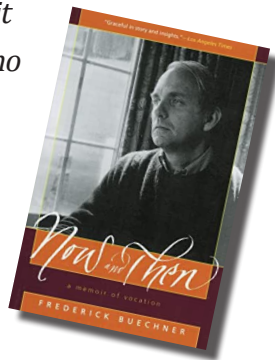


The Peaceful News

The Peace Presbyterian Church of Lakewood Ranch, Florida Newsletter

A Presbyterian minister who never served a particular congregation nurtured the faith of many congregations as his words were often quoted in sermons. Frederick Buechner died this month at the age of 96, having written books on many subjects, always encouraging his readers, *"Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is. In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace."*

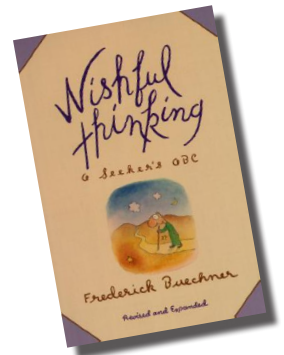


I challenge you to engage more actively in Peace's life this autumn, as you are able, because I firmly believe that what we are doing together in Christian community is a small but valuable part of making this world more loving, more just, more peaceful. There are plenty of activities competing for your attention, but your church life plays a crucial role in centering you in the things that matter most.

As the beloved writer said, *"We must be careful with our lives, for Christ's sake, because it would seem that they are the only lives we are going to have in this puzzling and perilous world, and so they are very precious and what we do with them matters enormously."*



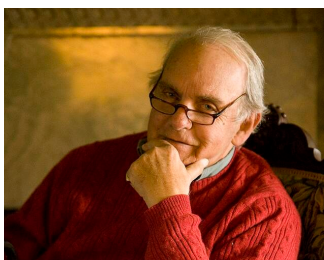
So stop for a moment and ponder how you are spending your time. Are you following the call of God? As Buechner said, *"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."*



Prayerfully yours,

Elizabeth

Rev. Elizabeth M. Deibert
Pastor, Peace Presbyterian Church



Frederick Buechner, 1926-2022

Carl Frederick Buechner was an American writer, novelist, poet, autobiographer, essayist, preacher, and theologian. He was an ordained Presbyterian minister and the author of thirty-nine published books. His work encompassed different genres, including fiction, autobiography, essays and sermons, and his career spanned more than six decades. Buechner's books were translated into many languages for publication around the world. He was best known for his novels, including *A Long Day's Dying*, *The Book of Bebb*, *Godric* (a finalist for the 1981 Pulitzer Prize), and *Brendan*, his memoirs, including *Telling Secrets* and *The Sacred Journey*, and his more theological works, including *Secrets in the Dark*, *The Magnificent Defeat*, and *Telling the Truth*.



FAITH AND FILM

Second Fridays at 2:30 p.m.
Peace Mask Policy will apply

All movies will begin at 2:30 pm in
Trinity Square at Peace

September 16, 2022

Belfast (2021, 1:38 PG-13)

Wally Harman, Discussion Leader

Jude Hill, Caitriona Balfe, Judi Dench

A young boy and his working-class Belfast family experience the tumultuous late 1960s.



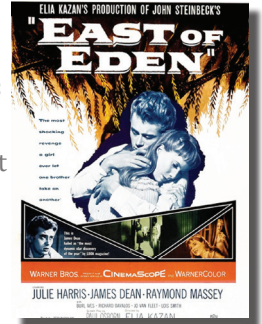
November 11, 2022

East of Eden (1955, 1:58 PG)

Shannon Jung, Discussion Leader

James Dean, Raymond Massey, Julie Harris

In the Salinas Valley, in and around World War I, Cal Trask feels he must compete against overwhelming odds with his brother Aron for the love of their father Adam. Cal is frustrated at every turn, from his reaction to the war, to how to get ahead in business and in life, to how to relate to an estranged mother.



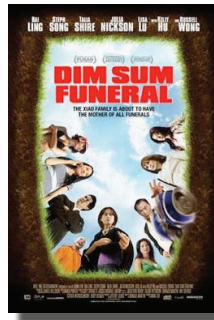
October 14, 2022

Dim Sum Funeral (2008, 1:35 R)

Dirk Brinkmeyer, Discussion Leader

Bai Ling, Talia Shire, Kelly Hu

The grown children of an overbearing Chinese matriarch reluctantly gather to take part in seven days' worth of traditional funeral rites.



Please Note Time & Date Changes.

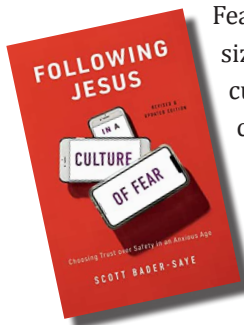


In addition to the constant regular repairs, maintenance and gardening that is part of life on the Property Team, we have several exciting bigger projects either recently completed or in-progress.

