

June 2023

**GULF BEACH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**271 SOUTH HWY 79**  
**PANAMA CITY BECH., FL 32413**



Beach Tidings Newsletter



Trinity

## **Focusing on the Trinity**

Christians are monotheists, meaning we believe in only one God. Yet we talk about the doctrine of the Trinity. In the church year, the Sunday after Pentecost is known as Trinity Sunday. It's a day for focusing on what theologians call the Triune God — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Someone said about the concept of the Trinity, "You will lose your soul if you don't believe it, and you will lose your mind if you try to explain it."

The bottom line is this: God (one Person) has been revealed to mankind in three ways. He is our Creator, who then came to Earth as our Savior (in the person of Jesus) and is eternally present with us as the Holy Spirit.

On Trinity Sunday, we praise our Triune God for meeting all our needs.



*The most precious things a father can provide are time, attention, and love.*

## A Word from Pastor Michael

I think all of us who have gone to church throughout our life would say that we enjoy reading and hearing the word of God which we know as the “Bible.” Our understanding and interpretation of the bible may vary, but God’s word gives us meaning, guidance, and purpose.



Have you ever read or heard a bible passage or

story and wondered what it is saying and what it is saying to me? If you have then you are not alone. I think when we run across a passage like this, it raises our curiosity and raises awareness to either seek an answer or maybe even to ask questions of the pastor or someone whom we might know that is better versed on the bible so we might have clarity. I also feel that this is God’s way to grab our attention so, we can grow in faith and understanding of his divine will for us. The Bible tells us this, *“For my thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. Isaiah 55:8-9.*

So, I would like to share two strange bible stories with you, As you read them, here are some questions for you to think about and what God might be saying to you.

- What strange thing did God use to grab the person’s attention?
- Why do you think God uses it?
- Who was it speaking to?
- What did God want the person to see or to do?
- How is God speaking to you in this story?

The first story: In the Book of Numbers, a prophet named Balaam is on the road when his donkey stops three times. Each time, Balaam beats the donkey in an effort to get it moving. Apparently, God has given the donkey the ability to speak and it says: *“What have I done to you to make you beat me these three times?” she says to Balaam, Numbers 22:28.*

Balaam, who does not appear to be surprised that his donkey is talking to him, replies, *“You have made a fool of me! If only I had a sword in my hand, I would kill you right now.” The donkey replies, “Am I not your own donkey, which you have always ridden, to this day? Have I been in the habit of doing this to you?” Numbers 22:30.*

The second story:

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. *2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. 3 So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”*

*4 When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”*

*5 “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” Exodus 3:1-5*

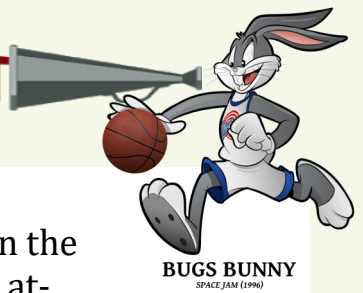
Once again, remember the questions and allow God to grab your attention through these stories, and then ask yourself, how is God speaking to me?

May you be blessed and a blessing to each other.  
Pastor, Mike

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# ANNOUNCEMENT



## **Adult Sunday School**

Sunday school is at 8:00am in a room in the Preschool wing. Everyone is invited to attend.

## **Church workdays-**

**Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>** we will begin at 8:30am and work outside.

**Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>** after worship we will be working on the inside of the church and doing some painting.

Please, if you can come help, we would appreciate it, many hands make light work. We will see you there.

## **Concert Series Planning Meeting-June 18th**

The concert series planning team will be meeting the 3rd Sunday of every month after worship. Everyone is invited to come and help plan our next Concert Season.

## **Fun Friday- June 23rd**

We will gather at the church at 11:00.

## **Tuesday Foodies June 27th- 5pm**

Our next outing will be on Tuesday May 23. We meet at 5. The location will follow later. Everyone is welcome.

## **Potluck- Sunday, June 25th- After Worship**

The church will provide the meat and we ask you to bring a side dish to share.

## **Food Pantry-**

We are in need of food donations so we would like to resume asking the congregation to donate on a monthly basis. This month we are asking for **Jelly, Mixed Vegi's, Powdered Milk, Canned Chicken.**

**We also need small pop top single use cans of Pork & Beans, and vegies.** Please place your donations in the box in the narthex. Thank you. As always, monetary donations are welcomed.

Write for Food pantry on your envelope.



**Have a safe and Happy Summer.**

## **Men's Walking Group**

All Men are invited to join this group as they meet at Aaron Bessant park parking lot and walk together at 7: 00am every Tuesday. For information on this group please call Lenny Zacher at 867-3770.

## Online giving with ease

We have made giving simpler. Whether you are giving to your pledge or making an end of year gift, it is now as easy as scanning the QR code with your phone.



## Thank You

...for your energy and support in promoting the Pentecost offering for the Urban Youth Camp. Let us celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise to us through the coming of the Holy Spirit by guiding our young people toward a brighter, faith-filled future.

Thanks to your generous donations we collected \$2,316.00 to send kids to camp.

## Community Prayer Line

Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church, the Little Pink Church, has established a Community Prayer Line. If you would like to submit a concern, joy, or sorrow, please send your short message to our Prayer email at: [Prayers271@gmail.com](mailto:Prayers271@gmail.com).



## Celebrating the church's birthday

On Pentecost, we remember when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' disciples. As they gathered in Jerusalem 10 days after Jesus' ascension, they saw tongues of fire, heard rushing wind and began speaking in many languages. Because the disciples could then share the good news with all the pilgrims assembled for the Pentecost festival, the occasion marks the birthday of the Christian church. That day alone, about 3,000 people devoted their lives to Christ.



Like the Holy Spirit, Pentecost is important and relevant today. As theologian Henri Nouwen writes, "Without Pentecost the Christ-event — the life, death and resurrection of Jesus — remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now."





## Birthdays /Anniversaries

### June Anniversaries

30-Fred and Sandy Welch

### June Birthdays

5-Dianne Coons

14-Paige Wiselogel

15-Beverly Howell

17-Dot Howell

21-Olivia Camille Burke

23-Mary Foist

24-Mary Frann Prottsman

25-Glenn Talbott

26-Emily Wiselogel

Elaine Briggs

"Rest is not idle, is not wasteful. Sometimes rest is the most productive thing you can do for body and soul."

—Erica Layne

"The beginning of love is the will to let those we love be perfectly themselves, the resolution not to twist them to fit our own image."

—Thomas Merton—



### Just like Dad

At the beginning of his ministry career, Jerry Steen supplemented his income by mixing animal feed. When his two young boys greeted him at home, they laughed at his dusty appearance before he headed to the shower.



"I didn't think too much of this until I was washing my car and saw my older son doing something very strange," Steen recalls. "He was picking up the gravel and stones in our drive and rubbing them into his pants." Curious, the father asked what the boy was doing. "I want to be dusty like you, Dad!" his son replied.

For Steen, that was an eye-opener. "I realized that if a child would look up to his father for being dusty and want to copy his father," he says, "a child could look up to his father and follow him for anything." What traits and qualities are you modeling and passing on — to your own kids and to anyone else who looks up to you?