



Palm Fronds

The Latest News from Church of the Palms

"Where Faith Happens and Love Abounds"

June/July 2011

Issue 2156

Dear Church of the Palms Family in Christ,

The months of May and June are the most popular for weddings and we had a wedding reminder just a couple of weeks ago.

My sister reminded me that some of our relatives got married recently and made quite a splash. Well, somewhere in the tangle of genes and chromosomes, in ancestry and genealogical probes, it turns out that we are related to William. And now Kate has joined our family. Well, as the web of tables and charts that show the blood line traced to the Richardsons which could have and in fact uncovered more than one black sheep and several scoundrels, mixed in with dirt poor commoners and peasants. It is amusing to know this and even laughable to claim it. I have seen the rap sheet on my first ancestor in this country who was a part of the Plymouth colony. He sold liquor to Indians and liquor on Sundays several times. That landed him in the stocks, which seemed to almost become for him a second home.

But, back to the Big Event of a few weeks ago, with all of its glamour, men in morning jackets or uniforms and women in their wedding bonnets. The "Royal Wedding" was lavish and magnificently beautiful, but like all who inhabit this planet the couple will have to contend with our human fragilities and condition. They will have to one day stand before our God without pomp and circumstance, without a gorgeous wedding gown or the splendor of uniform, but alone and bare to give an account of their days. So will we.

We all are without rank or privilege; without class or standing. We are the creatures who will one day stand before our creator and at that moment the truth of existence will be felt, the meaning and purpose of our days will be recounted and we will know that He is God. Being an American, even with the genealogy background, I am certainly not a Royalist, but I know sufficiently about history to understand the implications of a Constitutional monarchy. I don't know William or Kate (they may have heard of me), but I wish them well.

Perhaps, like me, you saw all or part of this event. A friend of mine wrote and said, "Let me share with you some of the more memorable impressions:

The Dean of the Cathedral, in his 'preamble', spoke of the holiness of marriage. On numerous occasions the Dean and the Archbishop, as well as the Bishop of London (who gave a sermonette) spoke of a marital union 'Through Jesus Christ'."

I was struck by the composition of the prayer cited by the Bishop of London as he quoted William and Kate's composed prayer, calling on the spirit of Christ to guide them.

I have visited Westminster on a couple of occasions. The architecture runs a close parallel to the Tower of Babel. Where is the dividing line between to the "Glory of God" and the "Glory of Man?" I found myself being drawn into the unfolding ritual. The whole event was a reflection of the history and origin of our culture. We have a "Christian Culture", the origins of which lie in the cradle of Creation and of Bethlehem. The language, the liturgy, the promises, and the hopes had a common origin: it is the love of God expressed in and through His Son, Jesus Christ.

My spirit began to soar, transcending the heights of Gothic limitations, reaching beyond the finiteness of flying buttresses, a sure reminder that God IS sovereign and our God Reigns! In my descent, I was confronted with the brutal reality of human actions. Our churches are filled with lives and lips that speak religious language. Yet, as God has observed over the centuries, "Their hearts are far from me". The evidence of that is hard to refute as relationships crumble under an avalanche of religious clichés.

So back to the Royal Wedding and what we can take away from that beautiful day. God is the final sovereign who will rule the rulers. Jesus is the King of kings, and the Lord or lords. And the references to the wedding of Jesus with his bride, the Church – the believers, that is you and me, were clear but overshadowed by the earthly nuptials of the day. For you see, marriage is ordained of

God. Jesus will soon return, not for a "Harem" but, for a Bride. The "Bride" (the church you and me) knows her husband (Why else marry?) and surrenders to the assurance of eternal love.

Ultimately, there is but "ONE" royal Wedding:
"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.' And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for

the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints" (Revelation 19:6-8).

This event alone is "The Royal Wedding".

The same friend who commented on the "Royal Wedding" always signs his letters and notes:

"Because of Jesus....ruined for the ordinary."
 and I say AMEN.

See you in church,

Roger P. Richardson

Probably most of us have at some time, watched Family Feud on television. Well, here is a chance to go behind the scenes with a face to face report from our new member Diane G. Meade. ENJOY!

