

The Communiqué



From Pastor Ken’s Pen (UH....PC!)

“When Peace Like A River, Attendeth My Way”

As I write this article (early due to vacation), my family and friends in New York State are being displaced from their homes because of severe flooding. In 2006, many homes were severely damaged and they are projecting an even more devastating flood. The Susquehanna River is bringing no peace to the residents of upstate New York.

However, as we are so often reminded, there’s a river of peace that can flow through our hearts when we learn to trust in the God of our salvation. In this time of economic scarcity, unstable nations warring against one another and all that goes with it, we are tempted to cry out as Job, “Terrors overtake him like a flood; a tempest snatches him away in the night (27:20).” Job 22:16 says that “They were carried off before their time, their foundations washed away by a flood.” The house (manse) I lived in while pastoring in New York was the victim of the flood in 2006. The house was moved three feet off its foundation. When I saw the pictures, I could hardly believe it was the same house. The church basement was completely filled with water, and it rose to two feet in the sanctuary. They were just now finishing up the final touches of their extensive repairs. Now, they are facing the same kind of flood waters or worse. Isn’t that a picture of life on earth? Just when we think we have made repairs to our life that was flooded by unexpected trials, another one comes flooding into our lives.

When God flooded the entire earth, he spared just eight people: Noah, his wife, their three sons and their wives were the lone survivors. Noah built that famous ark and it became their refuge in the Great Flood because they found grace in the eyes of the LORD. The Ark represents Jesus Christ, the lone source of refuge and safety in the storms of life. When trouble comes flooding into your soul, you can be assured that Jesus will go with you through the storm and provide a way of escape. He’s greater than any storm, One who is able to come walking “above” the tempestuous waters and bid you to come to Him.



Don’t flee to uncertain places for safety; don’t build your life on sinking sand; build your life on the solid rock, Jesus Christ, and flee to him when the storms of life are howling all around you. Don’t worry if your earthly tabernacle is shaken – you cannot be moved from your foundation! My family and friends are scrambling as I write, to salvage what they can of their earthly possessions; possessions that represent those things in life that we somehow look to for comfort and relief. So temporal are they, and so foolish are we, when we look to uncertain riches or the things that can be swept away by the raging tide. Thank you, Lord Jesus, that “our hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus’ blood and righteousness; we dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name. On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.” Let the rivers overflow their banks, let the winds blow where they may, my Anchor is greater than any flood or tempest.

See you in Church,,

Ken

OCTOBER 2011

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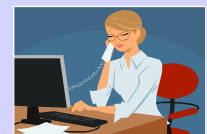
Elders 2011

Diane Burden
 Donald Burke
 Bill Dixon
 Wallace Hoffman
 Dave Hoffmeyer
 Marvin Pool
 Anne Preston
 Barbara Primm
 Jim Reasor

Deacons 2011

Pat Folmsbee
 Julie Fulks
 Jill Hembrough
 Cecelia Ingraham
 Pat Polit
 Russ Spitzer

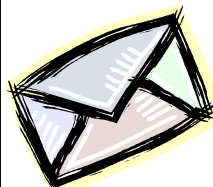
OFFICE HOURS



Monday—Thursday
8:30 AM—1:30 PM

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

19 Gene & Sonja Meisberger
26 Erich & Barbara Vey



CHURCH AND OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS IS:
PO Box 208, HITH, FL 34737

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Barb Sera, Tom Edelman & Rich Gailey
4 Betty Mayne
7 Melanie Tucker
10 Marvin Pool
12 Janet Schuring
14 Billie Ronna
15 Jack Williams
17 Isabel Olsen & Erich Vey
19 Linda Dixon
20 Patricia King
21 Joyce Falk & Dot Schaffer
22 Cecelia Ingraham
23 Carol Reasor
24 Pud Williams
26 Dirk Bod
29 Linda Pool



THANK YOU

To our lay readers, ushers, greeters, communion servers and flower arranger for the month of September:

