

THE ROYAL POINCIANA CHAPEL

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 19



Rev. Dr. Robert S. Norris, Senior Pastor

“WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN READING LATELY?”

... was the question my dear friend posed over breakfast. The question did not surprise me. Having visited her immense home library with its completely catalogued, floor to ceiling stacks and more books lying on every lateral surface waiting to be read, shelved or shared, I knew the question came from a sincere reading aficionado and life-long learner. I can lose and find myself in a great library. I can get riveted on a particular writer and find myself reading and re-reading what a favorite author has written. We spoke of what we were reading and then following our breakfast one such book arrived as a most thoughtful gift from my friend. The book is one Janie had already read, underlined with applied notes in the margins - the best kind of used book! Rather than shelving it, she sent it to me. Now gratefully received and read, I pass it along, by title, as one of the most valuable and riveting reads of my summer.

David Brooks is one of this nation’s leading writers and commentators. As an op-ed columnist for *The New York Times*, his insightful and incisive words speak deep to the complex and conflicted soul of America today. *THE SECOND MOUNTAIN, The Quest for a Moral Life* is a resonating read for people of all ages, high school to elderly. In it, Brooks articulates well the cause and effects the rampant and rabid individualism tearing the social fabric of this country. He points to the extreme loneliness and alienation, felt particularly by young adults, whose personal disenfranchisement has opened Pandora’s box of expressive discord.

The mass killings once more in Dayton and El Paso alarm us of a tragic growing trend. A *Wall Street Journal* op-ed revealed that studies show “nearly all mass shooters have been young men alienated from society in our increasing atomistic culture.” The alternative to living together in community is that of wandering alone in the wilderness where far too many are dwelling today.

Brooks is a person of deep faith, having a Biblical awareness, and a keen cultural perspective. He expresses, as an author, what needs to occur in order to stem an increasing tide of alarming aloneness and the alienation it fosters. Reshaping personal and communal commitment in four areas he writes, is imperative. In *The Second Mountain*, he lifts up the four commitments that define a life of meaning and purpose to a spouse and family, to a vocation, to a philosophy or faith, and to a community. He speaks fluently the language of Biblical faith and of the church. It is a most valuable summer read. I hope you too will get the book. Mark it up with your underlines, highlights and margin notes. And then, instead of putting on a shelf, like Janie did pass it on as a gift to someone who may resonate with it or benefit by it. There is no downside to this.

To that end Dear Friends ... when we return this fall, may we better appreciate the Psalmist’s sentiment and Psalm 133:1,3b regarding communal commitments and the resulting promise of God, “How very good and pleasant it is when people live together in unity! ... For there the Lord ordained his blessing, [to these] life forevermore.” Know that you are remembered in prayer, and that I look forward to seeing you this fall.

To Your Good Summer Reading, and a Safe Return this Season!

Bob Norris



Stewart W. Foster, Director of Music

As we approach the end of summer, and hopefully some cooler breezes, I thought August would be a good time to address a somewhat light-hearted aspect of our beautiful Chapel pipe organ. Many of you have noticed, and commented, on the chirping bird sound that comes from the organ from time to time. This is a unique sound of the organ, the only one of its kind in South Florida to my knowledge. It has its origins in the great cathedral organs of the Renaissance and Baroque era.

The warbling bird sound, which is called "Rossignol" (French for "Nightingale"), is created by a tiny pipe placed upside down into a metal cannister filled with mineral oil. When I engage the stop on the console, the pipe plays and its soundwaves hit the oil, creating ripples in the oil. The sound then bounces off the oil to create the distinct sound that brings smiles to so many.

The next question you may ask is "Why is it there in the first place - what is its purpose?" I asked for this stop to be added to the organ after I heard one just like it during a service at Highland Park Methodist Church in Dallas, TX. The congregation was singing the familiar hymn "How Great Thou Art" and at the second verse, when we arrived at the words "and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees," the organist made the birds sing! It was such a delightful effect that I knew we needed one here!

The great hymns of our faith are a treasure trove of theology and beauty. I try to tone-paint the text when accompanying them from the organ. For instance, if a verse is speaking of love and kindness, I will use the warm string ensembles of the organ. Conversely, if a verse speaks of wrath, anger, doom and sin, I will bring on the fiery reed stops with thunderous pedal tones. When a verse speaks of Jesus' splendor and God's omnipotence, I will play the bright silvery tones, capping it off with a fanfare on the golden Trumpet over the Chapel's rear door.



All of these effects are meant to inspire great singing, not to draw attention away from the most important aspect of hymnody, which is they are YOUR SONGS! They belong to the congregation, and not the organist, so I am always in awe when I hear the congregation really belt out a glorious hymn! Psalm 96 speaks of singing to the Lord; it names several ways to sing but does not ever state that one must have a perfectly trained and note-perfect voice. Just let the volume of the majesty and volume of the organ propel you in singing praises to our great Redeemer and Lord!

And every once in a while, when the verse references nature or singing birds, keep an ear open for the little bird that lives in the organ chamber maintenance-free!



