

Worship and Work

100th Anniversary
A Century of Community in Christ
1925—2025



309 East Colonial Dr.
Orlando, Florida 32801

Park Lake Presbyterian Church

407-841-6550
www.plpc.org

Rev. Dr. Helen M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor

Rev. Dr. Dan M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor

March-April 2025

Vol. 50 No. 3 - 4

LENTEN SEASON AT PARK LAKE

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday March 5

12 noon and 5:30 pm

Ashes, quiet reflection, and prayer.



The season of Lent begins on **Wednesday, March 5**, with the observance of **Ash Wednesday**, concluding with Holy Week: Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday. Lent is a time of turning toward God in very intentional ways and deepening your relationship with God.



Holy Week

- ◆ **Sunday, April 13** - Palm Sunday, 10:30 am worship (Sanctuary)
- ◆ **Thursday, April 17** - Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm, Worship service (Sanctuary)
- ◆ **Friday, April 18** - Good Friday, Community Worship Service (details to be announced).
- ◆ **Saturday, April 19**
Annual Park Lake Children's Egg Hunt, 9:45 am-11am (Struble Fellowship Hall / patio)
- ◆ **Sunday, April 20 – EASTER SUNDAY**
7:00 am - Easter Sunrise Service (patio)
8:00 am - Youth Pancake breakfast fundraiser (Struble Fellowship Hall)
9:00 am - Sunday school, all ages (Education Building)
10:30 am - Easter Worship Service (Sanctuary)

LENT SOUP SUPPER GATHERINGS



Beginning on Wednesday, March 5, following the **5:30 pm Ash Wednesday service**.

The Church Life Committee invites you to join us for Lenten Gatherings. Each Wednesday through the season of Lent, from 6-7:30 pm, you can enjoy a bowl of soup with old and new friends and also enjoy a time of telling stories and listening to others' stories. We will be using "Listening Cards" to get our conversations started.



Remember to set your clocks ahead **SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH**

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Listening to Jesus in Lent

My Dad got a reel-to-reel tape recorder when my siblings and I were young. The idea was the family would record messages to my grandparents and send them the tape by mail since that was cheaper than long-distance phone calls. But Dad found all kinds of other uses for the tape recorder.

One evening he secretly taped our dinner conversation. Dinner was always a talkative time. My sister was about 4 years old. When we played back the conversation it sounded like everybody was talking at once. But in all the commotion you could hear my little sister's voice saying over and over again, "Honk, honk. Beep, beep." Nobody was listening to her and it was the only way she could think to be heard in all the family noise.

I was reminded of that as I read the story of Jesus' transfiguration. It was a scene of sensory and spiritual overload for Peter, James, and John, the three disciples Jesus took with him. Bright white light, the appearance of Moses and Elijah with Jesus, a cloud enveloping them on the mountain. As they were leaving Peter started talking. Luke adds parenthetically, he didn't know what he was saying. But that didn't stop him from talking. A voice came from the cloud and said, "This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him."

Listen to Jesus. You can't ask for a clearer instruction than that. But how often is our first reaction to so many things in life to just start talking, like Peter, without knowing what we are saying? Life seems to be filled with so much constant talking, 24/7, that we simply become numb and lose the capacity to listen. Even though technology has made talking unlimited, we increasingly describe ourselves as isolated, divided, anxious, worried, and depressed. Obviously, talking and listening don't always go together.

Listen or hear is a word Luke uses frequently in his gospel. Its use ranges from the simple description of one person hearing another, to the moments when listening or hearing marks a turning point in life. At the end of Luke's Christmas story we learn that "the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen." When the shepherds heard the angels their lives were changed. When Jesus visited the house of Mary and Martha, Mary sat at Jesus' feet listening to what he said. It frustrated Martha for Mary to sit and listen while she did all the work. But Jesus said, Mary chose the better thing, to listen to Jesus. When have we chosen to listen to Jesus, even if it means putting our to-do lists on hold?

