

Ola Palma Sola! Greetings Westminster!



Pastor Ted officiates a wedding! The first event after re-opening the doors of PSPC

October Ola!

A Response To the Coronavirus Pandemic Transitional Pastor, Dr. Ted Land.

October is a month of beginnings and endings, or transitions and changes. I am writing these words from our future retirement home in the Florida Panhandle. The temperature at 10:30 in the morning is 73 degrees. There is a soft breeze blowing, and I can see a few leaves changing color already. I learned recently that it isn't the cooler weather alone that causes leaves to change, but the shorter days with less ours of sunlight. We have passed the Equinox, and so it is officially autumn. Summer is over. At least North of I-10.

We usually kick off the church program year about the first of October. If you had told me that

our first worship service in the sanctuary since Lent would be **World Communion Sunday**, I would have never believed it. But that is when we are beginning a new adventure. Masked, sanitized, distanced, silent. It will be different. But it is only temporary. This too shall pass.

On Sunday, **October 11**, I will be preaching a sermon that I have preached maybe a dozen times over the last decade. It is entitled; **All Dogs Go to Heaven, But What About My Cat?**

I suppose one could say that if Frank Sinatra were singing, you'd want him to sing some of his greatest hits. Well, this sermon is from the Ted

Land's Greatest Hits Collection.

All pre-recorded sermons in October will be the same texts and titles as the “live” sermons in the Sanctuary at Palma Sola.

On the last Sunday of the month, there will be an ending. The final worship service in the Sanctuary of Westminster Presbyterian Church will be led by former Transitional Pastor R.C. Smith, at 10:30 AM.

I know that the Nominating Committees are hard at work in this month of October. The Pastor Nominating Committee, with members from both Palma Sola and Westminster, is still conducting interviews, reviewing forms, searching for the next installed pastor. The Congregational Nominating Committees of both churches are also seeking Elders and Deacons to serve on the Sessions and Boards.

Please pray for the important work these committees are doing. The future of both congregations is literally at stake in the nominations they make.

Following our Virtual Communion Service ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH



We're having WPC & PSPC *Fellowship Time*

You're invited to a joint fellowship time EVERY Sunday at 11:30 am via Zoom. Grab your coffee and enjoy catching up with friends old and new from the comfort of your own home.

You may join in anytime between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm by clicking on the link in your emailed Sunday Message, found in the Fellowship announcement. You may be asked if you want to join by “audio” (yes) and by “video” (yes).

Never been on Zoom – it's easy! Prior to Sunday's fellowship, time [click here](#) to follow simple instructions. Any questions, contact Gail Dickerson at 941-224-1117.

IT'S COMING!
November 15th



PALMA SOLA SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Based on the downward trend in new cases, and the positivity index for Manatee County remaining below 5% for over seven days, **Session approved the reopening of corporate worship on October 4th**. A letter informing all members of both congregations about the safety requirements that will accompany our return to the Sanctuary will be forthcoming.
- An adult education class studying the **Dead Sea Scrolls** will begin in **Fellowship Hall** on **October 25th** at **9:00 am**, led by Al Zimmer. Masks and social distancing will be required.
- The **men of Westminster** will be personally invited and encouraged to join in the Zoom study of the book “Traveling Light”, being discussed by the **Palma Sola Men’s Group**.
- Plans are progressing to safely organize the **Pen Pal Program** with **Palma Sola Elementary** this year. The number of children participating, however, has been greatly reduced due to the altered classroom composition. A plan for recruiting participants is being developed.
- A **Press Release** detailing the paydown of **\$1.2M of medical debt** in Manatee County by Westminster and Palma Sola will be released shortly to the media.
- **Session has approved** the hiring of a **full-time Building Superintendent** for the Fourth Quarter of this year and the terminating of our cleaning contract with City Wide Cleaning. An Ad Hoc Task Group was appointed to determine the feasibility of making this a permanent position and how it might be funded next year.
- Session was advised that the **West Manatee Fire Department** will be **vacating** our office space, possibly as early as May of next year, since their new building is under construction. **This loss of facility use income will seriously impact our 2021 budget development.**
- An up-dated **Wedding Policy** was approved.
- Session was briefed on a new **Grant Program** from Presbytery designed to **share the cost of equipment** used to continue providing a virtual worship experience in the post-COVID environment. A team is being assembled to prepare a future plan for virtual worship, estimate the cost for needed equipment and submit a Grant request.
- Session **approved** the return of **Samaritan Counseling** to our Office area, in accordance with our established safety protocols for receiving visitors into the building.

Mission Update

Hello Palma Sola Family,



We have met with the social worker that is taking us through the process of opening the orphanage. He explained many of the requirements to license a home. We are in the process of finding a house that will fulfill the requirements.

