



11933 SE JUNO CRESCENT HOBE SOUND, FLORIDA 33455

PHONE: (772) 546-5043



MESSENGER

SUNDAY SERVICE

January 8, 2017

10:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Sam Rutland

Old Testament Lesson:

Jeremiah 23: 1-8

New Testament Lesson:

Matthew 2: 1-12

Sermon: *"They Parted in a New Direction"*

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

THE PASTOR'S PAGE, Dr. Sam Rutland, Temporary Supply Pastor

Christian Friends,

The new year is here, and this Sunday is epiphany – when the Magi, led by the light of the star in the east, arrive into the nativity story. Epiphany is a wonderfully descriptive word and well describes what life is often like for the Christian sojourner. Major life-changing epiphany moments do not occur every day. However, God does seem to delight in forever opening our eyes to new insights, new discoveries, and new light. Nothing seems to delight God more than bringing new light.

Last week I had an epiphany moment. I had surgery on my lower back (L-4, L-5 disks). Ouch! After trying many other treatments and therapies it was time. And I knew God was planning all this. I truly did. There were too many epiphanies... too

many rays of light. First, the best surgeon for this procedure had an unexpected opening a few days after Christmas. Second, it would be an outpatient procedure; Imagine that! And finally, recovery would be a week or two... not six months to a year like it was for me 18 years before. So I said “yes” to surgery, and today I’m recovering at home, gaining new strength each day. And yes, it did hurt more than the doctor said it would (Aren’t our doctors always overly optimistic!?) But God’s light and healing came to me in a way that is surprising. It was my epiphany.

Here’s the thing about the Magi: they came seeking the Child born the Messiah, but they journeyed with no assurances. There were no guarantees from heaven that this would all turn out well. They hoped it would, but it almost did not! For a longest time they followed in darkness, at night. And it’s the same for us, especially in things like surgery, or getting married, or having children, taking a new job, or anything new that requires that we walk by faith and not by sight.

Friends, this week I was reminded that God is needed with us. But like the Magi, we have to travel without the assurance that every story has a “happy ending”. For the Magi, there was a happy ending. This week, for me, there was one as well. Many unexpected “lights” helped guide my decision. Yet in the end, I’m reminded of this: we travel, and decide, and choose by faith, not with sight. There are never absolute guarantees enough to calm our every fear except this: God will guide us, by God’s light.

I’ll see you this Sunday.

Peace,

Sam



The beautiful Nativity figures on the front porch of the Sanctuary were given to our Church by **HAZEL STACKHOUSE**. Thank you, Hazel, for this lovely and meaningful gift. They will remain in place through January 8 in recognition of the visit of the Magi to the Holy Child.

POINSETTIAS



Several poinsettias were left on the Church porch following the Christmas Day worship service.

Thank you to all those who delivered them to our ill and shut-in members and friends.

2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE on the Sanctuary porch for you to pick up on Sunday morning. A box of envelopes is provided to each individual, or family, that has used these prepared envelopes for their offering during the past year. If you do not find a box of envelopes with your name on it, and you want one, please see Milla Fincham (Church Treasurer).

The first envelope in your 2017 box is for your **PER CAPITA** payment. This payment is your portion of the Church's financial commitment to the Presbytery. Each year the Church must contribute to the Presbytery a given amount for each *active* member on its rolls. This money goes to support the work and ministry of the larger Presbyterian Church and is divided among the General Assembly, the Synod of South Atlantic and the Presbytery of Tropical Florida.

This year the **PER CAPITA** amount is **\$32.24** *per active member*. Our church, with an official active membership as of January 1, 2016 of 115, must pay \$3707.60. It is an individual, not a family, responsibility to pay your share of this amount if you are an active member of our Church. Any **PER CAPITA** payment not made by the active member must be taken out of the Church treasury.

Worship Service Lay Leaders: Lay Leaders are an important part of our Worship Services. They guide the congregation through the journey of Sunday worship. **Jan Norrish** compiles the schedule and asks that anyone wishing to serve the Church in this capacity contact her to volunteer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The HSCPC Music Director, Brandon Glick, has put together a very exciting concert series for this winter. Be sure to mark your calendars for the following events, all to be held on our Church campus. While there will be no charge for any of these concerts, volunteer donations will help assure that such a concert program can continue as a gift from our Church to our members, neighbors and friends.

HOBE SOUND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11933 S.E. Juno Crescent, Hobe Sound

CONCERT SERIES

Lorrianna Colozzo

Monday, January 23 at 7:00pm

Enjoy an evening of your favorite songs from musical theater to opera and much more by one of our areas most talented and sought after vocalists



Jazz in the Courtyard

The Rowdy Roosters

Friday, February 17 at 7:00pm

Join us for a wonderful outdoor concert of Dixieland jazz in our beautiful courtyard.

Rowdy Carlton and Brandon Glick

Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00pm

This classical guitar and piano concert will feature solos of music written by the great composers, as well as an exciting, jazz infused guitar concerto by Claude Bolling.



ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- January 5** - Dick Grady
- January 7** - Janet Jones
- January 11** - Elora Fucigna
- January 13** - Catherine Hilton
- January 15** - Lorraine White
- Jean Albrecht
- Ingrid Krumdick
- January 24** - Dawn Brown
- January 28** - Brayton Bass

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- January 7** - Cam and Becky Boyton
January 14 - Scott and Jenny Nelms
January 16 - Jim and Mary Wigg

(If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so you can be included here for the rest of the month.)

PRAYER REQUESTS

- The Altman family
- Alex Lopez - Estrada
- Patrick Corr
- Angel Nichols
- Brian Tobin
- Joyce Spengler
- Earlene Thompson
- Family of Larry Liss
- Werner Jager
- Dawn Brown
- Deborah Hobson and family
- Dave Reeves
- Jennifer Bellintoni
- Myrna Jubb
- Mary Wilburn
- Terry McCloy
- Josephine Scricca
- Jim White
- Barbara Gaus

Names will be removed from this list after three weeks unless a request is made to keep them on. This request can be made to Karen Metzger.

WHEN YOU WANT TO MAKE A PRAYER REQUEST: To request prayers through the Prayer Circle, for yourself or someone else, contact Jan Norrish, 772-486-5514, jannorrish@hotmail.com, To have a prayer request included in the Church Sunday bulletin, fill out the prayer request card found in the Church pews or contact Karen Metzger, 772 220-4678, or kmmetz@bellsouth.net.

HSCPC WEBSITE: TheMESSENGER is posted on our website each week. If you want to check content from a previous week, just go to www.hscpc.org and click on the Newsletter link.

Visit our website: www.hscpc.org

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