



SEPTEMBER *September*



The Church Mouse



August, 2018

Walking with Walter

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! On August 21, 2018 the St. Augustine Presbytery agreed to make me a Commissioned Ruling Elder for Weirsdale Presbyterian Church. Now thanks to their imprimatur (license and approval) I am now able to not only preach for you but also to moderate the session and to administer the sacraments. This has been a long and arduous process, but thankfully, it is finished. I want to express my gratitude and my thankfulness for all the support that you all have given me through this process. Your prayers for me have been answered. Now, as the entertainment industry says, "On with the show!"

We have been given the opportunity to do some mission work with Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School. The deacons contacted the school and have been given some things that we can do, as a church, to help the kids and to recognize the work of the school staff. On August 18, the deacons agreed to do the following things with your help.

To help with the care closet. This would include household items as well as clothes for both boys and girls.

To do the shoe drive as we usually do.

Sometime in October or November to volunteer for Science Night.

On field day, we will provide the staff with lunch as we did this year in May.

Possibly have volunteers for World's Fair Day, sometime in December.

Continue with our Angel Tree missions project.

To ask if anyone is willing to be volunteer to read to children or to listen to children read.

The deacons have agreed to provide Friday afternoon socials for the staff once a quarter.

This is an exciting time with so many possibilities for us. I am privileged to be part of this church and to see how well everyone works together. Whenever someone asks about the church my first response is always — it is the friendliest church in the world. Not only are you friendly, but you are also a mission minded church.

Weirsdale church does so many things for so many! As your pastor, I am so proud of you all. Thanks for allowing me to be part of your fellowship!

DR. WALTER G. LASETER is available for pastoral care and can be reached at 352-598-5767.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

June

- ◆ Quarterly maintenance on the heating/air conditioning has been completed.
- ◆ A portion of the backyard at the Manse has been enclosed with a chain link fence so that the Laseters can let their small dogs out.
- ◆ Session approved cancelling our internet/phone service with CenturyLink in favor of switching to Comcast which can greatly increase our internet speed and lower our monthly payment.

July

- ◆ Duke Energy completed the installation of the additional light pole in the parking lot to the south of Douglas Hall. They also replaced the split pole in front of the Manse.
- ◆ Sandy Karlein is putting together ideas and samples for the renovation of the Narthex and ladies' bathroom in the parlor. Financing of this project is with proceeds from last fall's bazaar.
- ◆ We are collecting bids from Benmar Construction for painting Douglas Hall and pressure washing the church.
- ◆ Newly planted rose bushes in front of the church have died due to herbicide being used by the lawn care service. The bushes are being replaced and the lawn service has been spoken with about the problem.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATED FOR STANTON WEIRSDALE ELEMENTARY

As always, you have succeeded in producing a very successful school supply drive for the grade school. A car full of supplies and \$245.00 was collected and given to the school in August. Thank you for all of your donations.



COMMUNITY OF GRATITUDE

April, May and June

Total Individuals	2184
Households	780
Total # Meals	19,656

July

Total Individuals	753
Households	260
Total # of Meals	6,777
Children 0-17 yrs.	228



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 the pets.



Notes of **THANKS**

TO OUR SUMMER ORGANIST

Thank you, Ellen, for blessing us with your accompaniment for our worship services through the summer months. Enjoy your break, and we hope you will return to play for us.

WELCOME BACK, JO!



Welcome back, Jo Ann, as you return from your summer vacation to rejoin our Sunday morning worship services at the organ and keyboard. We hope your summer was relaxing.

Missions Appreciate Our Support

At the beginning of summer, representatives from three missions we support came and spoke of the impact our contribution has in helping their causes.

We appreciated hearing from Lisa Habermehl of Duvall Homes, Linda Kafader of Community of Gratitude and Yolanda East of Shepherd's Lighthouse.

Please keep these leaders of these operations in your prayers and remember to support them when you can.

OUR SUMMER WAS BUSY!

We always think things will slow down in the summer, and they do to some extent, however, we still manage to keep busy and have fun.

This summer was no different. We had many wonderful Fellowships including Father's Day Meatloaf, Watermelon, Ice Cream Sundaes and a Corn Boil along with our regular potlucks.

Many from our congregation blessed us with their musical talents. We also appreciated the Village Gospel Singers who visited.

The Seniors enjoyed dinner at Oakwood Smokehouse & Grill, Gator Joes and Sonny's Barbeque. One thing is for sure, the group likes to eat and visit!

Things will pick up as we progress into the Fall season, and we will continue to have a great time!

A NEW ADDITION TO OUR CHOIR LOFT

A new clarinova piano has been donated to the church as a memorial gift in memory of a previous pastor. Enjoy the beautiful sounds that it produces as the pianists play for our worship services.



SEEKING A CHOIR DIRECTOR

Fall is fast approaching and it brings our choir back for our worship services. Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, Sept. 6, from 4:30 to 5:30 and every Thursday thereafter. If you think you might want to join the choir, please drop in. No auditions are required!

As of this date, we are looking for a part-time choir director. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Linda Spence at 352-653-8835 for more information.

Dr. Laseter will be temporarily directing the choir in the interim.

