

# Worship and Work

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



Park Lake Presbyterian Church  
407-841-6550  
Dr. Dan M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor

www.plpc.org

309 East Colonial Dr.  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Dr. Helen M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor

July-August

Vol. 50 No. 7 - 8



Sunday Morning  
Adult Study

**JULY - COMBINED ADULT  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
July 6, 13, 20 and 27  
9:00 am - 10:00 am

Led by Helen and Dan DeBevoise

Join us in **July** as all adult Sunday School Classes meet together in Struble Fellowship Hall.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**RALLY DAY IS COMING**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**  
**8:30 am - 10:00 am**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Rally Day is Christian Education's celebration of the end of the summer and beginning of a new season of learning and growing in our faith. This intergenerational event will be fun for all ages. Join us for breakfast at **8:30 am**, followed by a time for fellowship and learning.

## COME JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Summer and Fall Offerings

### SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Education Building, 9:00 am - 10:00 am

- ◆ Nursery - birth - up to age 3
- ◆ PreK - Kindergarten & Elementary - 1st grade - 5th grade—Summer combined classes  
*A Summer of Beginnings: The Beginning of God's People in Israel and The Beginning of the Church.*
- ◆ Youth - *A Study in the Life of the Church: Worship, Mission and Fellowship.*
- ◆ Logos Class - 30s and 40s — We will be studying the Fruits of the Spirit, focusing on *Galatians 5:22-23*. Sanctuary building, downstairs-office conference room.
- ◆ Koinonia/Fellowship Class - Education building, Parlor. *The Present Word: A study of worship practices offered as a grateful response to God.*
- ◆ Disciples Class - June and August - *Richard Rohr's book on the Hebrew prophets, "The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage."*
- ◆ Young Adult and College - Contact Erin Cook for upcoming Young Adult gatherings.



Blessing of the  
Backpacks

### ATTENTION PARK LAKE CHILDREN AND YOUTH!

Bring your backpacks to worship on **Sunday, August 10th**, to receive a special blessing and prayer for the upcoming school year!

### WHAT'S INSIDE....?

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Dear Park Lake Presbyterian Church Family,

These are my reflections as an adult leader for our PLPC youth at the Montreat Youth Conference. There are many big and small elements to leading a trip: rallying the troops to find out who is going; registering with the conference; securing housing; securing someone to co-lead and cook; getting appropriate permission and health slips signed and in hand; securing transportation; preparing the youth for the trip by orienting them to the conference theme and writing a covenant intention for the week. On the morning of, youth and families and the week's adult leaders met in the Park Lake parking lot at 6:30 am. We loaded bags, pillows and snacks, took a group picture, had a circle prayer for God's grace and traveling mercies, hugged parents and got into the vans.

Then we drive. It is 596 miles to Montreat. The youth sleep most of the way, while the drivers press through interstate traffic that is a mixture of speedway and slow crawl, and keep their Diet Mountain Dew's and espresso drinks constantly refreshed. As I-26 weaves out of South Carolina into North, the beautiful Blue Ridge mountains rise into view. This is the sign that we are almost at our home for the next week. I always wake sleeping youth to take in this majestic view. The beauty of the mountains is awesome and mesmerizing, especially for flatlanders such as ourselves. Maybe that's the place of transition, even for leaders. The checklist is done and now the experience begins.



Our conference theme was inspired by Psalm 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." We adopted this theme for youth Sunday at Park Lake to ready our minds and hearts for the conference. Our Park Lake group stayed in a cottage in Montreat and walked 7/10ths of a mile back and forth to our activities. We sang and danced with 800 other youth and their leaders, were challenged and encouraged by the keynote leader and preacher. We trekked up the hill to small groups twice a day. Small groups were divided into 25-30 all from different cities and churches. We played rec games and ate ice cream and french fries at "the Huck". At the end of each day, 10 p.m. (!), we met with our back home group to recap what we'd seen, heard and experienced. We asked how God was moving? What did the preacher say that left an impression with you? Who did you meet?

On Wednesday afternoon, we took our free afternoon and went to the Black Mountain Children's Home in Swannanoa. September of 2024, after Hurricane Helene left damage on Florida's west coast, it crisscrossed the state and came back inland into North Carolina, leaving flooding, landslides, washed out roads and communities. The Asheville area was hit hard, and Swannanoa among the hardest. You would have been so proud of our youth. They rolled up their figurative sleeves and went to work hauling logs and wheelbarrows to clear a section of road. They worked joyfully and as a team. It is one of their favorite memories of the trip. Talk about a light to my own path. Our youths' 'can-do' spirit provided that.

