

Christ Church of Longboat Key,
Presbyterian U.S.A.
6400 Gulf of Mexico Drive
Longboat Key, FL 34228



TO:



Dr. Norman M. Pritchard, Pastor
Dr. Fred Finks, Honorary Parish Associate
941-383-8833

Website: www.christchurchoflbk.org
E-mail: info@christchurchoflbk.org

OFFICE HOURS:
Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00 - 1:00

Members of Session:	
Class:	
2025	Steve Bergman, Missions
2024	Bob Elwell, Personnel
2024	Michael Chester, Personnel
2026	Cathy Daily, Worship
2026	Fred Finks, Spiritual Growth
2025	Mike Gardiner, Nominating
2024	Mark Hausberg, Admin/Finance
2026	Barbara Liggett, Worship
2025	Debra McKenna, Caring Ministries
2026	Steve Walter, Technology
2025	Joyce Wartinbee, Membership
2024	Lutie Uihlein, Fellowship
John Shehorn Treasurer, Building and Grounds	
Noel Ebrahim Clerk of Session and Evangelism	
Deacons:	
2025	Glenn Cassens
2026	Holly Finks
2025	Gary Frank
2024	Susan Crumpler
2024	Karen Jennings
2026	Kathy McLean



September 2023 CHRIST CHURCH OF LONGBOAT KEY NEWSLETTER VOL XIII, Issue 6

The Pastor’s Page

The Next Stage
By Dr Norman M Pritchard, Pastor

Christ Church took an important step into the next chapter of our future on August 10, with the call to Rev Dr Julia Piermont to become our next pastor, and first full-time pastor in our history.

All the previous pastors at Christ Church have been part-time, and therefore appointed by Session, but calling a full-time pastor gives the congregation the right—and the privilege—of calling a candidate to become pastor. The overwhelming support of the motion to extend a call to Julia bodes well for the developing strength of Christ Church, as we continue growing in Jesus’ name.

We are particularly indebted to the faithful and diligent work of the Pastor Nominating Committee for bringing us to this moment. The information which they shared with the congregation was more than simply informative: it was attractive, engaging and exciting! It served to introduce Julia to the congregation and give a clear picture of the strengths and priorities she has displayed throughout her ministry.

As I prepare, for the second time (!), to retire, my thoughts go back to the congregation in Glasgow where I grew up. We had been served—faithfully and well—by Dr Harry Thompson, and he retired after 24 years at the church. He told the congregation, “Please don’t talk about my successor ‘stepping into Dr Thompson’s shoes.’ My successor will bring [their] own shoes.” A great attitude to foster and an important truth to embrace as Christ Church prepares for the next stage in God’s leading of the congregation.

The experience the Presbyterian Church has accumulated across the years includes the wisdom that it is best to create a gap between one minister departing and another arriving. The current planning is that I should retire on October 22 and

allow a few weeks of transition before Julia begins her ministry on December 1.

That means that I return from vacation on September 1 and have eight Sundays to go. I am hoping in these Sundays to turn to some of the scriptures that have had special significance for me. They will not necessarily be the most central or important pieces of scripture; rather they are ones that have had meaning for me across the years. So I’ll look again at Abraham, Joshua and Naaman in the Hebrew scriptures and Nicodemus, Zacchaeus and, of course, Jesus, in the New Testament. They are people and stories that have meant a great deal to me and I look forward to sharing them with the congregation.

In the church I grew up in, we often sang a hymn that William Wright wrote around the end of the 19th century. Their words and message are timeless:

March on, my soul, with strength,
March forward void of fear;
He who has led will lead,
While year succeeds to year.
And as you go upon your way,
His hand shall hold you day by day.

Isn’t that the truth!



Your Mission \$ at Work

For Many There Is No "Limited" to Their Mobility

When we hear of a friend with "limited mobility" it usually means they will be using a cane or one of those fancy rollator walkers now in vogue.

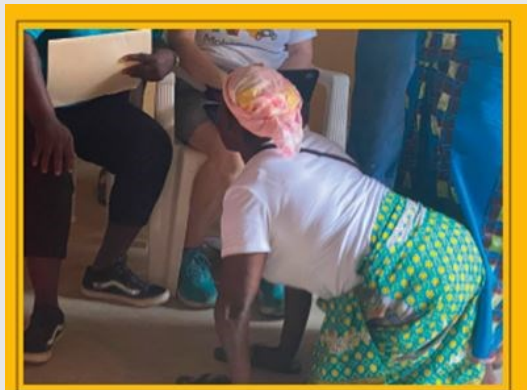
But for Gorbue Nufalu from Liberia, one of the world's 70 million leg-disabled people, there is no "limited" to her mobility. She was born with her disability and has had to crawl on the ground her entire 69 years. No traditional wheeled device could help her. The terrain is nothing but dirt paths with deep ruts and potholes.

When Gorbue struggled to a Mobility Worldwide shop recently she was able to ride away on her new mobility cart. Hand-crank-propelled, her life changed in a miraculous flash!

