

Seminole Pres.

A Monthly Publication of Seminole Presbyterian Church

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OCTOBER 2005

The “Four R’s” of Seminole

Have you noticed that our attendance in worship is increasing? We recently had a high attendance of 238 in morning worship, which is the largest number we have had in a very long time! God is bringing us all kinds of people from all over town to worship with us each week.

As we continue to grow, we want to be a church where people can form significant relationships with others

and find a strong sense of community. All the while we want our ministry to be grounded in the historic faith of our fathers while always critiquing our tradition so that we remain relevant to the culture.

See page 4 for new details and commentary on the “Four R’s” that are key to the unfolding vision for Seminole Presbyterian Church.

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byterian Church

**GENERAL EDITOR /
PUBLISHER**
Bryan Toenes

**REGULAR
COLUMNISTS**

Jane Lambers
Children's Ministry

Justin Woodall
*Shout Out
Christ & Culture*

CONTACT E-MAIL
btoenes@
seminolepca.org

NEXT EDITION
November 2005

**SUBMISSION
DEADLINE**
October 23

DISTRIBUTION DATE
October 30

New Covenant Group Study

Elder Bill Earnest will lead a study on I and II Samuel at the home of Donna and Tony Carrillo. The group will meet every other Friday from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm beginning on September 16. If anyone would like to join this study and experience good food for your soul and body, please contact the Carrillos at 932-0085. Children are welcome to come and play while the adults study and fellowship.

From The Librarian

I'll be in cool San Diego for three weeks from September 20—October 13 (grandbaby #2!!!). So contact our administrative assistant, Danielle Pendergrass, if you need to use the library.

Our next mini-library in the narthex will be on October 23.

Don't forget to write down on our bulletin board in the hallway outside the library (across from the church office) the latest book or two you have read.

Debbie Vincent
Librarian

An Invitation to Sing for Christmas

Dear SPC Family,

The Chancel Choir will be presenting *An Offering of Lessons and Carols*, Sunday morning, December 11. Many of you have expressed an interest in singing in the choir, but due to other commitments you have been unable to join us on a regular basis. I would like to invite you to join us on a limited seasonal basis!

The choir will begin rehearsals on our Christmas music Wednesday, October 5. I will plan the choir rehearsals in such a way as to rehearse the December 11 anthems from 8:20 to 9:00. You could join us for these ten rehearsals and sing with us on December 11! This is a way in which you may use your musical gifts at Seminole.

I hope you will choose to join us for these ten Wednesday evenings.

Danny Compher
Music Director



Fall Fest

The pumpkin tree in the Fellowship Hall means one thing—the Fall Festival is coming! Plan now to attend our Fall Fest on Saturday, October 29 from 4:30 to 8:30 pm.

We will have all of your favorite games as well as a jumper with tunnels, a dunk tank, a rock climbing wall, and a petting zoo. Not only will we have candy, but we will also have cotton candy popcorn, sno-cones, and hot dogs.

Check out the pumpkin tree in the Fellowship Hall to see how you might be able to help with this outreach to our neighborhood.

Tampa Bay Area PCA Worship Service

This month the PCA churches in the Tampa Bay area will be having their third joint worship service right here at Seminole on Sunday, October 30 at 6:00 pm. The theme will be “Celebration of the Reformation” in observance of Reformation Sunday. Frank Taylor, who is leading the new Westchase Mission, will be preaching the sermon. An offering will be collected to go to the Westchase Mission.

Budget Preparation

The Finance Committee met on 9/15 to work on the budget for 2006. We plan to have the budget to the Deacons before the end of September and before the Session for approval on 10/4.

This year there are a number of factors affecting our budget. Most have to do with the growth phase that our church has entered. This is a nice problem to have but definitely presents challenges.

Please pray for us as we are finalizing the budget. Also pray for us as we meet this month for our 4th quarterly meeting of the year. Pray that God will give us wisdom to be good stewards over the resources with which He has entrusted us.

The responsibilities for making this service come together are being shared by each participating church. In addition to a few logistical matters, Seminole is in charge of setting up and serving refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Stay tuned for info on how you can help.

Plan to attend this evening of worship with the greater body of Christ!