This Lent we are going to try to listen to Jesus. We will explore places in Luke's gospel where we're reminded how listening is a fundamental part of being Jesus' disciples. We will consider the obstacles in our lives to listening to Jesus. What makes listening to Jesus so hard? How do we hear Jesus today? On Wednesday evenings we will try to listen to Jesus by listening to each other. If Jesus is present with us in and through the life of our church and its members, how can we listen to each other in a way that helps us to hear Jesus in one another?



Jesus concluded the parable of the Sower this way, "Let anyone with ears to hear, listen!" I think Jesus means us. I pray this Lent we can learn to listen to Jesus as a way of following him as his disciples.

Dan DeBevoise, Co-pastor



100th Anniversary Event
A CENTURY OF COMMUNITY IN CHRIST
ALL ARE WELCOME!

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL &
 CARNIVAL GAMES**

SATURDAY, MARCH 1ST
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Park Lake's small parking lot by
 Struble Fellowship Hall



Children's Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19, 2025

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Struble Fellowship Hall -
 outside courtyard

Fun for Families!

Crafts, Easter story, games, egg hunt

Infants - 5th grade are welcome!

Remember to bring your Easter basket!

YOUTH EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

*Pancake
 Breakfast*



Sunday, April 20, 2025
 (immediately following the
 Sunrise Service)

8:00 am – 9:00 am

**Struble Fellowship Hall /
 Education Building**

**Park Lake youth, parents,
 youth leaders and young
 adults serving pancakes &
 syrup, sausage, bacon, and
 juice.**

*All donations go
 towards the 2025
 Middle School Camp
 Cedarkirk Mission Trip
 & High School Trip to
 Montreat Youth
 Conference.*



Congratulations to Rev. Dr. Paige
 McRight who received the 2025
 Distinguished Service Award from
 Columbia Seminary at the recent CTS
 Alumni Reunion. Paige was
 recognized for her work as a leader
 and contributor in the wider church.
 Well done, Paige!

Gifts Given in Memory of

Gary Castle
 (Building Fund)

By

Georgia and Robert Colvin
 Gary Ingram and Bill Bergen
 Debra and Jan Deittweiler
 Helen Potter
 Eleanore and Frank Kaney
 Carol and Mike Bookhardt

Larry Welker

By

Nancy and John Hunter
 Betty and Forrest Cheek
 Anne and John Gardepe
 Anne Vercheski and Dan Johnson
 Carol and Mike Bookhardt -
 (Building Fund)
 Darryl and Meredith Leonard



Thank you from Liz Welker

I just wanted to take a moment to
 thank you for the cards, hugs, and
 prayers during these past months
 as I mourn the loss of my husband Larry. Years
 ago, whenever I sent a condolence card, I
 always wondered, "Does it really matter?" I
 can tell you from my perspective, I cherish
 each one including the verbal and non-verbal
 expressions. It has helped me move forward
 to my future life without him.

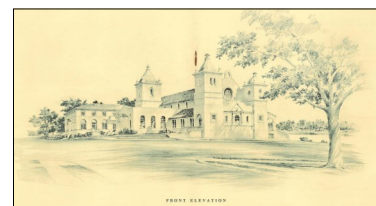
Thank you from Linda Castle

I want to thank Dan and Helen, and all of the
 staff for making Gary's memorial service so
 very special. I also appreciate the Deacons so
 much for all they did. To my
 church family for your prayers,
 and cards, you bless me and
 Gary's memory every day.



**100th Anniversary Celebration Event
“A Century of Community in Christ”**

Please come for lunch on **Sunday, March 30, after worship**, in Struble Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker, Rachel Williams, Historian, at the Orange County Regional History Center, will give a presentation on “Central Florida in the 1920’s”. Lunch will be provided.



If you would like to help with any of the Events celebrating Park Lake’s centennial, please contact co-chairs, Erin Cook at erincook987@gmail.com or Susan Gantt, sgantt2@cfl.rr.com.



