

The Belltower

August 2018

A Monthly Publication of Dunnellon Presbyterian Church

Declaring and Demonstrating the Promises of Christ



Dear DPC Members and other Friends,

***“There is nothing better than a friend,
unless it is a friend with chocolate.”***

— Linda Grayson

While at times we may jest about friendships, one thing we can agree upon is that friendships are important. If not only from our own experience, scientific study after study, reports about the proven health, emotional and spiritual benefits of friendship. Historically, the Church has served as a place where deep friendships, sometimes life-long friendships, have been developed, nourished and sustained.

As culture has changed, so have the denotations and connotations regarding friendship. Now people are “friends” on social media in ways previously not imagined. In some cases, definitions have become so diluted, that one would not call that which is currently defined as “friendship”, a “friendship” at all. Others would defend the newer definitions of “friendship” as being just as true of friendships now, as any prior definition of friendships, especially if people were truly honest about the friendships they remember so fondly. Maybe they were not that healthy, or as close after all? Forty-four years ago, Jackson Browne wrote a song about the nature and definition of friendship, even as he was contemplating entering a new friendship that might eventually lead to romance. Through the lyrics, Browne asks some tough questions:

*Everyone I've ever known has wished me well
Anyway, that's how it seems, it's hard to tell
Maybe people only ask you how you're doing
'Cause that's easier than letting on how little they could care?
But when you know you've got a real friend somewhere
Suddenly all the others are so much easier to bear*

*Now to see things clear is hard enough I know
While you're waiting for reality to show
Without dreaming of the perfect love, And holding it so far above
That if you stumbled onto someone real, You'd never know*

*You could be with somebody who is lonely too (Sometimes it doesn't show)
He might be trying to get across to you (Words can be so slow)
When your own emptiness is all that's getting through
There comes a point when you're not sure why you're still talking
I passed that point long ago*

*I'm so tired of all this circling
And all these glimpses of the end
(You know it's useless to pretend)
That's all the voices say "You'll go right on circling
Until you've found some kind of friend"*

*Well I saw you through the laughter and the noise
You were talking with the soldiers and the boys
While they scuffled for your weary smiles
I thought of all the empty miles
And the years that I've spent looking for your eyes*

*Now I'm sitting here wondering what to say (That you might recognize)
Afraid that all these words might scare you away (To break through the disguise)
No-one ever talks about their feelings anyway
Without dressing them in dreams and laughter
I guess it's just too painful otherwise*

*It's like you're standing in the window of a house nobody lives in
And I'm sitting in a car across the way (Let's just say)
It's an early model Chevrolet (Let's just say)
It's a warm and windy day You go and pack your sorrow
The trash-man comes tomorrow
Leave it at the curb and we'll just roll away...*

(The Late Show by Jackson Browne)

A final thought about friendships comes from the late Priest and author Henri Nouwen:

"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is a friend who cares."

— Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Out of Solitude: Three Meditations on the Christian Life*

By God's grace, may Dunnellon Presbyterian Church remain a place where deep friendships are developed, nourished and sustained!

Your friend in Christ,

Pastor Jeff



TREASURER'S REPORT

Results for MAY & JUNE:



Your Giving Record: Shortly you will receive your YTD June giving record (for both this year and last year). The Session asked me, at the June meeting, to provide you with this information so you can monitor your giving relative to your: pledge, last year, or another predetermined amount you hoped to give allowing you time to make any necessary adjustments before the end of the year.

In His and your service,
Craig Henry

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office Phone: 352.489.2682

Office Hours: 9:00 am -1:00 pm, Mon - Fri

Email: dunnpreschurch@bellsouth.net

Website: www.dunnellonpcusa.org

www.facebook.com/DunnellonPresbyterian

If you have any changes to your address, phone, email, or family data, please call the office or email your changes. Thank you for keeping our records updated!

Note from the Financial Office – Summer Maintenance

Offering Envelope Updates: Cheryl has been updating the People Data Records and has found that some people who are assigned the “numbered offering envelopes” are no longer using them. If you could please call Cheryl at the office and let her know whether you would like to continue, or stop, using the envelopes, she can update your record.

Also, if you are not currently using the “numbered offering envelopes” but wish to, please call Cheryl, she can get you started now.

Good Information: The “numbered offering envelope” system is actually a helpful tool to assist the Contribution Counting Teams to maintain accuracy in posting contributions to your record. So call Cheryl at 352-489-2682 to discuss your options. Thank you for helping to keep our records up to date.

Cheryl, Financial Secretary

Thank You Note

Dear Members of Dunnellon Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for surrounding Jane Dunning (my Mother) with your love. She loved you and was happy to be a part of her church in Dunnellon the past four years. Thank you for your visits, your prayers and your attendance at her Celebration of Life service. I am thankful for her life and her faith.