My Fifteen Minutes of Fame

Diane Gubane Mead

In July, 2009, while visiting my family in Cleveland, Ohio, we decided to participate in an open audition for the nationally televised game show *Family Feud*. Our team consisted of me, my daughter Amy, sister Lauri, her husband Mike, and their daughter Katie (the Kinkelaar family).

We thought it would be a fun adventure, so we practiced and created a skit about Ohio. We arrived in downtown Cleveland to long lines of audition hopefuls. Then we spent the day trying out before judges and being interviewed by the staff of *Family Feud*. At the end of a long day, we were directed to a tent and asked to make a short video about Cleveland and our family. Finally, at that time we were told contestants would be notified within *two weeks* if they had made the show. The next morning, at 9am, we received a call from the producer of *Family Feud* and asked if we could be in Hollywood California *within three weeks!*

We were the **No 1** pick out of over 3,000 who auditioned! The five of us received an all expense paid trip to Los Angeles. We had to prepare a required 30 second introductory video about our family. ***We also received 15 pages of rules and legal issues to read and sign.*** The family arrived in Los Angeles in August. The show would be rehearsed and taped the day after our arrival.

At this time, among requirements we were told to bring 3 complete outfits to the studio. This was followed by a briefing given to us and 8 other families. (We were the only family from out of town.)

John O'Hurley was a funny, distinguished and friendly host of the show. We received a lovely picture of our family, taken with John.

We won our first game but lost the second. However we did win some money. It is so much harder to answer the questions spontaneously on camera in contrast to when you are sitting at home on your couch! One of my answers showed up on the Jimmy Kimmel's late night talk show that night. We all got quite a laugh out of that one. The Family Feud on which our family appeared, aired in November, 2009.

From this experience we created a lifetime of memories for our family. A local TV station in Columbus, Ohio, was kind enough to provide a CD of the show for us so that we all have copies to enjoy forever!

As a final?? note to this adventure, we all signed a contract with the Family Feud show that we would not compete on any game show for **10 years . . .** Only 8 more years until our next one.



Chancel Choir Thank You

Our Chancel Choir sings all year long at every worship service that is held in the Sanctuary and they are very much appreciated. They are all dedicated to the music ministry here at Church of the Palms. The Choir rehearses every Thursday evening and Sunday morning before the worship service. Thank you chancel choir for a great year of singing praises to our Lord.

We would also like to thank our guest choir members who sang with the choir during the Easter season. A special thanks to Robert Hebble for sharing his original compositions with us and accompanying the choir on the organ and piano.

Please consider joining the choir in the fall. The music is wonderful, our director Ed Krynicki is amazing, and the guest artists contribute an added touch. And . . . Elaine Reinhardt will be back to share her wonderful piano talent.

Handbells – You know, those bright, uplifting bells that ring in beautiful precision and bring smiles to everyone’s face?

One of the details that people don’t always understand is that you only have to play two notes on the music (sometimes frequently, sometimes not). Oh, and you never have to count past 6!

Wouldn’t you love to pick up one of those precious instruments and make that beautiful sound? (It will put a smile on your face.)



In the fall we will begin our handbell rehearsals and **you are invited** to see just what this instrument is all about – without making a commitment unless you find out that this instrument is for you.

If you have any questions, you can speak with one of the “ringers” or Ed Krynicki, our patient, kind and gifted director.

Praise Service on Sunday Morning

We will have a Praise and Worship service on the last Sunday of the months of July, August and September at our 10 am worship hour. Our Praise Singers and Musicians will lead the music and singing during these services. There will be scripture reading and a sermon at all of the services. The format will be like *The Walk* service that is held every Saturday evening in our Friendship Center at 7 pm. You will experience some of the newer contemporary choruses and songs that will lift your spirit and soul. The dates for the Sunday morning Praise and Worship services are July 31, August 28 and September 25.



NEW WEBSITE FORMAT!

Have you viewed the Church of the Palms website recently?

The church website address is www.churchofthepalms.net

In addition to the calendar of activities there are updates of current events of our church and UCC events around the country. Thank you to **Leighton Gill** for designing, setting up and updating our new church website. We are all grateful to you for your willingness to make this new church ministry a success.

There is a link to the church Facebook account where there are many photos of recent events that have taken place here on our campus. Also there is a link to YouTube where you can view and listen to videos that have been recorded of our services and special programs. Thank you to **John McGovern** who has faithfully taped, edited and placed these on YouTube so that anyone may view the activities at Church of the Palms.

