

# Glades Gazette

## August 2020 Newsletter

### Lessons From the Early Church

Churches tend to exhibit a desire to go back in time, not to the beginning but a time when their church was doing well and their children were growing. However, we can learn a lot from what I call “Lessons from the Early Church”. We would be drawing mostly from the book of Acts as well as Pauline epistles. But alas I will not be here to help you through this time of transition. I will not be able to share my many years of experience. Members of this church have determined that Glades cannot afford a pastor. So commit yourselves to being patterned after the early Church.

Through certain practices or habits we can learn how they strengthened their relationship with God and how God in turn was able to transform and use them in the most historically powerful and widest sweeping movement since the development of agriculture. That movement was the development and growth of the church itself as the Body of Christ spread the Gospel.

The book of Acts was curiously labeled the Acts of the Apostles and yet it should more accurately be understood as the Acts of the Body of Christ and the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, only a minority of Christians realize that the book of Acts is really volume 2 of the Gospel according to Luke.

Briefly, the following are just some of the practices or habits you should study and the lessons we can learn. In Acts 2:42 we find “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” The early church was committed to these things. These were not trivial pursuits, but focused, intentional ways of walking Christ Jesus. This is where the believers channeled much of their time and their resources. So first, The early church “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching.” The first followers studied the scriptures (which were at the time only the “Old Testament”) together under the Apostles’ guidance to understand God’s word and to be transformed by it. Remaining focused on scripture helps us stay focused on the priorities of God’s kingdom. Secondly the early church devoted themselves to fellowship within the community. The early church knew that they needed to be committed to one another. They needed each other to face the challenges that lay before them. God did not design us for isolation, but to be in community with Him and each other. In our society that idolizes individualism, scripture calls us to focus on communion with one another. 2 Corinthians 13:11 tells us, “Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.” Relationships matter to God, He wants our fellowship together to be an expression of unity. The early church devoted themselves to the breaking of bread. Sharing a meal together and remembering Christ’s sacrifice was a normal part of daily life in the early church. This was the sharing of a meal as well as participation in the sacrament of communion. They took time to not just get to know one another superficially, but to sit with one another and invest in sharing food, fellowship, and faith. The early church remembered Jesus’ instructions given to the disciples over dinner and followed them. The early church prayed for one another.

Prayer through the anointing of the Holy Spirit was the fuel that powered the early church. When our families devote themselves to prayer, great things happen. James 5:16 says, “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

Caring for the concerns of others was a priority within their community; they did not want anyone to be in need. Acts 2:44-45 tells us that, “All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.” When the church chose to demonstrate their compassion, it was more than just words. What needs has God placed on your heart today? Choose to reach out in love! These devotions of the early church drew the believers closer to God and to each other. May God help us to be people who follow these devotions of His heart. May He reorient the priorities of our lives to reflect His kingdom values. May we live these priorities each day in God’s kingdom!

May the Lord bless you and keep you and your family and friends.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Pastor David

## News from the Session

God bless all of you, our church family and our country at this difficult time.

We just conducted our congregational meeting. At that time, you selected a nominating committee to nominate new elders and deacons for you to vote on at our next congregational meeting August 9th. Please consider serving in one of these positions if you have the spiritual gifts to service the Lord and our church.

We want to inform you that the church has financial concerns. It is due to church repairs, closing the church to us and others that lease it for a period of time due to COVID 19 and member pledges that we had to give a 60 day notice to Pastor David. As announced in church, Pastor David's contract will then end on Sept. 4th. The Session will then arrange for a pastor through the Presbytery supply pastors.

On Sunday, May 31st, we returned to our church! We are now in "limited" services at 10:30 (including only two songs) Face masks, social distancing, disinfecting and only small numbers in church are allowed based on current COVID 19 guidelines.

The Presbytery has been giving guidance to go back to virtual services but has left it up to the session and the congregation to decide as long as they follow the current guidelines and monitor those procedures weekly. Consequently, we will continue to have services under those guidelines unless things change and you will be notified by phone and email with the change if it has to happen. The nominating committee and the session will be meeting virtually using the zoom call procedures.

