



# The Courier

April  
2011

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

*Our Vision: This is the place....where you will experience Christ.*



## Join Us For Lenten Activities

Palm Sunday-April 17th

*Rockin' Angels are the message/musical  
"The Tale of the Three Trees" at 9 and 11 a.m.*

Maundy Thursday-April 21st

*Food begins at 6:00 PM in  
Fellowship Hall with the meager meal and service  
and drama in the Sanctuary following.*

Good Friday - April 22nd

*12:00-3:00 Open for Prayer  
Office closes at Noon*

Easter Services-April 24th

*7:00 AM - Sunrise Service - CLPC hosts  
at Edison College with InterVarsity  
8:00 - Prayer Service  
9:00 AM - Praise Service  
11:00 AM - Traditional Service*

Monday-April 25th

*Safe Haven & Office Closed*



This year our Easter Egg Hunt is going to be held on Saturday April 23rd at 10:00 a.m. Please invite your young friends and neighbors! See Pastor Samantha if you would like to help.



## Are You Registered for Summer Camp Yet?

Have you taken time to look at the summer camp programs offered at Cedarkirk? June, July, and August may seem a long way off, but Cedarkirk camps and conferences fill quickly and you don't want to miss out! The programs this summer have something for everyone: there are games, skits, songs, and time to just be yourself with good friends-new and old. There are exciting activities outdoors like canoeing, kayaking, the high ropes course, cookouts, and campfires. All of this fun and excitement is offered within the context of growing deeper in God's love. Scholarships are available to those who would otherwise be unable to attend. The church office has brochures and registration forms or you may contact the Cedarkirk office at 813-685-4224, ext. 1, or register online at [www.cedarkirk.org](http://www.cedarkirk.org).

## "Our Town" Reader's Theater is April 8th and

9th Adult tickets are \$10.00 Student tickets with ID for High School and college are \$5.00. Production is at 7:00pm both nights in the CLPC Sanctuary. Call the church office for tickets or purchase on Sunday morning in the Narthex.



# The Courier

Cypress Lake Presbyterian  
Church

8260 Cypress Lake Drive  
Fort Myers, Florida 33919

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E-mail: [mail@clpc.us](mailto:mail@clpc.us)

Web site: [www.clpc.us](http://www.clpc.us)

## Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Clinton C. Cottrell  
[clint@clpc.us](mailto:clint@clpc.us)

## Associate Pastor

The Reverend Samantha Keller  
[samantha@clpc.us](mailto:samantha@clpc.us)

## Parish Associate

The Reverend Benjamin Keller  
[ben@clpc.us](mailto:ben@clpc.us)

## Pastor of Visitation Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Harold Simones

## Director of Worship & Music

Rachel Carrier  
[rachel@clpc.us](mailto:rachel@clpc.us)

## Director of Praise

Stephen Gardner  
[steve@clpc.us](mailto:steve@clpc.us)

## Office Manager

Karen May  
[karen@clpc.us](mailto:karen@clpc.us)

## Director, Safe Haven Christian School

Julia Neal  
[julia@clpc.us](mailto:julia@clpc.us)

## Sexton

Charles Barnhill

## Staff Musician

Douglas Parker

## Nursery Attendants

Margery McCarthy

## Clerk of Session

Bobbi Bancroft

## Presbyterian Women Moderator

Doris King

## Moderator of Deacons

Jackie Oestrich

## Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00-3:00 pm

**Editor's Note:** Some articles may be edited for space. Some are left intact by request of their authors.

## ATTIC SALE—THANK YOU

A special thanks to all who helped all week and the day of the sale. We could not have done it without you. A special thanks to Rich Meacham and Jim Wray for picking up items. Thanks also to Skip & Terri Bergmann and Audrey Hayward for the delicious



### Attic Treasure Sale

lunch we shared on the day of the sale, and Ann Sims for heading up the clothing. We made \$5,830.00 which will go to missions. Betty Ann Kelly and Sandy Thornburg.

## *One Great Hour of Sharing*

Soon CLPC will participate in the special offering for the *One Great Hour of Sharing*.

Did you know that 1/3 of that offering goes to support the Presbytery Disaster Relief (PDA)? The PDA is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church USA. Locally this last year, the PDA provided food to farm workers in Immokalee (due the hard freeze) and financial assistance to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church when their Fellowship Hall burned down. With the recent tsunami affecting the West Coast, Alaska and Hawaii, the PDA is contacting potentially affected presbyteries and is prepared to assist with immediate emergency needs, clean up provisions, long-term and unmet needs, and spiritual/emotional counseling.

