

NEWSletter

THE READER'S CORNER

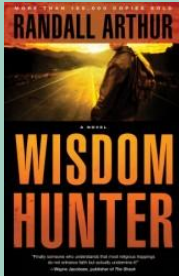
in this issue

- Pastor's Pen
- VBS Highlights
- Who joined our church
- Habitat update
- New book club coming
- Upcoming events

Each month we will feature a few recommended Christian books to read and Christian CD to listen to or talk about new movies with a positive message for the family.

Recommended Books this month are:

Christian – Fiction



Christian – Discipleship



Christian Music



Shaun Groves's new album release date August 30, 2011

PASTOR'S PEN...A NEW SEASON BY: PASTOR DEBBIE

A New Season

Puffy, tall clouds set against a crisp blue sky, cool breezes and sunshiny days, evenings with a little nip and the reminder that a blanket would be nice...signs of Fall coming in the northeast. Those of you raised north of these parts might recall some of these tell-tale signs that the seasons are about to change, as summer passes the baton to autumn as it jogs nearby. School beginning—new backpacks, newly pressed and dressed children, elated parents...what a great time of the year! Living in Florida, where we seem to move from summer to winter and wonder where fall disappeared to, shifting gears from season to season can many times seem to sudden. It sneaks up on you...surprises you...catches you unaware. Life can be like

that as well. We wake up one day to realize that our lives are not the same—roles have changed, people around us have changed, our bodies...well, enough said. ☺

Yet we serve the God of newness. "Behold, I am making everything new!" (Rev. 21:5) And this Scripture points to the "continual" state of newness—that's right...it is an on-going work of God. New truths, new challenges, new strength, new hope, new callings, new—new—new! What does that mean for those of us who like to be settled into one season? Those who frown upon change? For each of us who crave routines? Familiarity? Nesting? The God of a new season has an adventure for you, for us. What are His winds of change bringing into our lives as a church? How can you become part of a new chapter, a new day, a new calling? Pick up your head

and look unto your coming King. He has plans for you and for our church. It's time to leave the lazy, hazy days of summer behind and "fall" into His new will and new plans. So come on, pumpkin—we're headed on a Family outing and it's going to be great. ☺

Mark Your Calendars!

- Aug. 29th 6pm Cunningham small group starts back up everyone welcome especially families with children.
- Sept. 1st deadline for bricks to help habitat for humanity
- Sept. 6th a meeting to plan a fall ladies tea @7pm
- Sept. 7th Wednesday night celebration for kid's returns...spread the word!
- Sept. 10th youth going to Night of Joy
- Sept. 11th Koinonia café returns led by Pastor Debbie.
- Sept. 12 6:30pm Ritz small group @Ritz home

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

BUILDING AND GROUNDS UPDATE

The trustees and others have been busy this past spring and summer. As you noticed the Fellowship Hall and back hallways got a facelift and new coat of paint thanks to Ron Ritz, Carol Defilippo, Joann Ritz, George Nelson, Lindy House and a few youth who assisted. The two bathrooms upfront have been changed to unisex restrooms and freshly painted as well.

Recently, the trustees with the help of Grady Cunningham removed several trees from our property that were dead and a safety hazard. By the way did you notice the new rear doors in the fellowship hall leading outside? They got that done too!

The Trustees are looking for a few good men and women to serve on the team. Let us know if you are interested.

NEW SERVICE UPDATE

As a church, it was apart of our vision plan to start a Saturday night service that was a casual in dress, contemporary in music and controlled by the Holy Spirit and not by us! A place new people and lifetime Christians could come. This contributes to our mission to be a place for the wounded, weary and the wonderer transforming lives to be Disciples of Christ.

February 26th we started this Saturday night service and called it The Remedy. We started with 55-60 people attending Jim Kaminski Jr. was leading our music. Since then God has been stirring things up. Tanya Yungmann has taken over as the music leader Saturday nights and has brought a talented team of musicians around her that include our own Brett, Missy Ehrman and Joann

Ritz. We have seen people come to Christ, we have seen people rededicate their lives to Christ and we have seen people receive healing emotionally.

