



# FIRST WORD



June 2020

## Anniversaries



06/15	Bill & Liz Hughes	06/27	Joseph & Joan Pound
06/22	John & Liz Geiger	06/30	Jack & Peggy Wilson



## Birthdays

06/02	John Wilcher	06/13	Eric Kalsey	06/23	Cheri Wade
06/06	Reagan Jackson	06/15	Debra Swope	06/24	Hannah Tobin
06/07	Tracy Linderman	06/17	Dawn Belill	06/29	Joanne Wussow
06/13	Guy Brown	06/20	Art Kopp	06/30	Joan Pound



## Prayer List

Clarence Adams	Barbara Crum	Paul Kneuss	David Petryna
Mary Andersen	Marty Drabek	Carson Linderman	Don Sipple
John Britton	Yvonne Daume	Lela MacLeod	Bill Sisunik
Guy Brown	Mardell Franke	Diane Maddox	David Stanford
Barbara Campbell	Tim Franke	Christy Miller	Walt Steiert
Ray Chambers	Roger Gravengood	Jeff Neil	Larry Stickwood
Alan Crowe	Carol Hazlett	Brian Oles	Laverne Torgerson
	Demetra Jones	Suzann Parrish	

### Pray for those in the Armed Force

Sr. Airman J. Haas	LSC (SS) M. E. Edwards	L. Brooking, USAF
Corporal A. Lawson, USMC	Capt. C. McCubrey, USMC	D. Henderson, USAF
L. Cpl. N. Schneider, USMC		M. Swanson, USAF



## WHEN WILL WE GATHER TOGETHER AGAIN?

Our Re-Opening Task Force is at work to determine when and how we will re-open the Sanctuary for in-person worship. Many things must be taken into consideration to make the experience as safe as possible. We care about you and want to make sure that we are doing all we can to ensure your safety. When we announce the re-opening date, we hope that you will feel that it is alright to continue to worship online at home if that works best for you. Some things to keep in mind when the Sanctuary re-opens:

- Social distancing will be in place as you enter and leave
- Seating arrangements will allow for a safe distance between worshipers
- Hymnals, pens, attendance pads, etc. will be removed from the pews
- We will ask that you wear a mask and use hand sanitizer
- For a period of time, we will eliminate greeting and coffee fellowship
- Singing and liturgy may "look" different at first
- We ask that you please stay home if you are sick or not feeling well.

Once the decision is made to open the Sanctuary for Sunday worship, we will continue to offer a strong online presence, since not everyone will be ready to attend in person. We will also delay the re-start of other activities until we are able to assess and plan for the safety of all. Thank you for your patience during this time that has been challenging for all of us!

Dear Friends –



During the months of June and July, I will be preaching a sermon series from Paul's letter to the Philippians. This letter, which is actually thought to be fragments of several letters, was designed as a guide for ordinary living. I don't know about you, but I could sometimes use help knowing how to face the normal problems a Christian has. Philippians offers guidance and proclaims the victory that is ours in overcoming these problems. The recurring theme, running throughout the letter, is that of joy and rejoicing. During this time of continued uncertainty, we could use a little more joy and rejoicing. The topics we will cover in June/July are:

June 7 – Philippians 1:1-11, Tuning Fork. This passage rings the clear, pure tone of Paul's faith expressed throughout the letter.

June 14 – Philippians 1:21-30, Crazy Talk. "To live is Christ, to die is gain."

June 21 – Philippians 2:5-11, Something About That Name. "At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend and every tongue confess ... Jesus Christ is Lord."

June 28 – Philippians 3:4-14. Press On. "We press on toward the goal."

July 5 – Philippians 3:14-4:1, Resident Aliens. Our citizenship is in heaven

July 12 – Philippians 4:1-7, MMA. Trying to get along is hard!

July 19 – Philippians 4:8-13, Enough. "I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty."

I hope you will join in worship wherever you may be. It is important that we stay connected to one another and to our faith through Christ, who is always with us. My prayers are with you, also!

Shalom,  
*Denise*





## POSTPONE THE WEDDING—WE HAVE A CRISIS!



Most wedding plans begin a year before the wedding date, especially a June wedding. The bride must choose dresses for herself and her bridesmaids, all of which will have several fittings. A caterer needs to be contacted as well as the florist, invitations need to be selected, the pastor must schedule the date, music for the ceremony and reception is selected and the reception location must be reserved early on. Wow. . . a lot of preparation and many details need to be in place far before the important date.

Oops . . . Coronavirus has arrived as an unwelcome guest. All of the carefully laid plans come to a screeching halt in the wake of this wedding crasher. What do we do? What *can* we do when the future bride and groom must practice social distancing as well as all of the ceremonies participants? **Nothing** (after gaining control of yourself), but wait it out!

Fortunately, most of us have experienced the wedding date and the years to follow. What about the boomerangs life throws us regardless of our best laid plans? Chronic illness continues, losing loved ones, loneliness, having to depend on others like never before, loss of pay, boredom, and the list goes on.

I have good news for you. Your Stephen Ministry has “reserved” caring, prayer, phone calls, emails, facetime, and the love of God, for you. We have extended this ministry to you for years and now is the time to let it “cater” to you. We invite you to contact us while waiting for the important day when we can all be together again—with no social distancing.

We would love to hear your voices . . . after all—it's a lot better than **nothing!**

Miss you all and love you more,  
Patty Joyce, Stephen Leader

### ABC'S OF TRIALS

Although things are not perfect  
Because of trial or pain,  
Continue in thanksgiving  
Do not begin to blame.  
Even when the times are hard,  
Fierce winds are bound to blow;  
God is forever able—  
Hold on to what you know  
Imagine life without His love;  
Joy would cease to be.  
Keep thanking Him for all the things  
Love imparts to thee.

Move out of "Camp Complaining"—  
No weapon that is known  
On earth can yield the power  
Praise can do alone.  
Quit looking at the future,  
Redeem the time at hand.  
Start every day with worship;  
To "thank" is a command.  
Until we see Him coming,  
Victorious in the sky,  
We'll run the race with gratitude,  
Exalting God most high.

Yes, there'll be good times; and, yes, some will be bad, but ...  
Zion waits in glory ... where none are ever sad!  
—Unknown

**The First Presbyterian  
Church of Zephyrhills**  
5510 19th Street  
Zephyrhills, FL 33542  
(813) 782-7412



# June 2020

*First  
Word*

*“Together We Serve”*

Office Closed Except by Appointment  
Office: (813) 782-7412 E-mail: [Firstpcz@verizon.net](mailto:Firstpcz@verizon.net)  
Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 AM at: [Firstpcz.org](http://Firstpcz.org)

### Church Staff:

Rev. Denise Lay, Pastor  
Cheryl Heath, Office Administrator  
Debbie Edwards, Director of Music  
Jason Edwards, Choir Director  
Tracy Clemmer, Nursery Attendant

### Deacons

Joyce McDonagh,  
Moderator

### Class of 2020

Maggie Andersen  
Ron Bergstrom

### Class of 2021

Catherine Coffey  
Bob Crum  
Donna VanTassel

### Class of 2022

Mike Heath  
Audrell Howard  
Joyce McDonagh

### Session

Barbara Crum, Clerk  
of Session  
Bob Crum, Treasurer

### Class of 2020

Doug Dorgan  
Mardell Franke  
Rhonda Register

### Class of 2021

Mary Margaret Trice  
Roy Marks

### Class of 2022

Barbara Crum  
Tracy Linderman