

Heart of Palms

Good News Letter

Stop Hunger Now Event for Haiti

Palms, along with other beaches congregations – Beth El at the Beaches Synagogue, Christ Episcopal Church and Ponte Vedra Presbyterian – sponsored a Stop Hunger Now event Saturday, February 6th. Stop Hunger Now has developed a packaged food product that includes soy, vegetables, rice and vitamins, and is easily boiled into a meal. 142,560 packaged meals were created! A total of 600 volunteers working three 2 hour shifts – 200 at a time – made this event possible!

We know that there are long months and years ahead as Haiti rebuilds. Palms seeks to serve God’s mission in the world with our Haitian brothers and sisters. Also, we know that by building buildings together with our Haitian brothers and sisters, we are also building lives and faith.

Many thanks to Gerry and Pete Blackwood, Lori and Marc Fields, and Bob and FloAnne O’Brien for coordinating the event.



Del Fischer and Bob O'Brien discuss the procedures.



(left to right - foreground) Ingram Caswell, Gerry Blackwood and



Terrence Brown from Stop Hunger Now and Dennis Barnard, a member of Palms and a board member of Haiti Outreach Ministries, worked together at the event.



200 volunteers, at the first of three shifts, listen to directions before they begin the process of preparing, bagging and packing food.

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March 2010



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Sunday Worship
8:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
Sunset at Palms
5:45 p.m.

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Walker

Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Carol DiGiusto

Associate Pastor for Discipleship

Rev. Andrew W. Kukla

Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families

Rev. Katie Day

Director of Music and Fine Arts

Dr. Ronn Cummings

Director of Children's Ministries

Rev. Laurie Furr-Vancini

Business Administrator

Jan Redden

Communications Director

Liz Richardson

Parish Associates

Rev. Lloyd S. Alamsha

Rev. Kevin Day

Pastor Emeriti

Rev. Dr. James W. Tinsley

Rev. Dr. John H. Swann

Elder Emeriti

John Hess

Al Bowers

GRAND OPENING Sunday, March 14 Palms' New Information Center

We now have a central place for information! Please come by and visit our new Information Center located in Patten Hall (behind the sanctuary). Even if you're not looking for anything specific, or you've been a member for a while, stop by and say hello... you just might find out something new! If you are interested in being one of our "Information Disciples" who provide information at the booth after both morning services, please contact Liz Richardson in the church office at 246-6427.

Heart of Palms

is a monthly publication of Palms Presbyterian Church located at 3410 South Third Street in Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Phone: 904-246-6427
www.palmschurch.org

Photographers contributing to this issue:

Karen Case, Jeanell Wilson

The communications office welcomes your comments and suggestions.

Call 246-6427 or e-mail: communications@palmschurch.org

Financial Report - Operating Budget

as of February 22, 2010

	Budgeted Y/T/D	Actual Y/T/D	Over (Under)
Total Income.....	\$343,711.....	\$282,454.....	\$(61,257)
Total Expenses...	\$311,206.....	\$241,954.....	\$(69,252)

50th Anniversary Campaign

Total Pledges to date: \$3,280,622

Total Paid to date: \$2,973,450

Loan Balance: \$ 744,525

Walking With Palms...

A message from our Pastor

Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Walker



I grew up watching the Flip Wilson show on TV. There are still times when I will find myself chuckling or laughing when I remember his characters and comedic sketches. Years ago, Flip was asked about his religious involvement and answered with these words, "I'm a Jehovah's bystander. They wanted me to be a Jehovah's witness, but I don't want to get involved."

What captures my imagination about his response is the deep truth it carries about God's call on our lives. God never calls us to be "bystanders," but to be involved and to join God at work in the world. The uncomfortable moment of Wilson's humor, however, is that sometimes we do not want to be involved and avoid God's work, because it seems too big an undertaking, too hard, too inconvenient or too challenging. Yet, despite our reticence, God still calls us, equips us and sends us out into the world. In fact, one of the ways we as a community responded to God's call, is highlighted on the front page of this newsletter, as we worked with other congregations to pack 142,560 meals for those impacted by the earthquake in Haiti. In the face of such tragedy, we could not just "stand by," but were called to respond in very tangible ways.

Yet, God calls us not just in moments of immense tragedy, but also in the everyday moments of our lives. As we move into Lent, we move into a time of discernment of God's call through our Journey to Discipleship, and a time of engagement of that which distracts or makes us reticent to follow God's call. In small groups, through worship, and in classes, we will be invited to times of discernment in light of God's calling on us as individuals and a community. At the same time, the journey through Lent is a time where we will be invited to admit and confess that which keeps us from responding to God's call.

God has called each and every one of us. We are named, formed and equipped by God's love to join in the most important work in creation, God's healing of our broken world. God calls each of us to be involved, to be witnesses in word and deed to God's grace in Jesus Christ. It is hard to be a bystander when God is at work.

