


# Pinellas Park Church of Christ



"And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town."

Matthew 10:13, 14

Coexist? Have you seen those bumper stickers? They have been around for some time, emblazoned on the back of various vehicles, as if they were some badge of the peacemaker who desires nothing more than to get along with their neighbors. Lately, however, the word has found it's way into conversation and the news.

We have been warned left and right not about a similar attack, but against any kind of backlash against those who espouse a slightly different version of the doctrines that lead to the killing of those journalists in France and similar attacks in our own country in Boston, Texas and other places. We should not be "Islamaphobic," but rather embrace the peaceful Islam and coexist, is the cry.

There are, of course, several issues with this idea. The first and most obvious issue is the fact that Islam is not a peaceful religion, but from its inception has forced a burden upon the world of acceptance in various degrees. This acceptance is not simply tolerance, but what amounts to an admission of faith in Islam through sharia laws about conversion, confession and blaspheme. All men are required to show reverence to the prophet Muhammad and never speak anything that might seem to detract from what amounts to his pseudo-divinity. When one does not surrender to such precepts then physical force is manifest by the more radical elements.

The second problem takes the first point to a deeper level. When most people say coexist they mean that truth is unimportant as long as we are not arguing. Coexist then becomes the enemy of the quest for truth. If my system of faith cannot be scrutinized from external sources, whether I am Islamic, Christian, Wiccan or atheist, then it would seem deficient. I don't want to believe in a system of faith that cannot be reasonably examined. I may fail, as have others, and examination of my life will always result in exposing a failure, but my faith must stand up to scrutiny or fall flat and be rendered unworthy.

Having said that, let me ask how many of those faiths whose symbols are represented in the whole coexist idea, are willing to be examined and answer the hard questions. Some will. Some, like Islam, however, will not even allow the questions. Who was this Mohammad and when did his whole movement begin? Does his teaching stand up to the various tests that may be administered to it concerning inspiration or it's origins with God? I will let the follower of Islam answer these, but suspect that we will find the same thing we find with most "religions" we are simply supposed to accept without examination - manmade constructs and fallible fodder from eclectic sources unrelated to

**18 January 2015**

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

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

*Wednesday: Bible Study 7PM*



## Prayer Requests

**Ana Grace Poteet**, has been admitted to St. Anthony's with bronchitis  
**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.  
**Jose Martinez's sister, Nilda**, recovery from 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**, had cataract surgery on both eyes this month  
**Bob Noland**, friend of the Rossy & Benesh families, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer  
**Madison Walden** came through her MRI just fine and received favorable results.  
**Melissa Niven**, continues treatment for cancer. Keep her in your prayers.  
**Michelle**, friend of Melissa Folks, had surgery after suffering from Crones.  
**Evelyn's daughter Allison** has Lou Gehrig's Disease  
**Diane Haff**, a friend of the Phillip Martin family, is in rehab. following a stroke.  
**Bob Wayandt**, will be having a heart catheterization  
**Bethlyn Christman**, asked for prayers to get closer to God and live Him daily.

## Order of Worship – The Fools Why

2 We Praise Thee, Oh God

67 For the Beauty of the Earth

Opening prayer and offering

337 Hallelujah! What a Savior

The Lord's Supper

23 Our God, He Is Alive

Sermon – Edward Benesh

122 The Love Of God

117 God Is the Fountain Whence

Closing prayer

***Song Leader – Tom King***



God. Can we coexist? Sure, if we adopt the Christian perspective of living peaceably with all men. Yet, that does not mean we can accept or see as relevant or efficacious the host of falsehoods that are adopted and pawned off on God. Coexistence demands that we seek truth, ask questions and discuss differences, not ignore them or resort to violence as a means of conversion. Coexistence is not the same as coexist or die. Coexist means we can have a reasonable discussion of religious matters and examine our faith and the faith of others, whether we can and do live up to it or not. Anything short of that fails to acknowledge that there is a universal truth, which one would think is the heart of any religious practice. Believer, know thy faith.

# Announcements

- **Life, Joy and the Pursuit of God** – Next Lord's Day we will discuss creation. Youtube link - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=aq3g110\\_WMM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aq3g110_WMM)
- **Camp Board Meeting a Appreciation dinner** – On January 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a Weeki Wachee Youth Camp board meeting in our auditorium beginning at 2PM, followed by the annual camp appreciation dinner in the annex at 6PM. Price is \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for kids under 10.
- **Stepping Up!** As promised we will be offering a monthly class for men to help them "step up" and be men in leading their families, at church and so on. The first meeting of this group will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January at 7PM in the youth room. Come and invite your friends.
- **God's Not Dead** – We will be showing the movie God's Not Dead at the church building in the auditorium, in conjunction with our new curriculum, on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM. Bring your own snacks.
- **There will be a memorial service for Charlotte Merrel**, former member of Pinellas Park and active worker at Weeki Wachee Christian Youth Camp, at the Northside church of Christ on January 31<sup>st</sup> at 5 PM. See [www.tampabay.com/obits](http://www.tampabay.com/obits) for her obituary.
- On February 8<sup>th</sup> we will hold our annual **Sweetheart Banquet** after AM Services. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for kids 10 and under.
- 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.

## Calendar

### January

- 18 – Lunch Bunch meeting at IHop on US 19 at 58<sup>th</sup> after services
- 18 – Leadership meeting at 5PM
- 20 – Men's ministry meeting at 7PM
- 22 – Men's "Stepping Up" Course begins 7-8:30 PM
- 23 – God's Not Dead Movie at 7PM
- 24 – Camp board meeting at 2 PM
- 24 – Camp appreciation dinner at 6 PM
- 31 – Memorial for Charlotte Merrel

### February

- 3 – Ladies Night – Communion Preparation 6PM
- 8 – Sweetheart Banquet after AM Services
- 20 – Ladies Night Out at the Folks at 6:30PM
- 28 – Congregational Fish Fry at Freedom Lake Park at Noon



## Our Leaders

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

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

**Minister** – Edward Benesh

Phone – 727-544-8920

Email – [edbenesh@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:edbenesh@tampabay.rr.com)

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 **\$7136**      Budget **\$2500**

Bible Class - **48**    Worship - **72**    PM – **37**    Wed. PM Service – **44**

## Little Did You know...

*Did you know that there are about 41,200 verses in the Bible? Did you know that only one verse is given by God to deal with the person that denies that he is? Just one verse! Really that is not even true. It is actually one half of one verse. Psalm 14:1b. It is God's version of "you can't reason with an unreasonable person."*

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