

# The Peaceful News

The Peace Presbyterian Church of Lakewood Ranch, Florida Newsletter

FALL, 2018



**As a young couple prepares for their wedding** for months, there are many details to manage, and it can get quite consuming. Finally, the long-awaited day of celebration comes, and they are joyful and relieved that it is done. Done! Done? Well, the event planning of a wedding is done, but the marriage has only just begun. So it is with a sanctuary and the building of a community of Christian faith. Whew! It is done—the sanctuary, that is, but making the sanctuary a place of welcome for all people – we’ve only just begun to live it out.

Sure, we have worked hard, especially the Building Vision Team leaders, while congregation members have stretched themselves further than they thought they could in giving. The sanctuary is beautiful, and in fact, we have had our first wedding there, as well as seven Sunday morning services and our Grand Opening last Sunday. Much good work has been done, and we celebrate that fact, but the real work is just beginning.

Now we must continue to “build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.” We sang those words at the Grand Opening and Blessing of the

Sanctuary, and we now labor to make sure all feel welcome in every area of our life together.

This is the responsibility of every single person who has come to Peace more than three times—to welcome one another with the love of Jesus Christ! To welcome with smiles, kindness, good conversation, and genuine interest, people who are similar to you and people who are quite different from you.

Welcome to worship, welcome to classes, welcome to mission work, welcome to fellowship time, welcome to ministry teams and choir and Bible study and giving and all the activities of our congregation, including a Fun Festival on November 3rd. Welcome to the weak and strong of faith. Welcome one another, just as Christ welcomed you. (Romans 15)

Prayerfully yours,

*Elizabeth*

Rev. Elizabeth M. Deibert

Pastor, Peace Presbyterian Church





# FAMILY FUN FEST

Saturday, November 3  
11am to 4pm

FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING

Music by Manatee's favorite  
Classic Rock Band

**Kettle of Fish**  
(noon-3pm)

Kids Games  
Bouncy House  
Food and Drinks  
Bingo  
Arts and Crafts  
Organ Recital  
and More

Come help us celebrate our brand new  
Church Building on our RT 64 Lakewood  
Ranch campus, between Lorraine Road  
and Lakewood Ranch Blvd.



12705 State Road 64 East, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34212  
941-753-7778

[www.PEACEpcusa.com](http://www.PEACEpcusa.com)

Mark  
Your  
Calendars  
and  
Tell  
All  
Your  
Friends

Peace secured a **Blessing Grant from Peace River Presbytery for \$9240**  
to advertise for our November 3<sup>rd</sup> Peace Festival and to begin building the  
Peaceful Path and Memorial Garden!

Thanks to Sue Seiter and Elizabeth Deibert for working on this.

# Check Out Candidates and Ballot Propositions



Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions at St. Petersburg College kicks off its 2018-2019 season with programs that help voters meet the candidates seeking to represent them and to understand the ballot issues that will affect them. In addition, we will take up some of the most contentious issues in the public policy realm to bring clarity to policy-making decisions. Among these: gun violence and fake news, both of which continue to dominate the political conversation most days. Peace member David Klement is the Executive Director of the Institute.

Florida voters may find more confusion than usual when they get to the bottom of the ballot on Nov. 6. That's because they'll find 27 proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution. But they can't vote on each issue separately. Six of the 13 amendment titles are "bundles" of multiple issues, but voters can only vote for or against the entire bundle.

Confused yet? Don't worry. It will all be made clear at a forum on the amendments sponsored by the Institute titled Constitutional Amendments: Understanding the Bottom of the Ballot. It will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Seminole Campus Digitorium, 9200 113th St. N., St. Petersburg. Leading the discussion will be Dr. Frank Alcock, Political Science Professor at New College of Florida. Register at <http://solutions.spcollege.edu/>.

