

# TBPRES TRUMPET



September 2023

Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, PCA

Volume 18 Issue 9

## From the Pastor's Desk

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

### Starting the 2023 – 2024 Ministry Year

Our 2023 – 2024 ministry year begins on Sunday, September 3, 2023.

Most of our ministries take off from Memorial Day to Labor Day. That is, ministries conclude Memorial Day weekend and then resume on Labor Day weekend. The purpose of this break is to give ministry team members and their leaders a chance to rest. So, hopefully, everyone is rested and refreshed and ready to resume our 2023 – 2024 ministry year!

New Tampa Christian Academy (NTCA) started classes on Monday, August 14, 2023. NTCA is offering classes every weekday for 2-, 3-, and 4-year-old students. Ashleigh Kemp is our NTCA Director and she has done an excellent job of preparing for the new preschool year. We are encouraged to report once again that we have full enrollment, with a number of prospective students on the waiting list.

On Sunday, September 3, we plan to resume our Sunday school classes for all ages. There will be classes for students of all ages. And there will also be classes for adults. This fall, there will be two Adult Bible Fellowship classes. All of these classes will begin at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Morning Worship Services will continue on Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Evening Worship Services, which had been on hold during the summer, will continue to be on pause in the fall. The Session wants to encourage the establishment of a robust Youth Ministry that currently meets twice-monthly on Sunday evenings.

The Men's Bible Study will begin meeting on Saturday morning, September 2, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. Aably led by Rod Proctor, the men are continuing their study in Paul's letter to the Romans. After spending time in God's word, all men are invited to continue their fellowship over breakfast at a local restaurant.

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The Women's Bible Studies begin on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. They will be studying Remember Your Joy: A Bible Study of Salvation Stories in the Old Testament. A second offering is The Word of the Lord: Seeing Jesus in the Prophets, and these groups will meet either Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. (on Zoom, starting Monday, September 11) or Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. (in the Youth Room, starting on Tuesday, September 12). The leaders for the various WBS groups are Melissa Bayley, Eileen Fritz, and Debbie Jordan.

The Youth Ministry meets on Sundays. They will have Sunday school classes at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room. In addition, they will meet twice a month on Sunday evenings at 5:00 p.m. Check the calendar for meeting dates.

An all-church retreat is planned for Friday through Sunday, November 10 – 12, 2023. This will once again be held at the Lakeside Retreat in Brooksville. This will be the fourth year we will have had this retreat. It is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and fun.

English as a Second Language (ESL) classes start the day after Labor Day on September 5, 2023. This ministry has really grown over the past few years under the leadership of Karen Cross.

As we begin this new ministry year, let me encourage you to get involved in a ministry at the church. The Bible teaches that every Christian is part of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). There are many opportunities to serve in our church family. All ministries are looking for team members. Contact a ministry team member to volunteer your time and talent!

Pray that the Lord will glorify himself in our service to him this coming year. Pray that the church of Jesus Christ will be strengthened and grow in health. And pray that those outside the church family may come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, so that we may all grow to maturity in Christ.

*Breddy*



## Books to Give

A number of Christian books and history books were donated and are available at the church for anyone who is interested. Please let Scott Simmons know if you would like to browse the titles. After Sunday morning service is generally a good time.

# TBPC GOLF FELLOWSHIP



Our last outing was April 29, at the Babe Zaharias Golf Course in Tampa. Summer has made it a little difficult to coordinate a date for the next outing. Gie Walker invited us to play at The Heritage Isles Golf Club, 10630 Plantation Bay Drive, Tampa, 33647.

We were finally able to fix a date. Our third outing will take place on Saturday, September 30. The cost is \$45, which includes a cart. We will not know the tee-time until September 22. When Gie made our arrangements to play, she was given a 9 a.m. tee-time. However, there is a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. of 100 players on September 30. It is not clear how this oversight occurred, but Gie and I thought it best to keep the date.

Our tee-time will be as early as 10:30 a.m. or possibly as late as 1 p.m. I expect it will be around 10:30 a.m. We trust this will not be a problem. We hope the weather will be milder and the later-than-planned start will not be of concern.

Golfers of all levels are welcome. We play a Scramble Style which enables everyone at whatever of level to enjoy playing together. For those unfamiliar with Scramble, it means the players in a four-some compete as a team against the other teams. Each player hits his or her ball during the round, but may not hit subsequent shots from where the ball came to rest. Rather, the ball deemed the better shot by the team will be the place where each player hits next. There is one score per hole for the team and thus one team score. In addition, we will consider other ideas to increase the fun.

Lord willing, afterwards, we'll meet in the clubhouse to round out the day. Our hope is to play different courses in the greater Tampa area at a reasonable cost. We are looking for more ideas concerning our golf fellowship. Of course, friends and guests are most welcome. It is a great way to introduce them to TBPC. If you have questions or great ideas, please contact Scott Simmons, 352-246-1639.

