

# First Family News

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAKELAND, FL  
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DAVE'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY  
**CLASSES  
START SOON!**

Financial Peace University is a program that teaches you how to beat debt, build wealth and keep your own economy thriving.

**Informational Meeting  
Sunday, August 29, 2010  
4 ~ 5 p.m. Room 318**

Dave Ramsey's  
**Financial Peace  
UNIVERSITY**

## We Need Your Voices!

The Chancel Choir begins rehearsing on Wednesday, August 25, at 7:30 p.m. New sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses are welcome. We need your voices! The choir is under the direction of Dr. Daniel Gordon and sings regularly at the 10:30 Classic service on Sunday. Please speak to Dr. Gordon for more information. A day retreat is planned for Saturday, August 28, and new choir members are very welcome to participate. Rehearsals for the Jubilation Choir and other groups will also begin soon.

*LightShine* will begin on Aug. 29, at 5:00. All sixth through twelfth graders are invited to come sing, learn to lead worship, and participate in the liturgy of the church. Come next Sunday and help us plan for worship, Christmas caroling, a Handbell concert, Strawberry Smash, a welcome back party on Sept. 12, and lots, lots more.

The select children's choir, *Alpha*, will begin on September 12, in the choir room at 4:00 p.m.

## Moving UP

Kindergarten through fifth graders will meet for Assembly on Sunday, August 29, at 9:15 a.m. in the Children's Choir Room where they will learn about all the kid's programs going on at FPC, as well as enjoy a celebration of them "Moving On Up!" Shepherds will take them to their Sunday school classroom. Mark your calendars! Don't miss out on this fun kickoff to the new school year!

## Fall Institute

The Wednesday evening Institute will begin again on September 8. Supper will be served at 5:30 PM, there will be a time of prayer and announcements at 6:00 PM, and the Institute class will begin at 6:30 PM. A change has been made, however. Instead of three or four classes being offered, there will be one large class, taught by rotating teachers including Pastor Mike, Pastor Celie Moore, Kenny Ellis, Pastor Craig, and Dr. Paul Suich. The class this fall will be entitled the New Reality, and will be an in-depth study of the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew 5-7. Everyone is welcome to attend, and child care will be provided. Kid's Klub and FPC Ignite Youth will be meeting at the same time. Choir rehearsals will also be held on Wednesday evenings.

## From the Pastor

In Matthew 16:24 we read the three fold condition of discipleship—to "deny self, take up one's cross, and follow Jesus. The first two terms define and specify the third. The call is not to deny oneself some material thing, but to deny self. The call is also not to reject oneself. Self-hatred is not the way of Jesus. We are called rather to deny the grasping self in order to liberate the greater self. Ponder that as you think about stewardship and financial giving—wow.

So what does it mean to be a Christian? Both Paul and John emphasize believing in Jesus Christ. No argument with that, but as Jesus points out in this passage "whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it." So, we are called to trust in Christ, and to give our life away. A person can never possess his or her own life.

Pretty heavy stuff when you think about it. I encourage you to think about it. More importantly, believe it, and live it out. That's the call to discipleship.

—Pastor Mike

PS — Mark your calendar for "The Path" Discipleship Event on Saturday, October 2 at 8:30 AM.

Register online at [www.fpclakeland.org](http://www.fpclakeland.org) and click on The Path button.

## Ignite Youth Fellowship

Our youth will begin regular Wednesday evening programs on September 1 at 6:00 p.m. This high powered youth ministry, under the direction of Tim and Jenica Timmes, is for all young people in grades 6 through 12 and includes worship, study, discussion, food, and plenty of activities. It attracts 60-100 young people each week.

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

The Lakeland Area Men's Prayer Breakfast (L.A.M.P.) will resume on Thursday, Sept. 2, at 7 a.m. at FPC. Start your day with this faithful group as they fellowship, pray, hear a motivational speaker and enjoy a wonderful breakfast. L.A.M.P. meets the first and third Thursday of the month from 7 to 8 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

## Kids Klub

Kids Klub, our program for elementary aged students, will begin again for the fall on Wednesday, September 8, at 6:00 p.m. Kids Klub includes Bible study, music, sports, and supervised activities. The director again this year will be Nancy Carter, assisted by a host of others. Come join the other 50-70 kids who attend — there's always room for more!

## Special SOS Friday Matinee

SOS will kick off its new program year on Friday, Sept. 10. It will meet in the youth room for a "special" Friday Matinee with popcorn for a viewing of "Singing in the Rain" and cartoons, followed by lunch (\$3). If you are over 55 and want a fun Friday, *plan to join us by signing up on Sept. 5 or by noon on Sept. 7.* Call Pastor Dick Huggins at ext. 230.

## Fall Workday

FPC volunteers are needed from 8:00 a.m. - noon on Saturday, September 11, to do light cleaning, organizing storage areas, exterior power cleaning of sidewalks, exterior mulching, and some planting. All you need to bring are your work gloves and a heart willing to serve.

Contact John Foley, foleyjohn41@gmail.com

## Breaking Code

New Seekers and FaithBuilders Sunday School Classes are joining together for the fall and meeting in Room 321/322 at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday, beginning September 12. Pastor Mike will be teaching the first study series of the combined class. It will be a different look at the book of Revelation entitled "Breaking the Code."

## Welcome Parents

Children's Ministries Committee will be having a "Social" with sandwiches and drinks on Wednesday, September 15, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 222. We welcome the parents of elementary children to spend a casual time having conversation about the upcoming children's activities at FPC. An RSVP would be greatly appreciated!! Please contact Jo Ahearn - 686-7187 or jo@fplakeland.org.

## Kitchen News

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped serve 500 people at the Polk Works annual breakfast on August 19.

Cookbook correction pages are in the office. Pick yours up today. New pre-submitted recipes will be available early November on Sundays in the Welcome Center.

Kitchen Committee Volunteers are needed! We have lots of fun while working! Stop by on Sundays or call the church office.

## Third Grade Bibles

Pastor Mike will be presenting Bibles to all third graders at the October 31, 10:30 a.m. Classic Service.

Classes for the children and their parents will begin September 26 for 5 weeks at 9:15 a.m.

*Please call Jo Ahearn (686-7187) by September 13 and let us know EXACTLY how you want your child's name imprinted on the Bible and whether you will be at the October 31st service.*

## Congratulations

to Robin Stewart, RN, PhD, OCN, CCR, and Manager of Clinical Research, who received the prestigious 2010 OCN of the Year from Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation for her significant contributions to oncology nursing and service. There are 29,000 oncology certified nurses in the U.S., and we are proud that Robin has been distinguished with this top honor. Robin and her husband are regular attendees at the 8:15 service.

## Theft Case Solved

We are happy to share the news that the case involving the recent thefts at FPC has been solved. The thief was a nicely dressed elderly man who was a "professional thief" and not a member of our church. The police said he walked around the church and found keys from office drawers which he later used. In an effort to safeguard the property of both the church and its members we have taken the following measures: (1) all offices have been rekeyed and keys are being carefully monitored, (2) our existing camera and security system is being improved upon and (3) an anonymous tip line and loss prevention program with RedLine Solution LLC has been implemented.