Scot Fulks	Julie Fulks	Barbara Kyle
Billie Ronna	Jim Brate	Marvin Pool
Wallace Hoffman	Jim Reasor	Pat Polit
Melanie Tucker	Barbara Vey	Jim Bassett
Rosie Hawthorne	Barbara Primm	Karla Medina
Murray McMahon		Jean Wittmaier

Thank you to Pastor Ken and the members of Community Church for all your cards and prayers during Dick's illness and passing. They were greatly appreciated.
Janice Armstrong

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Please join us immediately following the fellowship luncheon on October 9 in Deatherage Hall for October's Celebration of Life.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Murray McMahon, Norine Spitzer, Cecelia Ingraham, Pat Folmsbee and Jim Reasor are the nominating committee who have been charged with presenting a slate of candidates for new elders and deacons.
Jim Reasor

BITS FROM BETTY

As you (missed) seasonal people return home, please let Betty know so your newsletter will be delivered correctly.

Please make the following change in your directory:
Don Burke/Pat Polit: new home phone 352-446-7222

CHRISTIAN CLIPPINGS

- ◆ The three arch-enemies of happiness are hurry, worry and doubt.
- ◆ I believe in: the sun when it is not shining, the wind when it is not blowing, and God when He is silent.
- ◆ Don't put a question mark where God has put a period.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 1

8:00 - 10:30 AM

Come and enjoy the food and fellowship and bring a friend or two



FREE FREE FREE



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Grace Place

Children's Sunday School 10:00 AM DH

Women's Tuesday Bible Study 6:00 PM DH

Pastor Ken's Thursday Bible Study 3:30 PM DH

Have you attended any of the above?

It's never too late to join.

FINANCIAL RECAP

as of 8-31-11

Operating Account

Beginning Balance	\$78,537.42
Disbursements	-\$25,863.54
Deposits	\$13,368.20
Ending Balance—Operating Account	\$66,042.08

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget 2011</u>
Pledge Receipts	\$7,418.00	\$74,815.00	\$101,200.00
Non-Pledge Receipts	\$2,149.00	\$49,815.24	\$ 60,000.00

Capital Campaign Contributions

Current YTD	\$ 37,540.65
Current month	\$ 2,679.95
Total	\$198,776.02
Balance Land Purchase Mortgage	\$290,538.27

P & L Recap YTD

Year-to-Date Operating Income	\$127,947.04
Year-to-Date Operating Expenses	- \$128,134.76

Happy October Everyone,

Many of you know that I am a caregiver for my Father. Unfortunately my siblings have a habit of telling me what to do, and how and when to do it. Of course, my sisters both have their unaffected lives in Maryland and have nothing changed in their lives, including their social life. Don't misunderstand or think for a minute that I am not doing what I want in caring for my Father for he is so very special to me. I guess you could say my two men, Russell and Daddy are my heart. My younger sister was here visiting recently and got a small dose (5 day sample) of what my life is like everyday. I actually think she was trying to apologize to me for giving Russell and me so much grief these past several months. But she said that she and my twenty-two year old granddaughter did not have enough patience to care for him on a daily basis. She asked me when I learned to be so patient, as I was NOT patient with my children, and she can see how very patient I am with him. I realized how correct she was about that, and Sunday during the church service the answer came to me.

When I first became a Christian in 1993, I wanted to have all the "Fruit of the Spirit" - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, and self- control. The two I had the hardest time with were "patience and self- control. I used to pray a special prayer asking our Lord to give me these two fruits. Now, I know I am not the same person I was back then, thank the Lord. I know that I am a living testament to the difference it makes to your life when Jesus comes into your heart. I know He answers our prayers, in His own time. Everything you go through in your earlier life is to prepare you for what He would have you do in your later years. For me, it is caring for my Father and being the choir director. Trust me when I say both of these tasks take extreme patience and self control, as well as the other "Fruits of the Spirit". I am proud and much fulfilled in my life to be a servant to the Lord, to Community Church, and I am happy that my husband and I are here for Daddy.