## HELP!!

The snowbirds are beginning to fly north and full time residents are traveling. We are in dire need of ushers/greeters.

To usher the 9 a.m. service call Irene Thiessen at 433-4304.

To usher the 11 a.m. service call Jackie Oestrich at 590-6464.





Many years ago I went through training in first-aid and later became a certified EMT and Paramedic. As part of that training we learned about something known as triage. Triage, on paper, is a very simple concept. It is a matter of treating the most urgent patients first, allowing the less injured patients to wait until later, when you had more time. The theory is not hard to grasp. A patient with a broken arm is able to wait several hours while a patient with a heart attack needs to be treated immediately. Sometime those that cry the loudest need to be put after the patients that need help first (e.g., the heart attack patient) as, if you treated the person who had a broken limb but was making a lot of cries for help, the time you spent with them would result in the death of someone that could have been saved. It sounded so simple on paper and I passed my exams with flying colors.

One day I was with my partner when we learned of a horrific accident. An “eighteen wheeler” (loaded with vegetables) had lost its brakes, came speeding down a hill (into the Fort Pitt Tunnels, for those that know the area), crossed the bridge into downtown Pittsburgh, jackknifed ONTO a Ford Pinto with 4 teenagers inside and the momentum drove the wreckage into a crowd of people in front of a hotel (what used to be the Hilton in front of Point State Park). I was in the first ambulance on the scene and had to apply what I had learned on paper!

We had 4 teens TRAPPED in the car under the truck, crying out for help. We had the driver and his wife seriously injured. We had bystanders struck, several with life threatening wounds. In total, there were over 15 people that were in need, some with nearly lethal wounds, some that were VERY serious, some that were minor. In a matter of minutes my partner and I had to assign who was getting treated first and last. Who in essence may get the life saving treatments and who may possibly perish. It was a heart wrenching experience, but we did what we had to do, QUICKLY. Thanks be to God, no one died that day (at least not at the scene or in one of the 12 ambulances that transported patients). But the decisions I made still haunt me 30+ years later.

Our community, our county, our state, our country is wrestling with tough decisions. There is only so much money to go around. Raise taxes too high and the economy collapses. Cut too many programs and the safety net collapses. Indeed, the decisions that they need to make are hard but necessary. They must apply triage. Please pray for them.

The church is no different. By now you know that there is a proposal to end the Associate Pastor’s position as of June 1. This is not because Pastor Samantha did anything wrong, but our economy has hit our community hard and the church is not exempt from that. Over the last few years the Personnel Committee, Session and I have wrestled with this issue. We have used “triage” to determine what ministries to cut, what staffing changes to make, what actions we can take to keep the church fiscally sound but not really hurt “the body.”

We looked at many options. We have already cut our ministries to the point that they can’t be cut any more (we really DO need electricity, especially in the summer!!!). We looked at each of the staff positions. We looked at an across the board cut of salaries (remembering that no one has received a pay raise in 3 years and numerous folks have taken cuts already). We looked at cutting positions such as the praise leader, the organist, the music director, and more. We had to use triage!

In the end it was viewed that the most cost effective place was to end the Associate Pastor’s position, hire a part time director of youth ministries, and make a few other changes to support the incredible losses that we will face. We also recognized that there WILL be an impact on ministries within the church as there will be one less, very competent, servant of God among us (not to mention her husband!!!). But it was simply a case of triage.

As your pastor, I rest in the knowledge that God is in control. God DOES indeed have a plan and will work His miracles in our midst. But just like that event over 30 years ago when that truck plowed into the people on the street in Pittsburgh, we now have been hit with a run away truck known as the economic recession of 2009-2011. Triage was needed then and it was needed now. Just like when I first used triage (I am still haunted by the pain of the decision...how do you make a decision that will harm anyone, even if it is in the best interest of the body as a whole), I, like many of you, am saddened by the decisions we sometimes have to make.

Again, let us turn to the Lord. Jesus was born on Christmas day. Thanks be to God! Jesus lived a perfect life while he taught and healed. Thanks be to God! Jesus was met with the horror of the cross on Good Friday (and it looked like the world was coming to end), but on Easter morning the world learned the “rest of the story.” Thanks be to God! God is ultimately in control, from beginning to end!

Be it in our own lives, in our country, in our church, sometimes we have to make hard decisions that seem to be overwhelming. Sometimes paramedics or nurses or doctors need to triage patients while we as individuals, a country, a church, need to triage our budgets. But we know something good...no, not good, but something GREAT. God has a plan and is in control.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Thanks be to God!

