



Gulf Breezes

August, 2018

I like seeing y'all in on Sunday. I say that because I like people to come to church.

But just why do I want people to attend? Is it because preaching to a full church is a lot more fun than preaching to one that's half full? Yes, that's part of it.

But as I explored my motivations and even named those that aren't so pure, I realized there's more to it.

Here are a few reasons why I'm passionate about people carving out time to worship ...

It says to family, friends, the world: *"You're not setting the agenda for my life and my calendar. God is."*

It reminds you that while there may be *an old old story how a Savior come from glory ...* but that old story still shapes and molds the trajectory of your life whether you know it or not. It says to YOU: *"You're part of something bigger than yourself."*

It's an opportunity to gather with a bunch of other flawed, broken people who in general have the courage to acknowledge just how flawed and broken they are.

It helps develop a common language with a collection of people. At Gulf Cove, for example, you will overhear people using phrases like *"living relationship"* and *"it's not a book, it's a library"* all the time.

It connects you to sages and saints from ages past. And in a world that mistakenly believes newer is better and younger is smarter, that anchor in history is vitally important.

It engages your mind as you gain insights into Scripture that would not have occurred to you reading it alone.

It speaks to your heart as you realize during worship that many songwriters have the same longings and desires as you ... they just have the gift of articulating it well.

It puts your body, mind, and soul in alignment with God's design for a weekly rhythm: work, rest, worship. Work, rest, worship.

So yeah, I like a full church. But it's even better if the people who fill it are themselves full of the Spirit

Love y'all, Pastor Mike

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FYII: For Your Information & Interest

Scriptures for Aug, 2018

8/5

Bread of Life: Bread for the Party

John 6:1-15

8/12

Bread of Life: Bread of Another Kind

John 6:16-24

8/19

Bread of Life: Bread for the Journey

John 6:25-59

8/26

Bread of Life: Bread of the Eucharist

John 6:25-59

"FOOD FOR THE SOUL"



Please join us on Wednesday nights for a chance to grow closer to God and others in our church family. Dinner is served from 5:30-

6:00pm. . The weekly cost is: \$4/per Adult; \$2.50/per Child under 12; \$12/Family maximum. This month's menu includes

Aug. 1 - Mac & Cheese w/meatballs

Aug. 8-- Pork Sandwich

Aug. 15 – Tater Tot Casserole

Aug. 22 - Ham & Green Beans

Aug. 29 - Chili

Reservation deadline is the previous Sunday--you can list your reservation on the pew attendance pad on Sunday mornings: Mark "Food & the number of people.

Clean-up is at 6pm, then there are various activities for ALL ages. Children have Jesus Rocks in #109/110; Youth, gr. 6-12, meet in P #206; and adult bible studies, the After Dinner Group, meets in #102 and Faithful Ladies in P#201. At 6:15pm, Genesis Small Group, another adult Bible Study, meets in the #114,

For those who prefer an earlier evening, Pastor Mike leads a Bible study at 4:30pm in #109/110 where they study the scripture text he will be using for the following Sunday's sermon. You can join a study group without having dinner; likewise eat dinner without joining a study group. Please make Wednesday nights a time you spend with your church family so you can feed your body...and soul!

FINANCES

FUNDING GOD'S MINISTRY for June

TOTAL INCOME	\$26,177.92	\$221,961.53
OPERATING EXPENSE	\$6,889.67	\$44,741.88
EDUCATION/NURTURE	\$888.20	\$4,931.03
APPORTIONMENTS	\$4,504.90	\$31,534.30
STAFF SUPPORT	<u>\$23,624.02</u>	<u>\$146,397.09</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$35,906.79	\$227,604.30
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(\$9,728.87)	(\$5,642.77)
Reserve Fund Bal.		\$42,582.39

CHURCH FAMILY BOWLING



Join us each Sunday night at 6:30pm at Treasure Lanes in Port Charlotte for a fun evening of bowling and fellowship! Cost is \$3/game, plus shoe rental. No

reservations are necessary, and all ages are welcome to participate.

WHAT SPILLS OUT?

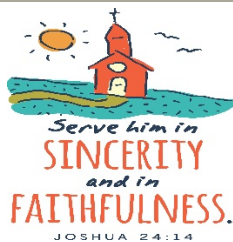
Rev. Henry compared the the unseen soup over a waiter's what's inside – bumped or



Wingblade once Christian personality to in a bowl carried high head. No one knows unless the waiter is trips. If Jesus is truly

living inside us, Wingblade said, what spills out should be the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

When you falter, what do people see? How can your "spillage" better reflect the Holy Spirit, who lives in you?





8/01	Helen Unglaub	8/03	Cindy Rowland
8/03	Sean Priest	8/04	Pat Marchert
8/05	Joyce Heacock	8/05	Joe Hitchcock
8/05	Sharon Bryce	8/06	Maddison Welch
8/07	Ralph Calladine	8/07	John McGuire
8/10	Everett Gilchrist	8/12	Duane Hartline
8/12	Bill Blount	8/13	Rose Thompson
8/13	Maryanne Leach	8/13	Linda Morrow
8/14	Linda Benz	8/14	Barb Vanderford
8/15	Ernie Ovitz	8/16	Jerry Andrews
8/16	Sam Walters	8/16	Alex Dalton
8/17	Ula Christopher	8/17	Zak Alvarez
8/18	Linda Coffey	8/19	Gene Saville
8/20	Judy Spurgeon	8/20	Loretta Barche
8/22	Ron Basso	8/23	Alicia Adamo
8/23	Kim Fisackerly	8/25	Verlee Andrews
8/25	Shirley Peterson	8/25	Jacob Batsel
8/26	Becky Walters	8/27	Bill Perry
8/27	Charlie Hilton	8/28	Donna Basso
8/29	Barbara Cox	8/29	Mary Sue Felumlee
8/30	Ron Meyer	8/31	Denny Howell