The emphasis will be on informality and personal conversations at Pizza & Politics, a public gathering of local candidates and the voters to whom they look to get elected. It will be Oct. 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the SPC Seminole Campus Conference Center, 9200 113th St. N., St. Petersburg, sponsored by the Institute. The program, which includes serving of pizza

and soda, is free, but advance registration is requested at <http://solutions.spcollege.edu/>.

The informal setting is designed to give voters a chance to

Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions at St. Petersburg College presents:

## Constitutional Amendments: Understanding the Bottom of the Ballot

Thursday, Sept 27  
6-8:30 p.m.

Seminole Campus Digitorium  
St. Petersburg College  
9200 113th St. North, Seminole

Voting on the proposed constitutional amendments is always a challenge. Cloaked in legalese that is difficult for a non-lawyer to understand, they address issues that seem arcane but can have a major impact on public policy. The Nov. 6 election has 13 such proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution, some containing multiple changes. The forum will provide context and explanation of the merits and demerits of each.

Seating is limited and online registration is required.

Register now

<http://solutions.spcollege.edu>  
or call 727-394-6942 for more information

### Featured Speaker:

**Dr. Frank Alcock**, Associate Professor of Political Science, New College of Florida

Plus advocates who will discuss the pros and cons of the most debated amendments.



St. Petersburg College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment. For additional information visit [www.spcollege.edu/eeoo/](http://www.spcollege.edu/eeoo/).

14-5001-04

INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC  
POLICY SOLUTIONS

SPC St. Petersburg  
College



meet the candidates and engage in one-on-one conversation with those who seek to represent them. Invited are the candidates on the Nov. 6 ballot for the following offices: Pinellas County Commission, Florida Senate, Florida House of Representatives, and Congressional District 13.

*How much better it is to get wisdom than gold!  
And to get understanding is to be chosen above silver.*

Proverbs 16:16



## MOVIES SET FOR 2018-19 FAITH AND FILM

This group meets on the 2nd Friday of each month, Sept. to May. We gather at church at 6:30 to visit with each other. The movies begin at 7:00 p.m. SHARP, followed by discussion.

There is no need to sign up or make any advance plans. Just show up on the correct Friday and enjoy the movie. This group is a great way to ease into the “+2, as in Worship +2 is what we do.” **BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND ANY REFRESHMENTS**

**Sept. 14, 2018**

***I Can Only Imagine*** (2018, PG, 1:50)

The inspiring and unknown true story behind MercyMe’s beloved, chart topping song that brings ultimate hope to so many is a gripping reminder of the power of true forgiveness.

**Oct. 12, 2018**

***Shadowlands*** (1993, PG, 2:11)

The story, based on fact, of an autumnal romance involving the British writer C. S. Lewis and a divorced American woman named Joy Gresham.

**Nov. 9, 2018**

***Pursuit of Happyness*** (2006, PG-13, 1:57)

A struggling salesman takes custody of his son as he’s poised to begin a life-changing professional career.

**Dec. 14**

***Babette’s Feast*** (1987, G, 1:43)

During the late 19th century, a strict religious community in a Danish village takes in a French refugee from the Franco-Prussian War as a servant to the late pastor’s daughters.

**Jan. 11, 2019**

***Theory of Everything*** (2014, PG-13, 2:03)

A look at the relationship between the famous physicist Stephen Hawking and his wife.

**Feb. 8, 2019**

***Loving*** (2016, PG-13, 2:03)

The story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1960s Virginia began a legal battle that would end with the Supreme Court’s historic 1967 decision.

**Mar. 8, 2019**

***The Way*** (2010, PG-13, 2:03)

A father heads overseas to recover the body of his estranged son who died while traveling the “El camino de Santiago,” and decides to take the pilgrimage himself.