Shalom, 

Report from the Session

At the February stated meeting of the Palms Presbyterian Church Session, the Session:

- ▶ Welcomed Dr. Paul Hooker, Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, and heard a report from him on the new structure of the Presbytery.
- ▶ Approved curriculum for the spring Adult Sunday School classes.
- ▶ Studied Isaiah 40-55 and the image of the Servant of the Lord.
- ▶ Engaged the concept of a "missional" church and continued conversation about its implications for Palms Presbyterian Church.
- ▶ Approved the statistical report for the Office of the General Assembly.
- ▶ Approved the dates for the Sacrament of Communion for the coming year.

New Members

Joining Palms January 31, 2010



Charlotte and Gary Ehlig

The Ehligs are retired and moved to Ponte Vedra Beach to be close to family. They are Florida residents six months of the year, and spend the summers on the eastern shore of Maryland. They look forward to becoming active members at Palms.



Jamie and Brian Foreman

Jamie and Brian are the son and daughter-in-law of Russ and Debbie Jones. They had their first child in December, and it has become very important to them to become members of a caring church where their son can receive a religious grounding.



Laura and Donald Hollingsworth

Donald is a Jacksonville native and Laura is originally from New York. They relocated back to Jacksonville Beach in 2009.

They have a four year-old daughter, Amanda, who loves coming to Palms just as much as her Mom and Dad.



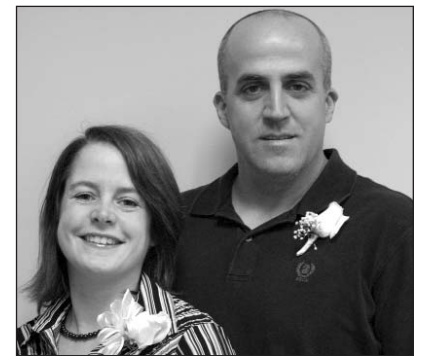
Stacy and Bryan Rendzio

Stacy and Bryan joined Palms with their six month-old son, Aiden. In joining the church, they hope to become involved serving the community. They see Palms as a place to connect Christian faith to the concerns of daily life and our world.



Laura Lothrop

Laura loves the great music and preaching at Palms, and has found it to be a great place to connect with other Christians. She looks forward to making new friends and continuing to grow in her Christian journey.



Melody and Jeffrey Toma

Melody and Jeff moved to the beaches area from upstate New York. They have one daughter and look forward to being members of the Palms family. They know that Palms is a place where children can receive a religious grounding and will give them an opportunity to volunteer in meaningful mission.



Katie McGuigan

Katie has returned to Palms after many years away. She has family close by and enjoys her grandchildren. Katie has always been an active participant in church and looks forward to continuing to grow in her Christian faith at Palms.



Gladys and Glenn McKibbin

Both Gladys and Glenn have always been involved in church, and especially love the preaching and music at Palms. They look forward to making new friends and becoming active participants in our church community.



Sandi and Larry Belt

The Belts come to Palms from Kansas and look forward to becoming active members at Palms. They have found Palms to be a community of which they can be a part and continue their Christian journey.



Elizabeth and Jake Reber

Liz and Jake come to Palms as Affiliate Members because they are only in Florida part of the year. They look forward to actively learning more about Christ's ways with the help of the Palms ministry.



John and Krista Miller

The Millers joined Palms with their one year-old daughter, Avalon. They're excited about becoming involved in Palms and share a passion for outreach.

Not Pictured:

David Hotchkiss

Dave sings in the Sunset Service at Palms and enjoys the music and preaching at Palms. He has found that Palms is a wonderful and friendly community of which he looks forward to becoming more actively involved.



**Palms
Preschool
Spring
Carnival**

Saturday, March 20

10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

COME FOR FUN!

Game Booths and Prizes!
Pony Rides (11:00 -1:00)
Cake Walk, Train Rides, Face
Painting, Moon Slide & More!

COME FOR LUNCH!

BBQ Chicken Plates,
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs,
Baked Goods, Cotton Candy,
Snow Cones & More!

**Palms Preschool
& Child Care Center**

Fellowship Hall
3410 South 3rd Street
Jacksonville Beach, Fl. 32250

For More Information call:
247-0983



Thank You Notes...

To The Church Body,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Palms church and its congregation for the continued support of the Preschool and Child Care Center. Without you, the ministry we provide would not be possible.

This ministry started with 25 children in 1985; in 2009 we served over 200 families, many with multiple children in the program. The scope of your outreach through this program has multiplied, and because of your generosity many families in the beaches area have been impacted with quality care and education.

By providing the program with facilities that support our Statement of Purpose, Palms Church is a partner in the care and education made available to this community. The ability to attend bi-weekly Chapel services with Palms staff and to utilize the beautiful setting of the Sanctuary for special occasions, instills within the children and families the knowledge of God's care and presence. Daily use of the buildings, including the newly renovated Fellowship Hall, is truly a blessing to our program. Though the program covers its own expenses, not having to pay additional fees for the ample space we are provided helps us to keep our costs affordable for local families.

