# **DESERVICE**



Sign up online or through the church office

Several people have asked me what gave me the idea for Classics of Christian Spirituality. This will be a ten-week study of some of the most influential Christian writings in history. Each week participants will read 20-25 pages of a classic text. Then they will gather Wednesday evenings 5:30-6:30 in Lower Langill to discuss what they read and how it can help them follow Jesus. The idea came to me one day when I was working late at the church. A shadow filled the door frame, and I looked up to see a man with long hair and a prominent nose. He was strangely dressed in a green cloak with a wide white collar.

"May I help you?" I inquired.

"You are zee pastor, no?" he inquired. He spoke English but with a thick French accent.

"Yes, I am. One of them. Pastor David, senior pastor."

"Ex-sea-LANT!" His face lit up. "I have been looking for you. I need to speak with you on a matter of zee

greatest importance."

I half expected him to ask for money, though he did not seem to be in need.

"What is it?" I asked.

"There are three kinds of people," he began. "Some of them know God already. They are happy and reasonable. Others are seeking God, though they have not yet found him. They are unhappy but reasonable. Still others do not know God, and they don't care. They are both unhappy and unreasonable. I want you to help me strengthen those who know God, guide those who seek God, and wake those who are indifferent to God." "I've heard that somewhere before," I replied. "The part about three kinds of people. Where did you get that?"

"I did not get it anywhere." He said in a defensive tone, as if I had insulted him. "I said it myself."

"No. I've read that someplace... Where was it?"

"Perhaps in my book."

"You wrote a book? Who are you?"

"I meant to write a book. Alas, I did not finish it. Forgive me. I am Pascal, Blaise Pascal."

"Blaise Pascal? The 17th century French philosopher and mathematician? Author of the *Pensées*, one of the most famous defenses of the Christian faith? That Blaise Pascal?"

"But of course, mon ami!"

"If you are Pascal, what are you doing here? And how are you speaking English?"

"I am here to enlist you in my cause, and I am speaking English because you don't understand French."

"I know I don't know French, but how do you know English?" He shrugged.

"What is your cause?"

"I told you already! To strengthen those who know God, to guide those who seek him, and to wake those who are indifferent."

"Yeah, OK. I'm already trying to do those things. That's kind of what we do here. We are all about being

disciples and making disciples of Jesus Christ." Then I added proudly, "We are an ECO congregation."

"Ahh, yes! Zee ECO. I weesh we had that in France in my day. Good for you. BUT... you need some help."

"I'm sure I do. What do you have in mind?"

"What if I and a few of my friends helped you?"

"Who do you mean, and how would you help?"

"What if I assembled an all-star team of the brightest, most passionate believers ever, and we came to lend you a hand? I am thinking of Athanasius, Augustine, Julian of Norwich, and of course, my fellow Frenchman, Jean Calvin. Plus others. If you have any ideas, give me some names. I will see what I can do."

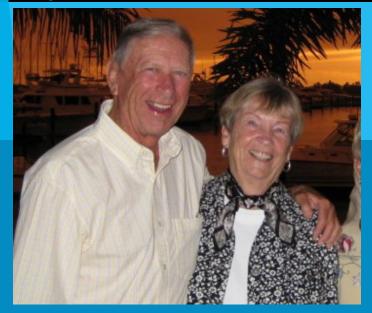
I rubbed my eyes and shook my head. He was still there. I

cont'd on pg. 8

## ANGEL OF THE NONTH by Janet Sallman

This month we are honoring two angels. These two angels are joined by holy matrimony, and today they are united in holy "angelship." They sometimes are angels together and sometimes they fly solo. Our Mr. Angel has flown solo as Clerk of Session and on the P & A (Personnel & Administration) committee. Our Mrs. Angel has flown solo as a deacon and as a counter. Our counters are the people who count the offertory. She also serves as a hostess, and whenever we have an event involving food, Mrs. Angel helps set up and serve.

Together you can see them on Sunday mornings greeting you at the door, handing you the bulletin or escorting you to a pew. But in whatever capacity you see them, you will notice their friendliness and welcoming spirit.



So whether you see them flying solo or as a duo, PCPC is blessed to have them. Our beautiful angels for this month are George and Jan Eagleson.

This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and reallife stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. Past participants have related how helpful the information and follow-up discussions were to them.

Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends or family have returned to their daily life routines. Too often people, including Christians, tend to hide their grief instead of allowing it to do the God-given work for which it is intended. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program.

Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You will find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. No matter what the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck in grief and that you do not need to live in bondage to certain emotions. You will learn valuable information about facing your new normal in life and renewing your hope for the future.

# GRIEF SHARE®

When: Mondays 6:30pm - 8:30pm beginning 8/6/2018

Where: PCPC Library

Cost: \$15.00 for the workbook, which covers the entire series of 13 weeks

Child care: No

Registration is not required, but preferred. To register, go to https://www.griefshare.org/ or call the church office 772-286-9958.

### **Be In The Know**

How can you stay up to date with the latest happenings at PCPC? There are several ways!

• Sign up for weekly e-blasts by calling our church office (772-286-9958) or emailing janet@palmcitypres.org.

• Read the newsletter. Our newsletter is posted on our website

under "Resources." Hard copies are available in the church office, Sanctuary narthex, HFLC Lobby and Langill Hall lobby.

**PCPC** NEWSLETTER

Visit our website: palmcitypres.org.Like us on Facebook. On Facebook

you will find previews of the upcoming sermon; photo and video coverage of church events/activities; upcoming events, classes, bible studies and VBS; and inspirational posts.

#### Palm City Presbyterian Church YOUTH MINISTRY

#### Our Facebook pages:





#### Palm City Presbyterian Church @PalmCityPresbyterianChurch

Palm City Presbyterian Church (the official page for PCPC): fb.me/PalmCityPresbyterianChurch





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PCPC Kids (the official page for PCPC Children's Ministry): fb.me/PCPCKids

Presbyterian Church PCPC Youth (the official page for PCPC Youth Ministry):



fb.me/PCPCYouth











# Tickets to Hollywood.

his year's VBS Drama Camp produced yet another fun musical to entertain family and friends after a full week of behind-the-scenes work. The kids had a great time and put on a fantastic performance.

On Friday night, costumes, props, and backdrops were in place; the actors had their lines memorized; the dancers had their moves well-rehearsed; and the singers had practiced their songs and motions to perfection. There were "Actresses," "Agents," "Directors," "Stuntmen," "Matadors & Senoritas," "Big Success Dancers," & "Finale Dancers" all eager for the curtain to go up. Then it was "lights, camera, action" and "2 Tickets to Hollywood" came to life to cap off this year's ART-is-IN Performing Arts Day Camp.

A big THANK YOU to all who participated both onstage and backstage. We are ever grateful to those who volunteered to help with snacks, signed kids in and out every day, and did whatever was needed to keep things moving smoothly. We couldn't have done it without you.

Here are a few of the many photos taken as the week progressed. Check out the VBS Drama Camp 2018 photo album on our Facebook page.

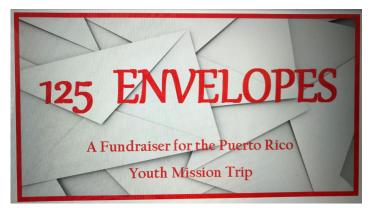


# YOUTH NEWS, July 2018 - Jason Pridmore

#### SUN-UP/SUN-DOWN (June 14)

"From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised." - Psalm 113:3

What a time! Maybe the most fun I've had in youth group in 40 years! Our team of adventurers put in a solid 18 hours of travel across the state, witnessing both the sunrise and sunset in the same day and finding a lot of hidden "gems" of experiences along the way. Definitely a trip that will be done again next year...but with all new stops and all new experiences...stay tuned.



The youth fundraiser for the Summer Mission Trip to Puerto Rico was a great success. THANK YOU to all who contributed so generously to this venture. Because of you, we were able to raise nearly \$5500 for the youth and their mission. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

If you were unable to participate with the envelopes, please consider keeping our mission team in your prayers. We believe in the power of prayer, so if you would, please pray for safety, for effectiveness, and for God's Spirit to change hearts and lives in Puerto Rico and on our team. \*If you were able to participate in the envelope fundraiser, BUT you have not turned your envelope back in, please take the time to mail it in or turn it in to the church office...we could still use it! Thank you.



At the time of this publication, our mission team will be in the middle of their week long service mission to Puerto Rico. Thirteen students and chaperones flew down to the island to serve all week in a community there affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Our team is clearing debris, cleaning up a community center, painting, helping prepare for an upcoming VBS, cleaning up graffiti, engaging in community outreach, and bringing some supplies to a local church there. We are excited to share all of our experiences with you and recount our adventures, so look forward to an evening of stories and testimonies, as our team does just that over a nice dinner that you all will be invited to. Thank you for all your support and prayers.

