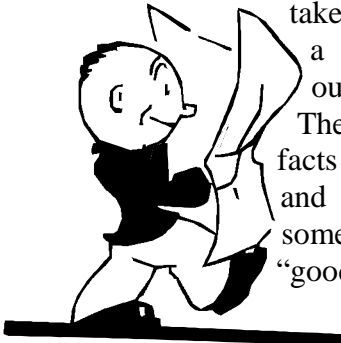


Would You Believe?

November 2007

NEWS IN THE PEWS

Since November is the month of Thanksgiving, let's take a little time to get to know a little more about some of our fellow church members. There are so many interesting facts of which we are unaware and I just enjoy finding out some of these interesting "goodies"



Did you realize that we have had 3 Judy's (Judy Lehtinen, Judy Morgan, and Judy Streets) join LOPC within the last couple years. One Wed. night they were all sitting at the same table and as I talked with them, I learned that their lives had been intertwined earlier Judy Lehtinen actually lived next door to Judy Streets and all 3 Judy's graduated from Lake Worth High. So few of our members have actually grown up in Lake Worth so I found this little tidbit to be quite interesting.

Georgina Babcock is probably the smallest member of LOPC and also one of the most interesting. She has taught in the Bible Clubs in the schools for many years and although she has had a couple falls in the past years and been in rehab centers twice, she is once again teaching Spanish at the Senior Center. If you haven't gotten to know Georgina, you really must!!! She can keep you entertained for hours!!!!

A member of our church family celebrated her 95th birthday on Oct. 25. She is one of my best friends and also one of the most interesting individuals I know so I would like to tell you just a little of her story.

Wilhemenia Astrid Gustafson arrived to Swedish parents in the Bronx on October 25, 1912. There were 2 older sisters to welcome her into the world. Shortly after graduating from James Monroe High School she got a job at Columbia College where she

was a secretary in the Social Studies and Government Department.

Wilma was very active in sports. She was on the swim team (By the way, get her to tell you how she learned her swimming strokes--she can relate it much better than I can write it. I'll just say that I would love to see a video of that!!!) She was also quite a tennis player.

While she was working at Columbia, she managed to get 6 weeks off in the summer and during this time, she worked to Culver Lake. While there she met George Herbert and they stuck up quite a relationship. As George was courting Wilma, the fare on the George Washington Bridge went up from 25 cents to 50 cents and George says that was too expensive and so he and Wilma were married shortly after that. (They had been married 70 years when George died.) They had 2 daughters, Lois and Dorothy.

Wilma has held many interesting jobs--with the Veterans' Administration, at Drew University, social secretary for a wealthy lady who lived on the top floor of the Waldorf and secretary to a congressman from New Jersey. In connection with her work with the congressman, she attended the 20th General Assembly of the United Nations as well as the inauguration of 2 presidents.

Wilma and George came to Florida as snowbirds in 1973 and lived in Deerfield Beach and attended Coral Ridge. It was there that she took EE training and today is still witnessing and sharing her faith with those where she lives.

There is much, much more that could be shared about this unique woman but you just get to know her and let her tell you her story. I can promise you that you will NOT be bored!!!!

Both Wilma's daughters and their husbands as well as a niece came to help her celebrate her special day.

We are blessed with some very talented individuals. As mentioned in a previous article, our own Betsy Dixon is now putting to use a talent which she has not had time to develop before she retired. She is now writing children's stories as well as poetry. She and another extremely talented individual, Carl Ashley have recently entered a contest for a new state song. Betsy wrote the words and Carl set them to music. The one selected from the entries will be announced in December but I would like to include the words and let's all pray that this will be our new state song!!!! Betsy and Carl, we are proud of you and look forward to being able to say "I knew them when _____."

FLORIDA, MY HOME

From the quaint and tropic islands,
Bordered by the sapphire sea,
"Cross the 'Glades and through the orange groves,
Softest breezes stir the trees,
Land of sunshine, Land of waters,
Land of palm trees, shorebirds wade
Children singing, Freedom ringing,
Cheerful sunlight all pervades.
Men and women, little children,
Reaching out for freedom's hand,
Sail across Atlantic waters,
And find hope in this great land.
Home of gator, Home of panther,
Home of black bear, Cattle graze.
Herons' wide stroke. Shade of Live Oak.
Leaves of cypress, summer haze.
Ancient natives poled their dugouts,
'Cross savannahs wide and deep,
In a land both green and lovely,
Where the air is warm and sweet,
Softest scent of budding blossoms,
Fill the starlit air of night;
Moonlight on the Suwanee River
Turns the waters silv'ry bright.
All are gathered 'neath God's heaven
As He blesses home and land,
Looking toward the hope-filled future
And in friendship joining hands.
All together, Hearts united,
Sheltered from both sea and foam:
Fair winds blowing, flowers glowing,
This is Florida, my home!

