

The Home Visitor

EVERY DAY'S THE FIRST DAY

Remember the first day of school when you were little? New crayons, new pencils with sharp points, a new notebook with nothing written in it, maybe even some clothes you have never worn before. Then as you get older, that first day of school means there are no grades in the teacher's book yet, no absences, no tardies - it's a nice feeling. Actually, you can have, in a sense, a lifetime of those first days!

I want to have A WORD WITH YOU this month about *Every Day's The First Day*.

This month's Word comes from Lamentations chapter 3, where we catch the great prophet Jeremiah on an emotional downer. It's Lamentations 3:19-22, **"I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me."**

Now, Jeremiah's remembering yesterdays with a lot of hardships and failure in them. And then he states, **"Yet this I call to mind and, therefore I have HOPE:** (there's a change of mood here, huh?) **Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."**

I love those words - **"God's compassions . . . NEW EVERY MORNING."**

Now, what is so positive about that first day of school is that it's a brand new beginning - no marks on your record, a lot of opportunities that are untouched so far - a fresh start. But when God is your Father, **EVERY** day is supposed to be like that - a new beginning. And that's the way you were meant to live, waking up each morning and saying, **"This is the day the Lord has made."** It's not the weather, not your health/medical condition, not your finances, not your job/boss. **"This is the day that the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it."** Yesterday's over, and it can't be changed. Tomorrow's not here yet, so there's no point trying to live tomorrow's challenges today.

God has made this wonderful promise in Deuteronomy 33:25: **"Your strength will equal your days."** Now, you will never have a day for which God will not provide matching strength. If you're facing a 50-pound day, God will give you 50-pound strength. If tomorrow is going to be a 100-pound day, God will supply you with 100 pounds of strength. But if you try to worry about tomorrow with today's strength, you'll sink. God's emotional, spiritual, and physical resources are measured out in 24-hour injections. So don't try to handle more than today with today's strength.



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Special Notes

- Office closed for New Years 1/1
- Office closed MLK Day 1/15
- Feb. Home Visitor article deadline is Monday Jan. 15.
- Sunday, Jan. 28 OBPC Annual Congregational Meeting

If you will sincerely confess the sins of yesterday to the Lord, you can start this new day with no marks on your record - with a fresh start-because you invite Christ to be the Lord of that part of you where you have failed in the past. You can wake up looking for a new mission for this day - new matchups between you and people God desires you to influence. And there'll be new resources for this new day, like those new crayons and unused pencils on the first day of school. It's what Jesus called ***"our daily bread."***

Maybe you've been overwhelmed lately because you've forgotten the ***"dailyness"*** that you were created to live in. You've been letting too much of yesterday and tomorrow become part of your today. We have this tendency to deal with this huge blob called "my life." Why don't you try just dealing with ***"my day"*** instead of "my life?"

When you wake up in the morning, remember that this 24 hours is a unique gift from God. There's never been a day like it before, there never will be another day just like it again. This is why it is said, "Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery, but Today is the present."

Every day is that first day of school - clean paper, new crayons, sharp pencils, no grades. Allow God to make each new day a fresh new beginning! Prayer is a great way to enter into each day with Jesus.

Morning Prayer

At the beginning of another day, Father in heaven, it is good to know that You have promised: ***"My strength will equal my days."*** I cannot tell what today has in store for me, whether good fortune or misfortune. But I trust Your promise that You will give me the strength to bear whatever this day may bring; that You will make every experience work together for my good and that You Lord will be near me.

I am grateful for the opportunities that this day, with Your blessing, offers to provide the things I need. Teach me, while working for the material things of life, never to forget that my Savior said: ***"Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."*** May spiritual values be first today in all that I think and say and do. Help me firmly to believe that You will give me the material things that You know are best for me.

Keep me faithful and true today to Jesus Christ, and may my conduct glorify Your name. Amen.

For a Heart after Adonai,
Pastor Nathan Wheeler



FAITH/JOY Circle

Our next meeting will be

Tuesday, January 9, 2024, room 12, at 10:30 am.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Strong 386 441-4419 or
Marylin Smarkusky 386 673-5518

We continue to lift in prayer OBPC

*Betty Buss
Ella Mae Chadbourne
Betty Canard
Doris Cuthbert
Aleta Dick
Edith Gaines*

*Bruce Geelhood
Phyllis Heller
Carol Helmendach
Shirley Hinkle
Elizabeth King*

*Nan Lake
Nancy Long
Joana Maciel
Alma More
Ray Piller*

*Nancy Robbins
Anna Roney
John Smarkusky
Barbara Van Laningham*

*Prayer
LIST*

We lift in prayer OBPC Families and Friends

*Kevin Flick and Dan Palmer-Friends by Kirsten & Curtis Finley
Suzie Smith-Sister and Jim Thiede-Nephew by Rosie & David Perry
Joseph Giuffre-Husband by Marjorie Giuffre
Dorothy Delaney-Friend by Jewel Johnston*