*Pastor Clint*

## Anniversary Celebrations

2nd Otto & Sheila Muller-Girard  
12th Nate & Anne Burley  
19th Rod & Sue Herrick  
20th Sam & Leslie McGargle  
27th Carol & Gar Sarosik



## Birthday Wishes

1st Clint Cottrell  
Payton Hayman  
3rd James Oestriech  
6th Brendan McQuilkin  
7th Joan Spear  
8th Abigail Hill  
10th Larry Johnson  
12th Michele Pepper  
14th Rob Coe  
Virginia Burford  
16th Nola LaRose  
18th Douglas J. Wilson  
Ken Burbach  
19th Elizabeth Peters  
20th Darby DeBolt  
Robert Shrader  
21st Sheila Muller-Girard  
22nd Paulette Stadelmann  
23rd Skip Bergmann  
Mae Osborne  
26th Dee Cords  
28th Arthur Kling  
30th Penny Roberts  
Lisa Kendall

# Sunday

**Celebration Times**  
 8:00 am Prayer Service  
 9:00 am Praise  
 9:15 am Kids Worship  
 10:10 am Sunday School  
 10:10 am Bible Study  
 11:00 am Traditional

# Monday

9:30 am Project Linus  
 12:00 pm Staff Mtg.  
 1:00 pm PW Board Mtg.  
 6:30 pm Master Singers  
 Food Pantry 11-1 & 6-8

# Tuesday

9:00am Safe Haven Picture Day  
 11:00 am Safe Haven Class  
 6:00 pm Sm. Grp. Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Voices in Bronze  
 7:00 pm Ministry Team Mtg.  
 7:30 pm Theater Rehearsal

# Wednesday

9:00 am PIP  
 10:00 am Children's Chapel  
 5:20 pm Rockin' Angels  
 6:00 pm Wed. Dinner  
 6:30 pm Pioneer Club  
 6:30 pm Youth Group  
 6:40 pm Bible Study  
 7:00 pm Gloria Choir

# Thursday

6:00 pm Lutheran Services of FL  
 7:00 pm Theater Rehearsal

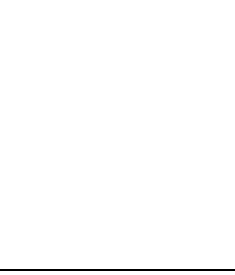
# Friday

10:00 am Safe Haven Cooking  
 3-6:pm Organist Practice  
 ALL CHURCH RETREAT AT CEDARKIRK

# Saturday

1-4 pm Organist Practice  
 ALL CHURCH RETREAT AT CEDARKIRK

**Courier Deadline is the 15th!**



1  
 10:00 am Safe Haven Cooking  
 3-6:pm Organist Practice  
 ALL CHURCH RETREAT AT CEDARKIRK

2  
 1-4 pm Organist Practice  
 ALL CHURCH RETREAT AT CEDARKIRK

3  
 ALL CHURCH RETREAT

4  
 9:30 am Project Linus  
 12:00 pm Staff Mtg.  
 1:00 pm PW Board Mtg.  
 6:30 pm Master Singers  
 Food Pantry 11-1 & 6-8

5  
 9:00am Safe Haven Picture Day  
 11:00 am Safe Haven Class  
 6:00 pm Sm. Grp. Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Voices in Bronze  
 7:00 pm Ministry Team Mtg.  
 7:30 pm Theater Rehearsal

6  
 9:00 am PIP  
 10:00 am Children's Chapel  
 5:20 pm Rockin' Angels  
 6:00 pm Wed. Dinner  
 6:30 pm Pioneer Club  
 6:30 pm Youth Group  
 6:40 pm Bible Study  
 7:00 pm Gloria Choir

7  
 6:00 pm Lutheran Services of FL  
 7:00 pm Theater Rehearsal

8  
 7:00 am Real Estate Bkfst.  
 10:00 am Safe Haven Cooking  
 3-6 pm Organist Practice  
 Our Town Readers Theater  
 7 p.m.

9  
 1-4 pm Organist Practice

10  
 2 pm Children's Rehearsal  
 2:30 pm Confirmation Class  
 Confirmation Dinner 5 pm

11  
 12:00 pm Staff Mtg.  
 6:30 pm Master Singers  
 Food Pantry 11-1 & 6-8

12  
 7:00 am Men's Breakfast  
 9:30 am Martha Circle  
 11:00 am Safe Haven Class  
 12:30 pm Esther Circle  
 6:00 pm Sm Grp. Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Voices in Bronze  
 7:00 pm Condo Assn Mtg.