- We had a wonderfully successful Spring workday where we put down over 600 cubic feet of new mulch.
- We took down nine dead palm trees from the entry drive
- We are in the middle of a major clean-up project in the Peace Center. Storage spaces are being cleaned up and redistributed more efficiently. The library and meeting rooms are also being cleaned up. Additional new flooring will be replacing the old carpet in about 50% of the rooms between now and late September.
- We have begun the process of creating a formalized emergency/hurricane response plan for Peace.

We are still in need of a Team Leader for the Property Team. Anyone interested can contact Craig Hardesty or Pastor Elizabeth.

A TIMELY CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO A WORLD WARPED BY FEAR



Fear has taken on an outsized role in our current culture and political context. But this steady diet of fear produces unhealthy moral lives, leading many Christians to focus more on the dangers we wish to avoid than the goods we wish to pursue.

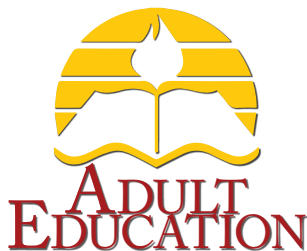
Bringing together cultural analysis and theological insight, Scott Bader-Saye explores a Christian response to the culture of fear and offers practices that embody Jesus's call to place our trust in him and to show hospitality to our neighbors. Now revised and updated throughout including new discussion questions.

**Sunday mornings following Fellowship time.
Trinity Square, beginning September 18.**

Do you have a deep longing for something more? It may be something you can't explain, but you have moral yearnings and visionary dreams that nothing has satisfied.

You're not alone. Even people "raised" in a Christian church can feel disconnected from—and even repelled by—what should be a comforting, constant presence in their lives. It's why so many people today proclaim themselves "spiritual but not religious." But what does that mean? Exactly what's meant by the spiritual journey?

Exploring the Way will help you understand and deepen your experience of God. You'll be able to ask the questions of



issues and faith in a safe place. You'll discover (or rediscover) a way of grace, joy, and peace - indeed, the way of Christ himself.

Ideal for the novice and veteran

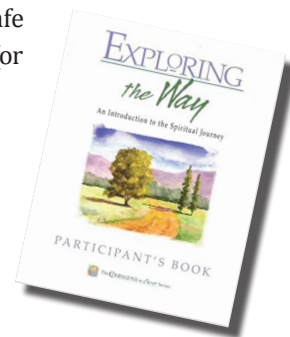
alike, this book defines and explains the most basic concepts and language of the Christian spiritual life: prayer, the Bible's message for our lives today, spiritual gifts, listening, journaling, and much more. It's the ultimate six-week orientation to spirituality and the essential elements of faith.

Stories, scripture, and exercises in each chapter will help connect your beliefs with daily experiences. Through independent and group study, you'll establish a rhythm of daily time with God, weekly time in Christian community, and a lifelong attentiveness to possibilities for serving the world.

"To become a spiritual adventurer means learning to listen for the voice of God," writes the author. "This listening involves a certain level of risk and vulnerability that does not come easily. ...[But] we cannot fully rest until we find our way back to the place of our soul's origin, back to the Love that gave us life."

Feed your hungry soul, using both your head and your heart while rejuvenating your own spiritual journey home!

Tuesdays at 6:30pm with dinner and discussion ending at 8:30 pm, beginning September 20 for 6 weeks. Contact Jeff Muckefuse, (941) 462-9107 for more information.



FLORIDA PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

In Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PCUSA)



2022 Hurricane Season Outlook

The University of Colorado predicts 19 Named Storms, 9 Hurricanes and 4 Major Hurricanes. These predictions are above the normal average year.

For federally declared disasters, FEMA support now includes Public Assistance for Houses of Worship. Peace is currently working on a Hurricane Plan.

Presbytery Commuter Volunteer Team - FLAPDAN in

Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PCUSA) is ready to help! Due to COVID restrictions, when there is a disaster in Florida, FLAPDAN will need to rely on local volunteers to help with debris removal, tarping, mucking/gutting and temporary repairs to stop additional home damage. After a disaster a team of commuters will provide their own transportation to the worksite and return home the same day. Please visit www.FLAPDAN.org if interested to help.

Do you have your Hurricane Supplies ready?

Beth-El

Farmworker Ministry, Inc.

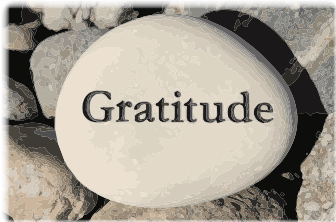


The Peaceful Baggers (volunteers from Peace Church at Beth-El, right) combined resources with another Beth-El supporter to purchase a few popular grocery items for the July food distribution bags (left). Con Sazon, as it was labeled—was a big hit with the patrons.



