



*Catch the Wave at Bayshore PC*

# Tidings

Bayshore Presbyterian Church  
2515 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa 33629  
813.253.3771—admin@bayshorepc.org  
www.bayshorepc.org

October 2019

***If Life Were A Pumpkin Patch***  
By: Susan Y Nikitenko

***If life was a pumpkin patch;  
And fruit our good deeds.  
I pray my fruit would shine forth;  
God's love in every seed.***

***Love and grace, peace, endurance;  
Let this fruit grow big and round:  
So when you inspect my fruit;  
That your glory be what's found.***

***Temperance and self control;  
Let this fruit grow big and strong.  
Fertilize them with your care;  
Keep them from the blight of wrong.***

***Your gentleness and kindness;  
Let others see them in me;  
So when my life is over;  
Your fruit would sprout fourth seed.***

***In my pumpkin patch of life;  
Let your goodness be a light.  
Let my largest fruit be faith;  
With a heart that is upright .***

***Though I know my patch is not perfect;  
It's suffered blight that costs.  
I won't leave empty handed;  
I have reached some, who were lost.***

***A meek and humble spirit;  
Make this fruit bloom and grow.  
So others all around me;  
Won't see me, but your love know.***

***Lord as I pick my pumpkins;  
From my patch with pumpkins filled.  
Let your joy be present Lord:  
As I see the fruit it yields.***

***When bringing in the Harvest;  
I'll set my pumpkins here and there.  
That they would be a blessing  
To observers everywhere.***

## Beth El Ministry to Farm Workers

We and another church provided a wonderful lunch in the field for the farm workers.



## CALENDAR

- 10/15 Session at 1 PM
- 10/19 Church Work Day begins at 8 AM
- 10/20 Rev. Ken Hubbell, Guest Pastor
- 10/23 Staff Meeting at 10:30 AM
- 10/24 End 68 Hours of Hunger Packing
- 10/27 Stewardship Sunday
- 11/7 Presberty Meeting, begins at 9 AM at First Pres. Winter Haven
- 11/10 Grandparents and children "Celebrating God & Country".





## Our Pastor

Catch the Wave

at Bayshore Presbyterian



As we keep hoping that fall will eventually come to Florida, our hearts and emotions turn toward a time of family holidays and a time of love and thanksgiving. I encourage all of us to, at the same time, turn our thoughts and prayers toward our stewardship. I want first to express my most heartfelt appreciation and admiration to Dave Gust for the hours and effort he has put into the stewardship letters and notes that have gone out in the Blast and otherwise. What a grand series of publications he produced! Many thanks, Dave! I am sure that they have provided inspiration and thoughtfulness for many of us!

I would like to offer to you some marks of what I perceive to be a mature Christian steward. This is a Christian who has the qualities Paul mentioned in Second Corinthians 9 and which Jesus mentions in Matthew's Gospel.

First of all, stewardship maturity requires making Christ Lord of our lives. That is the heart of all stewardship. We as human beings must worship something. If we do not let God be God, then we will make something else into our God. It may be ourselves, our possessions, another person or some ideal or institution. Frank Sinatra sang, "I did it my way." Our way is not God's way and often leads to difficulty and heartbreak while His way leads to peace and joy. We are stewards of not just our possessions, but also our lives.

Secondly, we must acknowledge that God is the owner and we are simply Trustees. Psalm 24:1 says, "The earth is the Lords and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 50 says, "For every beast of the forest is mine and the cattle upon a thousand hills." God owns the world because He made it. We're not owners. We were told in Genesis to be fruitful and multiply and subdue the earth and have dominion. We are simply Trustees!

Thirdly, the Christian steward should also try to discover and follow God's purpose for every material possession in his/her life. Colossians 1:16 reminds us, "All things were created by Him and for Him." We are given material things to fulfill His purpose and plan for the world. We must discover and follow His purpose in getting and in spending. It is easy to become completely poisoned by a materialistic outlook. We are not to covet, not to be greedy and not to live just for wealth alone.

Lastly, we need to reevaluate our attitude toward our standard of living. We can't just stop at making an honest living, paying our debts, giving our tithes and offerings and spending what's left as we please. Our life should reflect the difference between necessities and luxuries. We should feel responsible for the blessings God has bestowed upon us. Our lifestyle should show that we seek contentment in doing God's will and fulfilling His purpose for the world! We simply must share abundantly!

I urge you to commit your stewardship responsibilities to God in prayer and I am confident you will respond in a positive manner, as you have always so graciously done through the years!

Know that you remain in my heart and in my prayers,

God bless you all!

Pastor Celie

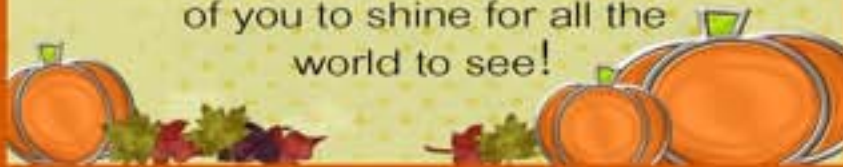


# Our Church

Mission's Committee went to the fields of the Beth El Farm Workers to bring them a wonderful lunch. Along with another church they provided chicken and all the trimmings to the hungry workers, with some to take home



Being a Christian is like being a **pumpkin**. God **picks you** from the patch, brings you in, and **washes off** all the dirt. Then He cuts the top and **scoops out** all the yucky stuff. He **removes the seeds** of doubt, hate, and greed. Last, He **carves you** a new smiling face and **puts His light inside** of you to shine for all the world to see!



A wonderful visit with Henry G.



World Communion Sunday



October - November Birthdays

10/20 Dave G.  
10/31 Margaret Z.

10/14 Cathy K.  
11/15 Marcia H.  
11/15 Tracy S.