Much love,

Janie T. and Family

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

August Men's Breakfast

Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 8:00 am

The Men's Club will meet for breakfast, fellowship, prayer, and to discuss concerns of the Church at the Purple Sage Café, East Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, at 8:00 am on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Please notify Don Koppler by the Monday before the breakfast if you plan to attend.

Call 352-489-2682

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Coordinating Team

Wednesday, August 15th at 10:00 am

PW Quilt Circle

**Tuesdays, August 14th and 28th
at 10:00 am – 3:00 pm**

We will meet on August 14th and 28th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a time for fun, food and fellowship while sewing our quilt tops!

Any questions, call Jean K. at 489-2682.

"THE PATH" OUTREACH

Presbyterian Women will be collecting toiletries for men and women coming into the residences of THE PATH in Beverly Hills, FL. In addition to tooth brushes, tooth paste, soap, combs, brushes, etc. specific items needed are:

- ✓ Diapers, pull-ups & wipes- sz 3, 4 & 5
- ✓ Bleach & Pine-Sol cleaner
- ✓ 13-gallon outdoor trash bags
- ✓ Zip lock bags- gallon & sandwich sz
- ✓ Toilet paper
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Laundry detergent
- ✓ Shampoo & conditioner
- ✓ Razors
- ✓ Deodorant



There is a collection box in the Narthex.

Your help is needed, as the people entering the PATH rehabilitation program come with nothing.

MUSIC

Making changes is sometimes a difficult task, but necessary. The music program here at Dunnellon Presbyterian is implementing a new program that will continue to bring beautiful anthems of choral music by the choir while also introducing choral responses for all members of the congregation to use.

Beginning in September, the choir will sing anthems on the 1st and 4th Sundays of each month (exception being in December). The remaining Sundays will have choir members introducing responsive hymns which will then be repeated by the congregation at times during the services as determined by Pastor Welch. These will be printed in the bulletins.

Why such a change? This will give our choir members more time to prepare scheduled music while continuing to be liturgical leaders of the church. Special music will continue to be encouraged and Cantata Sunday and Christmas Eve services will be observed as usual.

These changes hopefully will give all of us a feeling of added participation in worship by expressing our fellowship in song.

Sue K., Choir Director



**Chancel Choir Rehearsal Begins
Sunday August 19th at 11:15 am**

EDUCATION

**August Schedule for Adult Bible Study Groups
with Pastor Jeff**

No classes from August 1st through August 19th.

Dialogue & Dessert: will resume meeting on
Monday, August 20th.

Parsing with the Pastor – will resume meeting on
Thursday, August 23rd.

DPC Community Activities

AUGUST MOVIE WITH MEANING

Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 1:00 pm

Movie Title "To Be Announced"

Popcorn and drinks are free!



MEMORIAL GARDEN

Trimming, pruning and weeding are ongoing. New plants by the Fellowship Hall and Office building are looking good. If anyone would like to help with gardening around the church, let Jean K. know. There's plenty to do!

Thank You Note

Church Office Note: The following thank you card was received at DPC on July 5, 2018. Originally dated December 23, 2017 (lost since before Christmas 2017). This Angel Tree 2017 Family was very thankful! Note was edited due to personal information.

Thank you for making our Christmas spectacular. Without your help and good will we would not have been able to give our children a wonderful Christmas. We appreciate everything you have done for our family year after year. As well as presents, you went beyond to give us food. We will have a very special Christmas Dinner.

This is a Christmas we'll never forget.

Again, thank you so much!

Love, The M. Family

"Sloppy Joe" Supper

Wednesday, August 1st

at 6:30 pm

~~~ Menu ~~~

Sloppy Joes  
Cole Slaw ~ Chips  
Dessert

All for just \$7.00 per person

Everyone is welcome!

Sign-up in the Narthex or  
call Church Office 352-489-2682

by Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Advent Devotional Book

Christmas may be six months away but work has already begun on our annual Advent Devotional Book.

Our theme this year is *Memories of Christmas Past .... And Looking to the Future*

We want to hear what Christmas means to you, your favorite, your most interesting, your most meaningful Christmas memories and/or your hopes for future Christmases. You don't have to be an accomplished writer, just someone with a memory or Christmas thought to share.

Think of our Advent Devotional as a Christmas gift to each other.

Your devotions are due by October 1<sup>st</sup>, but we would like to have them by September 1<sup>st</sup> to allow time to put the book together. Try to keep the number of words at approximately 250 words; unless you really want to write a lot, then we will give you 2-pages-worth of space. Also, add a short prayer to follow your devotional story. Any questions, please contact Joh L.

*Merry Christmas!*

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REV. JEFFREY W. WELCH, PASTOR

