

THE SPIRE




Historic Merit Award
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*Your
Church
Magazine*

July / August 2023



NURTURE FAITH

by Dr. Doug Hood

Senior Pastor

HESITANT BELIEVERS

“At that the boy’s father cried out, ‘I have faith; help my lack of faith!’”

Mark 9:24 (Common English Bible)

The boy’s father cried out, “I have faith; help my lack of faith!” His cry is our cry. We live in an anxious time. Natural disasters, terrorist activity, and anger unleashed in the midst of shifting cultural values have brought uncertainty and fear. We may profess faith in God but that faith is hesitant, uncertain, and unsatisfactory. The forces of evil, destruction, and pain can do that; diminish a steady and certain faith in the presence and activity of a loving God. Faith may remain but it isn’t the robust faith we desire. Mixed with our faith is a good measure of doubt: “help my lack of faith!”

This father’s son is possessed with a destructive spirit. Since an early age, this spirit has thrown the boy into a fire and into bodies of water with one intention: to kill him. The Bible doesn’t tell us how many years this has been going on but the father has now exhausted all hope for his son. Hope extinguished is reflected in the father’s question to Jesus: “If you can do anything.” It is a frail request. It is what anyone who has nearly given-up would ask. In modern parlance, it is a resignation to, “What can it hurt to ask Jesus to help.” The father has moved way past desperation.

It is then that the arch of the story shifts. Jesus confidently answers, “All things are possible for the one who has faith.” The father finds that he stands before a faith so glorious and strong, a faith that has sufficient resources to meet any need, that his prayer grows larger. Certainly, the father’s desire for his son’s wholeness remains. But suddenly present is something more. The father seeks to possess the faith he sees in Jesus, “help my lack of faith!” How many of us are represented by that father’s plea?

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THE SPIRE MAGAZINE

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SPECIAL THANKS:
Printers Choice

If you or a family member are hospitalized, please notify the church office.

Even if you give the name of the church upon admission, the hospital will NOT notify us.

Each of us has felt the desire to find within our faith the resources to counterbalance the tumult of the world. These are desperate days we are living through. And as one tragedy follows another, we grow weary. Jesus does heal the father's son. And when the disciples ask how, Jesus simply answers, "Throwing this kind of spirit out requires prayer." Apparently, Jesus speaks of something more than perfunctory prayers offered before a meeting, a meal, or bedtime. If we wish to be glorious believers who call upon uncommon powers, we will fulfill the conditions of a more thoughtful, robust life of communion with God. This is a deeper prayer life than many of us have ever known.

There are days I struggle to be your child, O God; days that I struggle to be a faithful disciple of Jesus. Strengthen my faith when it is weak, hold me when I cannot walk, and remind me always that you hold my future in your loving embrace.

Amen. ●

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

Please remember the church in your will and beneficiary donations and become a Legacy Partner. Contact Christine Davis (christinedavis@firstdelray.com) for more information. ●



*Become a
Legacy
Partner*

by **Grace Cameron Hood**

Director of Children and
Family Ministry



FIRST FAMILIES MINISTRIES

VBS 2023

Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity



As the last piece of paper has been picked up and the last poster was taken down, VBS is over for this year. So many people have been impacted by this wonderful event in the life of our church, and the impact it has had will go on for a long time. All of the volunteers who made VBS wonderful are to be thanked. This started with the men of the church painting boxes and building the Ishtar Gate for Babylon. Many people donated items from paper towel rolls to old sheets to canopies that were used to create the Shops for our Marketplace.

There were many highlights. The Food Court was a triumph! Tribe Leaders were the Voice of Truth as they led the children through Babylon! The Music and the Opening and Closing Celebrations were fun and powerful! The Palace Playground was such a success! The true highlight was the drama of Daniel (Shane Tanner) and Ashpenaz (Greg Rapier). As Daniel told his story, it was amazing to hear the children plead with Ashpenaz to pray, but they did not just stop there. As the week progressed, children would approach Ashpenaz in the Marketplace to try to teach him how to pray. ●



*Daniel and the court official Ashpenaz
talk about God.*



Ashpenaz learns to pray!



Singing and Celebrating!



The Palace Playground was a favorite!



It takes many hands in the Marketplace shops!



Food Court



Music Shop



Tribe Judah



Tribe Dan



Special Thanks to our Photographer!