Sylvia Engelbrecht-Friend by Kassie Manza

Mary Smart-Friend and Gary-Daughter Ashley's Father-in-Law by the Johnson Family

Meredith Smith and her parents-Grandniece and Kathy Miller-Sister by Debbie Strickland

Matthew Eaton-Son, Lynn Baker-Sister, and Ali Owens and Carson-Friends by Heather Eaton

Richard Davis-Father by Wayne & Lisa Davis

Patti Rose-Cousin by Bruce Miller

Diana Robbins and Kathy Arbogast-Friends by Becky Navidomskis

Kevin Pierson-Son-in-Law, Elizabeth Gainsborough-Sister, Skip Banach-Brother, Sharon Kitts-Friend by Arlene Clark

Mike and Doreen Luciano-Sherri's Brother and Sister-in-Law, Susan Combs-Sherri's Sister, Michelle Pugh-Pastor Nathan's Sister, and Seanna Milam-Pastor Nathan's Sister by Pastor Nathan and Sherri Wheeler

Zane-Friend by Linda & Lyle Neely

Charles and Jane Nimmer-Friends by Jackie Joiner

Matt Sweet and Brian Canard-Grandsons by Betty Canard

Brady Barry-Son, Trevin Barry, Henry Threath-Grandsons by Susan Barry

Carolyn Kuehn and Alva Debiak by Candy Christman

Bob Olin by Marcia Grodi

AJ-friend by DeDee Blanchard

Prayers for Our Community and World

We pray that we may enjoy peace and hope in the new year.

We have a Church Prayer Chain.

Please call Joyce Fisher (570-772-6988)

if you have a prayer request to lift up by our Prayer Chain.



Welcome New Members



Susan and Damien Parisi.
13 Kalendar Court
Palm Coast, FL 32164

Susan 386 276-3346
Damian 386 276-2808

Susan and Damien come to OBPC by transfer of membership from the First Presbyterian Church, Ramsey, New Jersey. Susan is a retired Pediatric Nurse. Susan has recently been hired here at OBPC as the Nursery Helper. At First Presbyterian she sang in the choir and served as a deacon. Damien is retired from the Furniture Industry. He works part-time at Senior Living At The Greens in St. Augustine. The couple lives in Palm Coast.



Beverly Bennett
72 Tomoka Meadows Blvd.
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

386 361-7704

Beverly is a retired teacher. Beverly comes to us by re-affirmation of Faith. Recently has been attending the Baptist Church where she sang in the choir. She is currently a member of the Daytona Chorale Society. Beverly was introduced to OBPC by Jamie Hawes.



Steve Zeller
185 Sandcastle Dr
Ormond Beach, FL 32176

904 994-6457

Steve as born in Pennsylvania. Steve is self employed in the fencing Business. He comes to OBPC by re-affirmation of faith. He was raised Catholic and served as an "Altar Boy" and sang in the choir.



Kim and Tim Watson
424 Lunda Bella Lane
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

863 738-3372

Tim and Kim recently moved to Port Orange from Lakeland, Florida. They join OBPC by Letter of Transfer from Gibson United Methodist Church. The couple was introduced to OBPC through Pastor Nathan and Mary Kay Wagner.



Tom and Elizabeth (Betty) Fischer
2351 N. Williamson Blvd. 5-101
Daytona Beach, FL 32117

386 256-7082

Tom and Betty come to OBPC by letter of Transfer from Gibson United Methodist Church, Lakeland, Florida. Tom is retired from the Construction Industry and Betty is retired from Banking. Betty was a Trustee at Gibson United Methodist.



Grief Share is a special weekly meeting and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. After the funeral, when the cards and flowers have stopped coming, most of the people around you return to their normal lives. But your grief continues and you feel alone. Other friends and family want to help you, but they don't

know how. That is the reason Ormond Beach Presbyterian Church is beginning to start this 13 week support group. You are welcome to begin attending our group at any point. Each session is "self-contained" so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. You are welcome to join us if you have lost a loved one recently or even years ago. You are also encouraged to accompany someone who has experienced a loss to be a support.