**Apr. 12, 2019**

***Woman Walks Ahead*** (2017, R, 1:41)

Catherine Weldon, a portrait painter from 1890s Brooklyn, travels to Dakota to paint a portrait of Sitting Bull and becomes embroiled in the Lakota peoples’ struggle over the rights to their land

**May 10, 2019**

***Leave No Trace*** (2018, G, 1:49)

A father and his thirteen year-old daughter are living an ideal existence in a vast urban park in Portland, Oregon, when a small mistake derails their lives forever.

**...and two special family presentations on Sundays**

**Nov. 11, 2018**

***Wonder*** (2017, PG, 1:53)

Based on the New York Times bestseller, this movie tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters the fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time.

**Mar. 3, 2019**

***Won’t You Be My Neighbor?*** (2018, PG-13, 1:34)

An exploration of the life, lessons, and legacy of iconic children’s television host, Fred Rogers..

## Mission Trip to Haiti

15 adults and youth from Peace in Nov. 2018! Our goal is to raise \$8,400 to build a cinder block house for a family. You can help—write a check to Peace with “Help For Haiti” in the memo or come to our **Culinary Event at Publix Cooking School** 2875 University on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 for \$35. Learn how to prepare delicious Haitian and Caribbean food! Free wine!



## Exploring: When Helping Hurts & the Peace Haiti Mission

In 2006 churches spent \$1.6 Billion on short term mission projects, and that number has grown

annually. However, as missions expert Miriam Adeney relates in a story by her African Christian friend our effectiveness could use some work:



*Elephant and Mouse were best friends. One day Elephant said, "Mouse, let's have a party!" Animals gathered from far and near. They ate. They drank. They sang. And they danced. And nobody celebrated more and danced harder than Elephant. After the party was over, Elephant exclaimed, "Mouse, did you ever go to a better party?" But Mouse did not answer. "Mouse,*

*where are you?" Elephant called. He looked around for his friend, and then shrank back in horror. There at Elephant's feet lay Mouse. His little body was ground into the dirt. He had been smashed by the big feet of his exuberant friend, Elephant. "Sometimes, that is what it is like to do mission with you Americans," the African storyteller commented. "It is like dancing with an Elephant."*

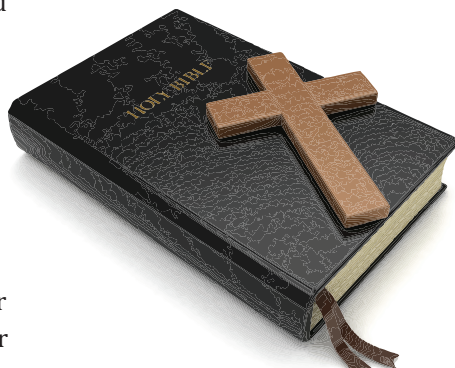
We will spend five weeks in conversation about how we can find the grace to not dance like elephants as we seek to do Peace mission work. In addition, we will take the opportunity to talk about Haiti, where we plan to send a mission team in November, and learn about the country and the mission where we are going. Resources for the class will be the book **When Helping Hurts** by Steve Corbrett and Brian Fikkert, the book **The Uses of Haiti** by Paul Farmer, and the book **Mountains to Mountains** by Tracy Kidder. This class will be led by Gordy Hyde.

## The Story of the Bible

Have you ever wondered how we got the Bible? Are you curious about how the different parts of the Bible got written and preserved and copied, accepted and selected and authorized, interpreted and translated and carried to the ends of the earth? Maybe you simply want to appreciate what makes the Bible the most special writing in human history. Unlike Islam, which worships its holy book because every word is literally spoken from heaven in Arabic, Christianity reveres the Bible precisely because it is the work of countless sinful human persons laboring tirelessly together for centuries under God's inspiration. For Christianity, the patchwork character of the Bible is integral to its holiness.