As we do our weekly beans and rice packing, or filling grocery bags—we are ever mindful of our bounty of selecting our own groceries as opposed to receiving them from a food pantry. Come enjoy the rich fellowship of our group as you serve those in greater need!

In August, the Gratitude Team teamed with the Ministry Teams of Peace for a tremendously successful Time and Talent Event. The fellowship hall was filled with colorful tables featuring the key details and work of each of the



Ministry Teams of Peace. Many teams gained new members and shared the details of their work with folks as they streamed through the room nibbling on the treats shared at each table.

Our upcoming 2023 Operation Fund Drive will focus on the tremendous generosity of our congregation. We share our time, talents and finances with each other and our community. Be thinking about how the folks at Peace have shared generously with you and how you have and plan to share yourself with our members and our community!

update

The Mission Team would like to thank anyone who has donated diapers or paper goods to Francis House. The resident there now just gave birth to a baby girl and also has a four-year-old girl. When Mom leaves in a few weeks she will have a job, but Family Promise is having trouble finding housing. Donations to Francis House or Turning Points can be left in the Mission closet in the parlor.



"...give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Luke 6: 38 (RSV)

Worship Events



Pastor Elizabeth and Amy, along with six youth and six adults from Peace, and 700 others attended the Worship & Music Conference week 2 in Montreat. Amy and Elizabeth are serving on the 2024 Worship & Music Planning Team and will be co-directors of the 2025 Conference.

Amy took an organ tour with her alma mater to play organs in Birmingham, AL. She also attended on-site classes for her seminary training in Dubuque, IA in August.

Mickey Miller held a training class for new and returning liturgists this summer and Don Deibert has scheduled and notified those assigned for upcoming Sunday services.

The Drama Ministry continues to participate when called upon, most recently those presenting were Don Bouchard and Karen and Chet Day.

In case a need arises for someone new to prepare communion on Sunday mornings, Larry Forrester and

Kathleen Germano have drafted instructions that will be placed in the sacristy. Natalie Bouchard and Terri Holbrook prepared communion on August 28 when Larry and Kathleen were absent due to their wedding.

The job for Live Streaming the Sunday Service is being posted.

The full acolyte group will return in the September.

The zimbelstern for the organ will be installed by the technician this fall. The zimbelstern, which means “cymbal star” in German, is an organ stop that produces a continuous tinkling sound.

Wonderful Wednesday is to start back on August 17, which will include music time for children.

There will be a potluck dinner for the choir and handbells when they start back up in the Fall.

Gemma Briggs, who played the bagpipes at two recent memorial services, is coming to our church on October 30th and will play during our church service.



The group at the worship conference at Montreat, holding clay bears, gifts from Pastor Elizabeth



Julia and Jamie, high school graduates from Peace, were honored in June



*Some recent memories from
Worship and Music Team*



Our Earth Care/ Matthew 25 team had a successful road clean-up, collecting 15 very full bags of trash. Next clean-up will be November, please join us!



Peace will participate once again in the PC(USA) Week of Action from 10/10-10/17, this time spotlighting food insecurity and sustainability. Watch the bulletin for special events for all Peace people during this week.

STREAM (Stronger Together Reaching Equality Across Manatee) had a successful first year, with successes in affordable housing efforts and adult civil citation options instead of arrests. Join us at an informational meeting on September 4th, immediately following worship. If you are invited to a STREAM house meeting, please try to



The Joshua Assembly from STREAM held a celebration of their work over the past year hosted by Peace.

attend. You can share (and listen as others share) stories about what we are concerned about in our community. “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves” Proverbs 31:8.

The Vital Congregations Initiative has been well received at Peace. Pastor Elizabeth offered sermons based on the 7 marks of vital congregations and Peter Miller led a great class that many of you participated in. Coming soon will be a survey and some exploration of our local community around Peace. Curious about the program? Contact Pastor Elizabeth, Tina Juillerat or Eirinn Camphire.



The Earth Care Team did a great job cleaning up Upper Manatee River Road

Congregational Care

The Congregational Care Team sends you “warm” wishes during the “hotter-than-hot” days of August. We are mid-way through summer and continue to support the Peace congregation through prayer, friendship, and Stephen Ministry. As are the other Ministries we continue our mission throughout each season of the year.

We’d like to share 2 CC Team “special” events occurring this past month of August. First, we welcome Wilsy Philips as our 17th Care Cluster Leader. Wilsy and her husband, Tom, have been Peace members for a short time. She brings to our team and Peace experience as an Ordained Deacon and Congregational Care involvement in several churches. Her caring heart and enthusiastic approach



to getting to know new people will be felt by those in her Care Cluster. As we welcome new members in September Wilsy will be waiting to welcome some of them to her Cluster.