PLEASE! We are asking our members to please send their email to the church so that we can update our records. We hope that in the future we will be able to send our newsletter out by email to those who have one.

SPECIAL THANKS

From Church of the Palms:

Thank You! Carl and Gina Lammers and Liz Hill-Sainio for leading the worship service on May 15th, while Pastor Roger was away on his mission trip.

Carl gave an inspiring sermon and Gina spoke to the children during "Young Disciples". Liz did a great job serving as lay reader and assisting with the other areas of the worship service.

It is a real joy for all of us to have such wonderful leadership supporting Church of the Palms.

From Elaine Reinhardt:

Dear Church Friends,

It was so thoughtful of you to remember me with the generous gift. Thank you all so very much. I really miss Sundays at Church of the Palms. You make it such a special place for me, very dear to my heart. Looking forward to being with you again in the Fall.

Love, Elaine

From Gabrielle Nikischer:

Dear Scholarship Committee,

My name is Gabrielle Nikischer and I am the granddaughter of Frank Nikischer, Sr. I was just informed that I received my scholarship for the Fall 2011 Semester already. I would like to thank you very much for granting me this money! It helps out so much and I am very appreciative. I am still studying Kinesiology at West Chester University with a focus in exercise science. I'm hoping to go on to graduate school to become a Physician's Assistant then.

Thank you again for this scholarship, it really means a lot.

Thank you, God Bless! Gabrielle Nikischer

From Abby Lambert:

Dear Trustees,

Thank you for your support. I am so grateful for receiving the scholarship for this past semester. I am currently taking graduate level classes in the field of speech language pathology in high hopes of completing a masters program within the next three years. God bless and thank you again for your kindness.

Sincerely, Abby Lambert

Exerpts taken from a letter from Fred Rosene to Molina Healthcare

It has been almost a year since you honored me with the Champion Volunteer of the year award. I thought you might like to know what happened with your \$1000 charity gift for which I was given the right to pick its destination.

It was given to my church to help the Haitians recover from the horrendous earthquake that hit their country last year. I had asked them to forward the money to the school in Haiti that we had helped to build because their dormitory and church had been totaled. Shortly after the money was given to us we found out that leaders in a mid western church had gathered pledges exceeding \$50,000 to replace the collapsed buildings. Alas our \$1000 would be lost in the shuffle.

I was asked if I would let the \$1000 be used to support the Haitian University Student Project. The colleges in Port of Prince were totally destroyed and many of their professors were killed in the earthquake. The Student Project was to bring some of the students to FAU to live with local families and take some basic courses like English that were required so they would gain admittance to FAU. Students were required to become active in a church near FAU. I was happy to agree to have the \$1000 used to support them.

The big surprise to me was the first student, Sadrac Blanc, to get a visa and stay with our C.E. Director, which meant I would meet him and work with him since I teach in our Sunday school. Sadrac passed his preliminary requirements and was accepted into FAU College of Engineering starting this summer. He will major in Civil Engineering and when he is finished he will go back to help rebuild his country.

Thank you so much for making all this possible! I hope these results please you as much as they do me.

Fred Rosene



Christian Education

We have received a letter of resignation from Mary Davis, our Director of Christian Education, effective June 1. We thank Mary for her contributions to the C.E. program at Church of the Palms.

Now, however, we are announcing a search for a part-time Christian Education Director. The ideal candidate will be seminary trained. We encourage you to think about someone you know who would be a possible applicant for this position. We would like to have a resume, a cover letter, and references which should be sent to Church of the Palms or faxed (276-6344).

And –

The Board of Christian Education is pleased to announce its NEW curriculum for our children and youth, “Seasons of the Spirit!” This tool will be very helpful in engaging our young people in activities which focus on the Bible as it relates to their daily living. This curriculum follows the lectionary and gives easy-to-use methods for preparing adults to help children and teens learn more about their faith.

This new curriculum will be launched this Fall. To best prepare our congregation for using this curriculum, there will be a Church School Workshop for adult participants on Sunday, July 17, 2011, immediately following morning worship. If you are interested in being part of this exciting ministry, contact the church office for more details.



The Kerr Family is Returning to America!

In late June we will have the honor of a visit by Rev. Bryan Kerr, his wife Pauline, and their girls Hayley and Iona. Pastor Kerr will be preaching at our church on Sunday, June 26. It will be great to have this beautiful family with us again!

