



## What New Seasons Bring Reverend Edward Dunn

My least favorite flower used to be the spider lily.

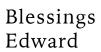
I have nothing against the flower per se, it is a beautiful color and appearance. What made it my least favorite flower was its timing. I grew up in North Carolina and spider lilies bloomed between late August and early September, coinciding with the beginning of the school year. The appearance of the stem and bud signaled the end of summer vacation and the return to the routine of school.

As you observe from this article, I now view spider lilies from a nostalgic point of view. It is a beautiful gift of creation and instead of viewing it with dread, I embrace the new possibilities it suggests. September is the start of new things: a new school year, a new season, and for us a new opportunity to be engaged in the work of the church.

We will hold our second Ministry Fair event on Sunday, September 17 beginning with a service in the Sanctuary followed by a continental breakfast and displays highlighting ways you can become involved in the ministries of our church. This will be your chance to ask questions about what we do in mission, to see curriculum for a new Adult class on Sunday mornings, to sign up to help with fellowship events, and to volunteer to be part of our committees or a specific task group.

Let me highlight one activity you might consider: We start a new class on Sunday, September 24 at 9a.m. in the Parlor titled, The Present Word. This class uses the Adult Bible Lessons curriculum, The Present Word, to study scripture and consider its application today. We begin with the series – God's Law is Love – considering the role of God's law as it relates to faith in Christ. I look forward to the launch of this new learning opportunity and invite you to join us in this new venture.

When I see a spider lily these days, I no longer have a feeling of dread but a feeling of excitement. Even if I don't know what the new season might bring, I am certain that it can be a time of beauty and refreshment.





## Adult Bible Lessons - The Present Word

Series Starts - Sunday, September 24th
Every Sunday at 9am (Please arrive around 8:45a)
Location: Church Parlor

First Series Installment: God's Law is Love

Join us for this new learning opportunity!

## Summertime Photobook























## Summertime Photobook Continued































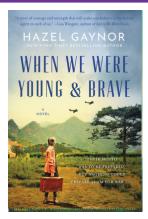
## Palma Sola Session Highlights

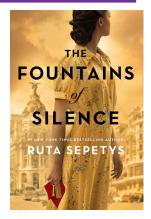
- Session approved the following outreach offerings: September Bible Mission USA, October/November Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and December- Christmas Joy.
- Endorsed hosting the Fall meeting of Peace River Presbytery on October 19. 2024 on our campus.
- Supported moving forward to obtain details and quotes for upgrades to audio, video, lighting and live streaming systems in the Sanctuary.
- Approved moving the Westminster Communion table to the rear of the Chancel as part of a decorative centerpiece at the back wall of the Sanctuary.
- Approved collection of the annual Per Capita contribution with a letter to be included with the eight-month Giving Statements on September 24th.
- Endorsed an Agreement with Oasis Middle Charter School to utilize Fellowship Hall one day per-week (Wednesdays) from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm during the September-May 2023-24 school year. The Agreement will yield income totaling \$2,470 to Palma Sola.
- Approved replacement of air conditioners (2) in the Office area and Creative Arts space at a cost of \$18, 679.
- Endorsed a plan recommended by the Joint Merger Committee for the transfer of memberships to United Presbyterian Church. Members will be invited to sign an Organizing Covenant as Founding Members of the new congregation.
- Convened as Trustees of the Palma Sola Presbyterian Church, Inc., the group approved engaging attorney Jenifer Schembri of Blalock Walters to represent the corporation in preparing Articles of Merger and a Plan for Merger with Westminster Presbyterian Church, Inc.

## Westminster Session Highlights

- Westminster agreed to Prebyterian meeting on Oct. 24, 2024 when we are United Pres. Church.
- Agreed to hire an attorney for merger.
- Mission agreed to give \$300 to Bible Mission USA.
- Agreed to move Westminster Communion Table to Chancel.

#### Palma Sola Book Club





SEPT 11 | 1 - 2:30PM OCT 9 | 1 - 2:30PM

Join in any second Monday at 12pm in the Media Center & Zoom for fun conversation.

#### **2023 READING LIST**

For more information, call Vicki Schooley at (941) 518-2315.

#### Men's Group



You're invited to attend the Morning Men's Group. Get to know the men you see in church. Share your story. Enjoy fellowship.