Mobility Worldwide is a Christian-based non-profit whose volunteers construct these carts in 20 shops in the U.S. and 3 in Africa. In September they will have reached 100,000 carts distributed to folks of all ages who have had to struggle at a snail's pace, hands and knees callused and sore, their backs aching from the strain.

Christ Church has supported MW (formerly (PET) for over a decade. Reflecting the love of God by bringing the gift of mobility and dignity to those in developing countries who are unable to walk. Our gifts are dedicated to supplying parts to the workshops to keep those carts moving!

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Some fun fellowship and a tasty lunch at the Swordfish Grill we were enjoyed by members of our church family.



LONGBOAT KEY FOOD DRIVE



To Benefit
OUR DAILY BREAD of BRADENTON

Thursday • November 9TH • 9-10:30 A.M.

Christ Church Parking Lot

6400 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key

Our Daily Bread meets the needs of hundreds of hungry, needy people in Manatee County by serving daily lunches and stocking an open food pantry.

WHAT IS NEEDED?

Cereal, Jelly, Canned Tuna, Chicken or Pasta

OTHER ITEMS IN HIGH DEMAND:

**Pasta
Tooth Paste**

**Coffee
Condiments
Toothbrush**

**Toilet Paper
Diapers (Sizes 3,4,5)
Shampoo**

Check donations (made payable to Our Daily Bread) are greatly appreciated as well

We invite anyone from Longboat Key, Anna Maria Island, Holmes Beach and Bradenton to join in this effort to serve the needs of those hurting in our community.

Questions? Contact Sue Wertman: quackbf@aol.com

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Last April hundreds of seed packets were distributed to **Beth El farm ministries**, Children's Garden Center in Sarasota, and Neal Community Gardens in Bradenton.

Agape Flights: "Hope comes in many forms. To families trapped in a cycle of generational poverty, the ability to grow healthy, nutritious food can be the difference between just surviving and actually thriving. When a seed pack – customized for your soil and your climate – comes with the Good News of a God who loves you... well, you can begin to understand **why we are excited to partner with our friends at Hope Seeds International**

Hope Fleet: Thanks to Christ Church over 1000 buckets of seed and gardening needs have been delivered to Abaco and Grand Bahamas.

Africa: A third well is complete and ready for use by the eager widows in our training program in a Sinyereri village. The ladies are learning to grow their own food using a technique called Farming God's Way. Each training course is followed by a discipleship program and counseling. Many of these widows find themselves in a difficult position, either selling their children into human trafficking or watching them go hungry. Our goal is to share Christ with these ladies and to help them keep their families together by providing clean water and a means to grow their own food.

Reading Buddies Summer Enrichment Program

As part of our summer enrichment program, our Dream Center children visited the Bishop Planetarium in Bradenton. Do you see any future scientists in these photos?



A visit to MOTE provided numerous hands-on opportunities for our potential marine biologists. If you can dream it, you can be it!

FISH FRY



Remembrance Sunday



Sunday, November 5th will be marked as Remembrance Sunday at CCLBK. In worship service, we will give thanks to God for those faithful servants who have died since the last Remembrance Sunday and for the families and friends they have left behind. If you have lost a loved

one from your **immediate** family and would like to have that person included, please call Bennie Dods 941-952-8196 or [email missbennie1@gmail.com](mailto:email_missbennie1@gmail.com) and give her the details. If you would like a photo displayed, please send one via email.

Information is needed by Wednesday, October 25th for your loved one to be included.

Membership:

Are you interested in becoming a member of our Church family? Please stop by the Welcome Desk any Sunday and speak with Joyce Wartinbee or contact her at (248) 408-5834 or jwartinbee@juno.com



Next meeting is **Wednesday, October 18**, at 1:00 in the Conference Room. The book to be discussed is "In An Instant" by Suzanne Redfern.

November 15: "The Magnolia Palace" by Fiona Davis

CHANCEL FLOWER DONATIONS TO RESUME

Live flower arrangements will again grace the church chancel this fall. Please sign up on the sheets on the Activities Table in Fellowship Hall if you'd like to donate flowers in the coming months to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or a loved one. Envelopes will be provided for the \$25 per arrangement cost.



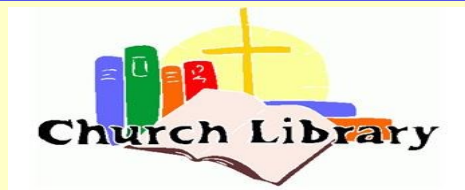
"Be anxious for nothing but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." ~ Phil 4:6

May we pray for you?

The Christ Church prayer chain is committed to lifting you up in times of difficulty and giving thanks and praise in times of gladness. You can be assured our team keeps your requests in the strictest of confidence.

