

FROM THE PASTOR

Where does the time go? It's time for another hurricane season. Of course, since the hurricane season lasts for six months, we really don't have much time from season to season, but at least we can rest easy for six months until the media reminds us to be prepared. Hopefully, we will be spared from any hurricanes this year, but no one knows what will happen.

"Be prepared." That's the motto of the Boy Scouts. It's also the motto of the followers of Jesus. In his parable of the ten virgins, Jesus told the story of the ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to wait for the bridegroom. Five of them took oil for their lamps, but five were foolish and didn't take any extra oil. The bridegroom was a long time in coming. When he arrived the five who were prepared with enough oil went in with him to the wedding banquet. The other five went looking for more oil and arrived too late. The door was closed. Be prepared, counseled Jesus.

Be prepared. It is wise advice in our everyday lives. We try to prepare ourselves for health problems or auto accidents by carrying insurance. Preparation is one of the keys to a successful life in almost any endeavor. It is especially important to be spiritually prepared. Often the events or circumstances of life catch us off-guard. We lose our health; we lose a loved one; we suffer a financial loss. If we are spiritually prepared for such losses, we are in much better condition to handle and cope with whatever threatens us.

We become prepared through time spent in prayer and meditation, time spent attending church, and time spent listening for the voice of God.

We hope that those of you who are here during hurricane season are prepared. There are hurricane guides available in many of our stores to let you know what you should have in the way of supplies to get through a storm and to help you for several days after the storm. It's important that you have a plan if you have to evacuate. Where could you go?

If there are members who would be willing to house other members during a storm in case some have to evacuate the coastline or a mobile home, please inform the church. Also let us know if you might need a place to stay. If anyone needs help in putting up storm shutters, please let us know as well.

We don't know if we will endure any hurricanes this year. I hope you will keep praying that we don't have any, but in any case, whether you are a permanent resident of the area, or you are a snowbird, life's circumstances mean that we always need to be prepared, especially spiritually prepared.

Dr. Marshall Cook

Marshall's Office Hours...

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 1-4pm; Wednesdays Noon-2pm

You may also feel free to contact him anytime at 772/340-0472. Please call before stopping by church in case he is out calling on people.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

...for June

7th	Gertrude Dovey	18th	Elsa Millard
14th	Joyce Maybury	21st	Connie Scott
16th	Doug MacWilliam	23rd	Doug Wolmer
	Ginger Morse	29th	Audrey Magown
17th	Sandra Cohen		

and ANNIVERSARIES —

4th Chuck & Jane Erickson
18th Charlie & Cyndy Webb
20th George & Sandy Starkey
27th Ted & Alice Fowler

Celebrate the 4th of July...on the 5th!

July 4th comes on Saturday this year and so we will celebrate the 4th during our service of worship on Sunday, July 5th. Following the service we will share in a pot-luck lunch, so be thinking of what you can bring for everyone to enjoy. Carol Sinotte is the Chairperson.

Correction and Updates

- Correction:* Please change the information in my mailing label, directory and/or church files
- Moving soon:* Here is my/our new address and phone number
- No thanks:* I/We no longer wish to be on your mailing list.

Message/Concern: _____

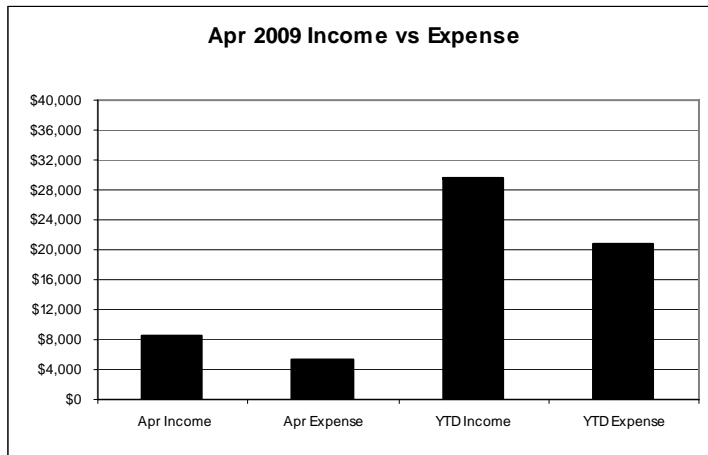
Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Birthday (mo/date) _____ Anniversary (mo/date) _____

Treasurer's Report... April was a good financial month for the church. Normal income exceeded expenses by about \$3,100.00. Year-to-date income exceeded expenses by about \$8,700.00 and about \$11,600.00 after transfers.



