

October 1, 2023

THE COUNTRYSIDE COURIER

Countryside Presbyterian Church (USA)
7768 SW Hwy. 200, Ocala, FL 34476
Tel: 352 237-4633 Fax: 352 873-3974



*Reformation Sunday
October 29, 2023*

*Presbyterians celebrate the
tradition that grounds their
faith on Reformation Sunday.*

Wear Red for Reformation Sunday!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Arthur Burditt October 1, Doug Smith October 1, Carl Berry October 2, John Butzer October 2, Jim Dygert October 2, Ginny Redden October 5, Susan Jones October 7, Carol Robinson October 8, Sharon Ryer October 8, Mary Drake October 10, Annette Leo October 10, Karen Titus October 10, Terry Dolan October 11, Kathy Niebo October 11, Dave McCarthy October 12, Grace Dunlevy October 17, Kathy Anderson October 18, Carol Fiedler October 19, Dympna Bain October 22, Carol Mann-Pierce October 22, Linda Peters October 26, Lloyd Unfred October 26, Tari Ambler October 28, Lois Gaugler October 28, Brian McNally October 29, Cindy Kinney October 31, Diane McCarthy October 31, Sue Reed October 31

LITURGIST FOR OCTOBER—Kate Clayton

USHERS FOR OCTOBER—Wayne Melchior, Ann Brown (Ushers Needed! Please sign up!)

SANCTUARY PREPARATION—Dympna Bain

COMMUNION PREPARATION—Tari Ambler, Valerie Sanders

GREETERS—Sally Rickolt, Deanna Smith, Georgia McWilliams

AUDIO VISUAL TEAM—Carl Berry, Ken Jacob, Al Kremer, Linda Peters, Valerie Sanders

BLOOD DRIVE 10/1/23—YOU CAN HELP SAVE A LIFE!!!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Are you a member of the PGA or the PWA? Do you have your own Pocket Prayer that you say? Are your prayers theatrical productions or friendly conversations? Not sure how to answer these questions or even what I am talking about but you are intrigued and want to find out? It is NOT too late to join the Christian Education class on Thursdays at 3:30 in Classroom 2 (behind the Choir Room). All you need to do is grab a copy of Max Lucado's "Before Amen" and a Bible and set aside an hour on Thursday afternoons. We would love to have you add to our discussions!

Looking to help out at church but just not sure what you could do? The Christian Education Committee is looking for some volunteers to help out in our Countryside Church Library! We need a team to work together to maintain the running of our library. If you think you might be interested in volunteering, you can let Kara Savage know by texting/calling at 407-340-3375 or through email at karamorey@yahoo.com, or you can always just tell me when you see me! More information and details will be given when a team has been formed.

Kara Savage and Linda Peters, Co-Chairs



*To Our Countryside Family,
Thank you so much for all your prayers, all the visits, cards, food, and kindness in this difficult time.*

*We appreciate your concern and love.
The Deen Family.*



NEW MEMBER SOCIAL

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 7, 2023**

1—3 P.M.



In Memory of Jerry Deen
Connie Valois and Carl Martin
John and Dymna Bain (to Cates House)
Unnamed Cash Donation
Alan Cummings/Rhonda Link-Cummings
Linda Peters
Memorial Fund

In Memory of Polly Bailey-Jefferies
Linda Peters
Memorial Fund



World Communion Sunday is celebrated on the first Sunday in October and celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world.

REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE



The Finance Committee has voted to share with the congregation our giving and fundraising contributions versus expenses each month so that everyone may see where we stand financially.

For September 2023:

Contributions	Expenses
\$19,446	\$27,426

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Clayton, Finance Chair

STEWARDSHIP

The annual Stewardship Letter has been sent to all regular and affiliate members of the church. It is now time for all of us to give serious consideration of our pledge to Countryside for the 2024 year.

Charitable bequests are one of the simplest ways to support Countryside Presbyterian, as well as an effective way to support our church for years to come.

The most common bequests are gifts made as part of a will or trust. Additionally, charitable bequests can be made by listing Countryside as a beneficiary of retirement (and regular) accounts, annuities, or life insurance policies.

If you have already created your will or trust, an amendment can be made to include a new bequest to Countryside from your estate.

To ensure that your charitable bequests are completed with minimal issues and maximum benefit, be sure to review them every so often. And if you need further information or assistance in formalizing a bequest to Countryside, please consult with your financial advisor.