And a first-ever happening at Peace (at least we think it is)—Kathleen Germano and Larry Forrester were married on August 27th. Before this date they are members of different Care Clusters. Well, we can’t have them separated can we!

So, Larry will join Kathleen in Cluster #6 and we’ll welcome them—the Forresters.

At the annual Time and Talent Fair on August 28th so many of you swung by our pink table to say hi and enjoy some fellowship, great time by all.



an increase in the number of congregants coming over each week. It is nice to see everyone gathering together again.



The Schoeffel family and Maddie

Maddie Gootman to celebrate their marriage when they were back in Bradenton.

We have continued to provide Fellowship Time after Sunday Services, with

Some of our special events, included Fourth of July celebration, Father's Day, and a special celebration for Sarah Schoeffel and

Musical movies have continued as well. The August movie was *The Music Man*, followed by *Annie* in September and *Phantom of The Opera* in October. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall at 7pm on the last Friday of the month for these exciting presentations. Popcorn, snacks and drinks are provided as well.



Recent events include the Wedding reception for Kathleen Germano and Larry Forrester on August 27, a catered event that was held in Fellowship Hall. Also coming up, on September 11, is our Brunch, following church service that day. All are invited. If you would like to contribute something for the brunch, please let Elder Ellen Walch know.

If you are interested in joining the Fellowship Team, please see Ellen or one of our leaders (Beth Walch, Jenni Holt or Bonnie Sokalsky). We will also gladly accept any snack contributions on Sundays—just bring it to the kitchen prior to the service.



Certos and McCains on the train. These folks are the main movers and shakers for Adventure Seekers.



Adventure Seekers took a field trip to the Florida Railroad Museum. A good-sized group rode the old train to the Museum



We had a group of 33 that went to dinner at Pier 22 followed by the Musical production, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, at Manatee Players. It was a wonderful night, enjoyed by all.

Many of you have asked what future outings may be, so we are letting you know what's being planned. Events are scheduled about every 6-8 weeks, depending on availability, the season, and the church calendar. We also try to accommodate accessibility and our working friends, but understand each event won't be convenient or of interest to everyone. So here is a tentative schedule; you will be notified as soon as plans for each trip are finalized.

- October—Dakin Dairy Tour and Hayride and ice cream, 90 minutes, \$10
- December—Sarasota Baptist Church Singing Christmas Tree Matinee and dinner in Sarasota OR Polar Express Christmas train ride in Parrish
- Jan.-Feb.—Myakka Elephant Ranch; close encounter with an elephant! A spa experience, educational presentation, or both; 1-2 hours
- Spring 2023—Lipizzaner Stallions OR Van Wezel Backstage tour

Most of these dates will not include lunch or dinner until restaurants are better able to accommodate large groups.



2022-23 Outreach Events

October 22, 2022

Pumpkin Patch and Blessing of the Animals

October 23, 2022

RingSide Handbell Ensemble of Ring Sarasota

live in worship, Sunday at 10:00AM, free

October 30, 2022

Gemma Briggs, bagpiper

live in worship, Sunday at 10:00AM, free

November 27, 2022

Lakewood Ranch Wind Ensemble, 2:00PM

December 18, 2022

Carols, Candles, & Live Nativity on the Path

February 5, 2023

Lakewood Ranch Wind Ensemble, 2:00PM

March 5, 2023

Lakewood Ranch Wind Ensemble, 2:00PM



This summer we welcomed 22 children to Vacation Bible School (VBS) Day Camp at Peace! We “Jumped into the Bible,” learning about important men and women and where to find their stories in the Bible. We made slingshots, sang songs, acted out charades, delighted in a wildlife rescuer visit and enjoyed a giant waterslide!

The Montreat Youth conference was another fabulous week with youth from Peace, Beth-El and Wintergarden Church attending together. We took to heart the message that God created us to be “More than Enough.”

In July, Peace and Beth-El Nuevo Camino youth had fun and games at the bowling alley.

Wonderful Wednesdays and Youth Group meetings have returned. Up next is our Peace Family Retreat at Cedarkirk Sept 17-18!

Peace folks will enjoy seeing more acolytes in worship, including youth voices during service.

Lively Learning begins September 25th-- would you consider teaching a class to our children? Even volunteering to teach once a month will help you grow in your faith while you encourage theirs! Contact Eirinn to learn more.

Mark your calendar for the Peace Pumpkin Patch on 10/22 from 10am-4pm



Church school teachers and students were honored in August



Peace youth at Moonracer Animal Rescue



The Bible school children created the fish symbol of Christianity—a symbol in use from the early days of the church



Skylar, Amy, Chris and Ava bowling with the youth group

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