If you feel led to give toward the opening of the home, you may give through [Hope for Home Ministries](#).

How are things in Guatemala?



Guatemala is slowly beginning to open up. However, people in the rural villages still have no way of getting to the city (where many of them work) due to the public buses not yet running their routes. Therefore, people are still hungry, still worrying about where their next meal will come from, still suffering. Many ministries have changed their focus in this season and are trying to feed the hungry.



We were able to join in packing and distributing food. The people were so grateful to receive beans, rice and milk for their family. We, too, are so thankful to God for providing food for hungry bellies.

Lisa Norton & the Norton Family

Passing of Peace

We won't be shaking hands and hugging, as we return to worship in the sanctuary this month, but we can Pass the Peace in sign language! Practice the hand movements below, and you will be ready to share the love of Christ with others.



Peace



Be

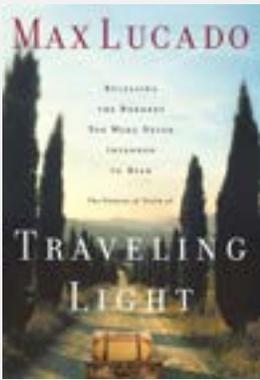


With



You

Men's Group



OCTOBER 2020
Join us via ZOOM every
1st & 3rd Thurs at 8AM

Traveling Light by Max Lucado

How Psalm 23 helps you
release burdens you were
never intended to bear.

October 1 | Lesson 11

When Mourning Comes: The Burden of
Grief

October 15 | Lesson 12

From Panic to Peace: The Burden of Fear

Men from Westminster are invited to join!

**Call Ron Dickerson for a Zoom invitation
(941) 792-9104**

WESTMINSTER PROPERTY SALE UPDATE



To bring everyone up to date on the progress of the sale of WPC.

A little history, we initially had an offer from a developer wanting to build duplexes on the property which did not meet the zoning of the property and was not acceptable to the city. We had verbal interest from several churches, but no offers that were acceptable for various reasons.

The congregation of WPC voted at a special called meeting on August 30th to accept an offer from a developer that we have been negotiating with. With this approval, a contract was signed which started the process of many detailed steps in motion. There are too many details to list, but to list a few, it starts with the Buyers due diligence work and then obtaining their site plan approval by the City of Bradenton (this Buyer intends to build single family houses with one car garages, which appears to meet the zoning requirements of the property) and finally the closing once that is approved.

All of this sounds like it should be simple and easy but each step takes time and with the issues of the Covid 19 delays, the process slows down even more. We have accomplished the first major step of getting an acceptable signed contract and now all we can do is wait as each step gets completed.

Elder John Progar, President of WPC Corporation.

Palma Sola Book Club

**LOVE A GOOD BOOK? LOVE TO TALK ABOUT
GOOD BOOKS?**



OCTOBER 12TH | 12 PM via ZOOM

Meets second Monday to laugh, share,
and learn. Open to both congregations
and their guests.

[View 2020 book list here](#)

INTERESTED?
Contact Vicki Schooley:
(941)792-5672 | VLSchooley@gmail.com

OUTREACH UPDATE

- We are on a roll! Our Outreach “Contactless Drive Through Collections” have been a great success with your generous donations. We can still make a difference in our community during these challenging times! In July we held our ‘Drive Away Hunger’ food drive for the Food Bank of Manatee County, in August we collected \$476 in our ‘Parking Lot Pocket Change for F.E.L.T’ and in **September** we held a drive for **Palma Sola Elementary School** collecting many supplies for the classroom and Health Clinic. A big THANK YOU to **Andrea Harmon, Don and Linda Azbell, Myrna Felix, Janice and Dave Saylor, Nancy Slocum and Al Zimmer** who have made these collections possible!
- In October we are planning a drive through collection for **warm wear** for **Turning Points** on the **24th** from **10-12**. So keep those wheels rolling.
- The monthly Outreach collections have been great. **\$1095** was collected for the **Food Bank** in **July** and **August**. The outreach offering for **September** was **Bible Mission USA**, and for **October** it will be **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**.
- We also donated **\$750** from our budget to purchase meals to participate in the **Build A Pallet Program** for **Rise Against Hunger** which provides food and aids our friends around the world.
- **Meals On Wheels** is asking for lap robes to be made for their clients.
- Due to COVID restrictions, we are no longer collecting food labels for the school. However **PEN PAL** letters are returning. The second graders at **Palma Sola Elementary School** are writing us letters again for distribution this month. Look for **HOW TO SIGN UP** and **RECEIVE YOUR LETTERS** in upcoming midweek news and announcements from church.