END OF SUMMER OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

August 20th through September 23rd



We are collecting hygiene products for the clients at St. Ann Place which provides showers for the local homeless. The shower along with the hygiene products offer an immediate impact on one's dignity.

We welcome donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, hair combs and brushes, razors, pre-moistened wipes, gum, mints, etc.

Please drop off items in the reception area @ North Entrance.

THANK YOU!



Lucille D. Turner
 John L. Morrison
 Barbara H. Madsen
 Charles S. Dayian
 Inge Bowdre
 Charles M. Klotsche
 John M. McKinney
 Zoltan Merszei

Our prayers are with the Chapel families who have lost their loved one in 2019.



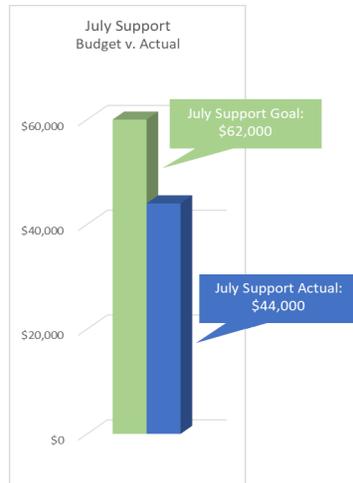
Rev. Dr. Aaron P. Janklow, Executive Pastor

Almost one year ago, the Twenties and Thirties Group was launched, and during this time we have met weekly, and grown as a group in friendships and in faith. Further you've seen participants of this group attend worship, become members, and join our ushering team. Each Wednesday at 6pm, we gather in the Seagull Cottage over a meal and dive into the Bible. This past year, we have done verse by verse, even word by word, studies of Philippians, Colossians, and are now wrapping up a multi-month study on James. While I guide the discussions, we each draw upon our experiences and previous readings and studies, and speak freely about questions and challenges we face as Christians, and learn from one another. In addition to our in-depth study, we often share the highs and lows of our week and join in prayer for one another. This study group has truly become a friendship group. We enjoy our friendships with one another, and in addition to getting to know each other better through Bible study, check-ins, and prayer, we have participated in beach events, movie nights, and BBQs. In the weeks and months to come, I look forward to more studies and social events, as well as some mission and outreach opportunities in the community. It has been an exciting first year for the group, and I am excited to see it continue to flourish as we seek to attract more new participants and continue to grow in our friendships with one another, and ultimately grow in our faith in God. If you know any one who may enjoy being a part of this group, I would love to speak with them about it!

S.O.S.—Something on Stewardship

As previous snapshots have expressed, thank you for your ongoing support of the Chapel. Your contributions are vital to our work. While the Chapel remains on solid financial footing, we continue to strive for continuous financial giving which supports the year-round needs of the Chapel. We cannot do this without the support of our entire Chapel community. Despite a strong start at the beginning of the fiscal year, and increased giving from previous years, the Chapel has experienced another shortfall in giving in July and we are falling further behind our support goals for the year. We are grateful for all previous contributions, and ask you to consider what the Chapel and its work means to you, and to consider a financial gift to support our service to Christ in this community and beyond. Thank you for your dedication to the Chapel.

Financial Snapshot as of July 31, 2019



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

Dr. Norris, drrsnorris@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 Giving: \$1,048,000
YTD Goal: \$1,219,000
YTD Positive/Shortfall: -\$171,000

August's Goal: \$68,000

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".



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

Welcome to the Chapel children and youth department! We are gearing up for another exciting year - filled with weekly activities and classes tailored towards newborn through high school. This summer we have enjoyed Sunday School and all we have learned through our DigIn curriculum. We've been focusing on Jesus' life on earth and His accomplishments in those 33 years. Kids Club is ready to kick-off beginning August 27th. This weekly Bible study offers children and their parents the opportunity to meet weekly and dive into some amazing Bible stories - we will begin with the wonderful story of creation and Adam and Eve. Friday Night Live middle school and The Gathering high school will kick off on Friday, August 30th. We are happy to announce the arrival of two new high school leads. Both are currently enrolled in the Palm Beach Atlantic University school of ministry and have such a passion for high school students. Friday nights are perfect for youth - full of food, fellowship, worship, Bible lesson, games, prizes, and more!

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



**Sunday School: Each Sunday morning at 10:30am
(open to newborn through 12th grades)**

Kids Club: Kick-off - Tuesday, August 27th from 4pm-5:15pm

FNL & The Gathering Kick-Off: Friday, August 30th from 6pm-8pm

Volunteers needed for weekly children and youth programs.

Please contact Ashley Crandall for more information: admin@rpckids.com



Krystal White
New High School Lead



Robby Karpinen
New High School Lead



Join Us for Worship Every Sunday, 10:30am

The Royal Poinciana Chapel
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Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-655-4212

www.royalpoincianachapel.org

* Thank you to Ashley Crandall for taking the photos of the Chapel campus featured in this newsletter and to be featured in future newsletters.