13  
 9:00 am PIP  
 10:00 am Children's Chapel  
 5:20 pm Rockin' Angels  
 6:00 pm Wed. Dinner  
 6:30 pm Pioneer Club  
 6:30 pm Youth Group  
 6:40 pm Bible Study  
 7:00 pm Gloria Choir  
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

14  
 7:00 pm Eve Circle

15  
 10:00 am Safe Haven Cooking  
 3-6 pm Organist Practice  
 4-9 pm Edison Coll. HS Fundraiser  
 7 pm Concert--The American Patrol

16  
 1-4 pm Organist Practice

17  
 Palm Sunday

18  
 12:00 pm Staff Mtg.  
 6:30 pm Master Singers  
 Food Pantry 11-1 & 6-8

19  
 11:00 am Safe Haven Class  
 6:00 pm Sm Grp Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Voices in Bronze  
 7:00 pm Cypress Lake Homeowner Assoc.

20  
 9:00 am PIP  
 10:00 am Children's Chapel  
 10:30 am PW Gathering  
 5:20 pm Rockin' Angels  
 6:00 pm Wed. Dinner  
 6:40 pm Bible Study  
 7:00 pm Gloria Choir  
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

21  
 Maundy Thursday  
 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Drama

22  
 Good Friday  
 12-3 p.m. Open for Prayer  
 Office Closes at Noon  
 Safe Haven Closed

23  
 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt  
 1-4 pm Organist Practice

24  
 Easter Sunday Confirmation Sunday  
 7:00 am Sunrise Service  
 Edison College  
 8:00 am Prayer Service  
 9:00 am Praise Service  
 11:00am Traditional Service  
 NO SUNDAY SHOOL

25  
 Easter Monday  
 Office Closed  
 Safe Haven Closed  
 6:30 pm Master Singers  
 Food Pantry 11-1 & 6-8

26  
 11:00 am Safe Haven Class  
 6:00 pm Sm Grp Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Voices in Bronze  
 7:00 pm Food Pantry Mtg.

27  
 9:00 am PIP  
 10:00 am Children's Chapel  
 5:20 pm Rockin' Angels  
 6:00 pm Wed. Dinner  
 7:00 pm Gloria Choir  
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

28  
 10:00 am Safe Haven Cooking  
 3-6 pm Organist Practice

29  
 10:00 am Safe Haven Cooking  
 3-6 pm Organist Practice

30  
 1-4 pm Organist Practice

31  
 1-4 pm Organist Practice





# Presbyterian Women

## April 2011

4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Project Linus Blanket Work Day (Fellowship Hall)
	1:00 pm	Executive Board Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Martha Circle
	12:30 pm	Esther Circle (Fellowship Hall)
14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	Eve Circle
20 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	PW Gathering Election of 2011-2012 Board Reading of 2011-2012 Budget
	11:15 am	Program-Allen Smith, Gemologist "All About Birthstones"
	12:00 pm	Luncheon-Hosted by PW Board
24 <sup>th</sup>		<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>



**All Women of the Church** are cordially invited to attend the Presbyterian Women's Gathering on April 20th at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.



There will be an election of Officers. The program will be Allen Smith, Gemologist, "All About Birthstones". Luncheon will be hosted by the PW Board.

## DOLLAR\$&CENTS

For fiscal year July 1, 2010 through February 28, 2011

<b>OPERATIONS</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
Giving Income	\$285,022
Expenses	\$309,442
Net Income (deficit)	(\$ 24,420)
<b>SAFE HAVEN</b>	
Income	\$ 68,976
Expense	\$ 63,845
Net Income	\$ 5,131
<b>Combined Net Income (deficit)</b>	<b>(\$ 19,289)</b>
Income transferred from B.F.*	\$ 41,720
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 22,431</b>

\*Income re-designated at donor request from Building Fund to balance 2010-11 fiscal year budget

## MINISTRY TEAMS

### COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP

Member - Kirk Charles  
Member - Brian Granstra  
Member - Gavin Dougherty  
Member - Bobbi Bancroft  
Member - Dee Jordan  
Support Staff - Rachel Carrier

