

THE ROYAL POINCIANA CHAPEL

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 13



My Personal Covenant of Commitment

I wonder what would happen if the data file server of the Chapel was suddenly erased resulting in our membership files to suddenly disappear. I invite you, however, to think this through with me. Should we need to recreate the Chapel membership files based on active participation and financial support of the ministries would we be able to find everyone? Or, if it were the practice every year to renew the vows that each take upon joining this congregation how might things change? I wonder what might happen were each of us to renew our personal covenant of commitment to God at the beginning of each year and then discipline our spiritual practices accordingly.

To that end may I, as your pastor, invite you to consider this:

As a joyful response to what God has done and has in mind for me, I acknowledge my trust and reaffirm my faith in Christ Jesus as Savior and Lord. Desiring to deepen my walk with God and among those I wish to know better and be known by my Chapel family, I am making the following covenant commitment.

During 2019, in my personal and communal faith journey, I commit to:

WORSHIP REGULARLY

Among the community of God's cherished and redeemed, with regularity I will worship, pray, sing, and celebrate the presence, power and promise of our Living God.

GROW INTENTIONALLY

Seeking study and fellowship, I will broaden my understanding and deepen my faith through personal prayer, Bible Study and accountable relationships.

GIVE GENEROUSLY AND SERVE JOYFULLY

With a spirit of gratitude, I will joyfully contribute to the ministries, mission and financial life of the Chapel with my time, talent and treasure.

Have you ever wondered what your life might be like were you to take God more seriously, or the converse, if God were to take us less seriously? I am pleased to say that the latter is not ours to worry about!

To you all, A Blessed New Year!

Bob Norris



Report from the Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held during worship on Sunday, January 13. At the meeting, Ben Alexander, the outgoing Board President, alongside Mike Cook, Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the state of the Chapel. Cater Randolph, formerly the Board Secretary, and now Board President, presented the new members of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Ben spoke about the completion of the hurricane windows throughout the campus and the seawall this past summer and fall, and pointed to the upcoming renovations to the Chapel's property on the Lake Trail and kitchen, and expansion of the columbarium and installation of a generator, as ways the Board is looking to the future. The Board of Directors will continue to put a stronger emphasis on growing annual giving, creating a legacy giving program, and strategic planning. Mike then thanked the congregation for their generous support and assured the congregation of diligent stewardship of the funds entrusted to the Chapel. He reported that the Board is striving to balance operating budget and regular giving, and sought to use testamentary gifts and legacy for the long term preservation of the Chapel. Referencing the Financial Snapshot (featured in this newsletter on page 3), Mike pointed out the wonderful support the Chapel has received in the first quarter of the Chapel's fiscal year, while also acknowledging that we have three more quarters to go. He also encouraged anyone to contact him with questions. Cater then thanked Timothy Sotos for his service on the Board, and presented Allyson Mashek for reelection to a second term, and Mindi Schwab for her first term to the Board, while reporting that George Matthews would be returning to the Board. It was also announced that Jack Hughes and Ellen Kaufmann would be joining the Executive Committee. Just as Ben thanked the congregation and Board of Directors for their support and help in achieving so much this past year, the Chapel extends its thanks to Ben for so faithfully serving the Chapel as President.



Stewart Foster, Director of Music

Thank you to everyone who participated in Christmas musical presentations last month, either singing, playing instruments, or listening and singing along with the cheerful strains of our beloved carols. There were so many moments of inspiration - too numerous to list here - and I am already researching new Christmas carol settings for next December. Next Christmas just can't come soon enough!

Looking ahead, I would like to invite our faithful Chapel Congregational Chorus members, and of course any new friends who would like to join with the Chorus, Chorale and orchestra for this year's President's Day Cantata "Of Faith and Freedom" by Joseph Martin. The cantata will be offered on Sunday morning, February 17, as part of the Worship service. The rehearsals will start on Sunday, January 27, after the conclusion of the Worship service- approximately 11:40-12 noon. These rehearsals will continue through Feb. 3 and 10, and we ask any singers to attend at least two of the three rehearsal opportunities. Musical scores will be provided.

On Sunday, March 10, at 3 PM, the Chapel will host a very meaningful concert. Virginia Mims will present the Senior Recital she recently gave at Indiana University as part of her degree in Voice and Opera. She will be accompanied by pianist Yu-Jhen Liu who is Virginia's collaborative artist from Indiana University. As many of you know, Virginia "grew up" in the Chapel and to see her flourish in this demanding Senior Recital program will be a very special moment for all of us! This will be a free event and please invite friends with you to introduce them to the unique beauty and history of the Royal Poinciana Chapel!

As we start this new year 2019, please accept the best wishes and blessings from the entire music department; we so appreciate your enthusiasm and support Sunday to Sunday.

What does it mean to leave a legacy?

We build our legacy every day of our lives. For most of us, the basis of our legacy is our family and our friendships. For many of us, the bedrock is our loving and trusting relationship with God.