That’s the news for now. Keep up your generous donations. **You do make a difference!**

Outreach Offering

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is currently responding to Hurricane Laura, Western Wildfires, Iowa Derecho, and Beirut Explosion, plus other recent disasters. Learn more on the [PDA website](#).

The need is great. Offerings may be made:

- **During the worship in the sanctuary (bring your own envelope and pen)**
- **By mailing a check to the PSPC church office (with PDA in the memo line)**
- **Through [Online Giving](#)**

EMPTY SHOE BOXES NEEDED!



Every year, **Meals on Wheels** delivers over 800 shoe boxes stuffed with Christmas goodies to seniors in Manatee County. For many, this is the only Christmas gift they receive. In the month of October, the Outreach Team is collecting **EMPTY** shoe boxes with detachable lids so that we may again participate in this very heartwarming project.

Empty shoe boxes with detachable lids may be dropped off at the following locations:

1. At the church office during office hours (call ahead),
2. At the Turning Points warm wear drive-thru, 10 am to noon, October 24th

OR

3. Call Andrea Harmon, 941-761-9847, to have your boxes picked up.

The empty boxes will be wrapped in Christmas paper and distributed with shopping instructions to willing church volunteers in the month of November. Thanks in advance for helping to share Christmas joy with others this season!

Join Our “Couch Reach” Team

Do you have extra time on your hands and a desire to help others? Each month the Outreach Team will provide information on how you can volunteer your time and reach out from the comfort of your own home.

Our **October** focus is for **Meals on Wheels PLUS:**

1. Knit or crochet lap robes. These lap robes (approximately 3’X4’) provide comfort and show love to homebound seniors who receive meal delivery service in Manatee County. Yarn is provided if needed; all they need is your skill and time.
2. Write notes of encouragement. Especially during this time of isolation, a personal note of connection is so important. Notecards are available from the church if needed.

Contact Jackie Godlewski, Volunteer Engagement Manager, at 941-747-4655.

DRIVE AWAY THE COLD

Drive Thru Warm Wear Clothing Drive
Saturday, Oct. 24th
10AM-12PM



We are planning a **Drive Away the Cold** warm wear collection on **Saturday, October 24th** from **10am – noon** in the east church parking lot.

Clean out your closets (or purchase new!) and help us donate items to clients of Turning Points to help those in need as the weather turns colder this year. Gently used **coats, jackets, sweatshirts, blankets, hats, gloves, and scarves** in all sizes for men, women, and children are needed.

Put donated items in your trunk and drive thru the east parking lot where volunteers wearing facemasks and gloves will remove your items. This is a great way for your unused items to warm another’s heart, literally, this winter. Hope to see you there!



ONE LAST SERVICE

LAST SUNDAY SERVICE IN THE WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SANCTUARY

OCTOBER 25 | 10:30AM

The Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church has scheduled the final Sunday morning worship service in their sanctuary on October 25, at 10:30 AM.

The Reverend R. C. Smith, former Transitional Pastor, will lead the service and preach the sermon. Woody Johnson, Director of Music for Westminster, will be in charge of the music. It is hoped that a video recording of the service can be made and posted on line.

Masks are recommended and following protocols for social distancing and sanitation are encouraged.

Palma Sola Church will have its regular worship service at 10AM, with Transitional Pastor Ted Land preaching. Music will be by the Praise Band. A virtual service will be posted on line for those who desire it.

October Sermon Schedule

Led by Transitional Pastor: Dr. Ted Land

OCT. 4

World Communion Sunday
THE PARABLE OF THE
TENANTS

OCT. 11

ALL DOGS GO TO
HEAVEN, BUT WHAT
ABOUT MY CAT?

OCT. 18

WHAT BELONGS TO
GOD?

OCT. 25

THE GREATEST
COMMANDMENT

Worship Services are posted on YouTube every Sunday. Links to the Worship Service and Bulletin are available in the Sunday Message and on the [PSPC website](#)

DEAD SEA SCROLLS CLASS

Al Zimmer will lead this class on Sundays at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall beginning October 25.

Discovered in a cave in 1947, the Dead Sea Scrolls cover the period between 250 BC and 68 AD. They include the complete book of Isaiah and manuscripts that reflect on early Christian thinking.

Social distancing will be practiced, and facemasks will be worn by participants.