SESSION REPORT

During the months of April and May, the Session received seven new members, including two confirmands, and approved three baptisms. ●

GIFTS TO OUR CHURCH

Remembrance Fund from Douglas Casement, in loving memory of David and Carol Lewis; from Les and Ann Heilakka, in loving memory of Bruce Gimmy; and from the estate of Gerald Marshall.

Memorial Garden Fund in loving memory of Janet M. Loennecker, by daughter Karen and son-in-law Don Carter; and in loving memory of John J. Loennecker, by daughter Karen and son-in-law Don Carter. ●

*Giving
Our
Gifts*

NEW MEMBERS

Hannah Anglemyer
John Bowen
Phyllis Bowen
Ed Breman
Hope Brockway
Richard Brockway
Nathan Singjaidee
Amy Tanner
Shane Tanner
Keith Walker



WELCOME!



ETERNAL LIVES

Our Deepest Sympathies as a congregation are extended to the families of the following members upon the death of their loved ones:

– Bruce Gimmy –
May 1, 2023
– Ron Barrett –
May 25, 2023

HOLLY HOUSE

THE BLESSINGS OF FELLOWSHIP

“This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other.”

John 13:35 (Common English Bible)

When most of us think of the church’s Holly House mission, it brings to mind the great bargain we made at the last Step-Above Rummage Sale, the holiday decoration that was perfect for our table or front door, or the ideal shell-art gift we found for a friend. We are also reminded of the many church improvements that have been funded in whole or in part by monies earned by this very special mission of First. Most recently, \$65,000 of Holly House earnings has gone to support the critical updating of our sound, lighting, and video systems—representing their hard work and dedication.

But when I spoke recently with some of the members of Holly House (HH for short), the money earned for the church was not the first thing they mentioned when asked why they belong, and what they gain from being part of this thriving group. While each of the Holly House members has her own personal story, the themes I heard across all my conversations told me how central this group, and the fellowship it provides, is to each of their lives: it is “family,” it is “a home,” and I believe it is a model for what Christian love and fellowship should look like.

Several of the members moved to our area quite recently—some right before or during COVID, making it difficult to begin to connect with a new group of friends. Donna Van Horn, a regular in the sewing area, had this experience. (One of the things that make ties between HH members even stronger is that everyone is part of a team, working in a specific area of arts and crafts or other functions of the group.) Donna was actually sick for Christmas the year she arrived, but her family came to the service here and went home and told her, “This is the church for you!” Donna says she feels like she has always been at Holly House; from the very start, the group was so welcoming! Her participation helped to replace other volunteer activities she had where she lived previously and became a source of great friendships.

Connie Timmons and Barbara Matusik are also on the sewing team, with Barbara heading up the area. Connie is a pretty new member, having been with Holly House for three years. She says she has two “happy places,” and one of them is at HH! For her, as a single person, HH fills a need for interaction, and responds to her personal prayer that each day she will be able to “make a difference.” Barbara, who has been at HH for 10 years, just walked by the property one day and saw the sign for the rummage sale—she was so impressed she wanted to be a part of it. Both agree that HH is a place of wonderful caring and support: if you don’t show up unexpectedly, you know you will get a phone call! People pitch in to do whatever needs to be done, reach out when someone needs help, and serve as a channel for prayer needs that can be shared with our Prayer Team and pastors.

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HOLLY HOUSE

Susan Antal is a “second generation” Holly House member, having been recruited for HH the week after her retirement by her late mother-in-law, Helen, remembered fondly by many in our church. Sue, who serves as the group’s Treasurer and its jewelry “appraiser,” says that HH “gave her a life” after her work career, and she greatly appreciates the camaraderie of her fellow HH members. Whenever Sue is there, her husband, Bob, is too—helping out if he is needed or spending time at the beach!

Sue Telvock sits with the craft team that specializes in lovely sculptures and wall hangings made from shells. Like a few other HH participants, she is not a member of First (yet...) but was whole-heartedly welcomed into the group. She was lonely after having first moved here about two years ago, but through a church couple she met, she was introduced to HH. She says HH has enabled her to become part of her new community. Sue loves the outgoing and caring personalities of others in the group, which brings her out of her more quiet and reserved self. She doesn’t know what she would have done without HH in those first years after her move.