We look to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during these difficult times and ask for your prayers and support for our church and church family at Glades. You have a part also: Please be sure that your pledges, gifts, and tithings are current.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

GPC Session



sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
						1
2 10:30A Worship	3	4 Women's Bible Study 10 Am	5	6 Men's Bible Study 7pm	7	8
9 10:30A Worship	10	11 Women's Bible Study 10 Am	12	13	14	15 Boca Helping Hands 8:30am
16 10:30Am Worship	17	18 Voting  Women's Bible Study 10 A	19	20 Men's Bible Study 7pm	21	22
23 10:30Am Worship	24	25 Women's Bible Study 10 Am	26 Rowena Avrich's Birthday	27 Ryan Armstrong's Birthday	28	29
30 10:30 Am Worship	31 Wantz's Anniversary					

## DEACONS' CARE GROUPS

### Laurie Jenkins - 561-487-4255

Lisa Roubian  
Steve Straus  
Loan Ellis  
Terri Dorsey  
Karen Sanchez  
Wayne & Hortense Walker

### Linda Williams - 954-240-4785

Mary Jo Luccarelli  
Celeste, Jim, & Jimmy Hamilton  
Eric, Ellen, Addie, & Ryan Armstrong  
Audrey Correa  
Edith Vislocky  
Bill Eltringham  
Laurie & John Jenkins

### Tracy Garlanger - 954-471-3443

Dale Rosenbaum  
Donna LaCertosa  
Mary, Sebastian, & Ariel Fernandez  
Doug & Jenifer Hamman  
Ryan Bullock  
Carmen Gomez

### Rowena Avrigh - 561-488-1897

Ruth Scott  
Julia Scott  
Jackie Davis  
Doris Jackson  
Terry, Cheryl, & Ryan Crout  
Gail Bower  
Ginny DeMattei  
Linda Williams  
Beverly Newland

### Addie Cordes - 561-445-7618

Neyda Rodriguez  
Ed & Brenda Romeo  
Tracy & Bob Garlanger  
Brian, Gladys, Patricia,  
Andrea, & Matt Claxton  
David & Lisa Crapnell

### Carmen Gomez - 561-768-6442

Cathy & Dan Wantz  
Pat Wilkins  
Rowena Avrigh  
Lauren Romeo  
Ozcan Feyziolgo  
Santosh & Lalitha Mathen

## August Birthdays

August 26st - Rowena Avrigh  
August 28th - Ryan Armstong

## August Anniversary

August 30th - Wantz

## Boca Helping Hands.

Saturday, August 15th  
At  
8:30am

Glades Presbyterian Church  
21121 Judge Winikoff Rd.  
Boca Raton, Florida 33428  
561-477-4898

Email: [gladespecs.usa@gmail.com](mailto:gladespecs.usa@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.gladeschurch.com](http://www.gladeschurch.com)



IF YOU HAVE ANY NEEDS OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL YOUR DEACON. DEACONS, IF YOU CAN'T RESOLVE NEEDS OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE CHURCH ELDER

TERRY CROUT  
[561-852-9060](tel:561-852-9060)

Deacons:

Class of 2020:

Laurie Jenkins and Carmen Gomez

Class of 2021:

Tracy Garlanger and Addie Cordes

Class of 2022:

Rowena Avrigh and Linda Williams

Elders

Class of 2020:

Terry Crout and John Jenkins

Class of 2021:

Karen Sanchez

Class of 2022:

2¢ a Meal

Take a small bank and put it on the table where you eat. Say a prayer and put 2¢ a person in the bank. These donations will grow and when filled, bring it to church and put it in the 2¢ bank. At the end of the year, these donations will be sent to several organizations who help others less fortunate.

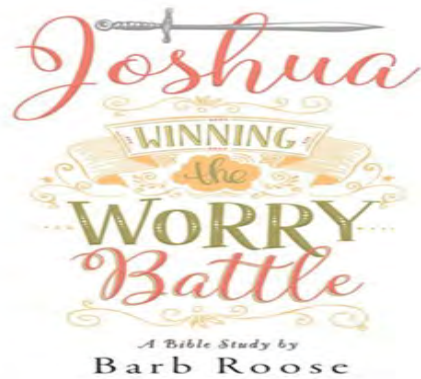
**CHOIR**

Choir is canceled for now until further notice. PLEASE CONTACT BEVERLY NEWLAND AT 488-3690.

**Pastor David's Phone Number: 937-307-6158**

**Pastor David's Office Hours:  
Wednesday and Thursday  
10AM-4PM**

**Please pray for Raegan Mize  
(6 year old neighbor of Kernie's),  
who has terminal cancer.**



**Women's Bible Study**

**Starting August 4th at  
10 AM  
In the CE Building.**

**Men's Bible Study!  
August 6th and August 20th at 7pm.  
Please see Brian Claxton for more  
information.**

**Dear congregation:**

As you know, recent corona virus fears have further reduced the size of our weekly congregations. Regardless, our church must pay its employees, utilities, and upkeep expenses every month. So, we would kindly ask that you keep up-to-date with your pledges/tithes/offerings, even if you are not currently attending our weekly services. Thank you. If you'd like, you can mail them directly to church:

Glades Presbyterian Church  
21121 Judge Winikoff Rd.  
Boca Raton FL 33428

Also, we live stream our services on Facebook and record them on [www.gladeschurch.com](http://www.gladeschurch.com).

Thank you, God bless you, and may you stay healthy!  
Glades Presbyterian Church