OCTOBER 25	Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls
NOVEMBER 1	Stats on Scroll Manuscripts and Fragments
NOVEMBER 8	History: Jewish Up to Jesus
NOVEMBER 15	Content of the Dead Sea Scrolls
NOVEMBER 22	Summary, and Have They Changed Thinking



Fresh Flower Sign-Up & Donation Update

Shortly after we return to church, we will start the fresh flower bouquets in the Sanctuary. To sign up please call the PSPC Church Office 941-792-3141 or email palmasolachurch@verizon.net

Mike Parrott Flowers has agreed to \$30.00 for two or \$15.00 for one sharing a day. Checks made payable to Westminster Presbyterian at the office, close to your date marked Flowers for (date). Do not send checks to me!

I will send you a letter asking for your dedication, flower color, etc. You may take your bouquet[s] after the service and after they are transferred from the florist vases.

Please return my letter with your notations to:
Daphne-Ann Haynes (Mrs. Richard E.), 2910 Old Orchard Lane, Parrish, FL 34219



Supporting the Angel Tree project has been part of Westminster Presbyterian Church's Mission - Outreach program for a number of years.

We have provided gifts for 30 - 50 children each year. Members usually choose an "angel" and shop for gifts to be given at Christmas.

This year in the midst of the pandemic many members are not eager to get out in stores to shop. This Christmas with the approval of Westminster's session, we are asking the members of Westminster and Palma Sola members who would like to join us, to provide monetary donations so that The Salvation Army can provide gifts to those Manatee County "angels" whose tags don't get chosen from a tree.

Donations can be made with a check made out to **WPC** or **PSPC** with "**Angel Tree**" in the memo line. Donations will be accepted **during the worship in the sanctuary (bring your own envelope and pen)** or at either church office from now until **November 22nd**.

If you have any questions please call Joyce Johnson at 941-792-2393

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

OCT 1	Walter Campbell Shirley Christian Brittany Boyer (WPC)
OCT 4	Deanna Gordon James Wolf
OCT 5	Elizabeth Dykstra (WPC)
OCT 6	Betty Bashaw
OCT 7	Douglas Johnson
OCT 12	Debbie Grubb
OCT 13	Thom Shimandle (WPC)
OCT 14	Jolanda Sirov
OCT 15	Tracy Starcher
OCT 16	Betty MacClinchy Roberta McWhirter
OCT 17	Vicki Sokolich
OCT 20	Nancy Ball Walter & Roberta Rae McWhirter
OCT 23	Amy Pedon
OCT 24	Marcia Campbell Myrna Felix Walter McWhirter
OCT 25	Ella Schafer Lorraine Stork
OCT 30	Lee Martin III
OCT 31	Faith T. Battan (WPC)



DEACONS MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 | 6 PM

Moderator Ted Land invites the Boards of Deacons of both Palma Sola and Westminster Churches to meet on the second Monday in October, in the Fellowship Hall at PSPC. Please wear a mask. Social distancing will be observed, and hand sanitizer provided.

The roles of the Deacons at Westminster and Palma Sola have been significantly different in the past, and we need to plot a future utilizing the talents of both Boards to serve the two congregations now nesting together.

Anyone wanting to attend electronically will be welcomed on speaker phone.

Please call Transitional Pastor/Moderator Ted Land at 863-444-0716 with questions.

OCTOBER

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THUR

FRI

SAT

				1 MEN'S GROUP 8a STEWARDSHIP – 2:30p RENEWAL – 6:30p	2	3
4 REOPENING Worship Online & In Person World Community Sunday Zoom Fellowship - 11:30a	5 PNC —6:45p	6 OUTREACH— 3p	7  BIBLE STUDY Online	8 COMMS TEAM – 1p FINANCE TEAM MTG— 3p	9	10
11 Worship Online & In Person Zoom Fellowship - 11:30a	12  Book Club Palma Sola 12p PNC —6:45p	13 PERSONNEL – 1p P&G – 6:30p	14	15 MEN'S GROUP 8a	16 PSPC & WPC Garage Sale 9a — 1p	17 PSPC & WPC Garage Sale 9a — 1p
18 Worship Online & In Person Zoom Fellowship - 11:30a	19 WPC SESSION MTG - 1p PNC —6:45p	20 WPC SERVING AT OUR DAILY BREAD—9:30a PSPC SESSION MTG—6:30p	21	22	23	24 Drive Thru Collection of Warm Wear for Turning Points 10a — 12p
25 DEAD SEA SCROLLS – 9A Worship Online & In Person Zoom Fellowship - 11:30a	26 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE PNC —6:45p	27	28	29	30	31 

The Church Office is Temporarily Closed

Please email palmasolachurch@verizon.net or call **941-792-3141**

For more information, please visit pspchurch.org. Click here to view past and present [Bible Study](#) and [Worship Service](#) recordings, and the online [Calendar](#)

**Palma Sola Presbyterian
Church**

- October Newsletter 2020-

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**Westminster Presbyterian
Church**

- October Newsletter 2020-

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