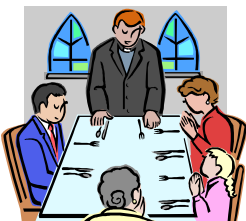
Last month you heard the choir sing about heaven. The *Midnight Cry* is just one of my favorite gospel songs. This month we will be singing songs that have to do with Evangelism and service to others for the Lord. I hope you will be pleased with what you hear.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome Ken and Laurie Grace to the choir. We are so happy to have them join our choir family. Many of you remember when Bill Brooks finally decided to retire from the choir at the young age of 91. We actually retired his robe #22, which has never been assigned to anyone else. Well, guess who came out of retirement? A BIG welcome back to Bill Brooks who has been missed by all. And also, I want to thank Bob Ronna, Pat Polit, and Melanie Tucker for blessing the 9:00 service with their voices and helping me to reach my goal. Many thanks to the daughter-in-law of Dan and Wreatha Crowder for sharing her beautiful voice and song with both services in September. Those of you blessed with singing voices, I urge you to share your talent with Community Church and help enrich our service by singing your praises to the Lord for the congregation. Please call me and let me know when you can sing.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you safe,
Norine



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



How many “families” do you have? Most of us have several families, and they are all important to us. There’s our immediate family (the most important of all), but for some of us they live a distance away and we don’t get to see them that often. There’s our neighborhood or community family, but at times it’s just a “hello” and then back into our air-conditioned houses. So when we aren’t feeling well, or have to go into the hospital, or need a ride to the airport – who helps us? I was on the phone recruiting for Wednesday’s mom’s morning out and was told, “I would love to help, but I’m taking someone to the airport that morning.” That “someone” was a fellow church member and that got me to thinking about how hard it might be for us to be totally alone when a legitimate need shows up on our doorstep. If we are lucky enough to have formed a “family” inside our church, they are the people who will see us through anything. Often our help will come from our Thursday Bible study group or Sunday’s Pairs and Spares or the deacon group – all part of our church family. Like Jesus said, “Ask and you shall receive...” That’s the way it is in Community Church. As we go down life’s bumpy road with all its challenges, there’s a chance the most important family in our life might change. Ask yourself this question—who would you call?

I see “fellowship families” every second Sunday of the month after the 11 a.m. service at our luncheon. We eat and talk, and as we talk we get to know each other better. Who knows? The person you call when a need arises may be sitting right across the table from you. In October we will be talking and getting to know each other better as we munch on meat & potatoes. See you there!

In God’s Love,
Rosie Hawthorne
Fellowship



What is Fellowship? Fellowship is an important way of obeying Christ’s new commandment to love one another. Fellowship is a way of bearing each other’s burdens. Fellowship helps the Church grow and work together to become more like Christ.

<http://www.freebiblestudyguides.org/bible-tips>

OUTREACH

The **PANCAKE BREAKFAST** on October 1st will again be **FREE**. Two free ones in a ROW!!! No excuse for not bringing a friend or two or three. Of course, if you wish to pay, all monies will be gratefully accepted. Linda Poole did a great job running the September breakfast. Please thank her for doing this.

We are also beginning preparations for our church’s participation in this year’s Howey Christmas festival which will take place on Saturday, December 10.

Please keep in mind **HALLOWEEN** at the end of the month. On **October 16th**, a box will be set up in the Narthex to receive any candy donations, and a volunteer **sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board**. We hope we can count on your help again this year.



We are all part of Outreach. If you are sitting at Sunday service and someone you don’t know sits next to you, say hello and welcome them to our church. If they are new, try to get them a visitor packet (available in the Narthex).

Our committee, which is currently comprised of Les Deatherage, Murray McMahon, Linda Goodwin, Wil Rivera and Don Burke, meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM in Grace Place. Our responsibilities include tracking new visitors, sponsoring the **pancake breakfast**, and hosting the **Halloween Open House** and **Easter Egg Hunt**. If you would like to join the committee, please contact Don Burke at 352-446-7222.

