

March Edition 2024

“You will see greater things than these,” says Jesus at the close of the very first chapter of John’s lengthy twenty-one-chapter Gospel. Not only would Nathanael and those initial disciples whom Jesus called, but also the outcasts, the outlaws, and outsiders would see greater things. The blind would receive sight, the deaf would be able to hear, the unclean would be made clean, the broken would be whole, the prisoner would be set free, and the list goes on and on! Indeed, Jesus is in the business of doing greater things. Furthermore, I believe God is still in the business of doing new and amazing things right here at Fort Myers Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Although it’s an automatic to get excited for an Easter celebration in the sanctuary with your church family, I want to share a few meaningful services we will have leading up to this moment:

- First, this year we are going to make a big deal out of Palm Sunday! And to any critics, why not or how could we not? Remember when the Pharisees rebuked Jesus for the crowds getting too loud with their excitement and praises, Jesus answered them “I tell you, if these were silent the stones would shout out” (Luke 19:40). We are going to have our first ever outside Palm Sunday Service! Additionally, during this service we will have a special moment when we dedicate the beautiful palm trees that have been recently planted in honor of Bob Skaggs.
- Secondly, on March 29, we will have an extended Good Friday Service as we participate in the stations of the cross. Both prior and after the service, you can walk around to view the traditional fourteen stations of the cross as you remember the passion of our Lord and Savior. From the first station of Jesus being condemned and sentenced by Pontius Pilate to Jesus being laid in the tomb. Throughout the sanctuary there will be a picture, Scripture, and prayer for each station so that you can have a moment of reflection and make the most out of this sacred time.
- Thirdly, for all my early risers, you are invited to arrive early for a meaningful Easter sunrise service! Afterwards, there will be a light breakfast provided in the fellowship hall and time to converse with friends. In fact, we are playing with the idea of moving the traditional worship service to begin 10am instead of the regular time of 10:30am. Whether you decide to come to the sunrise service or traditional service in the sanctuary, we hope you plan to come into the fellowship hall for a time to connect with one another on Easter.



I hope you found at least one of the above upcoming worship services a reason to get excited. Even more, if you found one of these really exciting, please use this as an opportunity to invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to Fort Myers Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Not only am I super thrilled, but actually my head is spinning in circles and I’m exhausted from already thinking about all joy and fun in planning the meaningful services. Yet, it will definitely be worth it!

-Pastor Zach

Updated February Prayer Request

(The weekly "FMCC Cross Connection" email contains the ongoing prayer list)

Linda Schneider, in the death of her husband Ray, Church Family

Cards may be sent to the following:

Linda Schneider
14135 Plum Island Dr.
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Jean Taylor, transitioned from Brookdale Independent to Brookdale Assisted Living, Church Family

Brookdale Assisted Living, #251 #239.541.8556

Martha Furrow, recent outpatient sinus surgery last week, Church Family

Rev. Ed Bodanske, chemo treatments, Church Family

Rev. John Vickers, good report regarding melanoma removal on ear, Church Family

Outreach Corner

I hope everyone who came to the cookout had a great time. The food was delicious (thanks to Harry and John for cooking). The sing-a-long was fun even if some were sung out of tune and different words.

Now on to future plans. We will be having a spaghetti dinner immediately after the annual board meeting on March 17th. The spaghetti was donated to our church by the Hidden Harbor community which a handful of our members reside. Also, on this date we will celebrate Jean Taylor as she will be honored by the DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution on this date.

After the last board meeting, we would like to propose and send out checks to the following organizations: Bethany Fellows, Week of Compassion, and we are looking into one or more other possibilities. Please share with our moderator, Pastor Zach, or myself if you have any suggestions.

Coming Soon... Wait, it's here!

I am super happy, thrilled, delighted, and so much more to be able to finally share that the church's new front sign has finally been installed! We have plans to either put mulch or rocks around the front so that this has a warm, inviting curb appeal. Now we will be able to better advertise our upcoming worship services, events, and from time to time simply put clever one-liners to put a smile on one's face driving down Winkler. Most importantly, I'm excited to be able to utilize both sides of the sign to market our beautiful church as we invite neighbors to come check out Fort Myers Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Thank you all for your patience throughout this process and other building projects, and special thanks to a generous, anonymous family for this particular gift.



March Birthdays & Anniversaries

(Name Missing? Email the office.)

Dean Brown	5 th
Shirley Casady	15 th
Steve and Chana Weaver	17 th
Kathy Harris	21 st



Mark Your Calendar and stay after worship on Sunday, Mar.17, for both the meeting and spaghetti dinner!