John Redden
Stewardship Chair



Fall began September 23. Did we think it would ever arrive?



...that Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church in Mount Pleasant, SC, hosts a special service called the Blessing of the Animals?

COUNTRYSIDE LUNCH MEETINGS
(Organized by your Fellowship Committee)



Please join us for the Countryside Lunch meeting on **Wednesday October 11 at 12 noon**. We welcome back as guest speaker this month, Marion County Sheriff Billy Woods. Our sheriff will give us an update on his police department, crime trends in the County and department plans. Let's have a great turnout for Billy Woods and enjoy a great lunch. Sign up in the Hallway on Sundays October 1 and October 8. The cost for lunch is \$10 per person.

COUNTRYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY AFTERNOON ARTS CONCERTS



Eirinn Abu entertained with his magnificent saxophone music at Countryside Presbyterian's first concert of the season this past September 10. Eirinn was very involved with the audience who stood and clapped after each selection. Among the many favorites were: "Memories," "Unchained Melody," "The Prayer," "Amazing Grace," and an inspiring patriotic song to end the concert. Eirinn also played "I Will Always Love You," a song from one of his CDs which he previously recorded with Dolly Parton in Nashville. Grace Dunlevy is chairman of the concert series, and John Bain oversees setup and ushers.

The next Sunday Afternoon Arts Concert will be on October 8 at 3:00 when Countryside welcomes back Jennifer Foster, an amazing soprano who has performed throughout the United States and internationally as a soloist. Her many credits include roles with the Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Opera, New World Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, Tanglewood Festival, Aspen Music Festival, Santa Fe and Tucson Chamber Music Festivals. She has performed throughout Italy, Switzerland, Greece, and England. Jennifer presents locally in solo concerts and for community non-profit and interfaith organizations. Her new CD of inspirational songs, "If you Search with All Your Heart" has just been released and is available at Watchfire Music.com. In addition, Jennifer teaches voice in her Ocala studio and conducts group workshops for singers, actors and public speakers throughout the area. This is a great opportunity to hear a talented vocalist!

Submitted by Sally Zarnowiec

OUR NEW SESSION

Class of 2024
John Bain
Kate Clayton
Don Faith
Carol Melchior

Class of 2026
Tari Ambler
Ken Jacob
Warren Janes
John Redden

Class of 2025
John Berry
Susan Jones
Kara Savage

**To Elders leaving
Session this month:**

**Thank you for your
service!**

Elders:
Be shepherds of God's flock
that is under your care,
watching over them—
not because you must,
but because you are willing,
as God wants you to be

1 Peter 5:2

COUNTRYSIDE MISSION CORNER

Thanks for 711 pairs of Socks and Underwear

Thanks for 400 plus Rice and/or Beans

Peace and Global Witness Offering

October 1, 2023



At Countryside we support four Presbyterian-wide offerings each year. There is the **Joy** offering in December, **One Great Hour of Sharing** at Easter, the **Pentecost** offering in June and now the **Peace and Global** offering in October. Jesus asked us to Go out into the World and preach the Gospel to everyone. And, each Sunday we share God's peace with each other. This offering helps to fulfill God's charge.

We also would like to add that a percentage of the offering will stay local to promote peace in the community. We have chosen the local chapter of the **Boys and Girls Club of America** to do this. Their programs are especially helpful to working parents to provide a safe place for their children to gather in order to learn how to get along in this world.

If making checks, please make payable to Countryside Presbyterian Church and annotate Peace and Global in the Memo line. Thank you.

Upcoming Mission Opportunities

October is Snack Month!

Please bring in snack foods such as crackers, pretzels, nuts, chips, granola bars and other foods that folks can snack on when hungry. NO CANDY!!!

Thanks
Mission Committee



*Congratulations to Ann Brown and
Ken Jacob on their
September 23, 2023 wedding.
May God Bless Your
Marriage!!!*



CRAFTY CHRISTIANS CORNER

A shout-out of thanks to the ladies who at one time or currently have given of their time, talents and resources to create and contribute clothing and comfort items for Marion County Homeless Children and Youth and for terminally ill men and women in Hospice care. They are: Peggy Adams, Cheri Loftis, Sue Jones, Dottie Valentine, Gail Lott, Kathy Smith, Barbara Caldwell, Melita McGrath, Rhonda Link-Cummings, Katie Brown, Jan Hendrix, Marcy Miller, Janet Tenhor, Ginny Redden, Connie Valois. Marilyn Tidwell, Margee Styles, Mary Mignano, Kathy Carney (Walsh), Linda Kinney, Irma Weller, Deborah Sherer. I would also like to pay tribute to past members who are no longer with us: Karen Hagerman, Jeanette MacDonald, B.J. Porterfield, Ginette Dean and Winnie Bickel.