The church has a Money Market Fund and a CD with Bank United which was in the news the past few weeks. The bank was sold by the FDIC to an investor group and business is going on as usual. We are keeping an eye on interest rates for these two investments and will act as needed. As usual, all bills are current. Respectfully submitted,
Charles Webb, Treasurer

Mission Efforts take many shapes...

- Bring in your Box Tops for Education
- Donate to the food bank "In the Image of Christ"
- Bring refreshments for after-church fellowship
 - Be a Lay Reader, Usher or Greeter
- Join the Crafty Ladies—come at noon on Wednesdays or make something at home.
- Plan to be a part of CROP Walk next February



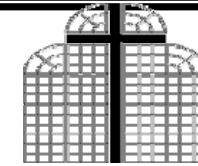
??? All depends...

If we have enough news, I will put an issue out at the end of June and/or July. If not, then August will be our next newsletter. But, if we have your email address, you'll never be out of the loop as we send out and pass along news items as we get them.



As usual, articles can be dropped in the Treasurer's mailbox at church, e-mailed to candc@webbplace.com, phoned to (630) 761-3830; or faxed to (561) 348-9909.

Prayer List...



Sal Alibrio, Richie Allen, Fred Aniello, Wanda Bartoy, Carol Brooks, Stephan Burke, Ida Cram, Lori Culbertson, Gertrude Dovey, Alex & Dee Ford, Katharine Gordon, Shirley Hage, Bill & Jacque Hannah, Dennis Hower, Woodra Keene, Norma Kerkow, Debbie Knapp, Betty Lussier, Diane MacWilliam, Diane Millard, Bob Olobri, Don Rogers, Kathy Schaaf, Lillian Williams, Bill Wilson

NOTE: If any names contained here should be removed, or new ones added, please see one of our Deacons.

Address Update... Sal Alibrio now has a new address. And he would love to stay in touch and hear from you. He can be reached at:

Sunnyday Assisted Living, Phone 772-878-5547
 4645 SW Vahalla St., Port St Lucie, Fl. 34953

Our Sympathies...

On Mother's Day evening, **Norma Gwen Yoak** learned that her son, Robert Alan Parks, lost his hard-fought 2-year battle with brain cancer at University Research Hospital in Madison, WI. Please keep Norma Gwen in your prayers and drop her a note to let her know your thoughts.



Also, we have just learned that **Gladys Lansdown** passed away this past summer. Gladys was a member of our church for several years, having moved away a couple of years ago to be closer to family.

First Congregational Church of Ft. Pierce
 (772) 465-2082 3601 Kirby Loop Road, Ft. Pierce, FL 34981

Pastor: Marshall Cook (772/340-0472); **Organist:** Helen Boyd

Church Officers & Leaders—**Moderator:** Diane MacWilliam; **Vice Moderator:** Tom Maybury; **Clerk:** Carol Sinotte; **Treasurer:** Charlie Webb; **Asst. Treasurer:** Kim Sinotte; **Financial Secretary:** Diane MacWilliam; **Member-at-Large:** Bob Bater

Board & Committee Chairs—Trustees, **Don Locke**; Property, **John Souza**; Christian Education, **Becky Miller**; Deacons, **Tom Maybury**; Memorial, **Joyce Maybury**; Missions, **Audrey Magown**; Music, **Gerry Brown**; Nominating, **Diana Junker**; Auditors, **Bob Bater, Don Rogers**; Evangelism, **Cyndy Webb**; Women's Fellowship, **Carolyn Rogers**.

Fathers are Wonderful People

Fathers are wonderful people too little understood,
And we do sing their praises as often as we should.
For, somehow, Father seems to be the man who pays the bills,
While mother binds up little hurts and nurses all our ills.

And Father struggles daily to live up to "his image",
As protector and provider and "hero of the scrimmage".
And perhaps that is the reason we sometimes get the notion,
That Fathers are not subject to the thing we all call emotions.

But you look inside Dad's heart where no one else can see,
You'll find he's sentimental and "soft" as he can be.

But he's so busy every day in the grueling race of life,
He leaves the sentimental stuff to his partner and his wife.

