



Wishing all the fathers a Happy Father's Day!

June 21

May, 2020 Volume 42 No. 6

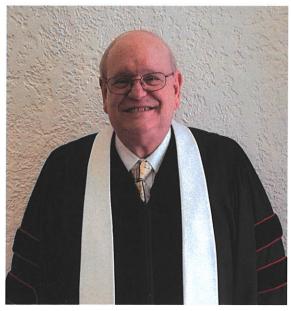


# Church Mouse



### June, 2020

## Walking with Walter



To begin with I want to say thank you to all of you for watching our worship services online. I also want to say thank you to those who made it possible for us to come into your homes via the Internet. I want to say thank you to Don Morris for his amazing work with the camera and with the sound system. He is the one who made it possible for you to watch. Secondly, I want to say thank you to Jill Aponte, our choir director, for preparing the special music that we had for those services. She worked very hard to learn some special songs that I had requested of her. Thirdly, I want to thank my wife Ellen for providing the piano music while we have been absent from one another. Her playing made it especially nice as it added to the atmosphere of our worship. Last, but not least, I want to thank Linda Spatta for the hard work that she has done. She is the one who takes the recording, reformats it so that it can be seen on the Internet. Without all of these people nothing would have been possible.

On May 24, 2020, we had our first service together since March 15. It was exciting to look out and see people in the congregation once again. What I found especially nice was experiencing the interaction with each of you that came. Even though I could not see your faces, I could tell by the laughter that most of you were happy to be together again. That Sunday, we had 50 people in attendance. I must admit, that was more than I expected.

I know that we are still having social distancing and many people are not able to get out like they would prefer, but at least we have had a start. Many of the things that we are used to doing we will not do for the time being. For instance, having fellowship following services, Bible studies, etc. will not happen right away.

As we go through this Covid 19 virus, there are a lot of things that will be different. People are talking about what it will be like with the "new normal". No one has any idea of what that is going to be. All we can do is go with the flow.

The one thing that you and I can depend upon is our Lord! He is faithful! He is caring! He is watching over us! He is the one who will get us through! The Bible is full of great promises to us about God's faithfulness and his care for us. One of the Scriptures that I used in a sermon recently is one that I want to leave you all with. It comes from 1 Peter 5:6-7 and says, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

God is watching over us. We can trust that he will continue to do that. May God bless each one of us during this time of difficulty.

Fifty of you attended our first, live worship service this past Sunday, May 24th. We required everyone to wear masks and gloves. This procedure will continue each Sunday until further notice. Please remember in future worship services that no matter how far you distance yourself from others, **keep your masks and gloves on** until after you leave the sanctuary at the end of the gathering. We must be protective of our pastor and each other.

Rev. Rhonda Link-Cummings blessed our re-opening and presented Walter & Ellen an Afghan which she crocheted in the colors for Pentecost.



On June 7th, Holy Communion will be served with a few alterations to the procedure. Walter is making sure Communion is administered in the safest possible way.

Please remember to send your tithes and offerings to the church at the PO Box 269, Weirsdale, FL 32195. Do not send to our street address.

Until we are back to full services and social gatherings, I will continue to send you the link to the worship services as well as the bulletin. There has been a lot of positive feedback about this. Thank you all for your kind words.

This will be the last newsletter until September. Please enjoy your summer, but keep safe.

Blessings to all,

Linda

# SUNDAY, MAY 24th





# FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH IS "FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY" COMMUNITY OF GRATITUDE THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT First Quarter, 2020

Total Individuals 2,397 Households 866

Total # Meals 23,778 Children 0-17 yrs. 655



The Community of Gratitude is grateful for our monetary support and food donations.

The pantry is always in need of nonperishable food and toiletries and also accepts food for pets.





Heifer International & Duvall Homes also shared their gratefulness for our support.

When this is over, may we never again take for granted: A handshake with a stranger Full shelves at the store Conversations with neighbors A crowded theater Friday night out The taste of Communion A routine checkup The school rush each morning Coffee with a friend The stadium roaring Each deep breath A boring Tuesday Life itself. When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be, we were called to be, we hoped to be, and may we stay that way---better for each other.

#### THE "WOW!" FACTOR

After the final notes concluded at a recent symphony performance in Boston, the conductor hadn't yet lowered his baton when a child exclaimed, "Wow!" The break in protocol, magnified by excellent acoustics, didn't upset the participants or audience, however instead, several later said it brought them great joy. One even called the moment life-changing.

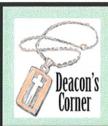
The incident was especially meaningful because the child, a 9 year old named Ronan, has autism and is generally nonverbal. Music, his family says, tends to attract his interest and make him happy. When symphony officials learned of his identity, they arranged a private performance so he could meet some musicians.

How often do you shout "Wow!" -- in a good way -- at what you see and hear? You may tend to do so on vacation or while observing God's natural wonders, but what about during your day-to-day life? Think about the people you encounter and their talents -- and your own. When have these sparked a "Wow!" of thanks to God?

Every blessing, large or small, is a wow-moment -- a gift from God that warrants our praise.

Adapted from HomeTouchMinistry





### The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. Proverbs 16:9



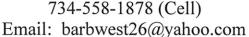
Our thoughts and prayers are sent out to the families of Jim Meacham and Doris Graves.

Jim went home to the Lord on May 7th, the day after his 90th birthday.

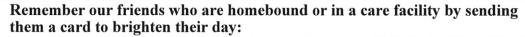
Doris went home to the Lord on the afternoon of May 20th. A memorial service will be held for her when daughter Jessie Golden returns to Florida this Fall.

#### PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION

If you have a prayer request or are interested in helping on the prayer chain, please contact **Barbara West.** 









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

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

#### JUNE WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher:

Angela Pecor

Liturgist:

Ilene Newton

Communion Set-up: TBD

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!

#### WEIRSDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

As the current circumstances change, we will keep you informed through email blasts and the website.