

July 2024



Glades Gazette

CELEBRATING OUR MINISTRY!

Dr. M. Bruce Irwin, Pastor

For me, June 14th is more than Flag Day. I was ordained as a Christian minister on June 14, 1970. As I begin my 55th year of ministry, I am so thankful for all the many ways God has allowed me proclaim the Gospel and open the hearts of people to our Lord at critical times in their lives. On the day of my ordination, I could have never imagined the challenges and situations that I would face and minister to throughout 54 years. I could tell story after story. The constant and most important message is that in any and all circumstances God was there.

BUT TODAY, AFTER ABOUT 18 MONTHS AS YOUR PASTOR, I WANT TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU THE THINGS THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.

IN THAT SHORT TIME OUR ATTENDANCE HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED! SEVERAL SUNDAYS RECENTLY, WE HAVE HAD 48 OR 49 PEOPLE IN WORSHIP. Not that long ago, we were happy to have 20 or so people in worship on a Sunday.

GLADES PLEDGED GIVING HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY! MUCH MORE IMPORTANT IS THAT, AS MEMBERS AND WORSHIPERS, YOU ARE GROWING IN FAITH THIS YEAR AND BECOMING CLOSER TO GOD BECAUSE YOU HAVE STEPPED OUT IN FAITH TO INCREASE YOUR GIVING.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES HAVE BECOME DEPENDABLE AND INSPIRATIONAL WITH SERMONS, SCRIPTURE, LITURGY, AND HYMNS CORDINATED INTO A UNIFIED SERVICE THAT OPENS OUR HEARTS AND MINDS TO RECEIVE THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

SCHOLARLY, BIBLICAL, RELEVANT SERMONS GRAB ATTENTION AS GOD SPEAKS GOD'S WORD TO US EVERY SUNDAY.

WE ARE FINALLY AGAIN HAVING BAPTISMS, DEDICATIONS, NEW MEMBERS JOINING!

(continued)

Glades Presbyterian Church
21121 Judge Winikoff Road
Boca Raton, Florida 33428

CHILDREN ARE ATTENDING THE WORSHIP SERVICES AGAIN!

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING: In the past 18 months of ministry there have been numerous visits to 6 different hospitals and pastoral visits to rehabilitation centers.

IN THE PAST 18 MONTHS, GOD HAS ENABLED US TO GROW, AND WE NOW FEEL SECURE IN WHO WE ARE. Instead of concern about closing our doors, we are embracing the future. Recently, every month we send letters out to people moving into Boca offering help as they transition to a new residence, and we invite them to worship with us at Glades.

These are a few of the ways that Glades has been strengthen during my time with you. When there is freedom to do ministry, God can make magic happen and bring us new life. I thank God that all these aspects of strengthening the church happens when I am allowed to follow my 24/7 call to do ministry. On this the 54th Anniversary of my Ordination, let us celebrate what has happened at Glades in 18 months, and as they say, put a pin in this time of history so that it can be remembered in the future that in 2024, we were here!

Thank you for your faithful support and open hearts to make all of this progress possible. It is what I celebrate on the Anniversary of my Ordination into the Christian Ministry.

THE FOURTH OF JULY

Dr. M. Bruce Irwin, Pastor

On July 4, 2026, we, as citizens of the United States will be celebrating the 250th Anniversary of Independence Day! As we approach that day, it is time for us to STAND UP for democracy!

We just observed the 80th Anniversary of D-Day which was the Allied invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. Going to war their teens and twenties, only a few of the military who invaded the well defended Omaha Beach were left to be recognized at the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. My heart was so touched. I couldn't look away from the television. One by one these old valiant (some crippled) military STOOD UP. As difficult as it was for them to push themselves up from their wheel chairs, most all of those recognized at this 80th Anniversary Celebration choose to STAND UP by themselves. Pushing through the pain and weakness, they knew that they had to fulfill their duty to STAND UP by themselves. They knew that no matter what the cost, they had to STAND UP on that anniversary day just as they, and their military friends, did on Omaha Beach during that great invasion of Normandy that would change the tide of WWII and be the turning point in the defeating of the authoritarian dictator whose name was Adolf Hitler. Being fired upon from every direction with their fellow soldiers shot and dying, the giant Allied military force climbed to the top of Normandy. Shot, injured, with broken bones, slipping and falling, scared, and lonely each of the Allied soldiers knew they had to STAND UP and go directly into the teeth of battle to protect democracy in the United States, in Europe, and throughout the world!

For democracy to continue, individual citizens have to have the courage to stand up in scary and difficult times. In democracy each and every citizen is most important. It's not the President, the Senators, or the House of Representatives that are most important. They all work for the citizens and are responsible to all of us! Hitler didn't understand this and became an authoritarian dictator, so the average ordinary citizens had to STAND UP; just as aged soldiers at this year's D-Day Celebration had to have the courage to push through their fears, broken bones, and pain to STAND UP out of their wheel chairs.

