

# WOODLAWN WINDOW

February 2020

Woodlawn Presbyterian Church  
2612 12th Street North  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33704



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Dear Friends,

I have been thinking about seconds.

It started as I began to consider the seconds that come after firsts, not the seconds that tick off a clock. We have just finished the second decade of the second millennium. We have come to the second month of the year 2020. This is my second letter of the year.

It is strange how different the significance of seconds can be. Much of the time a “second” is something good—upbeat, positive, even wonderful—a second honeymoon, a second chance, a second piece of the best homemade pie in town.

Other times it is totally the reverse—factory seconds signify something flawed or otherwise of inferior quality. Taking a course for a second time suggests something that was failed the first time. A second notice of a past due bill suggests financial stress.

Twenty years ago I had surgery on my vocal cords and was told I would have to have a second surgery. I began to consider how I should interpret that. Was that a remedial sort of second?—suggesting that either the surgeon or I had not gotten it right the first time, so we would have to do it all over again. Was it a message from God, telling me—“There are more lessons I want you to learn from your surgery”? If it was a divine message, was God remembering all the weeks I had had to keep silent before surgery and during my recovery and saying, “You have not yet learned enough about silence so I am going to have to give you a second chance to get it right”? Or was God, perhaps, sending me an affirmative message—letting me know that I had done so well in the first round that I could take a second lesson as a graduate course in silence and continue to build on my lessons while they were still fresh in my mind. (What the second surgery actually meant was that I had a polyp on both of

my vocal cords. Each polyp had to have its own surgery to keep the cords from fusing together as they healed.)

Unless you know the context, it is hard to guess whether seconds are a blessing or a curse.

With that in mind, what would it signify if I could offer you 86,400 seconds? Would that be a good thing or something to avoid?

As a matter of fact you will have a gift of 86,400 seconds this year, although I will not be the one to give them to you.

This time I am talking about the other kind of seconds—the seconds that tick off a clock, not the seconds that come after firsts.

On Saturday, February 29th you will receive the gift of an entire extra day—twenty-four additional hours—1,440 “leap” minutes—86,400 bonus seconds.

Have you given any thought to how you might use such a rich gift?

Will you devote all those extra seconds to ordinary work? Will you do something special with them? Will you give them as a present to your family? Will you fritter them away?

Why not consider giving 10% of that time as a tithe to God? That is about two and a half hours. It is time enough to do a special chore for a neighbor who could use a hand. It is time enough to make a meal for someone who is ill or lonely. It is time enough to spend a couple of hours with your Bible. It is time enough to make sure that those “seconds” accomplish something upbeat, positive, even wonderful.

Don't give God your second best on leap year day (or any day). Give God the best seconds of that extra day you are being given this year.

After all you will not have a second chance to use these seconds after they are gone.



Pastor John

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## FAITH COMMUNITY NEWS

*"Therefore my heart is glad and my whole being rejoices; my body also rests securely." Psalm 16:9*



From the American Heart Association: Cardiac arrest and heart attack are not the same. A cardiac arrest is triggered by an electrical malfunction in the heart that causes an irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia). With its pumping action disrupted, the heart can't pump blood to the brain, lungs and other organs. Seconds later, a person becomes unresponsive, is not breathing or is only gasping. Death occurs within minutes if the victim does not receive treatment.

Cardiac arrest can be reversible in some victims if treated within a few minutes. First call 911 and start CPR right away. If an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is available (we have one at church in the kitchen by the phone), use it as soon as possible. Cardiac arrest affects thousands of people annually. A heart attack occurs when blood flow to the heart is blocked. A blocked artery prevents oxygen-rich blood from reaching a section of the heart. If the blocked artery is not reopened quickly, the part of the heart normally nourished by that artery begins to die.

Symptoms of a heart attack may be immediate and may include intense discomfort in the chest or other parts of the upper body, shortness of breath, cold sweats, and/or nausea/vomiting, back or jaw pain. More often symptoms start slowly and persist for hours, days or weeks before a heart attack. Unlike with cardiac arrest, the heart usually does not stop beating during a heart attack. The longer the person goes without treatment, the greater the damage. Call 911 to get the most immediate care and follow up treatment in the emergency room (ER).

Most heart attacks do not lead to cardiac arrest. But when cardiac arrest occurs, heart attack is a common cause. Other conditions may also disrupt the heart's rhythm and lead to cardiac arrest.

Wendy Siedlecki, RN, Faith Community Nurse

## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

As the Administration Committee chairperson, I get a lot of information from various sources in our church. Sometimes I pick up info from the grapevine.