We had a Saturday night service outdoors Easter weekend and feed over 200 people. We had a family night where Grady Cunningham and his kitchen team served an amazing meal for families of our community. We had 65-75 people with us that night for service.

Currently it has been slow through the summer months but we are excited as the fall approaches and we focus more on inviting families and connecting with our community. Lifekidz meets every Saturday night during the service and we have nursery provided as well for families.

OUTREACH REPORT

Our Backpacks were a hit!!!!!!! This year we stuffed 30 backpacks for the kids in our community. Including shoes for school as well. Cathie Moore and Mary Cannon headed up the effort with the support of the church. Great job everyone! We are in Ridge Manor to be a blessing to our community and reach our community.

(in this photo: Clint, Louise, Guy and Jan)



We have USDA food pantry the first Monday night every month from 4:30-6:30pm, we have Jericho Road sponsored food pantry the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 9am to noon and our church supplied food pantry the third Monday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30pm. We currently are feeding 20-30 families at each food pantry. We need help in keeping our pantry supplied, by bringing non-perishable food items in the first

Sunday of every month, as well as volunteers to help give out groceries.

This ministry has primarily been run by Cathie Moore, Mary Cannon, Linda Means and Suzanne Winchoba. Some assistance, as it has grown and with the holidays fast approaching, is needed.

Our outreach ministry will begin getting ready for Thanksgiving baskets and Angel Tree Ministry where we help to give Christmas to families in our communities who are having a hard time this time of year. Stay tuned for great updates coming soon of our outreach efforts.

If you can help, please contact the church office 352-583-3770 or see Cathie or Mary.

CONNECTING

Welcome to the family...we are excited you decided to call our church home!

New members:

Walt and Beth Eastman
John and Janet Roy
Paul and Brenda Baker
Ted and Marlys Gustafson
Vera Treadway
Joyce Bonsteel

september

1st – deadline for brick order
6th – ladies tea planning
7th – LifeKidz Starts 6pm
10th – Youth @Night of Joy
11th – Koinonia café starts
12th – Ritz small group starts

october

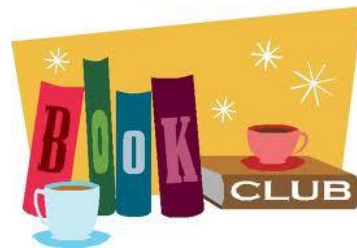
7th – pumpkins arrive,
unloading party
Whole month pumpkin
patch, volunteers needed
18th – charge conference
22nd – fall festival
29th – pumpkins @car show
in Brooksville

november

we will be busy planning for
holidays and collecting food
items to feed families in our
community for Thanksgiving



Over two years ago we teamed up with several other churches in our community to raise funds and build a home for the Kyle Family. Now two years later the house is not finished and the family is still waiting. The last update we got is that they need to raise \$2,000 to finish the drywall inside the home.



COMING SOON, Our own book club!

You may become a member of the club by donating 5 Christian books, any kind including novels, good condition only. After your original donation, you may swap any book by bringing in another one. All transactions are on the honor system. Bring your 5 books to a designated place in the "A" team office. For more information, contact Barbara Green or Pam Blomberg.

KEEP PRAYING FOR THEM

Pam Blomberg
Bill Miller
Richard Morgan

Barbara Green (passing of her mother; traveling)
Brett, Missy and Jonah Ehrman (adjusting to new family; finances)
Bob Beard

VBS Highlights



July 18 – 22 we had vacation bible school (VBS) with this year's theme PandaMania! For the week we had 64 kids registered and averaged 50 -55 kids each day all week. We were blessed with 50 volunteers this year, 15 of them coming from Dundalk EPC in Maryland. We had several kids make decisions to start a relationship with Jesus. Thank you to all who served the kids and helped all week, check out some pics!