8/07	Doug & Tina Phillips
8/11	Tony & Alicia Adamo
8/11	Rev. Dr. Bill & Kim Fisackerly
8/14	Tom & Connie Shatzer
8/16	Dave & Beverly Fonder
8/17	Wayne & Stella Derflinger
8/18	Jim & Jill Boaz
8/19	Bill & Jana Blount
8/20	Russ & Sandy Palmer
8/21	Mike & Kelly Weaver
8/22	Rick & Wanda Huggins
8/25	Ron & Penny Wolfe
8/26	Craig & Renee Baumgartner
8/27	Steve & Barb Jacobs
8/27	Jack & Lynne Gill
8/27	Bill & Julie Perry
8/29	Fred & Sharon Bryce
8/31	Phill & Ginny Kolbe
8/31	Bill & Linda Kennedy

THE HEART OF JESUS

The idea of a spiritual heart transplant is a vivid image to me; once you have the heart of somebody else inside you, then that heart is there. Jesus' heart is inside me, and my heart is gone. So if God were to place a stethoscope against my chest, he would hear the heart of Jesus Christ beating.
—Max Lucado



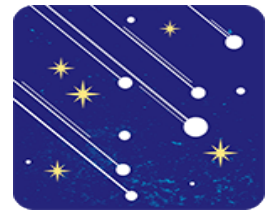
ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND



Every seventh week during the year, our church provides assistance to Englewood Helping Hand, located on the grounds of the Englewood United Methodist Church. Volunteers help on Monday through Thursday from 9:30am to 2:30pm by putting donations on the shelves and filling food bags. It is Gulf Cove UMC's turn to provide volunteers on August 20 - 23. If you are able to help one day, please sign up on the sheet posted on the Volunteer bulletin board in the Education Wing or contact Kim Bruemleve at 260-580-1307 or kimbruemleve@yahoo.com. You can also check the weekly bulletins for items that are needed. Non-perishable food items can be put into the EHH bins located in the narthex and in the Education Wing. Thank you!

LOOKING UP

World-renowned cosmologist Stephen Hawking (1942-2018) stated: "Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the universe exist.



Be curious." His sentiment is especially fitting for August, when many people try to count the falling stars of the Perseid meteor shower.

As a self-proclaimed atheist, Hawking relied on science to answer "what makes the universe exist." Yet many Christians believe that while science shows how things happen or were created, our faith tells who made them so.

Deuteronomy 4:19 (NIV) declares: "And when you look up to the sky and see ... the heavenly array — do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the LORD your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven." We can be grateful for the work of scientists and the wonders their study reveals, but instead of "bowing down" to nature, we worship its Creator and Ruler — the Lord of heaven and earth.

Emmaus Walk 99 will be taking place October 4 through



7 for Men and October 11 through 14 for Women. Anyone that is interested in taking the walk Applications are in the Education Wing and at the Office entrance. You can also find them online at <http://gcec.inetmember.com>. There are many in our church that have taken the walk and would be willing to get to know you and sponsor you for your walk. If you have any questions call Jo Ann Hopkins at 941-661-1976

Calendar Highlights

Aug 1	6pm	Wednesday	New Member Class
Aug 4	9:30am	Saturday	Closet of Home P#204
Aug 6	6pm	Monday	Bible Study Jesus & the Movies
Aug 7	8am	Tuesday	GCUM Men's Breakfast
	2pm		Stephen Ministry
	6pm	Tuesday	At Ease, Veterans Ministry
Aug 8	6pm	Wednesday	New Member Class
Aug 11	4pm	Saturday	Emmaus Gathering
Aug 12	8:30am	Sunday	Blood Drive
	12pm		Ladies Lunch Out
Aug. 13	12pm	Monday	Newsletter Deadline
	6pm		Bible Study Jesus & the Movies
Aug 15	2:30pm	Wednesday	Inglenook Visitation
Aug 18	9:30-12pm	Saturday	Closet of Hope P#204
Aug 24	6-9pm	Friday	Parents Night Out

Sundays:

8am	Traditional Service	
9:30am	Contemporary Service	
	Seekers II Sunday School	P#201
	Kids' Church/Sunday School	#109/110
11am	Traditional Service	
5-8pm	Youth Group Gr.	P#206
6:30pm	Family Bowling	

Mondays:

7pm	Boy Scouts	P#201
7:30pm	AA Support Group	#109/110

Tuesdays:

1pm	Friend to Friend	#109/110
7pm	Al-Anon	#109/110

Wednesdays:

12pm	Weekly Bulletin Deadline	
4:30pm	Pastor's Bible Study	#109/110
5:30pm	Food for the Soul Dinner	
6pm	Jesus Rocks	#109/110
	Youth Group	P#206
	After Dinner Group	#102
6:15pm	Genesis Adult Bible Study	#114

Thursdays:

8am	Grounds Main't Crew @ Barn	
9am	Crafty Ladies	Oak's Cove
5:30pm	Praise Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30pm	Girl Scouts	#108,109
	NA Recovery Meeting	P#201