#### SUMMER PROGRAMMING CONTINUES:

Just because school ended doesn't mean youth group does. Our youth are still gathering together throughout the summer...not necessarily like our weekly programs, but regularly. Please connect with us on Facebook, Instagram and/or Remind Text to stay up-todate with all our gatherings.

#### July 2-9 Puerto Rico Mission Trip

NO youth group this week. Happy 4th of July.

#### July 17 Water Day @ PCPC

Tuesday 4pm-8pm - water slides, water games, s'mores and more

#### July 25 Beach Day

Wednesday 10am-4pm (Stuart Beach) - Text Jason just to let him know if you are going or need a ride.



#### August 1-5 "Camp Surf" \$100

A 4-day retreat at a Cocoa Beach beach house. Yes there will be surfing (and lessons if you want), but more-so it will be a time of fellowship, team building and leadership growing for our upcoming year of ministry. Space is limited.

Sign up deadline extended to July 15.

Pick up a form from Jason or in the church office.

All of our programs and events (unless otherwise noted) are for ANY student going into the 6th grade through 12th grade for this coming school year.

> In His service and yours, Jason Pridmore Youth Ministry

For more information regarding ongoing and upcoming youth events and activities:





To connect with Jason or to receive parenting resources and youth updates via email, please contact him directly. Email: Jason@palmcitypres.org Call or Text: 714-809-5065 The day began with a 6 a.m. meet up at Stuart Beach to watch the sunrise before a tasty donut breakfast in Jupiter.



Next they headed to Hallandale Beach, home of a 110 ft. tall Pegasus and dragon statue.



Then they traveled on to Miami, where they visited Monkey Jungle, took in the sights at Coral Castle in Homestead, and enjoyed lunch and games at Mac & Chess.









From there, they passed through the Everglades to Ochopee, home of Skunk Ape Headquarters and the "world's smallest post office."





Before heading back to Palm City, they visited the Radioactive Fountain of Youth in Punta Gorda and cooled off in the water at Venice's Caspersen Beach, where they enjoyed a gorgeous sunset.



#### cont'd from pg. 1

looked dubiously at the empty can of Mountain Dew in the trash. What was happening here? I decided to test him. "How about Dostoevsky? I've always been a big fan."

"Me too!" he exclaimed. "Let's get him."

"How can you like Dostoevsky? You died, like, 200 years before he lived." He shrugged.

I pressed on, "So you guys are going to show up and do what?"

"We are going to share our insight into spiritual matters. We will share our vision, our passion. We will tell what God has done in our lives. We will teach about Jesus, about faith, about prayer."

"You mean like a lecture series?" I was beginning to think this guy was an actor who played all these historical figures. We've had Abraham Lincoln at PCPC. Why not Blaise Pascal? But he quickly set me straight.

"No, no, no." He intoned in that accent, shaking his finger. "We cannot come. We are dead! What a foolish idea. We want to help you, not do your work for you, silly man."

I remembered that Pascal wrote a mathematical treatise on projective geometry when he was only 16 years old. He also developed probability theory

and invented the first mechanical adding machine. He was a physicist who made important contributions to our understanding of fluids, pressure, and vacuum. I decided to let the "silly man" comment slide.

mary

"So how are you going to help me?"

"Eez it not obvious? Our writings! You must use our writings! Get people to read them and talk about them. You explain them. Such wisdom! Such treasure! Why don't you use it?"

"Hey!" I said, catching on. "That's not a bad idea. I have found tremendous encouragement and insight reading what those people wrote. Why not share them with others?"

"Yes, you could do a little study. Choose small excerpts that you find especially meaningful. Write a short introduction to each one. Add some study questions. Get people together to discuss them and learn more."

"Do you think people would come?"

"I will wager they would."

"Sweet," I commented. "I've been looking for a fresh new study."

"Now, you have it. The old made new!"

"Thank you, Blaise Pascal. You've given me a good idea. I love what you wrote ..."

Suddenly, I jerked with a start. I lifted my head off my laptop. The left side of my face was waffled where it had

pressed against the keys. A tiny puddle of drool pooled near the mousepad. What happened? Of course! I had fallen asleep. It had all been a dream. I got up and turned to my bookcase. My finger ran along the top shelf until it lighted on a thin little paperback copy of the *Pensées*. I opened it randomly and let my eye wander down the page. "God has set up in the Church

visible signs to make

Himself known to those who should seek Him sincerely, and that He has nevertheless so disguised them that He will only be perceived by those who seek Him with all their heart."