Financial Summary

**Jan 1 — Aug 31,
2005**

Total Offerings
\$319,742

Total Expenses
\$295,834

Net Change In
General Fund
\$23,908

Offerings Budgeted
for October 2005*
\$43,332

Needed Weekly
\$8,666

* Based on revised
budget for remain-
der of 2005





October Birthdays

- 4 Keri Connolly
- 5 Johnny Fellows
- 12 Melanie Blue
- 20 Leisa Storey
- 20 Megan Hillery
- 21 Brian Waugh
- 22 Cindy Quick
- 23 Amanda Waugh
- 23 Adrienne Lambers
- 24 Casey Waugh
- 26 Jonathon Tucker
- 28 Amarnath Boodoosingh
- 29 David Groomes
- 29 Deana Johnson
- 30 Augustina Livesay
- 31 Millie Preisen
- 31 Gerrie Byrne

Covenant Connections Casting Our Vision

Our church's response to the call of God is to create, within the heart of the city, a community where people are confronted by the power of the Gospel through every ministry of our church, and subsequently, learn to live their lives through Christ in the world. By the grace of God, we will seek to address the physical, spiritual, emotional, and educational needs of our members and community regardless of age, race, gender, or circumstance. We will do this through a variety of word and deed ministries governed by Sacred Scripture. We believe the fulfillment of this vision demands an approach to ministry that is Regional, Relational, Relevant, and Reforming.

This past September 17 the elders and deacons met with Pastor Keen to continue working on the vision for Seminole. We already published this vision statement this past summer. Now we are prepared to elaborate on the four R's: Regional, Relational, Relevant, and Reforming.

A Regional Church

God has strategically placed us in the "heart" of the city, and therefore; we envision a future church reflective of the rich diversity of Greater Tampa Bay. We will make every effort to extend the influence and mission of our church far beyond our immediate location, both in terms of "mileage and ministry" (i.e., we will seek to reach out as far as we can—to as many people as possible—regardless of race/ethnic background and/or life situation, circumstance, and experience).

A Relational Church

We believe the church is to be a place of significant relationships with a strong sense of community characteristic of the Christian faith. We reject the mentality that a "successful" church means more bodies, bigger budgets, and additional buildings. While numerical, financial, and physical growth is good, it is a means to the goal of spiritual development rather than an end in itself. Our approach to ministry will be shaped and conditioned by intimate, caring relationships throughout the body of Christ. Practically speaking, we will focus more on individual needs instead

(Continued on page 5)



Covenant Connections Casting Our Vision

Seminole Presbyterian Church exists to build biblical, vital and relevant relationships with God, one another, and the world for a lifetime and for eternity.

“Seek the welfare of the city to which I have called you. Pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare, you too will have welfare.” - Jeremiah 29:7

(Continued from page 4)

of corporate programs. This approach will be applied in all that we do as a church (i.e., worship, fellowship, evangelism, teaching, mercy ministries, etc.)

A Relevant Church

We believe the Scriptures in general, and the gospel in particular, are timeless standards in an ever changing world, and therefore; we will make every effort to address our needy world per our Lord's instructions (i.e., “New wine in fresh wine skins”). While our two-thousand-year-old message remains the same, the means, mechanics and methodology of distributing this message will be changing constantly. With this objective in mind, we seek to be students of the culture, as well as students of Sacred Scripture. Our goal is to “get the then into the now” with authenticity, honesty, and without compromise.

A Reforming Church

As Presbyterians, we enjoy the rich heritage and tradition of the Protestant Reformation. Therefore, our only rule of faith and life is the Bible. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the very Word of God, without error and the supreme authority governing all we say and do as a church. From this foundation, we hold to the body of doctrine expressed in the Apostles' Creed and more fully explained in the Westminster Confession of Faith. Both documents are available at your request from the church office. Further, we believe “The Reformed Church is Always Reforming,” and therefore; our identity as a church and our ministry to the world will face never-ending critique, evaluation, adjustment, etc. by church officers elected and empowered to lead this congregation.