For some, legacy takes the form of big buildings and enduring enterprises. For others, legacy comes through the arts and literature. Many create their legacy through service to others—touching and improving lives for those who need a helping hand and compassionate heart.

For the truly fortunate, legacy is left in all those ways.

Henry M. Flagler's legacy stretches across the country, and is especially evident on the east coast of Florida. Here in Palm Beach County, Flagler's name is on buildings, banks, and boulevards, but as historian Sandra Thompson wrote in 1998:

"It is . . . prophetic that Flagler's legacy in Palm Beach is most visibly defined by a hundred-year-old-chapel named The Royal Poinciana, a small cottage called Sea Gull and a marble mansion . . . Whitehall."

It was Flagler who, in 1897, gave a fledgling chapel founded by The Reverend Alexander B. Dilley a new home next to his Royal Poinciana Hotel in Palm Beach. Flagler's initial motives may have been entrepreneurial—guests at his new hotel needed a place to worship—but the Spirit moved him to personally recruit a new pastor and make continued contributions to the Chapel's growth, adding to his legacy and creating one for the Chapel.

It is in honor of that history that Chapel leadership created the 1897 Legacy Society as another way that members can add to their own legacy. The Society is a smart, easy way for you to plan now for a gift that will be realized in the future.

We would like to tell you more about the 1897 Legacy Society and how it will help the Chapel and may benefit to your estate planning. Please contact Dr. Robert Norris (561-655-4212) or Mr. John Thomas (561-346-4343) to schedule a conversation.



Rev. Dr. Aaron P. Janklow
Executive Pastor

The newly formed
Twenties and Thirties

Group continues to meet weekly in the Seagull Cottage on Wednesday nights at 6pm. We have recently started to study the Epistle to the Philippians. We have a great group who meets weekly over a small dinner and dives into discussion of the Bible. It is our hope to grow closer to one another and ultimately to God. By reading the Bible together we hope to gain wisdom and perspective for our lives, and to grow in our faith. As those in the group feel comfortable, we share joys and concerns and join in prayer for one another. If you or someone you know might like to join us, please do! We always welcome newcomers and design each class so new people can jump right in! Contact dr.apjanklow@royalpoincianachapel for more details.

**\$56,750.00 PROFIT RAISED
FOR LOCAL CHARITIES BY THE DAVID
PHELPS CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Grateful hearts for Dee-Dee, Cameron and Gary Harris for their generosity.

With special thanks for coordinating the event to Cathy Ostellino, Margery McCloskey O'Neil and Debbie Norris



Making a Contribution to the Chapel
May Be Done Using your Phone.



Or text RPC60 to 73256, or visit royalpoincianachapel.org and go to "Giving" on the top bar and select "Give".

CHAPEL BENEVOLENCE

**WITH A HEART OF GRATITUDE
BECAUSE OF YOU CHAPEL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
DECEMBER 2018 WAS A SEASON FOR GIVING**

141 FILLED BOXES FOR KIDS WERE SENT TO SAMARITAN'S PURSE
FOR DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

100 CHILDREN RECEIVED GIFTS AND AN ABUNDANCE OF HYGIENE PRODUCTS
WERE RECEIVED AT THE HOMELESS RESOURCE CENTER

\$4000 FOR BIKES AND MANY BAGS OF TOYS FOR KIDS AGED 3 MONTHS - 17 YEARS
WAS COLLECTED FOR THE CHRISTMAS STORE AT URBAN YOUTH IMPACT

30 GIFTCARDS @ \$25 VALUE WERE GIVEN TO ST. ANN PLACE AND TO THE LORD'S
PLACE FOR CLIENTS TO SHOP AT TARGET

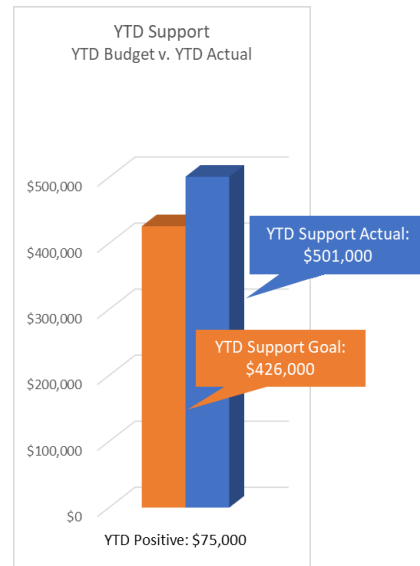
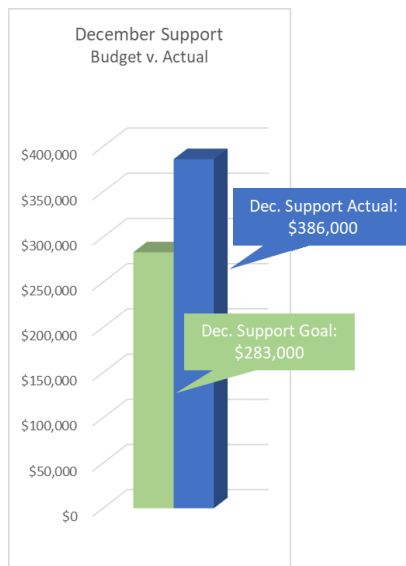
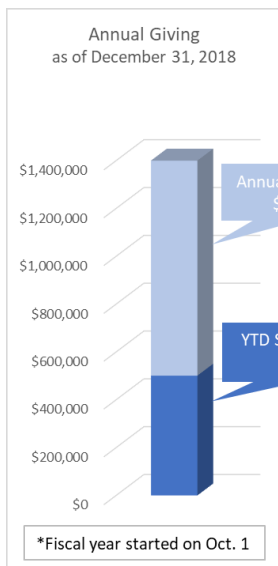
44 PALM TRAN BOOKLETS @ \$35 VALUE WERE GIVEN TO THE CLIENTS AT PALM BEACH
REHABILITATION CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM WORK