If I have failed to include anyone, please know that your contributions were very much appreciated.

We continue to meet monthly on the third Thursday at 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise announced. We have started the Christmas stocking project. Patterns, fabric and thread are available in the Craft room. Feel free to help yourselves.

Kathie Paules, Crafty Christians Coordinator

REPORT FROM THE PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

I'm here once again to report to the congregation the progress that the Pastoral Nominating Committee is making. We have had one member of the committee resign; there are now six of us on the committee. We just had an election for Chair and Clerk. I, along with Tari Ambler, will be co-chairs, and Ginny Redden is the clerk.

We have and are continuing to meet with the various committees of the church in our focus groups. We are hoping to have that phase completed soon. On Sunday, October 15, after the first and second services, we will have a focus group presentation for ALL members who have not already attended a focus group, ALL non-sitting Elders, ALL affiliate members, and regular attendees who are non-members. This will take place in The Founders Hall. After all the information you give us from these focus groups is collected, we will be able to compile enough information to begin working on a profile based on the consensus of what you want in a new pastor **IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT YOU ATTEND** and participate in these focus groups, as the committee wants and needs your input.

As I have said previously, this process will probably take as long as two years, because of the many pastoral vacancies there are in central Florida as well as the entire country.

Please do not ask questions of the committee members; we will answer all your questions at some point, not yet.

Please continue to have patience and pray for our committee.

Thank you.
Wayne Melchior

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Our first Sunday in October this year starts the month with a full breadth of special observances.

World Communion Sunday this year comes on October 1. In coming to the Lord's Table, we remember that we are part of one universal church in Christ. We also will continue our tradition of receiving a special PC(USA) Offering for Peace and Global Witness on this day.

In addition, on this first Sunday of the month we will carry out the Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders comprising the Class of 2026 on Session.

As the month progresses, we can expect a feeling of anticipation to grow as we approach Reformation Sunday which comes on October 29. As is our tradition, we will celebrate this day of worship with bagpipes prelude the Kirking of the Tartans, reflecting our historical church heritage.

This time of year, we start to see higher attendance as many people return from summer getaways. It's a time when we look forward to inviting new friends to church, too, as so many are moving into our newer nearby neighborhoods.

We invite anybody not yet involved to consider helping in our Sunday worship volunteering. Our various tasks just take a little bit of learning and are an uplifting part of coming to church on Sunday. Feel free to approach any of our greeters, ushers, A.V. people, helpers preparing the sanctuary or communion table, folks doing clean-up after worship, or others to ask about helping with our worship and music ministries.

Music rehearsals are back on schedule each Wednesday – Bell Choir at 1:30 p.m., Praise Team at 3:00 p.m., and Chancel Choir at 3:30 p.m. The Chancel Choir is rehearsing anthems for our 10:30 worship service as well as a Christmas Cantata, "A Child, a King: Celebrating the Son of the Father's Love" by Marty Parks, scheduled for Sunday, December 10.

Anybody who would like to join in ringing or singing, please see Raúl in the choir room before or after Sunday worship service, or on Wednesdays at or before rehearsal times. Anybody who would like to join in the singing of the Christmas Cantata are welcome to rehearse with the Chancel Choir even if you are not part of the choir's weekly music offerings.

Our early service is going strong and has proven to offer a special appeal for both long-time members and new members and visitors. This service starts at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday and typically runs 45 minutes including communion. Music books and screen-projected lyrics are offered for worshippers to sing a variety of contemporary Christian songs. Early arrivals are welcome.

We hope everybody will be inspired to share about the worship opportunities here at Countryside with friends, neighbors, and new acquaintances. All are welcome!

