

# TBPRES TRUMPET



July 2024

Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, PCA

Volume 19 Issue 7

## From the Pastor's Desk

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

### A Report on the 51st General Assembly of the PCA

The 51<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) marked a significant milestone in our history, as it convened from June 10 – 14, 2023 in Richmond, VA.

I have been surprised at how *many* reports on this year's General Assembly have already been produced. You can find them online in many different places.

I have also been surprised at how *quickly* the reports have been produced this year. Not long ago, one had to wait several weeks for the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly to produce his report before one could read a summary of the General Assembly's actions.

Nevertheless, here is my brief report on this year's General Assembly.

*First, I am thankful that this year's General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) was peaceful.* The year 2018 saw the birth of a conference known as Revoice. The Mission of Revoice is stated as follows: "To support and encourage gay, lesbian, bisexual, and other same-sex attracted Christians—as well as those who love them—so that all in the Church might be empowered to live in gospel unity while observing the historic Christian doctrine of marriage and sexuality." Sadly, Revoice was birthed in a historic PCA church in St. Louis, MO. Over the next few years, this caused significant disruption in the PCA, particularly regarding who was qualified to serve as an officer in the PCA. Although the historic church and its pastors left the PCA at the end of 2022, the issue was finally settled at last year's General Assembly. So, it was nice going to a General Assembly without worrying about a significant split in the denomination. One piece of evidence that this year's General Assembly was peaceful was that it adjourned on Thursday afternoon rather than late on Thursday evening or Friday at noon, its scheduled time of adjournment.

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*Second, the presence of Ruling Elder Todd Bayley and Ruling Elder Emeritus Ken Pothoven as commissioners at this year's General Assembly was encouraging.* Their presence, along with a growing number of Ruling Elders, has been instrumental in preventing the embrace of unbiblical views such as Revoice and the so-called "Side B Christianity." Their role in keeping Teaching Elders in check is invaluable.

*And third, I am optimistic about the future of the Presbyterian Church in America.* The PCA motto is: "Faithful to the Scriptures, True to the Reformed Faith, and Obedient to the Great Commission." I believe that Jesus will bless this branch of his church as long as we uphold each of these elements in our local churches.

May God bless the PCA!

*Freddy*

## Welcome to our new members!



Photo Courtesy of Marsha Otto

# BACK TO BELIZE

*Thanks to you!*

Because of your generous gifts and the success of the Hair-Cut Fundraiser, enough was raised to send \$2,000 by an electronic transfer of funds through MTW to begin the extension of the wooden structure currently used as the Great Commission Church Plant meeting place. The early start on the extension became necessary due to the change in weather conditions in Belize. Their rainy season—April and

May to early June—was dry. It resulted in fires causing great damage and suffering in the Toledo District. Now during their dry season—June and July into August—it has become rainy. We need the extension before we get to Belmopan, Belize so that we have enough covered space for the VBS. In the afternoons, we will assist in completing the extension, Lord willing and weather permitting.

**Our thanks to Jose Fonseca** for offering his services as a barber to support the Short-term Missions. Our thanks to those who had their hair cut and made a generous donation. We are grateful to those who gave even though they did not get their hair cut.

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We have our plans set for the VBS. The airline tickets have been purchased. The team is ready to assist The Great Commission Church Plant with their outreach to Belize. We are delighted we can come along side our missionaries, John and Karen Stodghill to support their work. The development of the church plant has been amazing, clearly a work of the Lord. Please continue to pray for the church plant and the short-term trip.

I thought it well to share, once again, our schedule. We leave Saturday, July 20. After arriving in Belize City, we will be taken by van to Belmopan. On Sunday morning, we will worship at the Bethany Presbyterian Church in Santa Elena. Sunday afternoon, we will walk the neighborhood near the church plant inviting people to the worship service and the VBS. Sunday evening, we will worship with The Great Commission Church Plant in Belmopan. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in the morning we will host the VBS. In the afternoons, we plan to work on the extension. Thursday, we will go to Belize City. We will assist St. Andrews Presbyterian Church as they finish painting their church Hootenanny Green. Our free/fun day will be Friday in Belize City. The team will provide daily updates and pictures for the members and friends of TBPC. Each day the team will have a time of devotion and reviewing the day's work. On Saturday, July 27, we fly back to the USA.

Those going to Belize are Martine Extermann, Jennifer Isaac, Jennifer Schumm,

David Cunningham, Ed and Debbie Jordan, Raymond and Lupita Arias, and Scott Simmons. Three others from TBPC had planned to go on the short-term missions trip, but as we say, "they were providentially hindered." The interest in the trip and support for the trip has been extraordinary.

*On behalf of the Missions Committee and the Belmopan, Belize Short-Term Missions Team,  
**Thank You!***

Respectfully,  
Scott Simmons

### **THE MTW GLOBAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE UPDATE**

One person, in addition to Pastor Fritz and Chaplain Bridges, has inquired about attending the MTW Global Missions Conference. The Missions Committee has offered to support 4 from TBPC to attend the **November 1–3, 2024** conference in **Atlanta**. At this time, we have two that will be attending. Time is running out. If you are interested, please contact Scott Simmons, 352 -246-1639.

