

# TBPRES TRUMPET



September 2024

Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, PCA

Volume 19 Issue 9

## From the Pastor's Desk

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

### The State of the Church Address

The State of the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church is unified, stable, and growing.

Let me give you a bird's-eye view of some statistics for our church during this past ministry year, 2023 to 2024.

Worship attendance grew from 143 to 149, a growth of 4.2%.

Communicant membership grew from 171 to 176, an increase of 2.9%.

Giving to the General Fund grew from \$366,059 to \$399,965, an increase of 9.3%.

Giving to the Missions Fund grew from \$49,413 to \$59,108, an increase of 19.6%.

Giving to the Benevolence Fund grew from \$20,316 to \$25,133, an increase of 23.7%.

Our **mission** is to bring people to Jesus and *membership* in his church family, develop them to Christlike *maturity*, equip them for their *ministry* in the church and *mission* in the world, in order to *magnify* God's name.

Our church officers spend a great deal of time shepherding the members of our church family.

The officers also had a retreat this past spring to seek the Lord regarding our priorities for the coming year. The officers believe that the Lord would have our church give attention to the following:

- **Hire an Associate Pastor for Youth and Family.** Bert Barber and his team have done a great job with the youth. However, we have yet to hire a Youth Director. Nevertheless, the Lord has blessed TBPC financially this past year, and we have almost a full year's compensation to hire an Associate Pastor for Youth and Family. The congregation approved the Search Committee to commence the hiring of an Associate Pastor, consisting of the following members: Ken Pothoven, Toney Sauls, Ashleigh Kemp, and Mike Cacioppo.

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- **Building & Grounds.** The Diaconate has identified several areas that need maintenance and improvement, such as gutters, roof, paint, sign, landscaping, cross/steeple, shade canopy, water sprinkler, and more. The officers believe the best way forward is not to take a piecemeal approach to maintenance, repairs, and improvements but to look at the entire structure of our property. In addition, some of our members have recommended that we add a new sanctuary. Considering all that, the Officers have contracted with a consultant to help us accomplish that goal. The Session has agreed with Incipio Consulting to provide and coordinate to evaluate the church's current financial position, space usage, and building maintenance needs and develop that into a "Scope Document" for contractors to price. Incipio will also provide a preliminary design/financial evaluation for a future larger facility.
- **Handyman.** The officers think it would be great to have a handyman, especially with increased growth and maintenance needs.

I am grateful to God for how he uses the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church to glorify him and grow his people. Let us keep praying for that to continue.

*Breddy*



# Local Missions Opportunity at University of South Florida



As many of you know our church has an outreach to students at USF through our supported missionary, RUF Pastor Aldo Mondin. On Tuesday nights the RUF group has their large group meeting with approximately 75 to 90 college students attending and each week they know that they will have the opportunity to eat dinner as a part of this meeting. One of the ways Aldo has asked local churches to partner in his ministry is to help provide the meals for students on Tuesday evenings. Our missions committee has designated funds to help pay for the cost of the meal once per month and volunteer cooks and servers are needed. If you would you like to participate in this ministry by making a dessert or by helping to prepare, set up, and serve on a Tuesday evening, please look at the schedule below and let me know when you are available to help.

**Tuesday, September 10**  
**Tuesday, October 8**  
**Tuesday, November 12**

**Tuesday, January 14**  
**Tuesday, February 18**  
**Tuesday, March 18**  
**Tuesday, April 8**

For more information and to let me know you would like to help, please contact Cheryl Barber at [cagbarber@gmail.com](mailto:cagbarber@gmail.com) or 813.536.9329.

# September Anniversaries



Roy & Stephanie Riley	September 6, 1969
Gary & Pat Smith	September 6, 1969
Tom & Vern Yu	September 6, 2014
Rohan & Trudy-Ann Linton	September 7, 2015
Waldo & Ashleigh Kemp	September 10, 2005

# September Birthdays



Edwin Rothfuss	September 2	Bayina Bayard	September 11
Ruth Shannon	September 2	Chris Lear	September 11
Ruth Walker	September 5	Jonathan Massie	September 13
Michael Rush	September 9	Vicki Moore	September 13
		Karen Cross	September 16
		Scott Harshfield	September 17
		Lauren Dishman	September 23
		Randi Mallary	September 25
		Rylan Highfill	September 27
		Blaine Schultz	September 29
		Jill Otero	September 30

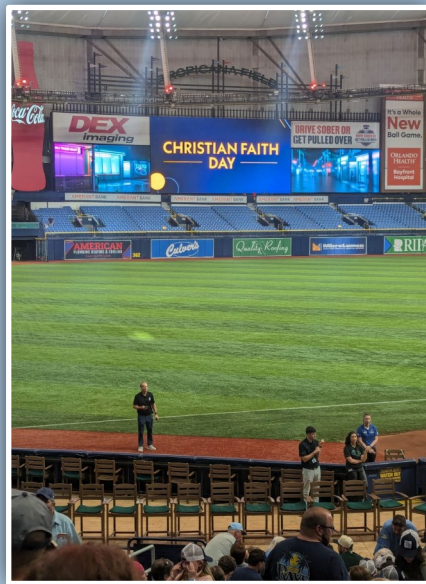
# Faith Day

## Tampa Bay Rays Game 2024

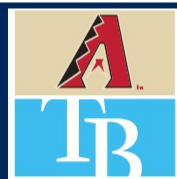
### August 17th, 2024

On August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church went to a Tampa Bay Rays game organized by the Men's Ministry. This was a special day at the ballpark because the Rays would have their regular game against the Arizona Diamondbacks and then have something exciting for our TBPC fans. At the end of the game some Christian players on both teams were interviewed and spoke about their faith in God and still being able to play the game of professional baseball. These players talked about the everyday struggles in life just like everyone else has and managing their everyday job with playing the game of baseball. They spoke about difficulties with injuries or trade that affects their lives daily and how faith keeps them moving forward in life. Many of the players reiterated how God needs to be a part of their life, and they look to God to keep them focused on their families, their job, and their faith. They talked about how their Lord & Savior was still the most important part of their life.

