



From the Pastor's Desk

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

Worship in Heaven and on Earth

In the Revelation of Jesus Christ, the Apostle John describes worship in heaven (see chapters 4-5). God appears in the center of worship with various heavenly courtiers worshipping him. Day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" (Revelation 4:8b). In addition, the elders around the throne cast their crowns before God and say, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created" (Revelation 4:11).

While we acknowledge that there is much about Revelation that is difficult to understand, one thing we can say is that the attitude of those who worship God in heaven is one of reverence and awe (see Hebrews 11:28). One cannot imagine a casual attitude towards worship.

If our worship on earth is to be a prelude to our worship in heaven, then why are we so casual about it? Should we not pay more attention to how we worship?

I would like to suggest that casual worship is not proper worship. As one writer wrote,

"Worship is an encounter with the living, true, holy, sovereign God of the universe. And just think about encounters with God in Scripture that elicit worship: Moses takes off his shoes (Exodus 3), Israel is fearful (Exodus 20), Isaiah quakes (Isaiah 6), Job silences his lips (Job 40), John falls down as though dead (Revelation 1). Even the elders and angels, who are worshipping day in and day out before the throne, aren't casual in their worship (Isaiah 6; Revelation 4). Casual worship of the living, true, holy, sovereign God of the universe just doesn't exist!" (Jason Helopoulos, "Casual Worship").

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Recently, we announced that drinking beverages in our worship service is not appropriate. Drinking beverages while being entertained may be appropriate but it is not appropriate when worshipping the true and living God.

Let us make every effort to ensure that our worship on earth looks more and more like worship in heaven.

Freddy

MISSIONS UPDATE

Exciting things are happening concerning missions. I will list them as bullet points first.

- The Missions Committee has approved \$3,600 to encourage 4 people to attend the MTW Global Missions Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, November 1 – 3.
- The Missions Committee has approved a \$5,000 matching donation for The Great Commission Church plant in Belmopan, Belize. The money will be used to begin construction of a building on the church property.
- There will be a fund raiser for the Short-Term Missions Trip to Belmopan, Belize. Check your bulletin on Sundays and email announcement updates for details about the fund-raiser.

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THE SHORT-TERM MISSIONS TRIP TO BELIZE

Ten from TBPC are going to Belmopan, Belize, **July 20 - 27**. We will assist The Great Commission Church Plant with a VBS on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings. In the afternoon, we will work on extending the small existing wooden structure. They have already outgrown their small building. If the money has been raised, we will assist with laying the foundation for their church. On Thursday, we will go to Belize City. We will finish painting St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. We will stay in Belize City for our free day/fun day on Friday returning home Saturday, July 27. Our plan is to keep you updated each day with a brief report and pictures.



Your fellow TBPC church members going to Belize are: Martine Extermann, Jennifer Isaac, Ed and Debbie Jordan, Jennifer Schumm, David Cunningham, Raymond and Lupita Arias, and Scott and Valerie Simmons.

Your contributions to the trip will cover materials for the VBS, materials for extending the small wooden structure, and covering some per-person costs for the trip. Your prayers will unite us in doing what the Lord so desires in advancing his kingdom in the nation of Belize. Even though you will not be with us physically, you will be part of the trip and its work. For without you and your support the short-term missions trip to Belize would not happen.

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Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you.”

2 Thessalonians 3:1 ESV

THE MTW GLOBAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE

The MTW website has information about the conference and its workshop. It begins Friday, **November 1** and ends Sunday, **November 3**.

Pastor Fritz and Chaplain Bridges plan to attend. Two people from the congregation are encouraged to attend. The \$3,600 authorized by the Session through the Missions Fund will be allocated equally based on the number, up to 4, going to the conference. The conference is intended to inspire and to inform. Our hope is those attending will return to inspire and inform TBPC with regard to missions. If you would like to attend, please contact Scott Simmons, 352-246-1639.



THE DONATION FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH PLANT

Karen Stodghill in a recent newsletter shared the matching gift donation challenge Kingstree Presbyterian in South Carolina set up. Kingstree PC will match up to \$50,000 of the donations made for the building of a church on the property of The Great Commission Church Plant. TBPC made a \$10,000 gift authorized by the Session last year towards the purchase of their property. There is a small wooden structure on the property, which holds about 30 people. They have outgrown the wooden structure. A church building is needed.

