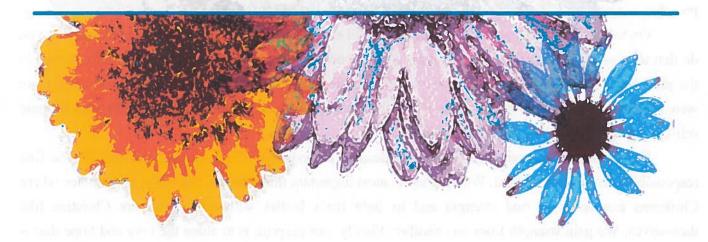
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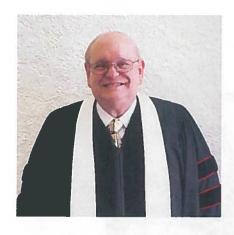
May, 2019 Volume 41 No. 5



Church Mouse



May, 2019 Walking with Walter



As I was sitting in my office this morning, I was preparing to go back to Virginia to preach at one of my former churches. Many of you know that when Ellen and I moved back to Florida that I didn't want to come back. When we left Florida and 1984, I swore I would never return. I loved Virginia. But something happened! You all came into my life.

Now, I am dreading going back to Virginia. I have fallen in love with each of you and Weirsdale church. There are no words to truly express how happy both Ellen and I are to be a part of this wonderful congregation. The more I have thought about this; Paul's letter to the

Philippians comes to my mind. The passage is found in Philippians 1: 3-4: "I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy...."

I am so excited about everything that is going on here. On May 12, 2019, we will be receiving, I believe, 12 new members into our church. This is absolutely astounding. Between now and May 12th I hope others will be added to the list. What makes me so excited is the fact that you all are behind it. You are inviting people to come. Without that, no church, no matter how good the programs, the music or the preacher happens to be, a church will not grow. It does not happen by osmosis.

On top of all of that, you are a mission minded church. When I think about all the things that you do that to is striking for a small congregation. You are not like some of the churches that I have served in the past. Some of those congregations were very mission minded in the beginning. But any time there were financial difficulties, the first thing to go were their mission projects. All they did was become self-centered and focusing entirely upon themselves.

For a church to become self-centered is deadly. The purpose of any church is threefold. The first responsibility is to worship God. Worship is the most important thing we do. Secondly, it is a place where Christians can come to find strength and to fight life's battles with those who are Christian like themselves. We gain strength from one another. Finally, our purpose is to share the love and hope that is found in Jesus Christ with those around us. That is why Jesus gave us what today we call "The Great Commission."

Weirsdale Presbyterian Church is truly the church that God wants the church to be. Praise be to the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ for each one of you!

HOLY WEEK At WPC

Holy Week at Weirsdale Presbyterian Church was a beautiful and blessed time.

The choir paraded in with waving palms on Palm Sunday and then presented a glorious Easter Cantata during the worship service. It was received with a standing ovation!

Maundy Thursday included a soup dinner before worship and then the Maundy Thursday worship service with Holy Communion.

Easter morning service was filled with our church family celebrating the risen Christ, and the Easter lilies added to the beauty of the morning!



NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

"A New Testament Survey" is the topic of a new Bible study group meeting on Wednesday mornings at 10AM.

Dr. Laseter is leading the series.

Walter can be reached at 352-598-5767 for further information.



SERVING STANTON WEIRSDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Volunteers from our church gave their time and efforts helping the elementary school for two occasions in April.

April 9th, Cathy Vibber, Carol & Ron Everman and Ilene Newton participated in a "Making Father's Stronger in the Family" event. They were there to work with the dads (and participating moms) and children on science projects.

Later that same week, the Deacons provided a Teacher's Appreciate Luncheon for the faculty.

Weirsdale Presbyterian Church has a long history of providing assistance and support for SWES. We volunteer to help at several major functions for the children as well as tutor and give financial aid. The Boy Scouts have helped by improving the area at the bus stop so children have a safer and more comfortable wait for their rides.



FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS ARE APPRECIATED

The Fellowship Committee wants to thank each and every one of you who have volunteered to provide Fellowship after our worship services. For those of you who cannot work in the kitchen but have donated funds specifically for a fellowship, your monetary donations are appreciated also.

WELCOME NEW CHURCH MEMBERS

Sunday, May 12th, sixteen new members will join our church family. Give them a WPC welcome!

Ed Aponte Karen Cunningham Candace Luffman Mary Reynolds Vivian Taylor Terri Warriner Jill Hayman-Aponte Nance' Eaton Amanda McGonigle Linda Sherrod Jim Waddell

Matthew Case Aaron Licciardello Priscilla Olson Ed Taylor Russ Warriner

2019 HARVEST HAPPENINGS CRAFT BAZAAR

The Harvest Happenings crafters are amping up their efforts to be ready for the craft bazaar in the fall and are now meeting every Monday from 9AM to approximately noon.

If you are able to give a little of your time for this project that the church benefits from, please come by. There are plenty of opportunities to help and all do not require crafting.

