
WOODLAWN WINDOW

JUNE 2026

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



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Dear Friends,

Did you follow the Artemis II moon flight in April?

I came of age as human spaceflight was at its rawest beginnings. I watched with the awe of a high school boy when Alan Shepherd was blasted aloft in 1961 on the suborbital flight that made him the first American in space. The next year John Glenn soared to even greater heights as the first American to orbit the earth. Then, seven years later in 1969, Judie and I had barely been married a month when Neil Armstrong became the first human being to set foot on the moon.

Artemis II set several records. One in particular is on my mind today. Its astronauts traveled 252,756 miles from earth—some 4,000 miles further from home than any other humans in history.

That struck a chord.

At different times in my life, I have been consciously aware of traveling far enough to set a personal record of distance away from home. But by the time I finished college I had still not yet traveled as much as a thousand miles in any direction. In those days I had an old road map of the Northeast United States that included an inset of Maritime Canada; it wasn't until after I was ordained that I got far enough from home to get beyond the edges of that map.

Not quite two years ago I set a new record.

When Judie and I took our vacation to Australia and New Zealand, we almost reached the antipodes. We did not literally reach the antipodes but we got as close as I expect I will ever be.

If you are not familiar with “the antipodes” (ann-TIP-uh-deez), it is not the name of a chain of

Polynesian islands or a range of mountains in Asia or an exotic resort complex, it is the name for the furthest place on earth from where someone is standing. If you were standing at the south pole, for example, the antipodes would be the north pole. It is as far from the north pole as you can get on the surface of the planet. If you stick a pole into the ground from where you are right now, push it straight through the center of the earth, and keep on pushing until it comes out on the other side, that spot is the antipodes. It is the exact opposite place on earth from where your feet are standing, which is precisely what antipodes means: anti [“opposite”] + podes [“your feet”].



While in Australia, we traveled as far west as the red sandstone monolith known as Uluru or Ayer's Rock, which lies about sixty percent of the way across the continent. If we had left our tour group there and traveled on to Steep Point (the westernmost point of mainland Australia), chartered a boat, and sailed 300 miles further west into the Indian Ocean, we would have reached the antipodes of St. Petersburg—as far from St. Pete as you can possibly get on the surface of the planet. It is a little more than twelve thousand miles away. Our trip took us 90% of the way there.

The astronauts made that look like a weekend hike. We barely went more than ten thousand miles from home, but they soared a quarter million miles away from anyplace on earth. The old record had been set by Apollo 13 in 1970—the flight that was nearly a disaster. Apollo 13's trip was not just a new record distance from

earth, it was the longest trip home anyone had ever made.

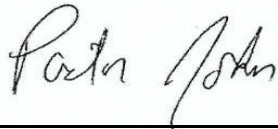
Remembering Apollo 13 is what really struck a chord in me. Not how far the astronauts traveled on their adventurous trip to the moon, but how far they had to go to get safely back home.

Returning home is the real end game of any great adventure. It is where our security lies.

Think of the Prodigal Son. Leaving home to take on the world was an adventure. But it was the return trip that mattered. Would his father receive him? Forgive him? Welcome him home?

That is even more true of our spiritual journey.

An old hymn says "I'm but a stranger here. Heaven is my home." Our time on earth is an adventure, but heaven is our home—our true home, our eternal home. It is where our hearts belong. If heaven is my home, then heaven is my end game. I love a good adventure on earth—"To the antipodes and beyond!". But the further from home I travel, the more I remember that the greatest adventure in life is not nearly as meaningful as a safe return home; home to heaven and to God!



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING NEWS

"And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty." II Cor. 6:18



June is Men's Health Month. This year's theme is "Partners in Care: For Better Lifespans Across the Lifespan" and highlights the role that families, communities, and care partners play in supporting healthier outcomes for men who are now living six years less than women, the widest gap in almost 30 years.

Some of the biological-based health factors and societal expectations include biological differences, occupational and lifestyle choices, access to care, and mental health issues. In the

Lifespan Gender Gap highest incidence includes heart disease (10 yrs earlier than women), lung cancer, prostate cancer, injuries - tied to stress and high-risk occupations, mental illness and substance abuse. Chronic conditions like diabetes and COPD are more common in men partly due to diet and lifestyle choices. Suicide is 2 to 4 times more in men due to mental health issues, substance abuse, lifestyle choices, and stress.

Look at your health as a lifetime maintenance plan for your body. Regular check-ups, knowing your numbers to help screen for potential problems and early treatment leads to better outcomes, such as colorectal cancer. Physical activity improves overall health, strengthens heart and lungs, boosts energy levels, helps manage weight, and improves mood.