There is one person at HH who has a unique “mission within a mission.” Bonnie Snyder spends her time at HH writing notes to people in our armed services as part of “Operation Gratitude.” Prior to coming to HH, she felt she didn’t have a social group. Now she chats and shares with those around her as she writes letters addressed to “Hero” and “Brave One”—not knowing who will be reading her messages on the other end. She signs just her name, not the church’s, but letters come back from service people to her at our address, with thanks for her remembering and caring about them. Bonnie says, “HH changed my life.” She didn’t know anyone, but now she has a family.

Holly House welcomes new members and anyone who, like me, just likes to come by to visit, chat, donate some materials or finished items HH can sell, and catch up on their activities. I guarantee that you will “feel the love” and take some with you when you go—they have caring to spare. ●



More Holly House Photos on Page 19!

Holly House is a ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach.



by Dr. Doug Hood

Senior Pastor

The following is from Confronting Life's Challenges: Sermons on the Struggles We Face which features sermons by Doug Hood, Greg Rapier, and John "Skip" Randolph.

ARE YOU DISAPPOINTED?

Deuteronomy 34:4

Listen for God's Word:

"I have shown it to you with your own eyes; however, you will not cross over into it."

Deuteronomy 34:4c (Common English Bible)

This is a remarkable picture of Moses! He is at the point of death, on a mountaintop, gazing out over the Promised Land, a land for which he led God's people to possess, pondering God's word to him that he himself will never enter the land. A universal truth of life is captured in this tragic moment, a truth that neither the great or small among us escapes; life brings equal capacity to experience joy as well as disappointment. This singular moment of Moses' life lays hold of our imagination as no other moment in his life does. Life sometimes falls short of what is desired and for which we intended our labors to provide.



That moment is on the horizon for every one of us: that moment when we realize that our grandest dreams and the greatest desires of our heart may not be realized. Moses wanted to cross

over into God's Promised Land and the Apostle Paul urgently wanted to take the Gospel to Bithynia. Both were denied. Both their circumstances and own earnest efforts gave Moses and Paul every reason to believe their

central purpose and passion in life would be achieved. But, what would lie beyond their vision was the disheartening experience of watching their dreams tumble to the ground, “I have shown it to you with your own eyes; however, you will not cross over into it.”

Phillips Brooks, a preacher of another generation, has established himself as one of the great Christian preachers of any generation. There is a life-size, bronze sculpture of Brooks in Boston where he completed his ministry. Brooks is the author of that great Christmas hymn, O Little Town of Bethlehem. Nevertheless, Phillips Brooks did not plan to be a preacher. That was his second choice. He planned to be a teacher. That was his great aspiration in life. Graduating from college, he plunged into his chosen profession of teaching and he failed. He failed completely. After Brooks was dismissed from his teaching position, Brooks wrote in a letter, “I don’t know what will become of me and I don’t care much.” Brooks was struggling under the weight of a devastating disappointment!

In a sense, Brooks never recovered from the disappointment. Let me explain. Once he picked himself up from



the disappointment of failure, Brooks entered seminary to prepare for the ministry. Once ordained, his ministry flourished! During his ministry in Boston, Brooks received a letter from a small tailor shop near his church. It read, “Dear Dr. Brooks, I am a tailor in a little shop near your church. Whenever I have the opportunity I always go to hear you preach. Each time I hear you preach I seem to forget all about you, for you make me think of God.” It is said that of all the letters Brooks received during his ministry that was the one he cherished the most.

But, listen to this. Brooks became known as such an effective communicator he was invited to a meeting with the President of Harvard University. According to witnesses, Brooks left that

meeting trembling and white as a sheet. He had just declined an invitation to teach at Harvard University! He declined because of that letter from a tailor and so many like it. Brooks now knew that God intended him for the pulpit.

Barbara Brown Taylor is a preacher of considerable distinction of the present generation. Many of you heard her when she was a guest in our Distinguished Preacher Series a number of years ago. What you may not know is that she did not intend to be a preacher. That was her second choice. Barbara Brown Taylor’s heart desire was to be a novelist. She completed two novels, searched and searched for a publisher and was repeatedly turned away. Like Phillips Brooks, Taylor entered seminary

to prepare for the ministry. Years later, she would be distinguished by *Newsweek Magazine* as one of the twelve most effective preachers in the world, *Time Magazine* identified Barbara Brown Taylor as one of the one hundred most influential people of the world and her books on Christian faith consistently sit on the New York Times' Best Seller List.

What are we to make of these stories? They demonstrate what many of us have already experienced in our personal lives; that few people have a chance to live their lives on the basis of their first choice. We don't have access to Moses' inner thoughts as he sat upon that mountain, looking out over the Promised Land. Paul speaks little of his failed ambition to preach in Bithynia. What we do know is that both Moses and Paul had a choice to make, the same choice that confronted Phillips Brooks and Barbara Brown Taylor. They could look back bitterly, questioning where it all went wrong, angrily regretting that they ever had dreams at all, and this decision producing tears of disappointment. Or, they could hold their heads up in their disappointment and acknowledge that God has blessed their labor, that in their struggle, God's purposes were advanced and that by God's power, they did step

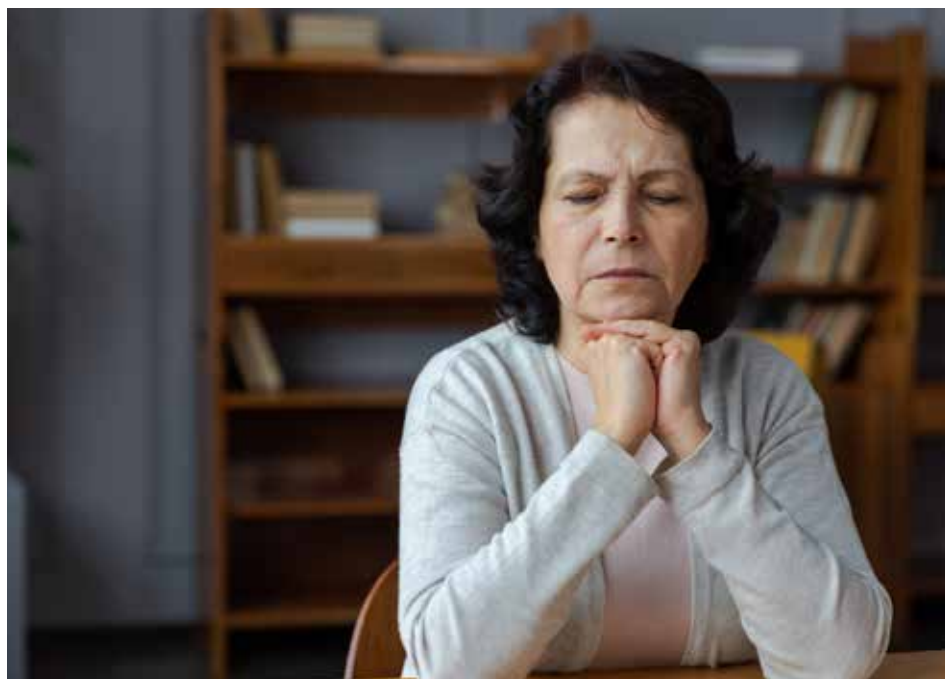
closer to eternal things.

Viktor Frankl, who survived the Nazi concentration camps, wrote, *Man's Search For Meaning*. In this book, Frankl claims that in the camps he learned the last of all human freedoms that can never be taken away is to choose your response to anything. So, no matter how small the ration of bread was that he received, Frankl always chose to give some of it away to another starving prisoner. In doing that, Frankl chose to remain a human being, and he chose not to be a victim.

Moses was not a victim. He is honored to this day as one of the great leaders of Israel. Paul was not a victim. Because he kept his mind alert to God's work, even in the midst of his disappointment of not entering Bithynia, he heard

God's call to Macedonia. Biblical scholars assert that had Paul not gone to Macedonia, we would never have heard of Paul today. The chain of events that began to fall into place for Paul as a result of traveling to Macedonia, rather than Bithynia, resulted in nearly two-thirds of the New Testament being written.

Moses, and Paul, and Phillips Brooks, and Barbara Brown Taylor are "nevertheless" people. They did not receive their first choice. "Nevertheless" they kept their eye on God. When you say, "nevertheless" after disappointment, you are placing yourself in the hands of God who can raise the dead. God can raise dead relationships, dead dreams, dead opportunities, and even dead bodies. You may not be able to



see that now. Perhaps all you can see right now is the cross of your disappointment. But, a new direction, a new opportunity is waiting, if you choose to live in the hands of God.¹ Holding on to this belief is the only way to survive disappointment.

