Foundation. You can make donations both one-time and recurring. We are planning our outreach so expect to receive more information once our website is fully operational. In the meantime, you can donate online by going to www.presbyterianmissionexchange.org and click on search all giving in the upper right and then at the next screen type in Plantation Presbyterian Church. You can designate your gift under faith promise, major repair fund or designated. After you successfully enter your information you instantly receive a confirmation similar to below:

Plantation Presbyterian Church Donation Confirmation

Dear Plantation Presbyterian:

Thank you for your donation. Please retain this documentation as it serves as official substantiation that you were provided with no goods or services.

Below is a summary of your donation.

Date: 3/23/2014

Amount: \$500.00

Payment Method: Visa Credit Card, 41223

Designation:

Plantation Presbyterian Church, Plantation, FL
Your credit card statement will reflect a transaction from "Presbyterian FDN 800-858-6127."

Thank you for setting up your recurring donation. Please retain this documentation as it serves as substantiation that you were provided with no goods or services.

Below is a summary of your recurring donation.

Frequency: Second Sunday of every month
starting On: 3/23/2014
Ending On: 12/31/2014

Thank you again for your generous donation.

Presbyterian Mission Exchange
"Bringing people and mission together"

200 East Twelfth Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47130
1-800-858-6127, Ext. 5919
missionexchange@presbyterianfoundation.org

Ronald Albert, Church Treasurer



If you are attending the Marlins game on September 6, please be at the church by 5:15 p.m. if you are car pooling with someone. Please get your tickets and parking passes from Becky Rountree or if you have any questions please contact her at 954-791-9139 or rountreelo@aol.com.



Welcome Claire and Al Will...

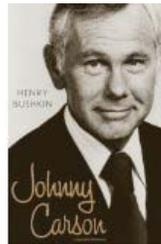
Al and Claire Will are two of our newest members. The friendliness of our congregation was a main factor for them joining our church. The Will's have been married 34 years. Al has two children that both he and Claire helped to raise. They also have two grandchildren.

Claire cannot be missed in church because each Sunday she wears a different beautiful hat. Growing up in Pennsylvania, she came to the Fort Lauderdale area as a teenager. She graduated from Maryville College in Tennessee majoring in English and French. After college, she taught at the middle school level. She returned to school to receive her law degree from Nova Southeastern Law School in 1979. She is a practicing attorney in Fort Lauderdale specializing in family law, estates, bankruptcy, and foreclosure. In her spare time, Claire loves to bake. We all have benefited from her delicious desserts she has baked for fellowship. She loves to read and she and Al are regular participants at the church's book club.

Al grew up in the New York area. He graduated from State University of New York with a degree in horticulture. He did his graduate work at the University of Florida receiving a degree in landscape architecture and ornamental

horticulture. He has lived in Florida since 1956. He was a professor at Broward Community College and has served as an adjunct professor at Florida Atlantic University and Nova Southeastern University. He has published several books on plants. He now serves as a consultant on trees, plants, and horticulture. Al loves to fresh water fish and hunt. They have a weekend home in Lake Placid that they like to escape too.

Al and Claire have quickly involved themselves in the life of the church. We are so glad that they found us. Welcome Al and Claire!

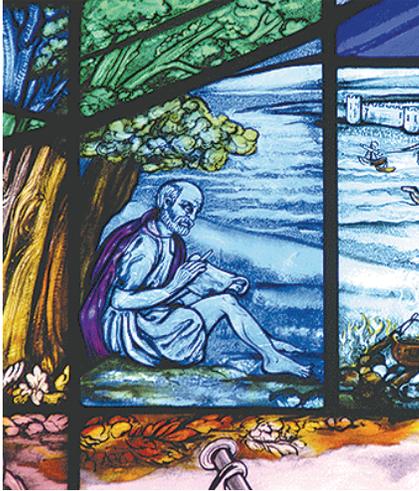


The Proofreaders...

The book group will be discussing the biography of Johnny Carson by Henry Bushkin on Sunday, October 5, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Buskin was Carson's closest advisor, attorney, tennis partner, and friend for almost 20 years.

Carson came into our homes for more than a generation with most Americans not going to bed until they heard his nightly monologue. He was loved by millions and yet when his life ended, he was alone. Bushkin was eventually banished from Carson's life like many before him. Bushkin's intimate recollections of Carson show us a side of him that the camera did not reveal.

Come and join the fellowship and discussion. Refreshments are served and everyone is invited. Contact Beth Doubleday for further information at b5chicago@aol.com.



PPW BIBLE STUDY LESSONS 2014

“Reconciling Paul”

YOU ARE Welcome to join the 2014-2015
Horizons Bible study,
“Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2
Corinthians”

**Our Study begins on September 18, 2014 at
9:30 am and continues on the Third Thursdays
of the month.**

This study continues the more-than-100-year tradition of Bible studies produced by women in the Presbyterian Church. The Women of Plantation Presbyterian Church invite you to be a part of this study. You will join not only our local Presbyterian women’s group but with many Presbyterian Women who will share this study nationwide.

To let you know; like all other Horizons Bible studies the topic and author were chosen after much prayer and consideration by Presbyterian Women’s Bible Study Committee.