They are on vacation and will spend some of their time here. Last year we took them to Lion Country Safari and several other adventures. Perhaps we can show them some more of the wonderful place here in south Florida.

WELCOME TO AMERICA

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, our own **Helen Robinson** took the oath that made her a citizen of the United States. Helen is originally from San Gregande, a Spanish speaking area of Trinidad.



Our new citizen has lived in the United States for twelve years. She has earned her CNN training and takes loving care of many elderly who need her help. Helen is married to Joe Robinson and you can see them sitting together in church since their marriage in our church on December 9, 2005.

Welcome Helen, and may you continue to enjoy life in the “*land of the free and the home of the brave*”.

You’ve Heard About Those Comfort Dolls?

What an amazing ministry this has become. We are receiving emails from people who have become acquainted with this program and either want more information or tell us about their successes in this ministry. We also have local ladies, who participated in our church workshops, who donate dolls they have made or bring in parts of the project they have made for us to use.

In June, Lois Clement, Henrietta Smith, and Kathi Schwomeyer will lead a Comfort Doll Workshop at Lake Junaluska, NC where they will be attending “Music Week”. Interest they received from last year’s experience has stunned our ladies and they are eager to do it again.

In addition to the foreign countries where dolls have been delivered, we are also now supplying our local Police Department and Family Promise (at Cason UMC) with dolls to be given to troubled children.



The word is out and we are so proud to be able to offer comfort to children in need.

Everyone is welcome at Church of the Palms - “Where Faith Happens and Love Abounds”

In June we will have guest pastors while Pastor Roger is on Vacation. Let's give these pastors an extravagant welcome to our church.

Bill Koch will serve on Sunday, June 5
 Carl Lammers will serve on Sunday, June 12
 Sheila Guillaume will serve on Sunday, June 19
 Brian Kerr will serve on Sunday, June 26



Birthdays

June

1 Don Williams
 3 James Atto
 12 Ned Callies
 13 Bill Mason
 16 Ann Thieman
 19 Nancy Bohl
 19 Michelle Malone
 19 Andrea Smith
 21 Kay Nemire
 22 Edith Kutz
 24 Roberta Erskine
 24 Erik Turnbull
 25 Wilma Correa
 29 Nancy Dixon
 30 Kathi Schwomeyer

July

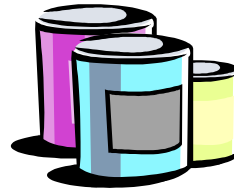
9 Ann Kishbaugh
 10 Herb Kishbaugh
 11 Elaine Reinhardt
 13 Joan Albisser
 18 Angeline Jn Baptiste
 19 Elie Damas
 19 Anita Miller
 23 Arnie Miller
 26 Linda Dick
 27 Roscoe Campbell
 29 Dirk Malone
 30 Russ Hardin

Please mark your calendars for these special scheduled meetings/events!

June 1	Board of Deacons Meeting	3:30pm
	Trustee Council Meeting	5:30pm
June 12 – June 26	Ambassador Ministry Revival	
July 4	Picnic at Fred Rosene's	
	Additional info will be forthcoming	
July 6	Board of Deacons Meeting	3:30pm
	Trustee Council Meeting	5:30pm

CROS Ministries

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities



In response to the Postal Food Drive, CROS Ministries now needs assistance to sort the food into appropriate categories. They need 6-8 people per shift for 3 hours at a time.

Dates and Shifts are:

June 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 15	9:00am – 12 noon
June 7, 14	5:00pm – 8:00pm

This activity will take place at:

United Storage 3010 S. Congress Ave Boynton
 (Turn east onto 30th Street and left into parking lot)

To volunteer, respond by:
 email dbpantry1@bellsouth.net
 or call 561 243-7634

Church of the Palms

Located at:

*1960 N. Swinton Avenue
 Delray Beach, FL 33444*

www.churchofthepalms.net

561 276-6347

*Rev. Dr. Roger P. Richardson, Senior Pastor
 Edward M. Krynicki, Director of Music Ministries
 Kathleen Schwomeyer, Parish Administrator
 John Sirianos, Moderator
 Roscoe Campbell, Sexton
 ... and many amazing volunteers!*