Scott A. Simmons

# September Anniversaries

Roy & Stephanie Riley	September 6
Gary & Pat Smith	September 6
Tom & Vern Yu	September 6
Waldo & Ashleigh Kemp	September 10

Edwin Rothfuss	September 2	Scott Harshfield	September 17
Ruth Shannon	September 2	Lauren Dishman	September 23
Ruth Walker	September 5	Michelle Hunter	September 23
Michael Rush	September 9	Mary Mollard	September 24
Chris Lear	September 11	Randi Mallery	September 25
Jonathan Massie	September 13	Rylan Highfill	September 27
Vicki Moore	September 13	Jill Otero	September 30
Karen Cross	September 16		

# September Birthdays



Our preschool ministry, NTCA, started the new school year on Monday, 14 August. We praise God for a full enrollment. Our preschool operates Monday – Friday and accommodates 18 students in our 2-year-old program, 41 students in our 3-year-old program, and 12 students in our 4-year-old program.

We welcome 3 new teachers to our ministry team. Ms. Kristina Jaggi and Ms. Kristie Lutz are joining us to teach in our 3-year-old program, and Ms. Kay Moser is joining us as an assistant teacher in our 2-year-old class. All our teachers started their new school year on Monday, 7 August. And our students started back on Monday, 14 August.

There are numerous ways in which members of TBPC can get involved with this ministry:

- Pray for our staff, our students and their families,
- Drop of cards or goodies to encourage our teachers,
- Volunteer to assist with our Winter Carnival (planned for January),
- Join the team as a substitute assistant teacher,
- Donate from our wish list: <https://www.ntcafamily.org/donations.html>

If you are interested in assisting our ministry or joining our ministry team, then please drop me an email at [director@ntcafamily.org](mailto:director@ntcafamily.org).

We thank God for the opportunity to minister to our community in this way. Please pray that God will bless our ministry, that we will faithfully teach the gospel to these precious children, and that through our interactions with their families, we may always point others to Christ and bring him glory in all that we do.



*Ashleigh*  
NTCA Director



## HelloOo, Parents!

Clydia Craig

Do you know all the words to *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*?...How about *Happy Birthday*?...And *Jesus Loves Me*?

Sure, you know them! Do you know why? You learned them as a child when your mind was fresh and eager to learn new things, and you learned them to music!

For several years on our Sunday School, we have used *Ask Me WhoOo*. It's the music of a three-volume CD set with Scripture and the Children's First Catechism, both word-for-word. It is so easy to memorize as a sing-along! *Ask Me WhoOo* has been included in Sunday School for Toddlers through 5<sup>th</sup> Graders underscoring our *Show Me Jesus!* curriculum. Yes, Toddlers! Don't under-estimate those little sponge brains!

Now, there's an exciting NEW part! Kids who are signed up for Sunday School this year who memorize and recite or sing will about 13 Q&As and verses each quarter will earn Bucks up to...

\$25 Media Bucks or 2-3 year-olds for Bibles, Christian books, music, or videos.

\$50 Media Bucks for 4 year-olds through 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders.

\$100 in Camp Bucks or Media Bucks towards Christian camp 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Graders.

Perhaps the most important part of all of this is that we will be grounding our Covenant children in the basic tenants of our faith. I know it's no surprise to you that young people today are bombarded with lies that lead them astray. Even children who have grown up in church, too often leave later. They don't know what they believe. If they don't know what they believe in, they will believe in anything. The culture these kids are growing up in is broken and evil. Satan wants to destroy our kids! Record numbers of our kids are depressed and committing suicide because they have no solid biblical foundation.

A 2022 study<sup>1</sup> focused on the Gen X, born 1960 - 1980 produced some shocking statistics:

70% listed themselves as Christian on surveys, but -

44% never read the Bible.

63% said Right from Wrong was "situational."

31% never go to church.

57% never participate in a Bible study.

33% do not believe that the Bible is the Word of God.

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According to this same study, “If someone has robust religious experiences growing up, they are likely to maintain their beliefs and practices into adulthood.”

At the baptism of our Covenant babies, we all raise our hands and pledge that we will help the parents to raise the child up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. But unless we are Sunday School or Children's Church teachers or Nursery workers, we don't have much interaction with the young ones. However, one of the most rewarding experiences I've had in this church was taking part in the *Pray for Me* campaign. I had two sweet boys to pray for. In my interaction with them, I asked each of them how I could pray for them. It was so rewarding! I really got to know them when otherwise I would not have.

So how can you help in keeping our young ones in church, and in the Word? Our TBPC Family has 21 Toddlers through 5<sup>th</sup> Graders who are children of TBPC members. We pray each one will be enrolled and in regular Sunday School attendance this year! That means we would need 21 volunteers to be “Coaches,” (or “Buddies”), to listen to the children recite the memorized Scripture and Catechism. For you to volunteer would mean no study or prep time, very little extra time at the church, and no special skills. Just love, interest, and prayer! This is a such great way to get to know a one of our TBPC kids and for one of them one of them to get to know you. This only involves a few minutes after church, plus listening and evaluating a recitation once a quarter. We also plan to have an all-church *Ask Me WhoOo* Sing-Along at the in May.