The Missions Committee is committed to church planting as part of TBPC's missions outreach. With TBPC's short-term missions trip to assist the church plant on July 20 – 27, it was recommended to the Session and the Session agreed to donate \$5,000 from the Missions Fund towards the building of a church. If other churches and individuals donate, there will be \$100,000 available with which to build.

Finally, I encourage you to take part in the missions outreach of TBPC. You can do so by becoming part of the Missions Committee. You can do so by joining in the Missions Committee's work without being on the committee. Recently, the Missions Committee produced a booklet "*Resources for Immigrants & Refugees.*" It has been shared with the ESL program. You are welcome to share the booklet with anyone you know who may be in need of the resources available.

We will be setting up a conference committee for the 2025 February Missions Conference and the April 2025 ESL luncheon. Taking part in the work of the 2025 conference committee is one way, among many opportunities, you can advance the work of the gospel throughout the world.

Scott Simmons

On behalf of the Missions Committee

Children ages 4 years (by June 1st) through 5th grade (completed) are invited to attend
VBS 2024 at Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church!

Monday, June 24th through Friday, June 28th, 9:00AM to 12:00PM daily.

Registration now open!

Visit the TBPC website to sign up your child!



Various ways for adults and youth to VOLUNTEER!!

See the next page for ways you can help!

Call/Text Mike-813.482.2350 or Toni-646.335.2097 or
Email mikeandtoni05@gmail.com

Other ways you can support VBS:

- donate and/or drop off snacks for onsite volunteers
- bake and drop off brownies
- help decorate the church hallways
- help decorate the church sanctuary

Please let us know how you want to support!!



Questions? Text/Call Mike-813.482.2350 or Toni-646.335.2097 or Email mikeandtoni05@gmail.com

Save the Date!

VBS Craft Kit/Science Demo Prep Day
Saturday, June 1, 2024, 10AM—2PM
TBPC Youth Room

Stay the whole time or pop in for an hour or two to help out.
Light snacks will be provided.

Hospitality

“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (Romans 12:13)

As we move into the Summer months, a few changes will occur for refreshments. There will be no coffee before worship, and we will offer coffee, tea, and refreshments after worship only. Also, we do ask that coffee and tea not be taken into the sanctuary. It is a great joy to serve our church family with coffee, and to have a lovely time of fellowship, but changes are necessary to meet the needs of our growing membership rolls!

Even with the small change mentioned, we appreciate any gifts of light snacks to have with the coffee and tea each week. If you wish to contribute, please provide commercially prepared items in their original packaging. Snacks

may be given with no required commitment to the Hospitality Ministry, but we gladly welcome anyone who wishes to volunteer.

Keep your calendar open for **June 30, 2024!** Hospitality will sponsor a potluck lunch after worship—more information will follow, and we are excited about this upcoming fun and edifying event!

If you are interested in serving in TBPC’s Hospitality Ministry or would like more information, please contact Joan Kosanovich (jmkosanovich@gmail.com) or by text/phone at 352-206-7887 or Andrea Schultz by text/phone at 727-439-4343. Thank you for allowing us to serve you and the Kingdom.

June Anniversaries

Michael Beazel & Fidelia Mas-Beazel	June 2, 2007
John & Melissa McNulty	June 2, 2012
Fred & Diane Cunningham	June 3, 1978
Nathaniel & Cherita Adawonu	June 13
Bert & Cheryl Barber	June 14, 1980
Bob & Nancy Morrison	June 14, 1980
David & Karen Cross	June 15, 1985
Ron & Esther Whitley	June 15, 1957
Ryan & Laura Highfill	June 16, 2012
Andrew & Jill Otero	June 23, 2007
Judy Weir	June 23, 1979
Ed & Debbie Jordan	June 24, 1984

June Birthdays

Mason Highfill	June 7	Ava Almonte	June 19
Carson Smoot	June 7	Ed Jordan	June 19
Winston Smoot	June 10	Esther Kakarla	June 19
Sandy Neal	June 11	Rod Proctor	June 20
Joanne Carter	June 14	Carey Springer	June 27
Patricia Harshfield	June 14	Fred Cunningham	June 29
Peyton Sauls	June 14	Martine Extermann	June 29
Diane Rothfuss	June 15	Joel Braschler	June 30
Jason Rucker	June 15	Clydia Craig	June 30



It is with thanks to God for his guidance, and the blessing of the Session of Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, that the Board of Directors of NTCA would like to announce the appointment of our new Director, **Susanne Gonzalez**.