Join Mickey Miller and Richard Deibert and Professor Luke Timothy Johnson as they tell the awe-inspiring story of

the Christian Bible. This course will be based on 17 selected 25-minute lectures by Professor Johnson, with chapters on the Jewish Scripture; the emergence of Jewish and Christian canons; writing and copying manuscripts; ancient texts, versions, and variations; the prominence of Latin and the Vulgate; the role of monks and monasteries; Medieval and Renaissance interpretation; the first printed Bible and the Reformation; Englishing the Bible and King James; searching for a universal critical text; the rise of the historical critical method; contemporary Christians and their many Bibles. Professor Johnson will teach the technical basics; Professors Miller and



Deibert will turn those basics into spiritual treasures that nourish your faith. Come meet the Bible you so cherish. Learn its long, beautiful story. And fall more deeply in love with its Lord, Jesus Christ.

A class on **PEACEMAKING** will be led by the Revs. Bill Yolton and Bill Clough. Peacemaking classes content will be:

**Session 1**—Peace in the Old and New Testaments, personal, family, society, and national.

**Session 2**—War and Peace.

**Session 3**—Peacemaking, the Believer's Calling.

**Session 4**—Possible discussion of Reclaiming Jesus material.



## Gratitude Team Book Recommendation

Diana Butler Bass is an award-winning author on American religion, a professor in religious studies, a public speaker and a syndicated columnist. Her latest book, *Grateful: the Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*, is one that is right at home in our PEACE library... and in your hands and heart.

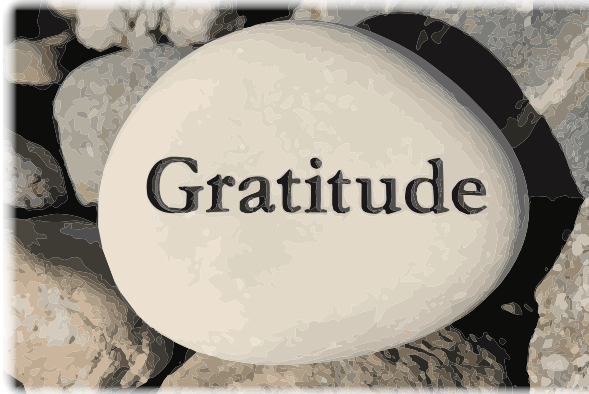
PEACE is committed to inspiring our congregation, young and old, to develop habits of thankfulness and this is a book which provides new ways of living a life of gratitude. Through historical scenarios, references from well-known personalities, research, and a personal journey, Bass leads us into developing skills that can change the way we look at life and, with our own faithful understanding of God's place in our lives, we can become truly grateful people.

Bass offers suggestions for building grateful habits. "Practice gratitude in prayers, reflections, chants, and meditations. Gather with like-spirited people. Live more simply. Look for examples of grateful people in your life and from history and learn from them. Think with your heart and trust your feelings of gratefulness"...and more. She invites us to replace the idea of being "thankful for things or events with being grateful in all things".

Try this book on for size as you reflect on your life, in good or difficult times, and discover all that inspires thankfulness.



DIAL HOPE (1-866-528-4673) can be a wonderful daily addition to our lives. It is free and inspirational. The Gratitude team highly recommends that you make the call.



## Gratitude Fall Classes

The Gratitude team will be using *Enough* by Adam Hamilton for this year's stewardship campaign. On October 14th, there will be a combination class with two other teams. We will then use Hamilton's book and video to hold separate classes on October 21<sup>st</sup>, October 28<sup>th</sup>, and November 4<sup>th</sup>. We will also be addressing the various youth groups with gratitude lessons during our campaign. **INGATHERING SUNDAY/PLEDGE SUNDAY** will be November 11<sup>th</sup>.



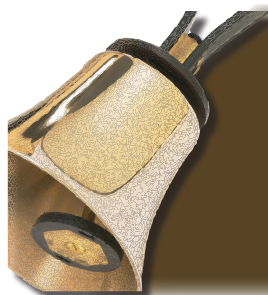
## New Ways to Give to Peace

What is "Give + Swipe?" It is the preferred way of many Millennials to give to their church. Peace will soon have this giving option as the Session voted to obtain one of the mobile card readers that will give the congregation of Peace the flexibility to quickly and easily accept one-time payments or gifts with the swipe of your credit or debit card. In addition, you will soon be able to text your gifts to Peace using your cell phone. Look for both of these giving options in the near future.