In every generation, THE CITIZENS THEMSELVES MUST STAND UP to preserve democracy in the face of internal and external threats.

During my ministry, it has been my honor to bury scores and scores of those who fought to preserve democracy on the beaches of Normandy as well as throughout the world in WWII. Ordinary people from cities and rural towns who STOOD UP and embraced their duty to preserve our constitutional centered democracy rather than a dictator.

As we celebrate the writing of the Declaration of Independence on this July fourth, let us remember the brave men and women in the military, and those outside the military, who have STOOD UP to preserve democracy in every generation.

And let us also vow that as ordinary citizens we will also STAND UP for our constitutional democracy in our time!

Glades' Events for July 202(

7. Worship & Communion, 10:30am

7. Healing Meeting, 12pm

7. Bible Study, 6pm (at Gretchen's)

11. Bible Study, 11am

14. Worship, 10:30am

14. Bible Study, 6pm (at Gretchen's)

18. Bible Study, 11am

21. Worship, 10:30am

21. Administration Meeting, 12pm

21. Bible Study, 6pm (at Gretchen's)

22. Session Meeting, 6:30pm

25. Bible Study, 11am

28. Worship, 10:30am

28. Bible Study, 6pm (at Gretchen's)

Glades' Celebrations for July 2024

1. Cheryl Crout's birthday

7. Ozcan Feyzioglu's birthday

11. Beverly Newland's birthday

13. Hortense Walker's birthday

15. Didi Deary's birthday

16. Jenkin's anniversary

20. Linda William's birthday

26. Marlene Kappes' birthday

27. John Jenkin's birthday

27. Wayne Walker's birthday

28. Khan's anniversary

30. Ed & Brenda Romeo's anniversary

DEACONS' CARE GROUPS

Terry Crout

Jim & Celeste Hamilton
Laura Dorn
Carmen Gomez
Edith Vislocky
Laurie Jenkins
Ellie Wan
Tom Serro
Beverly Newland

Celeste Hamilton

Cathy & Dan Wantz
Pat Wilkins
Rowena Avrich
Lauren Romeo
Ozcan Feyzioglu
Santosh & Lalitha Mathen
Ryan Bullock

Laurie Jenkins

Babbs Dahms
Gail Bower
Edith Vislocky
Bill Eltringham
Carmen Gomez
Gretchen Schrieber
Marilou Lehner
Wayne & Mimi Walker (Alicia & Lucia)
Wesley & Dania Marinan (Alex & Francis)

Carmen Gomez

Terry, Cheryl & Ryan Crout
Don & Elaine Hulse
Renata, Lydia & Michael Trager
Linda Fabiani & Barry Marcus

Ellie Wan

Eric, Ellen, Addison & Ryan Armstrong
Mini Dookhan
Yvette Tiritto & David MacRae
Debbie & Keith Berman
Premela Dookhan
Kitty Lai

Edith Vislocky

Neyda Rodriguez
Ed & Brenda Romeo
Frank & Liz Romeo
Karen Sanchez
Ellie Wan
Laurie & John Jenkins

Laura Dorn

Didi Deary
Beth Diente
Connie Steward
Marlene Kappes
Musfig (Mush) & Nancy Khan

Deacons:

Class of 2025:

Laura Dorn (1)

Class of 2026:

Celeste Hamilton (2) & Ellie Wan (1) & Terry Crout (1)

Class of 2027: Carmen Gomez (1) & Laurie Jenkins (1)

Elders:

Class of 2025:

Jim Hamilton (2) & Gretchen Schrieber (1)

Class of 2026:

Rowena Avrich (1) & Ed Romeo(2)

Class of 2027:

Bill Eltringham (2) & Marilou Lehner (2)

If you have any needs or questions, please contact your Deacon or an Elder.

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Sermon Series for July:

7/7 "Independence Or Needing An Intercessor"	Hebrews 7:23-28
7/14 "Little Noticed But Making A Big Difference"	John 1:35-42
7/21 "Made Alive In Christ"	Ephesians 2:11-22
7/28 "Paul's Stewardship"	Ephesians 3:14-21

Choir: The Choir is ALWAYS looking for more beautiful voices in ALL vocal ranges, from bass to soprano! Please contact either Gretchen Schrieber or Renata Trager.

Men's Group: Every second Thursday evening at 7pm, men from Glades and other nearby churches meet at Duffy's (Mission Bay) to discuss Christian topics. If you would like to join us, or if you have any questions, please contact Jim Hamilton.

Help Needed: We are currently short-staffed for voluntary positions on the Worship and Outreach committees. If you would like to be a part of keeping the weekly services running smoothly, or would like to reach out to others in the community, please see an Elder. Thank you!

Healing Prayer Meeting: A monthly healing prayer meeting (on Communion Sundays) will be held immediately after the service. All who need healing prayer or support are encouraged to attend. The meeting should last approximately 15 minutes. It is facilitated by Terry Crout.

Prayer contact: romeobren@yahoo.com

Emergency contact: ljenkins7@bellsouth.net

The Month In Photos: June 2024