What? Grief Share Support Group **Where?** Ormond Beach Presbyterian Church Room 9

When? Saturdays January 20th-- May 11th 9:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

**We will not meet on the first Saturday of each month.*

Who? It will be facilitated by Mary Kay Wagner and Mary Johnson

If you have any questions please contact Mary Kay 330-206-4344



BIBLE STUDY Women's Wednesday Bible Study will resume January 17 in Room 12 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. We will be studying the Gospel of Luke—Gut Level Compassion. This is an 8 week video-based study led by Lisa Harper and facilitated by Mary Kay Wagner. Lisa Harper is a master storyteller and sought after Bible teacher and author. We have an amazing group of women in this Bible Study and encourage you to join us for this time of spiritual learning and refreshment.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING on the first Saturday of the month will resume **Saturday February 3, 2024** . We will be celebrating with a Valentine Theme. We have a wonderful hot brunch, fellowship, prayer and worship, raffle prizes, and conference by one of the Women of Faith followed by enthusiastic discussion. We will be hearing from Luci Swindoll on the topic of Faith of our Fathers. If you've never joined us before, we hope you will accept our loving invitation to give it a try. Our gathering takes place in Room 12....10:00-11:30 a.m.

If you have any questions about the Bible Study or Women's Gathering contact Mary Kay Wagner at 330-206-4344.

Blessings and grace for the New Year! Mary Kay Wagner

A Night in Bethlehem

On Saturday December 2 we traveled back in time to Bethlehem on the night of the arrival of Mary and Joseph. Travelers brought “taxes” of donations that were used to create Christmas gifts for the girls at Pace Center for Girls. The room was filled with the sounds of music, talking, and laughter. We enjoyed foods from that time and area of the world. Our youth told the story of our Lord's birth. Then to close our time of fellowship, we sang Christmas carols. It was a beautiful way to begin the Advent season.

Thank you to all the volunteers and youth who worked hard to make this a memorable evening.

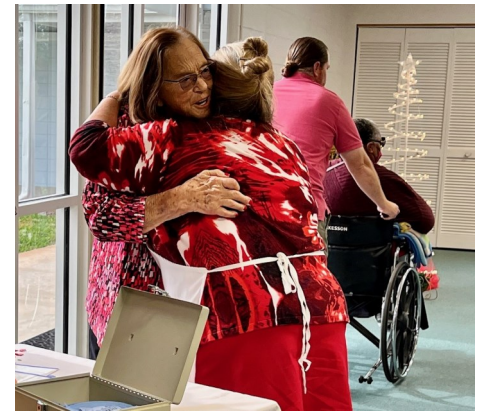




Henry Logan Celebrated at Annual Luncheon

Nearly 60 attendees gathered in the Haddad Fellowship Center on December 8, 2023, to celebrate the kindness of Henry Logan at the annual Henry Logan Lunch.

Thank you to those who helped with the program, including master of ceremonies Sam Thomas, invocation by Rev. Nathan Wheeler, pianist Karen Hirumi who entertained attendees as they arrived, and Director of Music Barbara Larson and husband Brian who provided a program of Christmas piano duets. Servers donned the ever-popular red bowties and served the meal. Others prepared the meal, decorated the tables, and managed the door prizes. Our Deacons coordinated the event that was captured with photographs by Amanda Wilson-Stovall.



Music Notes—January 2024



*We believe that the holy act of singing together shapes faith,
heals brokenness, transforms lives, and renews peace.*

- The Center for Congregational Song is the resource and outreach arm of
The Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada.



Thank you to all who participated in making the Advent and Christmas season one of beauty and joy. Singers, ringers, readers, and behind the scenes workers decorating and keeping everything running are all appreciated.

You, the congregation, are our most important choir. We sing together each Sunday the poetry given to us through our hymns and carols. Thank you!

Now we come to the season of Epiphany. The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

January 7, 2024	The Baptism of the Lord	Color: White
January 14, 2024	Second Sunday after Epiphany	Color: Green
January 21, 2024	Third Sunday after Epiphany	Color: Green
January 28, 2024	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	Color: Green



Tuned for Praise

Sunday, February 4 3:30 pm

**Bethune-Cookman University
Concert Choir**



December Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations



- * Thursday, January 4: Baptism for Kai Alexander Turmoil (DOB June 2, 2020). Parents are Joel Turmoil and Heather Sharpe.
- * TBA: Minute for Mission during worship and a luncheon on behalf of Bethlehem Ministries and sponsoring a Haitian child for the school year. Presenters will be Rachel and Sarah Bruno.
- * Sunday, January 21: 2023 Annual Congregational Report distributed to church members before and after worship service.
- * Sunday, January 28: Annual Congregational Luncheon and Meeting after worship service.
- * Session Committee Moderators for 2024: Hunter Sharpe for Worship, Tom Graydon for Finance & Stewardship, Bill Thompson for Planning & Staff, Mary Johnson for Evangelism, Lynda Bonnick for Christian Education, Colleen Sidwell for Outreach, Randy Pechin for Property.
- * Approved the 2024 Terms of Call and the Interim Pastoral Contract for Pastor Nathan Wheeler
- * Youth Bake Sale on a yet to be determined Sunday in February to kick off the campaign to sponsor Haitian children for the 2024-25 school year. The campaign will run until the end of February.



January Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

Following worship service on Sunday, January 7, please join us in the Haddad Fellowship Center to recognize all who celebrate a birthday or an anniversary during the month of January. Desserts will be served.



January Birthdays

5 Derick Lecas	21 Mel Weston
5 Susan Lopez	23 Marilyn Smarkusky
7 Andrew Lecas	26 Heather Eaton
8 Evelyn Deahl	26 Mary Kay Wagner
8 Rev. Nathan Wheeler	27 Linda Adkins
12 Dave Wagner	27 Randy Pechin
15 Mark Stephens	28 Bonnie Thompson
15 Carolyn Williams	31 Rhoda Little
18 Nancy Long	31 Becky Navidomskis
20 Marjorie Giuffre	



Anniversaries



5 Barbara & David McCurdy	59 yrs
10 Dave & Mary Kay Wagner	9 yrs
22 Michael & Norma Devine	58 yrs
23 Michael & Amanda Wilson-Stovall	9 yrs

O.B. Presbyterian Church JANUARY 2024

Every Sunday—8:45 Youth Choir, room 10; 9:00 Adult Sunday School, Library; 9:30 Youth Sunday School, Youth room 14

10:30 WORSHIP 1st Sunday with Communion; 11:30 PB & J Sandwich Making, HFC; 11:30 Fellowship Coffee Time, HFC



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  OFFICE CLOSED	2 8:00 TELLERS, 2nd Office 9:00 ACCOUNTING, LIB 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:30 FAITH/JOY CIRCLE, 12	3 8:00 MENS BIBLE STUDY, 12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 6:30 WORSHIP COMMITTEE, LIBRARY	4 9:00 PLANNING & STAFF, 12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:30 TAI CHI, 9 NO GLORY BELLS NO CHANCEL CHOIR	5 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	6 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7
7 10:30 WORSHIP ORDINATION/INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 11:30 JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATION, HFC	8 8:00 TELLERS, 2nd Office 9:00 ACCOUNTING, LIB 9:00 FINANCE MEETING, LIB 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	9 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 1:00 STAFF MEETING, LIB	10 8:00 MENS BIBLE STUDY, 12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 6:30 SESSION, HFC	11 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:30 TAI CHI, 9 NO GLORY BELLS 7:15 CHANCEL CHOIR, 10	12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	13 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7
14 NO YOUTH CHOIR	15  9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 OFFICE CLOSED HOME VISITOR CUT OFF	16 8:00 TELLERS, 2nd Office 9:00 ACCOUNTING, LIB 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 6:00 EVANGELISM, LIB	17 8:00 MENS BIBLE STUDY, 12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:00 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, 12 10:00 PROPERTY MEETING, LIBRARY	18 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 9:00 DEACONS MTG, HFC 10:30 TAI CHI, 9 NO GLORY BELLS 7:15 CHANCEL CHOIR, 10	19 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	20 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:00 DB CHORAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING, 10
21 NO YOUTH CHOIR	22 8:00 TELLERS, 2nd Office 9:00 ACCOUNTING, LIB 9:00 H.U.M Volunteers 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	23 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 6:30 OUTREACH MEETING, 12	24 8:00 MENS BIBLE STUDY, 12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:00 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, 12 4:00 C.E. MEETING, LIB	25 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:30 TAI CHI, 9 3:30 WORSHIP PLANNING, LIB NO GLORY BELLS NO CHANCEL CHOIR, 10	26 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	27 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7
28 NO YOUTH CHOIR 11:30 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, HFC NO COFFEE HOUR NO PB&J SANDWITICH MAKING	29 8:00 TELLERS, 2nd Office 9:00 ACCOUNTING, LIB 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	30 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	31 8:00 MENS BIBLE STUDY, 12 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:00 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, 12	2/1 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:30 TAI CHI, 9 6:00 GLORY BELLS 7:15 CHANCEL CHOIR, 10	2/2 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7	2/3 9:00 COUNSELING CTR, 7 10:00 WOMEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING, 12

Please note: Since printing of this calendar changes may have been made. We would like you to visit OBPC web site at ormondbeachpc.org for the most current calendar and for other current announcements.

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Nathan Wheeler
Ormond Beach Presbyterian Church
105 Amsden Road



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Ormond Beach Presbyterian Church

Dedicated to making disciples

Who are Growing to Know God and Living to Show God

FEBRUARY 2024 SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Monday, January 15

Articles can be left in the Church Office Home Visitor Mail Slot Box.

Whenever possible please use digital format—

Email digital submissions to church office (orpresch1@outlook.com).