## Time and Talent Fair

The annual Time & Talent Fair was held on Sunday, August 19th and was well attended. Peace Church teams presented color-themed displays and color-themed foods inviting the congregation to explore ways that they can give back to Peace with their time and talents. *Worship plus two is what we do.*



Practice for Ringers of Peace (Handbells) has been moved to 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays.

**The kids at Peace enjoyed a very active summer!  
Enjoy the photos while you think about these numbers...**

**20** Campers at  
Peace's Day Camp

**10** Acolytes in Training

**5** Haiti-bound Youth

**12** Excited Friends at Kids Night-In

**4** Budding Musicians at the Music and Worship Conference

**2** Confirmed High Schoolers

**11** Peace Teens at Montreat Youth Conference

**ONE** New Music Director  
who is planning great things for all the kids at Peace!

Amazing Youth Sunday  
**1**





*Peace youth led the worship service on August 5.*



*Pastor Elizabeth leads the Children's Sermon on Aug. 12.*



*The youth are ready to embark on the trip to Montreat.*



*Fun was had by all at Peace Day Camp.*



*Kids on their way to a 300!*



*Peace Kids have a great time at Kids Night-In.*





**First Sunday worship in our Sanctuary  
—July 15, 2018—  
was a joyous occasion for all.**





*Ethan and Finn were confirmed on August 5, Elders laying hands on the confirmands.*



*Kajang's baby, Elizabeth, is introduced to the congregation for the first time August 19.*

**Crafters** have been busy making blankets, baby hats and other knitted items. Peggy has been doing her beautiful cards and Bert Garino has been making quilts for Ronald McDonald House. Bert also has made over 100 premier and infant hats for All Children's Hospital (right).



**Fellowship**—We have moved into our new Fellowship Hall and had great attendance following worship. If you have been to the fellowship time, please consider helping us with food for coffee times such as cookies, brownies, fruit, coffee cake, cheese/crackers, etc. Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall or contact Ellen Walch.

We also created a Clergy Wall that contains photos of all ministers that were honored on Clergy Appreciation Day in October 2017. We will be expanding with new honorees each Oct. and are looking forward to adding more soon. Watch for upcoming special events in the Fall and Winter.

**Mission**—Thank You to everyone who gave to Mission Team's "Back to School" drive for Beth-El. We collected \$830 as well as a generous supply of school essentials. Way to go, Peace!

**\$830**



Leslie (left) and new music director Amy Cerniglia's first Sunday was August 5.



## Welcome Amy Cerniglia to Peace

Welcome to Amy and Leslie Cerniglia (pronounced sir-kneel-ya) who have moved to Bradenton recently. Amy started in her position as our Music Director on Tuesday, August 7th.

Amy completed her Master of Music in Organ Performance at Mississippi College in December 2017. In addition to years of playing organ in the PCUSA, she directed choirs and taught at Hinds County Community College in Raymond, MS. She maintains active membership in the American Guild of Organists, where she serves as blog coordinator and officer for the Young Organists Southeast Region.

Amy possessed the most important personality and character attributes the search committee was looking for—empathy and grace, the ability to relate to adults as well as youth and children.

Her wife, Leslie, completed a Bachelor of Social Work from Mississippi College in May 2018 and will be embarking on an online master's degree in Social Work soon. They both look forward to being actively involved with Peace.

We owe a big thank you to Linda McCallister who has served as interim music director during the summer.

*...and it was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord, and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the Lord,*

*“For he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever,”*

*the house, the house of the Lord,  
was filled with a cloud,*

2 Chronicles 5:13 (ESV)

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