But Fathers are just wonderful in a million different ways,
And they merit loving compliments and accolades of praise.

For the only reason Dad aspires to fortune and success,
Is to make the family proud of him and to bring them happiness.

And like Our Heavenly Father, he's a guardian and a guide,
Someone that we can count on to be always on our side.

Submitted by Tom Maybury; Written by Helen Steiner Rice

Father's Day Breakfast...



A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little daughter, Vanessa. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his magazine on which was printed the map of the world. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to Vanessa, and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together." After a few minutes, Vanessa returned and handed him the map correctly fitted together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. "Oh," she said, "On the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got Jesus back where He belonged, then the world came together."

Father's Day is Sunday, June 21st. To celebrate our dads... the women of the church will prepare breakfast that morning! Anyone wishing to help, please contact Diana Junker.

From the Moderator



The last Council meeting of the season was held last Wednesday night. According to the by-laws there is no scheduled meeting until October. If anything important comes up that the Council needs to take action on, a meeting can be called. In that event I appoint either Carol Sinotte or Audrey Magown to run the meeting as they both have been past moderators.

I will be gone for ten weeks arriving home on Labor Day weekend. If anyone needs to contact me my New Hampshire number is 603-664-2588, or my cell is 277-971-0298. May you all have a restful and healthy summer. We look forward to being together again as we start our second 25 years as a church doing God's work in our church family, in the community, in the Florida Conference and in the world at large.

God Bless You All, **Diane**

Ham & Bean Supper...

On Saturday, May 18th a New England Bean Supper was prepared for the enjoyment of the few church family left after so many going north. A New England Bean Supper consists of Boston Baked Beans rather than the southern version of BBQ beans.

Carol Sinotte cooked the pea beans and Diane baked Jacob's Cattle – a bean that is only grown and available in New England. Thanks to Alice Fowler for her delicious rolls and to Doug MacWilliam for making the cole slaw for his mom! A big thank you to Kim Sinotte for filling in for Diane on Saturday night when Diane was sick – Diane says you are a wonderful friend! A total of 23 people were served with a profit of \$171. Thank you all for coming.

Carol, Dick, and Diane



Our thanks to **Norma Gwen Yoak** for making our mothers feel special. Norma Gwen purchased and handed out to every lady present a pink carnation with the greeting "HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY."

Goings on...

The ladies from the church went on a much needed afternoon out. We had lunch at Gator Trace on April 28th with 11 women in attendance. We had a private room and choice of the entire menu. We all enjoyed our lunch and fellowship very much; the service was timely and very friendly. We hope more ladies will join us next year.



2009 May Friendship Day...

Church Women United ended the season of activities with their Friendship Celebration on Friday, May 8th at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Port St. Lucie.

The program began at 10:30 with the theme "Building on Our Stories" -- an invitation to all to a journey through memories, sharing personal Christian stories. A lovely salad luncheon at noon was enjoyed by all from our wide CWU area.

Norma Gwen Yoak, Delegate Church Women United

Cell Phone vs. The Bible...

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

-What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
-What if we flipped through it several times a day?
-What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?
-What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
-What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
 -What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?
 -What if we used it when we traveled?
 -What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go.....hmm...where is my Bible? Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill!

Submitted by **Rev. Clyde Embling**

Florida Conference Annual Meeting...

The Annual Meeting of the Florida Conference was held May 1-2, 2009, at the Daytona Beach Resort and Conference Center and the Seabreeze United Church of Christ, Daytona Beach. 209 delegates were present, representing 74 churches. Dr. Cook represented our congregation.

The theme of this year's meeting was "Come Follow Me," based on 1 Peter 2:21: "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps." This theme was highlighted by the keynote speaker, the Rev. John H. Thomas, the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

The business of the Conference included the 2010 budget and the raising of per capita dues to \$15. Three regional youth ministers were approved. Their role will be to enable and encourage young people in developing and deepening their faith, as well as equipping young people to be leaders.

A time of celebration surrounded the welcoming of a new congregation into the Florida Conference. Rainbow Promise, located in southwest Florida, becomes the 100th congregation in the state.

Summer Reading...

Most of you readers have probably read *Anne Frank's Diary* or seen the movie. There is a book in the church library that I think you will find fascinating (I know I did.) It is *Anne Frank Remembered*, written by Miep Gies who helped hide the Frank family.