Susanne will be taking over the leadership of our preschool at the end of the current school year. She will start in a full-time capacity on 1 June, but has started working with us on a part-time basis from the beginning of April.

We are very excited to have Susanne join our team. Susanne has been working in early childhood education for 15 years. She is currently the Assistant Director at Lake Magdalene Christian School. Susanne

has a great love for children, and will be bringing a wealth of experience as she seeks to continue the mission of NTCA, namely to provide a God-centered, joyful, caring and safe learning environment, where children grow to love learning and understand a Christian worldview, all while being respected as individuals.

I will be stepping down at the end of the current academic year in order to pick up my career in finance. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with our preschool and getting to know so many wonderful students and families. I would not have been able to succeed in my role as Director had it not been for Ms. Suly, our Assistant Director, who has led the implementation of our curriculum and assisted with the guidance of our teaching staff. Ms. Suly has recently been offered a position at a nearby charter school to teach Kindergarten. This is a fantastic opportunity for Ms. Suly and I know she will be a great asset to their school. Going forward our combined roles will be fulfilled on a full-time basis by Susanne.

Please join me in welcoming Susanne to NTCA, and wishing her all the best as she transitions into her new role!

Ashleigh
NTCA Director

Calendar of Events: 2023-24



Fall

Winter

Spring

Summer

Women's Small Group
9/5 - 11/14

Women's Bible Study
9/11 - 11/14

Men's Breakfast
9/16

Adult Bible Fellowship
Children & Youth SS
9/3 - 12/17

Men's Bible Study
9/2 - 12/17

Youth Group
7/17 - 12/17

Membership Class
11/5

Church Retreat
11/10 - 11/12

Thanksgiving Dinner &
Service
11/19

Youth Group
12/3 - 2/18

Women's Christmas
Brunch
12/2

Beginning of Advent
12/3

Christmas Eve Service
12/24

Adult Bible Fellowship
Children & Youth SS
1/7 - 3/31

Men's Bible Study
1/7 - 3/30

Women's Bible Study
1/8 - 3/26

Missions Conference
2/9- 2/11

Membership Class
2/18

Passion Week
Maundy Thursday
Service
3/28

Good Friday Service
3/29

Easter Sunday
3/31

Youth Group
4/1 - 5/26

Women's Bible Study
4/1 - 5/14

Men's Bible Study
4/6 - 5/25

Adult Bible Fellowship
Children & Youth SS
4/7 - 5/26

ESL End of Year Lunch
4/27

Membership Class
5/19

Vacation Bible School
June 24-28

Missions Trip to Belize
July 20-27

Membership Class
8/18

Contact us



facebook.com/tbpres



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Music Director / Pianist

Bob Morrison,
Bookkeeper

Patricia Harshfield,
Custodian

Susanne Gonzalez,
NTCA Director

TBPC Ministries

Adult Bible Fellowship
Ed Jordan

Nursery
Stephanie Smoot

Children
Vacant

Outreach
Bert Barber

Brunch Bunch
Alisa Carrier

Pastoral Care
Rev. Freddy Fritz

Greeters & Welcome Table
Brian Carrier

Ushers
Jennifer Schumm

Hospitality
Joan M. Kosanovich &
Andrea Schultz

Women's Bible Study
Eileen Fritz &
Debbie Jordan

Men's Bible Study
Rod Proctor

Women's Ministry
Brandi Shultz

Men's Ministry
Brian Carrier

Workshop Ministry
Melissa Bayley &
Stephanie Smoot

Missions
Scott Simmons

Youth
Bert Barber

NTCA
Susanne Gonzalez

Trumpet Staff

Rev. Freddy Fritz, *Editor-in-Chief*

Grace Lee, *Co-Editor*

It is the goal of the *Trumpet* staff to provide articles for learning and growing, news for connecting with our church family, and information on opportunities for service and participation. The views and opinions expressed in the *Trumpet* have not been reviewed or endorsed by the Session.

Please forward articles, pictures, ministry reports, and calendar items for the next edition of the *Trumpet* to grace76548@gmail.com by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

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