




# The Messenger

Cypress Lake  
Presbyterian Church

**Our Vision:** We strive to live Jesus' charge to love one another and lead others to a growing relationship with God.

March  
2022



**Daylight Saving Time Begins  
March 13th**  
Remember to set your clocks "ahead" one hour!





**Communion  
Sunday, March 6th**

**Presbyterian Women Sunday**

The Women of the Church will be sharing their gifts with us at Sunday, March 6th at both the 9a.m. and 11a.m. Services.



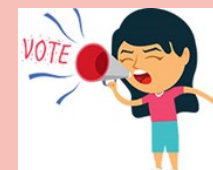
**Spring Craft Bazaar**  
The PW Spring Craft Bazaar will be held on Saturday, March 12, 2021 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in FH, Chapel & FH Classroom.



**Ash Wednesday Service**  
March 2nd at 7pm  
In Sanctuary

**Congregational Meeting March 13th at 10:15 a.m.**

We invite all members to attend a Congregational meeting held at 10:15 a.m. following the 9 a.m. Sunday Service.






Several years ago, the kids and I went to Florida over Christmas break. While we were there, we visited a friend's farm. We enjoyed a fun evening of food, fellowship, and a bonfire. Jordan and Kara laughed and played hard. At the end of the day, they were tired from all the physical exertion. I love seeing them laugh and play together and this farm is a safe place for them to explore being kids. The main reason for us to go to this place was for the kids to see the chrysalis of the Monarch butterfly. It is utterly amazing to see the caterpillars transform into the wonder of the butterfly. I

have seen cocoons in the past, but this time was different. I remember being caught in a new way thinking about the events going on hidden inside the chrysalis.

Some cocoons were already opened. Others were dark, indicating the caterpillar died in its struggle for freedom. I also noticed other chrysalises where the transformation was still taking place. Those were especially interesting to me, and I left the farm pondering the caterpillar's struggle. That night I surfed the web to remind myself of transformation process from a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly. Here is what I learned.

Caterpillars are fascinating insects. They eat and eat and eat. They live to eat. At just the right time, the caterpillars stop their crawling, eating, and chewing, attach their tails firmly to a stick and lay still making the cocoon by sheathing itself with a shiny leather-like case. For weeks they seem dead, unmoving in their tiny gray wrappings. When the time is right, they are ready to immerge.

What we saw on the farm was the internal struggle of the caterpillar to free itself of the bondage. We witnessed the struggle for freedom as it struggled inside the encasing until suddenly what binds them is split open. What we witnessed at the farm was a true miracle. A splendid butterfly emerged and stood for hours gently moving its wings, pumping fluids into them to extend them fully. When the process was complete, the butterfly soared gracefully away on the breezes of the wind, leaving nothing behind but a broken chrysalis to indicate its former bondage.

During this season of Lent, we are encouraged to travel inward pondering the weight of what a life lived in Christ offers us. The butterfly's struggle with the cocoon reminds us of the power of the resurrection. The early church chooses as a symbol of the church the butterfly for a reason. That transformative struggle reminds us of the empty grave clothes of our risen Lord. When Peter and John heard the news of the empty tomb and the Lord's body was gone, they ran all the way from their lodging to the graveside. Peter entered the tomb and the wrappings that bound Jesus in death were seen folded and separate from the linen covering his body (John 20:6-7, NIV). They were laid carefully on the ground reminding us of the once shrouded corpse which is now emerged in new life.

Through Christ's death and resurrection our bondage to death is broken. Continue this season of Lent by traveling inward through our worship services. On Easter morning we can look forward to proclaiming with a loud voice, "Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"

Shalom,

Edward Bellis, Pastor Cypress Lake Presbyterian



## SCRIP CARDS

Make a contribution to the Church by shopping with gift cards for everyday purchases like food, clothing and entertainment. Each scrip gift card you buy earns a rebate for the Church.

A secured "order box" is located in the Narthex and also in the church office for placing orders. A check payable to CLPC for the total must accompany the order. Order forms are located in Slot # 16 in the Narthex and at the "Scrip Order Boxes". You can also order online at

[www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)

CLPC enrollment code:

**FLEEA331146573.**



## Faithful Women

Ladies ... come join the Faithful Women's group for fun and fellowship on Wednesday's from 12:30-2:30. We meet in the library.

We dedicate one week a month for service to the church, one for service to our youth, one for learning new projects such as card making or visiting mission groups in the community our church has supported. We also dedicate one Wednesday a month for fellowship here or in the community.

Questions? Contact Kay Slusher



## What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is a way our church provides care to hurting people in our congregation and community.

Stephen Ministers are congregation members who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care. Each Stephen Minister is matched with a hurting person --- men are paired with men, women with women --- and talks weekly with that person to listen, care, pray, and encourage.

Stephen Ministers care for those dealing with grief, divorce, job loss, hospitalization, financial struggles, loneliness, convalescence, terminal illness, and many other life difficulties. Many of us are dealing with several of these trials right now.

**YES! Stephen Ministers Can Help!**

**Call Ginny Canning for information, 239-247-1042**



## **Food Pantry March "Specialty" Items Peanut Butter & Jelly**





## News from El Redentor Versilles Church in Mantanzas, Cuba.

We continue to hear from our sister church in Mantanzas, Cuba. Chris Giesecke recently received an email and pictures From Tania and Carlos Hamm. Pastor Carlos (retired) and Pastor Anays are pictured here as well as members participating in church activities.