She was the one who made the rounds to many stores to get food as it was so scarce they hardly had enough. She was the one who visited them regularly to keep up their spirits and bring them news of the outside world. Those of us who lived with what we thought were stringent rules and regulations will think we had it easy after reading about the hardships in *The Netherlands*.

Diane MacWilliam

COUNCIL MEETING ~~ May 20, 2009

Marshall opened the meeting at 6:00pm with a prayer. Those present were Pastor Marshall, Diana Junker, Don Locke, John Souza, Audrey Magown, Becky Miller, Diane MacWilliam and Carol Sinotte. The minutes of the May meeting were approved with a correction. At the April meeting the council voted to hold one breakfast each month. The Treasurers report was accepted as printed.

PASTORS REPORT: Marshall reported that he had attended the Florida Conference meeting in Daytona Beach. There were 74 churches represented, with 209 delegates present. A new congregation is being started on the west coast. The conference budget was decreased \$1.16 million dollars from last year. The per capita dues for each UCC member have increased to \$15.00 each for next year. A disaster response program was discussed. Marshall has a book about this from the conference. The subject of hurricane window shutters was discussed, and it was decided that we should be okay without them. Don said that an inventory of the church was going to be done June 3rd by the UCC insurance company. Part of the disaster response effort would be to know which members are here during the summer months and which ones would need help during a disaster. We also need to plan on who has extra rooms and could provide transportation during a disaster. There will be sign up lists of those needing assistance and those providing assistance. Sal Alibrio has moved to an assisted living facility and the address and phone number are posted on a bulletin board.

DEACONS REPORT: Marshall reported that the Memorial Day service has been planned and will be held on May 24th. The congregation will adjourn to the memorial garden where the names of people whose ashes have been placed in the garden, those who have passed on since 2006, and those who still have loved ones in the church will be read. The Deacons talked about each one having a list of people to keep in touch with. There will be a breakfast on June 21st for Father's Day put on by the women in the church. Diana Junker will be in charge. There will be a pot luck lunch on July 5th chaired by Carol Sinotte.

TRUSTEES REPORT: Don said that memorial funds were used for the materials used and window air conditioner installed in Marshall's office last month.

PROPERTY REPORT: John said that the high water bill is being investigated. The sprinkler system was checked for leaks and none were found. The sprinkler system will be turned off during the rainy months. There was discussion about using well water for the plants and John will look into getting a price for a new well, or using the shallow well that we currently have.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: Gerry reported that Helen wants a policy for paying for weddings and funerals. She suggested \$100.00 for a wedding and \$50.00 for a funeral.

STEWARDSHIP: Notices were sent out to those who hadn't pledged this year. There has been no response.

CHRISTIAN ED: Carol had suggested that there be no Sunday School classes for June, July and August, since Charlotte and Benjamin are usually the only children that attend regularly. Becky said that the committee agreed, although there will be a lesson planned if needed for visitors.

MISSIONS: Audrey said that she and Margaret had attended a meeting for the Crop Walk held in last February; our church raised \$800.00, and the entire community raised \$29,000.00. There are many projects that everyone can participate in, including BoxTops for Education, food donated to In The Image of Christ, refreshments after Sunday services, offering to be ushers and greeters, attending crafts on Wednesdays, and the blessing bank in the hallway.

MEMORIAL: Diane MacWilliam said that a check for \$500.00 was received for Marion Kallstrom's memorial fund and is to be used in the memorial garden. Thank you notes that are sent to family members of deceased members do not mention a dollar amount, but the notes sent to the contributor do list the amount for tax purposes.

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP: No report

EVANGELISM: Messages are being put on the Wayside Pulpit that can be changed. All the churches on our mailing list were notified that our newsletter is available online and would no longer be mailed to them unless requested. This will save on mailing costs.

NOMINATING: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Tom Maybury and Diana Junker have agreed to co-chair the December Holiday Bazaar.

NEW BUSINESS: John Souza said that he agreed to run the kitchen for one year and has kept track of all income and expenses. He showed these to Bob Bater, auditor for the church. It was decided that the Treasurer needs to know how much money is raised and what the expenses are for each function. John has agreed to continue to be in charge of the kitchen and he will be reimbursed for all his expenses. The next council meeting will be October 14, 2009. The meeting was closed with everyone reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Sinotte, Clerk