

## News and Notes

**TAMPA ACTIVITIES**

Jan 27-2	<b>Winter Reunion</b> at Deerhaven
Feb 2-4	<b>Youth Retreat</b> at Deerhaven
Feb 4	<b>Building Committee</b> , noon
Feb 11	<b>Ordination Service</b> , 11:00 AM
Feb 14	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> (First day of Lent)
Mar 11	<b>Daylight Savings Time</b> BEGINS
Mar 25	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
Mar 29	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
Mar 30	<b>Good Friday</b>
Apr 1	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
Apr 6	<b>Nuts and Bolts Workshop</b> , Tampa

**NUTS AND BOLTS WORKSHOP**

The FMC is offering a special one-day workshop right here in Tampa on Saturday, April 7. It's called "Nuts and Bolts" because it will focus on the basic tasks and functions of many congregational leaders. There will be breakout sessions for Pastor, Congregational Financial Officer, Recorder, Youth Minister and Outreach/Invitation Minister.

Our role as host congregation will be to have the building ready for the training sessions, provide a noon meal and assist as needed throughout the day. We'll look at simple meal options as we get closer to the date.

There will be no charge for this workshop, only a free will donation for lunch. However, an RSVP is

requested to help with essential planning. More details later.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Committee Chairman Steve Dillon has called for a Building Committee meeting right after church on Sunday, February 4. The goal will be to review any projects that the committee may want to undertake in 2018, to gather input for any new suggestions or possible additions in the future and to plan a spring workday.

Last year, we had about 20 of our members here for a workday in mid-March. No room or space in the church was left untouched and the transformation was remarkable as we cleaned, organized, tossed out and made sweeping changes in the appearance of the entire church and grounds. We're planning a similar workday this spring, but hope to have a shorter list of projects this time!

If you see an area or a project that you think deserves the attention of the Building Committee, be sure to share that with Steve Dillon before February 4. And, keep looking for information about spring cleaning!

**WINTER REUNION**

Mark Dixon and Peter Smith have teamed up again as directors for the Florida Mission Center Winter Reunion. The guest ministry will be provided by Apostle Barbara Carter who will lead a morning class on the text "*Fully Awake and Ready to Respond*" (available from Herald House Publishing).

A special afternoon of fun will feature will be the return of the Irish Hooley (celebration) with traditional instrumentalists and tunes with toe-tapping energy and a grand time for

all. So bring your shamrock, sheleightly, four-leaf clover and get your Irish on for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

**NEW PORT RICHEY**

As most of you are aware, the New Port Richey congregation was more-or-less an outgrowth of the Tampa congregation ministries. One-time member Debra Hogan started a "home church" in New Port Richey, attracting a number of young families and neighborhood youth. Also, a few Tampa members and priesthood transferred to NPR and/or became active with that new congregation. When they outgrew the space available in the home, they moved to outdoor worship in a nearby park. They held church and baptisms at a Gulf beach and more.

After a period, Debra had to cease working with the group and a new pastor, Jerome Sauls, was announced. Now, Jerome lead a rough life in his earlier years but has come around and lives a clean lifestyle, filled with the Spirit of God. He's been a great minister for the New Port Richey congregation and its outreach to a largely homeless population.

Last fall, it was announced that Jerome was in dire need of a liver transplant. This is a man who has given countless hours to the Lord and to His flock in New Port Richey—a man who sweeps floors, preaches sermons and simply loves on his congregation.

As the "cousin" or "big brother" congregation, we call on Tampa for mighty prayer on behalf of Pastor Jerome Sauls that the wheels of the system can be loosened and that they can find a matching donor liver for him very soon.

**Pastoral Team**

Elder Jon Ralston (Pastor) 813-995-0220  
Elder Don Dugger 727-375-8653  
Elder June Ramsey 813-920-6484

Elder Eric Pendleton 813-610-9314  
High Priest Tom Roberts 813-760-4426