Perhaps there is no greater struggle than recognizing again and again that God's view of success and failure is different from our own. And, it is God's view, which really matters. Moses and Paul fixed their gaze upon a destination. Phillips Brooks and Barbara Brown Taylor fixed their

eyes on a career. Yet, what really matters to God is whether at the end of the pilgrimage, those God calls have learned patience and humility and have entered into an utter dependence upon God. Ultimately, the destination is quite a secondary thing. It is the quality of the pilgrimage that matters. We don't have access to the private thoughts of Paul and Moses as they experienced disappointment. Nor do we have that access to Phillips Brooks or Barbara Brown Taylor. But, each placed their lives in the hands of God and trusted their future to God's care. They remind us that nothing, not even

the deepest disappointment life can throw at us, can ever separate us from the love of God.

Amen. ●

¹I am grateful to Craig Barnes, President of Princeton Theological Seminary for this insight.



WELCOME TEAM

*“And serve each other according to the gift each person has received,
as good managers of God’s diverse gifts.”*

1 Peter 4:10 (Common English Bible)

In the two years since this ministry began, it continues to serve those on the Team as well as the congregation.

Their purpose is, in essence, to greet visitors at the Lobby doors. Might we interest you?

We often hear, “The best testimony is our own.” A Team member offered this:

“Being a Greeter has afforded me far more than I expected!

Getting to know and meet more members and new friends of the congregation is

SUCH A BLESSING!

In addition, connecting with the children as they arrive is a JOY!”

This is an invitation for you to contact Carolyn Kettle (recruiting/scheduling for the Welcome Team) to indicate that you would like to be a part of this ministry—to welcome people warmly and sincerely into this place of worship. Please reach out to Carolyn (561-504-9550 or carolynskettle@gmail.com) as soon as possible. She is eager to give you more details. ●

*We hope
you will
join us!*

by Nathanael Hood



ELEMENTAL

A Movie Review by Nathanael Hood, MA, New York University;
MDiv, Princeton Theological Seminary

I remember the first time I saw the trailer for Pixar Animation Studios' *Elemental* a few months ago. It was at a theater with a group of friends who, like myself, had grown up with the first wave of Pixar films in the late nineties and early two-thousands. We all had fond memories of the Little California Studio that Could—the company who beat the seemingly invincible Walt Disney Animation Studios at their own game over and over at the box office and the Oscars. While the Mouse floundered with bland, forgettable comedies, Pixar gained a reputation for movies unafraid to exercise the audience's hearts and tear ducts. Once, the release of a new Pixar movie was an Event with a capital "E." Then came their 2006 merger with Disney and something...changed. While still capable of the occasional film

with the old Pixar magic — *Inside Out* (2015) and *Coco* (2017) come immediately to mind—the innovators who gave the world talking toys, soft-shoeing robots, and balloon houses became a conveyor belt of Good-Not-Great sequels, prequels, and direct-to-streaming releases. When the credits of the *Elemental* trailer flashed, my friends and I sat in bewildered silence, looked at each other, and laughed.

Perhaps we were unfair. By all accounts, *Elemental* wasn't the Pixar-on-autopilot cash-grab the trailer seemed to suggest. Pitched way back in 2015 and largely based on director Peter Sohn's memories of growing up in the States the child of Korean immigrants, the film is obviously a labor of love with the highest (and noblest) artistic intentions.

It's the story of two star-crossed lovers—one a lower-class fire element named Ember Lumen (Leah Lewis) and the other an upper-class water element named Wade Ripple (Mamoudou Athie)—living in Element City, a metropolitan wonderland peopled with anthropomorphic versions of the four classical elements of fire, water, earth, and air. After a painful meet-cute where Wade, a city inspector, almost puts Ember's family's shop out of business—long story—the two team up to solve a mystery threatening the entire fire element quarter of the city. Oh, and somewhere in there they fall madly in love. *Elemental* takes bold swings at such weighty topics as racism, the immigrant experience, class differences, and escaping parental expectations (the last being one of Pixar's

continued on page 15

favorite themes as far back as *Finding Nemo* and *The Incredibles* in the early two-thousands). It also has the distinction of being one of the only Pixar romantic comedies since *WALL-E* (2008).

Unfortunately, *Elemental* isn't particularly good. But it's not bad, either, which is the problem. In today's crowded animation marketplace, the most dangerous thing a film can be is mediocre: great films are remembered for their excellence, bad films for their notoriety. But mediocre films? Those are quickly forgotten. Frankly, I don't see anyone remembering this film in a year or two any more than other Pixar missteps like *The Good Dinosaur* (2015) and *Onward* (2020). Too many of the story beats are cookie-cutter predictable, right down to Ember's contrived falling out with her doting father to Ember's even more contrived break-up with Wade at the start of the third act. Watching it, I couldn't escape the impression that I was seeing something Frankensteined together from other, better Pixar movies.