Betsy Dixon

How many of you were aware that Ted Stewart is a retired electrician? Well, he was recently awarded the 50 year pin certificate from the International Brotherhood of Electricians --an honor received by very few. Fifty years--that is quite a while to have been a part!!!! Congratulations Ted!!!

I think Sally Hubner deserves an award for being the first snowbird to return to our fold. She arrived

Oct. 1st. Her two daughters came with her but have returned. Welcome back, Sally!!!! You were missed. Georgia Bourdon is still in Michigan and may not be returning for quite a while because of health problems. Do remember Georgia in your prayers.

It was wonderful to see the Muth family. The entire Muth clan is going on a cruise!!! Can't you just imagine how many memories will be made on that trip. I must say Colorado does seem to be agreeing with them and Breyer has become quite a sports star--playing both basketball and football. His team just won a championship!!!!

It is good to have the Glennys back from their travels in the northeast. The Roffs had a most enjoyable trip to Utah and just can't say enough about the beauty of God's creation. As I write this Marc and Martha Smith are enjoying one of the Keen Agers weeks at Ridge Haven. This is their first trip to Ridge Haven. On their way up, they visited family in Savannah and then went to Charleston, where Martha's sister was playing in a band there. Bob and Mary Anderson were unable to go to Ridge Haven because of a health problem.

It was good to meet Clay and Darlene Quarterman, missionaries to the Ukraine. We have just begun to support them financially. Now that we have met them personally and learned a little of the work they are doing, we will know better how to pray for them. And are you aware that Jim and Mary Alice Patterson will be returning from the Philippines the first of November so pray for them as they get settled in at JAARS in North Carolina.

We extend our sympathy to the Mejeur and Bulten families on the death of Ann and Henny's mother, Marie Hoogendyke. Marie had just celebrated her 90th birthday and had lived a long and eventful life although most of us only knew her in the days when she was not in good health. We have also recently learned of the death of a long time visitor at LOPC--Eleanor Mierop so extend our sympathy to Warren also.

Do take time during this month of Thanksgiving to stop and count your blessings. Also remember to pray for and if possible, help out with the Thanksgiving dinner which is to be served to the homeless at LOPC.

Carolyn Kullmar

FROM THE PASTOR



“In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thess. 5:18

Why should a Christian live in an attitude of thankfulness to God?

Because God has been and continues to be merciful to us even though we are undeserving. He has reminded us that “every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow. In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we might be, as it were, the first fruits among His creatures.” James 1:17-18

Because thankfulness is a worshipful acknowledgment of our dependency on Him for every breath and every detail by which our lives are sustained. Job reminds us that, “If He should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.” Job 34:14-15 In other words, we would simply cease to exist apart from His attentiveness to our very existence.

Because Christ has reconciled us into an inseparable relationship with God, and has given us the regeneration, the repentance, and the faith in Him to take advantage of this reconciliation. “If while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.” Romans 5:10-11

Because thanklessness is a form of pride which promotes hardness and even bitterness. Notice the bad company toward which thanklessness moves and in which it is found - - “Realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding to a form of godliness,

although they have denied its power; and avoid such men as these.” 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Why should a Christian live in an attitude of thankfulness even when life is not to our liking?

Because we realize that the negatives of the moment neither define nor determine the long range welfare of one who belongs to Christ. “We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28

Because adversity reminds us of our need for Christ and also of His promise of the sufficiency of His grace for our stability, and, even usefulness to Him in trial. “To keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me-- to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He has said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.’” 2 Cor. 12:7-9

Because, as a Christian, we can thankfully rejoice in the sovereignty of Him to whom we belong. It is because of this reality that we are told to “rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.” Phil. 4:4-5

Because there is a bigger plan. “‘I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.’” Jer. 29:11-13

!!Happy Thanksgiving!!

Lynn Downing

Larry's Column

“ON-TIME DEPARTURES”

Whether it's the plane at the airport, the start of the ball game, or the family car at home, we all want on-time departures. Delays are frustrating to everyone involved, especially when they're caused by a few people who inconvenience the rest by their tardiness.

That's become an on-going problem here at LOPC. Every week, a significant number of people arrive

after the worship service has begun. We're never going to be like the concert hall and close the doors to latecomers. But we do want everyone to give attention to this so that it can be corrected.