Diet plays a critical role in maintaining a healthy weight and reducing risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes and certain cancers. Focus on whole food, fruits and vegetables, and lean protein sources. Stay hydrated.

Taking care of your mental health is just as important as your physical health and can improve your overall well being, relationships, and work performance.

Surround yourself with positive influences who encourage healthy habits. Having a strong support system can provide you with encouragement, motivation, and accountability on your health journey.

Wendy Siedlecki RN
Faith Community Nurse

GOD IS GOOD!

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

(CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTH)

The nineteen windows of the sanctuary are all memorials taken from the old sanctuary. They were lengthened to fit the new building. In 1982 as part of our major maintenance program all the stain glass was repaired. A strengthening bar was put on the inside of each window and



any broken glass replaced, as close as possible to the original color. Each window was covered on the outside with "Lexan" for complete protection. At this time the value of all our stain glass was put at \$110,000.00 by the company, Cardinal Art Glass, Inc., that did the work.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS:

There is a small window on the stairs (on the right hand side of the Narthex). The window is the Lamb of God on the Book with the Seven Seals. One of the beautiful symbols of our Lord. The banner is often called the Resurrection banner symbolizing Christ's victory over death. The Book of the Seven Seals is drawn from Revelation 5:1.

1. The glory of the resurrected Christ is symbolized by the rays of sun and the first three letters for the word "Jesus" in Greek with a bare cross. The crown of thorns shows the previous crucifixion.

2. The dove represents the Holy Spirit of the baptism of our Lord (Matt. 3:16, Mark 1:11, Luke 3:22, John 1:32) carrying the olive branch to signify peace and healing.

On the left side on the stairs is a Winged Man representing St. Matthew. His gospel deals with the human genealogy of our Lord (It shows Jesus is from the House of David).

1. The Lamp is the Word of God.
2. The Seven Branch candlestick and flame

represents the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Power, Riches, Wisdom, Strength, Honor, Glory and Blessing. (Rev. 5:12)

In the Sanctuary is the Dove which is a symbol of peace. It is the most exalted of birds as symbolizing the Holy Spirit and the meekness, purity and splendor of righteousness.

The Rose Window which is in the back wall of the balcony is made of special European glass. It was thought, at that time, to be the only one of its kind in the State of Florida. It was made by Joseph D. Myers Associates of Tampa, Florida. Normally it would be very costly, but it was made available to us by this firm because it was a first. It is part of the wall, and will never have to have any attention.

Mary Lee King
Member of Administration Committee

GOD'S JUNE CHILDREN

- 6 DAN SCHRAMEK
- 9 AL LEHMANN
- 14 T.C. EPPERSON
- 22 LYNNE CALDWELL
- 29 FAITH SMITH



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**PLEASE PRAY FOR
 OUR HOMEBOUND**

ZULEMA GROVES
 FREDA MELODY
 BARBARA ANN MUNROE
 MARY NUTTING



PRAYER  CHAIN

As soon as we receive the prayer request we will be praying for your need. When you have a request please contact the church office or Pastor John at 727-822-4477.

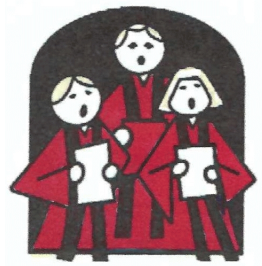
The request may be confidential and not detailed and you will know that your church family is lifting your concern up to our Heavenly Father.

**WOODLAWN WINDOW
 DEADLINE FOR ALL ARTICLES
 ARE DUE BY 4 PM**

**JULY BY JUNE 15TH
 PLEASE SEND YOUR ITEM TO:
 mlk140142 @gmail.com**

**CHOIR
 DO YOU LIKE TO SING?**

THE CHOIR IS PRACTICING ON THURSDAYS AT 6:00 PM AND ON SUNDAYS AT 9:20 AM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHOIR, PLEASE TALK TO KRIS RAGSDALE.



FREE BINGO
 3RD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
 Come and bring a friend with you!

**DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM -
 GAMES AT 6:30 PM**

**\$50 IN PRIZES - SNACKS -
 50-50 DRAWING -**

BRING A FRIEND

THE FOREST TREES OF LIFE

by *Dan Schramek*

The diversity of the trees in our hardwood forest makes it a distinction among wooded areas which are often used for lumber, paper and other paper like products. A designation as a hardwood forest includes a variety

of trees, each contributing to their food sources of nuts, fruit, edible barks, flowers and medicinal uses dating back millions of years. These trees of life have been used by different cultures for food, antibiotics,



anti-inflammatories, analgesics and more. These trees of the forest are not used for paper or building products. These are not the trees found in the Pine Woodland areas.