100th Anniversary Architectural Tour

As part of Park Lake’s 100th Anniversary celebration, an architectural tour was given on January 18th, followed by light refreshments in Struble Hall. Thank you to everyone who came!



Thank you to our guides, Dr. Dan DeBevoise, Susan Gantt, Tom Price and Will Benton, for a wonderful tour of the exterior and interior of the beautiful Park Lake Sanctuary and a tour of the Park Lake pipe organ.

Thank you to Jill Schubert for organizing and to all those who contributed to the booklet and the event.

THANK YOU!

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Will Benton | Alice Fortunato |
| Janie Black | Susan Gantt |
| Jim Bogner | Vicky Nicoll |
| Carol Bookhardt | Tom Price |
| Erin Cook | Jill Schubert |
| Matt Cook | Brent Trauger |
| Dan DeBevoise | Anne Vercheski |
| Helen DeBevoise | |

**CHURCH MEMBER HIGHLIGHT
Miss Bessie Miner**

Miss Bessie Miner – Park Lake’s original “faithful and efficient” Sunday School Secretary. In 1933, Miss Miner directed a medieval Christmas pageant based off of a Christmas story written by Dr. Hugh T. Kerr. (who started World Communion Sunday). She was also a beloved and respected teacher of many of Orlando’s children.



Park Lake Giving Medieval Pageant

The following article was published in The Orlando Sentinel, Thursday, December 21, 1933.

An unusual pageant will be put on in the Park Lake Presbyterian church, corner of Highland and Colonial Dr., Sunday afternoon, December 24 at 5 o’clock. It is based on a medieval Christmas story and was written by Dr. Hugh T. Kerr, pastor for many years of the Shadyside Presbyterian church of Pittsburgh, PA. Miss Bessie Miner and Mrs. Belle B. Clokey are directing the pageant, assisted by a committee from Mrs. T.P. Hanna’s Bible class. Music, dialogues, decorations, lighting and costumes will all be very effective. No offering will be taken. Those who wish can leave a *white gift for the Salvation Army at the door (*see article on page 8).



Go to:
centralfloridapledge.com
to learn more about The
Central Florida Pledge.

**THE CENTRAL FLORIDA
PLEDGE**
Thursday, April 24, 6:00 pm
"Let's Talk About Sexism: A
Conversation about Gender,
Power and Society."
Hosted by
GayStraight@Park Lake

Thank you!

The members of the
GayStraight@Park Lake would
like to thank the congregation
for their generous contribution of over
\$1,700 in gift cards and checks given to the
Zebra Youth. For more information about
Zebra Youth go to zebra youth.org.



5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING
Sundays, March 2 and April 6



Each month, Park Lake participates in
an offering to support the **Presbyterians' Answer to
Hunger Program (PATH)**. The first Sunday of each
month, Park Lake asks members to contribute 5 cents
for each meal during the
month on Communion
Sundays. **To learn more about
5 Cents a meal go to:**
cfpresbytery.org

One day = 15 cents
One week = \$1.05
One month = \$4.20

**FOOD COLLECTION for
WASHINGTON SHORES
PRESBYTERIAN FOOD
PANTRY**

Please bring non-perishable
donations to the West
transept entrance of the
Sanctuary on Sundays before
or after worship. **We are no longer collecting
donations on Tuesdays.**



**Please check
expiration dates on
food items before
donating.**

SAVE THE DATE!



**Park Lake's
Vacation Bible School**

**Monday, July 7 through
Friday, July 11, 2025**
9:00 am - 12noon
**Ages PreK- 4
through 5th grade**

Check for upcoming registration information
online at plpc.org.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



The Park Lake Youth sends a **BIG
THANK YOU** to their church
family for coming to **SOUPER Bowl Sunday** and
enjoying some delicious homemade soups and
supporting the Blessing Bag Ministry and
Washington Shores Food Pantry. We raised
\$684 for the Blessing Bag
Ministry and many canned
goods were donated to the
Washington Shores Food
Pantry!