I have been made aware that there are some problems with parking on Sunday mornings in the east lot. I had informed the church when we first started to talk with Reliance Church about using Hutchinson Hall for worship on Sunday mornings, there may be a few growing pains involved. This parking problem falls into that category.

As with any problem we encounter as a body, good communication is a paramount. We can't solve problems if we don't know about them. It is therefore very important that we, the Administration Committee, be made aware that a problem exists as soon as possible. That means informing the right people and using proper channels of communication.

Pastor Danny Lewis of Reliance Church is anxious to head off any problems that may arise by their presence here. We talked about the parking issue right from the beginning. We knew there would be some hiccups as we moved forward, and we agreed that we would take swift action to solve those issues as they arose.

The Administration Committee:  
Mike Baker, Chairman; Mary Lee King; Doreen Means; and Bill Tinsley

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**NOTE:** There are forms in the front office and in the office corridor by the mailboxes, that can be used to report a problem, whether it is maintenance, parking or other. You may also call the church office and report it to the office workers who answer the phone. If you report it verbally to a member of the Admin Committee on Sunday, it may be forgotten by the time the office opens on Tuesday.

Thank you for your input. The Editor

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Christmas season a special time at Woodlawn. Thank you to Betty Turini for providing the sweaters for our shut-ins and all those who delivered them. Help with decorating and preparing the congregational dinner: roasting turkeys, baking the ham, bringing side dishes and desserts and helping clean up was much appreciated. The sanctuary looked lovely Christmas Eve. It is a time to welcome friends and family and celebrate together. After Christmas decorations come down and are packed away. Thank you for all the help we had in Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary.



The next event our committee is planning is the Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 2. After worship we will have people holding soup pots for your donations to help support non-profit local agencies in Tampa Bay. The Super Bowl is an extravaganza with millions of dollars spent. The Souper Bowl of Caring reminds us there are always people in need. We serve a simple lunch. Look for the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. We need your favorite prepared soup, bread and cookies. Thank you for your support.

February 26 is the beginning of Lent. We will have an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 PM. At 5:30 PM will be a pancake, sausage, and eggs supper. Come enjoy supper and then worship together. Look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship team;  
Eva Barker, Helen Doherty, Freda Melody, Jane Orts, Wendy Siedlecki, Chairman

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## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Lydia Woodyer
- 3 Jane Orts
- 4 Jim King
- 7 Betty Turini
- 8 Melina Bhim (5 yrs.)
- 11 Jim Wareham
- 13 Arnie Epperson
- 23 Pat Ruedy
- 28 Richard Oster



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## LUNCH BUNCH

2nd THURSDAY OF  
 EACH MONTH AT:




11:30 A.M.  
 (NOTE - TIME CHANGE)

FEBRUARY 13 @ RED LOBSTER

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577-7302



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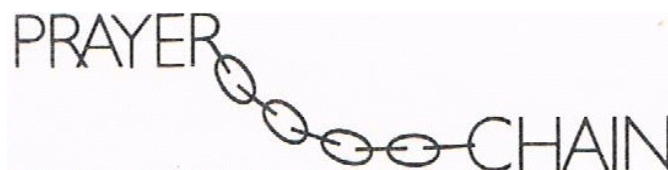
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## SOME IMPORTANT DATES:

- 02/02 COMMUNION 10:00 A.M.  
 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
- 02/08 BOOK CLUB  
 Time and location to be announced.
- 02/10 MARCH WW DEADLINE, 4:00 PM
- 02/11 WOMEN'S DINNER CIRCLE  
 6:00 PM (covered Dish)
- 02/13 LUNCH BUNCH, 11:30 A.M.
- 02/21 Free BINGO, 6:30 P.M.  
 Fellowship Hall
- 02/26 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE  
 Time to be announced



In need of prayers for yourself or others? We have a very active prayer chain (completely confidential). Contact the church office, 822-4477, to add a name to the list.

HAVE YOU INVITED SOMEONE TO COME TO CHURCH WITH YOU. WE HAVE MANY ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING BIBLE STUDY, SUNDAY SCHOOL, SMALL GROUP, WOMEN'S CIRCLE, BINGO AND MORE.



## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee has been made an ad hoc committee of the Session. All the former functions of the committee continue under the leadership of the Elders currently serving on the Session. We are still collecting and distributing clothes for CASA and Day Star.



Joe Orts is continuing to oversee our regular Food and Toy Drives at Thanksgiving and Christmas. At Easter we ask for gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing and at Christmas we ask for gifts for the Joy Gift.

More information will be given to you in the annual report.

If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the Session.

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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS IN CONFERENCE ROOM A. IT BEGINS AT 9:00 AM. JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY LED BY JIM WOOD.