Please stop by the church office to see a display of the ministry.

Dear Christine,

We continue to work in the midst of this Covid situation.

Our services are blessed and well attended, very satisfied with the work of Pastor Anays. We have activities almost every day and we thank God very much. We will also send to you some photos. Many blessings to you and greetings to the pastor and the congregation.

Love you, Tania.





## Project Linus



A mission program of our Presbyterian Women, delivered 95 blankets this week to Abused Counseling and Treatment, Children's Advocacy Center (a part of the Lee County Sheriff) and Fort Myers Police Department. These blankets made through our mission and will be given to children through out Lee County that are in crises. If you can knit, crochet or sew, give Matilda Wilson a call at 239-489-3582 to see how you can help.





# 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 11am Mission Team Meeting 6pm Bells 7pm Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p>2 9am Partners in Prayer 12:30-3pm Faithful Women 5:30pm Dinner (FH) 6:30pm Book study 7pm Choir 7pm Scouts</p>	<p>3 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2 6:30pm Stephen Ministry</p>	<p>4 Office Closed</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6-Communion Sunday 9 am Praise Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Spanish Service 11 am Traditional Service</p>	<p>7 9am Project Linus 6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>8 10am PW Bible Study  <b>11am-1:30pm Darren Baldwin's Celebration of Life (Sanctuary/FH)</b>  2pm Support Meeting  6pm Bells</p>	<p>9 9am Partners in Prayer  12:30-3pm Faithful Women  5:30pm Dinner (FH)  6:30pm Book study  7pm Choir  7pm Scouts</p>	<p>10 <b>10:30am Eddie's Book Study</b> 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2 7pm Women's Evening Bible Study</p>	<p>11 Office Closed</p>	<p>12 <b>9 am–1pm Spring Craft Bazaar (FH/Chapel)</b>  <b>1pm &amp; 6pm Gulf Coast Harmonizers Concert (Sanctuary)</b></p>
<p>13 9 am Praise Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Spanish Service 11 am Traditional Service 12:30pm Spanish Lunch  <b>2pm Gulf Coast Harmonizers Concert (Sanctuary)</b></p>	<p>14 6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>15 6pm Bells  <b>7pm Sharing Our Story– featuring Brenda Harcourt</b></p>	<p>16 9am Partners in Prayer  12:30-3pm Faithful Women  5:30pm Dinner (FH)  6:30pm Book study  7pm Choir  7pm Scouts</p>	<p>17-<b>Happy St. Patrick's Day</b> <b>10:30am Eddie's Book Study</b> 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p>	<p>18 Office Closed</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9 am Praise Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Spanish Service 11 am Traditional Service</p>	<p>21 11:30 Book Club (In the Eye of the Storm)  1pm "Luther" the Movie (in Chapel)  6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>22 6pm Bells  7pm Session Meeting</p>	<p>23 9am Partners in Prayer  12:30-3pm Faithful Women  5:30pm Dinner (FH)  6:30pm Book study  7pm Choir  7pm Scouts</p>	<p>24 <b>10:30am Eddie's Book Study</b> 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 9 am Praise Service 10 am Sunday School 10 am Spanish Service 11 am Traditional Service</p>	<p>28 6:30-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>29 6pm Bells</p>	<p>30 9am Partners in Prayer  12:30-3pm Faithful Women  5:30pm Dinner (FH)  6:30pm Book study  7pm Choir  7pm Scouts</p>	<p>31 <b>10:30am Eddie's Book Study</b> 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2</p>		<p><b>*Please see CLPC Calendar at <a href="http://clpc.us">clpc.us</a> for more event details and other groups that meet here. (Not all Events are represented here)</b></p>

## CLPC STAFF

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church  
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E-mail: office@clpc.us  
Web site: www.clpc.us

### **Pastor**

Rev. Eddie Bellis  
eddie@clpc.us

### **Director of Traditional Worship**

Rachel Carrier  
rachel@clpc.us

### **Church Musician** (pianist/organist)

Jonathan Gil  
mlecarillon@aol.com

### **Director of Christian Education**

Carson Brown  
carson@clpc.us

### **CLPC Office Manager**

Katie Gayle  
office@clpc.us

### **Clerk of Session**

Gordon Coffman

### **Presbyterian Women Moderator**

Beth Watscon

### **Moderator of the Deacons**

Jim Sharpe/Betty Serra

### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00P.M.**

**Editor's Note:** Some articles may be edited for space.



- 03/01 Beth Anne Watson  
03/05 Bob Hoschner  
03/14 Tim Baldwin  
03/15 Christina Johnson  
03/17 Jose Quevedo  
03/19 Charles Hayman  
03/20 Tony Brockelman  
03/21 Audrey Hayward  
03/28 Gregory Bradley  
03/28 Harry Limons  
03/29 Garlet Grenz  
03/29 Ann Brockelman  
03/29 Ginny Canning  
03/30 Walt France



- 03/04 Steven & Wanda Bishop  
03/15 Tyler & Jaime Hill Jr  
03/22 Kirk & Gayla Charles  
03/25 Bud & Beth Haidet

**Our Mission:** Led by the Holy Spirit, we joyfully reach out to the community and the world in faithful love and service as we mature in Discipleship and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.