Instead, *Elemental* is at its best when it steps back from the

plot and lets the audience drink in the incredible world-building and art direction. Element City is one of the most dazzlingly realized locations in any Pixar film with exquisite, near obsessive detail poured into its every nook and cranny. Unlike many animated cities that feel like clones of real-world locations like New York City with a few strange buildings thrown into the background for flavor, everything about Element City feels constructed with a city planner's eye for accommodating real-life creatures of fire, water, earth, and air. Consider, for example, the fire element quarter of the city where Ember lives. As the city was originally built with water elementals in mind, their neighborhood was reverse engineered between a series of drained canals. Since the city's subway system is essentially a giant log flume ride, the sidewalks underneath their elevated lines are covered with drains to catch and dispose of spilled water so it doesn't harm the fiery inhabitants. This is world-building of the highest degree, and I haven't even mentioned the glass tower swimming pools of the water elementals, the tree-filled offices of the earth elementals, or the sky-high spherical sports stadiums of

the air elementals.

Element City deserved a better story. The narrative's need to shoehorn all its weighty themes like racism and classism around its uneven romance fails the latter at the expense of the former. It's not that you *can't* make a good romantic comedy that explores these ideas—this just isn't one of them. I've heard that during production certain story ideas were nixed because the filmmakers wanted to save them for a potential sequel. Despite *Elemental's* mediocrity, I hope it gets made, if only because I want to see this creative team take a crack at a better story worthy of Element City. ●

UPDATE FROM THE 2024 STEWARDSHIP TEAM

The Summer Season is here! And, with it, as with all seasons at First Delray, comes a variety of programs and activities for the congregation and the community made possible by our church family's generous pledges and contributions. Thank you to each of you who prayerfully consider and then offer financial support to First Delray that allows us to facilitate the "building of disciples and transforming of lives". This is truly the Lord's work!

While this work is carried out all year long, we devote a specific time period each year to conduct a formal Stewardship Campaign where we invite our church family to commit themselves and their resources to carrying out our shared mission.

The 2024 Stewardship Team has already begun planning for next year's campaign. The committee is comprised of senior staff, Session members, and congregation representatives. The theme is Sustaining Ministry Excellence. Budget initiatives toward that goal will be highlighted as the program is rolled out. The campaign will commence in the first week of January. In the meantime, we encourage you to take special note of the many ways that your current contributions continue to "Build Disciples and Transform Lives". ●



SUSTAINING MINISTRY EXCELLENCE

- Nurturing Our Faith
- Enhancing Our Congregational Care
- Strengthening Our Pillars of Support

WHY SHOULD WE PRAY FOR OTHERS?

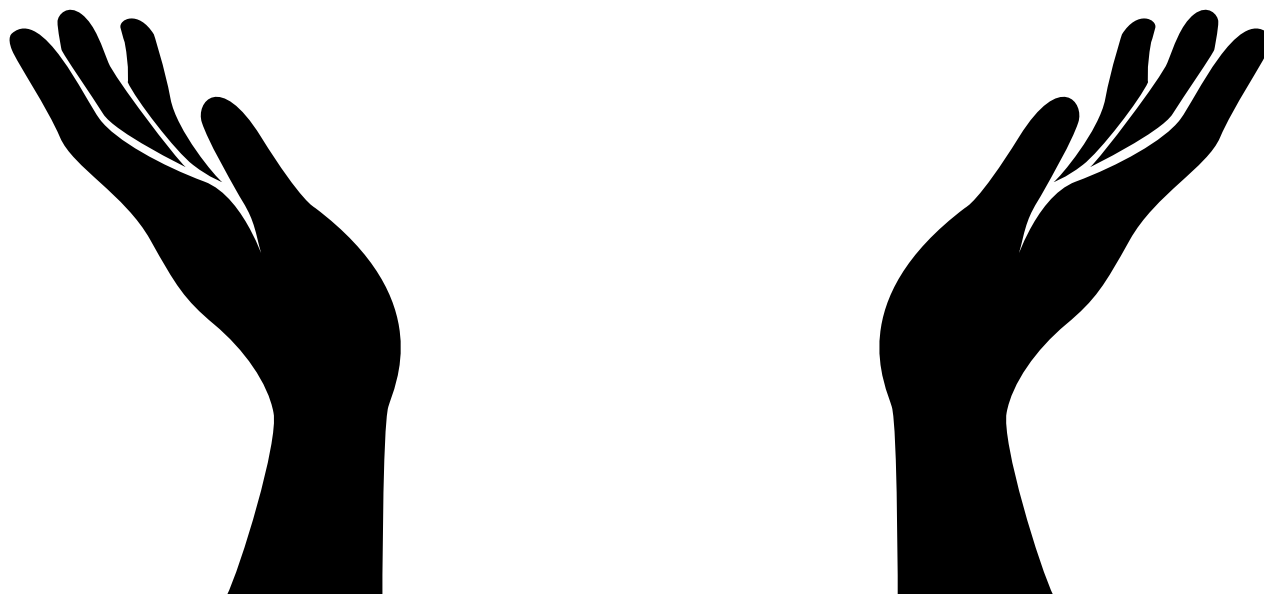
It is very obvious in Scripture that the Lord wants us to pray on behalf of others, and we are given many commands concerning prayer to do so.

*“Offer prayers and petitions in the Spirit all the time.
Stay alert by hanging in there and praying for all believers.”*
Ephesians 6:18 (Common English Bible)

“Jesus was telling them a parable about their need to pray continuously and not to be discouraged.”
Luke 18:1 (Common English Bible)

Prayer is one of the greatest gifts we can give to others. We pray for others for comfort, for salvation, for healing, for safety—for any number of reasons. God uses our prayers to align our hearts to his will. We find that he waits on us to pray and then pours out his power in response to those prayers.

Prayer requests come through the church office and are then distributed to team members. Each request is carefully and thoughtfully lifted up in prayer with respect and confidentiality. Please contact Nancy Fine in the church office (561-276-6338 or nancyfine@firstdelray.com) for more information or if you are interested in joining. ●



WALKS WITH THOUGHTS

We are talking of God sightings in Vacation Bible School this week. God sightings—signs of God that are all around us, every day. I am struck by how many of the children’s sightings have to do with gardens: the flowers that bloom in them, the sunshine that kisses them, the rain that waters the seeds in them, even the lightning that provides nitrogen to feed mom’s growing tomatoes. *Gardens.* Gardens seem to speak to us of God.

A couple of weeks ago, I took a walk in Bradley Park, a beautiful manicured public garden in historic downtown Palm Beach. The park lies at the intersection of Cocoanut Row and Royal Poinciana Way, near the start of Palm Beach’s Lake Trail. A hundred years ago, this

land was the site of Bradley’s Beach Club, a gambling casino. Currently, only two of the original structures remain: a small tea house and an imposing fountain, whose Artemis stone sculpture, overlooking the gardens, stands 15 feet tall. A quarter-mile crushed shell path meanders through purple iris, blooming red Jakarta trees, lavender southern wisteria, a clump of golden tickseed, and tall, beautiful orange canna. I sat on one of the stone benches along the path and gazed at Lake Worth Lagoon spread before me. Across the lake, the skyscrapers of West Palm Beach lined the horizon. But there in the quiet garden, I was alone.

No. Not really alone. For as our VBS children know, gardens are a great place for God

sightings. All I had to do was keep my eyes and ears open. *In the Garden...he walks with me and he talks with me.* The words of my mother’s favorite hymn come to mind. God sightings in a garden.

A garden. What better place to see and talk with God? The Bible is dotted with gardens: Eden, where God walked with Adam; King’s Garden, the royal garden of the Israelite Kings; the Persian palace gardens of Queen Esther’s time; Golgotha, where Jesus was crucified; and, of course, Gethsemane. Gethsemane, where Jesus talked with his Father shortly before being arrested. Where Jesus, alone in prayer, was strengthened by an angel.

I, too, drew strength there in a garden as I took a few minutes to thank my God for the day and the beauty surrounding me—much of it planted and planned by man, but ultimately created and maintained by God.

This month, my prayer for you is God sightings! I pray that every day, whether you are in a garden, in your home, or in your car—wherever you are—you will see God, hear God’s voice, and feel God’s love surround and strengthen you. ●



MORE HOLLY HOUSE PHOTOS!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

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This church magazine is available online at www.firstdelray.com. If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of this publication, please email Nancy Fine at nancyfine@firstdelray.com

Sunday Morning Worship Service

10 a.m.