Here is a list of items requested for the Harvest Happenings Craft Fair:

Glass Blocks Paddles & Oars Fan Blades **Cutting Boards**

Glass Jugs/Jars **Used Large Paint Brushes** Old Windows Solid Bricks (no holes) Denim Jackets Christmas Decorations

Wood Pieces Christmas & Decorative Ribbon

Old Furniture Jewelry

Yarn—orange & apple red (Fall Colors) Old Iron Skillets

Ice Skates

Wooden Spindles Outdoor Candy Cane Sidewalk Lights Coffee Cans Old Fashioned Christmas Light Bulbs

Tin Cans **Decorative Pumpkins** Paint Shepherd Hooks

Picture Frames

Debbi has put out a call for help with refinishing some furniture items. There are rockers, tables, wicker chairs and stools that need to be spruced up. If several people could volunteer to pick just one item each to work on, the project would be completed without the entire project falling on just a couple peoples' shoulders.

Please give Debbi a call at 330-461-4286 if you could be one of these people.



THE FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH IS "FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY" and the COMMUNITY OF GRATITUDE THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT





THE SECOND SUNDAY EACH MONTH IS THE "SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE" FOR STANTON-WEIRSDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. There are so many children needing your gifts.

YOUR SHARING IS A BLESSING

These dates in are open for altar flowers and fellowship. Please consider signing up for one or the other.

ALTAR FLOWERS

May 19

July 7, 14 & 21

FELLOWSHIP HOST

June 23 & 30 July 14 & 28



The Operation Shoebox sewing group has cut back on meetings for a few months. They will only be **meeting on the 2nd Mondays** of each month until further notice.

Diana Harris is the coordinator for the sewing group and delivers the items to Operation Shoebox. For further information, she can be reached at 352-425-4351 or at 352-625-6021.

DEAR GOD

I've never spoken to you,

But now I desperately want to know you, too.

You see, God, they told me you didn't exist,

And I, like a fool, believed all this.

Last night from a shell-hole I saw your sky.

I figured right then they'd told me a lie.

Had I taken time to see things you had made,

I'd have known they weren't calling a spade a spade.

I wonder, God, if you'd take my hand;

Somehow I feel that you understand.

Strange I had to come to this hellish place

Before I had time to see your face.

Well, I guess there isn't much more to say,

But I'm sure glad, Lord, you opened the way.

I guess zero hour will soon be here,

But I'm not afraid since I know you're near.

The signal! Well, God, I guess I'll have to go.

I love you, Lord—this I want you to know.

Look now, this will be a horrible fight.

Who knows, I may come to your house tonight.

Though I wasn't friends with you before,

I wonder, Christ, if you'd wait at your door?

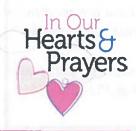
Look, I'm crying—me shedding tears.

How I wish I'd know you these many years.

Well, I have to go now, God. Good-bye.

Strange, since I met you I'm not scared to die.

Found on the body of an unknown American soldier.



Nancy

Steve

Wayne

Dwight

Bob

Sandy

Charlene

Don

August

Spencer

Penny Kevin

Ed

Bill

Amanda

Becky

Donna

Sandy

Carole

Andi

Debbi

Matt's Family

Grovene

Clara

Terry

Jay

Kimberly

Toni

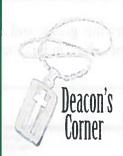
Charles

Caleb

Amy

Vivian

Safe Travels for our snowbirds.



As you begin your day, look around and focus on the small blessings that you may take for granted each day. We have so much to be thankful for! We are loved by such an awesome God!

PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION

If you have a prayer request or are interested in helping on the prayer chain, please call **Marlys Forbrook** at 352-430-1727 or **Axie Grimes** at 352-537-0854.



Remember our friends who are homebound or in a care facility by sending them a card to brighten their day:



Robert Lipsner 800 Lake Port Blvd. Apt C505 Leesburg, FL 34748 Betts Mengel ATRIA Lady Lake 930 County Road 466 Lady Lake, FL 32159

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

James & Audrey Stangle 4680 Bellwether Ln. Apt. 113 Oxford, FL 34484

MAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher:

Sara Jane Vincent

Liturgist:

Carol Everman

Communion Setup: Communion Servers:

Cathy Skoff

Axie Grimes, Lorna McKenzie,

Nancy McPeek, Starr Patterson, Cindy Strategos

As always, if you are unable to serve as listed above, **PLEASE find a substitute.** And, thank you for your willingness to serve our church!

JUNE WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher:

Starr Patterson

Liturgist:

Communion Setup:

Communion Servers:

Axie Grimes, Lorna McKenzie, Nancy McPeek, Starr Patterson

May 2019

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WEIRSDALE PRESBYTERIAN

16303 SE 137th Court P. O. Box 269 Weirsdale, FL 32195

Phone: 352-821-2757 Fax: 352-821-3554

E-mail: weirsdalepres@gmail.com

Website: www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org

Our Mission: Bring People to Christ Develop our Discipleship



Weirsdale Presbyterian Church Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM Fellowship: 11:30 AM

Sunday School: 9:00 AM (October through April)