

SEPTEMBER





The Church Mouse



Running with Rhonda

September, 2021



Alan and I have lived in Ocala 26 ½ years. We moved from Greenville, S o u t h Carolina, after living in North Augusta, South Carolina, for 3 ½ years. (No, I never attended the Master's

but did go on practice day, and it was exciting.) I was raised in Indianapolis. (Same place as Linda Spatta, but she lived in Washington Township outside the city, and I lived in Washington Township inside the city--always a very small world.)

Alan and I have three married children: Rebecca (living in Summerville, SC, Chris (living in Orlando) and Steve (living in Taiwan). Alan and I house two International Students each school year. This year one is from Germany and the other is from Denmark. We relearn how

much food 16-yr. boys eat! They do love to eat--especially brownies.

I am also the Area 2 Coordinator for the Presbytery of St. Augustine and have also served on the Call Commission as well as the Disaster Committee.

In my spare and leisure time, I am a soccer referee and a referee assignor. (Kaye has seen me on the field getting wet.) It is part of my Mission and Ministry to the Community and the kids.

I also crochet baby afghans and give them to the Catholic Outreach Program. Throw afghans are crocheted while I am watching TV or at 6:00am in the morning.

Blessings;

Rhonda

Rev. Rhonda Link-Cummings, who is the Area Coordinator 2 of the Presbytery, is available for pastoral care and can be reached at 352-875-3002.

Session Snippets by Angela Pecor (Clerk of Session)

September Newsletter Issue



My Words to All

It has been a rough few months for our church and also for the people who work for and with the church. We all have experienced such great losses and numerous challenges. Now, to make matters worse, Covid is making a come-back. Our Church has an awful lot to deal with—in front of and behind the altar.

As I deal with my own basket of turmoil, I am reminded of a pack of bookmarks Walter gave to us all one Sunday. At the top, it reads:

“BE FAITHFUL”

I just happened to find one of those bookmarks about a month ago during a low point for me. I read the whole thing and it gave me hope. In addition, just last week I found out that three of my student’s names this year are Faith. I usually have no one by that name. And, wasn’t it a little odd we sang, “Come All Ye Faithful” in the middle of August (8/15) for our first hymn? By the way, there have been more of these **same** messages that I have encountered recently.

I believe God *is* at work here. God sends us messages all the time if we are open to see them. Sometimes I want to just give up and throw in the towel. But God is sending me a different message. I can only hope that faith grows stronger in all of us.

Finding a new pastor

We have put together a **search group** made up of a variety of our church members. This group is **not** the PNC. This group is working to determine what kind of person will be right for our church in the meantime until we find a more permanent pastor which, by the way, will take at least 18 months with a PNC. (Pastor Nominating Committee)

Part-time Pastors, CREs, Interims, Stated Supply Pastors will cost much less.

What we can expect

Full-time experienced Pastors could cost \$70,000 or more per year.

It will take a long time to go through the process.

There is a Pastor shortage.

Session Snippets (Cont'd.)

More News

Masks!

We discussed the issue of making masks mandatory in light of recent Covid outbreaks. Due to high vaccination rates, we decided by consensus to keep masks **optional**. That said, we are going to be “**mask friendly**.” That means we are going to start providing masks again in the Narthex if you would like to wear one. Hand sanitizer is still available too.

Did you know?

Our **sewing group** now makes over **200 ditty bags** for our soldiers in one month. Wow, talk about hard workers and dedicated too!

Tuesday Time Out starts up September 14th and the price is now \$5.00 per lunch. Get ready to sing some old favorites and have a great lunch. Don't forget, Bingo is included on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Membership pads are back. Please fill them out every Sunday to help us build our membership.

Personnel Committee

Kim Bishop and his personnel committee put together **job descriptions** for every job there is at our church. That way, we always have the means to fulfill the needs of the church if someone leaves their position, or needs a break or vacation. **Special thanks** to Kim and his committee. This was a lot of work and took **4 months** to complete!

From the Finance Committee

Kim would like to start working on committee budgets for next year in September. If you are on one of our committees, please start thinking about items your group might or might not need as we move forward.

From the Building and Grounds Committee

Kaye Boyer has been very busy planning, getting bids, over-seeing many repairs in and around the church.

Our front step has been repaired and will be painted soon. Trees and shrubs have been trimmed around the church and the manse. There is more to be done.

Future projects in the works are getting the carpet replaced in the sanctuary and more painting inside the church sanctuary.



