

SEFFNER HEART BEAT

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2022

1906 S. Lenna Avenue

P.O. Box 545

Seffner, FL 33583



From Pastor Loli ...

Growing up, my parents would read the "Upper Room" devotional to us in the morning which is a devotional translated in many languages and read by Christians around the world. One of the things unique to this devotional is that every day it gives you a "prayer focus," which in some ways is general but in other ways specific. For example, it would say, "pray for the young people," and my mom would say, "see, you have people all over the world praying for you." Last month, there was one day that the prayer focus was "someone whose habits annoy me". So, people all over the world were praying for someone whose habits annoy them, and I thought, "I bet someone is praying for me today!" I hope you check out this online devotional (upperroom.org) and consider making it a regular part of your day as we seek for ways to invite Jesus to be a part of our everyday lives. God bless you and yours!

Our Mission Statement

To provide opportunities for people to discover God's love, seek God's purpose, and do God's will.

Our Vision Statement

Glorifying God with mind, body, and soul.



Love. Grow. Serve.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEFFNER

Pastor: Lolimarta R. Reiter

Kara Rutherford, Admin. Assist.

Logan Sorey, Music Director

Sheila Donohue, Organist

TJ Childs, Worship Leader

Lauren Sorey, Youth Leader

Laura DeLeury, Nursery

Telephone: (813) 689-4412

FAX: (813) 689-3840

E-mail:

kara@seffnerpres.org

Web site:

www.seffnerpres.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am-2:00 pm

Session Members

Carol Dolphin

Stewardship

Bob Friskney

Fellowship

Jay Heidt

Facilities

Joy Lavazza

Congregational Care

Christina Boyd

Administration

Isabel Reiter

Youth

Carol Shick

Worship

Deborah Thatcher

Mission

Melissa Triebwasser

Christian Education

Cammie Williams,

Clerk of Session

Newsletter items for

March 2022

due by February 15th.

Please submit items to

kara@seffnerpres.org

Worshiping Together
live stream and in-person
9:30 am Contemporary
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Traditional

Transfiguration of the Lord
Communion
February 27th

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9am-2pm

Join us for Worship at
www.seffnerpres.org
click on **Worship**

or go to

www.facebook.com/seffnerpres

INSTALLATION OF NEW SESSION ELDERS

We welcome **Christina Boyd, Joy Lavazza** and **Madelyn McClellan** to the Session.

We thank **Carina Brushwood, Patty MacEwen** and **Isabel Reiter** for their service as Elders on the Session and continued service to this church.



The family and friends of **Betty Lou Harp**, who went to her heavenly home on December 14, 2021,

and

The family and friends of **Roger Golden**, who went to his heavenly home on December 31, 2021.

MUSIC NOTE FROM SHEILA DONOHUE ...

*"When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried, "Alleluia!"*

<https://youtu.be/1-OiHpNK6XA>



Although there were countless songs and anthems which Betty Lou taught and directed over the years, these opening words of a relatively modern hymn came to my mind over the last weeks. For twenty years I had the privilege of working with Betty Lou Harp, our previous music director to whom we said our last goodbyes just weeks ago. At her memorial service, Betty Lou's lifelong love for music and her unfailing work to engage others in developing their musical talents was a recurring theme. From the children she taught, and her own gifted children, to the congregations she served, music was central to her life. Song, bells, chimes, rhythm instruments, piano - all these were means which she joyfully used to bring praise to the Lord and beauty into the lives of all who knew her.

Betty Lou believed that anyone who was willing to try could be taught to sing or make music in some other way. She worked with adults and children to find appropriate arrangements which were accessible to all levels of talent. I never saw her belittle anyone for mistakes nor engage in showcasing the more obviously talented. She used the willingness to listen and to make an effort to engage all who wanted to be part of the music ministry.

A favorite American hymn from the 1800s comes to mind as a closing thought and speaks to me of the gifted and kind person from whom I learned so much:

*"My life flows on in endless song/ Above Earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn/ That hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm/ While to that rock I'm clinging,
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth/ How can I keep from singing?"*



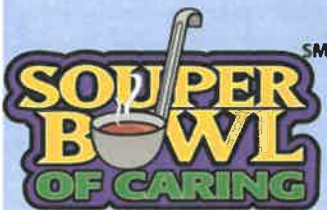
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=RDVLPP3XmYxXg&playnext=1>

(These two hymns can be heard by checking the links. There are many more recordings of these songs in different styles and you may enjoy exploring the many different interpretations. Perhaps you will find yourself humming the tunes.)