October Anniversaries

10/15—Bill and Ruth Alboth

10/17—Bryan and Jackie Toenes

10/19—Ralph and Sheila Colbert



**VICTIMS of
Hurricane
Katrina
Need Your
HELP!**

Missions and Outreach

MNA Hurricane Katrina Relief

Volunteers

Are you a skilled roofer? We have a church who has agreed to supply all materials needed to start re-roofing projects in the surrounding area. If you are a professional roofer, please prayerfully consider being a part of this ministry with us. If you can be available, please call Judy at 636-299-1424. Leave a message and we will contact you immediately.

To date, just in Biloxi, MS (one of 5 staging areas), 107 volunteers have actually served, working at least 10,500 hours, and helping at least 155 families. 2,720 have been served from the distribution center. Volunteers report many opportunities to pray and share the Gospel with people, as well as the joy of serving with other members of the Body of Christ.

To let us know you want to volunteer, you may register your team on the web site. It will greatly help our management of telephone calls if you are willing to register and then let us call you back. If you must begin with a phone call, you may reach MNA Disaster Response at 636-299-1424 or 636-299-1422.

Staging Areas

- Brandon, MS: serving as Command Center
- Picayune, MS: Picayune, MS &

Slidell, LA

- Mobile, AL: Biloxi & Gulfport
- Hattiesburg, MS: Hattiesburg & Laurel
- Baton Rouge, LA: Prentiss, Hopewell, Mt. Olive, MS

Supplies: Now that we have a location to serve as a receiving and distribution warehouse; we are beginning to receive shipments loaded with much needed supplies — ranging from non-perishable food and water to soap and medical supplies — to help the many people who are without these basic needs. The arrival of the supplies allowed a Hattiesburg hospital with 3,400 people to receive the basic provisions and medical supplies greatly desired — to provide people with nourishment and medical care. We praise God for those of you who sent the supplies!

We have also been able to send the supplies into the surrounding communities that are lacking fresh water, food and medicine. This has been done through cooperative efforts with churches located throughout the area and neighboring states. Please view our video on the MNA home page, which shares some of the testimonies of those affected by the hurricane.

Below you will find a list of



Missions and Outreach
MNA Hurricane Katrina Relief

wanted items. Although we appreciate your willingness to share with those affected by the hurricane, please refrain from sending any items not on the list below.

- Non-perishable, canned foods; non-heated
- Dried beans, rice and pasta
- Hand Sanitizer
- Bug spray
- Food -- nonperishable; non heated
- Manual can openers
- Diapers -- all sizes
- Pull-ups
- Baby formula
- Baby wipes
- Paper products (plates, napkins, plastic ware, cups)
- Feminine products
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes

When you have gathered your donated supplies, please call Disaster Response at 636-299-1424 or 636-299-1422 for directions on where to ship your supplies. Because areas of need change daily, this will allow us to make sure that supplies get quickly to the area of most need.

Other ways to volunteer: if you wish to volunteer but need to stay close to home, check with your local agencies about needs in your community. Evacuees are now being relocated in significant num-

bers even to cities outside of the Southeast. There may be relief needs in your community that you can address.

Financial Donations:

Many families have lost homes and extensive damage has been suffered by PCA church buildings. In addition, some of the churches will need support to get back to a self-supporting level, because of the economic impact on their communities and because some members will not stay and rebuild. Please prayerfully consider making a generous financial contribution. There will be major financial needs that we will need to address as a denomination. **MNA does not take administrative or general fund support from the gifts; the moneys are used for PCA family and church needs, and a small portion for the expenses of relief operations.** Checks should be made to MNA, designated for Hurricane Relief. Please mail checks to MNA, 1700 N. Brown Road, Suite 101, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043. You may also donate by credit card on the MNA web site, or by sending your credit card donation information in writing to MNA or by fax to 678-825-1201, attention: Michael Hutcheson.



Donations for
Disaster Victims

Hurricane Rita

As this newsletter was going to print, Hurricane Rita was less than 24 hours from making a projected landfall along the Texas-Louisiana coast. MNA will more than likely expand its disaster relief westward to assist the victims of Rita if the storm causes the damage it is expected to do. Stay tuned for more updates from MNA as this crisis continues to unfold.



Sunday School Classes

All classes begin
at 9:30 AM.