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### 2024 Faith Day



**SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 17TH**  
START TIME: 4:10 P.M.  
GATES OPEN: 2:10 P.M.

### Don't Miss Out

Faith Day Branded Rays Hat  
Post Game Team Chaplin & Player Testimonies  
Rays Touch Tank

**Lower Level Tickets are \$41.73 (\$70 Value)**

Event wristbands and Faith Day Rays hat can be picked up behind section 131-133 next to

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We had sold thirty (30) tickets to this event for a Tampa Bay Rays game between our Rays and the Arizona Diamondbacks. It was a higher scoring game for the Rays with Tampa Bay being victorious 6 to 1. We had everyone drive themselves to an afternoon game that began at 4:10 PM and ended at approximately 7:40 PM.

The Rays were victorious, and it was a lot of fun at the ballpark for all. We had a lot of fans who enjoyed themselves out for the afternoon with friends and family for a day at the ballpark. This was another fun event where all of our Christian brothers and sisters could come together to enjoy the day. It was further gratifying to see 13 Christian ballplayers from both teams willing to give their testimony in front of a lot of local churches. We had mostly Rays players, but we also had some testimony from some of the Arizona Diamondbacks. It was a special occasion to hear these talented and professional baseball players providing their faith in God on the field and in the dugout and clubhouse. They all shared a special side of their lives in which they loved, but it was for the glory of God. Some of the Rays players that we are familiar with was pitcher Garrett Clevinger, pitcher Richard Lovelady, pitcher Ryan Pepiot, pitcher Jeffrey Springs, pitcher Pete Fairbanks, pitcher Jacob Waguespack, infielder Jose Caballero, infielder Curtis Mead, infielder Richie Palacios, outfielder Johnny DeLuca, and outfielder Josh Lowe rounded up the Rays players. I know there were 2 Diamondback ballplayers that included pitcher Justin Martinez and pitcher Ryan Thompson formerly a Tampa Bay Ray.

All the testimony from the players was particularly good but Ryan Thompson talked about becoming a Christian growing up loving the game of baseball. He talked about how the only thing in his childhood was to become a

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major league baseball player. He thanked the Rays for working through the minors and allowing him the opportunity to finally make it to the Major League and he had fulfilled his lifelong dream. He was grateful but he said it was not as gratifying as he missed something in his life. He stated the one thing he was missing was Jesus Christ in his life. He said that he was lonely and when he had Jesus Christ in his life it became so much more gratifying in his success. He praises Jesus now and his Savior picks him back up when he is down and if you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, he will never fail you. Other players, including Josh Lowe, Jeffrey Springs, and Richard Lovelady, also spoke about their struggles through the minors and majors and how Jesus was the reason they can make it through the season especially during injuries, trades, and demotions. They all said without Jesus in your life there is nothing. All the players present re-emphasized their faith in their Lord & Savior Jesus Christ.

The day finished with some prayer and a general good time for the day enjoying some entertainment and Christian faith. We hope to do this same event every year if the Rays sponsor it. We hope they do because I believe anyone from our church would have enjoyed it.

The Men's Ministry appreciates the fun and fellowship we enjoy with our Christian brothers and sisters and look forward to other events throughout the year.

In God's Grace,

Brian S. Carrier  
Men's Ministry Leader



# Calendar of Events: 2024-25



## Fall

- Women's Bible Study  
9/3- 11/19
- Men's Breakfast  
9/7
- Adult Bible Fellowship  
Children & Youth SS  
9/8 - 12/22
- Men's Bible Study  
9/14 - 12/21
- Men's Fishing Trip  
TBD
- Membership Class  
11/18
- Thanksgiving Dinner &  
Service  
11/24

## WINTER

- Beginning of Advent  
12/1
- Women's Christmas  
Brunch  
12/7
- Men's Breakfast  
12/14
- Christmas Eve Service  
12/24
- Adult Bible Fellowship  
Children & Youth SS  
1/12 - 3/26
- Men's Bible Study  
1/4 - 3/29
- Women's Bible Study  
1/7 - 3/31
- Missions Conference  
2/14 - 2/16
- Membership Class  
2/16

## Spring

- Adult Bible Fellowship  
Children & Youth SS  
4/6 - 5/25
- Men's Bible Study  
4/5 - 5/24
- Women's Bible Study  
4/1 - 5/27
- Passion Week  
Maundy Thursday Service  
4/17
- Good Friday Service  
4/18
- Easter Sunday  
4/20
- ESL End of Year Lunch  
4/26
- Youth End of Year Party  
TBD
- Membership Class  
5/18

## SUMMER

- Vacation Bible School  
TBD
- Missions Trip  
TBD
- Membership Class  
8/17

Contact us



facebook.com/tbpres



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## Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Freddy Fritz,  
*Senior Pastor*

Rev. Scott Simmons,  
*Assistant 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*  
Holly Huffer

*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.

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