Here is one dimension to this issue. After the prelude, we share announcements to encourage everyone to be involved in special ministry opportunities that week. Those are very important. But with so many people arriving after those are made, we often have to repeat the announcements again just before the sermon. That's doubly frustrating; first because the on-timers have to hear them repeated, and second because it interrupts the God-ward focus of worship to pause for announcements just before the sermon.

Here's another dimension to this issue. If you arrive late, there's no way you will have been able to get your heart engaged with God for worship. Your mind is set on hurrying to get to your seat and then finding where the rest of us are in the service. Our worship actually begins with the prelude as a time to complete those internal preparations for worship.

And here's yet one more dimension. Chronic tardiness betrays a lack of appreciation of what a glorious privilege and awesome responsibility worship is. When we gather together on Sunday morning, we are entering the throne-room of God, spiritually. He is here awaiting our arrival. Would we allow ourselves to be late for such an appointment with a human dignitary?

Actually, a realization of what an incredible experience worship becomes should produce in us an excitement that fills us with joyful anticipation and brings us to the sanctuary not only with promptness, but even with exuberant "earliness!"

And so the solution to the problem is not a mechanical one – setting the alarm clock fifteen minutes earlier. No, it's a spiritual one – thinking about what it is that we do when we worship, and who it is that we are meeting when we enter the sanctuary.

So, we look forward to seeing you Sunday morning, not at 10:30 (or maybe even 10:40!), but at 10:20.

Newsletter Items

Time Change

Don't forget to change your clocks on Saturday night, November 3rd. Daylight Savings Time ends. Before you turn out the lights, set your clocks BACK one hour.

Fall Festival Thanks

We appreciate all the people who helped make our "Trunk or Treat" such a happy time. Continue to pray that such events will open doors of contact with those around us who need more than social events. They need the gospel. Pray that God will make us all, every one of us, active outreach agents, extending the love of Christ.

Choir Christmas Music

The choir is now working on music for the Christmas season, including a cantata on Sunday morning, Dec. 23. If you have been thinking about joining this wonderful fellowship of singers and assisting in the musical leadership of our worship, this is an excellent time to come. Rehearsals are at 7:00 on Wednesday evenings.

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Sunday, November 11 is Veterans Day. It is also the day on which Christians around the world focus their attention and prayers on their persecuted brothers and sisters in the faith. Here in America, we have no sense of how difficult and terrifying it is to live for Christ in most places of the world. Come that day prepared to be reminded of needs of those in our Christian family around the world who desperately need our prayer support.

Thanksgiving Praise Service

At 7:00 pm on Wednesday evening, November 21st, we will again "Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing," as we sing in that old Dutch folk hymn. At this service, it is thrilling to hear people share the ways in which God's blessings have been poured out on them and their loved ones this year. Come and tell us your stories!

Thanksgiving “Mercy Dinner”

Pray for Christy Gauger and her team as they plan a Thanksgiving dinner in our Fellowship Hall for homeless and needy people in our area. Pray that this, like our Fall Festival, will open doors of hearts that need to hear and embrace the Gospel.

Fanning the Flame

Your FTF team has been augmented by several new members. With David Livanec as team leader, it now includes John Farley, Gemma Kibben, Tiffany Panico, Nancy Lee, Dick Peterson, Marlene Roese, Babe Ruth, Dave Wade, Jay Myers; along with Lynn, Larry, and Bill. David Livanec will soon be presenting a power-point summary of the team’s achievements from last year and goals for next year. Continue to pray with them for God’s gift of revitalization within our hearts and among our people. Many of these were present at the “Embers to a Flame” conference here at LOPC last month. Pray that they will catch the excitement of what God promises to do when His people humble themselves and pray and seek His face. Pray, too, for leaders from other churches who were here for that conference.

Larry Roff

WIC

Ladies! Please plan to join us on Saturday, December 8th at 6:30 p.m. as we present our annual Christmas Glow! We are so excited to have Tania Rogers from Channel 5 as our speaker. Dinner will be catered by Macaroni Grill, and will be served by a number of the men in the church. The cost will be \$10 per person, and tickets will go on sale in the narthex, starting on Sunday, November 11th. We have very special music planned by some of our own LOPC musicians, in addition to several outside guests. We will also have an opportunity to participate in the 2007 WIC Love Gift, which will provide funds to support widows of PCA pastors. If you have transportation concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your shepherd-elder, your deacon, or a member of the WIC ministry team. We don’t want anything to prevent you from joining in the fun, excitement and fellowship that evening!

