

THE VINE 2021 Aug 1-7



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Reach UP in Worship

Reach OUT in Mission

Reach DEEP in Discipleship

August 1 Scriptures from
Pastor Dennis

Sermon: Ephesians 4:1-6
Old Testament: Psalm 51:1-12

SUNDAY SERVICES

9AM Contemporary Worship
Children's Church, ages 3-5th grade
Wesley Centre

10:10AM Adult Church School
Open Door, 1st floor Ed. Bldg.
John Wesley, 1st floor, Ed. Bldg.

11AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary

9AM service is live-streamed at:
www.youtube.com/1stUMCPlantCityFL/videos

Due to an increase in Covid-19 cases,
we kindly ask the congregation to
wear a mask when singing.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

Communion Sunday

MONDAY

Faith Community Nurse	1-4PM
Deadline for announcements	4PM
Administrative Council	6:30PM

TUESDAY

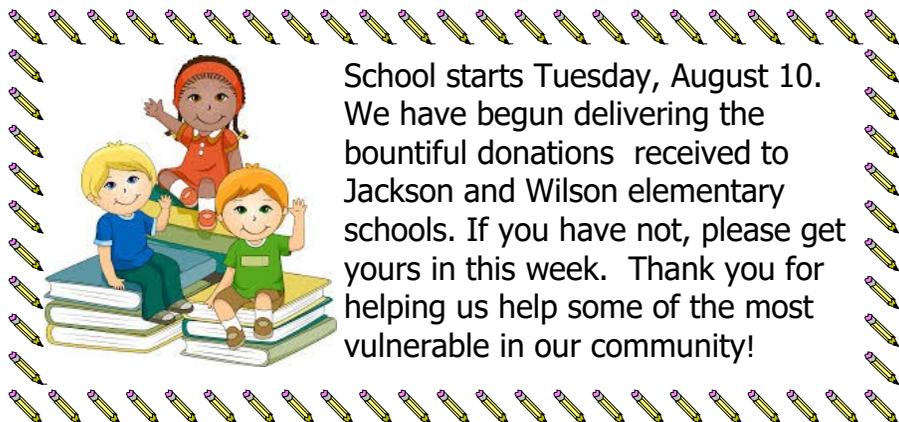
Staff Meeting	10:30AM
Boy Scouts	6PM

WEDNESDAY

The LOFT: Student Ministries	5PM
Praise Team	6:30PM
Chancel Choir	7:30PM

THURSDAY

Faith Community Nurse	1-4PM
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School starts Tuesday, August 10. We have begun delivering the bountiful donations received to Jackson and Wilson elementary schools. If you have not, please get yours in this week. Thank you for helping us help some of the most vulnerable in our community!

Dear Congregation,

If you should get an odd email from me asking for money or any type of donation, please do not respond. This is a phishing scam that is directed at many churches. I would never ask for money by email. If something seems odd, trust your instincts.

Pastor Stephen



Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Mark 11:24

Do you *believe* in prayer?
Do you *need* prayer?

Send us your prayer requests. Join us in prayer.

To add your name to the prayer chain please contact:

Audrey Montella by text at 813-965-5698 or by email at audreymontella40@gmail.com

Shirley Robertson at 813-389-7174

Dennis Roebuck at d_roebuck@msn.com

All prayer requests are forwarded to our pastors, and to our prayer warriors. Each request is met with fervent prayer.

On Sundays you may also fill out a Prayer & Praise card and place it in the collection plate.

Join us in prayer. Send us your prayer requests.

Seven Ways to Pray for Cuba in This Present Moment from Bishop Ken Carter



Scripture Reading: Psalm 51

1. Pray for freedom, peace and justice for the people of Cuba.
2. Pray for an end to the violent repression against those engaged in peaceful protest.
3. Pray for an end to illegal arrests that lead to the disappearance of persons and separation of families.
4. Pray for the youth of Cuba.
5. Pray for gifts and supplies (especially medicines) being channeled to Cuba, that they would reach those in need.
6. Pray for Bishop Pereira and the Methodist Church in Cuba, and for our partnership with them.
7. Pray for Cuban Americans, the diaspora, who are also suffering and who live in separation from family members.