(The following is reprinted from the inside front cover of this year’s study)

On March 9 2010, the PW/Horizons Bible study committee selected 2 Corinthians for the topic of this year’s study. Specifically, they requested that the study focus on the following aspects of

faith: generosity, grace, forgiveness, living by faith, the image of God, funds development, ambassadors of reconciliation (peacemaking), reconciliation, the ways in which Paul’s letters are a response to these themes, what was in the original letters, and Paul himself. To learn more about the process, see page 90 of the Study.

We give thanks for the following creative and enthusiastic women of the 2010 Bible Study committee who selected 2 Corinthians; Ann Barnwell (chair), Deborah Bailey (ecumenical representative from the UCC), Marilyn Collins, LaDonna Fay, Martha Knichel, Janis Quinn, Florence Vargas, and Chris Wolf.

Lesson One – The Promise and Problem of Paul: 1 and 2 Corinthians

Lesson Two – Paul in the Context of Ancient Corinth: 2 Corinthians 1:1-2:4

Lesson Three – Covenants and God’s Enduing Faithfulness: 2 Corinthians 3:1-4:6

Lesson Four – Carrying in Our Bodies Jesus’ Acts of Healing, Reconciliation, and Love: 2 Corinthians 4:7-5:10

Lesson Five - Reconciliation and the Whole Creation: 2 Corinthians 5:11-6:10

Lesson Six – The Aroma of God Among Us: 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 and 6:14-7:1

Lesson Seven – Economy of Grace: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Lesson Eight – Power, Authority, and Honor Are Not Always What We Might Expect: 2 Corinthians 11:1-32

Lesson Nine – A Call to Apostleship b the Twenty-first Century: 2 Corinthians 12:1-13:13



Summer at PPC.....



Pat Roberson at Sundaes Sunday



Baptism of



Bud and Ruth Magly enjoy Sunday Sundaes.



Shari Brosz provides music during the service.





September Anniversaries and Birthdays

- 1 Gregg Huddlestone
- 3 Judy Horton
- 6 Michelle Hartman
- 7 Sally Beals
- 8 *Donald and Carol McCoy*
- 10 J.R. Ryan
- 11 Rosely Brosz
- 14 Barbara Goodman, Christa Newman
- 15 Margo Unruh, Faye West
- 16 Shelby Miller, St. John IV Harold, Francis
- 18 Ken Heilman
- 21 Jackson Wyatt Crosby
- 24 Beth Doubleday
- 26 Warren Baity
- 28 Lori Miller



September Calendar

- 3 Choir Practice Begins, 7:30 p.m.
- 6 PPC at the Marlins Game
- 8 Fellowship Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 8 Finance Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Sunday School Rally Day and Pot Luck Luncheon
- 16 Session Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 18 PPW Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
- 21 Deacons' Meeting, 12:15 p.m.



Unseen Guest Luncheon

Mark your calendar now for the Unseen Guest Luncheon hosted by the Deacons. It will be held Sunday, November 2, 2014 immediately following worship service. There is great food, raffles, and fellowship for everyone. Proceeds benefit the people in our community and our church who might need some assistance. More information will be available in the next issue of the Spire.



If you love to sing, the church choir is looking for new members. The choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Come join the fun and fellowship as a member of the church choir. The first practice is September 3. Please contact Rev. Dr. David Massey for further information.

Fellowship Help Wanted!

Volunteers are needed to help coordinate Sunday Fellowship. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary if you can help. The schedule for the next two months is now available. Food donations are always welcome. If you are interested in serving on the Fellowship Committee and planning the yearly events please attend our meeting on September 8 at 7 p.m.



**Plantation Presbyterian Women's
Annual Rummage Sale
Saturday, October 11**

Start saving your "stuff" for the Plantation Presbyterian Women's Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 11, 2014. Proceeds from the sale help to benefit the missions of the Plantation Presbyterian Women.

Everyone's help is needed to make sure the sale is a success. Items wanted are children's clothes, household goods, clothing, shoes, electronics, kitchen items, books, CD's, holiday items, small appliances, tools, toys, games, puzzles, jewelry and more. Baked goods are also needed on the day of the sale. Volunteer help is essential the week before the sale and on the day of the sale. We will be working in the evenings for people who cannot make it during the day to help sort and price.

If you need your "stuff" picked up please contact Becky Rountree at rountreelo@aol.com or 954-791-9139 so she can make arrangements for a pick-up. Contact Kathy Guariglio at 954-583-6346 for further information about volunteering.



Thank You!

Special Thanks to...

- Iris Froehlich, Donna Westcott, Rosely Brosz and Marie Berndgen, and Heather Hanson for providing Sunday School all summer for the children.
- Michelle Hartman, Bob Beals, Jeff Durham, Shari Brosz, and Frantz Etienne for providing special music during the summer.
- Everyone who helped to provide food and assist with Sunday Fellowship over the summer.
- Nancy Ramirez for organizing the kitchen and preparing for Sunday fellowship.
- Benny Paulus for painting inside the sanctuary and painting and repairing the steeple.
- Jimmy Snyder for fixing the kitchen door.

Newsletter Contacts

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October Issue Copy Deadline: September 24, 2014.

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