### CHURCH & COMMUNITY

Chair - Rob Coe  
Member - Karen Grabia  
Support Staff - Julia Neal

### DISCIPLEMAKING

Chair - Jaime Hill  
Member - Ken Kendall  
Support Staff - Samantha Keller

### FAITH SHARING

Chair - Marietta Meacham  
Member - Tim Baldwin  
Member - Ken VanSwearingen  
Support Staff - Rachel Carrier

### SUPPORT

Chair - Gordon Coffman  
Property - Jim Wray, Walt France, Rich Meacham  
Treasurer - Rich Meacham (Interim)  
Asst. Treasurer - Dolores Warren  
Disaster, Preparedness - John Nance, Sandy Wharton, Dolores Warren  
Personnel - Jim Wray, Sandy Wharton, Julie McFadden  
Bldg. Chair - Rich Meacham  
Gordon Coffman  
Support Staff - Karen May

Ministry Teams meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Youth Center. All are welcome to attend these meetings.

The Deacon's of CLPC are kindly asking for volunteers from our church to provide needed transportation for other church members. Some of our members need rides to and from places such as Dr's appointments, church services, and the hospital. If you are able to assist with any transportation needs, please call the church office at 481-3233 and speak with Karen. Thank you and may God bless.



Deacon's Corner

## *You Are Invited to Fun, Food and Drama*



**Saturday May 14, 2011**  
Royal Palm Yacht Club  
2360 West First Street  
(Just North of Edison Home)  
Fort Myers, FL

Cocktails (cash bar) begin at 5:00  
dinner @ 7:00  
**5:30 - 7:30 Silent Auction**  
**1 Act Drama following dinner**

**Cost per person: \$35**  
For Reservations:  
call Church office 481-3233 or Marietta @ 482-4412



*Promote your business  
While helping CLPC*

**Continue our local, national and global  
programs and missions**

Help us raise funds with a silent auction and dinner  
on  
Saturday May 14, 2011  
At the  
Royal Palm Yacht Club

Advertise your business in the auction program  
(ad prices range from \$50 for business card to \$200  
for full page)  
Sponsor a table  
(\$200 per table)  
Provide an item for the auction

Contact Marietta @ 482-4412 or  
Marietta.1@comcast.net for more information on  
how you can help



### **Why did Jesus die for us?**

Laura M., Age 5: Because he cares for us and he prays for all the food that he gives us. I feel so good when I think about Jesus!"

Sarah H., Age 5: It is because we are so good and we pray every time we go somewhere and for everybody."

John C., Age 5: Well a car hit Jesus with its wheel but that's okay that he died because Jesus is still alive now."

Laura W., Age 5: "He died to wash away our sins."

### **Why does Jesus Love You?**

Matthew R. Age 5: "Because I am the best!"

Garret Z., Age 4: "Because I love my brother, mommy, daddy and my sister."

Nicholas P., Age 4: "Because Jesus LOVES EVERYONE!"

Talya P. Age 4: "I think he loves me because I was being good."

### **Tell me about Jesus**

Sele'ya H., Age 4: "He helps me."

Pamela L., Age 5: "He loves us a long way."

Sarah J., Age 4: "He made Easter."

### **What is Easter**

Gavin Z., Age 4: "It's when God died and he came back."

Laura M., Age 5: "Jesus died on the cruise; he died for us in the cruise for all of our hearts."

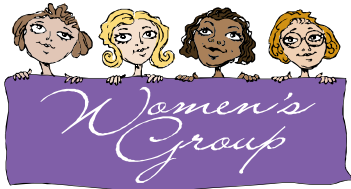


### **Palm Sunday Performance at CLPC:**

Come out and celebrate Palm Sunday with the Safe Haven kids during the 9:00 am service.

### **Safe Haven Egg Hunt:**

We could use pre-stuffed Easter Eggs for our annual egg hunt which will be held on April 21, 2011



### Martha Circle

The Martha Circle will be meeting at the home of Pat France on April 12th with Betty Symes as co-host. Our bible study will be Chapter 6 & 7 of Revelations. Please call Pat 561-3085 for directions.

### Chancel Guild April 2011 Schedule

- 1st** Jackie Oestriech  
Dorothy Troy
- 8th** Doris Houston  
Rebecca Potts
- 15th** Irene Thiessen  
Betty Schaarachuch
- 22nd** Audrey Wilson  
Irene Thiessen
- 29th** Jackie Oestriech  
Dorothy Troy

If you can't work your day, swap with someone or call me. Thanks for your continued help. Irene Thiessen

Tuesday  
April 12th



**Men's  
Breakfast**

7:00 am in Fellowship Hall



"No, Peter Cottontail was not an apostle!"