I have taken this trip to Montreat with youth groups for more than 40 years. I attended Montreat as a youth myself, as did my grandmother with her mother in the early 1900s. For me, it was a formative time of God's presence, and shaped my faith as a young adult and gave me lifelong friendships. That's why I continue to want our youth to experience it. Perhaps in thin, set-apart places, when the noise of day-to-day life dies down, and electronics are less intrusive, our young might find themselves face to face with God in ways that will shape them too.

This year, I am grateful to the youth for taking the risk to do something out of the ordinary from what their peers might do. To Mackenzie Bertram for her leadership. To parents for trusting us with your kids. There's more to share with you. I'll look for ways to do that.



Helen DeBevoise

Written by Susan Kaney and Erin Cook with excerpts from an interview by Susan Gantt.

**Happy 110th Birthday to Helen Potter!**  
**July 3, 2025**

Park Lake’s 100th year Anniversary Committee would love to honor our beloved and faithful Park Laker Helen Potter! Helen was born on July 3, 1915, in Fostoria, Ohio. She is a woman of deep faith, quiet strength and a heart full of love. She met her husband Mike in Ohio. After moving to Orlando, they were married at First Presbyterian Church in 1952, before becoming members of Park Lake Presbyterian Church in 1953. Helen loves her family and her friends and all furry creatures.

Helen has always been very active at Park Lake and some of her favorite memories include using a printing press in the church office to print the Worship and Work in the 1950s and 1960s. Helen was a member of Martha Circle where she held the position of treasurer until 2020 and becoming close friends with Eleanor Kaney. She was a counter on Monday mornings with Stix Cook and Ben Nicoll, where they formed a lovely friendship. She counted the Sunday offering for 45 years only retiring when she was 99 years young!

Helen went on many adventures with the Prime Timers. She volunteered at the Childcare Center when it was a one-room operation - cooking, serving food and putting cots out for naptime. Helen loves to bake and enjoys spending time around others and especially loves having people visit her and talking about life and all of its wonderful experiences. She keeps up with Park Lake happenings through Eleanore Kaney and Susan Kaney, who visit her at the Mayflower Towers every Saturday morning. Eleanore and Susan have faithfully planned Helen’s birthday parties for several years and they are honored and excited to be celebrating Helen’s 110th birthday on July 3rd.

What a beautiful life, filled with deep friendships, faithful service, and a legacy of love!



Eleanore Kaney and Susan Kaney visit Helen every Saturday.



Helen enjoying a visit from Stix Cook and Judy Cook.



To our church family for worshiping with us on Youth Sunday,

A special thank you to Susan Frith and John Walker for helping us spread the message of sharing God's light with ALL of the people of this earth and showing that light through words and action. Thank you to Will Benton, Robb Ross and Alice Fortunato for creating the melody for our Youth Sunday. And thank you to our parents, youth leaders, Dr. Helen and Dr. Dan for supporting and guiding us.

Thank you for your support,

Park Lake Youth, Ali Walker, Grayson Trauger, Daetwyler Bertram, Tatumn Bertrum Connolly, Aaron Sanchez, Shenley Betram, Campbell Betram Connolly and Jensen Bertram Connolly.



L to R: Grayson Trauger, Daetwyler Bertram, Shenley Bertram, Tatumn Bertrum Connolly, Campbell Betram Connolly.

**100 HOURS OF SERVICE IN MAY RECAP**  
 By Leesa Bainbridge, Mission Committee

When the Mission Committee set out to help Park Lake’s Centennial Committee organize its 100 Hours of Service in May, it did so enthusiastically while also asking how this could be done. The goal seemed daunting.

Well, **246 hours of mission work later**, we are happy to say we have an awesome congregation of men and women, young and young at heart, who joyously gave generously of their time, talents and ideas.

While Park Lake’s 2025 Centennial celebration has been full of fun, interesting and meaningful events – from architectural tours to ice cream socials – the Centennial Committee wanted to include a component of giving. Mission work has always been a cornerstone of our commitment to the church and our community, and surely it should be included now.