MEMBERS MOVING NORTH

Several members and friends have relocated to other areas to be closer to family. We will miss Mary Holly, Nancy & Bernie Walker, Chuck & Ann Myers and Julie Powell. Our hearts and prayers follow them.

COURT OF HONOR

An Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at our church for Max Hardy on June 23rd. He refurbished the exterior of the VFW just south of Belleview.

A VERY NICE ARTICLE ABOUT WEIRSDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE DUVALL HOMES NEWS



Years of Support from Weirsdale Presbyterian Church

News & Events



June 4, 2018 – Thank you to Pastor Walter Laseter and the gracious congregation of Weirsdale Presbyterian Church for their hospitality this past Sunday and for their years of dedicated support toward the mission of Duvall Homes.

We would also like to extend a thank you to Mission Coordinator Brian Farley, who was instrumental in arranging the invitation for our visit.

Members of the Presbyterian Church and community were apprised of how Duvall Homes transitioned from the single *Duvall House* that Thelma and Alanson Duvall formed in 1945 to today's operation of 16 residential care group homes throughout the [County of Volusia](#). Highlights of the short presentation covered current programming and services offered in Duvall's [Opportunities Enrichment Center](#), including contract work, which will soon take place in our newly renovated Vocational Training Center.



Many were surprised to learn of the critical need for trained **Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)** across Florida – the lowest DSP-funded state in the U.S. – to help care for the daily comfort, safety and



empowerment of people with I/DDs, 24/7. Before changing legislation and government mandates took hold, members of Weirsdale Presbyterian were part of the contingency of volunteers who for years selflessly gave of their time to support and build, create with and watch over many individuals who resided at Duvall.

During the service, everyone was elevated by the sounds of Ellen Laseter, Dr. Laseter's wife, on the piano, who performed, among other heartfelt hymns, *The Old Rugged Cross*. A surprise barbershop performance took place at the end of the service as Pastor Laseter's newly formed quartet practiced for their choir-replacement summer schedule.

It was a delightful visit to Weirsdale; however, due to the small size of Duvall's administrative staff, it can be challenging to make all of the visits we wish we could make in and outside of the county. One thing we are always happy to do, is to share words of gratitude for the impact people have made on the hundreds of lives of individuals with developmental disabilities living in our state.



If you are an organization who has supported Duvall Homes this year, or in years past, and have a company newsletter, please let us know as we'd love to share inspiring stories and images with you and your members or employees.

Other Duvall [News & Events](#)

ImInspired.org

   *ADT, Developmental Disabilities, Group Homes, Weirsdale Presbyterian Church*

OPERATION SHOEBOX



Operation Shoebox took a break for August but will return in September to continue cutting, sewing, knitting, and crocheting ditty bags and Christmas stockings for the troops overseas. They meet at 9 AM every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

Diana Harris is the contact for further information and she can be reached at 352-625-6021 or 352-425-4351.

The troops show their gratitude with letters of appreciation.

Receiving news from our troops is always a gratifying experience, and it is fascinating and rewarding to the sewing group to learn of all the different places in the world that the Operation Shoebox mission reaches as indicated by these letters. Troops love the ditty bags and Christmas stockings, and they return their gratefulness with wonderful letters. Here is one received recently.

*To the women at Weirsdale Presbyterian Church,
Thank you for taking the time to collect, prepare and ship ditty bags to our Aviation team here in Bagram Afghanistan! The bags were a hit and greatly appreciated by the soldiers that work on the flight line keeping the aircraft ready and operational to conduct medical evacuation for fallen soldiers. We appreciate what you have done and thank you for your support!*

CPT Applegate

Brigade S1 for

3rd Combat Aviation Brigade





This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.



Several beloved members of our congregation have gone home to be with the Lord this summer.

Keep the families of Marie Beeler, Eva Deeb, Stan Dudley, Marty McCarter and Marie Oille in your prayers and give them peace knowing their loved ones are with the Lord.

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:



Remember Our Homebound Friends

Richard Bradley
630 Griffin Ave.
Lady Lake, FL 32159

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

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher: Starr Patterson
Liturgist: Ilene Newton

Communion Set-up: Donna Tripoulas
Communion Servers: Glenda Bucklew, Brian Farley, Angela Pecor, 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!

September 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 DEACONS Meet 9AM
2 Worship 10:30AM Fellowship 11:30AM	3 Labor Day Church Office Closed	4 TTO 11:30AM	5 BSA 7:30PM	6 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	7	8
9 Worship 10:30AM Fellowship 11:30AM	10 Operation Shoebox 9AM	11 TTO 11:30AM	12 BSA 7:30PM	13 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	14	15
16 Worship 10:30AM Fellowship 11:30AM	17	18 TTO 11:30AM	19 Seniors Group 5PM BSA 7:30PM	20 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	21	22
23 Worship 10:30AM Fellowship POTLUCK 11:30AM	24 Operation Shoebox 9AM	25 TTO 11:30AM	26 BSA 7:30PM	27 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	28	29
30 Worship 10:30AM Fellowship 11:30AM	1	2	3	4	5	6

**WEIRSDALE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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**Our Mission:
Bring People to Christ
Develop our Discipleship**



Weirsdale Presbyterian Church

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Fellowship: 11:30 AM

Study Groups:

**Sundays 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School
(October through April)**