The Bible mentions the “tree of life” in biblical terms with its multitude of various fruits on a single tree. But this hardwood forest is quite different. The elms, the oaks, the pines, the magnolias and many other trees are for those who tend the forest for their benefits and for the animals who live there.

These trees have become the sustainable habitat to the smaller and larger animals of the forest. If we don't continue to be stewards, these lands and many of these species who call the forest their home, will not survive. Our forest has a variety of fruit trees, which we share with our forest friends.



There are dozens of orange and tangerine trees. Mulberry trees over 100 years old and still bearing fruit the size of our fingers. There are also vines bearing fruit, such as blackberries and others we haven't discovered yet.



It's a well known fact, that herbalists and gardeners from around the world, believe that by talking to your plants, flowers and trees creates a loving environment for them to grow and prosper. After all, they are living creatures too, serving you their food and energy. Ever heard the term “Hug a Tree” and save a Forest? It's true!

So, the next time you're in a Forest or in your garden, smile and talk to the flowers and the plants, hug a tree and tell them how much you “Love Them”. Until next time, God bless everyone and “May the Forest be with You”.

LUNCH BUNCH

Harvey's 4th Street Grill

3121 4th Street N.
Thurs. June 18
11:30AM

tel. 727 821 6576
Bring a friend



- **WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM EVERY SUNDAY**
- **BRING A FRIEND AND STAY FOR FELLOWSHIP**
- **IT'S A GREAT TIME TO VISIT AND GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER**

**SIMPLE GIVING
MAKES BIG
DIFFERENCE**



Presbyterian Giving has long been a lifeline for communities facing hardship, turning generosity into real, measurable change. At its heart is a simple conviction: when people pool their resources, even modest gifts -- as simple as change in a piggy bank -- can transform lives. The powerful example comes from eastern Kentucky, where historic flooding devastated entire towns.

Through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, congregations provided emergency shelter, meals, and longterm rebuilding support. Families who had lost everything—like the Johnsons, whose home was swept away—received not only material help but also volunteers who stayed for months to rebuild houses and restore a sense of stability. Their story reflects a pattern seen across many communities: Presbyterian Giving steps in long after the headlines fade.

In New Mexico, the Matthew 25 Grant Program helped a small church launch a food ministry serving Navajo families facing food insecurity. What began as a weekly distribution from a church basement grew into a community run pantry offering fresh produce, cooking classes, and youth leadership opportunities. One teen, Maya, shared that volunteering there helped her reconnect with her culture and envision a future in community health work.

Internationally, the Presbyterian Giving Catalog has supported farmers in Malawi by providing goats, seeds, and training in sustainable agriculture. For Esther, a mother of three, receiving a pair of goats meant she could sell milk, pay school fees, and eventually build a sturdier home. Her success has inspired other women in her village to join cooperative farming groups funded through similar gifts.

These stories show how Presbyterian Giving turns compassion into action—strengthening

communities, empowering individuals, and planting seeds of hope that continue to grow. They also show how powerful pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters can be when we combine them to assist others around the world.

Mari Blaquiere
Missions Committee Chairman
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MLS



FATHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

**June 21, 2026
IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL**



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Has anyone
told you yet today
just how absolutely,
positively, incredibly
amazing you are?

**WOODLAWN WINDOW DUE
DATES FOR 2026**

<u>FOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>
JULY	JUNE 22
AUGUST	JULY 20
SEPTEMBER	AUG. 24
OCTOBER	SEPT 21
NOVEMBER	OCT. 19
DECEMBER	NOV. 23
JANUARY	DEC. 21

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 6/1 Monday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/2 Tuesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/3 Wednesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
Eating Disorder Group 7 PM
Yoga 7 PM
- 6/4 Thursday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
Choir Practice
- 6/5 Friday NA Meeting
- 6/7 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM**
- 6/8 Monday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/9 Tuesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/10 Wednesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
Eating Disorder Group 7 PM
Yoga 7 PM
- 6/11 Thursday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
Choir Practice 6 PM
- 6/12 Friday NA Meeting
- 6/14 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10AM**
- 6/15 Monday Women's AA Group
- 6/16 Tuesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/17 Wednesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
Yoga 7 PM
Eating Disorder Group 7 PM
- 6/18 Thursday AA meeting 7:30 pm
Choir Practice 6 PM
Lunch Bunch 11:30 AM
- 6/19 Friday Bingo 6:00 PM
NA Meeting
- 6/21 Worship Service 10 AM**
FATHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
- 6/22 Monday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/23 Tuesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/24 Wednesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
Eating Disorder Group 7 PM
Yoga 7 PM
- 6/25 Thursday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/26 Friday NA Meeting
- 6/28 **Worship Service 10 AM**
- 6/29 Monday AA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 6/30 Tuesday AA Meeting 7:30 PM