Financial Report

January- October 2007

LOPC Ministries Fund

	Budget	Actual	2006
Receipts	\$403,240	\$368,799	\$358,981
Disbursements	\$422,215	\$414,974	\$397,151

Improvements and Emergency Fund

	Budget	Actual	2006
Receipts	\$46,313	\$21,827	\$22,687
Disbursements	\$60,725	\$62,358	\$105,113

Mission Fund

	Budget	Actual	2006
Receipts	\$79,849	\$86,562	\$82,965
Disbursements	\$84,920	\$77,135	\$91,582

Year to Date Receipts and Disbursements

	Budget	Actual	2006
Receipts	\$529,402	\$477,188	\$464,634
Disbursements	\$567,859	\$554,467	\$593,846

YOUTH PLUGGED IN



Dear Church Family,

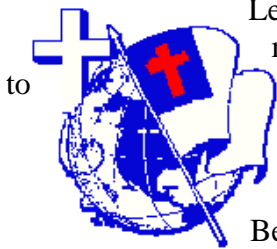
As I write this, my wife and I are overwhelmed and humbled by your recent gift for Pastor Appreciation. Your loving and prayerful support continues to bless us here at LOPC, and we are continually privileged to be able to watch the work that God is doing in the lives of our youth. As 2007 draws to an end, we will be increasingly focusing on areas of discipleship and mentoring with an increased emphasis on the small group sessions on Wednesday nights. We will be engaging our teens in discussions about current events and discussing these events in an effort to encourage them to understand the importance of developing a Christian worldview.

Please continue in prayer for our Surf and Turf Dinner Fundraiser, upcoming trip to Westgate, and Christmas party.

*Love in Christ,
John, Tiffany, and Hannah
Matthew 5:16*

Missions

Your Mission's Committee continues to serve you.



Lest you forget, we meet monthly to steward your giving to the people who have taken God's word to all the world. Thanks to Mary Alice Baker, Becky Forester, Terry and Betty Kennedy, Carolyn

Kullmer, Marc and Martha Smith, Marlene Roese, Dick Miller and Lynn Downing and Larry Roff, we get the job done. Sorry, we cannot list all the people who make this possible—just look to the person in the pew next to you and thank them. We are fortunate to have Joe Brown a representative of our Session join us in our deliberations.

We hope you had a chance to meet Clay Quarterman and his wife, one of the newest missionaries we support, when he spoke to us Oct. 21. Likewise, Bob Tanzie was in town taking a part in the Reformation celebrations Oct. 28. Clay shared the great things happening in the Ukraine, and Bob is anxious to get to do his thing in Spain. Your support covers a lot of territory on this old world—praise God. Bob needs to acquire \$2,500 more monthly support (his last 25% of his funding) to get on his way. (We told you Missions is a tough business.)

By the time you get this news, Rick Aschman and his wife Betty will have been visiting us, Nov. 4 from his mission work in Ecuador. The visiting team of 06 enjoyed dinner at their house in Quito. The Mission Committee will have met with them after the service that day.

They want to get this newsletter out, so I have to quit. More next time.

Dick Miller

Would You Believe?

Peggy Bates	Church Secretary
Bill Campbell	Editor and Administrator
Lynn Downing	Senior Pastor
Shannon Bates	Maintenance Manager
Phil Elder	Maintenance
John Panico	Youth Ministry Intern
Larry Roff	Associate Pastor
Judy Smiley	Administrative Assistant

ADS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIORS!! NEED MORE INCOME OR CASH?

REVERSE MORTGAGES MAY BE THE ANSWER.

We have found many seniors needing extra income or cash who have a significant equity in their home.

The appeal of this type of mortgage is many fold. Here are some of the benefits:

- This is an FHA program and is insured by FHA
- No qualifying required for income, employment, or credit
- No payments required as long as you live in your home
- Receive income you cannot outlive.

Call John Morris at 433-1228 for information

PERK UP YOUR PARTY OR ADD

EXCITEMENT TO YOUR EVENT with face or glitter tattoos! Full face or cheek art face painting to match your theme, using only professional, child safe face paints. NO acrylics.

Glitter tattoos are waterproof and last 3-5 days.

Great for Florida weather! See

www.hennybulten.com for examples. Call for information at 561-422-6161

MONICA'S GIFT BASKETS

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monicagiftbaskets@yahoo.com

Because a gift without a basket is just a gift

HOUSE FOR SALE

3 BR 2BH house located in the "Tradition" community in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Drastically reduced!! Call Charlotte McKee at 582-5441 for more information.

