



Catch the Wave at Bayshore PC

Tidings

Bayshore Presbyterian Church
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May 2019

A Mother's Day Poem

BY RUTH BELL GRAHAM

Listen, Lord,
a mother's praying
low and quiet:
listen, please.
Listen what her tears
are saying,
see her heart
upon its knees;
lift the load
from her bowed shoulders
till she sees
and understands,
You, Who hold
the worlds together,
hold her problems
in Your hands.

THECOVE.ORG



for all you do
you do with love
you are so special
a gift from above
and with all my heart
I want to say
I LOVE YOU MOM
happy mother's day



"I don't know what it is about food your mother makes for you, especially when it's something that anyone can make - pancakes, meat loaf, tuna salad - but it carries a certain taste of memory." — Mitch Albom



Our Pastor

Catch the Wave

at Bayshore Presbyterian

*Her children arise and
call her blessed; her
husband also, and he
praises her.
-Proverbs 31:28*

I don't know about each of you, but for me this spring is flying by! Linda came into my office today to say it was time for our next Tidings! I felt like it was just Easter and I had just written a column for Tidings! I'm sure age is a factor in all this but also it is the pace and busyness of our lives. We need to take time to slow down and reflect. Slow down and love. Slow down and take care of ourselves spiritually and physically! Slow down and spend time in study and in prayer and in service. That's a three-pronged necessity which we often ignore!

We need to slow down and get to the basic truth of our faith. Each of us has a center of value, on the basis of which our lesser values gain their meaning. That center of value, said the late H. Richard Niebuhr, is essentially theological, whether or not we are traditionally religious, it is our God. That center of value forms our other values and shapes our hopes and dreams and expectations for the future.

Like the steward who wasted his master's goods, we are shown unusual mercy—amazing grace—by our God and we are commended by our God. We must slow down and know and appreciate God's amazing and dependable graciousness, his unexpected and always surprising willingness to love us and accept us. We, like the steward, must know that we can depend utterly and ultimately in the generosity and grace of our master. (See Luke 16:10-13)

At the same time Luke reminds us of Jesus' saying "No servant can serve two masters. You cannot serve God and mammon." What is your mammon? What is my mammon? Is it money, the essence of wealth? Is it accumulated "stuff", is it misplaced "self-fulfillment?" In other words, is it wanting more than we can have and putting self ahead of social relationships and ahead of the worship and trust in our God? Put simply, the question is, "Are you trying to serve two masters?" Mammon is not inherently bad, Jesus did not condemn wealth, ambition or hard work. It is only bad if we look to it for our salvation. It doesn't work. You can't have everything. You have to choose. Saying yes to God means saying no to other gods. It is a matter of very basic theology.

If you try to squeeze something infinite out of something finite, you will not only be unsuccessful and frustrated, you will very likely squeeze the life out as well. Obsessive need—dependence—is not a strong basis for a healthy relationship. To sum it up—If we give our hearts to mammon, whatever that might be for each of us, we will not be happy and, in the process, we will miss the saving miracle of God's unusual generosity, God's amazing grace, God's unconditional love for us which is the only source of our salvation.

Who will you serve? Who will be your god?

As we start a time of continuing renewal and visioning following the joyous Easter, let us take a long look at ourselves both individually and as a congregation. What does the future hold? What is our anchor? What is our mammon?

May God bless you all as we journey during the months of discernment ahead!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Celie

Our Church

Over 200 people attended and enjoyed an amazing sunrise and Worship Service!



Easter Sunrise

Palm Sunday



Spring Work Day

BPC Spring Work Day April 13, 2019 The annual Spring Work Day was a huge success and the Building and Grounds Committee would like to thank everyone who took time from their busy Saturday to help out. There were 11 volunteers from Baysshore and 11 Scouts/Scout Masters from the troops Baysshore sponsors. It was a wonderful turnout!! Thanks to everyone's help, we accomplished almost everything on our list and more. Inside, the floors in the Community Room were swept, windows were washed, the refrigerator was cleaned and organized and sanctuary chairs got their annual wipe down. Outside, all of the beds were weeded, shrubs trimmed, plants fertilized, the front porch cleaned, the rear sidewalk swept off and the trash and recycling bins were washed out. In addition, we trimmed a few palm trees and used the palm fronds to decorate the church for Palm Sunday. The only thing we didn't accomplish was getting on the roof to remove the leaves, but that can wait for another day. It was truly amazing all that was accomplished. A special thank you to all of the scouts and their leaders. We look forward to working with them in the future as they seek to serve their community and grow as young men and women. We would also like to thank everyone who moved chairs and prepared the church to host local election officials as City of Tampa residents voted for a new Mayor and other elected officials.



- 5/12 Mother's Day
- 5/19 Salad Luncheon, bring a salad to share
- 5/21 Session 1 PM - all welcomed. A representative from the sign company will attend
- 5/22 Small Church Workshop at North West Pres., St Pete 11:20 AM - 1:30 PM
- 6/9 Pentecost, 2nd Sunday Lunch

Mike and Lona's Wedding
on...



the fifth.