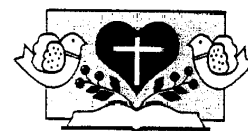
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## WOMEN'S CIRCLE



The Evening Women's Circle will meet on February 12, 2020 at 6 PM. We will be studying the New Horizon Bible Study entitled, "Love Carved In Stone, A Look at the Ten Commandments."

We begin with a covered dish supper at 6 PM and the Bible Study begins at about 7 PM finishing at 8 PM.

Please join us for fellowship and a lively discussion of the lesson. All women are invited and welcome.

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## FREE BINGO

THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR A FUN NIGHT OUT.

BINGO GAMES ARE FREE!  
DESSERTS ARE AVAILABLE.

### FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

**Please remember in your prayers, all the members of the armed forces, first responders and their families. They are our first line of defense in times of trouble.**



### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND:



Sally Blacker  
Jane Ellis  
Barbara Munroe  
Sandi Wojcik

Martha Dietrich  
Zulema Groves

### DECEMBER OFFICE REPORT

Date:	Contributions:	Attendance:
12/02	\$2813.00	59
12/8	\$3554.70	58
12/15	\$1762.00	76
12/22	\$1561.00	65
12/29	\$1743.00	67
	\$11,433.70	Avg. 66
12/24	Dec. Joy Gift \$1078.00	
	Evening Service \$266.00	

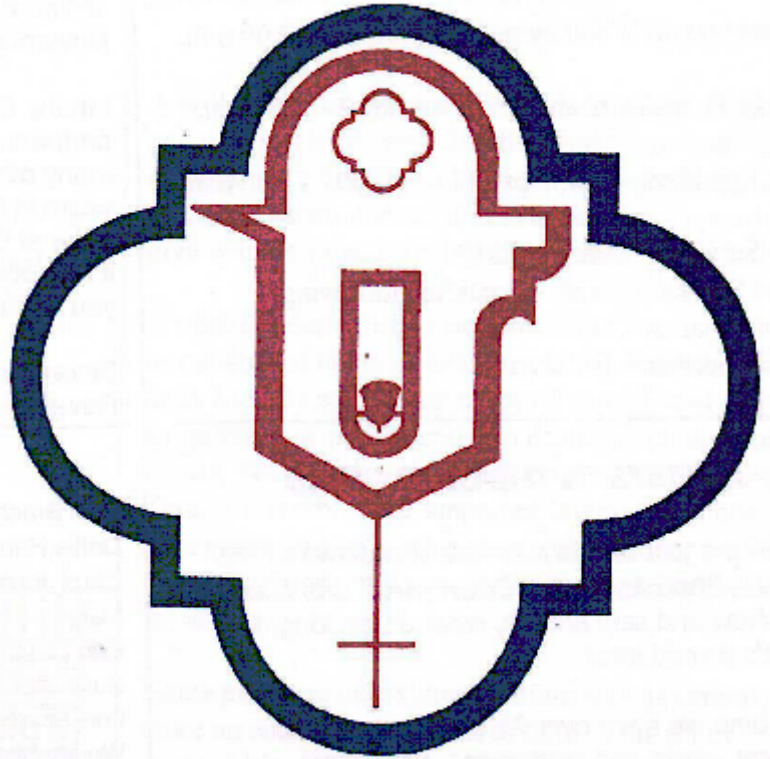


# February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:00 AM WORSHIP  COMMUNION  SOUPER BOWL of CARING	3 10:30 AM Ladies Small Grp., Fellowship Hall	4	5 9:00 AM Fellowship Cmte.  10:00 AM -11:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study, F. Hall  7:00 PM -8:30 PM Eating Disorders Support Grp., Confr. Rm. B	6 4:30 PM CHOIR	7	8  BOOK CLUB, for time and location check with Bert or Jeanne Decker
9 10:00 AM WORSHIP	10 4:00 PM DEADLINE for WW NEWSLETTER	11	12 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study, F. Hall  7:00 PM -8:30 PM Eating Disorders Support Grp., Confr. Rm. B	13 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH  4:30 PM CHOIR	14	15
16 10:00 AM WORSHIP	17 PRESIDENT'S DAY	18 9:00 AM ADMIN. CMTE., CONFR. ROOM A	19 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study, F. Hall  7:00 PM -8:30 PM Eating Disorders Support Grp., Confr. Rm. B	20 4:30 PM CHOIR	21 6:30 PM 3rd FRIDAY BINGO, Fellowship Hall	22
23 10:00 AM WORSHIP	24	25 3:30 PM SESSION, Confr. Rm. A	26 7:00 PM -8:30 PM Eating Disorders Support Grp., Confr. Rm. B  ASH WED. SERVICE	27 4:30 PM CHOIR	28	29

# THE WOODLAWN WINDOW

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