Adults

I Corinthians
Room 114

*The Returning
King*
H.S. Library

Youth

Grades 6-8
Parlor

Grades 9-12
Room 601

Children

Infant Nursery
and 1's
Room 113

2's and 3's
Room 110

K4-K5
Room 116

1st—3rd Grade
Room 117 A

4th—6th Grade
Church Library

Children's Ministry

Encouraging Your Child's Sunday School Teacher

By Jane Lambers

A new year of Sunday School has just begun, and here are a few suggestions to make this a productive year for both your child and his teacher:

Attend Sunday School consistently. When your child regularly shows up for Sunday School, you are communicating to his teacher that her preparation and work are important. You are also teaching your child that studying God's Word and being encouraged by others in our church family are a priority.

Arrive on time. Give your child the opportunity to benefit from all the preparation the teacher has done; her introductory activities often set the tone for the entire lesson.

Ask your child's teacher about his behavior during class. Sunday School teachers don't expect perfection but appreciate parents who hold their children accountable for their actions.

Ask your child about what he learned in Sunday School. Reviewing his paper on the way home from church in the car helps him think about his lesson while it's still fresh in his mind. Help your child learn his memory verse and/or catechism questions. Memorizing Scripture and Bible truths benefits your child, shows respect to his teacher, and honors God.

Appreciate your Sunday School teachers with a smile, a "thank you," a card, a short note, or any other way you like to be encouraged.

Pray for your Sunday School teachers. Pray for them with your child; pray for them often.

Children's Choir

Children's Choir will resume on Wednesday, October 5 at 6 pm.



Youth Ministry

Shout Out

By Justin Woodall



New faces are abounding these days at Seminole. One face that is not quite new, but is taking on a new role, is David Blanco. Dave has just been taken on staff here at Seminole to work with our Junior High students. Dave has been attending Seminole for about a year and is a student at USF. It is so nice to have Dave here to help especially on Wednesday night. We have been averaging over 50 students in our youth programs on Wednesday, and it is an exciting time here at Seminole. We could still use more help. So if you are interested in helping, please contact me.

Children's Worship

Our K4—K5 year olds are enjoying Children's Worship SO much that they would like to continue coming once they are in 1st and 2nd grade!

Unfortunately, our room is too small for that many children, so we would love to



open up another section of Children's Worship.

In order to do that, we need five or six people to volunteer to rotate as teachers. Please consider whether this may be an area in which God is calling you to serve.

See Jane or Cindy for more information.

Wednesday Night Programs

Children

Choir
6:00 pm

*GEMS & Cadets
Kingdom Kids*
6:30 pm

Youth

Room 601
6:30 pm

Adults

Bible Study with
Pastor Keen
6:30 pm

Choir
7:45 pm





November 5

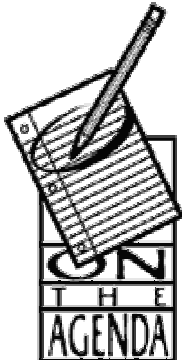
SWIM Retreat

November 23

**Thanksgiving
Eve Service**

November 27

**First Sunday of
Advent**



Session Meeting

Tuesday
October 4

Deacon Meeting

Thursday
October 27

Christ and Culture **Worship: Part I** *By Justin Woodall*

Worship has been one of the distinctive marks of the Christian church. Over the past 2,000 years, we have developed some great traditions that we implement here at Seminole. But most of us aren't aware of the layers that the worship service contains. So this month I want to point out some of the features of our service that you may or may not have realized have significance.

First of all, the architecture and set-up of our church plays a role in our worship. The cross is elevated and placed in the center of the wall. This reminds us of the central role of Christ in Christianity. The split chancel (two pulpits) also allows the cross to maintain prominence. The communion table is set in the center of the platform reemphasizing the sacrifice of Christ. You will also notice that the pulpit that John preaches from is larger than the other. This is not because we couldn't afford a second large pulpit. It is to give the preaching of the word a sense of prominence.