Two things really stand out as we look back at May. The 100 hours were to include unique outreach opportunities, not including the amazing mission work we do year in and out. These were special missions designed to involve as many in our congregation as possible. Secondly, it can’t be stressed enough how gladly 72 members of Park Lake participated in the five main events, many volunteering at more than one or even two or more. Thanks to that generosity of spirit, each opportunity, while involving time-consuming and hard work, was fun and provided great fellowship.

**Here's how we spent our time:**

**May 3: No Child Hungry** – To fight childhood hunger, more than 45 members and friends packed 10,500 meals.

**May 9: Blessing Bag Assembly** – 15 of our members and friends at Westminster Towers put together 157 blessing bags.

**Zebra Coalition** Pizza party and a movie. - We served pizza to the Zebra Youth as they gathered for an afternoon movie.

**May 12: Grace Medical Home** – A group of 13 gathered at Grace Medical Home to both serve the staff lunch and clean the dental area.

**May 17: Spruce Up Park Lake Presbyterian Church** – 30 members did the hard work of spiffing up Park Lake Presbyterian Church both inside and out to make us proud during our Centennial year.

We give a special shout out to Renee Riegler, who volunteered at each event and to Gary Elvis, who was a close second. We also recognize our volunteers at the ends of the age spectrum: Eva Hampton at 3 years old and Ginny Porter at 95. And we thank everyone who helped organize each event and volunteered their time and hard work. God is Good!



**MEAL PACKING EVENT**



**BLESSING BAG ASSEMBLY**

Alice and Dana Schmidt assembled blessing bags with a smile!



**ZEBRA YOUTH**

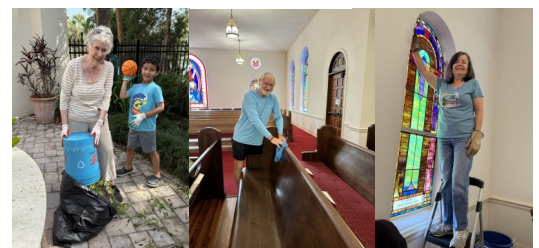
L to R: John Jenkins, Renee Riegler and Howard Vincent Kurtz.



**GRACE MEDICAL HOME WORKDAY**

L to R: John Bowers, Stuart Wright, John Jenkins, Gary Elvis, Leesa Bainbridge, Renee Riegler, Pat Wright, Sherry Riley, John Hunter, Linda Shrieves, Nancy Jones.

**CHURCH WORK DAY**



Vicky Nicoll and Jeremiah Call, John Jenkins and Susan Gantt.

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

5 CENTS  
A MEAL  
DON'T  
FORGET TO  
GIVE



### 5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

**Sunday, July 6**

Each month, Park Lake participates in an offering to support the **Presbyterians' Answer to Hunger Program (PATH)**.

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

To learn more about 5 Cents a meal go to: [cfpresbytery.org](http://cfpresbytery.org)



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! VBS Decorating

Volunteers are needed Week of June 30 - July 3 to decorate the third floor in the Education building.

- ◆ **Tuesday, July 1**  
**10:00 am - 12noon**
- ◆ **Wednesday, July 2**  
**6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**
- ◆ **Thursday, July 3**  
**1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**
- ◆ **Saturday, July 5**  
**10:00 am - 12noon or**  
**1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

**Sunday, July 6,**

### VBS FINAL DECORATING

**After worship, Lunch provided!**

**Struble Fellowship Hall. Volunteers needed for decorating and setting up registration tables.** All are welcome to help put the finishing touches on our VBS set and decorations! **Please contact Anne Vercheski at [avercheski@cfl.rr.com](mailto:avercheski@cfl.rr.com) for questions.**

**Thank you, to our 2024 –2025**

### **Bible Study Leaders, Sunday School Teachers and PRAYGround Hosts**

#### Park Lake Children and Youth

- ◆ **Nursery** - Barbara Boyce
- ◆ **PreK & Kindergarten** - Nancy Jones, Sandy Bogner, Susan Frith and Carol Bookhardt.
- ◆ **Elementary** - Paige McRight, Mackenzie Bertram, Renee Riegler, Delaney Bookhardt, Amanda Trauger and Carol Bookhardt.
- ◆ **Middle School and High School** – Erin Cook, Tony Boada Davila, Helen DeBevoise, Cindy Schmidt, Andre Davis and Scott Trauger.
- ◆ **Young Adults** – Erin Cook and Matt Cook.
- ◆ **Children's Church/PRAYGround** – Scott Peterson, Susan Frith, Alison Walker, John Walker, Erin Cook, Billie Jo Elliott, Carol Bookhardt, Paige McRight, Nancy Jones, Mary Daly, Andrea Choquette.
- ◆ **Page Turners Book Club** - Anne Gardepe, Sherry Riley.