### **DONATIONS FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH PLANT UPDATE**

As of June 15, almost 70%, \$34,400, of the matching gift goal of \$50,000 has been pledged. The response to the church plant in Belmopan, Belize is truly amazing. **The Lord is at work.**

# Hospitality

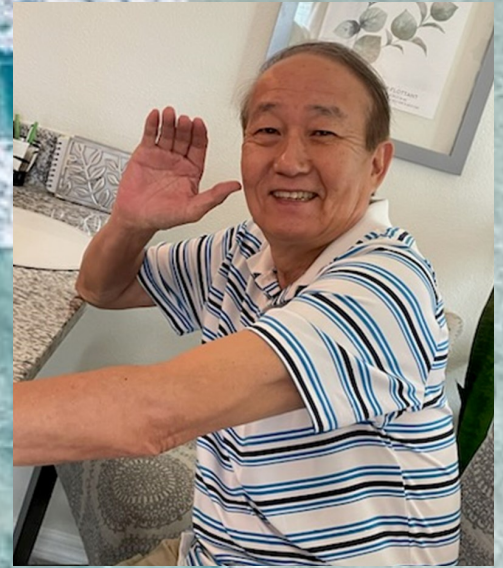
“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (Romans 12:13)

THANK YOU to all who served Wes Mollard and his family during Mary’s Celebration of Life! Each of you is a blessing, and is appreciated deeply for your love and care. Space prohibits listing each of you specifically, but let us all offer a special note of thanks to Andrea Schultz, Andrea Proctor, and Melissa Bayley for steering the ship on arranging for and providing food; to Brian and Alisa Carrier and Laura Rotolo for clean up; to Clydia Craig and Suzanne Swenson for their participation; for each and every one of you who set up, brought food, cleaned up, and set the Mollard family with food to take home with them after the service concluded.

Another thank you goes out to everyone who is contributing light snacks to have with the coffee and tea each week. We appreciate the snacks, and the opportunity for fellowship before and after Worship over a bite to each and a cup of coffee or tea.

If you are interested in serving in TBPC’s Hospitality Ministry or would like more information, please contact Joan Kosanovich ([jmkosanovich@gmail.com](mailto: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.

# Worship Choir End-of-Year Party



The choir party was a delightful and memorable event that brought together members of our choir for an evening of joyous celebration. The party, which took place at Lillian's house, was a fitting culmination of a year filled with hard work, dedication, and musical performances.

As we mingled and enjoyed refreshments, there was a palpable sense of excitement and anticipation. This allowed us to relax and enjoy each other's company outside of our regular rehearsal and performance practice.

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The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the impromptu performances by choir members of "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." It was so heartwarming!

As the night drew to a close, there was a bittersweet feeling knowing that this gathering marked the end of the choir season. However, the party served as a reminder of the deep bonds and

cherished memories that we had created together throughout the year. It was a time to reflect on the moments of musical triumph and the strong sense of community we've built together.

The choir party was a huge success, letting us celebrate our shared love for praising the Lord through music and our deep connections with each other. It was the perfect way to honor a year of hard work and dedication, and now we're eagerly looking forward to continuing to make a joyful noise to the LORD!



# June Anniversaries

Peter & Ling Wu	July 2, 1977
John & Marsha Otto	July 5, 1969
Phil & Chris Lear	July 12, 1969
Rosa Mojica	July 14, 1990
Rene & Lilli Palacio	July 18, 1975
Toney & Anna Sauls	July 21, 2001
Derk & Brandi Shultz	July 22, 2006
Brian & Alisa Carrier	July 25, 1987
Jack & Joyce McNulty	July 29, 1969

# June Birthdays

Cale Barber	July 2	Debbie Jordan	July 17
Andrew Otero	July 3	Eileen Fritz	July 21
Carla Stevens	July 3	Kristine Wyss	July 21
Noah Schultz	July 7	Emma Grace Yu	July 22
Lupita Arias	July 10	Lia Burgueno	July 23
Jack Cholak	July 13	Pat Smith	July 23
Earl Myers	July 14	Joshua Barber	July 27
Barb Hess	July 16	Joan Kosanovich	July 29
		Joseph Linton	July 29





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  
7i/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



www.tampabaypresbyterian.org

19911 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., Tampa, FL 33647

813-973-2484

office@tbpca.org

## Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Freddy Fritz,  
*Senior Pastor*

Melissa Bayley,  
*Office Administrator*

Stephanie Smoot,  
*Nursery*

LeeAnn DeStefano,  
*Office Assistant*

Yanet Bermudez Ortiz,  
*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](mailto:grace76548@gmail.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.

Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church  
19911 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard  
Tampa, Florida 33647  
Phone: (813) 973-2484  
Email: [office@tampabaypresbyterian.org](mailto:office@tampabaypresbyterian.org)