#### **MEETINGS START AT 8:30A**

**SEPT 7** - Fellowship and breakfast | Poppi's Place restaurant

**SEPT 21** - Fellowship & a discussion about Christian Living | Fellowship Hall

Please contact Rich Wachunis <a href="mailto:rwachunis@tampabay.rr.com">rwachunis@tampabay.rr.com</a>

#### **Hope Seeds Packing**

#### Pack a seed, fill a need!

Mark your calendar for our fall **Hope Seeds packing event on Saturday**, **October 7th from 10am-noon in Fellowship Hall.** 

Join with other volunteers to assemble seed packets to be distributed all over the world. Hope Seeds is a Christian, charitable organization that seeks to improve the nutrition of the poorest in the world by providing quality garden seed and agricultural education through Christian missionaries and organizations.

All supplies are provided and work is done seated at tables. Come for an hour or stay the whole time.

Friends and family are welcome!



## SATURDAY - OCTOBER 7, 2022

### 10am - 12pm Fellowship Hall

Join with other volunteers to assemble seed packets to be distributed all over the world.

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## September Outreach Update

Many of us have enjoyed the slower pace of summer over the past few months, but we have definitely not taken a break from reaching out to the community.

#### **Summer Outreach Highlights:**

- You filled the **yellow barrel for The Food Bank** four times to feed many local families in need.
- Our PB & J Sandwich Ministry continued going strong, making 1300 additional sandwiches to donate to Our Daily Bread, for a total of 5100 since September.
- You generously gave monetary contributions to **The Food Bank of Manatee** including during an ice cream social after worship in July.
- Folks volunteered every Friday at Our Daily Bread.
- You supported students going back to school through **donations to the Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, Mision Peniel in Immokalee, and Palma Sola Elementary School.** Hundreds of children started off the school year with the supplies they need because of your generosity.
- You continued blessing local organizations through contributions to our **3 Cents a Meal collection.**
- You shared the love of Christ with the residents of **Brookdale Palma Sola** by hosting an ice cream social and a rousing game of Simon Says. These opportunities for fellowship mean a lot to them and are always a fun time.
- Through budgeted funds we purchased and donated washcloths and men's shorts and sneakers to Turning Points in response to an urgent need for their clients.

#### September Outreach Offering

Our **Outreach Offering for September** will go to **Bible Mission USA**. Founded by Dr. Paul Eckel, this ministry is dedicated to spreading God's Word by providing free Bibles and religious materials to all who are in need.

#### You may donate to Bible Mission USA:

- during the worship service, in your offering envelope,
- by mailing a check to the church office with "Bible Mission USA" in the memo line, or
- Palma Sola members may also contribute through online giving

## September Outreach Update Continued

#### **September Outreach Opportunities:**



• Our DOES It (Done On Every Sunday) project for September will be collecting hygiene items for farmworkers and their families served by Mision Peniel in Immokalee. Mision Peniel provides a place to find spiritual renewal, food, clothing, and other personal supplies for the migrant community. Drop your donated items in the bins in the Narthex or bring them to the church office by September 24th.

#### Items needed are:

- Regular sized bottles of shampoo/conditioner
  - Bar soap
  - Deodorant
  - Disposable razors
  - Toothpaste/toothbrushes
  - Baby wipes and diapers sizes 3,4,5,6

#### **Ongoing Opportunities:**

- Servers for Our Daily Bread on Fridays are always needed. Contact Dorothy Simes if you would like to volunteer.
- Also, please keep in mind our Blessing Box by the east parking lot. **The Blessing Box** serves as a **mini food pantry** for our local neighborhood, and you are welcome to add to it or take from it as needed.
- Contributions of loose change, soft money, and checks for FELT (Feeding Empty Little Tummies) are always welcome. To donate, use the envelopes in the pews or mail a check to the church office with "FELT" in the memo line.
- Join your church family in Fellowship Hall after worship each week to make **PB & J** sandwiches to share with the clients of Our Daily Bread. Thank you to all who have been bringing in supplies, making sandwiches, and helping SPREAD the love of Christ to your neighbors in need!

#### **Ministry Fair**

Please join us for our annual **Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 17th.** The theme is **"United Begins with U 'N' I"**. Gather in the Sanctuary at 9:30am for a brief worship service around this theme, followed by a continental breakfast in Fellowship Hall with displays and opportunities for the various ways we can be united in service and fellowship in the coming year. Committee members will be available for questions and to hear YOUR suggestions on things YOU want to be a part of. Sign-up in the Narthex or call the church office to let us know you will be there.