Yes, some of the readings might be challenging. But they would definitely be rewarding. And the comradery of discussing them with others would be

fun. Why not? Why not give it a try?

And so, the Classics of Christian Spirituality study was born. Was that really how it happened? More or less. ;)

Starts: Wednesday, July 25 Meets Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 in Lower Langill Ends: Wednesday, Sept 26

Each participant will receive a book with the readings and discussion questions. These will be available by July 15 at the latest. There is no cost. There will be a modest suggested donation for the book once we know the cost. Sign up online through the church website (www.palmcitypres.org) or by calling the church office (772-286-9958).

# Conversations with Jesus

# **Sermons from the Gospel**

of John

"This series listens in on conversations Jesus has in the early chapters of the Gospel of John."

July 8 John 1:43-51 Nathanael July 15 John 3:1-16 Nicodemus July 22 John 4:1-42 The Woman at the Well July 29 John 5:1-9 The Man Beside the Pool

Thou art invited ...

Christi

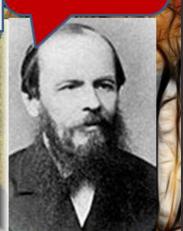
... to hang out with me and my friends!

Cassics

"My friends and me!"

Spiritualit

Yeah, all of us!





Received in May 2018 76,144 Received in May 2017 70,166 Received as of 5/31/18 455,503

FINANCIAL

2018 Budget 1,184,297 Needed each month 98,691

# <u>Birthdays</u>

- 07/03 William Bangley, Wade Hersperger
- 07/04 Pat Douglas, Priscilla Prose
- 07/05 Diana Rew
- 07/06 Diane Graczyk, Tacie Kehlhem
- 07/07 Lori Albright, Brooke Belding, Tom Brown, Chuck Gutschmidt, Bob Jones, Ann Elise Kadela, Tina Moore
- 07/08 Kimberly Izzolo
- 07/09 Robert Johnson, Janice King, Louise Larsen, Bill Miller, Hardy Mowry
- 07/10 Rose Lillich
- 07/11 John Bernstiel, Philip Frey, Tom King
- 07/12 Sean Birkett
- 07/14 Cly T. Welling
- 07/15 Carolyn Benninger
- 07/16 Buffy Kadela, Megan Schoner, Jeannie Tucker
- 07/17 Craig Harlan, Carolyn Herman
- 07/18 Joseph Mauldin, Marian Neff
- 07/19 Jeremy Gould, Laura Thorsen
- 07/20 Nancy Jones
- 07/22 Frances Andre, Debby Artman, Taunya Bryant, Peggy Frazier, James Hill, Kimberly Johnson
- 07/23 Dottie Kohl
- 07/24 Luke Bartnick, Matthew Gutschmidt, Doris O'Connor, Rick Stewart
- 07/26 Sandy Ebling, Yvonne Finch, Thomas Lytle, Audrey Titcomb, Lucia Trantham

07/28 Elisa Cioffi, Laura Duke 07/29 Robert Shubert, Carol S. McCarthy 07/30 Dorothy Hill, Willa Southard, Jordan Wagner 07/31 Cory Henn, Kelly McIntyre



07/06 Kirk & Pam McLean

- 07/08 Derek & Laura Duke
- 07/13 John & Julie Hockey
- 07/14 Richard & Robin Anderson
- Noel & Becky DaSilva
- 07/17 Scott & Missy Zimmerman
- 07/19 Charles & Mary Rosseau
- 07/28 David & Rosalyn Mauldin

Have something for the next newsletter? Email it to our editors, Amy Kitchell and Andrea Wood: newsletter@palmcitypres.org by the deadline indicated on this newsletter's calendar.

#### Worship Times

Traditional 8:30 Chapel 11:00 Sanctuary

Contemporary 9:30 HFLC

2700 SW Martin Highway Palm City Florida, 34990

Phone: 772-286-9958 Fax: 772-286-9960 Email: worship@palmcitypres.org



### CHRISTIAN BIRKETT DESIGNER/ILLUSTRATOR

Could you leave the L bubble wrap alone for five seconds and look at these ?! pop! 808 YODI pop

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