#### Adult Sunday School classes

- ◆ **Logos class** - Helen DeBevoise, Mackenzie Bertram, Justin Ingram, Scott Trauger.
- ◆ **Disciples** - Anne Vercheski, John Walker, Linda Wright Simmons, Dan DeBevoise, David Simmons.
- ◆ **Koinonia/Fellowship** - Anne Gardepe, Sandy Bogner, Marian Price, Norma Knight.

#### Presbyterian Women Circles

- ◆ Dorcas - Circle Representative-Anne Gardepe;  
Bible Moderator-Sandy Bogner
- ◆ Esther - Circle Representative-Erin Cook; Bible Moderator-Anne Vercheski
- ◆ Joanna - Circle Representative-Sherry Riley; Bible Moderator-Helen DeBevoise
- ◆ Sarah - Circle Representative and Bible Moderator - Marian Price



Teaching  
is a work of  
heart.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ART EXHIBITS AT FAVO (FAITH ARTS VILLAGE ORLANDO)

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**SATURDAY, JULY 5**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 1 AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 2**



*Come stroll through the artist studios, listen to live music and enjoy a relaxing evening with friends.*



### THE POTTER'S HAND Combining Art and Faith

Wednesday, July 30  
and  
Wednesday, August 13



We welcome Susan Frith as our guest artist.

Contact Helen DeBevoise at [helenparklake@gmail.com](mailto:helenparklake@gmail.com) to participate.

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

#### JULY

##### Anniversaries

- 04 Maryann and Mark Sonderman
- 11 Nancy and Bill Warlick
- 12 Jenny and Fernando Sanchez
- 20 Carly and Daniel Wray
- 31 Elizabeth and Justin Ingram

##### Birthdays

- 02 Brent Trauger
- 03 Helen Potter
- 04 Alison Heittman
- 04 Martin Peasah
- 07 Susan Gantt
- 08 Daniel DeBevoise
- 09 Jason Loudermilk
- 09 Martha Baadu
- 09 Anne Louise Branstetter
- 10 Hannah Patterson
- 11 Erin Cook
- 14 Sarah Trauger
- 14 Alyssa Hernandez
- 14 Meredith Hampton
- 14 William Abel
- 16 Barbara Martin
- 17 Edmund Gantt
- 18 Eleanore Kaney
- 18 Sandy Bogner
- 19 Nancy Clark
- 21 Carol Bookhardt
- 21 Linda Castle
- 21 Murphy Bertram
- 28 Linda Simmons
- 28 Paige McRight
- 31 Ted Szymankiewicz

#### AUGUST

##### Anniversaries

- 01 Pamela Coburn and Carla Edwards
- 12 Cheryl and Mike Woods
- 12 Alison and Robert Heittman
- 14 Elyse and Phillip Kelley
- 22 Eleanore and Frank Kaney
- 22 Marian and Tom Price

##### Birthdays

- 01 Renee Roche
- 01 Claire Ingram
- 03 Samilia Peasah
- 05 Mary Ella Simmons
- 10 Glynn Kelley
- 10 Dewayne Bevil
- 12 Justin Ingram
- 13 Barbara Kaminsky
- 14 John Loy
- 14 Stix Cook
- 18 Bob Larr
- 18 Jenny Sanchez
- 19 Caroline Beaty
- 25 Maria Larr
- 25 Madison Wray
- 26 Mark Walters
- 27 Florence Barrington
- 29 Jeremiah Call
- 30 Judy Cook
- 31 Rodrigo Gaborialt



### GAYSTRAIGHT@PARK LAKE group

Our next meeting will be our Summer Gathering at the home of Linda and David Simmons on



**Saturday, July 19, 5:00 pm**

**In August**, we will meet at our usual place, after worship at Panera Bread, 3643 East Colonial Drive, in the Orlando Fashion Square Mall. For more information, please email John Jenkins at [gaystraightatparklake@gmail.com](mailto:gaystraightatparklake@gmail.com).



### PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

**10:00 am**

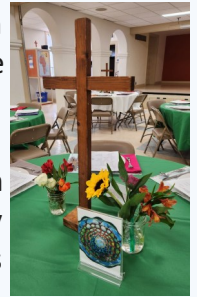
**Downstairs Koinonia Room,  
Sanctuary Building.**

- **Thursday, July 24**, we will discuss "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhorn.
- **Thursday, August 28**, our book will be "Brainiac", by Ken Jennings.

For more information, email Sherry Riley, [sheray27@gmail.com](mailto:sheray27@gmail.com).



**Presbyterian Women** held their Annual Birthday Luncheon on Sunday, May 4th after worship in Struble Fellowship Hall. Fried chicken and birthday cake were served. Thank you to folks who brought delicious side dishes to share.



The Birthday Offering was very successful this year. This offering helps women in oppressive situations. Sandy Bogner reported that the total from the Birthday Offering was \$2,538.57. The month winners were 1st place was February, second place was March and third place was July. Thank you all for your generous donations.

Thank you to all who planned, decorated, set up and helped clean-up to make this event successful. Most of all, the Presbyterian Women of Park Lake would like to thank our Park Lake family and friends for your continued support.



Give or learn more about the Birthday Offering by visiting [presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://presbyterianwomen.org/birthday).

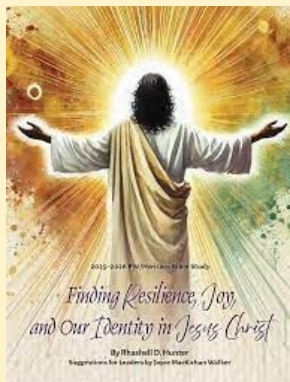
**PW WRAP UP MEETING in June**

Thank you to Helen DeBevoise for the very nice wrap-up session and to Alice Schmidt to coordinating the room and luncheon. Thank you to all who attended.



In attendance were: Judy Cook, Elsie Oberst, Jane Callahan, Cheryl Woods, Marian Price, Jane Roney, Anne Gardepe, Alice Schmidt, Helen DeBevoise, Carol Fisher, Linda Shrieves and Melahn Murphy.

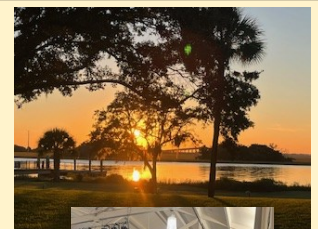
**The 2025–2026  
PW/Horizons Bible Study  
FINDING RESILIENCE, JOY AND  
OUR IDENTITY IN JESUS CHRIST  
By Rhashell D. Hunter**



**Presbyterian Women's Triennial Gathering**  
Synod of South Atlantic and Synod of Living Waters  
**Epworth by the Sea,  
St. Simons Island, Georgia  
October 17-19, 2025**

In October of 2022, Janie Black, Carol Fisher and Carol Bookhardt attended the PW Women's Triennial Gathering. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, fun and learning. The author of the 2022-2023 PW Bible Study spoke, Carol M. Bechtel, "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight". It's a lovely location and we had a wonderful time meeting other Presbyterian Women from the South Atlantic Synod and learning about our Bible study from the author. We hope to get a group together for the 2025 Gathering.

**For registration info go to: [pwcfp.com](http://pwcfp.com)**



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



JULY - AUGUST

2025

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We encourage you to give generously and directly to social service agencies that are under great financial stress at this time. Go to websites of these Park Lake's ministry partners to find out how to help.



**The Christian Service Center**  
[christianservicecenter.org](http://christianservicecenter.org)



**Society of St. Andrew**  
GLEANNING AMERICA'S FIELDS  
FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY  
[EndHunger.org](http://EndHunger.org)

**Society of St. Andrew**  
[endhunger.org](http://endhunger.org)



**Grace Medical Home**  
[gracemedicalhome.org](http://gracemedicalhome.org)



**Zebra Youth**  
[www.zebrayouth.org](http://www.zebrayouth.org)



**Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida**  
[centralfloridahomeless.org](http://centralfloridahomeless.org)



**United Against Poverty**  
[unitedagainstopoverty.org](http://unitedagainstopoverty.org)