It is my belief that Betty Lou's legacy will be continued by participating in choir, bells and congregational singing with the leadership of our current director Logan Sorey. Let us keep on singing!

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEFFNER YOUTH

This month our Youth series is entitled "**Love Thy Neighbor**". We will be having open discussion about the many ways God calls us to "do the difficult work of loving" and reading excerpts from the book of Matthew and Luke to guide us biblically. We hope to spread the love this month by finding ways to reach out to our friends, and even those we don't consider a friend, and show them God's love and grace.



February 13th is the annual youth sponsored Souper Bowl of Caring! There are LOTS of activities following the 11 o'clock service in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for **the 88th Annual Chili Cook-Off**. Enter your tasty chili, or simply come and sample. Help us choose this year's winner. (See Lauren to enter your chili). The youth will host their annual **1/4 lb Hot Dog Fundraiser and Bake Sale**. We have 17 youth planning to attend the Montreat Youth Conferences this summer. Help get them there by purchasing a hotdog and bottled water to go along with your chili. They'll also have fresh baked desserts for your purchase and enjoyment. In lieu of our annual football game at the park we are hosting the 1st annual **Flick Football Tournament**. Kids 1-125 can join us in a game of paper football to determine our church champion. And last but not least, the reason for the Souper Bowl is our annual **ECHO Food Drive**. Bring your soups, veggies, and other non-perishable foods through February 13th. Donation boxes are located in the Fellowship Hall, the church office, and the narthex. Help us stock ECHO's shelves and help our community.

Parents of Youth: we need **donations of bottled water** and bags of chips (something to go with chilli!) for the hot dog meals.



**Joy Luncheon
2021**
We gathered to celebrate
Christmas as a community,
to share ...

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love
through fellowship and a meal.
May your New Year overflow with
all of these!



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We were happy and grateful to be able to celebrate Advent with our church family and hope that you were able to join us for the Joy luncheon & Advent workshops , that was a Joy!! We had a wonderful turn out and if you missed it, you missed out on some wonderful food, fellowship, and yummy desserts of course!!!

Hopefully we can continue with plans for our fifth Sunday luncheons and other fellowship in 2022. We will continue to safely make those decisions as advised .

Therefore, keep informed , check your emails, bulletins & phone messages as to dates & times for upcoming events.

January 30 is a fifth Sunday and we will decide closer to that date if we will go ahead with a luncheon.

There are opportunities in February for Fellowship as we are eager to get together again, so keep informed and dates will be announced.



Mission Happenings

Last year was a great year for church missions. With the help of VBS, the water party, private donations, auctions purchases and yard sales we were able to donate a **Deep Well thru the Presbyterian Giving Organization**. **Yes, we have raised over \$15,000**. So we will also be purchasing a few chickens and some tools. We will continue to find ways to support bringing clean water to developing countries this year.



Our mission emphasis for the month is E.C.H.O. We will support E.C.H.O. through our annual **Souper Bowl of Giving** of non-perishable foods. Please bring canned items to church all month. ECHO especially needs items such as: **canned tuna and chicken, mayonnaise, milk that doesn't need refrigeration, peanut butter and canned fruit**. We would like every family to consider bringing one of the above items as well as the other items you love to donate.

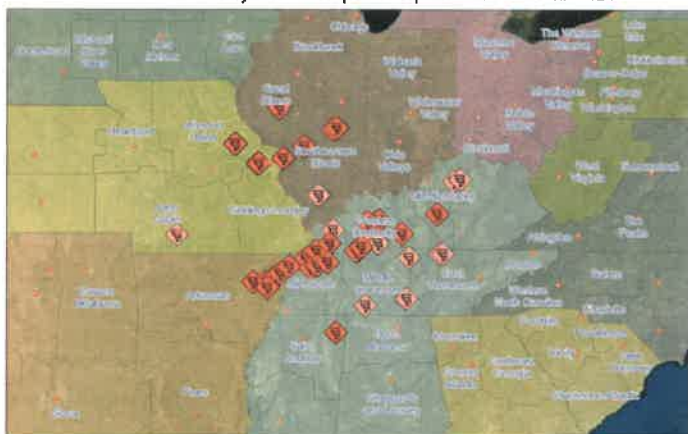
We are planning another **yard sale** the **11th and 12th of March**. You may start bringing small items to room 8 now and larger items the week of the sale. We will use the money earned to go toward **General Missions**.