Boy Scout Troop #744 will be having a car wash in the Wesley Centre parking lot on Saturday, August 7th, beginning at 10AM. Proceeds go to fund the activities of the troop. All are welcome & please tell your friends!



⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NIV)

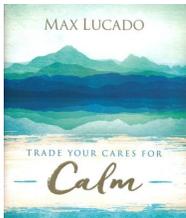
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. THEY FUND THE MINISTRIES OF THIS CHURCH.

You may mail in your contributions, drop in the collection plate, or visit firstchurchplantcity.com/giving/



Beginning August 8th, Barbara Barden, our Faith Community Nurse, will be in Reception, first floor Education Building, Mahoney Street entrance, every 2nd and 4th Sunday between church services to measure blood pressure.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NEW BIBLE STUDIES AND ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER

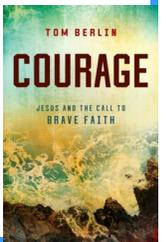


CALM is a booklet written by Max Lucado that provides Bible-based self-help for being in control of anxiety. It is a 10-week small group study limited to 10 participants, beginning Wednesday, September 1 in the afternoon. Barbara Barden, Faith Community Nurse, will guide the discussion.

The first 10 who sign up will be asked to help determine the class time. Please contact Barbara at 813-763-1623 or bbarden4@verizon.net if interested.

New. Vital. Purposeful. The United Methodist Women is a supportive community seeking to know God and to do good. Through devotions, study, and active ministry, we hope to better the lives of others as we better our own. Our special emphasis is on women; our eyes are on God. All are welcome. We will be meeting the second Tuesday of the month beginning on September 14th, at 10 AM and 6 PM. Please contact Debbie Kaczmarek at debbiekaz@aol.com or Ellie Fox at ellynrosefox@gmail.com for further information.

A Bible study entitled **COURAGE** will be led by Erwin Nesvacil. As Christians, we do our best to live our lives as Jesus lived, following the examples of his many virtues—including honesty, faithfulness, and generosity. But one virtue that is often overlooked is courage. Throughout Jesus' life, he was called upon to be brave: in the face of his enemies, when being tempted, and certainly at the time of his death. By examining the life of Christ, we can begin to understand what true courage is and how God works in our lives when we exhibit a brave faith. This is a six-part study and will be held on Wednesdays, beginning September 15th at 1PM and 6 PM. You may contact Erwin at 941-400-4402 or ern1128@gmail.com for questions or more information.



Weekly Devotion By Pastor Dennis

Psalms 68:28 "Summon your power, God; show us your strength."

The Lord imparts to me the underlying strength of character and faith that strengthens me. Ephesians 3:16 says... "...with power through His Spirit in my inner being." Exodus 15:2 says... "The Lord is my strength to go on."

Last year my faith was challenged time after time, hospitalization after hospitalization until I began to wonder if my time had come. I was weakened emotionally as with each prayer for healing, medical treatments seemed to fail and my organs began to fail. When I was on the verge of giving up, God gave me some doctors with the special skills and gifts needed to heal me.

I learned an important lesson from that experience. All of my life I had been exercising my "faith muscles" in preparation for that very experience. So, what do I mean by "faith muscles?" Faith is like a muscle which, with exercise, grows bigger and stronger over time much like the muscles of an athlete's body which are conditioned over time. While my confidence in being healed may have weakened during my experience, my faith in God did not. I Cor. 10:13 was alive and well and I knew that, even though my body was failing, my faith in God was not. I had a peace of mind that gave me spiritual comfort.

What We Should Know

Over the years my faith had developed giving me the strength I needed at the time I needed it. I have relied on God's Word all my life as truth and, at certain times, verses like I Cor. 10:13 reach out and grab me. In that verse we are told that, when this world puts more on you than you can stand, God has given you an escape. My escape was a team of doctors who were determined to make me well.....and they did because of the special gifts God has given them. I am so blessed and so very grateful.

I would conclude with this simple directive ending in two words..... "Hold on to your faith and then just.....**LET GOD.**"

For Inspiring Daily Devotions, announcement updates, and Puppet Five, a weekly video devotional for children: [Facebook.com/FirstChurch PC](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchPC)

For info about our church, small groups, ministries and online giving: firstchurchplantcity.com.

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