2008 LIGONIER CONFERENCE

Speakers include R. C. Sproul, Joni Eareckson Tada, Sinclair Ferguson, John MacArthur

Have you registered yet for the Orlando Ligonier conference? Last year it sold-out several months beforehand! It will be held March 13-15. You can register by phone (1-800-435-4343) or on-line (www.ligonier.org). Here is R. C. Sproul's description of this year's theme ...

“EVANGELISM ACCORDING TO JESUS”

Does our evangelism introduce people to the wrong Jesus?

Nearly half the population of the United States claims to be "born-again." Self-identified "evangelicals" are a voting bloc courted by our major political parties, and a large percentage of citizens attend church services at least once a week. Yet, as we look at the culture around us, an unmistakable erosion of the Judeo-Christian ethic has taken place. God is regularly blasphemed, professing believers often live no differently from non-Christians, and many churches are captive to the trends of this present age.

Two factors explain this set of contradictory realities. First, the church has failed to preach the biblical Gospel. Instead of preaching about mankind's depravity and the truth that citizenship in the kingdom of God comes only by the imputation of Christ's righteousness, we hear about a powerless and insipid Creator and the cheap grace He lavishes upon all. Secondly, because the church has failed to preach the biblical Gospel, our evangelism has too often introduced people to the wrong Jesus. We are told that "Jesus can give us our best life now" or that "He wants to be our best friend," and not that He is our Savior from enslavement to sin and the righteous judgment of God. As such, He demands a life of costly discipleship (Luke 14:25-33).

This spring we invite you to join us as we seek to help the church address these critical issues. On March 13-15, 2008, Ligonier Ministries will hold its 21st annual national conference, "Evangelism According to Jesus," in Orlando, Fla. During three days of worship, fellowship, encouragement, study, and prayer, we will proclaim the different aspects of the Gospel and explain how they must impact our evangelism. Joining us will be respected pastors, theologians, and leaders Sinclair Ferguson, Steven J. Lawson, John MacArthur, C.J. Mahaney, R.C. Sproul Jr., and Joni Eareckson Tada, all of whom will remind us of the great truths of the Gospel and help us evangelize more effectively.

It is imperative that we preach no other Gospel than the one delivered by our Lord and His apostles. I hope you will join us in March as we explore and apply the faith once delivered to the saints.

R.C. Sproul,
President and Founder

A CHRISTIAN “TO-DO” LIST
for those who want to learn how to “think Christianly”

“Men who had understanding of the times.” 1 Chron. 12:32

Does that describe you? Christians today more than ever need to have a “Biblical World and Life View.” We need this not only to be able to understand what is happening around us from God’s perspective. We also need it in order to more effectively interact with our culture which means to be equipped to talk intelligently and persuasively with non-Christian friends.

Here are several things which every member of LOPC ought to take advantage of. E-mail subscriptions are free, and you ought to sign up to start receiving them right away. Magazine subscriptions, of course, have a cost, but would make great Christmas presents to give to others, or to suggest that they give to you!

Here’s your check list ...

_____ Subscribe to Al Mohler’s free on-line blog/commentary at www.albertmohler.com
(click on “commentary” to subscribe)

Al Mohler is president of the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville. He is an eloquent spokesman for Christianity and is frequently invited to represent us on such programs as the Larry King Show (CNN). He is solidly committed to the Reformed Faith, and is one of the most articulate defenders of the faith and promoters of a Christian world view in our generation.

_____ Subscribe to Chuck Colson’s free on-line blog/commentary at www.breakpoint.org
(click on “subscribe”)

Chuck Colson is founder and president of “Prison Fellowship.” His daily commentary gives us a Christian perspective on current issues, training us to think Biblically. His is a much-needed corrective to the liberal bias we constantly hear broadcast in the secular news media. You can also hear him on the radio. Look for times on his website.

_____ Order a subscription to “WORLD” magazine at www.worldmag.com
or by calling 1-800-951-6397.

This is the only weekly (soon to be bi-weekly) Christian news journal in existence. All the other news magazines analyze from a secular (if not anti-Christian) perspective. This prize-winning publication provides the understanding we need to perceive world affairs Biblically. Without it, we are prone to believe the distortions the media feed us.

_____ Order a subscription to “byFaith” magazine at www.byfaithonline.com
or by calling 1-678-825-1005.

This is our own official PCA family magazine. Each issue contains excellent articles of interest to every member of your family. It analyzes current trends, reports moving stories of Christian faithfulness, gives suggestions for improved church ministry, and provides practical insights into principles for Christian living.