\$4775.00 WAS COLLECTED ON CHRISTMAS EVE FROM THE LOOSE PLATE OFFERING FOR
CHARITIES HELPING THE LESS FORTUNATE

Submitted by Debbie Norris

Each Sunday, you'll find a card with the QRC code in the pew racks. If you donate to the Chapel using your phone during worship, please feel free to take that card and place it in the offering plate as cash and check contributions are collected. Thanks for all you do to support the Chapel.

Financial Snapshot as of December 31, 2018



For questions, please call the Chapel 561-655-4212 or email:

Dr. Norris, drsnorris@royalpoincianachapel.org
Dr. Janklow, dr.apjanklow@royalpoincianachapel.org
Mike Cook, Treasurer, jmichaelcook@comcast.net
Catherine D'Agostino, Finance Administrator
accounting@royalpoincianachapel.org

Annual Budgeted Support: \$1,437,000
YTD Monthly Giving: \$501,000
YTD Goal: \$426,000
YTD Positive/Shortfall: +\$75,000

January's Goal: \$121,000

Thank you for your generous support in December which has enabled us to surpass our year to date fundraising goal. If we are able to sustain this momentum and meet our annual funding goal of \$1,437,000 we expect to have a balanced budget for the year. Budgeted costs for this year are approximately the same as the previous year, all while we continue to offer more programs and events to glorify God in this community and world. Thank you for all you do to support the Chapel.



Christian and Ashley Crandall
Directors of Youth and Children's Ministries

Happy New Year! What a great time of year! The weather has been nice and cool, allowing us to enjoy some time outside on the Chapel lawn by the Kapok tree! Kids Club, Friday Night Live, and The Gathering are in full swing - each have some action-packed events planned for the New Year! Kids Club will be finishing up some stories from the Old Testament and will move onto the New Testament. These children will explore many stories including Daniel in the lions' den, Jesus' miraculous healings, Zacchaeus, and Paul's mission! Friday Night Live & the Gathering will start the year of with a huge kick-off party - full of bounce houses, cotton candy, popcorn, games, and more. This year the FNL middle school students will learn about the Romans and how we can love, give, and serve. They will also study how we are all handcrafted masterpieces, created in God's image. The high school students will be focusing on a variety of topics - love, money, social media, and more. Along with their regular meetings, the high school group plans to put on a night of worship. Sunday school will continue to explore the life of Jesus. This curriculum has taken them through some familiar and unfamiliar stories of Jesus and all He did while walking the earth.

We are in need of some additional leaders for our weekly Kids Club program. If you would like to help, please contact Ashley Crandall at admin@rpckids.com.

Please feel free to join us at any of our weekly programs! We would love to see you and your family!

Sunday School: Sundays at 10:30am

Open to newborn through high school

Kids Club: Tuesdays from 4pm-5:15pm

Open to ages newborn through 4th grades

Friday Night Live: Fridays from 6pm-8pm

Open to grades 5th through 8th

The Gathering: Fridays from 6pm-8pm

Open to grades 9th through 12th

Please contact Christian & Ashley Crandall with any questions: admin@rpckids.com



CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE

DR. JACK W. JONES

FORMER CHAPEL DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Sunday, January 27th 6:00 p.m. Chapel Sanctuary

Doors open 5:40 p.m.

2019 Madeline McElveen Distinguished Preacher Series

Guest Preacher, The Rev. Dr. Steven P. Eason

Sunday, February 24, 2019

Bible Study with Dr. Eason

Monday, February 25th @ 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Women at the Well & Girls of Grace

Invite you to

Joy!

A Ladies' Retreat

Led by the Rev. Susan Beebe

Monday, February 25, 9:30-11:30am

Parish Hall, Bethesda-by-the-Sea

Please RSVP with your name, email and phone number to womenatthewellpb@gmail.com so that we can plan accordingly. Donations will be accepted at the door.

The Royal Poinciana Chapel, 60 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach, FL 33480
 561-655-4212 www.royalpoincianachapel.org