The structure of the church is not the only carefully planned element of our service. The order of worship itself draws on a deep history to usher us into God's presence. The service sometimes begins with a pre-worship meditation called the Preface to the Lord's Day or the "Collect." This is a tradition that dates back to the early Reformers and specifically to the church in England. Then after announcements there is a prelude. This is not simply a chance for our talented musicians to serenade us with beautiful music. It is a chance for us to lift our hearts toward heaven. Here we have the opportunity that when we gather, it is not only Seminole who is worshipping. It is the Kingdom of God here, around the world, and in heaven joining us in our worship in a special way.

Well, I am running out of space, so tune in next month to catch Part Two in our series on the significance of our worship.

Film, Faith, & Philosophy

Friday, October 7

7:00 pm at The Woodall's

See Justin for details.



SPC Calendar

October 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2  Holy Communion	3	4	5	6	7 Film, Faith, & Philosophy 7:00 pm	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29  FALL FESTIVAL 4:30 pm
30 PCA Worship Service 6:00 pm	31					



Seminole Presbyterian Church

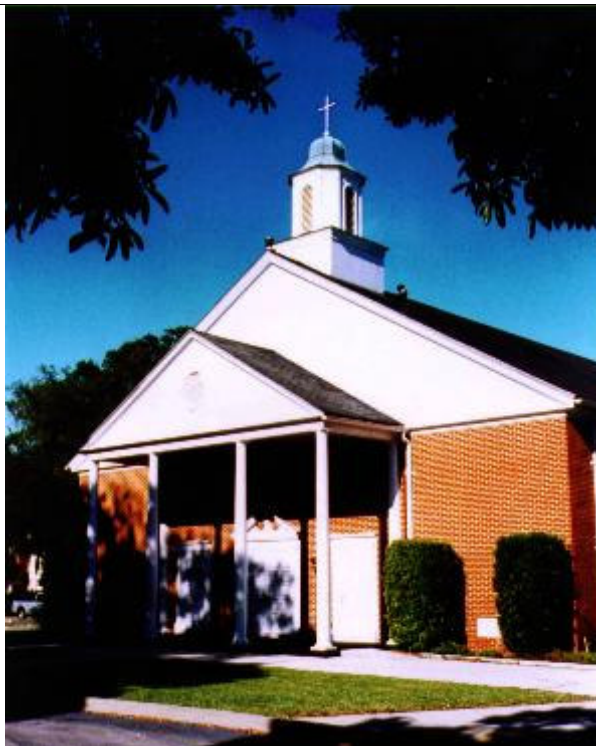
6101 N. Habana Avenue

Tampa, FL 33614

(813) 877-6783

church@seminolepca.org

http://www.seminolepca.org



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“Seek the welfare of the city to which I have called you. Pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare, you too will have welfare.” - Jeremiah 29:7

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor	John Keen	Ext 254	jkeen@seminolepca.org
Administrative Assistant	Danielle Pendergrass	Ext 222	spc@seminolepca.org
Business Administrator	Jackie Toenes	Ext 238	jtoenes@seminolepca.org
Children's Co-Directors	Jane Lambers	Ext 240	jlambers@seminolepca.org
	Cindy Quick	Ext 240	cquick@seminolepca.org
Youth Director	Justin Woodall	Ext 242	jwoodall@seminolepca.org
Chief Musician	Danny Compher		dcompher@seminolepca.org
Organist	Sylvia Chai		
Pianist	Rebecca Groomes		bgroomes@seminolepca.org
S.W.I.M. President	Brynn Tiscione		

OFFICERS

SESSION

Joe DeNitto	jdenitto@seminolepca.org
Bill Earnest	bearnest@seminolepca.org
Chip Johnson	cjohnson@seminolepca.org
Preston Kneeshaw	pkneeshaw@seminolepca.org
Don Loose	dloose@seminolepca.org
Gregg Quick (Clerk)	gquick@seminolepca.org
Brian Waugh	bwaugh@seminolepca.org

DIACONATE

Bill Cutler	bcutler@seminolepca.org
Steve Lynn	slynn@seminolepca.org
Steve Pothoven (Chair)	spothoven@seminolepca.org
Nick Tiscione	ntiscione@seminolepca.org
Bryan Toenes	btoenes@seminolepca.org
Tony Yoder	tyoder@seminolepca.org