Through connections with the church, such as Vacation Bible School, B.E.A.M. food drives, and the children's Haiti mission project, our children are learning to care for others and that they are part of a larger worldwide community. Church support of the program staff (when Miss Pam had surgery and meals were provided for her, for example) allows many who do not attend church here to know that Palms Church is truly a loving and caring family.

I wish there were words strong enough to express my thanks to this church family; there simply are not. All I can do is ask that you continue to pray for and support us as you have done so wonderfully over the years. Thank You.

For we are laborers together with God... I Corinthians 3:9

Lynn Mallinson,
Director Palms Preschool & Child Care Center

To Palms Staff and Members of Palms

Thank you to everyone involved with the Valentine Cookies. I was so very grateful and happy to be thought of and remembered this Valentine's Day.

Mrs. Betty Dunn

March Youth Calendar

Wed 3rd	7:45 AM	High School Breakfast Club at Players Café
	5:15-7:15	The Bridge (5th & 6th Graders)
	6:30 PM	Lent Dinner & Worship
Sun 7th	7:00-8:30	Youth Group (6th-12th Graders) (pizza night)
Wed 10th	7:45 AM	Breakfast Club
	5:15-7:15	The Bridge
	6:30 PM	Lent Dinner & Worship
Sun 14th		Taizé Deposit Due!
	7:00-8:30	Youth Group
Wed 17th	7:45 AM	Breakfast Club
	5:15-7:15	The Bridge
	6:30 PM	Lent Dinner & Worship
Fri 19th	6:00 PM	Mission Trip Preparation
		Retreat departs
Sun 21st	12:00 PM	Mission Trip Preparation
		Retreat returns
		No Youth Group
Mon 22nd	7:00 PM	Youth Ministry Team
Mon 23rd	7:00 PM	Youth Leader Dinner
Wed 24th	7:45 AM	Breakfast Club
	5:15-7:15	The Bridge
		End of Year Celebration
	6:30 PM	Lent Dinner & Worship
Sun 28th	7:00-8:30	Youth Group Bowling
Wed 31st	7:45 AM	Breakfast Club
	6:30 PM	Lent Dinner & Worship

Plan Ahead:

Apr 9-10	Middle School Guys Retreat / Man Camp
May 8	Plunge Boat Race
Jun 18-28	Taizé Pilgrimage

Summer Mission 2010 Dates:

June 14-18	Vacation Bible School at Palms
July 3-11	High School Mission Trip - Appalachia Service Project
July 18-23	Middle School Mission Trip - CROSS Charlotte, NC

Contact Information:

Rev. Katie Day

Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families
(w) 246-6427 (c) 635-0990 katie.day@palmschurch.org

Becky MacMillan

Administrative Assistant Church Office 246-6427
becky.macmillan@palmschurch.org



David Grover and the Big Bear Band Concert

Tuesday, March 16 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Join Palms Preschool for a special concert featuring the David Grover and Big Bear Band! This special musical show packs in the fun. The influences behind the music are the performers and writers we love: Pete Seeger, Beach Boys, The Beatles, Harry Belafonte, Paul Simon, Kermit the Frog, and more! You AND your child are guaranteed a great show! Free.

PALMS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fine Arts Series



Friday Evening, March 5 7:30 p.m.

The Concordia College Choir

on tour from Moorhead, Minnesota

Dr. Rene Clausen, conductor

A 72-voice a cappella ensemble, The Concordia Choir is widely considered one of the world's premier vocal ensembles. They tour the world, sing for royalty and garner praise from critics.

The choir's distinguished history dates to 1920, having performed in every major U.S. concert hall, including Carnegie Hall and The Kennedy Center. In 2010, the choir will perform and record with The King's Singers. Their top-selling recordings are available nationwide.

This concert is free. Nursery is available.



Women's NetWork Dip n Sip

Thursday, March 4

Join us for a relaxed evening of fellowship and fun at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Karen May, 313 N. Sea Lake Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. If your last name begins with A-L, please bring an appetizer; M-Z, please bring a beverage. RSVP to Karen at 273-9240.



Dottie Olsen, Barbara and Bob Nellson, and Katrina DeLude enjoy an evening of "winter wonderland" at a recent LOGOS dinner.



The burning of palm fronds before the Ash Wednesday service.

LOGOS CORNER



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Plan Ahead

Open House Presents
Deborah Guglielmo
 Director of the Beaches Museum & History Center
 Wednesday, April 21

The Beaches Museum & History Center offers a variety of educational programming for both children and adults. From hands-on preschool experiences to curriculum-related 3rd and 4th grade programs, summer camps, to day-long festivals and adult learning opportunities and exhibit openings, the museum offers something for almost every age and interest level.

The Beaches Museum offers popular community-wide exhibit openings, Fletcher All-Class Reunion, plus an Annual Gala. The mission of the museum is to nurture civic pride for the history of the beaches, while providing education, information and entertainment for those who live, work, and vacation in our communities.

Join us at noon on April 21st in Patten Hall, as Deborah Guglielmo, director of the museum, shares interesting historical stories about the beaches.

Tickets go on sale the end of March.



Sponsored by the
Open House
 Fellowship group
 at Palms Presbyterian Church