This year we will again support the **Free The Girls and Beth El Sock-it to Me** drives. When you are out shopping and see great deals on socks and bras please consider buying them and bringing them to church anytime. We will store them in room 8 until it is time to send them. We have sent over 500 bras to **Free The Girls Foundation that helps women make a living selling bras, in turn are saved from Human Trafficking**. We have also given over 1,500 pairs of socks to migrant children starting a new school year.



PDA - PCUSA Presbyteries in the path of reported tornadoes 12/11/21



In December we sent **\$1,000 to The Presbyterian Disaster Fund** to help aid the families hurt by the tornados. The money came out of the general Mission Fund. We plan on sending another **\$1,000** this month.

Thanks to all who supported the **Bikes For Jesus Program** through donations and building bikes, we were able to give **Beth El Missions and Foster Angels over 60 bikes**. We will continue this program as more and more youth need transportation and bike prices keep going up and are made unaffordable to many.



Again thank you for all that you do to make our church able to be a blessing to those in need. Please continue to **share your Love of God with others**.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Chili Cook-off is BACK!!!! Get your aprons and recipes ready! The Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for "SOUP"er (Super) Bowl Sunday, February 13th. This year we



will not be subjecting our bodies to a game of flag football but a Paper Football Championship! And no football game is complete without hot dogs! The youth will be selling hot dogs to pair with your chili tasting for a donation toward their trip to Montreat this summer as well as bake sale. The youth will also be collecting soups and other can goods as we gear up for "Souper Bowl" Sunday. A collection container has been placed in the fellowship hall.

Do you have a "Little Church with a Big Heart" shirt? Do you need a new one? Shirts will be on sale in the fellowship hall beginning February 6th. We will have the shirts for sale until we run out of what we have available. You will also have the opportunity to order if your size isn't in stock.

The youth sends out a heart-felt thank you to everyone who donated and/or purchased casseroles. We were able to raise about \$500 towards our Montreat trip this summer.



Mark your calendars... The Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be held March 1st. More information will be coming!

SCHOLARSHIPS! Attention High School Seniors! The Jokerst Scholarship Applications will be available beginning in March. Reach out to Cindy Doyle or check bulletins/newsletter for more information.

NEW DIRECTORY

A new directory will be printed for distribution to the congregation in February. If you have any information, phone #, email, or physical address changes to be made, please be sure to contact the church at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your FAITHFUL Support of our MINISTRY!

You can put your tithe/offering in the mail and send it to:
Presbyterian Church of Seffner
 P.O. Box 545
 Seffner, FL 33583

A Convenient Option...

You can also set it up with your bank as "Bill Pay", you are also able to give your tithe/offering or donate by making a secure gift through our website.

Photo Contest!!

Join us in celebrating the rich history of our "Little Church with a Big Heart" by sharing your vintage photos. Please send us a picture of you at our church or someone you know, (as long as you get their approval) to Lauren Bounds at bounds.lauren@gmail.com OR text them to her at 814-823-6940 OR drop them by the church office. We will make sure to return them to you. Also, please indicate who is in the photo and what year it was taken if possible.

We will collect photos through the month of February and post them on our Facebook page for all to see. At the end of the month we will select two winners. One winner will be for the oldest picture and the other winner will be for the one with the most "Likes". Hope to see many "old" faces.



Generosity
 changes everything

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

YTD Dec 2021	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 229,904	\$ 255,950
Expense	\$ 243,543	\$ 255,950
Net (+/-)	\$ 13,639	



Resource Pet Center

We continue to collect old towels, and blankets and newspapers for the Pet Resource Center on Falkenburg. Your donations are making a difference!



Blessing Bags are still

being created and will now be placed in the fellowship hall for pick up. Please pick up a few and hand them out. We are in need of gently used or new ball caps and t-shirts.