If you have a need or praise for which you would like prayer, contact either of our prayer chain coordinators:

Karen Jennings ~ karenjennings1239@gmail.com
Shirley Venkataraman ~ shirleyvenk@hotmail.com



Highlighted Collections

Timothy Keller, (PCA) wrote numerous faith-based books on a wide range of topics including *Prayer*, *The Freedom of Forgetfulness*, *Walking with God Through Pain and Suffering* and *Encounters with Jesus*. Most recently, he wrote *On Death*, knowing that his own death was imminent due to pancreatic cancer. The list of his books that can be found in our Faith selections is on the library table. May his strong faith be of comfort to you.

Lady Dorothy Dunnett was a Scottish novelist best known for her historical fiction. Dunnett is most famous for her six novel series set during the 16th century, featuring the fictitious adventurer Francis Crawford of Lymond. This was followed by the eight novel prequel series, House of Niccolo, set in the late 15th century European renaissance period. We have the complete set of each of these series, full of authentic period details and historical figures, on the Highlighted Collections bookcase.

Our **Sports** books and DVDs are also on that Highlighted Collections bookcase. From fishing to golf, soccer, running, football, hockey, basketball, rowing and baseball, we have biographies and essays plus dramatic moments on DVDs you will enjoy.

Don't forget to check out our "New to Us" sections for the latest fiction and nonfiction additions to our collections.

Library Hours are 9:00 to noon Sundays, 8:00 to 1:00 Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

CHRIST CHURCH REJOICE

The Pastor Nominating Committee Is pleased to announce that at the congregational meeting on August 13, 2023

REV. DR. JULIA WHARFF PIERMONT was overwhelmingly elected as the first full-time installed pastor of Christ Church of Longboat Key.

Pastor Julia, and her husband, Dennis H. Piermont, plan to relocate to Longboat Key from Dublin, Ohio in early November. Pastor Julia’s first Sunday worship service as pastor of Christ Church is scheduled for December 3, 2023

We trust the Christ Church family will join us in welcoming Julia and Dennis with open arms and hearts to our church and our community

Welcoming messages can be sent to...
julia@christchurchoflbk.org



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 10a Communion	2 Men’s Bible Study 9a	3 Mission 9a Worship 9:30a	4 Women’s Bible Study 10a– CR, MR	5	6 Knitters 10:30a	7
8 Worship 10a	9 Men’s Bible Study 9a	10 Fellowship 9:30a	11 Wom-en’s Bible Study 10a– CR, MR	12	13 Knitters 10:30a	14
15 Worship 10a	16 Men’s Bi-ble Study 9a Hope Seeds Choir Prac. 7p	17 Session 9a- CR	18 Women’s Bible Study 10a– CR, MR	19	20 Knitters 10:30a	21 American Cancer Walk
22 Worship 10a	23 Men’s Bi-ble Study 9a Choir Prac. 7p	24	25 Women’s Bible Study 10a– CR, MR	26	27 Knitters 10:30a	28
29 Worship 10a	30 Men’s Bi-ble Study 9a Choir Prac. 7p	31				CA-Coffee Ar- ea CR- Conference Room FH-Fellowship

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Wayne Smith	1	Ravi Venkataraman	21
Jean Gorham	6	Joyce Fox	21
Jack Isherwood	8	Bud Soper	23
Judy Ebrahim	8	Maggie Moore	24
Jim Seaton	10	Nick Kocalakides	27
Angela Freeman	12	Jane Webb	27
John Vinson	15	Paula McCann	27
Bob Van Iten	17	Judy Marsh	28
Kristine Bemko	19	Marg Aubry	30
Pam Snauwaert	20	Patricia Hollis	30

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dick & Nancy Cardin	9/01
Herb & Cindy Ritchell	9/09
Jim & Jan Shepherd	9/11
Paul & Paula McCann	9/11
Todd & Linda Beekman	9/12
Bob & Gail Hetler	9/14
Kent & Karolyn Capps	9/16
Bob & Sandi Wolf	9/16
Bill & Jean Buckley	9/24
Dr. Edwin & Jane Cook	9/25
Pat & Patricia Hollis	9/28
Lee & Kathie Pokoik	9/29
Brian & Cam Maddox	9/29

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Wiley Osborn	10/5	Jan Cady	10/19
Bob Benz	10/5	Carol Cornwell	10/20
Bill Johnson	10/9	Corrine Ragheb	10/21
Pat Bergman	10/9	Jeff Ray	10/22
Linda Cooper	10/13	Vic Irelan	10/23
Karen Jennings	10/13	Marilene Nunes	10/25
Robert Romanski	10/14	Steve Bergman	10/28
Whit Daily	10/15	Cathy Daily	10/28
Jane Vandivier	10/16	Kyle Ramsdell	10/30
Gary Frank	10/16	Fran Osborn	10/31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Don Mateer & Dawn Hallsten	10/04
Duane & Karen Compton	10/18
Josh & Nancy Prezbindowski	10/19
Don & Beverly Swanson	10/20
Bill & Lynn Turner	10/21
Jeff & Cindy Ray	10/28
Bonnie Willings & Lou Colombo	10/29