Our kids will memorize quickly as they sing *Ask Me WhoOo* each week in Sunday School, at home, in a park, or in the car with parents and sibs or even by themselves. The *Ask Me WhoOo* Song Time during the Second Sunday Evening Service each month will make memorizing easier still! The music in audio and video is easy to find on You Tube by just searching for *Ask Me WhoOo*. Also, <http://www.askmewhooo.com/series.html>

Right now, we also need four more for our Sunday School Team, Teachers and Assistants! since we only have half of the teachers we need. Most of all, we need parents to be committed to bringing their kids each week to Sunday School and to be listeners and encouragers for their kid as they practice reciting or singing what they have learned.

Let's to bridge the age gap at TBPC! We need everyone to pray as we kick this program off in the In September. Ask God what He wants you to do to help to rescue our children. He has a job for each of us!

Thanks from the *Ask Me WhoOo* Team!

Contacts:	Eileen Fritz	Sunday School Coordinator	(813) 731-0457
	Clydia Craig	Head Cheerleader	(813) 335-6320
	Ruth Clarke	Administrator	
	Bill Clarke	Technician	
	LeeAnn DeStefano	Technician	

1 <https://www.americansurveycenter.org/research/generation-z-future-of-faith/#:~:text=If%20someone%20had%20robust%20religious,beliefs%20of%20their%20parents%27%20faith>

# WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY THIS FALL

Are you looking to see more of Jesus in the Old Testament? Are you wondering how to understand Biblical themes in less familiar books of the Bible? Then you have choices!

Join one of our Women's Bible Study groups this fall as we become more familiar with the significance of the Old Testament for Christians today.

**Mondays 6:30-8:30PM**

**Zoom**

*The Word of the Lord*

by Nancy Guthrie, with video lessons by the author.

September 11—November 13

**Tuesdays 10:00AM –Noon**

**In Person**

*The Word of the Lord*

by Nancy Guthrie, with video lessons by the author.

September 12—November 14

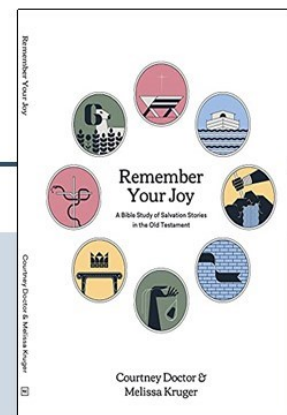
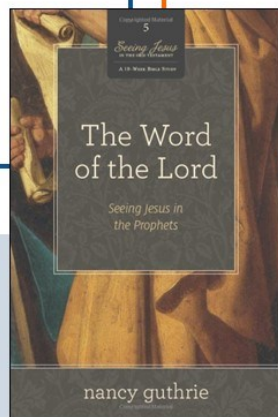
**Tuesdays 5:30-7:30PM**

**In Person**

*Remember Your Joy*

by Courtney Doctor and Melissa Kruger

Begins September 5, meets most weeks through November



- ◇ Meetings include lessons, discussion, and prayer.
- ◇ Books will be available in the Narthex following worship beginning August 27th at a cost of \$15 while supplies last. Books are also available on Amazon or other online retailers.
- ◇ Childcare provided upon request.
- ◇ Contacts: Eileen Fritz, 813-731-0457, eileenmfritz@icloud.com; or Debbie Jordan, 813-368-7513, debbiejordan1@gmail.com





DID  
YOU  
KNOW?

The TBPC Website has a new look!

The "Members Only" section has a new password. Members may contact the church office (813-973-2484 or [office@tbpca.org](mailto:office@tbpca.org)) for the password.



ONLINE GIVING

Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church is changing our online giving tool to Servant Keeper. This will provide all the same service that you have come to expect from your church, just with a new provider. You will notice that it even looks and works very similar to Faithlife Giving, our previous tool. Servant Keeper is experienced and provides highly secure transactions.

Sometime over June, when you click on our giving page you will see instructions to register for the new tool:

- " Search for whether your email is in the system
- " Reset your password and update your profile
- " Make your contribution!

Questions about the new solution? Please have a look at this user video: GPBSK - Donor Portal ([wistia.com](http://wistia.com)), see giving FAQs: Online Giving FAQs for Givers - Servant Keeper ([servantpc.com](http://servantpc.com)), or contact the church office at 813-973-2484 or email [office@tbpca.org](mailto:office@tbpca.org).

Please note that if you have a scheduled gift, it has been saved and will continue as it has previously. Soon, you will be able to make any changes to your scheduled gift directly in the Servant Keeper app.

We thank you for your continued support of our church over the years.

# Calendar of Events: 2023-24



## Fall

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

## Winter

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  
2/16 - 2/18

Membership Class  
2/18

## Spring

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

Membership Class  
5/19

ESL End of Year Lunch  
5/20

## Summer

Vacation Bible School  
TBD

Missions Trip to Belize  
July TBD

Membership Class  
8/18

Contact us



facebook.com/tbpres



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## 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*

Ashleigh Kemp,  
*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

*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*  
Ashleigh Kemp

## 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.

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