



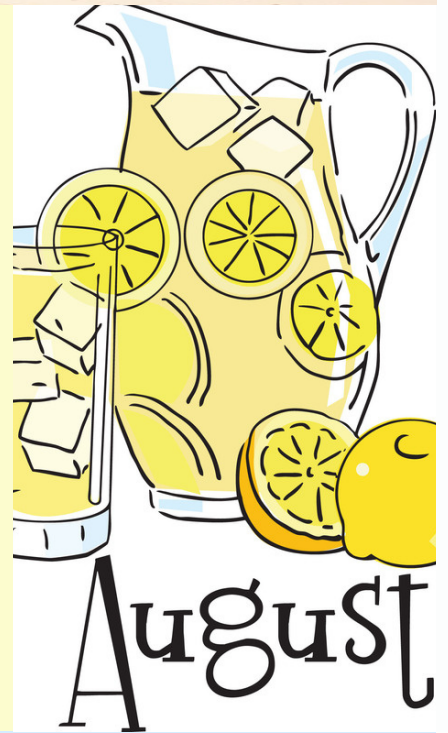
August Messenger

Welcome

God has brought a new member to the CLPC Staff to Lead the Spanish Congregation,

Pastor Modesto Diaz

Welcome to Florida and to CLPC.
His first Sunday will be Sunday, August 7th.



Events this Month

- Communion - August 7th
- Session Retreat - August 19th-20th
- Blood Drive - August 28th

Reminder

Worship Times will be changing Labor Day Weekend.

Starting Sept. 4th
9a.m. Praise Service
11a.m. Traditional Service



Fall Worship Times

Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. – James 5:16

I recently returned from two weeks of vacation (which really was more work than vacation) where Laura and I emptied out and cleaned up my dad's house so that it could be sold. Not all was work though. In the evenings and after a day of work, we tried to reconnect with different friends living in the area around New Bern, NC. One evening, we got to visit with our good friends Sidney and Susan Baker. I would like to share with you my observation of a gift that is something peculiar to Sidney.

As we sat for the meal, Sidney passed around a loaf of bread he made the day before. Now that sounds rather simple, but what you don't know is Sidney is an excellent bread maker. He is a true master of the craft. While I am a master of eating bread, the art of bread making is probably something I'll never master. On the surface, the process of bread making seems so simple. Throw together some flour, a little water, a dash of salt, a little yeast, and bake it in the oven for just the right amount of time and voila! When we are done, out pops a golden loaf of melt-in-your-mouth perfection.

Yet in talking with both Sidney, I discovered what any baker will tell you. Making bread is not that easy. For, bread is more than ingredients. Every new batch of bread dough is alive. That fourth ingredient – yeast – is the catalyst that brings the bread to life. Depending on what type of bread is desired, the baker will put together the ingredients, and then knead and shape that dough in different ways. But each batch needs the yeast to give it life.

I want us to think about prayer and particularly our earnest prayers which the Writer of James wants us to do. Like making bread, the ingredients of prayer don't have to be complicated or wordy. Simple water, flour, and salt prayers are powerful once God kneads and shapes them, and it is the Holy Spirit that adds the living yeast. Our job is two-fold. First, we need to be active in making our prayers. Second, we need to be patient and wait for the great baker to open the oven door to deliver the daily bread the Baker has promised us.

In the opening lines of this article, I quoted the bible verse in James, and in the next two verses (James 5:17 - 18) James invites us in our prayer life to consider Elijah. Recall his life and how he lived during a dark time in Israel's history when king Ahab went after idols and worshipped Baal. Elijah called for a showdown: the true God of Israel verses the false god of the pagans. Elijah was confident in his attack against the prophets of Baal on behalf of the God of Israel. Why? Because he had prayed.

In this showdown, the one who answered the challenge and sent fire from heaven would be declared the true God. So, the prophets of Baal prayed, pleaded, and cut themselves with fervent devotion. But there was no answer. Elijah taunted them, and then took his turn.

When Elijah prayed in confidence to the true God and asked for an answer in a way that would show the people God was the only true Lord, God answered Elijah's fervent prayer. Notice something curious though. In Elijah's prayer, he prayed and left the rest in God's hands. What do we learn from Elijah's example?

We see that God delighted in hearing Elijah's prayer. James wants us to see that God delights in hearing our prayers, too. Why? Why would our prayers matter? Why would God listen to our ideas? Simple. Your prayers matter to God because YOU matter to God. You aren't just anybody. You are God's child.

