

Throughout the past four months the back of the Fellowship Hall has been utilized as an additional storage for the Gladiolus Food Pantry. In the November newsletter, I admitted that on the surface this does not appear to be a significant ministry and is certainly not a glamorous one to catch the eye of the local News-Press. Nevertheless, the local food pantry was flooded and this provided a solution for a concrete need in the community at the time. Since the local food pantry is back operating and the previous water damage has been addressed, please note we were able to transfer the items back to the little green building off of Gladiolus.

This leads me to sharing something new and exciting around the corner regarding that same exact space and how God is continuing calling us to make room for ministry. Instead of the space holding extra food items, toilet paper, and diapers, it will soon have twenty college students and a handful of chaperons from Lafayette, Indiana. From March 11th until the 16th, we will be housing the Purdue Young Group in the Fellowship Hall as they come down to sunny Southwest Florida for mission projects. The college students will be putting their hearts and hands to work in both Cape Coral and Fort Myers, including projects with the Gladiolus Food Pantry. The group will be utilizing our place for a quick and light breakfast in the morning, supper in the evening, and for a place to lay their heads at night and to relax.

A church member recently shared with me how God has always provided a door for her throughout life. Furthermore, we discussed that the secret is to have enough courage and faith to walk through the door because it often leads to discovering joy, peace, love, adventure, and so much more! While the Purdue Young Group will be providing their own food and bedding, this is an opportunity for our church to walk through a door and play the role of gracious host. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex which has timeslots and ways you can get involve and serve. This is perfect for parishioners who have a gift in hospitality and/or a passion for students. For instance, you can come to help serve a meal, clean up after dinner, or connect with college students and make our guests feel at home. Or, let's be honest, even if you want to just be present to make sure the church doesn't catch on fire and is still standing- sign up! Just remember to bring a large smile and a bottle or two of Febreze Spray Air Freshener.

Earlier this week, I asked a member from the Purdue Young Group to share about their organization as well as what they are excited about. I'll let Reed Maibach share his response: "We are the Purdue Young Group and our Mission Statement is, "To foster an environment in which we will grow in our relationship with Christ and those around us, to use God's Word as a tool to discern the Truth from lies, and to take initiative using our spiritual gifts to be active members in the Body of Christ all for the glory of God." Our young group is based in the Apostolic Christian Church of America. We come from Apostolic churches all over Indiana and some parts of Illinois and Michigan. We love spending time together creating and growing relationships whether it be playing games, volleyball, or Intramural Sports.

We are extremely excited for the opportunity to come serve Fort Myers Florida in this capacity. We are super excited to be displaying God's light while helping some organizations with hurricane relief. Our theme for the trip is, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Isaiah 60:1 We are also very excited about strengthening our current relationships together all while serving the Lord."



Prayers and Praise to God from February

Family of Hamlet Collier, in the death of Ham, Church Family

(update) Pam Williams, new appointments at Mofitt following lung surgery and new concerns, Church Family

John Blasi Sr., outpatient procedure on back, Church Family

Kate Seitz, upcoming lung tests and scans on March 14, in New Jersey, Church Family

Dr. Asya Teruni, COVID, Church Family

(Update) Roman, is having more complications with his heart, Linda Lee (great grandson)

Ron Saberton, in the passing of his sister Sally, Shirley Fizer (friend)

Randy Parrish, cancer surgery went well on Monday, Steve Larson (friend)

(update) Ray and Linda Schneider, Ray is currently in Jacksonville for rehab, Church Family

(update) Treasure Beldo, had catheterization at Gulf Coast hospital, Church Family

Bob Skaggs, The Preserve in Fort Myers (Rehab), Church Family

Terry Blasi, appendix surgery, Church Family

Suzanne, Gail Baumgarten (friend)

Rubins, prayer for Harry's son-in-law's father who has terminal cancer, Church Family

Runyon, prayers for Kenny regarding continuous falls, Church Family

Debbie Stingis, cancer treatment, Schneider Family (friend)

(update) Carrie, pneumonia and job search, Shirley and Kenny Runyon (daughter)

Donna, recently diagnosed with breast cancer, Barbara Wodarczyk-regular visitor (daughter-in-law)



Welcome Ann Chisholm to our church family! Ann has been serving as our faithful substitute pianist.

Join us after worship on **Sunday, March 19**, for the **Annual Congregation Meeting** as we celebrate God's blessings from this past fiscal year. Cake and coffee will be served.

Outreach Corner

I would like to thank everyone for their generous donation for the Super Bowl food drive. It was a huge success! Easter is coming and we are hoping to help provide candy for the Gladiolus Food Pantry to help during Easter. There will be a box in the narthex to put in your donations. Thank you!

Linda Lee, Outreach Chair



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

Get More Out of Lent

Pastors Bible Study

Mondays, 10-11:15am