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

Gate Keepers: Open, Ed Moseley
Close, Bruce Derenthal

February 6th

Usher 9:30am: Jackie Winter
Head Usher: Jay Heidt
Usher: Dewey Walklin
Greeters: Anne Heidt, Carina Brushwood
Acolyte: Finley Heidt
Office: Sara High (2/3)

February 13th

Usher 9:30 am Carol Shick
Head Usher: Jim High
Usher: Janet Holzman
Greeters: Deb Thatcher, Sara High
Acolyte: Caroline Boyd
Office: Jim High (2/10)

February 20th

Usher 9:30am: Joann Williams
Head Usher: Jeff Mason
Usher: Carol Dolphin
Greeter: Lydia Padovano, Nancy Mason
Acolyte: Lotte Triebwasser
Office: Joy Griffin (2/17)

February 27th

Usher 9:30am: Ed Moseley
Head Usher: Dave MacEwen
Usher: James Boyd
Greeter: Cammie Williams, Patty MacEwen
Acolyte: Penny Childs, Dahlia Lavazza
Office: Cammie Williams (2/24)

TEMPLE KEEPERS

Jim High
on or before 2/5

Mark Williams
on or before 2/12

Greg Uebel
on or before 2/19

Jay Heidt
on or before 2/26

Ed Holzman
on or before 3/5



**CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY!
GIVE A FINANCIAL GIFT
TO THE CHURCH**



Simply give a gift for however many years you will be!

February Birthdays

Christina Boyd	2/1
Aidan Heidt	2/1
Steve Wooster	2/1
Bob Stetler	2/8
Polly Stetler	2/8
Michael Hawkins	2/12
John Dolphin	2/13
Colin McClellan	2/15
Rick Kosan	2/17
Mary Shambach	2/18
Mark Watson	2/19
Elias Mayfield	2/20
Jay Heidt	2/22
Dahlia Lavazza	2/26
Jensen Brushwood	2/28

Anniversaries

Tricia and Robby Lavazza	2/2
Mary and Fred Shambach	2/18
Bunny and Ron Smith	2/29

Shirley and Henry Jokerst Scholarship

The Jokerst Scholarship is open to active church members with at least a 3.0 grade point average. It is intended for active members of at least one year pursuing and undergraduate degree or certification from an accredited institution. Application window begins March 14, 2022 and ends April 15, 2022.

LEMONADE TIME

Do you have the gift of hospitality?
Please be sure to sign-up for
Lemonade Time on Sunday mornings.
For full details, contact Sara High.

Cedarkirk turned 50 in 2021!

The Fifty-One (derful) years of ministry will be celebrated March 25-27, 2022. Please check the website at cedarkirk.org for events and opportunities!

LET'S WORSHIP TOGETHER!

COVID Guideline Update

Following the recommendation of the Transition Taskforce and CDC Guidelines, starting December 12th, the session voted to make the whole campus mask optional but strongly recommended. We ask that you please wear a mask if you are not vaccinated, for your protection and others. With this action, the Transition Taskforce concluded its work. We are so grateful for their time, their study and prayer, and their creativity in guiding us through this unprecedented and difficult time. We realize that the COVID situation may change, in which case the session will be able to make decisions based on the Phase Plan put together by our initial COVID TASK FORCE and the precedent set by the TRANSITION TASK FORCE. Thank you for your forbearance and patience during this difficult time and please continue to pray for those who are still fighting COVID and it's effects.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 8:30 am Meals on Wheels 4:30 Staff Meeting 6 pm Youth Meeting 6pm Bells 7:30 pm Choir	3	4	5
	Committees Meet Throughout the Week					
6 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	7	8 7pm Session	9 8:30 am Meals on Wheels 6 pm Youth Meeting 6pm Bells 7:30 pm Choir	10	11 11am Women's Bible Study	12
13 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun School 11 am Worship 12 PM Chilly Cook- off/ Hotdog Sale & Paper Football	14	15 Newsletter Items Due	16 8:30 am Meals on Wheels 6 pm Youth Meeting 6pm Bells 7:30 pm Choir	17	18	19
20 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	21	22	23 8:30 am Meals on Wheels 6 pm Youth Meeting 6pm Bells 7:30 pm Choir	24	25 11am Women's Bible Study	26
27 Communion 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	26	27	28 8:30 am Meals on Wheels 6 pm Youth Meeting 6pm Bells 7:30 pm Choir	<div data-bbox="992 1772 1533 1919" data-label="Text"> <p>No Food or Drink Allowed in Sanctuary </p> </div>		

Cedarkirk

*A place apart to build up
the body of Christ in love.*

CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

50
1971 - 2021



Please contact us with any questions.
[camps@cedarkirk.org; 813.685.4224 x4]