As we wind down the summer and turn our attention to the upcoming programs, I ask us to consider your own fervent prayers as a first step into this new program year. For God delighted in Elijah's prayer and answered it, and God will delight in your own fervent prayers.

Let us pray: Eternal and everlasting God, as the summer starts to wind down and we begin our new program year, we ask that you enliven us like the yeast does with flour and water. Be with our teachers and leaders this season as we seek to offer ministry that touches people's lives. Quicken our hearts and minds to pray continually for your will to be done through us and our lives. Use us in ways that others may encounter the Living Bread, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

Shalom,
Edward Bellis, Pastor

What's Happening this Fall?

Fall Women's Evening Bible/Book Study

Starting September 15th at 7PM

We will be studying *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* which is a 12 session study by Joanna Weaver.

We will meet on the 3rd Thursday night of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 7p.m.

Books and study guides can be purchased online or at the Christ Centered Book Store. There are also used books available online.



PROJECT LINUS

Next Meeting Monday, October 3rd

The place where you can make a blanket for a child in crises. We will start to meet again in the fall on Monday, October 3rd from 9:30 A.M. to about 11 A.M. in room #2 in the building out front. We need folks who can sew quilts, knit or crochet blankets, or make fleece blankets. We can show you how!

Come join us or call Matilda Wilson at 239-489-3582 for more information.



Fall Women's Morning Bible/Book Study ***Tuesday, September 13th***



Ladies, our morning Bible Study will begin on the second **Tuesday, September 13th at 10:00 a.m.** This will be a different study from the evening group. The title is - *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*. Reverend Dr. Carol Bechtel states,

"Sabbath is not a burden, it is a blessing - a celebration that has the potential to reform and redirect all our ways of living. It should be the source and goal that inspires and nourishes the best of everything we do." It moves from presenting the Sabbath from the study of scripture thorough taking these lessons into our daily lives. I will order the books from PW/Horizons. The book is \$10.00. Give me a call, text, or e-mail: 563 271-5600 or judith.schulte@yahoo.com.

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Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00P.M.

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

happy
birthday

2nd Lois Siemon
5th Elena Garcia
6th Tony Bright
6th Paul Harris
7th Barbara Stewart
13th Juan Tovar
15th Kirk Charles
17th Deidra Bradley
18th Brenda Harcourt
18th Helen Louise Lovell
18th Sandra Wharton
19th Robert Osborne
19th Bruce Renn
21st Dorothy Morgan
21st Jordan Bergmann
26th Boris Bell
26th Alberto Reyes
30th Richard Werner
31st Tamara Perez

Happy
Anniversary

12th Lee & Judy Bomgaars-60 Years!
17th Paul & Becky Harris
23rd David & Roberta Radcliff

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)	2 9am Partners in Prayer 11am Mission Team Meeting 5:30pm Bells	3 12:30-3pm Faithful Women 7pm Choir 7pm Scouts	4 Life Line Screening- FH (All Day) 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2	5 Office Closed	6 8am CLPC Clean Up Day
7 Communion Sunday 10am Blended Service 11am Spanish Service	8 7-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)	9 9am Partners in Prayer 2pm Support Meeting 5:30pm Bells	10 12:30-3pm Faithful Women 7pm Choir 7pm Scouts	11 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2	12 Office Closed	13
14 10am Blended Service 11am Spanish Service	15 7-8pm Men's Group (Chapel)	16 9am Partners in Prayer 5:30pm Bells	17 12:30-3pm Faithful Women 7pm Choir 7pm Scouts	18 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2	19 Office Closed	20 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Session Retreat</div>
21 10am Blended Service 11am Spanish Service	22 7-8pm Men's Group (Chapel) 2-3 pm Accidental Saints (Zoom)	23 9am Partners in Prayer 5:30pm Bells 7pm Session Meeting	24 12:30-3pm Faithful Women 7pm Choir 7pm Scouts	25 12:30-2:30pm Knit1-Pray2	26 Office Closed	27
28 8:45-11:45 am Blood Drive at CLPC 10am Blended Service 11am Spanish Service	29 7-8pm Men's Group (Chapel) 2-3 pm Accidental Saints (Zoom)	30 9am Partners in Prayer 5:30pm Bells	31 12:30-3pm Faithful Women 7pm Choir 7pm Scouts			