

Advance Bulletin

for Sunday, August 1, 2021



Our Vision

We are a community of faith,
connecting our world
to the love of Christ
one person at a time.

Heroes and Villains



On Sunday, August 1, we begin the final month of our Heroes and Villains preaching series with a dark time in the kingdom of Israel, as the same prophet, who delivered the covenant, has to confront the king in 2 Samuel 11-12.

Then on Sunday, August 8, our text from 2 Samuel 18 reveals the pain that follows rebellion against God.

May our hearts be challenged by the truth in these difficult situations and grow in response to them.

"What If" Now Closer to Reality

In a Town Hall meeting on March 28, 2019, the prevailing question was "What if?" What if we had sufficient funds to enable us to pay off our existing debt? Our church has carried building mortgages for over 40 years. Would being debt-free enable us to focus more on ministry without the burden of over \$1 million in current indebtedness?

Recently, our church board, property task force, and *Vision Forward* steering committee reviewed an unsolicited letter of intent proposing the purchase of our property between Avenues D and E, and began to discuss relocating our church offices, Nazarene Thrift Shop, and parking provisions. We then received a contract that, should we accept, would provide sufficient funds to retire our mortgage and to enable the changes such a move would require. Plus, it would locate new housing units in our immediate vicinity for many people we would have opportunity to care, cultivate, and connect for Christ.

Church board actions on July 25: (1) Present the proposed sale to members of our [congregation for vote on August 15](#), during the morning Celebration Worship and evening Table Fellowship. (2)



Convene a [town hall meeting on Sunday, August 8, at 4:00 p.m.](#) in the sanctuary to discuss the project. Should the congregation approve the action by a two-thirds affirmative vote of those members present and voting, the contract would be referred to the Florida District Superintendent/District Properties Board for their review and action.

Please pray for God's guidance in this important decision ahead. Additional information will be forthcoming in the email Advance Bulletin, the Sunday print bulletin, and at the August 8 Town Hall meeting.

—Pastor Bruce

Update on Habitat for Humanity "Faith Build"



About a dozen volunteers from our church worked on Saturday, July 31, to work on the house (photo) we are building, in partnership with other churches and groups, for a deserving Winter Haven family. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the volunteers scheduled for July 24 will be rescheduled for a later time. Pastor Bill, our local coordinator, will keep us apprised of this project.

"Back-to-School Bash" a Success!

On Saturday, July 24, a large group of volunteers from our church and Heart For Winter Haven distributed 60 backpacks to children and their parents (photo with Pastor Bruce). The children had an opportunity to play games and enjoy refreshments. The remainder of the school supplies donated and purchased with the \$1,400 from our congregation will be distributed at Snively Elementary School.



Many thanks to those who volunteered to help, especially the organizers: Amanda Burnette, Peggy Oldham, and Scott Oldham. We also greatly appreciate the contributions of Heart For Winter Haven, who partnered with our church for this event.

Holy Communion and Table Life Sunday

The congregation will observe the ritual of Holy Communion on Sunday, August 8. The sharing of the bread and cup as the Body of Christ reminds us to share a meal with others that day as an extension of Christ's love and grace provided in the sacrament of Communion.



Gideons International Thank-You



Greg Lange, the representative from Gideons International, sent this message to our lead pastor:

Pastor Bruce,

Thanks again for your support of the Gideon ministry, and your warm welcome on Sunday to my wife and me. We were blessed.

Your offering of \$371 to the Gideons will purchase and place 74 Bibles or 284 New Testaments. Lives will be changed through God's love and power!

It was great to meet you. God bless you.

Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, August 4
6:00-7:00 p.m.

For Families with Children and Youth
Grades K-12

Sponsored by
Children's and Youth Ministries

Note: pandemic protocols will be observed



CDC Vaccination Covers

CDC vaccination covers are available at the information desk in the Worship Center. These protective covers, zip-sealable and waterproof, are free. The cover protects the card instead of laminating it. Thanks, Carol Rumble, for providing them.



Spark Meeting and Lunch



Spark ladies' ministry will meet on Tuesday, August 10, at 11:30 a.m. for a lunch, which will be provided. Invite someone to come with you.

Spark weekly meetings will begin again on Tuesday, September 14. For questions, please contact Deb Stewart at 863-289-1033.

Naz Thrift Shop August Specials

- Christmas Special extended. Check out the bargains.
- Find "Walter" to receive 20% off up to \$50.
- Aug 5-7: 20% off all furniture



**Blessed to be
a blessing**

The Blessing Bunch meets this month on Thursday, August 12 (new day of week) at 10:00 a.m. You can bless others by helping in three ways: (1) help create the blessings bags; (2) donate items, such as individually-wrapped snacks, including sugar-free items); (3) deliver one or more blessings bags. Questions? Contact the church office.

Summer Adult Sunday Bible Study



The *Kingdom Seekers*, *Joy* and *Upper Room* Sunday school classes are combined for the summer months, meeting in the Sanctuary Classroom (formerly choir room) at 9:00 a.m., through August 22. Teaching the combined class will be Charles Davis (home for the summer).

The *Grass Roots* class, led by Chris Townsley, meets in the Kircher Room at the same time, 9:00 a.m.

You are invited and encouraged to participate in one of this discipleship opportunities on Sunday. Please watch for changes that will be announced later for the fall.

Important Dates



Aug. 4, Wed., 6:00 pm
Aug. 8, Sun., 10:30 am
Aug. 8, Sun., 4:00 pm
Aug. 9, Mon.
Aug. 10, Tues., 11:30 am
Aug. 12, Thur., 10:00 am
Aug. 15, Sun., 10:30 am
Aug. 26, Thurs., 11:30 am
Sept. 1, Wed., 5:45 pm
Sept. 5—Oct. 10

Ice Cream Social for children/youth and parents
Communion and Table Life Sunday
Town Meeting on sale of church property
Elite Beginnings Preschool opens
Spark Meeting and Lunch
Blessing Bunch meeting
Congregational vote of sale of church property
Prime Time Lunch and Fellowship
Mighty & Maturing small group Bible study begins
Discipleship emphasis—"Way, Truth, Life"

Sunday Children's Ministry