Jim...

On behalf of the Session, we want to thank you for your years of service for the Lord, our church, and the community!

For those of you who don't know, Jim resigned from Session on April 9th of this year. He served as our Missions Chairperson. I recently asked Jim why he suddenly left. He told me that his resigning was due to his “large busy burden of duties with American Legion as Executive on Board and Post Chaplain.”

I also asked Jim if it was alright to share this information with you, and he said it would be okay. He is still hard at work serving the community.

We understand, Jim, but we do miss you and wish you all the best.



FIRST SUNDAY EACH
MONTH IS
“FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY”

The Community of Gratitude thanks you for your support.

They always need nonperishable items. Bags of food can be left in the Narthex or in the box in Douglas Hall.



TTO IS BACK!



Tuesday Time Out will start serving lunches again on Tuesday, September 14th. All are welcome to attend. Seating is at 11:30 with activities and singing until noon when lunch is served. The price is \$5.00/person.

If you would like to participate with the kitchen staff, please get in touch with Gary Spatta at 561-929-6210. Staff can always use another cook or spare hands to help out.

STANTON WEIRSDALE SCHOOL

The school thanks the Weirsdale Presbyterian Church congregation for all donations of supplies.

You have brought them enough to get them into the new school year, and they appreciate your help.



STILL INTERESTED?

Our Church Mouse Newsletter is sent to a long list of recipients. If you no longer participate in our church and would like to be removed from our mailing list for the newsletter, please call the church at 352-821-2757. Or send an email to weirsdalepres@gmail.com.

Better yet, come on back and join us again!

A MESSAGE FROM FELLOWSHIP

We had a potluck dinner Sunday, the 22nd, with a lot of people and a lot of food followed by a town hall meeting led by Rev. Alan Cummings to explain the procedure to acquire a new pastor and to ask those present what characteristics wanted in a new pastor.

During the meal we attempted to hold a haphazard meeting of the Fellowship Committee with plans for the Potluck/Picnic on September 26th. Ten members were there.

Our sewing group fulfilled our goal of fifty bags which will be delivered to Operation Shoebox this week. Our next sewing session will be Sep. 13th, along with persons interested in working to create another craft show next fall.

With Tuesday Time Out restarting Sep. 14th, things are going forward and looking up.

Diana Harris

CHIMERS

There is still time to sign up for the chime choir. If you would like to be a part of this musical group, please call Kim Bishop at 248-318-9680.



CHOIR

Ilene Newton (352-603-2848) is collecting names of those interested in singing in the choir this year. The choir is an important part of our Sunday services and if you are interested, please give her a call.





When you are lonely , I wish you love. When you are down, I wish you joy. When you are troubled, I wish you peace. When things are chaotic, I wish you inner silence. When things look empty, I wish you hope. (Project Forgive)



DEEPEST SYMPATHY

On Friday, August 6th, Debbi McCloskey went home to be with the Lord. A beautiful memorial service was held in the church the following Thursday afternoon. Keep Larry and all family in your prayers.

PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION

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

734-558-1878 (Cell)

Email: barbwest26@yahoo.com



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



Dottie Jones
2623 Hialeah Ave.
The Villages, FL 32162-6366

Richard & Sandy Hendren
11001 Sunset Harbor Rd. #8
Weirsdale, FL 32195-0644

Robert Lipsner
800 Lake Port Blvd. Apt C505
Leesburg, FL 34748

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

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher: Linda Spatta
Liturgist: Linda Spence
Communion Set-up (Sept 12): Barbara West
September Lock-up: Angela Pecor

OCTOBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher: Bill Matthews
Liturgist: Linda Spatta
Communion Set-up: Linda Spatta
October Lock-up: Linda Spatta

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!



Calendarpedia
Your source for calendars

WEIRSDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Phone: 352-821-2757

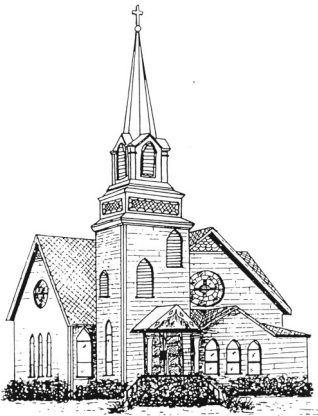
Fax: 352-821-3554

E-mail: weirsdalepres@gmail.com

Website: www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org



Our Mission:
Bring People to Christ
Develop our Discipleship



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