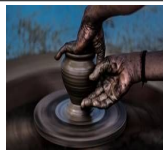


**ART EXHIBITS AT FAVO
(FAITH ARTS VILLAGE ORLANDO)**
FIRST FRIDAYS AND FIRST SATURDAYS
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 7 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 8
FRIDAY, APRIL 4 AND SATURDAY, APRIL 5

Come stroll through the artist studios, kids art activity table, listen to live music and enjoy a relaxing evening with friends.

THE POTTER'S HAND
Combining Art and Faith



Look for upcoming workshops in the bulletin announcements and Park Lake Up2date weekly emails. Contact Helen DeBevoise at helenparklake@gmail.com to participate.

The **GAYSTRAIGHT@PARK LAKE group** invites their friends and allies to our monthly luncheon at Panera Bread, 3643 East Colonial Drive, in the Orlando Fashion Square Mall. This event is a ten-minute drive from the church. The next two meetings will be **Sundays, March 16 and April 13, 12:30-1:30 pm**. We hope to see you there! For more information, please email John Jenkins at gaystraightatparklake@gmail.com.



PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB
10:00 am
**Downstairs Koinonia Room,
Sanctuary Building.**

- March 27, we will discuss "The River We Remember" by William Kent Krueger.
- April 24, our book will be "James" by Percival Everett.

For more information, email Sherry Riley, sheray27@gmail.com.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH

Anniversaries

- 6 Patti and Pete Denniston
- 10 John Rogers and Doug Lawton
- 10 Nancy and John Hunter
- 12 Dawn and Guy Neff
- 19 Anne and John Gardepe
- 25 Emily and Connor Duffy

Birthdays

- 02 Jim Bogner
- 03 John Rachey
- 03 Faith Graves
- 04 Marian Saxton
- 04 Nancy Hunter
- 05 Norma Knight
- 05 Michael Draper
- 06 Rebecca Johnson
- 08 Dorothy Godbee
- 09 Daniel Peasah
- 11 Anne Gardepe
- 11 Sherry Riley
- 15 Jane Callahan
- 16 Chelsea Gabrielson
- 17 John Patterson
- 17 Carla Edwards
- 19 John Walker
- 22 Phillip Kelley
- 24 Robert Saxton
- 24 John Hunter
- 24 Guy Neff
- 24 Victoria Boatman
- 26 Julie Estill
- 27 Connor Duffy
- 28 David Simmons
- 28 Ray Wesley Burris
- 29 Pamela Coburn
- 29 Jessica Lemons
- 31 Andre Davis
- 31 Allison Siwica
- 31 Rachel Callahan

APRIL

Anniversaries

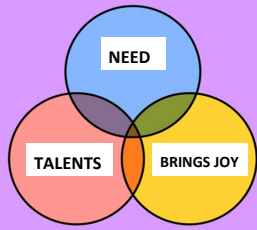
- 02 Kaley & Clay Shropshire

Birthday

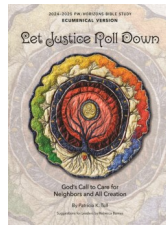
- 01 Eva Hampton
- 04 Lynne Long
- 04 Sandra Burris
- 04 Megan DiSalvo
- 07 Chandler Schramm
- 08 Virginia Porter
- 08 Angela Chesser
- 10 Phyllis Jackson
- 11 Valerie Gray
- 11 Julia Downs
- 11 Casey Cox
- 11 Howard Jaffe
- 12 Rosalyn Russell
- 13 Nathan Krasno
- 14 Woody Reynolds
- 17 Alice Fortunato
- 17 Hunter Branstetter
- 19 Kelsey Francis
- 21 Barbara Sayles
- 21 Robert Stillinger, II
- 22 Anne Vercheski
- 23 Lisa Loucks
- 24 Jonathan Aniapam
- 27 John Rogers
- 27 Ellen Mask
- 27 Matthew Denniston
- 28 Matilda Peasah
- 29 Wilifred Peasah
- 30 Ashley Kammeraad



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF PARK



PARK LAKE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
“LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN”



The Park Lake Presbyterian Women Circles have been studying the 2024-2025 Bible Study “*Let Justice Roll Down: God’s Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*”, By Patricia K. Tull.