**HAVE YOU INVITED
SOMEONE TO CHURCH?**



**VAN MIDDLESWORTH
AND COMPANY, P.A.**

certified public accountants

Guy G. Van Middlesworth, CPA

President

Voice: (727) 821-2006

678 Fourth Street North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

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gvancpa@verizon.net

BIBLE READINGS FOR

JUNE

(John)

1. 12:27-50

2. 13:1-20

3. 13:21-38

4. 14

5. 15

6. 16

7. 17

8. 18:1-18

9. 18:19-40

10. 19:1-24

11. 19:25-42

12. 20

13. 21

Acts

14. 1

15. 2:1-21

16. 2:22-47

17. 3

18. 4:1-22

19. 4:23-37

20. 5:1-21

21. 5:22-42

22. 6

23. 7:1-16

24. 7:17-43

25. 7:44-60

26. 8:1-25

27. 8:26-40

28. 9:1-25

29. 9:26-43

30. 10:1-23

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FYI

We are looking for photos from the past ten years of people and events at Woodlawn Presbyterian Church. They will be used in Woodlawn Window articles and slide presentations.

Please contact Mari Blaquiere at mblaquiereus@gmail.com with any photos.

Thanks,
Mari Blaquiere

LOVE

Luke 6:27 "But I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,...

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

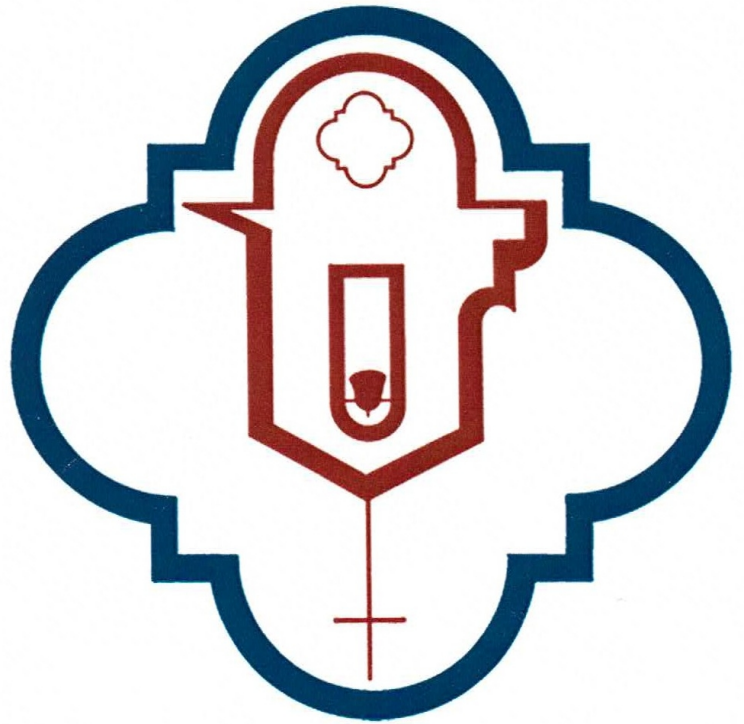
35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. 36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY 1	TUESDAY 2	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6
7 WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM	8 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON WOMEN'S AA MEETING	9 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON PASTOR HOURS 2-5 PM AA MEETING	10 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON AA MEETING EATING DISORDER GROUP YOGA	11 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON AA MEETING CHOIR PRACTICE	12 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON NA MEETING	13 OFFICE CLOSED
14 WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM	15 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON AA WOMEN'S MEETING	16 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON PASTOR HOURS 2-5 PM AA MEETING	17 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON BOOK CLUB YOGA AA MEETING EATING DISORDER GROUP	18 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON CHOIR PRACTICE LUNCH BUNCH AA MEETING	19 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON BINGO 6:30PM NA MEETING	20 OFFICE CLOSED
21 WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM FATHER'S DAY LUNCHEON	22 OFFICE OPEN WW DEADLINE AA MEETING WOMEN'S	23 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON PASTOR HOURS 2-5 PM AA MEETING	24 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON YOGA EATING DISORDER GROUP AA MEETING	25 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON AA MEETING CHOIR PRACTICE AA MEETING	26 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON NA MEETING	27 OFFICE CLOSED
28 WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM	29 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON AA MEETING WOMEN'S	30 OFFICE OPEN 9-NOON PASTOR HOURS 2-5 PM AA MEETING				

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