Don Burke,
Outreach Chair

WORSHIP

By the time you read this, the wall will have been prepared and the lovely mural finished in the nursery in Deatherage Hall. The mural was designed by Pam Miles, and enthusiastically approved by the Session. The last items to be completed are the purchase of a few proper items of furniture. If you would like to donate toward the cost of these items, please indicate on your donation that it is for the “nursery”. All these items will be useable in our new building. Thanks to all of you for your assistance.

Barbara Primm, Worship Chair
Nursery Committee Co-Chair

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women will begin the regular October—May season on October 13th this year. We welcome all women of the church to join us on the second Thursday of the month for coffee and fellowship at 10:00AM and our meeting from 10:30 until noon. Our first guest speaker this year will be a representative from the Duvall Home which provides quality residential and day training programs to individuals with developmental disabilities. If you have any items that you think the adults at Duvall Home could use, please bring them with you to the meeting.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the following ladies who stepped up and agreed to be officers or committee chairs for 2011—2012: Isabel Olsen -Vice Moderator, Anne Preston—Treasurer, Phyllis Forsberg—Recording Secretary, Dottie Bridges—Corresponding Secretary, Diane Burden—Mission Coordinator, Nancy Turnball—Communication Chair, Barbara Sera—Devotions Chair, Barbara Kyle—Flowers Chair, and Linda Dattler & Margie Pohle—Hostesses Co-Chairs. Thank you also to Anne Preston for doing such a proficient job as President last year; I know she will be there to assist whenever I need it. Thanks also to Martha Foster (past treasurer) and Pam Miles (past mission coordinator) for all their hard work over the past year, as well as all of you who make Presbyterian Women such a wonderful group.

As many of you know, each year *Horizons* puts out a Bible study for Presbyterian Women. This year's study is entitled *Confessing the Beatitudes*, and we are offering you an opportunity to become a part of this study. If you are interested in learning how to make the Beatitudes part of your journey of discipleship, come join us the first Wednesday of the month (beginning October 5) from 10:00—11:30 AM in Deatherage Hall. Books will be available for \$8.00 and can be purchased at the first meeting. Even if you are not a member of PW, you are welcome to join in this study. Please contact Pat Polit at 352-446-7222 or email teach307@email.com to sign up. We hope this study will help us connect our faith with our daily life.

I look forward to this coming year and all that is being planned. Why not bring a friend so they can become a part of our caring community of women?

Pat Polit, Moderator



STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Many numbers are used symbolically throughout the Bible. Here is an example for the number 7...

The Number Seven

- ♦ Seven gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2-3)
- ♦ Seven virtues—faith, hope, charity, justice, prudence, temperance, fortitude
- ♦ Seven characteristics of wisdom in James 3 (NIV) - pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial, and sincere
- ♦ Seven lamps with seven flames described in Zechariah 4
- ♦ Seven parables in Matthew 13
- ♦ Seven churches in Revelation 2-3

Did you know that the seven deadly sins and the seven virtues are not listed in the Bible as such. They were compiled by Saint Gregory in the seventh century to teach the principles of God's word

- ♦ Seven Deadly Sins: pride, lust, jealousy/envy, laziness/sloth, covetousness, gluttony, and anger

Taken from "What's in the Bible and Where Do I Find It?"

There are many more sevens found in the Bible. How many can you find?



OCTOBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Pancake Breakfast 8:00—10:30 DH  FREE
2 Guest Speaker Dennis Lyons Communion Sunday  Food Pantry Collection	3	4 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00—7:30 DH	5 Mom's Morning Out 9:00 DH Beatitudes Bible Study 10:30—noon GP Choir 6:30 Sanctuary	6 Finance 2:00 GP Bible Study 3:30 DH AA 7:00 DH	7	8
9 Guest Speaker Don Doggett Fellowship Luncheon  Celebration of Life	10	11 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Membership 10:00 GP Women's Bible Study 6:00—7:30 DH	12 Mom's Morning Out 9:00 DH Outreach 6:30 GP Choir 6:30 Sanctuary	13 PW 10:00 DH Bible Study 3:30 DH AA 7:00 DH	14	15
16 Guest Speaker Don Doggett	17	18 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00—7:30 DH	19 Mom's Morning Out 9:00 DH Food Pantry 9:30 GP Deacons' Mtg. 6:30 GP Choir 6:30 Sanctuary	20 Bible Study 3:30 DH AA 7:00 DH	21	22
23	24 Newsletter Deadline	25 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00—7:30 DH	26 Mom's Morning Out 9:00 DH Choir 6:30 Sanctuary	27 Crafters 9:30—12:00 DH Bible Study 3:30 DH Session Mtg. 7:00 GP AA 7:00 DH	28	29
30 5th Sunday Food Pantry Monetary Collection	31 Halloween Open House 6:00—9:00 DH					

