

# POPC PATHWAYS

Newsletter of Port Orange Presbyterian Church - Rev. Dr. Calvin Gittner, Pastor



JANUARY 2021



## A Year of Gratitude

My wife received a simple gift from our oldest daughter at Christmas; a small journal entitled, Good Days Start with Gratitude. It's a quite simple journal with a motivational quote for each week, followed by seven daily prompts that all read, "Today I am Thankful for..." My wife said she was excited to begin her days by focusing on positive, hopeful blessings -- those things large and small in her life that she is grateful for. I resisted the urge to suggest to her that the journal would end up being all about me!

The idea of trying to cultivate a life of gratitude is not new. Spiritualists, self-help books, therapists, pastors and theologians, and everyday folk have all talked about the healing that can take place when we are able to make the cognitive shift from thinking about our lives as only being filled with troubles and challenges to being able to see through those same troubles to find the buried treasures of friendship, love, and happiness.

We all know that just because it is a new year, our troubles will not magically disappear. In fact, some of the challenges of 2020 may linger on for months, and no doubt, a few new problems will emerge. All those troubles, challenges, and problems will need to be addressed and hopefully overcome. My hope is that you and I will not become so absorbed by the enormity of tasks that are now before us that we are unable to cultivate lives of gratitude. Yes, we have a lot of work to do in 2021, but we can either enter this season with a sense of dread, or we can step into this new season with a sense of hopeful anticipation.

Here at Port Orange Presbyterian Church, your elders, deacons, staff and I will do our best to keep a spirit of gratitude in our hearts as we press forward to reopen and redesign by "Cultivating a New Spirit for a New Day!" This will require lots of hard work that I believe will lead to untold wonder, joy, and possibility. I encourage you to do the same: look for places where the Spirit of Christ is opening doors to new horizons or providing a nice bench on which to sit and ponder life. Find your own journal ([www.prettysimplebooks.com](http://www.prettysimplebooks.com) as one!) and start each day of 2021 by asking yourself, "Today, what am I thankful for?" And then let your spirit soar!



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**JAN 3 AT 10:45 AM**

Blessings and Peace,  
Pastor Calvin Gittner,  
Rev. DMin.



# Birthdays **JANUARY**



- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Teresa Sekerak        | 16 Richard Loetterle        |
| 2 Jean Meredith         | 18 Don Albert               |
| 2 Susan Canter          | 20 Sandra Dalla Rosa        |
| 3 Kay Baumgarten        | 21 Kim Scaccia              |
| 5 Magda Kovacs          | 22 Louise Warner            |
| 5 Sue Lopez             | 23 James Jim Lollich        |
| 6 Jennifer Branch       | 25 Ralph Russell            |
| 7 Angie Katzenstein     | 25 John 'Jack' Horner       |
| 7 Charlotte A. Balch    | 25 Ria Hall                 |
| 8 Robert 'Bob' Jensen   | 25 Michael 'Mike' Clancy    |
| 8 Joyce Smith           | 25 Milani Saldon            |
| 9 Jacquelyne Peddycoart | 27 Suzanne 'Sue' Espiritu   |
| 9 Jana Robinson         | 28 Ronald 'Ron' Christopher |
| 10 Patricia Anderson    | 29 Phyllis Decker           |
| 11 Virginia Brower      | 31 Elaine Pendleton         |
| 11 Thomas McGlumphy     | 31 Kristi Miller            |
| 11 Gloria Liossis       |                             |
| 11 Jennifer Brubaker    |                             |



# Anniversaries



DATE	<i>January</i>	YEARS
Jan-06	Raul & Valerie Zambrano	31
Jan-11	Denny & Darlene Harder	25
Jan-25	Bob & Kathy Brown	41

## JOIN OUR 'STREAM TEAM'

We are looking for persons to help with our online streaming Sunday mornings from 9 am to 11 am. Knowledge of Facebook and Powerpoint is welcome **but not required.** Contact Carolyn Fitzwilliam or Kavita Fonseca (contact@popreschurch.com) for more info.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**January 3rd, 10:45 am**  
**In-Person & Via Zoom**

ELECTING NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

**Deacon's Class of 2023**

Marjorie (Margie) Topol  
 Kathy Brown  
 Connie Conway  
 Jane Rockhold  
 Beth Beekman

**Elder Class of 2023**

Pat Miles  
 Bonnie Causey  
 Jorge Lopez

Extend Paul Heaton:  
 class of 2020,  
 by 1 year to the class of 2021

# Youth Ministry Update



Meeting Link sent out via email/text

At this time we will continue to meet virtually and will update families immediately regarding any change in meeting format to in person.

- 1/3 Youth group via Zoom 5-6:30
- 1/10 Youth group via Zoom 5-6:30
- 1/17 Youth group via Zoom 5-6:30
- 1/24 Youth group via Zoom 5-6:30
- 1/31 Youth group via Zoom 5-6:30



~ Kristi & Matt Miller  
 Co-Directors of Youth Ministry



## Adult Learning & Ministry

We offer our congregation continuing education during this time. We have online meetings, study plans and videos, and working to more ways to keep us connected.

## VIRTUAL CLASS

Jan 3 & Jan 10 - Advent Series  
 Jan 17 - Resuming 'The Universal Christ' by Richard Rohr

## IN-PERSON CLASS

Every other Sunday in the Gathering Place, when the church is open. Discussing the lectionary/sermon

## Did you know?

Our live streams are saved on Facebook and Youtube! In the following weeks, we will have all previous services on our [YouTube Page](#).

**In Person**  
 Sunday 10:45 AM  
 Giving envelopes are available in our pews. Call the office if you would like to get a box. Please write your name and the fund designation on the envelope to ensure proper crediting.

**Via Mail**  
 If you are unable to attend in person, you may mail your contribution. Remittance payable to POPC, 4662 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange, FL 32129.

**ONLINE**  
 Vanco Payments  
 Click on the image below to give through our Electronic Giving Program.

**ONLINE**  
 Card Payments  
 We accept personal card payments through the Profile network.

**ONLINE DEBIT/CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS**  
 Our website is now able to accept card payments. You can give your regular contributions, support our missions and special funds.

# Contact Us

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday  
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



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**PORT ORANGE**  
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH