

# Pinellas Park Church of Christ



No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other... Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on.

Matthew 6:24, 25

Maybe you have heard the stories recently about the Bolivian man who is supposed to be, if the Bolivian government records are accurate, the oldest man alive today. Carmelo Flores Laura, an illiterate, shepherd, whose eyesight is dim and his memory faded, but able to walk without the use of a cane, still lives with his flock and works every day.

When asked what he attributes his longevity to he simply said, "I walk a lot. That's all. I go out with the sheep." How is that for simplicity? It reminded me of something I recently heard in a documentary about happiness. The documentarians were attempting to figure out why many people in what we, in America, would call "uncivilized" countries of the world have a much higher level of happiness and greater longevity. At the end of it all there were two thoughts that seemed to stick out.

First, simplicity is better for your health. When we can focus on and appreciate the things we have, rather than the acquisition of more and more, then things like our stress, which brings health issues and may lead to reduced life span, melt away. The Bible uses the idea of "serving a master" to relate this point. It says, "A man can only serve one master." When we try to serve many masters and create complexity it slowly destroys us. It is for this reason that we cannot "serve both God and Mammon."

Second, much of what we seek brings only emptiness. Money, for instance, may buy more choices, but it does not buy happiness. I recently had a conversation with a friend about this very thing. Her son is preparing for college and she has been attempting to impart to him some sage advice about career choice. You see, sometimes that choice can take on a how-much-money-can-I-make quality, when that is not really the issue or should be. Instead, she has rightfully, in my opinion, relayed to him that a career must be more than that, if one is to be happy and fulfilled and live a reduced stress, enjoyable life, it must be about more than money. Of course, when we say "more" we are actually talking about something better or more meaningful.

**8 February 2015**

**6045 Park Blvd. Pinellas Park, FL 33781**

*Sunday: AM Bible study 10:00, Worship 11AM, 6 PM*

*Wednesday: Bible Study 7PM*



## Prayer Requests

**Bill Mays'** dad, David, passed away unexpectedly Thursday morning. Services will be held at our building on Tuesday morning at 10AM. Justin Gerhardt will preside .

**Steve, neighbor of Jose and Christine**, has Parkinson's and is in a Rehab center.

**Amma Lou Koon**, Polly's sister. Her cancer has returned, involving 3 lymph nodes

**Bob Wayandt**, will be having a heart catheterization

**Roy, father of Pam G.**, is in very poor health and needs prayer

**Rochelle Peterman**, Jeanne Peterman's daughter-in-law cancer treatment / MS

**Sandy Christman**, continues to recover from her surgery.

**Vivian Brush** for her friend Claudia Stewart, stage four pancreatic cancer.

**Gerald Roberts**, Polly's brother, was diagnosed with Chronic Leukemia.

**John and Evelyn Bohn**, would love to have visitors.

**Jim, friend of the Sabiels**, pray for healing and acceptance of Christ.

**Pam Kosyak**, friend of Carol B., undergoing testing for cancer.

**Carol Axe**, recovering from foot surgery

**Bob Noland**, friend of the Rossy & Benesh families, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

**Melissa Niven**, continues treatment for cancer. Keep her in your prayers.

**Evelyn's daughter Allison** has Lou Gehrig's Disease

**Diane Haff**, a friend of the Phillip Martin family, is in rehab. following a stroke.

**Virginia Hernandez**, Aida Villanueva's mother, in critical condition in Houston ICU

## Order of Worship – Hurdles To Joy

51 Father of Mercies

587 Sing and be Happy

Opening prayer and offering

147 I Stand Amazed

The Lord's Supper

527 He Touched Me

Sermon – Edward Benesh

608 He Gave Me a Song

611 Heavenly Sunlight

Closing prayer

**Song Leader – Phillip Martin**



That "something" more is our purpose in God. He knows all of us before we are ever in this world and he has filled us with purpose and meaning. Unfortunately we spend a whole lot of time clouding that simple idea by pursuing things that just don't matter and never bring fulfillment and happiness.

In this day pursue higher purposes for your life, especially the spiritual one. Actually, I recommend that you begin with the spiritual life and let all else flow from what you find within. It will bring simplicity, focus and deeper meaning to what sometimes seems to be "mere existence." Live fully by fill awareness of God's purpose for you.

# Announcements

- **Life, Joy and the Pursuit of God** – This week's discussion is evolution hoaxes. Youtube link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHNnFiExGT8>
- **Stepping Up!** Classes have begun and it has been a great start. We had 14 men show the first night. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> in the youth room at church. If you did not get a book, Phillip has them for you to pick up. Men, you should be working through Day three of the homework in the Stepping up workbook. Come ready to share.
- Today is our annual **Sweetheart Banquet** after AM Services. See Tim and Beth to make your payment and let them know you are coming. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for kids 10 and under.
- Immediately following the Sweetheart Banquet we will have a **"Take and Make."** Everyone is invited to take part in making cards for the residents of Arlington Gardens. We will deliver them along with some goodies and visit for a while.
- We are collecting adult men's and women's clothing for **Pinellas Hope**. Please bring all donated clothing items in bags to the building and place them in the foyer. We are also looking for warm blankets.
- **Thanks to everyone who donated items for the care package for Sarah Folks.** Let us continue to encourage her. Her address is ***158 East Main St., Box 848, Henderson, TN 38340.***
- **The Lunch bunch** will be meeting at the Red Lobster at 34<sup>th</sup> St. and 62 Ave. after Next Lord's Day morning worship.

## Calendar

### February

- 8 – Sweetheart Banquet after AM Services
- 8 – We will make cards for the residents of Arlington Garden and visit
- 15 – Lunch Bunch to meet after services
- 15 – Leadership Meeting at 5PM
- 17 – Men's Ministry Meeting at 7PM
- 28 – Congregational Fish Fry at Freedom Lake Park at Noon

### March

- 13-14 – Ladies Day at WWCC
- 14 – Mexico mission Taco Fiesta
- 15 – Lunch Bunch
- 15 – Leadership meeting
- 18 – Men's Ministry Meeting



## Our Leaders

**Elders** – Phillip Martin, Tim Martin, Dennis Folks

**Deacons** – Glenn Duncan, Keith Sabiel, Todd Walden

**Minister** – Edward Benesh

Phone – 727-544-8920

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On the Web at [www.pinellasparkcoc.org](http://www.pinellasparkcoc.org)

Search for us as well on Facebook – get Ed's "For Your EDification"  
by emailing him – Watch our live feed on Ustream

### Vital Statistics

Contribution **\$1798**      Budget **\$2500**

Bible Class - **50**    Worship - **84**    PM – **23**    Wed. PM Service – **40**

### Little Did You know...

*According to WebMD, about 40 million Americans are afflicted with some form of an anxiety disorder to some degree. Many of them live in continual fight or flight mode causing the release of hormones like cortisol, which can cause, dry mouth, dizziness, headaches, muscle tension, etc. Prolonged release can lead to stroke and heart attack.*

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