

TWO THINGS FROM PASTOR GINNY

FIRST: LENT began last week with Ash Wednesday. Now is a time for each of us to focus on our spiritual journeys. Remember that God tells us: *When you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.* Jeremiah 29: 12-13.

My devotional book suggests that if prayer is difficult for any of us, we should read something that warms our spirit and opens a door to prayer. Perhaps you would find Jeremiah 29 a good place to start.

SECOND: CHANGES. Hum. How to say this ... Let me say this week I noticed that the announcements are full of things we don't normally publish: Pig Roast. Youth Lock-In. Day Camp. Cedarkirk's Financial Needs. Our Drama Program.

Truly: one reality for Hope Presbyterian is our yearning to grow more open to the spiritual needs of ALL generations: older to younger, younger to older. That calls us to do increased, perhaps challenging work and offer increasing ministries, that reach out to families. These important ministries include, Lock ins, Day Camp, Cedarkirk retreats for the whole church, Drama.

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HOPE PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY NEWS

March 10, 2019



PLAYGROUND DEDICATION will be held next Sunday March 17 after worship. YES, of course, you can wear green. The church will provide hot dogs and buns; you can bring covered dishes, chips or desserts for an old-fashioned picnic! It's celebration for this happy improvement for families and kids. Plan to join us for this.

PIG ROAST - A tradition of Hope was an overnight at Cedarkirk on the Sunday and Monday of Memorial Day weekend. We are planning to offer that opportunity again this year, so look at your calendars and think about those rocking chairs, the pool and canoes. More info coming.

YOUTH MISSIONS LOCK-IN – Saturday, March 30th. Parents will drop students off for hot dogs, lessons and games. The group will prepare supply bags (Manna Bags) for the community's homeless. Students Pre-K to 2nd grade are picked up at 8:00 PM. Older students stay to enjoy baking cookies and more and to watch a movie before going to bed (or not!). After breakfast we'll go to Sunday School (9:00 AM). Parents may pick up children any time between 7:00 AM and 10:00 AM, or after worship at 11:30 AM. For more information, please call or text our Children's Director, Amy Belden, at 727.510.4843 or our Youth Director, Beth Walley, at 228.493.0160.

"Don't pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees."

Corrie Ten Boom

If these are not your “cup of tea” then think about what they mean for the future of this church. I ENCOURAGE you, each of you, to support our nurture of children and families, in our church and also in the community.

Example: for our Day Camp, children will be in a Christ-centered program all day: from 8:30 to 5:30, with early morning and late afternoon care provided. This offers much more help for working parents than a 9 to noon Vacation Bible School. But it will require more funding and effort; doing this is an investment in the community and the church’s future. Please think about how you can help with this.

I urge ALL of Hope’s congregation, to stand up and be counted on these ministries. Come. Be there. Give your support. Pray. And Grow.

Pastor Ginny

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DAY CAMP - Big news! Hope will be one of Cedarkirk's Traveling Day Camp sites this summer. This means we will offer a Day Camp at Hope, Monday through Friday, June 3-7 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Day Camp is for children in the church and neighborhood (completed Kindergarten through 5th grade). Let your friends and neighbors know!

Registration will be open very soon.

CEDARKIRK'S PLANNED DEVELOPMENT -- Our church camp is looking to build a new Kitchen/ Dining Hall/ Office complex where everyone can eat at the same time in the same place, all on one level: no stairs! Tampa Bay's churches and individuals can contribute to this; during this year our Presbytery will match our gifts, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000. How can YOU help? The whole campaign goal is \$4 million dollars, so we should all be generous!

DRAMA OPPORTUNITIES AT HOPE

DRAMA MINISTRY – Join us on Friday evenings for Drama Ministry at 6:30. These sessions will focus on rehearsing scripture presentations for Sunday services.

HOPE DRAMA CLUB – In Hope Drama Club on Fridays 7:30-9:00 p.m., we will have fun with playscripts, music and movement. Who knows? You may be the star of our next production!

See Angie Cozens for more info about Drama at Hope.

CHURCH EVENTS COMING UP

Monday	03/11	10:00 a.m.	Missions team going to Grace House
		06:30 p.m.	Admin. meeting
Wed.	03/13	05:00 p.m.	CE meeting R1
		05:45 p.m.	WNA Pot Luck
		06:35 p.m.	Adult, children and youth studies
		07:00 p.m.	Bells practice
		07:30 p.m.	Choir practice
Thursday	03/14	10:00 p.m.	PW Morning Circle
		12:00 p.m.	Young at Heart, pot luck with speaker on 911
Friday	03/15	06:30 p.m.	Drama Ministry
		07:30 p.m.	Hope drama club