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

Hooray, it's October. Finally we will begin feeling a break in the summer heat and the soft caress of the cooler temperatures of fall. And, we can start anticipating the return of our part timers, planning for the rapidly approaching holiday season, and most importantly, our annual pledge drive. Again this year our theme is "more than enough." This means that our God has seen fit to provide most of us with more than we need. In doing this, He expects us to share His bounty for the benefit of others. So, please take some extra time to prayerfully consider your giving for this year and ask God our Father to help you with your decisions about your giving for next year. Because this is information is vital to the Stewardship and Finance Committee for their projections of the annual budget for 2012, we encourage each of you to return your pledge card by December 1st.

In addition, I think that it is vitally important that you each consider the fact that none of us contributed anything toward the planning or construction of the facility in which we gather each week for worship. It was built for us by our forefathers who had a vision of what our church could be and gave of their resources so that vision would become a reality. Now it is our turn to have the vision of how our church can become a more positive influence in the lives of future generations and to do what we should to help make that a reality. Remember that it takes a strong financial base today to ensure future ministries.

"Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision, who planted and watered so dreams could come true."

"Give thanks for the now, for study, for worship, for mission that bids us turn prayer into deed." *Anonymous*

Due to the addition of several new members over the past year, I was asked to include information regarding the responsibilities and activities of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. So, we are a

group of 5 to 7 members who have the responsibility for the collection and stewardship of the church's funds. We oversee the collection, counting/recording, deposit and accounting for all the church's money. In addition, we prepare a budget proposal each year for approval by the Session and also review all expenditures. We also are charged with finding and recommending investment vehicles that can be used to enhance our reserves with as little risk as possible. To do this, we meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM for about one hour. We use this time to review the budget versus the expenses, plan for our next pledge drive, and discuss budget proposals for the coming year. We also solicit and discuss any investment ideas that have been brought forth by committee members. All meetings are open to church members.

In closing, we are still behind in our pledges to the Capital Campaign. This is the last year of what was a 3 year campaign, and due to economic conditions several of those who pledged have either lowered or withdrawn their pledges. So, our desire to collect enough to either pay off our mortgage or to accumulate the funds for a down payment for future construction is being severely threatened. However, the upside is that we have, in collections and outstanding pledges, enough to continue to make our payments without touching our regular operating budget for several years. But, the committee encourages any of us who are able, whether you pledged or not, to extend our giving toward this goal for another year. For example, if you had decided to give \$3000 toward the campaign, or \$1000 for each year of the drive, that you just extend that for another year and give \$4000 over 4 years. Doing that would help ensure that we have the funding necessary when it is time for us to go forward with our expansion plans.

Dave Hoffmeyer for the
Stewardship & Finance Committee

More than Enough



COMMUNITY CHURCH

“The Heart & Soul of Hills & Lakes”

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352-324-2639

kayjay420@embarqmail.com

www.hithcc.org



The Communiqué

A monthly publication of
Community Church
Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida

Worship Services	Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 AM
Sunday School (Children)	Sunday 10:00 AM
Pairs and Spares (Adult)	Sunday 10:00 AM
Fellowship Luncheon	Sunday (2nd) 12:00 PM
Women's Bible Study	Tuesday 6:00 PM
Choir Practice	Wednesday 6:30 PM
Presbyterian Women	Thursday 10:00—noon (2nd)
Crafters	Thursday 9:30—noon (4th)
Bible Study	Thursday 3:30 PM