Esther Circle has been enjoying the PW study this year. In February, climate change was discussed, and the Esther Circle wanted to share this one aid that we found helpful in the Study Guide.

Ayana Elizabeth Johnson, a marine biologist and policy expert, has staked her life in working for climate action. She quotes Presbyterian minister and theologian, Frederick Buechner’s famous saying, “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”

Ms. Johnson says what we can each do most energetically and persistently lies at the intersection of three circles in a Venn diagram. The circles being: “What work needs doing?” “What are you good at?” and “What brings you joy?”

The three questions together offer direction: What are we prepared to do that needs doing? That, she says, “is what the moment asks of each of us.”

During their February meeting the Joanna Circle watched a short TED talk given by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson during their meeting. The video can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VsOJR40M0as>.

PW Moderators in March/April:

Will be meeting on Monday, **March 24, 1:30 pm** and **April 28, 1:30 pm** in the Conference room, downstairs in the Sanctuary building.

PW Coordinating team:

April 25, 12:00 pm, in the Parlor located in the Education Building.



PW Circle Members and those interested in participating in a PW Bible Study Circle, please contact a Circle Representative or go to: plpc.org for more information. Circle meetings are on the first Monday, or first Tuesday of each month from September—May.

- ◆ **Dorcas: Monday, March 3 and April 7**
1:30 pm, Parlor
Circle Representative
 Anne Gardepe, annegard64@gmail.com
Bible Moderator
 Sandy Bogner, sandybogner@cfl.rr.com
- ◆ **Sarah: Monday, March 3 and April 7**
2:00 pm, Westminster Towers, Town Hall
Circle Representative & Bible Moderator
 Marian Price, marian@tompricearchitects.com
- ◆ **Joanna: Monday, March 3 and April 7**
7:00 pm, Parlor
Circle Representative
 Sherry Riley, sheray27@gmail.com
Bible Moderator
 Helen DeBevoise, helenparklake@gmail.com
- ◆ **Esther: Tuesday, March 4 and April 8**
7:00 pm, Struble Fellowship Hall
Circle Representative
 Erin Cook, erincook987@gmail.com
Bible Moderator
 Anne Vercheski, avercheski@cfl.rr.com

SAVE THE DATE!

2025 Annual PW Birthday Luncheon and Birthday Offering
Sunday, May 4th,
after worship
 (Struble Fellowship Hall)



Entrée and birthday cake provided.
 Please bring a side dish.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

PARK LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
309 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, Florida 32801

Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

Rev. Dr. Helen M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor
Rev. Dr. Dan M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor

MARCH-APRIL



2025

100th Year Anniversary Fun Fact WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

White Gift Sunday dates back to 1904 in Ohio. The wife of a Methodist minister and her two daughters came up with the idea of giving gifts wrapped in white paper at Christmas time to people in need.

Gifts are wrapped in white so that they will be anonymous. People who can only give a little will not be embarrassed. There is also a Chinese tradition where all the people gave their king a gift wrapped in plain white paper so that every gift would look the same. People gave the king what they were able, and the king welcomed them all.

The White Gift shares in the spirit of Christ and the God of love at Christmas. We give gifts of love to people in need. These gifts are often nonperishable food items that are distributed to people in the community.

White Gift Sunday celebrates the stewardship of God's love and giving at the time of year when we remember the coming of the King of Kings.

<https://presbyterian.ca/wp-content/uploads/White%20Gift%20Sunday.doc#:~:text=There%20is%20a%20Chinese%20tradition,God%20of%20love%20at%20Christmas.>

Visit Park Lake's Little Free Library, take a book and leave a book!



Located at the Education building entrance off of Highland.