Here are some ministries and activities you may want to try to learn about:

Pen Pals

Who are our Missionaries?
Who are our Mission Partners?
Older Adult Ministries
Holy Strollers
Choir and Handbells
Earth Care
Prayer Group
Ushers/Lay Readers
Fellowship
Bible Studies

Property & Grounds Team/Safety Team
All things merger and UNITED

## MINISTRY

United begins with U-N-I

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

Romans 12:4-5

Sunday September 17 Fellowship Hall | 9:30A



Let's get together to spread God's word. Join the Fellowship & Worship Committee Today!

Contact Gail Dickerson at 941-224-1117 or gaild.pspc@gmail.com for more information

Here are our current areas of need for volunteers:

#### **USHERS NEEDED**

Be a great welcomer to the house of God & get to know your congregation

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**Ushers:** A great way to meet everyone and make them feel comfortable

Volunteers are needed for Sunday Fellowship to keep it brewing

One Sunday A Month!

Set Up

Host

Clean Up

We will show you how!



#### **Sunday Fellowship is Back!**

Every Sunday, join us for fellowship, coffee and a few goodies after service.

Sign Up Sheet available to bring in goodies

#### **HOW TO ORDER CHURCH ENVELOPES**

Offering Envelopes are available by calling Dina Breneman at 941-792-3141, Gregg Pead at 941-348-0773 or email Gregg at peedethree@gmail.com.

## Mision Peniel - Thank You!







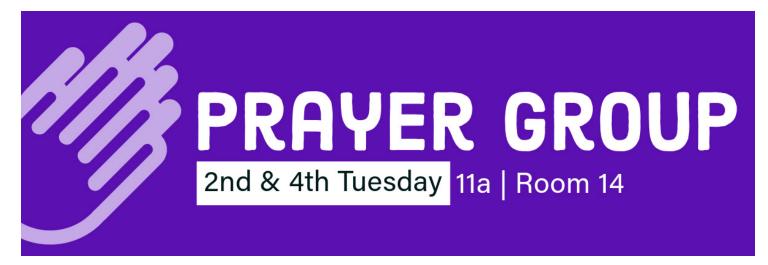
## Thank you for Making our Backpack/School Supplies-Drive a Success!

Thanks to all the generous donors who contributed, and all the amazing volunteers who sorted, packed, and distributed the backpacks.

Our goal was to fill 500 backpacks with everything kids need to start the year off - pens, pencils, crayons, composition books, spiral notebooks, and more. **But your support was so overwhelming that we were able to distribute backpacks to 550 children of 182 families.** YES, 550 - children whose school year is off to a better start because of YOU!







## September Birthdays & Conniversaries

**SEPT 2** Sonia Wegner

**SEPT 5** Tiffany Chinwuba

**SEPT 6** Nicholas Harripersaud

Dennis & Vicki Schooley **SEPT 25** 

**SEPT 8** Fred Schouw

**SEPT 12** Mary Anne Paulsen

SEPT 14 Roger & Lynne Smith

SEPT 16 Jason Onugha

**SEPT 24** Ron & Gail Dickerson

Rick & Penny Gullbrants

**SEPT 25** Shirley Schexnayder

SEPT 26 Chris Wolf

SEPT 30 Tim Pedon





Palma Sola & Westminter Presbyterian Churches
- September Newsletter 2023 -

6510 3rd Ave W. Bradenton, FL 34209 941-792-3141

pspchurch.org

# Sestember

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					<b>1</b> Our Daily Bread 9:30a	2
Worship Service 10a   Communion Fellowship @ 11	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5 Outreach / 3p	6	7 MEN'S GROUP 8:30a	8 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	9
			Bell Choir   6p	Renewal 6:30p		
10 Worship Service 10a  Fellowship	<b>11</b> Palma Sola Book Club / 12p	12 PRAYER GROUP   11A  Deacons / 6p	13  Bell Choir   6p	<b>14</b> Finance / 3:30p	15 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	16
17 Ministry Fair with Continental Breakfast   9:30a	18 WPC SESSION 1p PSPC SESSION 6:30p	19	20 Bell Choir   6p	21 MEN'S GROUP 8:30a STEWARDSHIP @ 2:30P	22 HOLY STROLLERS   9a Our Daily Bread 9:30a Oct Grapevine Deadli	23
24 Christian Ed. 9a Worship Service 10a   Fellowship	25	26 PRAYER GROUP   11A	27 Bell Choir   6p	28	29 HOLY STROLLERS   9a	30

Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday | 9am - 4pm

View the online church <u>Calendar</u> for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at <u>Online Worship</u>.