Arthur Burditt and Susan Jones, Co-Chairs



Worship and Music committee



October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Contemporary Service 10:30 Traditional Worship Online Service Peace & Global Witness Offering World Communion Sunday BLOOD DRIVE	2 9:00 Bldg. & Grounds 10:00 PNC Meeting	3 11:00 Membership Meeting 6:00 Master Choir Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery St. Giles, Orange Park, FL 9:30 a.m.	4 10:00 Al Anon Mtg. 12:30 Shepherd's Meeting 1:30 Bell Choir 3:00 Praise Team 3:30 Chancel Choir	5 2:15 Christian Ed Mtg. 3:30 Christian Ed Class 6:00 Girl Scouts	6	7 New Member Social 2-4
8 9:00 Contemporary Service 10:30 Traditional Worship 3:00 Concert Online Service	9 9:00 Bldg. & Grounds	10 10:00 Fellowship 6:00 Master Choir	11 10:00 Al Anon Mtg. 10:00 Worship & Music 12:00 Countryside Lunch 1:30 Bell Choir 3:00 Praise Team 3:30 Chancel Choir	12 3:30 Christian Ed Class 7:00 Southern Express Band	13	14 Lions Club In parking lot
15 9:00 Contemporary Service 10:30 Traditional Worship Online Service	16 9:00 Bldg. & Grounds World Food Day	17 6:00 Master Choir	18 10:00 Al Anon Mtg. 1:30 Bell Choir 3:00 Praise Team 3:30 Chancel Choir	19 1:00 Crafty Christians 3:30 Christian Ed Class 6:00 Girl Scouts	20	21 8:30 DAR Mtg. 10:00 Countryside Farms Mtg. 4:00 Spaghetti Dinner
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Rhonda on vacation </div>						
22 9:00 Contemporary Service 10:30 Traditional Worship Online Service	23 2:00 Book Club 9:00 Bldg. & Grounds	24 6:00 Master Choir	25 10:00 Al Anon Mtg. 10:00 PNC Meeting 11:00 Finance Mtg. 1:30 Bell Choir 3:00 Praise Team 3:30 Chancel Choir 6:00 Line Dance Social	26 10:00 Session Mtg. 3:30 Christian Ed Class 7:00 Southern Express Band	27	28 8:30 Fall Cleanup
29 9:00 Contemporary Service 10:30 Traditional Worship Online Service Reformation Sunday	30 9:00 Bldg. & Grounds 2:00 Book Club	31 6:00 Master Choir 				

Countryside Fall Cleanup,

Saturday Morning October 28, 2023

We need your help for just a few hours on Saturday morning October 28, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Come and Join Us!

Hopefully, we will hold our Countryside’s annual Fall Cleanup in cool and dry weather. We will be working outside to tidy the gardens and working inside to clean window and polish woodwork.

This year we will gather in The Founders Hall to issue your work assignments AND enjoy coffee, tea and a light breakfast. We typically work until around 12 – 12:30 and then get together in The Founders Hall to enjoy a fellowship lunch of pizza and green salad.

There will be sign-up sheets for this event in The Hallway on Sundays October 15 and 22. The sign-up list will give Building & Grounds a measure of how much work can be tackled for this Fall Cleanup. So please sign up to help. The church has a limited supply of gardening tools. If you plan to do cleanup work in the gardens, please bring your favorite gardening tools such as:

A rake or hoe for weeding, a garden trowel, Shears and Loppers for clipping hedges and shrubs and pruning shears or secateurs for the roses and azaleas.

Thank you for your continuing Stewardship; see you there on Saturday October 28.

John Bain
(co-Chair, Building & Grounds Committee)



**COUNTRYSIDE SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 4:00 TO 6:00 p.m. THE FOUNDERS HALL**

Salad, Italian bread, meatballs in marinara sauce and spaghetti, dessert
Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, and hot tea

Cost: \$5:00 per person.

Sign-up in the Hallway on Sundays October 1, October 8, and October 15



Actual Announcements from Church Bulletins



- All singles are invited to join us Friday at 7 p.m. for the annual Christmas Sing-alone.”
- Thursday night—potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer.



Pat Gabriel at our first Countryside lunch on September 13.



Indoor Picnic
September 6, 2023



Countryside Presbyterian Church of Ocala Inc.

7768 SW Highway 200
Ocala, FL 34476
352 237-4633 FAX 352 873-3974

Part Time Interim Pastor—Rev. Rhonda Link-Cummings
352 875-3002

Sunday at Countryside—Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service—9:00 a.m.
Worship online at countrysideocala.org

E-mail us at
rina@countrysideocala.org, connie@countrysideocala.org

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.